

# THE SANAWARIAN



1998-99



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## EDITORIAL 98-99

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Our heart sinks, when, too many people announce an interest in education, education suffers from the fact that everyone has been to school, so, everyone knows all about how to reform education. Reform carries an interesting overtone of improvement, which is by no means implicit in the word. It must be asked- who actually knows most about providing a happy life here on the hilltop other than the residents.

The pages of this magazine will, I hope, present a lively picture of the range and depth of commitment displayed by the boys and girls at The Lawrence School over

the past year. There have been many highlights and evidence of inspiration and perspiration in great quantity at all levels. Whatever we do, whatever curriculum we aspire to, we must never lose side of the fundamental ethos that underpins the very existence of The Lawrence School and sets it apart from the uniform.

Finally, in our endeavour to present for you the year's collective record, we may have committed errors or may have left out some things significant, it is our humble request to be exonerated from these inadvertently conducted errors. Also, to maximise our documentation of yearly happenings- on and away from the campus, it would be of great value, if, everyone, in their own way put in valuable, innovative suggestions and subscriptions in form of writing- to us, here at the Editorial Desk.

Thank You

The Editor .

## HEADMASTER'S SPEECH - FOUNDER'S '98

Dr. & Mrs. Gill, Members of the Board, Parents, Guests, Teachers & students.

On this, our 151 Founder's, it gives me great pleasure to welcome Dr. M.S. Gill, the Chief Election Commissioner of India as our Chief Guest.

Dr. Gill, son of Col. P.S. Gill, was born on 14th June 1936. Dr. Gill did his Ph.D. from Punjab University and a Diploma in Development Studies from Cambridge. He then took up assignments of Deputy Commissioner in Lahaul & Spiti, Jalandhar and Ambala. He was Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Punjab; Managing Director, National Co-operative Development Corporation, New Delhi; Programme Manager of a 500 million Dollar World Bank Agricultural Development Project in Sohoto, Nigeria from 1981-85. He was Additional Chief Secretary & Development Commissioner Punjab from 1985-88 and then, Secretary to Govt. of India, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, November 1988 to August 1992. He was Secretary to Govt. of India, Department of Agriculture & Co-operatives, Ministry of Agriculture, August 1992 to September, 1993. He was Election Commissioner, Election Commission of India, New Delhi, from 1993 to 1996 in which year he took up his current assignment of the Chief Election Commissioner, Govt. of India.

Dr. Gill is keenly interested in mountaineering and is currently The President of the Indian Mountaineering Foundation. Dr.

Gill is also an author of repute and has three publications to his credit :

1. Himalayan Wonderland - Travels in Lahaul & Spiti.
2. Folk Tales of Lahaul
3. An Indian Success Story - Agriculture & Co-operatives.

It is indeed, Sir, an honour and privilege to have you here with us today. On behalf of the Sanawar Community I extend a very warm welcome to Mrs. Vinni Gill and thank her for having made the time to be with us today.

I would also like to extend a very warm welcome to all parents and Old Sanawarians who are with us today.

1998 has been a very tragic year for us here at Sanawar. We lost one of our beloved children, Fatehpal, in a tragic accident. On behalf of all Sanawarians Sidhartha Sarada pays a tribute to Fateh.

*"I can see Fateh in the P.D. dorms that 7th of April 98, lying down in his bed feeling a little homesick- I guess, just like me-so I went up to him to say a tentative Hi! before joining the rest of the boys for washes.*

*It was our first day in F-2, our first day in a boarding school away from home. We reached out in our loneliness to each other, and it marked the beginning of a friendship that lasted forever.*

*It was the 12th of August 85. A son was born to Mr. & Mrs. Satinder Pal Singh Sidhu in Jalandhar. They named him*



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Fatehpal. His parents went to the U.S.A. and Fateh spent his early years there. His father wanted to send him to Sanawar as he was also a Sanawarian himself.

Since 1949, as Fateh told me some one from his family had always been in Sanawar and he was keeping up the tradition.

Right from the beginning, Fateh showed his inclination towards sports.

We would play cricket on the P.D. pavement and Fateh would always score the highest.

Every one wanted to be in his team as then they would be sure of winning. I was also one of them..

He had determination. Once in P.D. when we had a festival match against the P.D. teachers, Fateh told me that he would 'rock the teachers'. And he did.

He made 62 n.o. and made us win single handedly.

Fateh was good at all sports and was a regular feature in the Cricket, Soccer and Hockey Electron teams. He was my inspiration.

In Athletics too, he would breast the tape before anyone else could. He broke the 400 mtr. record in B-III, U-III and B-IV. He was consistently first in Hodsons and Cross-Country.

Fateh was tall and wiry but was warm

and soft inside. Not many know that he was a nature lover and I remember him telling me often "Sarda, look outside, Cool view na"! He would often try to paint those glorious sunsets. He would then tell me how good his grandmother was at drawing and how he wished to become as good.

In classes too, he would love making paper pellets and would shoot them with rubber bands made of garters. He would lead the others in mock fights. His pellets were undoubtedly the hardest.

We had our fun times and our fights. We shared our joys, our sorrows and of course, our grub.

On 21st of April nature's arm enveloped him to her bosom, the very nature he had so loved and admired, ironically in a sporting event.

Sanawar has chosen to remember Fateh by instituting a trophy and a cash prize for the best athlete in the Under 14 age group.

Also the Himalaya House Show earlier this year was dedicated to the memory of Fateh Pal.

Fateh, we played, ate, sang together and now you have left us all alone. But we have nt forgotten you.

You still occupy a special place dear in our hearts.

Thank you'

Sanawar, in its typical fashion has put all the euphoria of the Sesqui Centenary behind it and is looking ahead to the future. Mr. Rajen Brijnath & Mr. R.D. Singh have been commissioned to do a diagnostic study of the state of the present health of the school in all fields and their report will be presented to the Board later this month. On the basis of this report a transformation plan would be developed and adopted by the school.

But while we wait for this thoroughly professional plan to come to us the school is not content with merely marking time. There is an impatience to move on and this is reflected in the speeches of the children who will be speaking today.

For the Founder's speeches I am, at the best, a comper, who tries desperately to weave a theme around some very divergent speeches. This year my task was made extremely easy for when I first listened to the speakers I realised that they already had a common theme. There was one common statement that all the speeches seemed to make "We have 150 years of a glorious past and the future is before us. How do we wish to prepare ourselves in the next two years for the turn of the century? How do we assess our achievements in this past year and what positive, practical steps in our own small way, can we take?"

Ravi Sekhon speaks on academics in Sanawar.

*"After an upward swing for three years, the results for class XII this year were not so pleasant, infact, they were so bad that we had three failures and seven*

*compartments. Class X was not far behind either with two failures and six compartments. Even, the over all average is lower than the previous years*

*Ladies and gentlemen, we are faced with a dilemma. You see, if we want the board class students to get 90% like the kids in the day school then a very simple method to help, is to cancel all the extra-curricular activities that the students may have and get professional tutors up here for tuitions for 3 to 4 hours a day. You all may think that's an excellent idea but here's where the catch 22 situation arises. You see, if we don't have any extra-curricular activities, or have tuitions for 4 hours a day apart from classes, what makes us different from any other day school? Is this what the parents want for their kids, to stay away from home eight months of the year and do exactly what they would have done at home?*

*No! Therefore, we need a curriculum that lets us students have all the activities that we want, yet stresses on the need to study and raise our grades.*

*There are four main areas which need improvement. The 1st is teachers, we have to make sure our teachers update their method of teaching and are capable of recognising the potential in all their students. Numerous teaching workshops have been held. We don't know about the outcome of the workshop*

yet, but after you hear the list of them, you'd be surprised if there wasn't an improvement.

Well for starters there was an ICSE workshop in Noida, as well as one at the Doon School Teaching Centre. Science teachers were also met by an Australian Educational Consultant. Teachers and Principals from nearby schools attended a workshop on teaching held here earlier this term. Mr. U.P. Mukherjee, an ex-teacher, came up to school and conducted a few sessions with the physics teachers. Also, just recently Mr. Rajan Brijnath conducted a very informative workshop reviewing existing structures of the school and helping teachers to refocus on the child and his needs. In a bid to make the staff a little more computer savvy Mr. Puri has been holding computer classes for the teachers. Unfortunately now whenever you want to use a computer in the lab, it's probably already occupied by a teacher.

The next area that needs improvement is the allotting of subjects to the XIth grade students, presently they are being done on the basis of the outcome of pre-board exams, with the upper limit being set for the most in demand stream. We need proper counselling and interest tests to tell us which subjects we need to take as well as what avenues are open to us.

The third area that needs improvement is perhaps the most important. This area

is our day-to-day timetable. You've heard students come here on other occasions and tell you how jam-packed our schedule is, after classes it's a permanent hustle from one activity to the other, including prep and night study hour. There's absolutely no place to add more study time, but there is place to shift things around. What we need is a thorough reviewing of our daily & term routine by an expert in the field.

The last area in our school life that needs improvement is our system of education. The first step towards this was taken at the beginning of this term with the introduction of a new system, the Unit tests, though some what on an experimental basis, it has quite a few wrinkles which need to be ironed out. Let us hope it all works out for the best.

With 150 years behind us and just a year or so for the year 2000 we've got to gear ourselves for a change, we have to move on and in my opinion steps like these will go a long way in improving our academic standard. Steps like the one I've suggested are a sure fire way of assuring our success and improvement straight into the next millennium. We've got to work towards creating a New Sanawar, a Sanawar where the grades are great, and so are the results on the scoreboard.

Sports have always been an integral part of Sanawar and the rare & unique honour of fielding Shiva Keshavan for the Winter Olympics. Abhimanyu Sisodia reports on

sports in Sanawar.

" *In Sanawar sports are as important as studies. The very fact that we use Sports in our School Song to emphasise the true Sanawarian spirit shows how important they are to us. This year has been fairly good where our sports achievements are concerned. A new soccer tournament has been started in memory of Mr. B. Singh, who was Deputy Headmaster of Sanawar from 1971 to 1993, 8 teams participated: Welham Boys, Y.P.S. Patiala and B.C.S. Simla were among them. In the finals, Sanawar locked horns with B.C.S.. Initially B.C.S. was winning but then the Red & White became a blur and won the match after a tough fight—earning the School a holiday.*

*The Headmaster said in his speech later that he would have declared a holiday even if we had lost because of the spirits the teams displayed.*

*The Sanawarian spirit and hard work was displayed once more when the Squash team gave up their previous S.O.P. to participate in the North Zone Championship at Delhi. They came 3rd. In the Athletics meet at B.C.S. Sanawar came back with 13 medals in the bag, with 5 won by Lakshmi Jhangra, alone, who was also declared the Best Athlete. Also, the girls won the Honoria Lawrence Basketball trophy yet again.*

*The Sanawarians were not all brawn*

*and no brains was proved by Nidhi Kumar who is currently an exchange student, She bagged 6th position in the Chess Olympics held in Russia this year. The Russian magazine, 'Chess 64' also lauded her performance.*

*Another feather in Sanawar's cap has been Shiva Keshwan, who competed at the Nagano Winter Olympics this year. Shiva came 2nd among Asians and 28th in the world. Only 16 years of age and with under 4 months of training, Shiva was the youngest male and perhaps the most inexperienced participant, competing with contestants from all over the world – all of whom were seasoned athletes in the age group 25–30.*

*Shiva has become the youngest and newest member of the Sanawar Spartan club, which was revived at Founders last year. Also, Sanawar has granted him a full freeship in recognition of his efforts. Unfortunately, the talented young Shiva has received no training ever since and has received only unfulfilled promises of help from the Indian Government.*

*This year has gone by with all Sanawarian participating in all our regular features on the sports timetable. However, what is of concern is that the number of students qualifying for the Hodson run has been dwindling in the past few years. This year 100 students out of 673 qualified. The record*



*made by Mr. Purewal for boys has been unbroken for 18 years and the girls record held by Seema Jamwal is unbroken since 17 years. There is a need among the Sanawarians to change their laid back attitude and strive for personal excellence in sport along with team play.*

*With the kind of emphasis Sanawar lays on sports, there is a growing need for more coaches, larger fields and an operational swimming pool, if we are to revive the sporting activity. We have a rigid sports time-table where different sports are scheduled for different seasons—which is a good thing as it exposes each student to a variety of sporting activity. But when a student's outstanding potential is recognised he must be allowed to train in his choice of sport under expert coaches. It is surprising that inspite of all our emphasis on sport, we have had only one Shiva. We have to give students with potential an opportunity to specialise because by the time a student passes out of school after U 6— he is already about 18, and is far behind in the kind of training to make it to the top. Especially, these days with the stiff competition on the National and International scene."*

The advantage that Sanawar, like all residential schools, has over other schools is that it helps children to recognise and develop potentials in fields other than academics and sports and so helps them to develop well rounded personalities. Sanawar offers its children a great variety of

co-curricular activities. Pavit Sibia & Prajwat Shahi tell us about these activities.

*" Don't judge those who try and fail, judge those who fail to try "This is what Sanawarians are taught from co-curricular activities that they are constantly encouraged to participate in.*

*As we all have seen Sanawar provides a conclusive environment for the complete growth and development of an individual. This is not surprising, as unlike most other schools, the institution has had a full 150 years to evolve. A 150 years of trying, testing and consequently perfecting. We are offered a wide variety of activities that are non-academic and this explores our talents.*

*A lot of emphasis is laid on a regular basis, but one worth mentioning is the J.C. Kemp Memorial Debate which was introduced this year and was judged by a very eminent personality Amita Malik. 8 schools participated in this debate out of which some of them were, Welham Girls, (Dehradun) who emerged winners, Mayo boys, Doon School and BGS. Even though Sanawar did not hold the first position, this debate gave a chance to the participants to express their views intelligently and also interact with each other. The Old Sanawarians recognized the need for co-curricular activities and out of sheer regard and love for Mr. J.C. Kemp, they donated a prestigious trophy in his name. Even in the field of*

music we have done well. Last year, in November, 6 girls went to the Delhi School of Music and took the Associated Board Preparatory Test in piano, receiving excellent comments for their playing. This year, 14 students will be presented for examination in Delhi.

Quizzes are a part of co-curricular activities where the Sanawarians have excelled themselves yet again, they won a special prize of Rs. 10,000 at the RMMC Quiz held in Dehradun.

Special workshops are also organized to help us get a better focus on future prospects. For instance a film workshop was organized by a team of Old-Sanawarians, Rohit and Madhumita Negi, which aimed at teaching the various skills, techniques and the complete procedure that goes into making a film.

A photography workshop was also organized by a professional fashion photographer, Nitin Upadhyay, where students were taught everything from camera basic to development of film rolls

Emphasis is also been on to revive the Old-Sanawarian tradition of Sanawarians joining the army.

And for this reason an army and air force camp was organized for the students of U5 and L6 where they were introduced to shooting rescue

procedures shown tanks and other defense equipment.

The hobby choices available to the students range from sculpture, art, weaving, ceramics, etc. to music, dance and computers. A department which is attracting a lot of attention is the Recycling dept. where waste material is converted into many useful products which range from daily use objects like greeting cards, writing cards to even furniture and toys. Here old cardigans are converted into rugs and carpets. All in all these activities provide a sound platform for later life. A platform where our potential is discovered and developed, where we learn to try again and again even if we fail, and in the end get the real taste of success

Now I quote an extract from the headmaster's speech which was made on the 150th year of Sanawar's existence:

"I am often asked about my dream for Sanawar. And whenever I'm asked I Always smile in my non-committal way. Even when I came here I knew it was for so short a time that it was not my prerogative to dream for the future. All that I could hope to do and all that I could seek to do is to build a base so strong that my successor can stand on it and dream the most beautiful for my school and yet once in a while after a long hard day when I sit alone in my dream and stare at the dark, I permit myself to dream. I dream of

*building an ethos where each child will strive everything he does to achieve his best and having achieved his best to know he can still do better."*

*Sanawar being the first Indian member of the RSIS along with 40 other schools worldwide helps students gain insight into a life in a totally different culture, by organizing conferences and exchanges around the world. This year 19 students have already been sent abroad on exchange, and 7 more are leaving in December. Also we've had 6 exchange students in Sanawar from different parts of the world and 3 more are arriving soon.*

*I was one of the lucky ones selected to go to Birklehof Schule - a prestigious boarding school in Germany. What hit me as I reached there was the student - teacher relationship, which was very casual and friendly. Boys and girls mixed freely with each other and their co-educational system seems very different from ours. When I showed them the Sanawar video, their reaction was that our lives were too strict and disciplined.*

*In studies they laid stress on practicals and experimenting rather than theoretical work. Another aspect of life in Birkelhof was how instead of physical drill as punishment, students had to do social work for the school, specially beautifying it*

*The value of money and labour has a totally different meaning in the western culture where my friends had to earn their pocket money for themselves. To a lot of us it may seem to be a strange practice, but for them it was a sign of independence and gaining of responsibility.*

*On the personal front, the greatest positive outcome of my stint in Germany has been an increase in self-confidence. I can travel alone, live alone and make friends out of complete strangers. I actually cooked a Nepalese meal for my German friends.*

*I returned to Sanawar - my reality - with my views broadened and I'm richer for the experience.*

There are changes and modifications in everything around us, as someone once said the only permanent thing in the world is change. And yet, here

0  
in Sanawar there are, some things that never change. Last year in one of the numerous interviews that I was asked to give for the media in connection with the Sesqui Centenary Celebrations, I was asked by one interviewer if I could sum up in one paragraph my most prominent memory of my school days in Sanawar. My reaction was "One paragraph? I can do it in one word "HUNGER". 50 years, later Divya Gangwani tells us that this is an experience shared by Sanawarians even today.

Every Sanawarian has a one-track mind and that runs straight on the line of food. Everyone knows that the way to man's heart is through his stomach. So if you want to see a practical demonstration of this then come visit Sanawar anytime.

Sanawarians for some reason feel hungry 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 4 weeks a month. I'm sure if you feed a sanawarian a full 7-course meal; he'd still jump at the idea of a visit to tuck shop for a few more chips and chocolates.

Our mind revolves around food or grub, as we like to call it. It is a fact that a sanawarian stomach is a bottomless pit. Go check with the doctor if you don't believe me.

I bet you didn't know that we have bets on food hoping to get an extra bite or that the winner would share his winnings with us. A sanawarian's first reaction to anybody who disagrees to something he or she is confident of is "CHOCO BET". Sanawarians often try to convince people that grub means everything to them, their lives and their souls. They think we are trying to kid them, little do they know.

I know that I shouldn't be saying this in front of the headmaster, but knowing what a forgiving soul he is, and that this is a public occasion and all you sympathetic people will put in a word for

me - I'll let you in on a secret. At times we get so desperate for food that we sneak it out of the CDH and trust me having to sneak food out of the CDH is the limit of desperation.

All you Sanawarian parents out there you may rest assured that if ever your children decide to revolt it won't be in the form of a hunger strike.

We think about food in the daytime, we dream about it at night, hallucinate about it during holidays and in this state of desperation my feet take to a place where wild horses couldn't drag me in a normal state - The Library. I go there and drool over cookery books.

Go visit your friends in the hospital. They don't care if they have 104 degree fever, they don't care if you have come all the way to meet them, they just ask, "Have you got grub for me?"

Not only am I trying to convince you people that grub means everything to me and my fellow sanawarians but for all you who still haven't got the real message I might as well spell it out."

FEEL FREE TO SEND ANY FORM OF FOOD UP TO ANY OF US, ANYDAY, ANYTIME OF THE WEEK (Specially the GD side, VINDHYA house, lower dorms, Divya Gangwani.)

While efforts are constantly being made to update and modernise our facilities.

somewhere we always fall short of what is required. Garima Dewan sums up what she feels are the most urgent needs for Sanawar.

"He stands at his post like a boy from Sanawar".

*These were the words of Rudyard Kipling to describe a Sanawarian. A Sanawarian who apart from the undying commitment for his job is given the right kind of knowledge, training and exposure to take over the increasingly complex and modernized world successfully.*

*Sanawar has always been receptive to revise its existing facilities in order to keep us informed of the latest in various fields. With the advent of Information Technology, it has become increasingly important for us to update our Computer Department. The school has taken appreciable steps in the direction. The department has added a few more multimedia kits with the latest packages like Windows '98, a colour scanner, a few pentiums but unfortunately most of them are black and white. Very recently, the school has also acquired an internet connection which has been installed in the school library. This will help us get instant access to any library across the globe -- However, the students' access to the internet is very very essential. The school library also needs to be more informative. There should be a timely stock of new books and the latest books on current affairs.*

*The school printing press is very old and outdated. It is operated manually making the whole job very tedious and time consuming. Something which takes a week to be printed, for instance can easily be done within a couple of hours with the help of modern printing machines.*

*Sanawarians are known for their appetites. So food and CDFH facilities cannot be ignored. The present system of table service in the CDFH could be changed to the self-service system. This will help us get piping hot food which is absent in the present system.*

*Now, a look at the sports front. We renew our equipment every year. There is a shortage of fields felt by everyone. So, the Garden City field, for example could be made available for games. Swimming was to be revived this year but a problem in the heating equipment caused a set-back. Swimming is an important feature in all leading institutions and the school must try and make the pool fully operational.*

*The audio-visual facilities in the school are not upto the required standard. An internet in the A.V. Room would be ideal to serve the purpose. Some of the other steps which ought to be taken are a bigger T.V. Screen and a wider range of films.*

*Our laboratories are equipped with the barest minimum to meet the Board*

requirement-- In fact, they should be such that they provide a complete information on any subject that a student needs. A Resource Room would prove to be a good idea in this regard.

All the same, modernisation is not just accumulating new modern machines. We need to modernise our attitude, our thoughts and our actions, to be able to cope with the change in times.

While all the other children have talked about things that need to be done, about changes that have to be undertaken by others, Naina Mehta tells us what children themselves can do to prepare themselves for the new millenium.

"We are Sanawarians couldn't be prouder, if you want to hear us, we'll shout loude". This is a cheer that has resounded in every single Sanawarian field and heart. Not one of us present here will say that he/she is not proud to be member of the extraordinary family, but come to think of it, are we really the best school of all? Are we in the truest sense of the words, "The finest School?" In order to answer these questions we just have to understand what the word really means. It does not have to be the best scholar or the best athlete. It means to give everything that we do our very best. What makes a school the best? Fine architecture, attractive buildings and a spacious campus? No, it is you and I, the teachers and students who make a school. A school is as good as it's people

and their effects are. We all know that S'na has a glorious past, a past that is eternal though many of us have seem to taken this for granted, it is vital to understand that we have to work in the present to create a glorious future. We cannot be the best merely by relying on what we had or what was once ours! I must make an honest diligent and unceasing effort to be a decent human being. As a true Sanawarian I must not be afraid of what is wrong and harms my school. Be it vandalism or bullying. Somebody's got to stop the rot and why not you? I don't have to do it because my friends are doing it or because it is considered cool. I have to learn to resist the urge to indulge in such activities. Talking about vandalism, take our classrooms for instance not exactly a feast for the eyes. I'm afraid considering that just last year a large amount of money and efforts were put to improve them. But I can make a difference by not scribbling on my desk, I can make a difference by not leaving my books scattered all over the campus. It is highly essential for us to value everything that we have and mould ourselves in such a way that we have a strong will power that enables us to improve our behavior which at the moment, is definitely not upto the mark. In spite of all our faults and shortcomings, I still have Sanawarian spirit. So, we will see that by just changing ourselves there will be an

*enormous amount of pleasure and contentment.*

*But who can I change ? Can I change anyone of you sitting here ? Can I expect even one of you to do as I say No..... but the one person I can change in myself & improve myself. If each of us decides to change ourselves and strike to be better Sanawarians, Sna will truly be the best school of all then everyone of us can proudly say..... " Yes, One made a difference.*

So having listened to my children I hope you have been re-assured that we in Sanawar are well aware of our shortcomings and determined to overcome them so that we remain the best school of all.

I conclude by expressing my gratitude for the unstinting support that I have always received from all Old Sanawarians and Parents. I would like to thank all my staff for their loyal, dedicated and faithful service, specially those who work behind the scenes and never receive any limelight for their efforts. I would like to conclude with a thought that has in all my long years of teaching, never failed to fill my heart with joy and to uplift my spirit - Thank God for all my wonderful children. God bless you all wherever you go, whatever you do, May God always be with you.

I now call upon the Chief Guest to say a few words and to give away the prizes.

**Head Master.**

## **CHIEF GUEST'S SPEECH - FOUNDER'S 1998**

Dr Dhillon, Norman - the oldest head boy 1938, I understand present, distinguished old students of Sanawar and of course the main purpose of my coming here - the boys and girls of Sanawar, I am absolutely delighted to be here today. It's not only an honour to be asked to this, perhaps the oldest school anywhere. But I've had a very delightful morning, enjoyed myself. It's such a change away from what I normally do and I've been with people who are such a distance away from the people I am normally interacting with. I watched your parade with close attention. I come from a military family and I have myself been in the NCC and I must compliment all the young people in that parade for an absolutely outstanding show. I know how complex it is to troop the colours only the army does it. Most of the police of India can not do it really that way. The most intricate manoeuvres were executed with precision and perfection. I watched the parade and to march in extended order and keep your dressing is not easy. It wavers-like a snake. But I must say all the boys were excellent. I hope they won't feel too hurt if I say the girls were a notch better. Now I know I get accused in my official work everyday by political parties and I know when I leave there will be accusations of partiality because I have three girls and a fourth is sitting here. But I can assure you in my remarks I am as objective as in my work. I enjoyed your band and to create a good band playing lots of complex tunes is not easy. I particularly watched your band

leader - that boy up there and when he threw it up my heart was in my mouth because it's always a worry - do you get it or do you not. And I am sorry to have to say I've watched the Indian Army over long years and I watch the Republic Day parade every year. I am sorry to say most of their bands have lost the courage and their best bands never throw it up in front of the President now. It is a sad comment. But this boy did it. I was also sorry to know from the Headmaster that your excellent band teacher is finally leaving the school and I know how difficult it is to have a great music and a band teacher in any of these schools or in any institution, and when they leave the gap is undoubtedly hard to fill. I only wish him well in his future life.

This is a school set up by Sir Henry Lawrence. I am fond of reading 19th century Indian history, and naturally a great deal of it is the British history. And among the British pre-counsels in India over those centuries, Henry Lawrence is my favourite. He is far ahead of his brother John, who was a cold, impersonal administrator. But Henry Lawrence was a man of the heart, a man of feeling, a man of passion, a man of concerns, a man of caring and that is why he set up these schools - and I read that ultimately because of the partition they set up one on the other side also in his memory. I sometimes think if at the second Sikh War in 1849 Henry Lawrence had not gone on leave and left it to Frederic Curry, history might have been a little bit of a different twist. So I have a lot of good thoughts of your Founder. I also would like to say a word for Hodson, the

man who I think actually built all this, Captain Hodson at that time. Why do I say it because when I go down the hill I have to face my father also, Colonel Gill - because him and my brother Gen Gill and a whole range of others that I know - are from Hodson's Horse, India's finest Cavalry Regiment and that is in memory of that man that you have, I understood, a Hodson Run also. I have another thing to say - that when I was in Africa I put my three girls in a boarding school - shall we say else where. Normally even harder to get in than it might be in your school or my school. But my wife and me did the rare thing of getting them out after a year or two and bringing them here. And we had the finest experience of having children in this school because you were and I hope you remain a happy school. I also have been a strong votery of a joint school of boys and girls. And of course as your writings say are perhaps the earliest 1853. I think it's a more natural way of bringing up children - as in the family, so in the school. And I think if you are a much more balanced, happy, friendly school, maybe it is a little bit because of this. If had I ever had any authority down in the Punjab in education I would have immediately merged all boys and girls schools. The problem in Chandigarh among young people arise out of having two Government schools next to each other but separate, you are asking for trouble and they get it. All Chandigarh people know it. That's not the best way. I think they should all grow up together and I think it's a better way of doing things.

You have produced a great deal of



distinguished people for the armed forces, for the administration, for industry and business, for the film world and it is undoubtedly something one has to complement you about. The Indian Public Schools as you call them, but I would broaden that term to include all such schools for example, those which are run theoretically by Christian denominations of which ever type but they fundamentally all be the same whether in Darjeeling or here or some where else in the hills. I think they have contributed a great deal to this country, over the period they have been and I deem it a fit occasion particularly in these times, to pay a tribute to all these schools. And if I may say so in a certain way in Henry Lawrence was a very Christian man, if you read his biographies in the finest term of the word. He was a man of 'Dharma'. And all of these schools whether they are Christian schools in Kunoor, or Ooty or Mussoorie or somewhere or they are what you call Public Schools Nabha or here or Patiala - they all contribute. And I certainly have no hesitation in using this occasion to pay tribute to all these what I call Christian schools and Christian hospitals in this country. It is these two services that denomination has given to us. If the rest of us should feel any concern, it should be only to do better than that - it is only to do better than them. But health-care and education, I certainly have gone through such an education and I salute these people. And I hope this country will always understand and appreciate the contribution for country, school and community all of those I am sure you do. But at the same time having been in a

school myself of such a nature I also sometimes worry and think that all of you and all of us, older or younger, are we separate islands like military cantonments - more privileged- because you parents can pay for all these excellent facilities and some of us can come here. Do we totally lose concern and contact from the rest of India? Do we not even register the rest of India? These are things which worry me and these are things which I certainly would like to say to you that ultimately we are not islands. You are not an island. You are a part of a much greater whole and that greater whole has a vast number of problems. What Naipaul, some of you might have read him, today isolation has a million mutinies. Those are simply a million concerns—rich and poor, high and low, east and west, language, religion, north-south- I can go on counting. You see them in our polity and in our governance. But what I have to say is that islands such as yours or else where we're going to go? In the larger whole. You are also going to have to go whether you are dragged along, whether you like it or you don't like it. And therefore, these islands of excellence perhaps they have to - as the Headmaster said - we are of course going to be in the next century in two years time. But these islands of excellence, these people all of you who are luckier than most - luckier than the rest, you have to play a major role, not just for yourselves. You can easily get on in the world and you will go higher and higher and you will get the high jobs and you will even go away abroad if you think that is finer. But the greater concern and need is that - in the next 30,40,50 years

when we won't be around but you will be the prime movers of this country. What will be your contribution - not to Sanawar but to India. That is what we will have to see. And therefore that is what I would appeal to you to focus on. There is another dimension - Culture. Murli Manohar Ji, the Minister of Education, could come and give you a greater lecture on this but I, in my own little way, have simply this to say, because as I say I have myself been a product of this - in another school - my children have been. I know all of the ambiance of all of you and while all of us are comfortable and the world is dominated by Western culture I am fond of a lot of the things of the West - but.. but.. but are we isolated and are we totally ignorant of our culture, our language, our literature, our music, our dance. I know my shortcomings. I wish I had an opportunity to learn somehow in my younger days more or something about Indian classical music. And I do find that while all of you kids will know every one from Madonna to Jackson or whoever there is and Bally Sagoo now and even Daler Mehndi. But try and go a little beyond that otherwise in my eyes, I know my shortcomings, you will also remain half educated. You don't have to give up the West - you can clap louder on this one also - अपने कॉलोचबरोँदे क्यू हो तुसी सारे इन्ने!

You can do all your rock and all your dancing and all this and that - fine! But you must have to be a complete man, what Bacon or somebody said, a woman - you have to know much more and I hope the school encourages all that and all of you think of that because you will be only the

richer for all of this.

I want to make one or two comments on what these young people said. The Headmaster assures me that these are totally their own thoughts and no coaching and no चाबी! क्यों बई! एस तरै इ सी ना।

Okay. From what I heard also I totally believe this, I was most interested in the boy who spoke about your results and your academics and your problems on that. Because long ago when my girls were here I had some views not on this school but generally on schools up in the hills and schools like ours while I was sitting in Nigeria. And what was very well put that there is a dilemma in all such institutions - and I hope that old boys are careful not when they are fighting for committee positions tomorrow - I hope they will discuss with me also. Because this is a dilemma for parents and for those who run these schools. These were created to bring up a balanced, all round personality which was fine. Good sportsman, good outdoor, good boxers, good academics and ultimately good leadership. And that's the way they selected them also into the highest positions. And they did well. But today's India has strong emphasis on academics and marks for everything in life. You know that - all the parents know it. Now the tail cannot wag the dog. I am sorry. These schools cannot drag India. India will drag all of you in whichever direction it is going. Therefore, you have to adjust to India, to the National Education Policy, or the State or whatever it may be. If it's strong academics, as these kids are worried, when they go down from here

after tenth or +2 how do they get into a good college? How do they find their position? How do they go up? All those are questions. And those questions, as he said are related to balancing. Because while I would hate to see these schools give up all their extra-curricular as it is called but which is really fundamental. Games, Sports, Debates everything, theatre. But how to balance? And that is something he was asking for. And I do believe it needs to be seriously addressed and considered by all of you who managed this. Because otherwise your kids have a problem later when they leave the hills and go down to the rest of India. And in that also the organisation, as he said, of your time and your curriculum and whatever else can be done. Because ultimately children can only do so much in 24 hours. I already feel that in this India, children are so much burdened with books and so much curriculum in Delhi or any where, that I want to go to the Supreme Court on a public interest litigation, that children also have human rights and the way - you see my simple preposition is-one day I will argue it in the Supreme Court-the weight of the 'Basta' of a nursery kid in Delhi has to have a direct and reasonable relationship with the weight of the child who is dragging it along. Have I made myself clear? And I am sorry that the academic authorities of the country overload the children of the country. I feel that. You don't need so much. But till that changes, you have to organise your time and your activities to get them reasonable study along with reasonable other things and also reasonable rest. And in that I hope I won't be stepping on any toes. A little thing

I also have to say because I keep asking and I keep hearing, even yesterday in Chandigarh and I have some idea - and I was discussing with Norman also-so, if he approves it, must be right - what I am going to say. And that is this - when I was in boarding school, we went up in March, came down in November. That was that. Today most schools including yours perhaps, sorry, every two months or every other month, somehow children can go away back home. Now there are two problems in this. I have been in a boarding school. One is that you get emotionally disrupted when you go down hill and stay with your parents or mother for even one night. It takes time to settle down to books when one comes back - no matter what you do. Even parents visiting me in the school would upset me. Therefore, in today's India because this is a public school - boarding school is a British concept which we are some times modifying in the wrong direction in our Indianness, if I may say so, and that is regular, frequent visits. I'm not talking of this, I can talk of all other schools. Frequent visits by parents because they can afford it, they have the Mercedes or what - ever else and the frequent going home that also I'm afraid is going to hit what this boy was raising. Again it is for you people to balance. It is only for me to raise a question and leave it there. I also think that like some kids said - improve your library, strengthen you computer. I think fundamental training all children should have. Computers is now basic literacy. So all children should have. So typing is the same thing for a computer. Without typing knowledge you can't really function in the world we are going into.

And cooking also. Not just for girls, for boys. Because most boys today go out into the world. You go all over the world, even abroad to Universities. You got to know basic cooking. Otherwise you can't survive on Western food or wherever you go. And I think it's a good quality and good training to give to the boys also.

Finally, I think I want to say only one thing to emphasise that you are going into the next century. You are the people who are going to be running it. What do I look for if I look for one quality when you leave this school. Frankly, I look for compassion, I look for caring, I look for concern, I look for the capacity to look at others and to feel for them. I look for the feeling when you are going to a Disco in Delhi and you are at the red lights in your grand car and you see those kids outside, to feel a little bit hurt. You may not be able to change everything because - as a Pakistani friend of mine quoted to me, I wish I could quote the full Iqbal to you. He was talking of Pakistan and their polity and their elite. And he was quoting something to me from Iqbal saying "कि वहाँ तो दर्दे - दिल ही खत्म हो गया! अगर दर्दे दिल ही इन्सानों से निकल गया तो फिर उस मुल्क का और उस देश का कुछ नहीं हो सकता! तो आपके दर्दे-दिल तो रहना चाहिए"!

You may be the privileged, others may not be. But the capacity to feel should never be lost. It should never be hardened off by constant lucky elite living. And I think that is something I would hope that you will never lose and that is something that you will always inculcate. Now I was aware when I came here, I had been made aware by my family, that my main purpose here is not really to give you a grand lecture on

how to be better and this and that. In fact, I was assured that nobody really takes the slightest notice of it. Because the main purpose, I was told, of the Chief Guest is to help all of you get a few more holidays. I am working with politicians for the last four years. I have to confess I'm also more or less a politician now. And therefore, I will share with you a private thought that I have been urging your excellent Headmaster a great deal कि जी इनको दबा के छुट्टियाँ दे दो। अब छुट्टियाँ तो भई हमारे school में तो Headmaster Saheb ही दे सकते हैं।

And, I am, also in his hands and I will only request him that he should give you, I think in the light of all that I said, a reasonable break. Am I fair?

But finally, before I sit down, I do wish to very much complement Dr Dhillon, his staff, his colleagues and every one of the people who have worked with him in the school for indeed a remarkable show and a marvellous morning. As I said seeing your parade, your music, even your clapping for me - I have to confess that while I am from another place but I was weakening and feeling that not just my girls I wish I too had been a Sanawarian.

Thank you very much.

M.S.Gill

## **HIMALAYA HOUSE- BD-REPORT- 1998**

In the past year, the performance of Himalaya House has been good. To begin with, in the summer term, Himalaya won the Cross-Country Cup in the Boys Department. Every student strived to come in well before the last degrading positions. The perseverent students got up at five O'clock in the morning to practise hard for the Cup. There was determination in them. On the final day, they ran as fast as they could, using the stamina they had built up through days of limitless patience and extreme practise. They cared about nothing but reaching the Arch, their final destination, and ran with all they had. And in the end, their hardwork and determinations paid off when they lifted the Cup.

In Soccer and Cricket, Himalaya put up a brave front against the equally other capable teams, but were unfortunately unable to do it very well.

The Upper 4'ers shifted into the parent dormitory in the first week of April. They had an enjoyable time doing it and had no trouble settling down.

The Himalaya House show went off quite well and was a success with the children and staff alike. Even the lower 4'ers put in their best efforts.

The students got a well deserved break in April as they went for hikes. They returned after a week of rugged camping, thoroughly refreshed and ready for the hectic school life.

The Himalayans practised a lot for athletics

and, although not bagging a position, did try the hardest they could.

Just before the summer holidays, came an unexpected turn of events in Himalaya House. Our beloved senior Housemaster Mr. Dwivedi, left our school after 22 years of service for Muscat, amidst sad a farewell.

In the Founder's Term, the Hockey Cup was won by Himalaya. There were the usual morning practices, which were taken very seriously. The Himalayan boys practised to the highest extent they could. When the matches began, Himalaya went on rampage. They furiously fought their way through all their opposing teams. It inevitably, considering the amount they practiced that the Hockey Cup was to adorn the Himalaya dormitory.

There were quite a few House parties, where children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and danced till their bones ached to celebrate something or the other.

The expression and knowledge of a few Himalayans was tested in the poetry recitation and quiz competitions in which we came first and second respectively.

Our English and Hindi debating teams did not exactly do badly at the Inter House debates, although not bagging first position at any time.

On the whole, it can be said that Himalaya House performance was good enough for the Himalayans, although they did not always win, gave their best, and that's what really matters.

**H. V. Chabra**

## **NILAGIRI HOUSE-BD- REPORT**

**1998**

1998, being a year full of challenges we did not have a very outstanding achievement.

We had to face each event like a tree against the wind. Whether successful or not.

Beginning with Cricket we did badly by achieving only six points and standing fourth, next came Cross - Country in which we rose up to the second position. In Soccer we did work hard but stood second, by a mere difference of two points.

Nilagiri House Show being the last house show of the term was considered to be the best, especially for its fabulous Hindi play and tribute to Fateh Pal Sidhu.

In the Founder's term, we began with Athletics and bagged the first position and again in P.T. we took the cake.

During Founder's the House was awarded Chief of the Air Staff trophy for all round excellence. Basketball, we again aimed for it and were successful in winning the cup. In Hodson's we tried our level best but unfortunately missed the cup and stood second.

In terms of minor games overall performance was reasonably good and did contribute a lot to our cockhouse points.

On the cultural front, we did not do well as Nilagiri had seldom budding debates, speakers, etc.

Though the overall performance of our house was not very remarkable because of academics. I wish my successors all the very best and hope that they keep our flag

flying high. I would also like to thank my housemasters for their guidance and support which made it possible for me to function with earnestness.

**G.M. Grewal**

## **SIWALIK HOUSE-BD- REPORT**

**1998**

1998 was a very successful year for Siwalik House.

We did not start too well, by doing badly in the Cross-Country race. After that, Siwalik came to a close second in Cricket, and went on to get the Football Cup.

Thus started our success story, and the Siwalikans started giving their best in each and every activity. A lot of hard work was put into studies, debates and dramatics. The result was, that we got the Study Cup, and so also the Cultural Cup.

Our House-show was definitely the most entertaining and interesting. We got a special mention from the headmasters, who came up on stage and said " This was indeed one of the best House shows I have ever seen".

Siwalik House then got the Defence Cup and Siwalik, B.D., then came second in Athletics. Siwalik came first in Squash, Table-Tennis, Tennis, and second in Badminton. Keeping up the unbelievable record, Siwalik won the spectacular Hockey Cup for the seventh consecutive year, and the Athletics Marching Cup.

There is no doubt, that we were giving it all that we had got ! Later, in the year, Siwalik

came to very close second in Hockey, and to top it all as the icing on the cake, Siwalik House was the cock House, for the second consecutive year.

Before I end, I would like to thank the House staff and all the tutors, for giving us all the moral support and everything that an upper sixer can dream of. My best wishes are with the next year's batch, and I hope that Siwalik House achieves many more laurels than it ever has.

" NEVER GIVE IN"

**SAM SONEJA**

## **VINDHYA HOUSE-BD- REPORT**

**1998**

The year 1998 proved to be a progressive and productive year for the Vindhya. We excelled both on the academic and the sports front. The beginning of the year was marked by an enormous change in the house staff. Mr R.P. Gautam took over the senior dormitory while Mr. P.K. Lal rejoined the house staff as the Junior dorms housemaster. We also welcomed Mrs. Sikand who joined us, as, our matron. They took over from Mr. A.K. Bhargawa, Mr. C.V. Lonappan and Mrs. Sunita Singh respectively.

On the cultural front, more than half the participants of the various Round Square International activities (exchanges, projects etc.) came from Vindhya house. There were overall seven students from our house that participated whole heartedly in various Round Square activities. The Vindhyaans participated enthusiastically in various

inter house as well as inter school quizzes. We also shared the quiz Cup with Siwalik.

In the field, Vindhya bounced back to win the Cricket Cup after a slight debacle last year. Continuing the winning track Vindhya also bagged the Basketball Cup. Vindhya, after a miserable show in athletics and cross-country, stunned many by winning the Hodson Cup by a huge margin. In the inter-house Soccer, we were not able to capitalize our talent efficiently and thus ended third. In the racquet games we emerged winners in badminton while came close second in Table Tennis. The Vindhyaans excelled in Gym and took home a well deserved cup.

Till the last unit lasts Vindhya was still in a close competition with the Siwalikans in the battle for the study cup. Vindhya has established its academic supremacy by winning the study cup consecutively for the years 1996 and 1997.

With satisfactory performance by the Vindhyaans we hope to come back stronger next year. I would like to wish all the best for the coming year and hope that they will "Put ON THEIR ARMOUR AND FIGHT".

**Manoj Talwar**

## **HOLDING HOUSE- BD-Report**

**1998**

Holding House has been and is considered a very boring dormitory but, ask any Lower Fourer, and he will tell you the opposite. This dormitory is bustling one with excitement, because the Prep School children are excited at the thought of entering Senior School, and the new comers excited at joining the hostel.

This year started off with a boom for Holding House as only a week after the 'prepers' came and five days after the new comers came there were annual camps and hikes. One group went to Sangla, one to Narkanda, one to Kufri and the medically excused group went to Sadhupul. Sugam Varma was awarded a cup and certificate for keeping the environment and camping area neat and clean. Academic results remained very encouraging. A large number of boys were awarded distinctions.

The year 1998 saw launching of Holding House Magazine "GRAFFITI". The response was tremendous and many hidden talents were noticed. A big hand for our Prefects : Kunal Jain, Amit Goyal, Yusuf A. Khan, and Rajneesh Sharma, without whom this would not have been possible.

On the games and sports front also Holding House boys didn't lag behind. Akhilesh Grover was declared Chess Champion in U14 group. Gaurav Gupta bagged 1st and 2nd position respectively in 3000 mtrs. and 1500 mtrs. Manas Pegu came second in Long Jump. Suchet Attri went on to bag 1st position both in Cross Country and Hodson Run. Congrats to all. The Holding House

boys played a hockey match v/s G.D. team. Needless to say, the boys won by 6-1.

In Founder's the maximum participation was probably from Holding House. Most of the boys in Karate were from Holding House, 90% of the common folk in the History Pageant were our boys, a large number of our boys participated in mass PT. also. Abhimanyu Sisodia was chosen for 4th Oct. speech.

Amit and Kunal went to Bombay for a Naval Camp. Yusuf participated in T.C. Camp Memorial Debate held at Sanawar and also acted in the play " Any Number Can Die" put up at the Founder's. Amit was declared First in Inter House Sr. Debate. He remained President of Hindi Debating Society. Rajneesh was a member of Sanawar team which participated in Indian Public School Quiz competition held at Dehra Dun and returned with a bumper prize of Rs. Ten Thousand. He was a member of quiz team for Solan Distt. Championship also and was declared the Runner up. Amit participated in Inter School Extempore speech contest held at Welham Girls High School, Dehra Dun.

There was a change in staff. Mr. Saha, Asst. Housemaster, took over Nilagiri Jr. Dorm as Housemaster. Mr. Mathur joined in his place in Holding House.

As a whole year has been a good year for Holding House. We are thankful to our Housemaster, Dr. Sharma, and Matron Mrs. B. Singh for looking after us so well and making our stay at Holding House very comfortable and enjoyable.

**ABHIMANYU SISODIA**



## **HIMALAYA HOUSE-GD- REPORT**

**1998**

Another year has flown past, and Himalaya House has emerged with its share of well deserved victories, as well as defeats, but "FIGHT A GOOD FIGHT" is what we Himalayans believe in, and very evidently, we did strive for the best.

The Himalaya House Show was dedicated in the memory of Fatehpal Singh, indeed was a jewel in our crown. He has left an indelible stamp in all our hearts and was a very talented boy.

On the Sports front, the year started with Basketball, where we could not prove ourselves. However, we covered up for it in P.T., where we bagged the cup. We stood second in Athletics, missing the cup by just a few points. Malika Malhotra received the Bala Cup for best Athlete. Sonali Bagchi and Mandakini Singh put up a good performance. We emerged winners in Chess, T.T. and Badminton. Hodson run and Cross Country did not go too well for us. We did extremely well in Hockey and we are sharing the championship with V.G.D.

On the cultural side, we stood second. We did not have much luck with the quizzes. Garima Dewan and Namita Agarwal participated in the English Debates and came second. They also participated in the first Inter School T.C. Kemp Memorial English Debates' 98, at Sanawar.

The Lower-Sixers have had opportunities to experience Exchange

Programme to other countries. Richa Pathania went to Australia and Nidhi Kumar to St. Anne's, England. Shweta Jain attended a conference in Los Angeles, U.S.A., she was the only girl representing India. Vijayata Mann attended the RSIS at Solan. Aarti Goyal attended the Anti-Pollution Programme held at Simla.

It was a pleasure to have Homiyeh from Cape Town, South Africa and Lian from Australia as exchange students, in our house.

The "Break Up's" arranged by the Lower sixers, for the Upper sixers were carried out with devotion and everybody had a good time.

To sum it all up, we can only hope that we continue putting in our best to emerged truly successful

**Dipti Chadha  
Garima Dewan  
Namita Agarwal  
Parneet Sidhu**

## **NILAGIRI HOUSE-GD- REPORT**

**1998**

Nilgiri House started the term well by attaining 1<sup>st</sup> position in cross countries.

The Nilgiri basketball senior team played extremely well and the juniors played satisfactorily. Overall, we attained the II<sup>nd</sup> position.

The House show went off very well and was appreciated by all.

We also played very well at the Inter House Table Tennis Matches and won the Cup. However, we did not do well at Badminton.

Also, a lot of girls were chosen to go on the exchange programmes. Prachi was told to go to Mowbray, Australia; Neha to Herschel, South Africa; Sanjukta to Boxhill, England and Neha Narang participated in the R.S.I.S. held in Solan. Also, Jaspreet Sekhon, Arunima and Surya were selected to represent Himachal Pradesh at the Nationals in Basketball.

P.T. Athletics & Hodsons, Nilagiri did not do too well. In Hockey Nilagiri came 11<sup>th</sup>. Academically, it has been a very good successful and competitive year for Nilagiri.

### **SIWALIK HOUSE-GD- REPORT**

**1998**

The year 1998 proved to be an excellent one for the Siwalikians with us bagging the Cock House once again, we also got the Public Speaking Cup for the 4<sup>th</sup> time in a row, making a new record. The House also fared well in Hodsons and Athletics coming first in both events. In Chess and Cross Country we were 2<sup>nd</sup> missing the Cups by just a few points. We secured the 3<sup>rd</sup> position in Basketball, P.T. and Hockey. The Siwalikians also showed their grit and determination by not only winning the Gymnastics competition but also the Cultural Cup. We proved ourselves once more by coming second and third in

Badminton and Table Tennis respectively.

Over all the year was extremely successful one as everyone together put up a good show. Keep it up Siwalik with the green flag flying high!! The flag on the Hill Top is definitely on the top .

RAVNEET SEKHON

SHIVANIKA GYANI

### **VINDHYA HOUSE-GD- REPORT**

**1998**

The year 1997-98 has been fairly good for Vindhya House.

Though the start point with cross country was quite a full stop as the runners of Vindhya House could stand only in the third position, Vindhyan covered up for it with its big success of House Show- 2<sup>nd</sup> in the line. They also stood 1<sup>st</sup> in the Basketball Inter-House matches and all the Vindhyan singers also got the Choir Cup. The competition was very difficult but hard work under Mrs. Suri got us the Cup. It seems as if the growing success of Vindhyan in other fields could not let them study as unfortunately this year we had the least study points. Chess is said to be related to the power of the brain which seemed quite lacking in the Vindhyan this term. Chess was hence in the bad front. But the Vindhyan covered it up with their might 1<sup>st</sup> position in both the quizzes (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> term). The success in debates was uniform. Vindhyan stood 2<sup>nd</sup> in declamation, 1<sup>st</sup> in Eng. Debate (Seniors), 3<sup>rd</sup> in Sr. Hindi

Debate and Jr. Eng. and 1st from the bottom in Jr. Eng. debating. Looking at this performance, one can't decide whether Vindhya House consists of debaters or non-debaters.

The second term of the year was dedicated to Founders and studies. The Vindhyan's actively participated in the Founders. They were everywhere-- variety concerts had 11 out of 30 girls from VGD. The central role of the School Ballet was held by the Vindhya House prefect- Neha Grover, the ballet had around six girls from VGD, they were a part of the light and sound show, the gym and the karate; two out of eight speakers at Founder were girls from VGD. Naina Mehta and Divya Gangwani. spoke on " How can I make a difference as a student" and "Food in School" respectively. We are all aware of their excellent performance. Athletics and Hodson were average though Lakshmi Jhangra got Championship in both. Another highlight of VGD was Sukhmani Brar who not only excelled in Athletics inside School but broke the Indian record and was declared the best athlete of her age group. At the IPSC Meet, Vindhyan's stood second in the PT Competition even though the leader forgot one of the groups. The gym competition was comparative and the Vindhyan's just missed the first position by hardly a few points. The efforts for the indoor games and co-curricular activities were undirectional this year. Vindhyan's stood first in T.T. and last in Badminton. Though 1st in the quiz Vindhya stood last in

studies again. During examinations we seemed to work extremely hard for Hockey and finally toward the end of the term and the year Vindhyan's stood first in the Inter House Hockey matches.

Success comes collectively when it comes to a number of people consider as one entity. It was a good year and each Vindhyan was a part of each success. The encouragement and the guidance came from our House Mistress, Mrs. Anju Suri and all the Tutors. Mrs. Tandon, Mrs. Singh, Miss. Nishi Sharma and ofcourse, the matron, Mrs. Chhibber. All the teachers have been very kind and gave the Vindhyan's a good year of success, love and faith. They are all very dear to the outgoing batch. We wish the very best to the Vindhya House for the coming year because there's always a scope of improvement ! Vindhya House is great.

Best of luck..... !

A. Batra  
N. Grover

## **Holdings House-GD- Report**

**1998**

The Holdings House, under Mrs. B. Matharu, was introduced in 1996. The junior Housemistress is Mrs. Shoba Gupta and the tutors are Mrs. Leena Francis, Miss. Neelam Jit and Mrs. Atri. It was constructed keeping in view the problems that girls after P.D., have in settling down in the senior dormitories, and it has helped them.

This year the total strength is 64+2 prefects. It is a colossal task managing so

many girls and one which requires us to be on our own feet constantly. One really cannot help feeling bad for our Matron. Mrs. Prabha Singh, who is often seen venting her spleen on someone or the other- not her fault !

The girls are expected to try to be all their best. No one is unreasonable and the girls are expected to realise their mistakes and make amends. They are rewarded accordingly too, like, by being allowed to be in the Common Room for extra time and the like. They are encouraged to inculcate the basic sense of hygiene and etiquette.

The girls, in general are rather pleasant and any kind of conversation with some of them reveals innocence and expressions that are ready to explode any moment ! There is a lot of interaction among the girls from different rooms. Study hour is maintained very strictly.

I guess the best part is that the batch leaving Holding House is always given a farewell party by Mrs. Matharu helped by the teachers. Obviously, since this is a transitory stage their problems are taken into account and any kind of help extended to them is welcome.

N. Grover

## **P.D. GIRLS - " SPARROWS."**

### **Report 1998**

True to the word " SPARROWS" as they call us, we are privileged to lead a carefree life as we are being tended too well.

Studies or games? There is no question of

choosing. We are interested in both. But given a choice it is definitely playing outdoors.

In the past year we definitely have done our best in studies, that everyone got promoted to the next class.

Our studies were made interesting by the creative assignments we were given like putting up plays ourselves, writing poems, and essays.

Hobbies are our favourite in a way. You have seen them all during the Founder's Exhibitions. We are really good at needlework, Macramme, Art and Batik which made the best part of our Founder's activities. We had good training in some senior school hobbies like Ceramics, Gymnastics, Music and Dance. Some of us are really good at dance which we proved in the Prep School show and the Founder's Ballet.

With the introduction of Cable television our lifestyle has changed for the better. Our aimless wandering during our leisure time has stopped and we feel happy to stay inside the dormitories to watch our favourite television programmes.

We proudly declare that our House Mistress and tutors have been a source of inspiration in everything we did and are a support in everything we want to do.

P.D. GIRLS.

(Sparrows)

## **The Prep Upperdormers 98**

The prep upper-dormers achievements in the year 1998 Academics :-

We caused a wave as far as academics is concerned, with a large majority of boys chosen to sign the 'Honours Book' and quite few of them were even awarded with certificate for standing first or second in class. Some were even rewarded for showing outstanding performance in the fields of computers, music and art. In August, an "All India Talent Examination was conducted in which many 'Uppies' showed their talent. After a long wait for the result, some Uppies got certificates for showing extraordinary talent in the examination.

Sports :-

The Himalayans showed a great fighting spirit and won the Cricket Cup. In Soccer, the Nilagirians showed an outstanding performance with Aman Hora scoring the maximum number of goals for Nilagiri. We put up a tough fight against Shiwalik but as you know winning or losing does not matter, its the spirit of the game which is important. In Hockey, there was a Prep Hockey Tournament. Sankalpdeep, of Himalaya, scored the maximum number of goals for Sanawar. Manjot Ghai, Captained the team and Nilagarian got the best player of the tournament.

In the Hockey House matches, Aman Hora was the key to success for Nilagiri. We fought tooth and nail with Shiwalik but I have told you earlier that it is a spirit of the

game that counts! Himalayans put in their best too. The Nilagarians got the P.T. Cup with Himalayans coming second. In Basketball, Aman Hora scored the most baskets and was announced the best shooter.

In athletics, Aman Hora broke the 100 metre record in finals. In relays, the Himaliyans came first.

As far as plays and shows, it started of with the P.D. show and many upper dormers snatched the main role. In the Founders there was a play called the 'Little Prince' in which Angad Gyani acted as 'Little Prince'. Many upper dormers participated in the 'Lazium' and exhibitions.

We now come to the end of our report still charged with an unheard fighting power. We stop reminiscing and look into the future, where we five lower fourers, eagerly await the achievements of the new year.

Kanav Shoor,  
Pavel Sharma, Raghav Bhagat,  
Parth Maniktala, Arjun Bhatti.

### **Thoughts to Ponder**

Children need lot more smiles and hugs than lectures instructions.

A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.

Those who reach their goals too easily have aims too low.

Warmth kindness and friendship are the most yearned for commodities in the world. The person who provides them can never be lonely.

## FOUNDER'S REPORT 1998

The Founder's 1998 started on a note of excitement and expectations as usual.

Though, officially it was from the 3rd of October, I shall include the 2nd as well because it is always very very special to all of us. On, the 2nd morning, we had the Special Assembly on Gandhi Jayanti. It was a solemn occasion. In the afternoon, the school attended the serious and emotional prayer service at the cemetery. This was attended by a remarkably large number of Old Sanawarians too. At the end of the service flowers were placed on the graves by everybody present.

On, the 3rd morning, the excitement shifted to the Barne Field as the Annual Athletic Meet commenced, with General. Mann, of the Western Command, as the Chief Guest. There were some exciting races including a 4x 100 Relay Race between the OS, Staff and the Boy's teams. A number of records were broken. The Defence Cup was won by Siwalik House. The Bala Cup for the Best Athlete (Girl) was shared between Ravneet Sekhon and Mallika Malhotra. The Kalinga Cup for the Best Athlete (Boy) went to Samunder Singh Rathore. The inaugural Fatehpal Sidhu memorial Trophy and Cash Prize for the Best Boy Athlete Under 14 age group was awarded to Arjun Mehta. This trophy and the cash prize, I must mention, were donated by the school quiz team boys after winning a Rs. 10,000/- cash prize.

Again, the tension could be felt by the

evening just before the variety concert. There was a beautiful ballet, called *Rani Roopmati*, put up by the dance girls. Neha Grover in the lead role and Meghna Syal as the King excelled themselves in their respective roles. The ballet had an excellent synchronisation between the movement and the music. *The Little Prince* by the Prep School children was well performed and it kept the audience spellbound. It touched the imagination of the young hearts. The two character that particularly stood out were the Little Prince acted by Angad S Gyani and the King played by Parth Maniktala. Following the play was the Orchestra which was sober and very nicely performed. The evening was not over as yet, for the much awaited Tattoo had not started. For starters, the Tattoo had the traditional items like Mass PT, Gymnastics and Karate and then moved on to give, the spectators a great surprise with the first Girl's Bugle Band, the first ever performance in the history of Sanawar. Mentioning history reminds us about the exclusive History Pageant on representing various major periods of our heritage right upto the Nuclear Test at Pokhram. The accoustics and light effects were appropriate. On the whole, the evening was entertaining and left all the parents and Old Sanawarians exhilarated and wanting a little more.

The most important morning of Founder's, the 4th of October, started with a dignified and formal gathering at The Chapel, in the presence of many OS, whose

eyes were surely glistening while they sang the school song *Never Give In*. Next, came the customary Trooping of Colours. The Parade was led by Eshanveer Singh and was highly commended by the Chief Guest Mr. MS Gill, the Chief Election Commissioner. He also commented on the smartness of the Band led by Rajvikram Chhabra. The Speeches, the Lamp Ceremony and the Prize Giving were, held after the Parade. A lamp, as a symbol of handing down of traditions and values, was presented by the senior most OS, Mr. Norman Kells, to the youngest Prepper, Evita Taneja, with the following message : *Look into the future unafraid with a confidence born of the heritage of our past.*

The Headmaster, Dr. HS Dhillon, utilised the students to speak on various topics this kept the audience involved. In the afternoon, the Annual General Meeting of the OS Society, was held at Trafford court, in which Mr. Ashish Bhatia (Himalaya-80) was elected the next incumbent President. There were interesting exhibitions of the various hobbies pursued by the children on the 3rd & the 4th. The evening was full of excitement due to the Senior School Concert. The school with *Any Number Can Die* was a combination of mystery and comedy never a dull moment for the audience. The story was based on 1920 American society. It was supported by extremely sleek stagecraft, sound and light management. Yusuf A Khan was outstanding in the role of the detective, Mr. Hix. We had outstanding performances by

Virat Rana, Ravneet Sekhon, Samridh Soneja and Shivanika Gyani, just to mention a few. The rest of the cast provided excellent support. The play was an instant hit. Some American songs of the twenties were sung by the choir in period costumes, in between, the acts providing lively entertainment, Leanino Haralu and Karamjot Bedi were quite outstanding. At night what was enjoyed by all was the traditional Old Sanawarians' Dinner and Dance at the SSC with the last strains of music floating over the hillside well into dawn.

The last event for Founder's 98 was the OS matches on the 5th morning on Peacestead. The school boys in Hockey and the Girls in Basketball allowed the OS to win by big margins of course! The children and the staff went for their well earned post-Founder's break with tired limbs but with heartfelt satisfaction that they could look back proudly and say, "We have done it yet again".

- Aman Chahal, SGD, Lower- VI

### **GIRLS BAND' 98**

Daring great effort, sincerity, revolutionary in the history of Sanawar, sums up the GIRLS BUGLE BAND' 98.

School offers a variety of cultural activities, but something was missing on the G.D. side. The hobby-band for girls.

It was a request, and when the request was granted, it was a dream come true for

the girls. Never had we the opportunity for playing the drums and bugles for tadoo.

Preparations started, and at first there were all kinds of corny remarks- "Ha! A girls bugle band !" " But girls can't play? So everyone was new to their instruments, and when we got down to playing, the sound was unheard off. Mrs. Khan also commented that the bugles sounded like frogs croaking ! But it didn't really turn out that way on 3rd Oct. 1998. The night when tadoo was put up, with a difference.

And so the day finally came. Those who had the wrong opinion, probably had to think twice because "the girls did do it". And for the first time in the history of Sanawar, there was a girls bugle band ! This was an item that was unique, that made tadoo different ! For girls were determined to prove those wrong who thought wrong.

"Never give in," thats what we did, and now have started a new trend, for in the coming years, girls shall rule !

We all owe a lot of respect and thanks to Mr. B.C. Katoch and Mr. Rawat, who taught us so much in less time.

**Bugle :** Seh'ba Kanwal, Jasmin Ghuman, Sohini Choudhary, Shayari Singh, Nayantara Sahgal, Simer Thandi, Naratha Chimmini, Mandakini Singh and Amrita Manocha.

**Drums :** Sentirenia Aung, Divya Lal, Sanyukta Kanwal, Radhika Manocha, Devika Mani, Sonali Bagchi, Navika Singh, Mandira Khanna, Sukhmani Brar, and

Minika Baruah (leader).

"It's a way we have in Sanawar  
The best School of all,  
And we live in that motto's power,  
till the last bugle call."

Mihika Baruah

1998

### **N.C.C-98**

NCC is an integral part of any residential school and Sanawar is no exception. The third week of August saw N.C.C. practises start on a not so serious note. However with the approach of Founder's Day, the entire troop started their practises in the right spirit, and with the sole objective of making the N.C.C. Parade the cornerstone of the 1998 Founder's.

#### **Parade Commander**

Eshanvir Singh

#### **Drum Major**

Rajvikram Chhabra.

#### **Pilots**

Imjung and Imli Toshi.

#### **Flag Bearers**

Iqbal Khan and Kunal Jain.

#### **Guards**

Shiva Keshvan and Navtej Sandhu.

#### **1st troop Leader (U-VI)**

Samridh Soneja.

#### **2nd troop Leader (L-VI)**

Gurmehar Grewal.



### **3rd troop Leader (U-V)**

Manoj Talwar.

### **4th troop Leader Girls (U-VI)**

Jaspreet Sekhon.

4th of Oct., the day we were eagerly awaiting, had arrived. Our Chief Guest Dr. M.S. Gill arrived, smartly escorted by the Pilots, Imjung and Toshi.

"Parade Saavdhan"! the crisp distinct voice of the Parade Commander Eshanvir Singh pierced the air of expectancy of the gathering at Peacestead. With the rhythmic beat of the School Band, the inspection of the troops by the Chief Guest progressed, as expected without a hitch. With the completion of the inspection, the Chief Guest was escorted by the Pilots to his seat.

The School Band held the entire attention of the gathering with an outstanding display of intricate marching order. The entire parade displayed a show which was remarkably breathtaking. The Parade went hand in hand, i.e. well synchronised with the band with absolute timing and co-ordination, which made it perfectly synchronised affair. The unique handiwork and an excellent throw of the Band Stick by the Drum Major, Rajvikram Chhabra added to the essence of the Parade.

The Trooping of Colours, finally took place. The fourth troop (U-VI Girls) led by Jaspreet Sekhon received excellent compliments from the Chief Guest for their

superb performance.

The entire, parade's performance was immensely appreciated by the whole gathering and the applause basically spoke for itself. With this the curtain fell on another chapter of Sanawarian N.C.C. and we look forward to another stirring performance in the next year.

**Y. Chankija**

U-VI

## **STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION**

### **A report on the Seminars & 'Workshops' 98-99**

Success has no bounds in this competitive world. Every single individual, who is aware of the cut-throat struggle, looks forward to the opportunity to improve the performance and upgrade the knowledge in his/her field. In the fast changing scenario of today's life one who has upgraded the knowledge, lasts. Here, at Sanawar, we have been trying hard to keep ourselves abreast with the latest. To facilitate this, number of seminars and workshops are conducted from time to time for different group of people.

The term began with a workshop by Dr. Keshav Sharma, Director, STRIET, Shimla. The participants both from senior and prep school were present for the two days affair. The problems faced by teachers and students were discussed in a group, on the first day. The expectations of the school from the parents and expectations of parents from the school were also discussed. The second phase of the programme, which includes the creation of a booklet which will consist every information about the students, will be organised later in Founder's term.

Mr. Lonappan attended a workshop on Environmental Awareness and Education at Solan conducted by Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) from March 25-27, 1999. The lectures in the workshop were regarding the fauna of Himachal Pradesh right from

microscopic protozoans to the mammals, all well documented and substantiated with the slide shows. The importance of conservation of the environment, habitats, flora and fauna and the measures and approaches undertaken to preserve the nature were emphasised by Dr. V. Sharma, Principal Scientific Officer, Himachal Council for Science, Technology & Environment. He is an O.S.

Talks on Technology and Computers were given by Dr. A. Kulshreshtha and Mrs. Kalra on 8<sup>th</sup> May. The duo made it clear to the students that there is nothing like the 'Dooms Day' as projected improporionately by the print media. Prof. V.S. Ramamurthy from Deptt. of Science and Technology also talked to the students and encouraged them to develop HAM radios and other projects run by Govt. under Vigyan Prasar programme. This was followed up by Mr. A.P. Rastogi (27-28 May) from Vigyan Prasar.

Dr. R. Dhillon was on the campus to conduct a programme on 'Sex Education Awareness'. The basic knowledge about sex related diseases and myths and facts about HIV were discussed in detail in groups. The programme was also conducted for the staff. Different questions were given to all the participants to have proper feedback.

Mathematics, as a subject, has always been a focus of discussion. Surveys throughout the globe show that this is the subject which is a nightmare for most of the students. Dr. V. Seshan, Director, Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, Baroda was invited, to hold a three-day workshop for teachers and students at Sanawar. Members of Sahodaya Schools

also attended the seminar. He emphasised that the 'student power' should be given recognition. Support of teacher, parents and community together is vital for the purpose. This can be achieved through interactive discussion-cum-tutorials instead of monotone talking in classroom.

Earlier a three-day seminar (21-23 April) for Matrons and Wards of residential schools was organised by 'The Teachers' Centre' , Dehradun. Mrs. Dwivedi, Mrs. Sikand and Mrs. Ahlawat attended the same from our school. The workshop dealt with housekeeping, hygiene, principles and method of cleaning of dormitory and bathroom, pest control, laundry etc. The resource person was Ms. Lakshmi A. - Head of Housekeeping of Clarke's Ajmer, Jaipur.

Mr. R.P. Gautam attended a seminar on " Ban on Anti-Personal Mines" organised by 'Society for All-Round Development' (SARD) and India Institute for Peace & Disarmament on 27th May 99. The seminar was inaugurated by Chief Minister of HP Prof. P.K. Dhumal. There has been a conference called "Ottawa Treaty" where 130 countries have already signed to put an all out ban on A.P. Mines. The main objective of the seminar was to generate a kind of public awareness and movement so that Indian Government should also sign the treaty to ban A.P. Mines.

Due to hectic activity schedule and prior commitments few of the seminars could not be attended. These include "An Enrichment course in Biosciences at Kodaikanal", Science Workshop, and a summer Workshop for primary school teachers, Teachers' Centre, Dehradun etc.

We have been receiving reports on different workshops from Teachers' Centre, Dehradun.

Though every effort is being put to enhance the knowledge of teaching-learning process, but as I have already mentioned, success has no limits. We, at this end, are still striving for excellence in education.

**Anurag Mathur**

I/C Seminars & Workshops

### **3rd Junior Regional Round Square Conference**

On 9th Dec. 98' four of us along with Mrs. Tehlan left for Bangladesh. Chittagong Grammar School, hosted the 3rd Jr. Regional Round Square Conference from 12th Dec. to 15th Dec. Eleven schools from India, Pakistan, Oman and Bangladesh congregated for the first time in history at a conference to discuss; Climatic change, Endangered seas, Forests for life, Natural resources, Pollution, Technology, Urbanisation and The World of animals.

We reached Chittagong on 11th Dec. and the same evening we had the privilege to have 'high tea' with the High Commissioner of India at his residence. Next morning, the opening ceremony was followed by very informative and interesting speeches by some eminent personalities of Chittagong. After this we all left for a trip on the famous Karnaphuli' river where we managed to see many dolphins. The same evening there was a quiz held for the students delegates.

The following day we all made our way to

the Chittagong club at 5.30 in the morning for group discussions on the theme and started putting together our presentations for the closing ceremony. For this all the teachers and student delegates had been split into eight groups. A swimming gala was also arranged for the delegates the same afternoon.

On 14th Dec. we were taken to the famous Cox's Bazar. The magnificent, sun-set, on the longest, shark free Myanmar beach was beyond imagination. After having been down once again to the beach for sunrise next morning we left for the fish market and could see live sharks there.

Upon returning to the school we held our group presentation followed by the closing ceremony.

It was a spectacular sight when the student delegates were saying goodbye to each other with promises to write to each other. We are thankful to the people of Bangladesh and CGS staff for extending such a warm welcome to us. It was indeed a very enjoyable trip for all of us and we are looking forward to many more such trips.

**Anahat Pirzada**

**Jasmine Ghuman**

**Abhijit Leekha**

**Abhimanyu Sisodia**

**L-V**

### **"Mathematics Abuse : Are we prepared to teach them ?"**

Maths anxiety does not appear to have a single cause. It results from parents' and

teachers' attitudes towards mathematics, poor self concept, the inability to handle frustration, and emphasis on mathematics through drill without understanding. Maths anxiety can be defined as " the panic, helplessness, paralyses and mental disorganisation that arises among some people when they are required to solve a mathematical problem". Maths anxiety has been called on illness that is emotional as well as a cognitive dread of Mathematics. Studies have shown that parents who have math anxiety can pass it on to their children and that teachers who have anxiety can pass it on to the other students. A high percent of elementary, school teachers say that they avoid mathematics and have been found to be maths anxious. Most maths anxiety has its roots in the teachers and the teaching of mathematics. A bad experience with a mathematics teacher can cause maths anxiety. Evidence suggests that maths anxiety results move from the way, that maths matter is presented than from the subject matter itself.

On the other hand, maths abuse can be defined as any negative experience related to an individuals' doing mathematics. It could be verbal, such a statement as, "You're stupid if you can't solve this problem." Instructors sometimes say that students either have or lack the ability to learn mathematics. A student who has had a painfully negative experience in mathematics often actually has the ability; it is simply masked in anxiety. We can easily teach these students by tapping their belief in themselves and in their ability to learn

mathematics through encouragement, positive talk and accommodation. The belief that an individual can learn mathematics, linked to the feeling that the instructors' care about the student's learning, will push a student harder to learn.

Several students say that a parent or teacher had called them "stupid". Some received no support at home. Several say that teachers' encouragement keeps them going. We must not underestimate the power of encouragement and positive talk in mathematics classroom. We must not underestimate the damage that negative talk from a teacher or parent can have on self-esteem and performance, regardless of how long ago it occurred.

Teachers are, in large part, responsible for students' learning. " Faculty will have to be compassionate enough to help students work through their frustration but show enough 'tough love' to encourage them to become independent thinkers and help them realise that sustained effort will be required to truly master the material " (Cohen 1995).

Working collaboratively in small groups and using manipulative to demonstrate concepts help increase understanding and reduce maths anxiety. Encourage students to ask question and participate in class by creating a comfortable classroom setting that emphasises the positive and discourages negative. Encourage each student to understand his or her own personal leaning style.

Teachers wield tremendous power over

students academic success, especially in the lower grades. This power affects self-esteem and one's belief in what one can do. A teacher must do more than just give great lectures. Success for many students is related to how we make them feel in class.

- Anurag Mathur

Deptt. of Mathematics

### **"IMPROVEMENT IN THE COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY IN SANAWAR"**

'Computers'- the basic necessity of today's electronically aided life, had been given less importance in the past few years in Sanawar.

Since I've joined school, i.e. in 1995, the first computer system that I worked on, in PD. was a BBC micro. In Senior School, the systems at that time were XT(s). In 1996, as new room was vacated to be made into a new computer laboratory and in there, the systems were upgraded to 486 with a monochrome monitor and had a mere 2 MB RAM.

In mid 1997, a multimedia computer was brought to Sanawar but was restricted to be used only by the staff and the upper sixers.

The next improvement that took place was in 1998, when Windows 3.1 was installed on the LAN. Two more multimedia computer were introduced and the students having computer hobbies were allowed to make their founder's project on these computers.

The major improvement that took place was early this year (1999). Seventeen computers were brought, each having the configuration 14" SVGA monitors,

4.3 GB HDD, 1.44 MB FDD, 32 MB RAM, Sis graphics adaptor Card, Pnp sound chip and 300 Mhz. Cyrix CPU. Three of these computer have CD-ROM drives attached to them. The OS is upgraded to Windows 95 and each computer has Office 97 installed on it. All the systems are Y2K compliant.

The school has also invested in a SCSI port colour scanner, a Laserjet 6L printer and an HP 670C Deskjet, printer.

Yet another credit goes for a separate room emptied to be used as a computer room for the staff. There are three multimedia computers in this room. a colour printer and a colour scanner.

A rumour had started last year about internet being introduced into Sanawar. This, however, has not yet been done so far. There are only two modems in the school at this moment. One is in the library and the other is in the house of the head of the Computer Deptt.- Mr. R. Puri. our science teacher- Mr. PK. Lal has invested in his own modem and is definitely benefiting from the vast knowledge provided by the worldwide web of the internet.

The school is somewhat hesitating to invest in good quality products and a modem for the computer laboratory. The modem will just act as an entertaining media to lead the children into a vast world of the internet. From buying good quality products, I'm referring to the products that have been installed in the computer laboratory but have not managed to survive for long.

The student faculty is blamed for these destruction but I certainly do not understand how can a student harm a hard-

disk.

The school library has now started to issue educational CD's though it has a small collection of it.

Apart from these changes in the technology the standard of the computer subject in Sanawar, has gone up. Earlier the computer language C++, that was being taught from Lower-6 onwards, has now been introduced in Lower-5 so that the basics for the students, who desire to take up computer as a subject later, are clear.

Our computer staff-- Mr. D. Saha, Mr. D. Francis, and Mr. K. Jamwal are doing a good job in making the younger students understand this language quite well.

Overall, I think that the school has certainly raised the level of computers, although some cones do still exist.

- KANISHKA JAIN  
IISC-

### **CO-EDUCATION IN SANAWAR.**

Sanawar is a co-educational school. A co-educational school is a school in which boys and girls together indulge in various activities of the school. A school in which a particular gender is not favoured. But is Sanawar actually, a Co-Ed. school? No, not from my point of view and experience. In our school, if a teacher sees a boy talking to a girl, the very first impression that gathers in his mind is that they are dating. Even if they visit friends, without a second thought the teacher tells each of them to go and report to their respective house staff. This is what happens in our so called co-educational school.

In a Co-Ed. school, students of the opposite gender are allowed to interact with one another, express their views and share their experiences with one another but in our school, fit for so called interactions because of certain narrow views.

For example, there was a girl who was talking to a friend. NOT her boyfriend. A teacher caught them and told only the girl to report to her house mistress. The very next day the girl was reported to her parents. The very next day her parents made her leave the school. This is what happened to the girl, but the boy who was talking to her? Nothing happened to him. Forget leaving school, he wasn't even told to report to his house master. THIS, is what happens in our school, thus how can we afford to call our school a co-ed ?

Co-education in Sanawar is only being hampered because of the narrow mindedness of the people : Student, AS WELL AS the teachers. The teachers need to trust us. We need to be trusted for we know the true meaning of a healthy friendship.

**Icha Sethi**

**U-V**

### **AN OLYMPIAN**

The early summer of 1991- I took a deep breath of the pure countryside air and looked around me. The monkeys were swinging on the branches of the pine trees to the rhythmic melody of the birds.

*I had just bid farewell to my parents. I was quite used to staying away from home but I was beginning to feel a little lonely. Just then a group of kids of about my age came*

skipping along. "Listen.. do you want to play soccer."

I smiled to myself, " I'm really going to like this place". With these memories I started my life in Sanawar. Little did I know that this wonderful place little known to me would transform me and change my life forever.

"Innocence" is always the first verbal expression when it comes to talking about 'preppies'. Prep school with everybody trying to pamper you was like a cocoon with all we little caterpillars growing wings and just waiting to break free. We did get our change all right, when we went to Senior school in ' 92 (there wasn't any holding house back then... luckily !)

For us Senior school was so much more fun; the long awaited freedom was ours at last. Lower-4 and Upper-4 was really "cool". However it was during this time that I came to understand the meaning of the words "Sanawarian" & "proper guy". Sanawar did not offer me just academic and so-called all round development but I also learnt to live in discipline and simplicity. It was after lower-five that life became more complex. It was time to take everything more seriously. There were the 10th Board Exam lurking around the corner and at the same time we were beginning to face our share of responsibilities as well.

It was then that I started my 'Luge' career. *Here too, I found that while I was encouraged and admired by some, others became increasingly sceptics. However, I did learn my lesson from this; how to judge people. I had come a long way from the*

"innocent" days in prep school and here I was trying to make a mark for myself in life. I often wonder whether it is more apt to say

"Send him to Sanawar and make a man of him", or

"Send him to Sanawar so he can make a man of himself"

because that is what Sanawar is all about it teaches you not to take the easy way out learn to use your own feet. I believe that every Sanawarian can find his own way in life.

One's last year in school is always a good time to reflect on what you have achieved. I did have a great time in Siwalik house as a junior as well as as prefect of junior dorms. I also made the best friends I could ever have dreamt of. So here I am now, passing out of the school which has been a second home to me, and where I have spent a great part of my life. I have seen its good points as well as its weaknesses. Even though Sanawar is an isolated place it is also going into the twentieth century and there is no more place for the elements such as narrow-mindedness or conservativeness. Tradition should not be an obstacle to development but a gateway to the future. One way to do so is to raise the standards of the teaching staff by organising regular exchanges and so on. I also believe that our school can be best improved by the perfects and upper-sixers as they are responsible for making a student of Sanawar into a Sanawarian. For example they can be included in the academic and disciplinary decision making body of the school not just as silent members but with are active voice

and a power of vote.

" IF IT IS DIFFICULT IT WILL BE DONE RIGHT AWAY AND IF IT IS IMPOSSIBLE IT WILL TAKE TIME", and of course: "NEVER GIVE IN".

Good Luck Sanawar And Thank You For Everything

**S. Keshawan**

### **THE CUP OF LIFE**

A few of my thoughts, penned out on paper, as referring to, the optimist and the Pessimist, in life.

On the tedious walk in this wicked world, the man who sees the cup of life half empty, goes through it with a frown on his face and an unsatisfied heart but the man who sees this glass half full, goes through his life with a smile on his face and a happy heart. One of my aims in life is to reach a stage wherefrom, at every turn, I am able to see the glass half full rather than half empty. And also, to make others see the same. That is why today, I'm sitting here expressing my thoughts on this magical cup of life.

The other day, I was rushing from the dorms to Birdwood since I was running behind time. My eyes moved fast from top to bottom, side-to-side, screening the hillside. I was walking, rather, running along. It was bare, brown and had only dried pine needles and crumpled leaves to cover its barren soil. Suddenly, my eyes stopped at the sight of a little colour between this drab and monotonous hillside, that put a spark of life to it. My fast pace automatically slowed down and I stopped and looked around. I saw that the hill was



stippled with pink wild lilies and suddenly, my perception of the hill took a drastic change. I saw it now, as a beautiful contracts that left a striking image on my mind. And while returning from classes, the same dead, dry hill' brought a smile to my face.

Its funny how we constantly crib and curse the Lord each time we're faced with a hurdle in our life. What all of us don't realise is that beyond every hurdle, there is success and it is only by looking beyond it, that we'd ever be able to get past it. We should be ever thankful to the Lord every time we see a difficult situation in life-- because it is infact, an opportunity for us to grow, to learn, and to overcome, a reason to smile.

We always believed in the fact that life takes its toll as a cycle. That is, 'after the good, comes the bad and after the bad, comes the very best.' And so, when we're low and sad, it helps bring a ray of hope and a lift of spirits, if, rather than thinking of the fact that we're past the 'happy stage' and in the 'cord' - we widen our horizons, and know that we're only one step close to 'the best'.

Look into the future with the view that there's always something beautiful that awaits us- and that 'Cup of Life' will fill up your days with love, joy and happiness.....

..... forever to come.

**Diya Narain**

**V6'A'**

## **PENSIVENESS AND I**

Looking into myself, feeling my heart's convictions and perceiving my conscience drive my attention to the World of Fantasy. I imagine things, which I wish could come true. I somehow dream that I do deserve the best, but then when I think about my wrong doings, I get left in abeyance. I feel myself to be let down but then when I diverge my thoughts toward the positive side, I gain hope.

Hoping for the best gives me confidence and courage to go ahead. Caring for my mates gives me a smile on my face, and than I find myself in colours- colours of success, colours of righteousness, colours of almost everything that I dream about.

Pensiveness is something that makes me feel like being in a positive world. But sometimes when it becomes exaggerating, I find myself to be positively more positive than anyone else could be positive. It taught me an art of multiplying joys and dividing sorrows, which of course does help me a lot in the long run.

To sum it all up, I must specify, that whether hope or despair, innocence or guilt, joy or sorrow smile or frown pensiveness has taught me to fear all kinds of ordeals and learn a lesson from each, and whenever I could not find an ally, I could now hesitatingly say-

Pensiveness and I

**Maneet Singh**

**L-VI**

# NATURE THOUGHTS

## LIFE WITHOUT TREES

TREES ! AH! THEY PROVIDE US WITH BREEZE.  
THEY ARE OUR LUNGS, SO WE CAN BREATHE.  
A THING OF BEAUTY IS A JOY FOREVER.  
TREES ARE BEAUTY TO NATURE FOR EVER.  
THEY GIVE US FRUIT THAT WE CAN EAT,  
AND SHADE SO WE CAN BE COOL,  
EVEN IN THE SCORCHING HEAT.  
THEY PROVIDE A HOME FOR THE  
BIRDS, AND LOTS OF FOOD FOR THE GRAZING HERDS.  
THEY MAKE RAIN GODS BRING RAIN,  
THAT REFRESHES OUR BODY, SPIRIT AND BRAIN.  
THEY CURE OUR DISEASES WITH THEIR HERBS,  
AND PROVIDE FUEL FOR OUR HEARTHES.  
THEY LOOK SO BEAUTIFUL WHEN THEY  
SWAY IN THE BREEZE.  
THEREFORE, IT IS WELL SAID THAT WE  
CAN'T DO WITHOUT TREES.

TENZING DOLKAR  
L-IV-B



# THE STAFF.





# THE UPPER SIXERS.



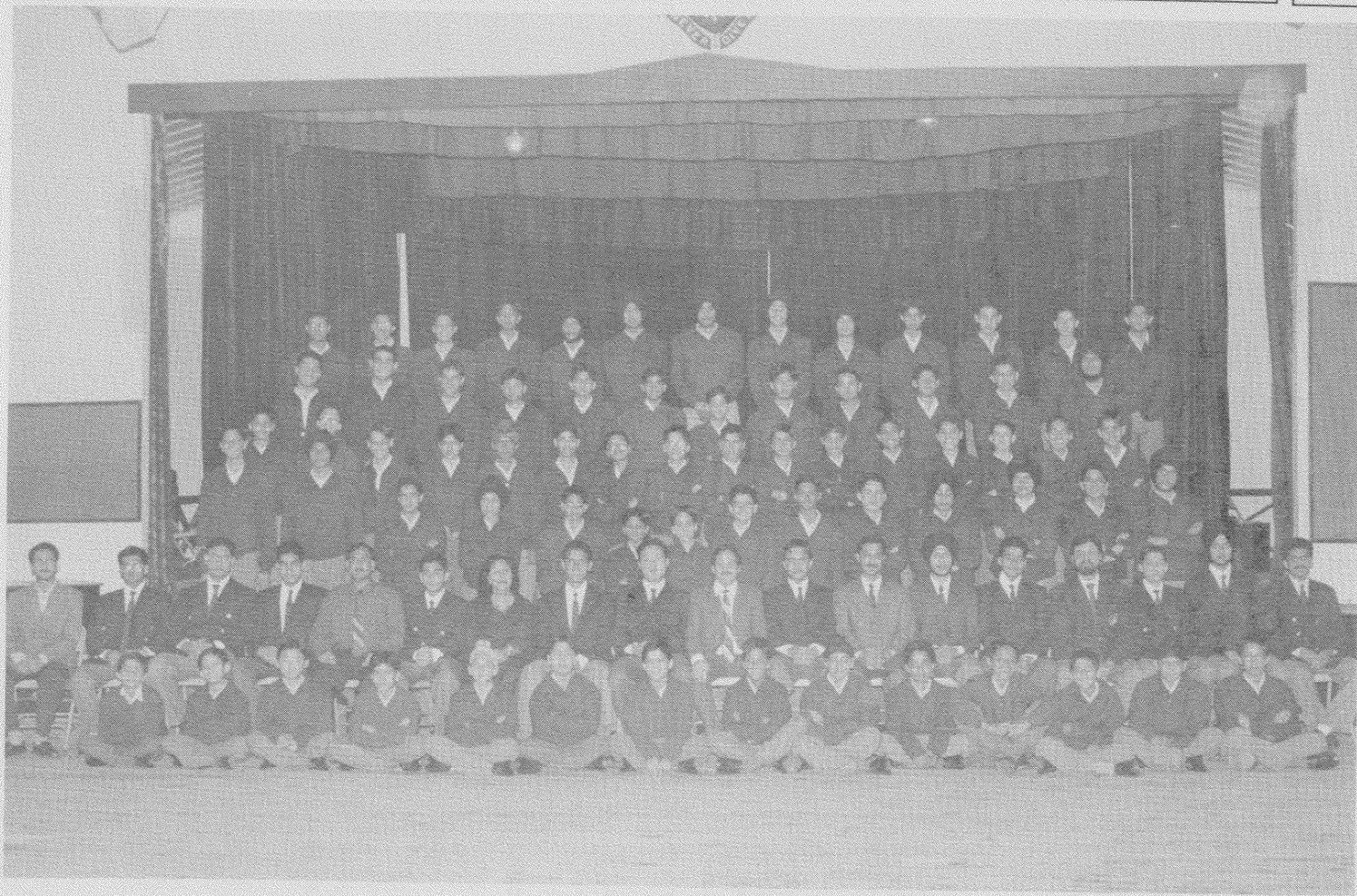


# THE HIMALYA HOUSE - BOYS.



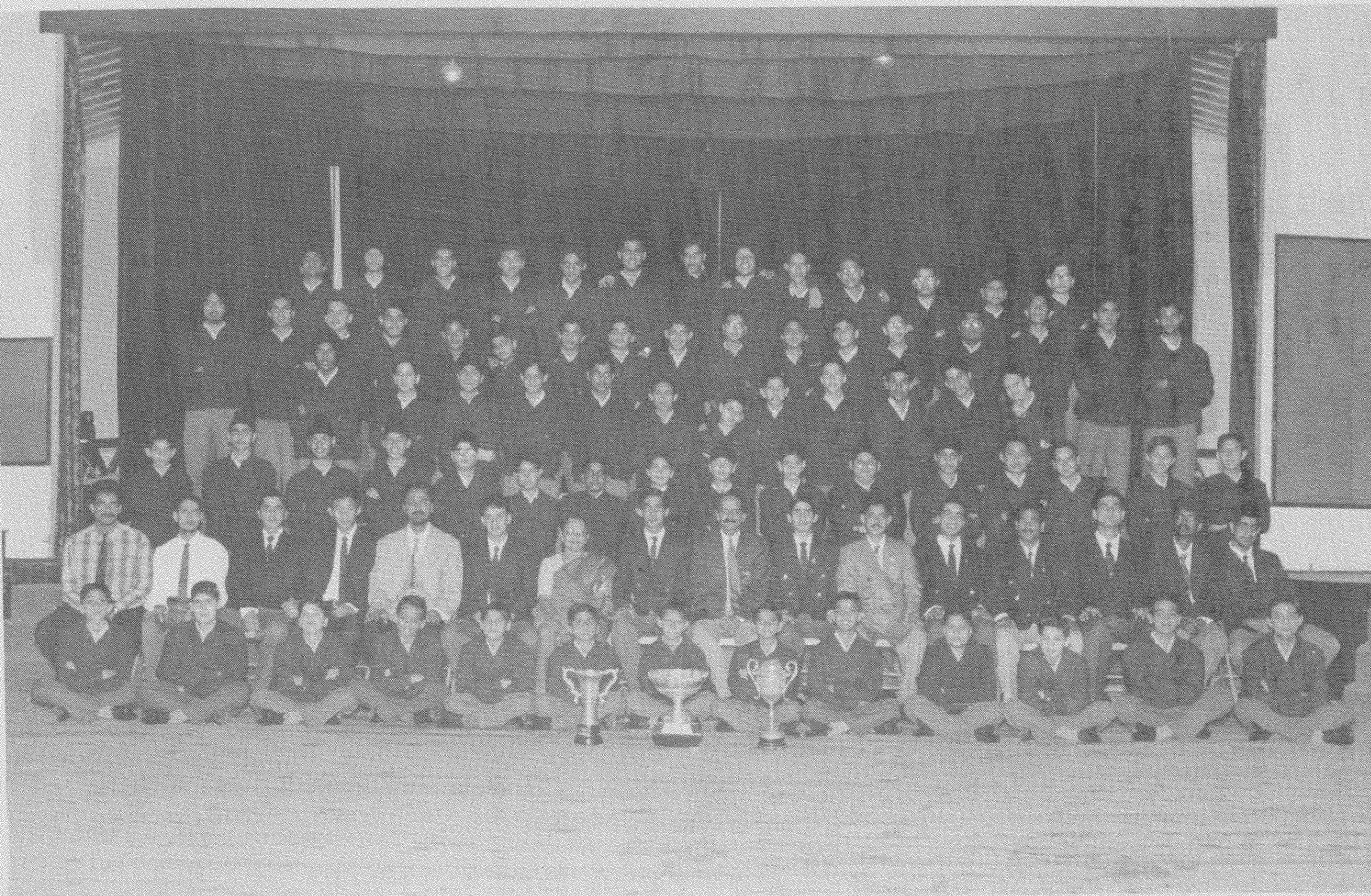


# THE NILAGIRI HOUSE - BOYS.



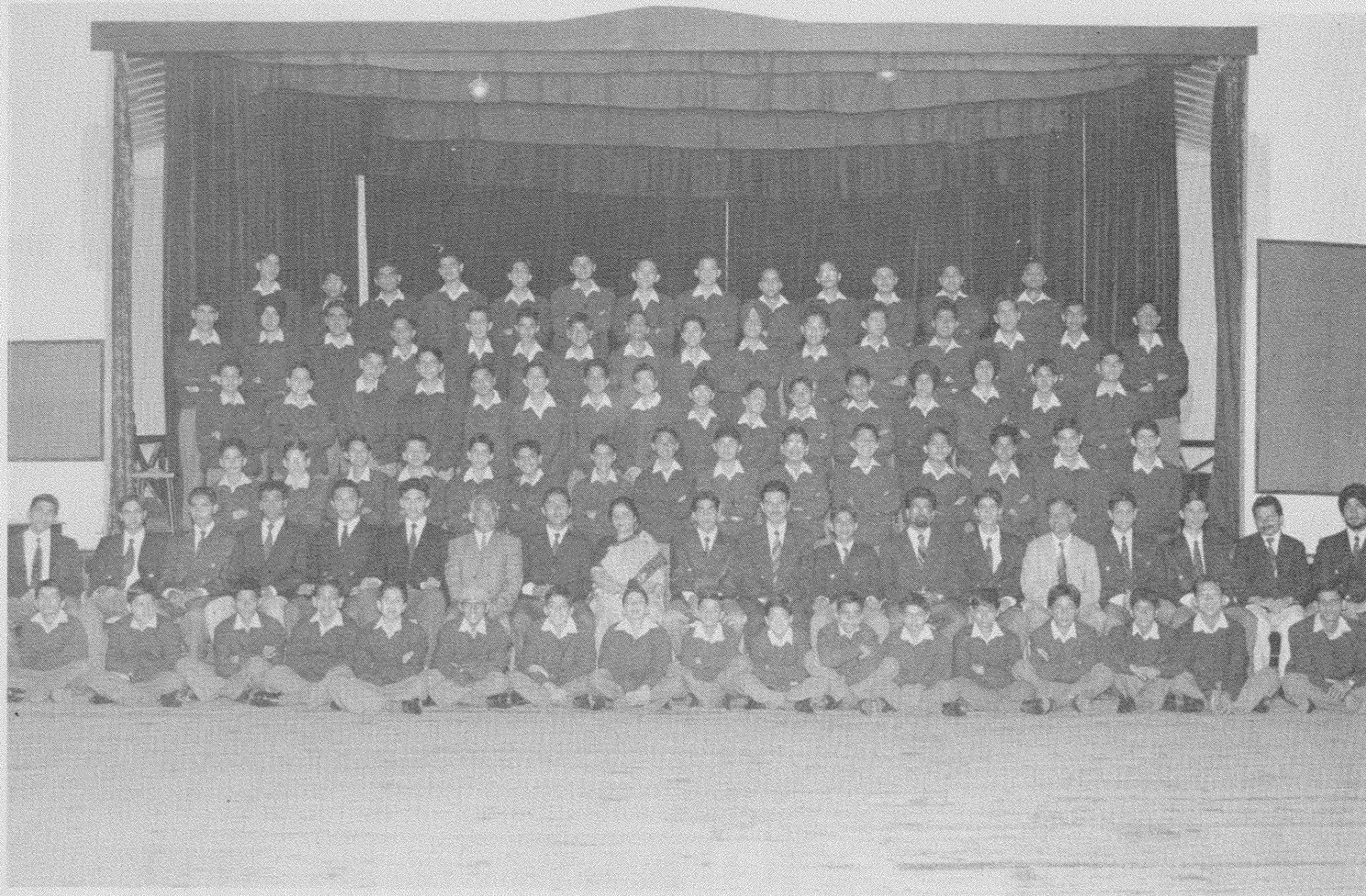


# THE SIWALIK HOUSE - BOYS.





# THE VINDHYA HOUSE- BOYS.







# THE HIMALAYA HOUSE-GIRLS.





# THE NILAGIRI HOUSE - GIRLS.





# THE SIWALIK HOUSE - GIRLS.





# THE VINDHYA HOUSE - GIRLS.



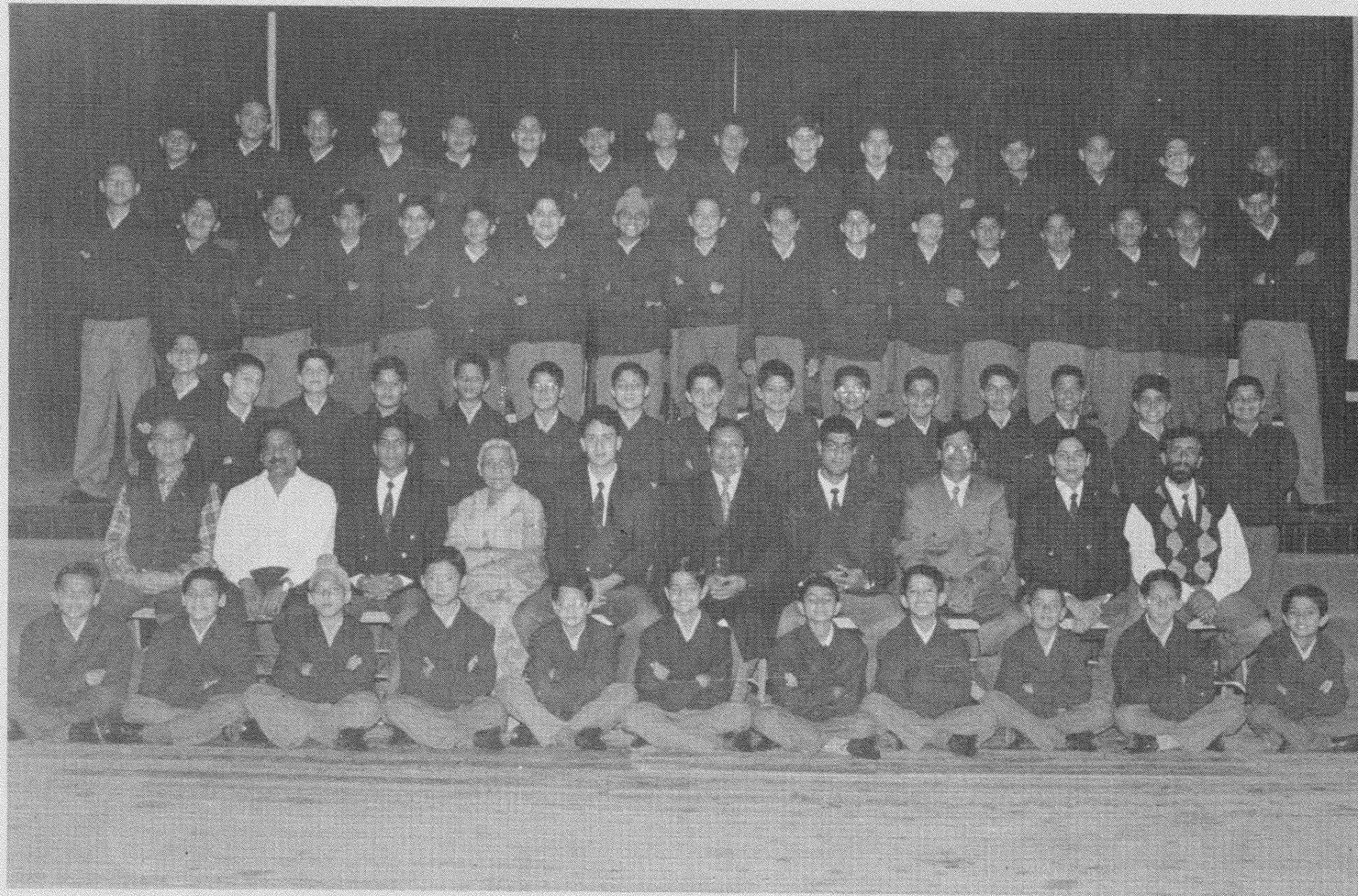


# THE HOLDING HOUSE - GIRLS.



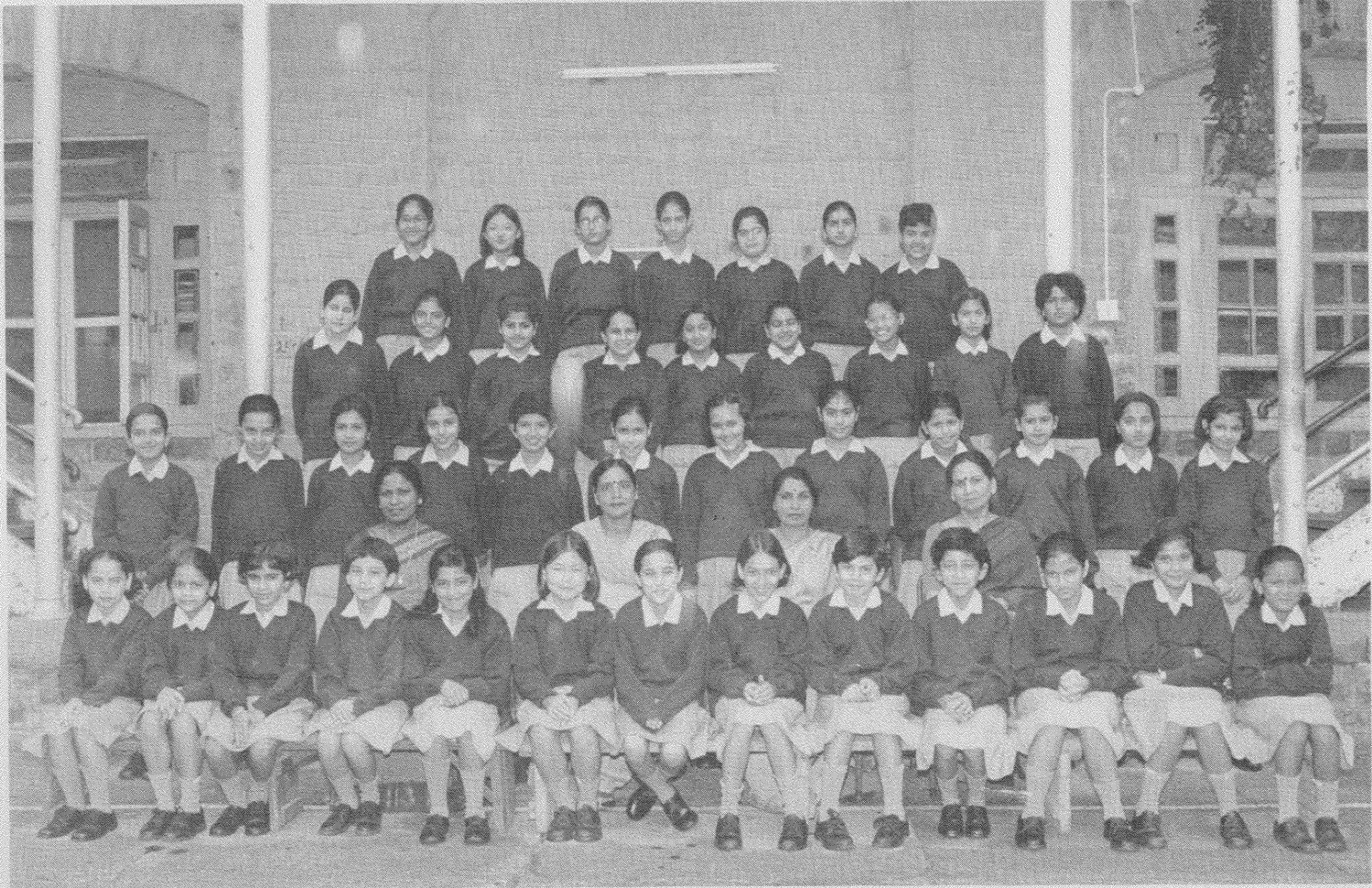


# THE HOLDING HOUSE - BOYS.



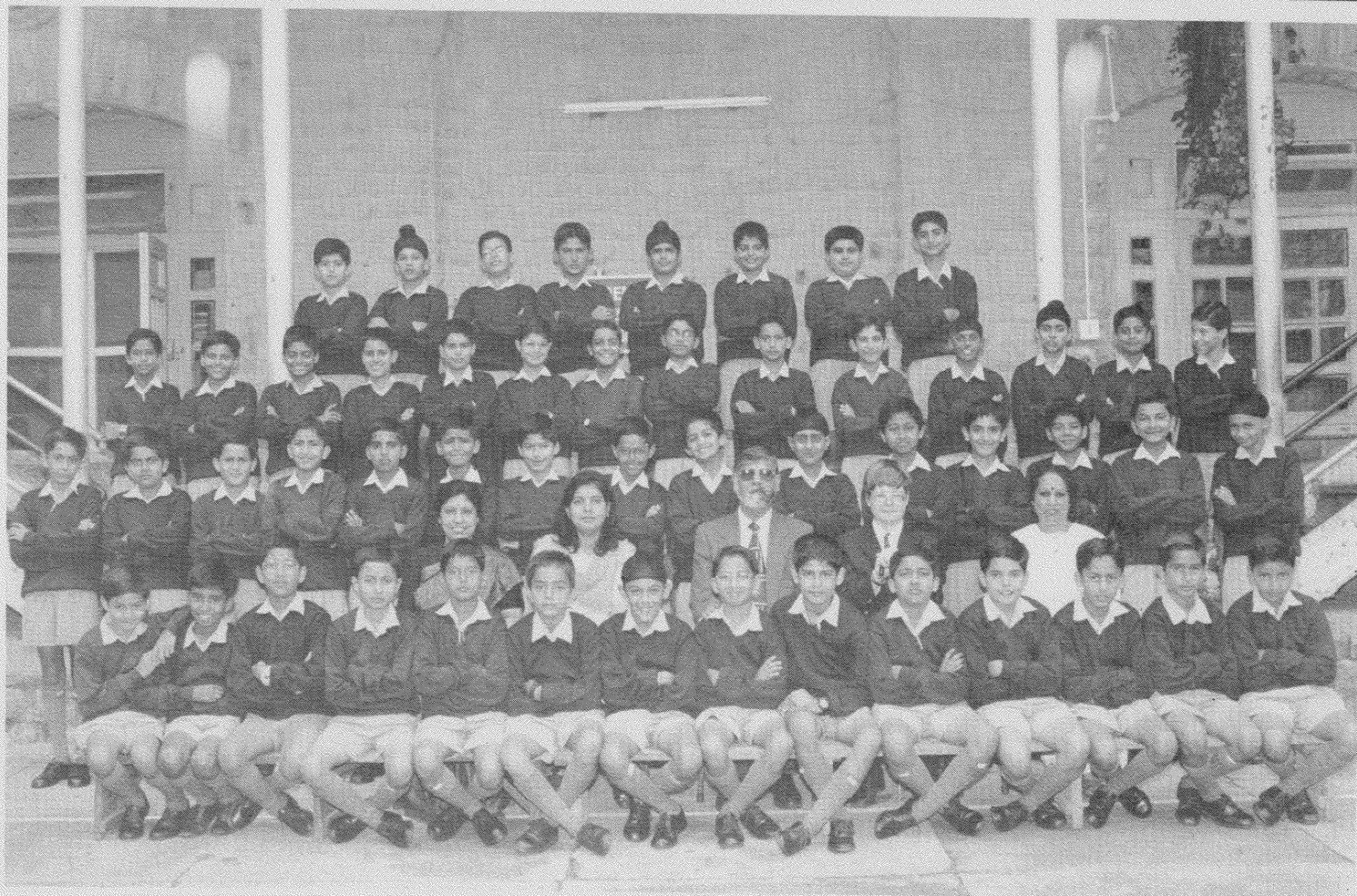


# PREP - GIRLS. SPARROWS.





# PREP DEPT - UPPER DORM.







# PREP DEPT- LOWER DORM.



## THE GIRL'S BAND 98



## THE BAND BOYS



## THE GREATEST MAN OF THE CENTURY !

Fifty-one years ago, on January 30, the greatest apostle of non-violence. The Father of India, fell a victim to the assassin's bullet and the world became poorer. The world's greatest peacemaker paid the price for peace.

Harendranath Chattopadhyaya has described the selflessness of Gandhi in beautiful words:

"He was the kingliest of the kings  
and more,  
He built kingdoms and pulled  
Kingdoms down,  
Nor ever cared himself to wear  
the crown,

His shining nakedness was all he wore."

On 15th of August 1947, when India won independence, the national leaders were in Delhi taking salutes and celebrating but the greatest of them the Mahatma was not there to take the bow. He was busy among the poor people of Bengal. Such was the Mahatma.

He was born in 1869 in the Gujarat state of India. Later on he went to London to study law. He served as a Lawyer in Africa. It's there that his fight against injustice began. He fought for equal rights for the Indians in South Africa. Arriving back in India in 1920 he was on a look out for a political platform to enter the freedom struggle. Soon he started a non-violent fight against the British Raj.

His historical struggle against imperialism

and colonial rule led not only to India becoming free but helped to create a world atmosphere, conducive to the liberalism of a hundred countries.

Gandhiji's impact on those who came into contact with him was almost magical. Even, a man like George Bernard Shaw to whom the praise of others did not come naturally, when asked for his impression upon meeting Mahatma Gandhi, he said " You might as well ask for someone's impression of the Himalaya."

To Gandhi there were seven deadly sins :

"Commerce without cities;  
Pleasure without conscience;  
Politics without principle;  
Knowledge without character;  
Science without humanity;  
Wealth without work;  
Worship without sacrifice."

Gandhi's concepts changed the course of human history. To him, Truth was all and All was Truth. He said that "Truth alone will endure; all the rest will be swept away before the tide of Time."

We, the generation of today will never know the magic of his personality. The best way in which we can pay him back is to build the world of his dreams.

**Bharat Aggarwal**

**U VI**

## **THE PERSON WHO IS ONE IN A MILLION**

We all have heard about her, we all have experienced her warmth and love in lonely times, we all have seen her in different forms, we all have felt her holy touch in the hour of need. She stands in front of us, protecting us from the pitfalls and dangers ahead, guiding us with her light of love and hope, leading us to the path of happiness and success. Yes, my dear friends she is my most precious, treasured and loved—MOTHER. I have seen her through the years giving up her likings, her want and her desire for her family, I have truly witnessed the spirit of holiness in my 'mother' and her inner beautiful spirit reflects a glow on her face, which radiates peace and joy wherever she goes. As far as the most important person of the century goes its a small infact a very miniature title for a person as great as my 'mother'. For me my life revolves around my 'mother', she is the one who stands by me, no matter what I do and where I go , she is 'there' for me with her unconditional love. She is a perenial source of love, not only to me, but to whomever she meets and interacts with. Her ideals, her thoughts and last but not the least 'she' makes me look at the worst situation from the most beautiful angle, seeing the world through her eyes makes me actually feel that life is really worth experiencing and her way of looking at life and leading life so appropriately suits the saying that 'one must live life to the fullest'. She might not have contributed much to the world according to other people, but if seen through my eyes she is the one

responsible for contributing the maximum to the world by bringing up and mustering the two most wonderful people in the world. I know for a fact that she is one person I can so wholly confide in and lean on for support at anytime. She is the most important source of inspiration in my life. For me, my 'MOTHER' is not only a mother, but she substitutes for a friend, a teacher and sometimes, it might seem unreal, but she also seems like a child to me. Words are few to describe the beauty, grace and greatness of her character and personality. It is amazing how when sometimes I talk to her, I feel as if I am in communion with God, the power and solidarity of her character makes me feel as a complete person and without her I get a feeling of hollowness. Truly she is a woman of substance. In my view my 'mother is universal mother, wherever she goes, whatever she does in every action and motion she reflects a strong sense of 'motherhood'. In my life my mother has played the most vital role and my whole life is based on the contributions of my mother and the beauty of her being a mother is that she can see through me and be accurate of each emotion and feeling that I go through. The truth is that I am an integral part of her and she is an integral part of me and reasons are so many for her to be on the 'top' of my list of the most important person of the century. In the end I would like to say a big and huge 'Thank You' to my mother for my very existence. Thanks Ma!

**Meghna Virk**

**L-VI**

## HIKES AT MCLEODGANJ

19th April '98; 7:22 A.M.

*B.D. Quadrangle*

A group of 86 Lower Sixer and three teachers (Miss. N. Sharma, Mr. Mukesh and Mr. Sikand) left on a chartered bus for what turned out to be a pretty long journey (13 hrs. to be precise). We reached the Regional Mountaineering Centre situated at Mcleodganj, at 8.15 PM.

### 20th April '98

Regional Mountaineering Centre at 9 in the morning, after a not-so-good breakfast we were introduced to our course in-charge and instructor (Mr. Shukla and Mr. Vinod) At around 10.30 we left for a 'warm up' walk to a waterfall, which by some tourist of fate just happened to be 11 (!!) kms long. Hungry and unhappy we ate our lunch and then waited for our equipment to be issued in the rain, fortunately we were left to ourselves in the evening.

### 21st April '98

And then the day arrived .... the day which was awaited by none of us. With our rucksacks on our backs we started on the first leg of our hike. We walked a distance of 13 k.m. (mainly uphill) on our way to Kareri, a small shepherd village, the east of the Kangra valley before the *Dhauladhar* Ranges. En. route to Kareri we stopped for lunch at a bridge on the River Gaj. Our first day was spent in playing Pithu, but a few preferred the one-day game against the Kaveri XI (Sna' beat them by 7 wickets with five overs to spare).

### 22nd April '98

Today we went for another 'Short' walk. This time there was no water, let alone a waterfall. We reached the top of a sparsely vegetated mountain after a 7 k.m., 75° inclination hike, fortunately this was just a day hike and we didn't have our rucksacks. From the top we had a wonderful view of the Kangra Valley and the Pong Dam reservoir. At night we had a bon fire, by which we all sang cheap songs.

### 23rd April '98

The longest most tiring, steepest and driest hike of all was our hike from Kareri to Goona Devi.

Goona Devi is a small temple with two huts around it and a small shop ( which our surprise sold cold drinks), all in the middle of nowhere. We stayed at the temple for the night.

### 24th April '98

After a pretty chilly night sleep, we had our breakfast and headed off for what perhaps is the most visited or trekked to sight near Macleodganj, Tuind. Almost as soon as all of us reached it started raining we quickly pitched our tents and hopped inside to save ourselves from a second hail.

After it cleared up the actual beauty of the place was released. We were in awe. That night was pretty cold too.

### 25th April '98, 9.30 A.M.

What started out to be one of the best days of the entire expedition ended up to be the worst. We started out for Ilagua glacier at about 9.30 A.M. It was a nice sunny day, we had to cross a couple of glaciers (with soft

snow on them) and walk in snow a bit (much to the dismay of nearly all the girls) but that all added to the fun. Ilagua glacier was a cool place, literally we spent about an hour and a half playing the snow and sliding down the snowy hillside on our wind cheaters. We reached Tuined and had lunch and retired to our tents by 2.15.

### **3.00 P.M**

We were singing in our tents when we first noticed it. Slowly, creepily with the only sign of approach being the slightly stronger winds. It was a dark shade of grey and snow seemed to move faster almost making every thing in his path disappear. Soon the mist had engulfed us in its wrath. It became nearly as dark as night. The wind had picked up, so had the hail. We went into a hurried check of all the pegs of the tent, fastened down the fly and braced ourselves for impact.

The wind was blowing so hard that even though there were six of us in the tent, its till rose nearly 12 inches from the ground on the sides. Soon the fly (a sheet for protecting against dew) flew off.

A few of us went out to fix it (in the hail) but came back reporting that it was almost like stones being thrown at you, hard ! Soon it was time to abandon our tents, head for solid roof and walls, the forest rest house, the place was so crowded that there was barely any place to walk, because there already were three groups staying at the rest house.

Soon place was founded in the kitchen and where the cooks etc. were supposed to stay, and Ma'am (Mrs. Sharma) who had fallen sick, got a bed to rest on. We all squeezed

ourselves into two tiny rooms barely getting any place to sit, let alone sleep. Many of us didn't sleep that night, either it was too uncomfortable, or the water drops continuously being blown in by the never ending storm wet us. There were some who were uptaking care of ma' am throughout the night.

The Breakfast was not appetizing, or even filling, but we trudged in the rain in wet, shoes, and wet clothes and with haversacks which seemed to have magically become heavier, Half way down to Mcleodganj the weather cleared and our pace seemed to quicker. When we reached the institute.... utter bliss, clear clothes, baths, beds (with thick mattresses), an attempt at good food, it was great.

### **28th April ' 98; 8.00 A.M.**

We reached Chandigarh after a night in the bus. Six hour's later we were on our way back to good old S'na.

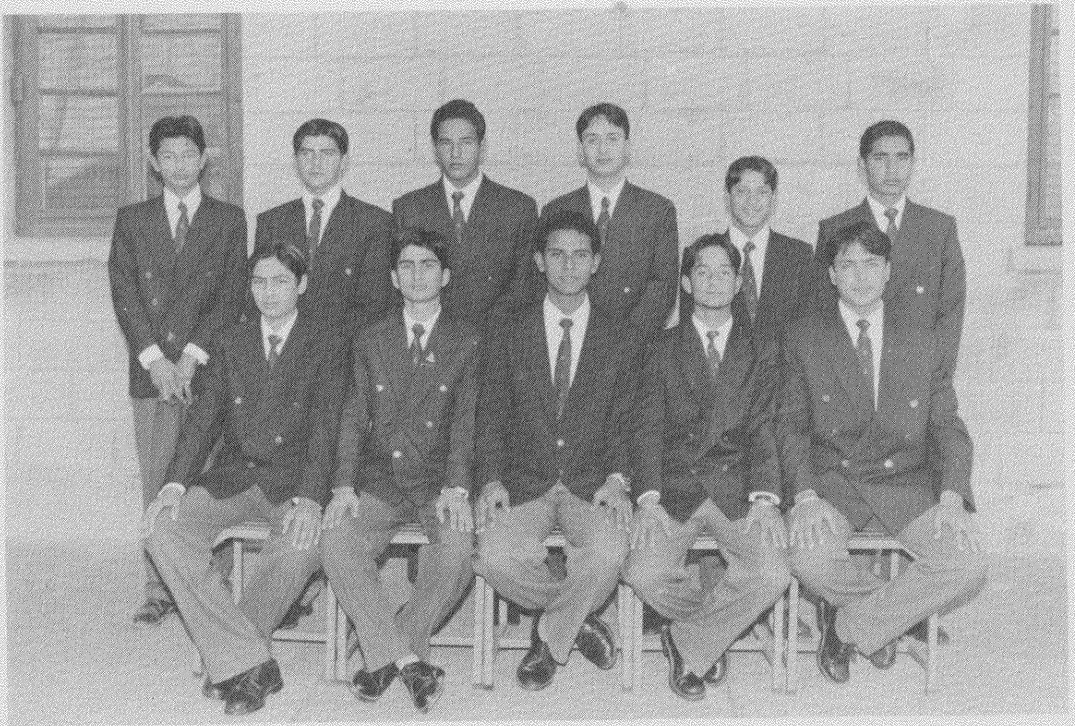
After these hikes we've come to realize, for one thing, what great grub we have, though the sudden reduction in food did come as a shock to us, it still tastes pretty good compared to the stuff we got. Keep it up S'na.

The cool group : Denis Y.C, Khokhar, Pandey, Sekhon, Karti, Bhasin, Paul, Aulakh, Arjun, Bhanu, Maninder, Raza, Suri, Kawatra, Tushar, Sapra, Sood, Thappar, Manish, Garg, Tewari, Ishkaran, Chauhan, Miglani, Batra, Goyal, Noor, Raghine, Rupali, Samiksha, Manmeet, Supriya, Amitha, Yashpreet, Sahiba.

**RAVI SEKHON**

**U- VI**

**THE CRICKET - FIRST XI**



**THE CRICKET - COLTS**



**THE CRICKET - ATOMS**

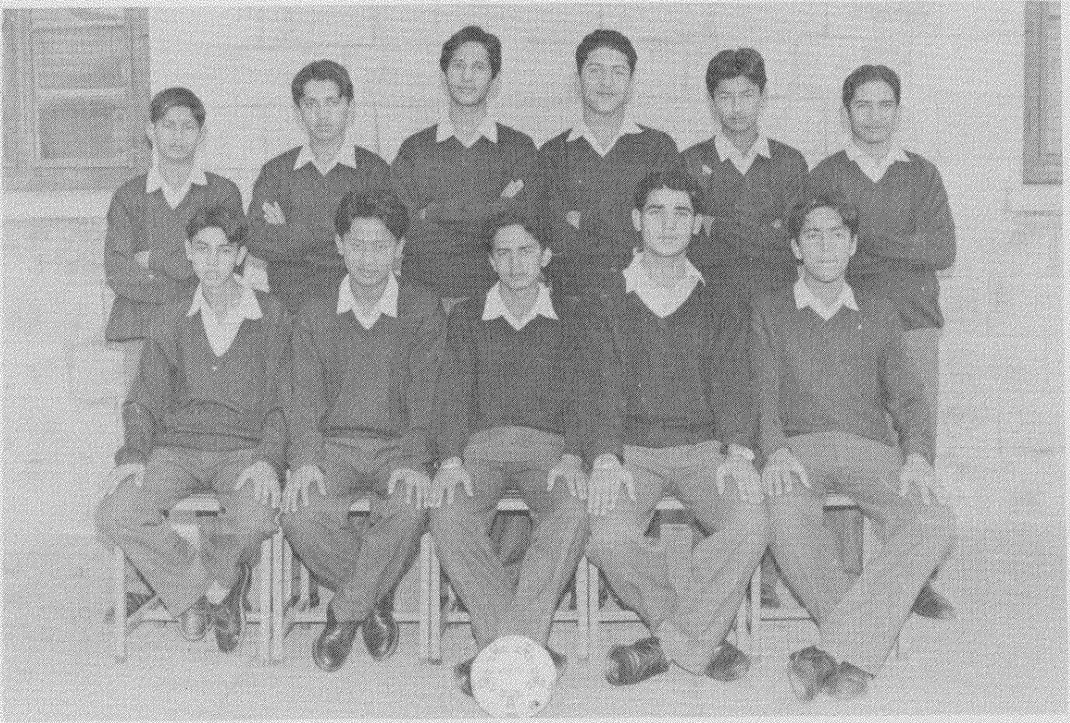


**THE SOCCER - FIRST XI**

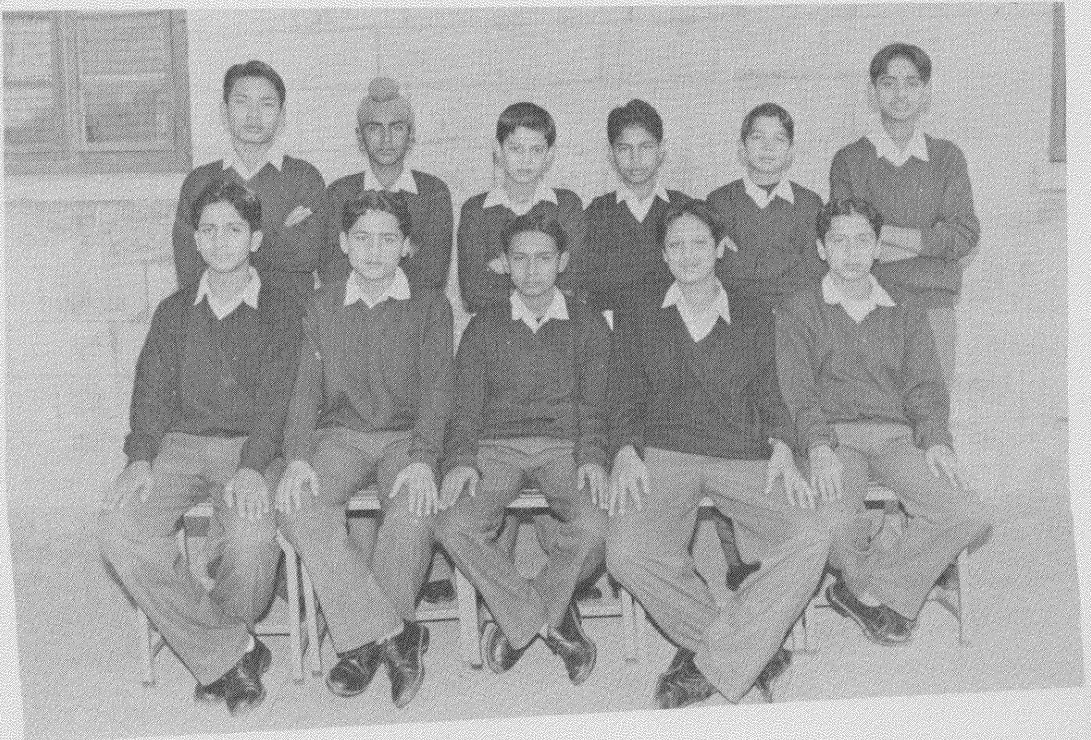




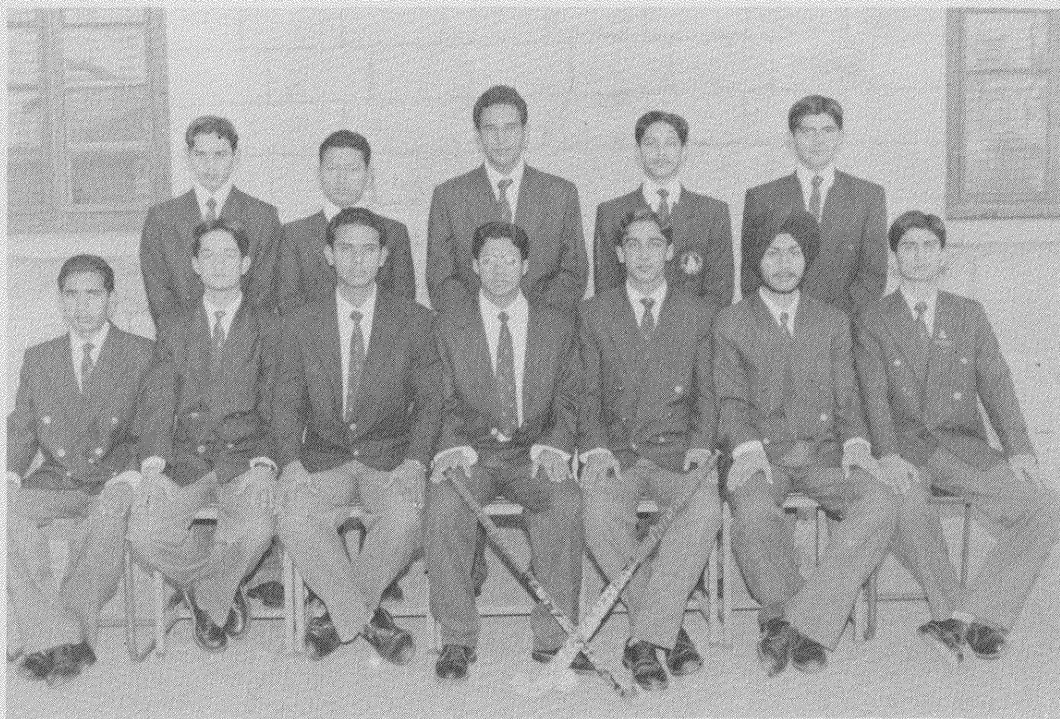
**THE SOCCER - COLTS**



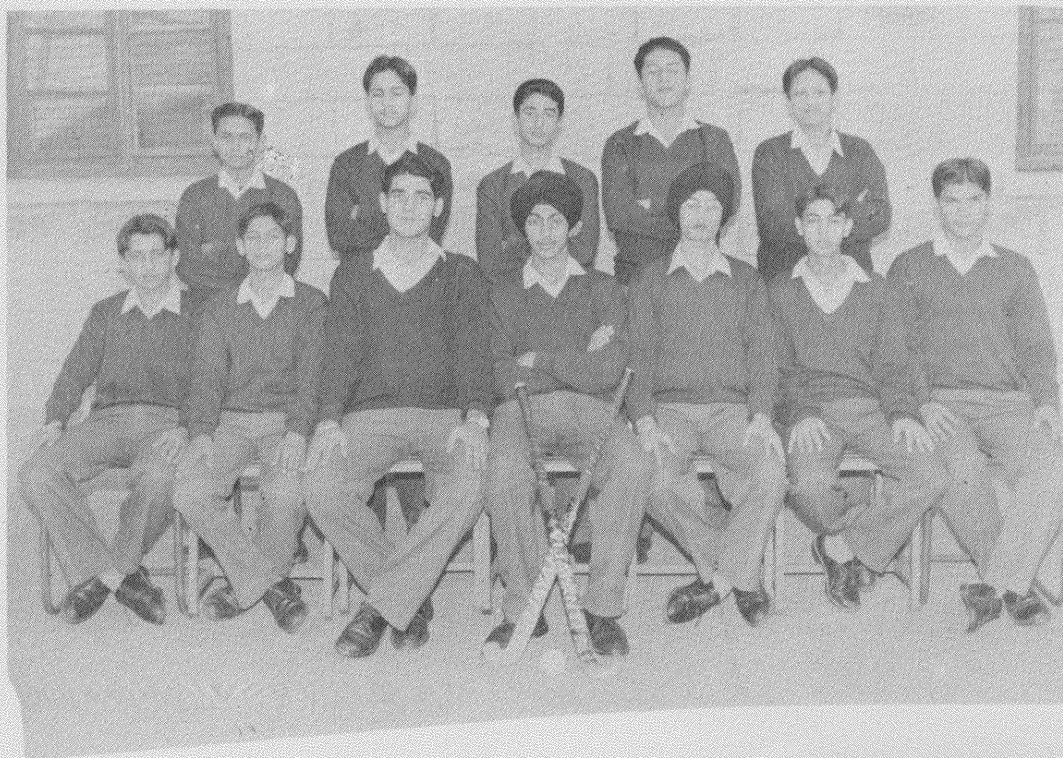
**THE SOCCER - ATOMS**



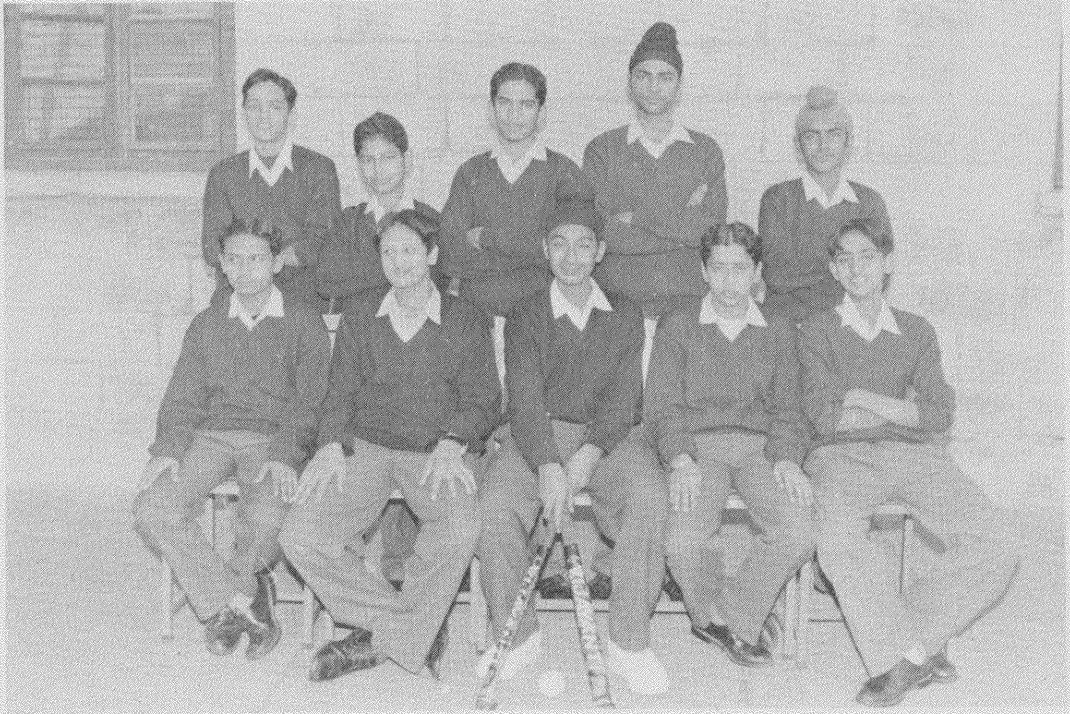
**THE HOCKEY - FIRST XI**



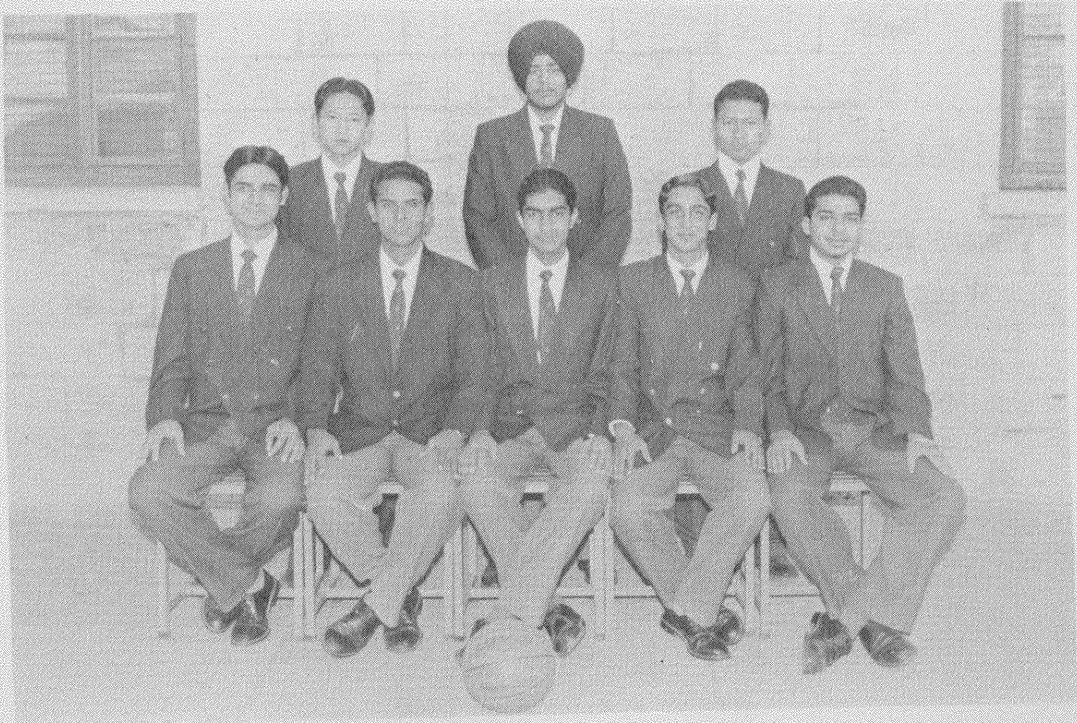
**THE HOCKEY - COLTS**



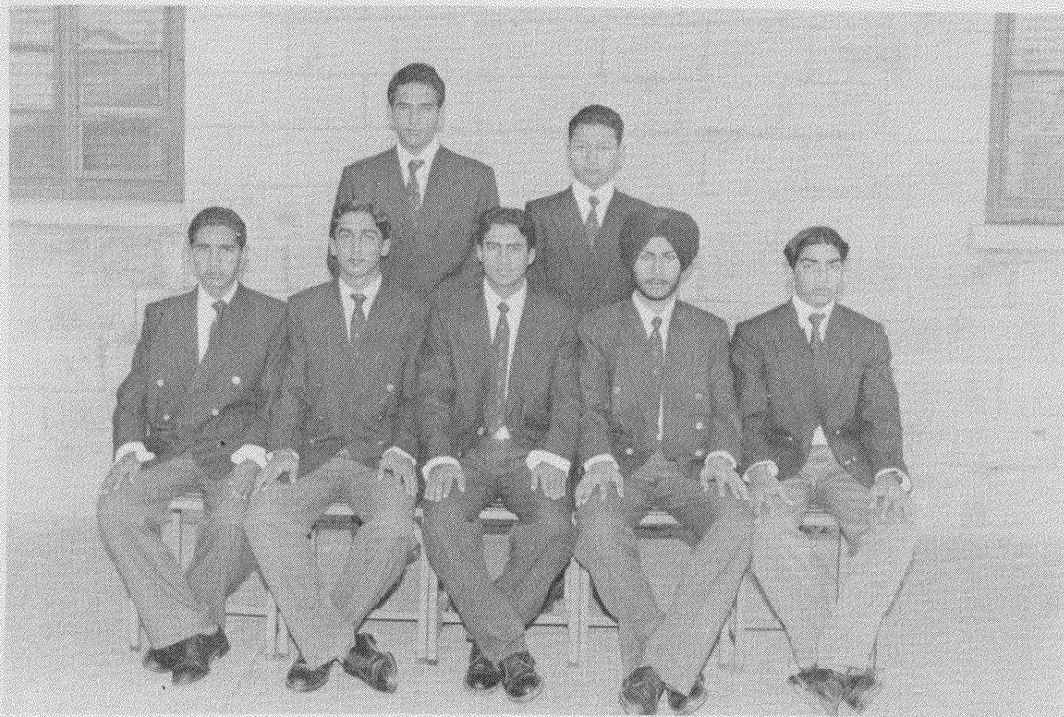
**THE HOCKEY - ATOMS**



**THE BASKETBALL TEAM**



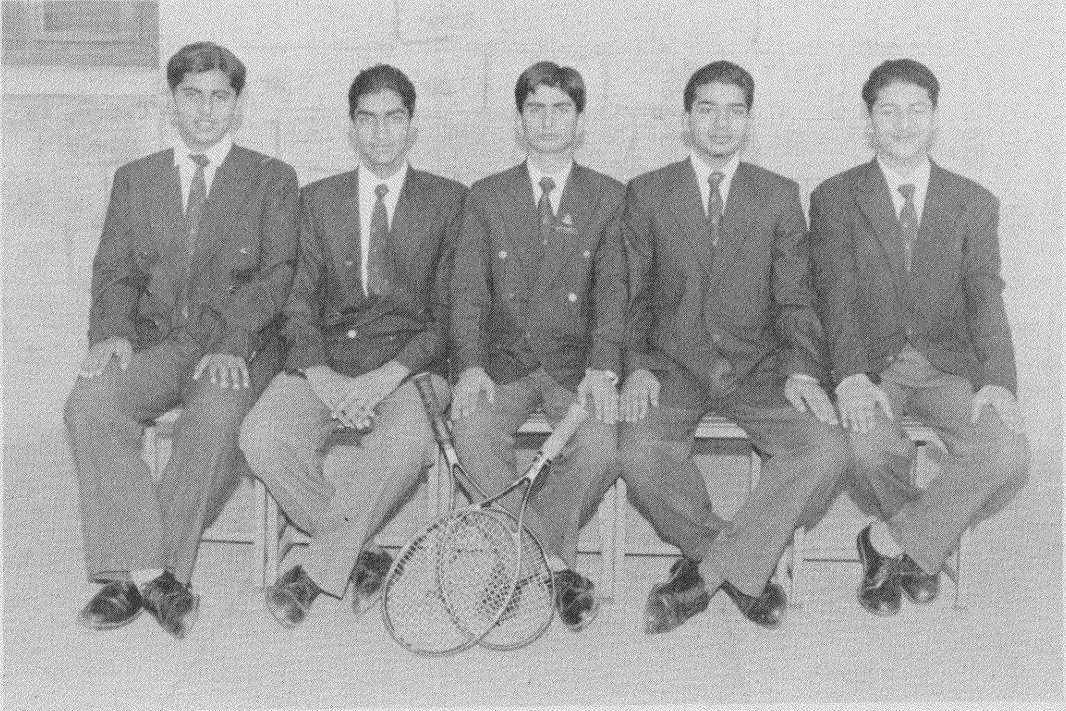
## THE SCHOOL ATHLETIC TEAM



## THE SQUASH TEAM



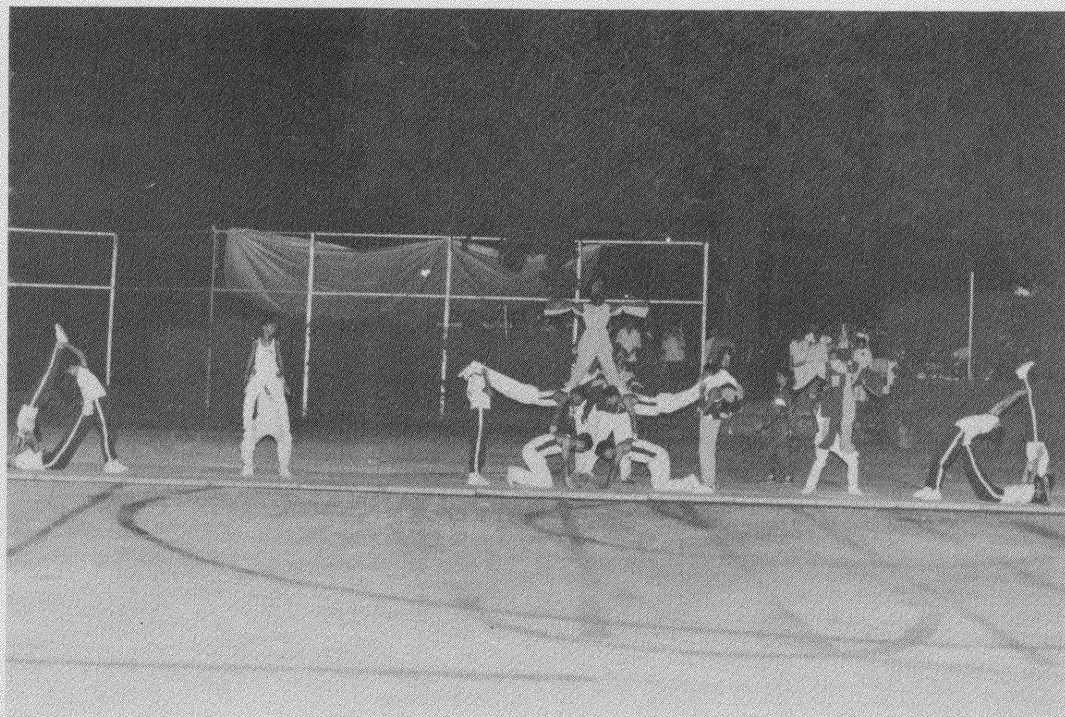
**THE SCHOOL - TENNIS TEAM**



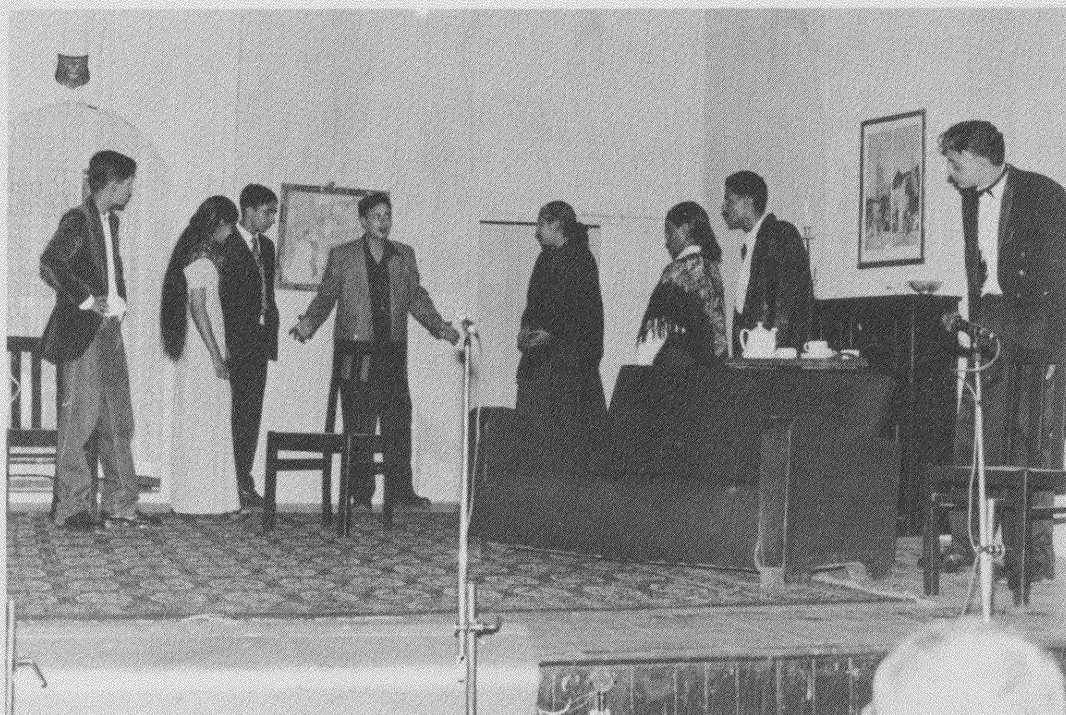
**THE SCHOOL- GYMNASTICS TEAM**

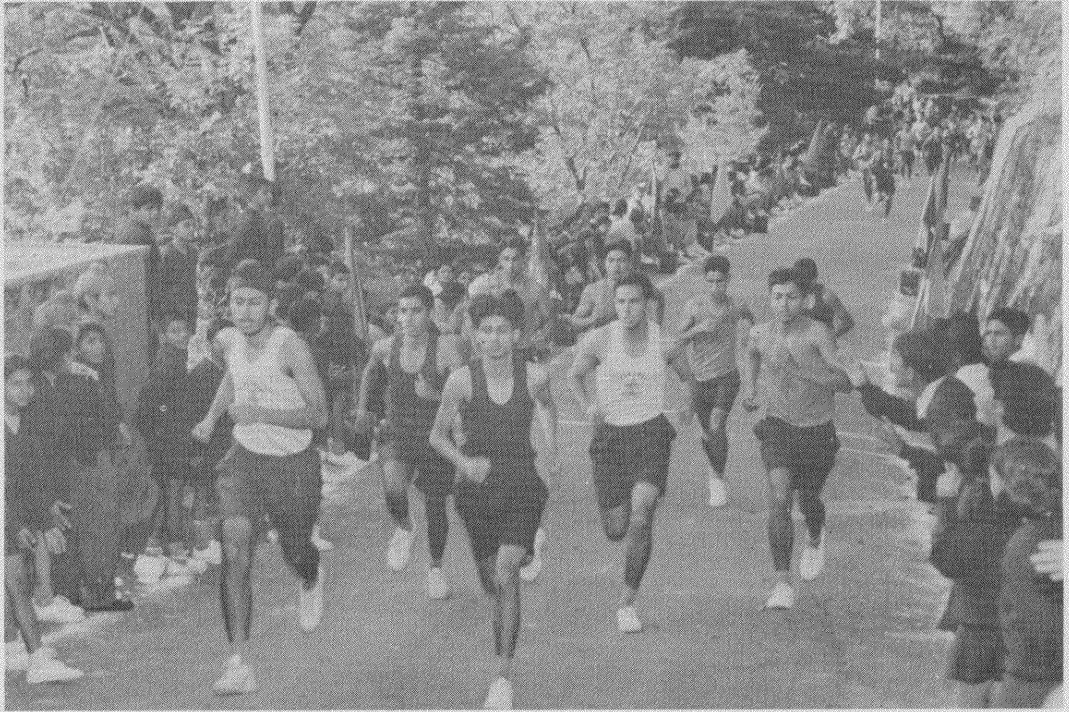


## GYMNASTICS AT TATTOO

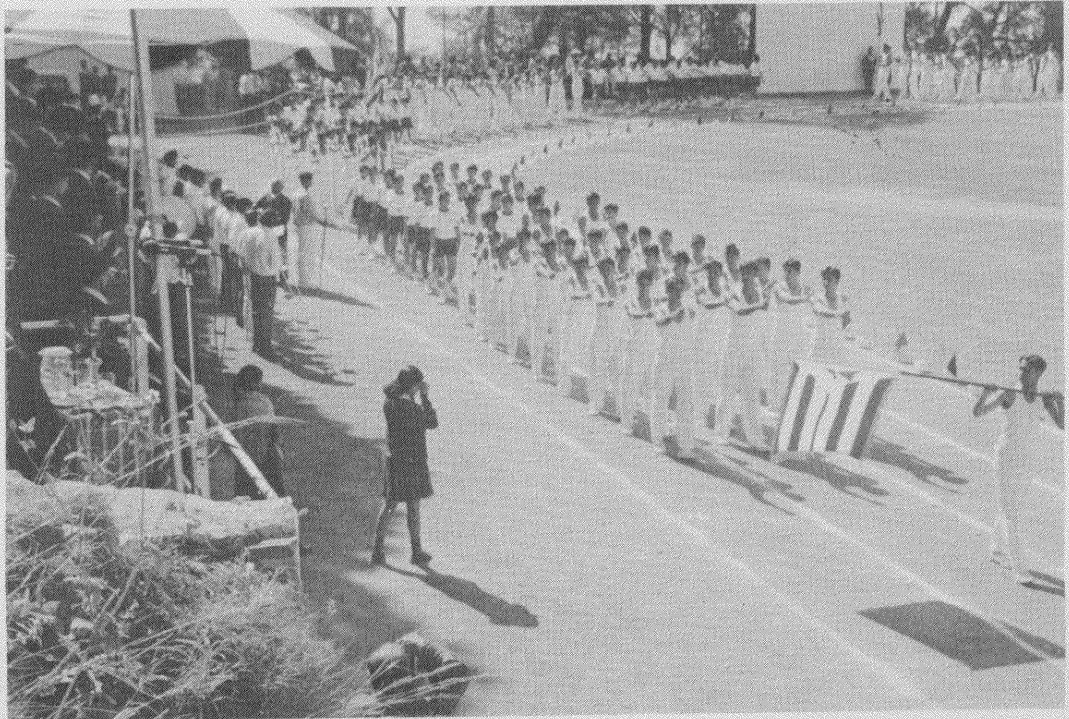


## A DRAMATIC PRESENTATION

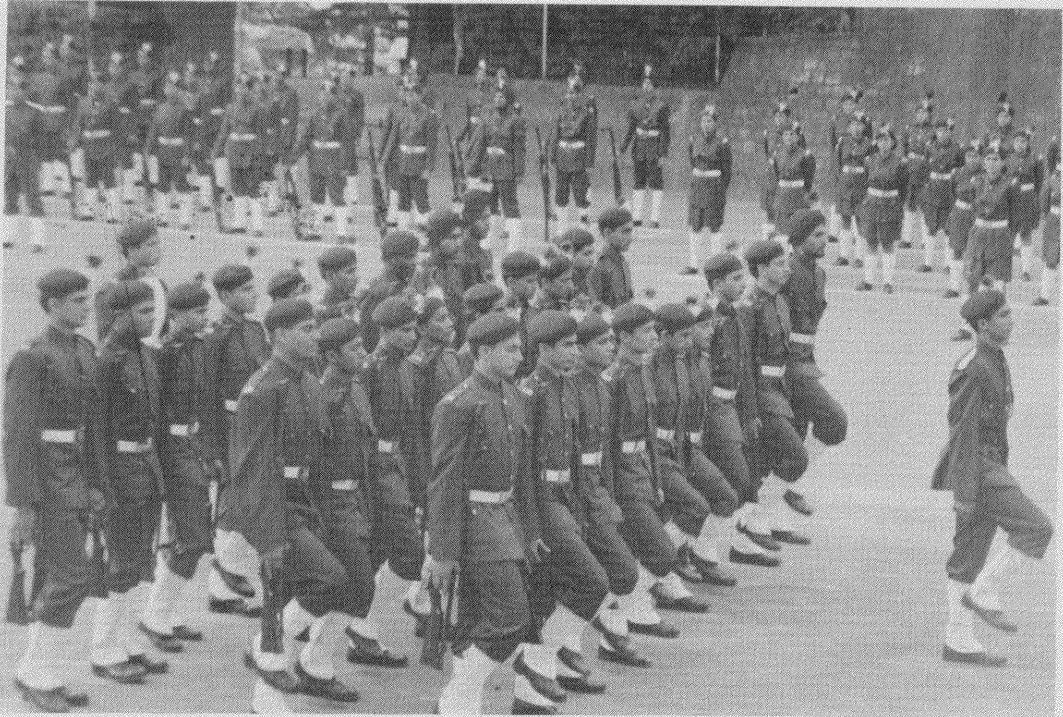




Senior Section -Long distance Run.



Athletics - March Past.

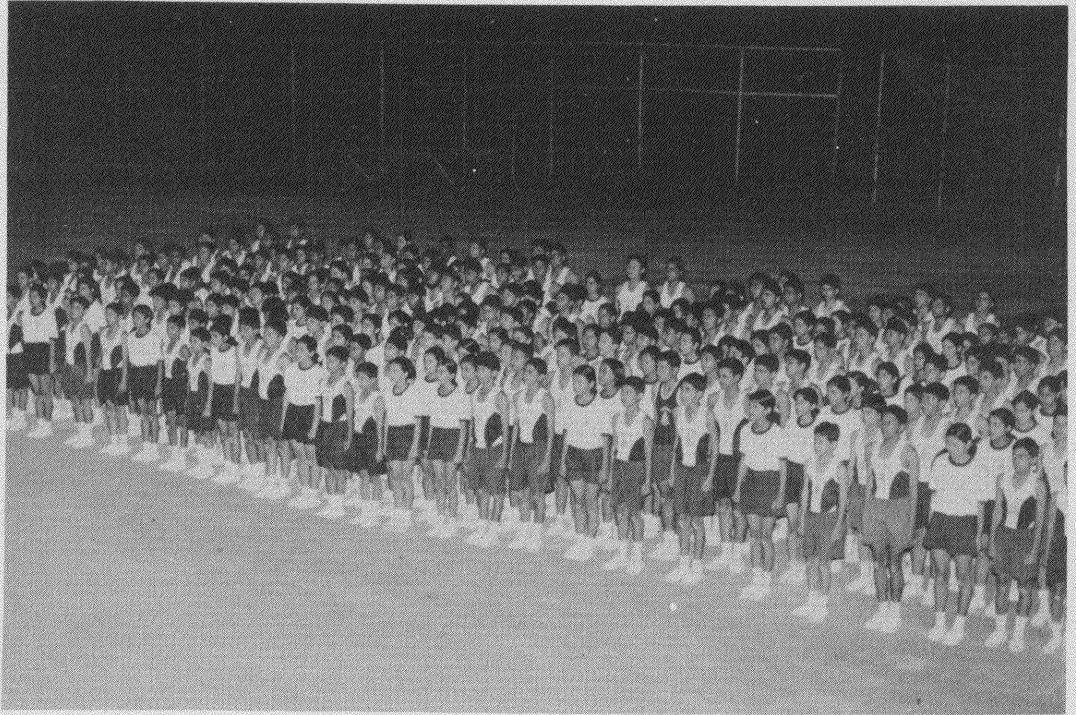


The NCC - Parade 98.

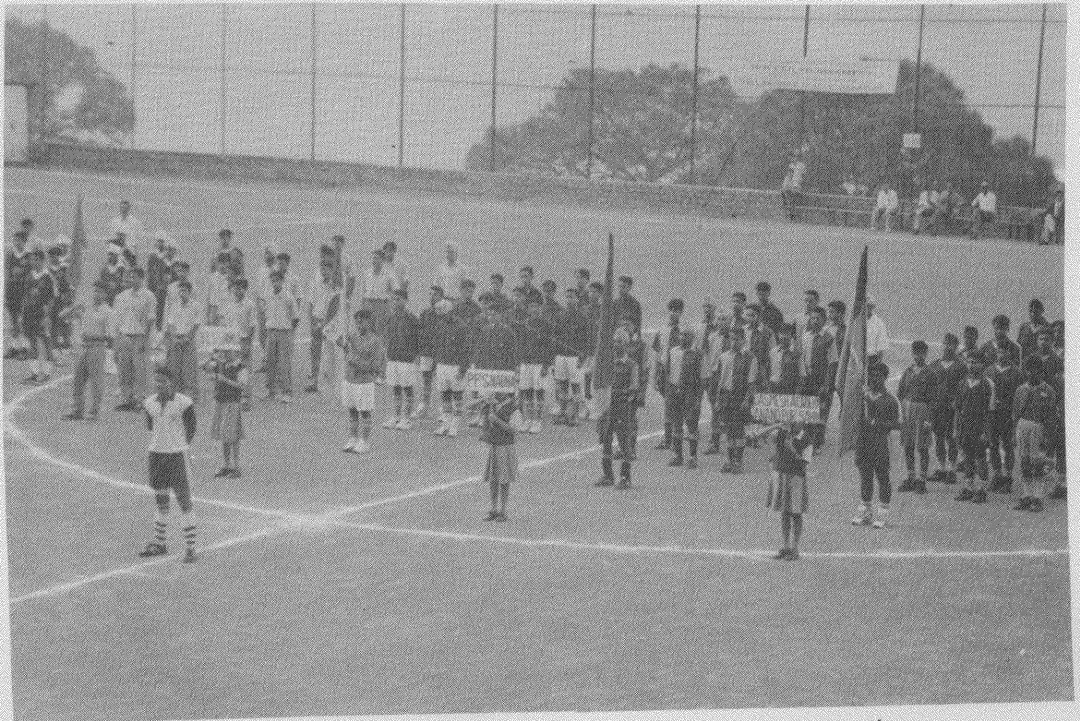


The Old Boys Look On.





Tattoo - P.T.



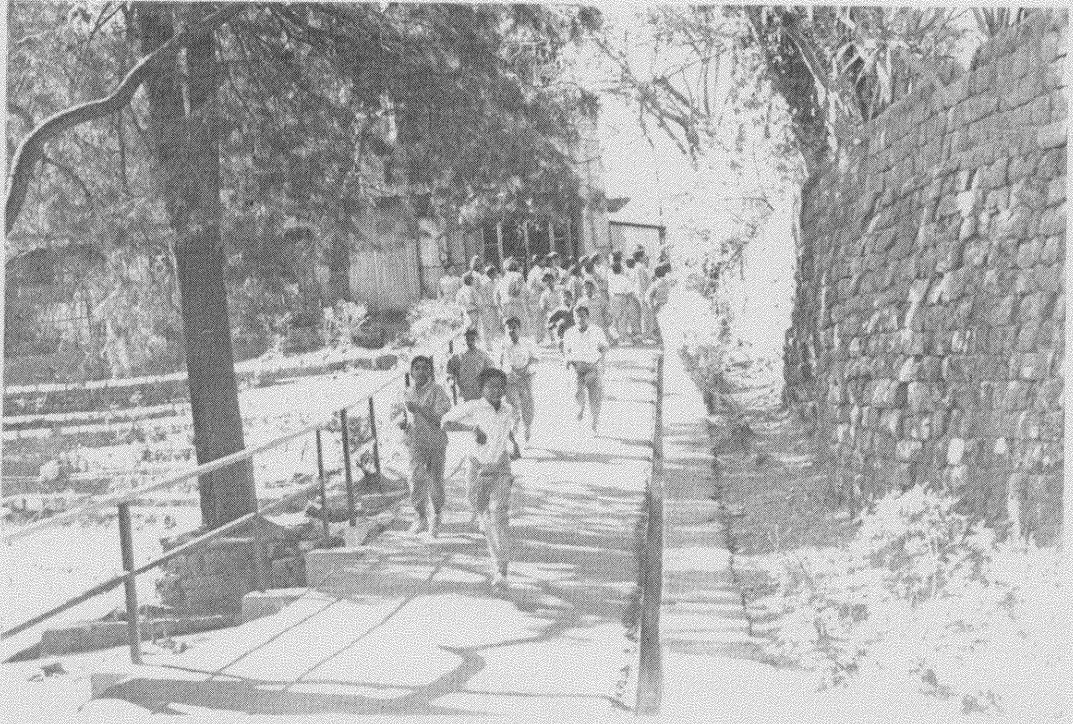
The Bhupinder Singh Memorial Soccer inauguration



The Bhupinder Singh Memorial Soccer in action.



The Chief Guest Notes a Point - Founder's Speech.



Freedom at last.



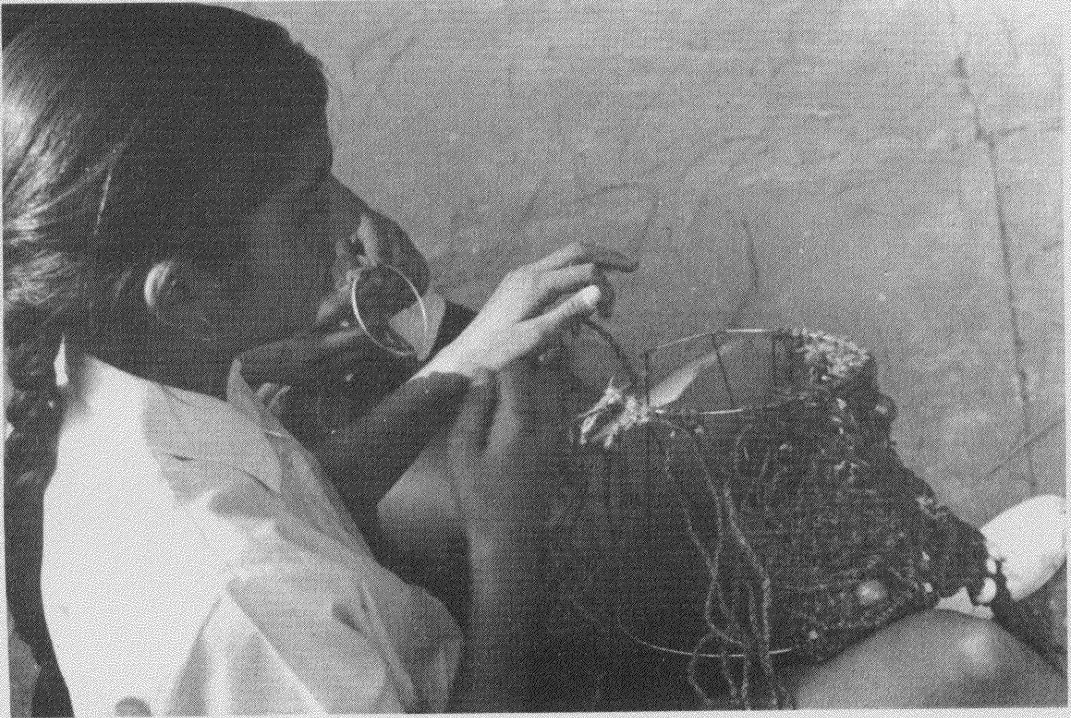
Leaving the dark woods behind.



Oh! what lies beyond those hills.?



Constraints and Barriers - not for us.



you've all done this.



Reaching out- that's our way.



Remember your days - you've done it also.



May have to it - later.



Senior girls Basketball.



Hey! it's gone too high.

## **WESTERN MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

### **1997-99**

Lawrence School has a strong tradition of Western Music due to its British heritage. It was this coupled with his personal fulfilment of learning the Piano as a child at Sanawar, that led Dr. Dhillon to seek a teacher of Western Music for the school. In April 1997 a teacher was found and the process of restarting and strengthening the department of Western Music was begun. In educational terms achievements to date have been primarily made in two areas of piano and singing.

Twenty-five children, mostly senior receive individual tuition in piano. Many had learnt previously with a variety of teachers in Sanawar under the 'Gap Scheme', but had made little progress and were feeling discouraged. Their knowledge has now been consolidated and built on; each student is dealt with individually, but generally it was found that students needed goals to motivate them. Therefore students are now prepared for and examined by the Association Board of the Royal School of Music, London. In 1998 five out of seven students achieved distinction at Grade One. Occasions such as House Show and informal concerts give students an opportunity to perform to their peers and with this a definite sense of achievement.

Developments in singing have affected the whole school. It was part of Dr. Dhillon's vision for Sanawar that the English hymns found in the school song book should once again be sung in assemblies and at functions. Due to the difficult task of teaching songs to such large numbers,

progress has been steady. However currently three different songs are sung at the weekly HM's assembly, the singing of the School Song has been improved and other hymns such as 'Abide with Me, and 'God to be with' us till we meet again' are sung at functions throughout the year.

To cater to those with gifted voices, a Western Choir of 30 Senior School boys and girls was formed. As they explore the range of music is available for choir. They are trained in singing and performing techniques. As well as leading the senior school in singing, they produce the annual school. Carol Service and have been invited to perform at outside venues also. Singers also perform at Founders and in House Show, either in groups, or recently performing solos or duets of an increasingly high standard.

Generally the interest in Western Music among students is very high, and the contribution of the department is appreciated by staff, students and parents alike. This is illustrated by students comments such as;

" Western Choir is the best part of school:

" We need to continue piano- there are so many of us who are interested.

" I love singing and I have learnt so much about music and piano. I feel lucky.

In Sanawar we acknowledge the importance of music as an art-form and activity that contributes to the physical, social and emotional development of the individual, to its credit. Sanawar is unusual in that the Western and Indian Music



departments co-exist and work alongside each other very comfortably, both seeking to bring the enjoyment of music to as many children as possible.

**D. Tyler**

Response to Shagufta's letter by the Director - Resources Mobilisations.

Patrons :

**Shri K.R. Narayanan**

President of India

**Shri R. Venkataraman**

Former President of India

Shagufta Bhangu

C/o Mr. T.S. Bhangu (A.R.M.)

Oriental Bank of Commerce

The Mall, Patiala

June 29, 1999

Dear Shagufta,

Thank you for the letter you sent to Helpage India. We really appreciated your offer of help. It is wonderful to know that youngsters like you are concerned about the welfare of the aged, and that you wish to devote some time and energy towards this cause.

Helpage India is a premier charity dedicated towards providing the elderly, who are often forgotten and neglected, with dignity and self-respect, besides providing them with security, medical care, independent lifestyle and companionship. Enclosed is a brochure that will give you

further details about our organization.

One of the most important ways in which you can contribute to Helpage India is by helping us raise funds. Enclosed are some donation forms, which you could give to your parents, grand-parents, friends, neighbours and relatives. Every small contribution helps change the life of a needy older person.

It is only with the support of friends like you that Helpage can succeed in its endeavour to bring a smile on an aging face, and your gesture of goodwill surely be rewarded through the blessings of the elderly.

With warm regards and best wishes,

**Surjit Mongia**

Director Resources Mobilization

Response to Uday's letter by Mr. P. N. Bhandari.

My dear Uday,

Your letter of the 16th July was received here yesterday the 20th instant. From the class you are studying in, I can guess your age must be around 11 years. I am really touched and impressed by your concern for the poor children at this young age. May God bless you.

Yes: you are right about what you have read regarding SOS Villages in India and abroad. These are parts of an International Organisation. Ours is a private organisation popularly known as "Bal Niketan" run by a Registered Society. Similarity of name "SOS Children's Village Association is just a coincidence. Ours is a charitable

organisation looking after complete rehabilitation of Orphans and Destitute children. I am enclosing some literature which will give you, in detail, an account of our activities. Please do make it convenient to visit us & meet our children. Don't forget to give me a phone call whenever to decide to come.

Incidentally, my son, Rajiv Bhandari, is an OS "Vindhyan" you will find his name in the Honour Board in the House.

Our very best wishes to you, Uday and your family.

Yours sincerely,

(P.N. Bhandari)

### **THE ONE AND ONLY- SANAWAR**

I entered rather nervously.  
Wondering what I would find.  
Everything was new to me,  
Hundred questions came to my mind.  
The teachers here are truly great  
They took me under their care.  
They guided and directed me.  
If help was required--they were there!  
Soon I entered the hostel wide  
The students looked up at me.  
Never have I observed such  
sportsmanship,  
As in my hostel I see.  
I felt so proud to be one of them.  
"NEVER GIVE IN"

**Shantanu**

L-3A

### **EVERYTHING IS BLISS**

Exactly when the ball, or the 'social' as it was called began, Vinita would have found it hard to say. Perhaps it began when she started dressing up. Her white frock with a beautiful embroidered hem, so different from the dreary school uniform which she had to wear all the time as a boarder in her school up in the hills near Shimla, was bothering her. Was the frock too short? Did it show too much of her knees? And oh! the powder on her face. Shh..., it was too much.

It was early October and the annual day, 'Founders day' as it was called, of her co-educational school, the Lawrence School, Sanawar. All the boys and girls above the age of fourteen could attend the 'social'. She had just crossed fourteen and it was the biggest event of her life. For the past two months, all her friends were discussing nothing but the 'social'. What would they wear? How could they get a perfume? What if Amit, the sweet boy with curly hair, who always blushed when she looked at him, ignored her in the 'social'. It was all so different and so exciting.

Yes, of course she had her wonderful parents. He a Colonel in the Army and she a beautiful woman. They came every Founders day to be with their darling daughter. They were such rapturous persons. She had to be at her best, look her best and behave her best. No, she couldn't be shy or withdrawn. Her father would laugh.

But, of course, there was no time. They were at the dance hall already. Dancing had not begun yet, but the band had stopped tuning, and the noise was so great that it

seemed when it did begin to play, it would never be heard. She clutched her handkerchief, and gazing at the gleaming, wooden floor, the rhododendrons, the lights, the stage at one end with its gilt chairs and the band in a corner, she thought breathlessly 'How heavenly; how simply heavenly.'

All the girls stood grouped together at one side of the hall, the boys at the other, and the chaperones in dark dresses, smiling rather foolishly, walked with little careful steps over the polished floor towards the stage. She saw her father, tall and slim, looking smashing as ever, talking and laughing to a Brigadier colleague, while her mother stood alone in a resplendent white saree.

Familiar faces smiled at Vinita- sweetly, vaguely. Familiar voices answered "Of course, my dear." But Vinita felt the girls didn't really see her. They were looking towards the boys. Why didn't the boys begin? What were they waiting for? Then, quite suddenly as if they had only just made up their minds, the boys came gliding over the parquet. There was joyful flutter among the girls. A tall, fair boy flew up to Asha, "May I have the pleasure?"

The men and the women on the stage, most of them stepped on the wooden floor and began gliding with the music. As she stood watching, an old fat-man, with a big bald patch on his head - came to her and murmured. "Do I remember this bright little face?" "Is it known to me of yore?" At that moment the band began playing; the fat man disappeared. He was tossed away on a great wave of music that broke the groups into couples, scattering them, sending them

dancing...Vinita had learned to dance at her boarding school. Every Saturday afternoon, she along with the other girls were hurried off to a little hall where Miss Kemp held her classes. But the difference between that dusty smelling hall with a cold piano, Miss Kemp poking the girls' feet with her long white wand - and this was so tremendous that Vinita was sure if her partner didn't come, and she had to listen only to the music and to watch the others, she would die, or faint.

"Ours, I think--." Some one bowed, smiled, and offered her his arm; she hadn't to die after all. Some one's hand pressed her waist, and she floated away like a flower that is tossed into a pool.

"Quite a good floor, isn't it?" drawled a faint voice close to her ear.

"I think it's most beautifully slippery," said Vinita.

"Pardon!" The faint voice sounded surprised. Vinita said it again. And there was a tiny pause before the voice echoed, "Oh, quite!" and she was swung around again.

He steered her so beautifully. That was the great difference between dancing with girls and men, Vinita decided. Girls banged into each other and stamped on each other's feet; the girl who was a gentleman always clutched you.

"Have you been to a dance before?" The voice came again. He was young and tall. Not a boy of the school.

"No, this is my first dance," she said.

Her partner gave a little gasping laugh. "Oh, I see," he protested.

"Yes, it is really the first dance I've ever been to" Vinita was most fervent. It was such a relief to be able to tell somebody.

At that moment the music stopped, and they went to sit on two chairs against the wall. Vinita tucked her feet under the chair and blissfully watched the other couples passing and talking to each other.

"Enjoying yourself, Vinita?" asked Nita, nodding her head.

"Yes, thoroughly", replied Vinita happily.

Ashish passed and gave her the faintest little wink, it made Vinita wonder for a moment whether she was quite grown up after all.

"Care for a lemonade?" said her partner. And they went through the door, down the passage, to the supper room. Her cheeks burned, she was fearfully thirsty; and when they came back to the hall, there was the fat man waiting for her by the door, it gave her quite a shock again to see how old he was; he ought to have been on the stage with the fathers and mothers. And when Vinita compared him with her partner, he looked shabby. His coat was creased; it looked as if it was dusty with chalk.

"Come along, little lady," said the fat man. He scarcely troubled to clasp her, and they moved away so gently, it was more like walking than dancing. "Your first dance, isn't it?" he murmured.

"How did you know?"

"Ah," said the fat man, "that's what it is to be old!" He wheezed faintly as he steered her past an awkward couple. "You, see, I've been doing this kind of thing for the last thirty years!"

"Thirty years?" cried Vinita. Sixteen years before she was born!

"It hardly bears thinking about, does it?" said the fat man gloomily. Vinita looked at his bald head, and she felt quite sorry for him.

"I think it's marvellous to be still going on," she said kindly.

"Of course," he said. "You can't hope that anything like this will last forever, long before that you'll be sitting up there on the stage, looking on, in a nice coloured saree. And these pretty arms will have turned into little short fat ones." The fat man seemed to shudder. "And you'll smile away like the poor old persons up there, and point to your daughter, and tell the elderly lady next to you how marriage proposals are already coming for her. And your heart will ache," the fat man squeezed her closer, as if he really was sorry for that poor heart-- "And you'll say how unpleasant these polished floors are to walk on, how dangerous they are. Eh, little girl?" said the fat man softly.

Vinita gave a light little laugh, but she did not feel like laughing. Was it-- could it all be true? It sounded terribly true. Was this first ball only the beginning of her last ball after all? At that moment the music seemed to change; it sounded sad, sad; it rose upon a great sigh. Oh, how quickly things changed! Why didn't happiness last forever?

"I want to stop," she said in a breathless voice. The fat man led her to a chair.

"No," she said, "I won't sit down. I'll just stand here. Thank you." She leaned against the wall, tapping with her foot, and trying to smile. But deep inside her, a little girl was sad and sobbing. Why had he spoiled it all?

"I say, you know," said the fat man, "you mustn't take me seriously, little girl."

"As if I should!" murmured Vinita, tossing her small dark head and sucking her underlip. She didn't want to dance anymore.

But presently a soft, melting, ravishing the tune began, and Amit bowed before her. Her heart gave a skip. Blood flowed freely to her face. She looked up at the stage to see if her parents were looking. What if they see her walking to the dance floor with her 'heart-throb.' No, thank God, they were not at the stage. She did not want her blush to give everything away.

Very stiffly she walked into the middle; very haughtily she put her hands on his shoulders. But in one minute, in one turn, her feet began gliding. The lights, the rhododendrons, the dresses, the faces, the chairs all became one beautiful flying wheel.

Pressing her closely to his waist he whispered in her ear, " You dance beautiful, Vinita."

"Everything is bliss," she replied radiantly.

And when Amit bumped her into the fat man and said, "Pardon," she smiled at him more radiantly than ever. She didn't even recognize him.

**Anil Chander**

OS-52-54

I.A.S (M.P cadre)

(Retired)

## Poetic - Expression

All this and much more .....  
The Indian Jawan  
We salute our brave Jawans  
Who have been fighting for our Motherland.  
Alert, audacious and brave.  
Some of them now resting in their grave.  
Bold, courageous and daring.  
They sacrificed themselves without fearing.  
Gritty, gallant and bold.  
The country's integrity they uphold.  
Dauntless, determined and in trepid,  
They will always be remembered for what they did.  
All this and much more, is of what  
The Indian Jawan is made.  
We salute them today  
As forever in our hearts, they will stay.

Gurpreet Chohan

L-6

## My Dream

I had a dream  
of a fairy queen,  
She took me to a land  
which was full of sand,  
I asked why she got me here,  
She replied just you wait and see dear,  
She then called a little elf  
and told him to dig a hole, which he  
did all by himself.  
He dug and dug and dug  
and took out all the mud  
Then there was a flight of stairs  
where all children were saying

their prayers.  
We all got a gift each  
and guess what I got, a dress that was the colour of peach.  
I kissed the fairy and said thank you  
and she in return said  
God bless you.  
She touched my head  
and in the morning  
when I woke up  
I was in my bed.

Pran  
P.D.

### **Mother**

She is the best, of all the rest.  
She nurtures you, in her nest.  
She works so hard, day and night,  
Just to see her children shining bright.  
Although she some times shouts,  
She also shows you what love is about.

She's always ready to sacrifice. And she wipes all your tears and understands your cries.  
She does so much just to keep you smiling and she is so full of patience, care and understanding.

This is the way God made her,  
so beautiful, great and true.  
Dearest Mother, Although words are few,  
for all that you do,

'Thank you'

Sheena Chohan

L-VI

## At the Party

"When I was at the party,"  
Said Kashish, aged just ten,  
"A little boy fell off his chair  
Right down upon the floor,  
And all other little boys  
Began to laugh , but me -  
I didn't laugh a bit,"  
Said Kashish seriously.  
"Why not ? His mother asked  
him Full of delight to find  
That Kashish with his gentle  
heart Had been  
so sweetly kind.  
"Why didn't you laugh my  
darling son ?"  
" I didn't laugh a bit, said  
Kashish seriously,  
" Because it was me that fell  
right down upon the floor,"

Kashish Dadwal

L-III-B



## TEENAGERS

They love to get into trouble,  
They hate to go to school,  
They'd rather sit at home all day  
'Coz the teachers are so cruel  
They love to hang out with their friends  
And they love to scream and shout,  
And there's nothing more they love than fun, 'Coz' that's what lifes about.  
They hate the word exams  
'Coz studying is such a pain,  
And no matter what the subject is,  
cramming is damage to the brain.  
They love to watch late Night Movies,  
And they love to be on the phone  
'Coz its the fastest way of hearing gossip  
Even when you are at home.  
Some people think they're crazy.  
They think they are a crazy bunch.  
Because instead of wanting bread  
and vegetables.  
They'd rather have chocolate for lunch.  
No matter what is said about them.  
About them being crazy or dumb,  
They'll always stick to their main principle.  
Their principle of having fun.

**Amrita Minocha**

U-7

## **A naughty boy**

Once there was a boy whose name was Rahul. He was very naughty but good also. He was good in studies too. He used to play mischief and tease other boys and girls. Most of the boys used to avoid him and were not friendly with him because he used to make fun of every one and fight over petty matters.

One day on Sunday we were all playing on the terrace. We were all playing Hide and Seek. Rahul was also playing with us. Arjun was hiding near the edge of the terrace. Rahul thought of a mischief. He wanted to scare Arjun. He went very quietly near Arjun and banged and produced the sound like "Tha". With sudden voice Arjun got scared and fell down from the terrace. Arjun started crying in pain. He was bleeding from his head and his right leg was broken. Everyone was astonished and Rahul was totally afraid. In the mean time some senior boys came there and Arjun was rushed to the hospital. In the hospital stitches were applied on Arjuns head and his leg was plastered. Rahul was very upset, and he also started crying. He was repenting for doing this. When Arjun became conscious. Rahul went to him and apologised for all what had happened. Rahul swore not to do any mischief in future. After Arjun became well Rahul and Arjun became best friends now Rahul does not tease any body and is liked and loved by all.

Harmanjeet Singh  
Prep. Dept.

## **A Lesson**

Rohit was very bright in his studies and all activities in the school. He was praised by all the teachers and his friends. But for the last one month he became very naughty day by day. When he went to school he stole money, books and copies from the bag of his class mates.

Due to this bad habit Rohit's parents were very upset they felt very embarrassed and small.

Reema was the younger sister of Rohit. She loved her brother very much. She was also very much upset because of his bad habit of her brother. When she asked him to stop stealing he use to beat her. His best friend Rahul tried his best to stop him but he didn't succeed. Suddenly an idea got struck in Reema's mind she told Rahul that tomorrow Rohit has to submit some money for books and Rahul has to pick it up from Rohit's bag. And the Rahul did the same.

When teacher asked for the money from him. He was surprised that there was no money in the bag. He became pale because he was afraid of his father for this.

He told the teacher that some one stole his money from his bag.

Teacher asked about the money but no one answered in the class.

When he came back home he told everything to his father and that if he knew the person who stole his money he will beat him.

Then his sister Reema asked him that when he picked money from his classmates' bag they felt nothing, now when someone stole his money than he wants to beat him. "Is

your money more valuable than others".

Rohit started weeping and promised his father that he would not do this again. He realized that when you steal something how others feel.

Then Rahul came and gave his money back.

After this incident, Rohit became very good and helpful and a well mannered boy. He got a lesson and now he is so nice that everybody praises him.

Gagandeep Singh

L-III B

### **Believe it or Not**

During my holidays my grandfather presented me with a talking parrot. I named it "Polly" and taught him many things to talk. He could speak " I see you". He also spoke " Who are you" in a stern voice. His screech was very loud and my mother did not like the sound. But I loved Polly.

On my last day I spent a lot of my time with my tortoise, rabbits, my dog and Polly. Mummy told me that she will give away Polly to some one since it made a lot of noise. I was sad.

I requested her many times but it was of no use.

At night I kissed Polly and went to bed. I could not get sleep because I was thinking of Polly. Then after an hour I heard my kitchen window open. I went down and saw two men pack all the silver in a sac. I was very scared to move. Polly was in a dark corner and suddenly spoke "WHO ARE YOU". The thieves were stunned. They whispered to each other that they could see

no body and wondered where the sound came from. Then Polly spoke again " I see you". To this the thieves jumped out of the window leaving the sac. I called my parents and narrated the whole story. My mother told me that she will not give away Polly. I was happy.

Shashank Seth

L-III-C

### **How I spent my summer vacations**

June 15 we left for home. 45 days I thought was a long time. When I reached home I met my parents, grandparents, friends, rabbits, tortoise, parrot and dog. My mother was shocked to see my weight and every one said that I had become very very thin. So my mother started giving me what ever I liked. The next day I started to play my favourite game -Tennis. My sir told me that due to no practice I had forgotten how to serve. So I started playing every day.

I also played carom, chess, basketball and cricket with my friends and father. My parents took me for swimming and I went cycling with my friend took very often. My parents took me out to the restaurants for lunches, dinner many many times.

My terminal report was a great disappointment to my parents. My mother made me study every day.

I worked on the computer and made cards for my friends and teachers on Microsoft publisher.

Today is my last day. My mother is busy packing my bag. I am sad to leave. 45 days passed so quickly.

I am happy to go to school because I like my teachers and my school very much but

I don't like it when some children bully and beat me.

Shashank Seth

L-III-C

### **My School**

My school's name is Lawrence School Sanawar. The butterflies play with the flowers. Our Sanawar School teachers are the Best. As they teach us then give us a Test. If we get bad marks, tears come pouring out. We learn that subject once again. And that is how we master the art. Teachers, you light the lamp the knowledge of our mind And you are really so nice and kind. Teachers, like we have in Sanawar, Are really difficult to find. Lawrence School Sanawar motto is Never Given. LSS is clean and tidy. We have many Fields

Shantanu

I-III A

### **Hikes to Matiana**

In hostels we children have many sources of enjoyment . The one, that most of us enjoy is our hikes. This activity provides us with the courage of performing skillful deeds. Our teachers decided to take us on hikes to MATIYANA. We were to leave on our enjoyable trip on the 19th of April. We children were thrilled on hearing such wonderful news.

We started packing our stuff. We were to go by the school bus. The journey lasted for about 5 hrs. We excited children, were so busy chattering about how the place would be like that we hardly felt the long journey. We reached our destination around 4 p.m. and proceeded to the guesthouse to put our luggage. Thereafter we played and saw the

beautiful surroundings. There was a nice cool breeze blowing. Around 8 p.m. we had our dinner and as we were tired we went off to sleep early.

The next day we hiked to a small village named Gulzar, which was at a distance of 7-8 km. There we discovered a tiny shop, which served delicious eatables and snacks, which we all cherished. Then we broke up into small groups and went to different houses in the village where we had our lunch. Most of the houses had wooden floors and the roofs were quite low. On our way back we took a shortcut to the guesthouse.

The next day we went around the small town and did some shopping.

The day after that we walked down to Narkanda, which was at a distance of 18 k.m. We received our pocket money to do shopping around. We then went to a hotel named Snow-view where we sat down in the lawns and played "Antakshari". It was an enjoyable day.

The next day was devoted to rock climbing. A teacher taught us many steps and techniques of rock climbing which made the rock climbing seem quite easy. A total of 23 children went all the way up.

On the day of our return we stopped in Shimla. We did a lot of shopping and finished all our pocket money.

The hikes were really enjoyable and we learnt a lot. We also learnt that any task which may seem very difficult like rock climbing can be done easily if we try to do it.

**Divneet Dhaliwal**

PD

## A Poem

This moment when I lose my eyes .....  
This moment when I close my eyes,  
I can hear, hear sounds—  
I can hear a boy crying,  
I can hear a fruitseller trying, trying to sell  
I can hear the chattering of men,  
I can hear, a car pass by, now and then  
I can hear the cows moving,  
I can hear the farmer shoving, shoving birds to protect his crops.  
I can hear the swishing of mops.  
I can hear a mother shout,  
I can hear, a teacher bless her student  
In her voice having no doubt  
I can hear the chirping of birds,  
I can hear, the busy buzzing of a bee,  
I can hear the swaying of a tree,  
I can picture all this clearly  
In the screen, the screen inside me.

**Vasudha Sehgal**  
**U-III-B**

## THE LITTLE PLANT

IN THE HEART OF A SEED  
BURIED DEEP, SO DEEP,  
A DEAR LITTLE PLANT  
LAY FAST ASLEEP.

'WAKE' SAID THE SUNSHINE  
'AND CREEP TO THE LIGHT',  
'WAKE, 'SAID THE VOICE  
OF THE RAINDROPS BRIGHT.

THE LITTLE PLANT HEARD  
AND IT ROSE TO SEE  
WHAT THE WONDERFUL  
OUTSIDE WORLD MIGHT BE.

**BANITA AND ASHISH CHAUHAN**

## **SANAWAR**

Mountains are high  
birds can fly  
Sanawar in the best  
which is in East not in the West

There are many trees  
which cool the breeze  
as in the winters we sometimes freeze

Most of the boys are tall  
and they play basketball  
and climb up the walls

Most of the girls are short  
but are very good in badminton shots

Everybody likes Sanawar a lot  
because its best of all thoughts.

**Ratra Mehra  
U-III-C**

## **SLUGS**

Slugs, slugs,  
Crawl through grass.  
Watching all the beetles,  
As they scurry pass.

Slugs , slugs,  
Crawl so slow.  
Leaving tracks of silver,  
Wherever they go.

Slugs, slugs,  
Crawl all along the wall.  
Popping little horns out,  
Make no sound at all.

**Divya Chauhan U-III-A**

## Home

My home is very small,  
And its shaped like a ball.  
The colour of my house is red,  
With three rooms and six beds.

Its very beautiful,  
And makes people cheerful.  
I do naughty things at home,  
Then I use my father's cologne and  
style up myself with my mother's comb.

In my house there is a bell,  
And an aquarium with a beautiful shell.  
My home is like a house of a doll,  
And near my house there is a mall.

I have a smart dog,  
Who guards my house and plays with a doll.  
I love my home,  
With the imported telephone.

**Angad Singh Gyani**  
10 Years

### Home—No Place Like It !

I learnt a lesson I will never forget,  
It all happened one fine day,  
I had a fight with my parents,  
And decided to run away.  
That night I ran along the woods,  
The trees gave me bad looks.  
I couldn't ask my friend for help,  
As I was in her bad books.

All night I waited for morning to come,  
And then I realized I was being dumb.  
I marched right back home,  
Very glad to know I was not alone.  
Don't Ever get this silly idea of running away from home.

**Vasudha Sehgal U-III-B**

## **Ants**

The Queen ant is the biggest in the colony,  
Her, job is to lay eggs only,  
She produces it till her death,  
Until she has no breath,  
Some live till they are 17 years old,  
And that is what I have been told.  
Soldier ants are smaller,  
They are stronger,  
They do not eat much food,  
But are always in a good mood,  
Their job is only protecting,  
And that is what I have been testing.  
Worker ants are the smallest,  
And the strongest,  
Their job is collecting food,  
And feeding the babies good,  
They build and repair the nests,  
What strong little pests !

**Tenzin Khريمة U -III-A**

## **A teacher who influenced me**

There was a teacher who influenced me,  
she was good.  
when she was in a mood,  
My writing was bad,  
for that I was very sad.  
she told me to get a special pen  
which costs much more than Rs. ten.  
When my writing improved,  
some people were even fooled  
It took one year,  
and through it she cheered.  
It made my mother happy.,  
when she went through every copy.  
She was a teacher who influenced me,  
and didn't even charge her.

**Abhinav Mutneja, - U-III-A**



## **MY CYCLING ADVENTURE OF MILLER HILL**

I was cycling in the country-side back and forth when I decided going down MILLER HILL the steepest hill in that region. I was half way up and decided on returning. The return was very risky as I had to cycle downhill I noticed that I was going very fast.

I pressed the brakes nothing happened I pressed them even harder again nothing happened. I was afraid of my near future. I crashed severely against the hillside and felt stars were swarming around my head like bee's.

Suddenly my eyes opened. I found myself lying on the floor dripping with perspiration.

**Gaurav Singh  
Upper-III-B**

### **My First Hikes**

I was very excited on the 19th of April' 99, as that was the day our hikes were starting. Our journey for Chaba started at 11:30 a.m. We went by bus, on the way we stopped in Shimla for lunch and then carried on to Chaba. It took us four hours to reach Chaba. We stayed in a nice rest-house. The next day we all went to Tatta Pani with our

teacher Mr. Puri. It was a ten kilometre walk. On the way we stopped at a place called Sunni where we bought something to eat and then carried on our journey to Tatta Pani. When we reached there, we first ate lunch and then went down beside river Tatta Pani. The water was extremely hot. We even collected shells. We went back to our rest-house in a truck. It was great fun travelling by truck. The next day, we went to Basantpur. It was like a small village. We had something to drink and then went to Sunni again. In Sunni we ate lunch and then went back to our rest-house in a two-wheeler. The next day we went to Koti bus and stayed in Koti resorts. It was a beautiful resort. We watched a lot of television there, and ate delicious food. Four girls shared one room, so we were all not stuffed up. We spent one night in Koti and then went to Shimla where we stayed in Kriti's house. Her house was well kept and we were greeted tasty goodies to eat. Ralia's birthday was also celebrated in Shimla. Kriti's mom ordered a delicious cake and made good food. In the evening we went to the Mall. There all of us did a lot of shopping. The next day we were to come back to Sanawar. We came back by toy train. I was a little sad that hikes were getting over. I really enjoyed my first hikes and am getting forward to all the others.

**Vasudha Sehgal  
L-IIIB**

## **The Secret Of A Happy Life**

When you're filled with Sorrow,  
with not a tear left to Shed.  
When you shout in agony, or  
get cranky in bed.  
You need a person who can soothe you.  
Take you out of your world which is ever so blue,  
And into your life walks a Mother.  
Who listens to you and says  
it happens to everyother.  
She explains that you're not life's slave  
and that's why you shouldn't be so naive.  
Learn to fight back, be strong,  
it's not that you've done everything wrong.  
Smile, be confident and always look straight  
and God will himself open the gate.  
The gate to joy, satisfaction and happiness.  
The gate that can relieve you of any stress.  
The gate to music and dance.  
The gate to a cheerful stance.  
These are the things in life  
you must remember  
as this is the secret to life's glowing ember.  
Mom, thanks for whatever you've done,  
For without you I'll be none.  
The cheerfulness, with which you taught me,  
To see the world, that lay ahead of me.

Asangla, Kirat, Guntash  
L-V.

## **FRIENDS**

If.....? you be sick of life,  
or you're drowning in sorrow,  
While, waiting for tomorrow.  
If you need someone to soothe you down.  
This somone - is always by your side,  
For this someone - is there to guide you.  
This someone - is a friend.  
A friend is God's blessing in disguise.  
When you're sad and ready to cry.  
A friend is there to lend you a shoulder.  
When everyone leaves you at life's mercy,  
A friend will walk into your life and make  
everything bright.  
A friend remains with you throughout your life.  
A friend will stick by you through thick and thin.  
A friend will treasure all the memories of the  
things done together.  
A friend will never betray you,  
A friend will never hurt you,  
A friend cannot see tears in your eyes,  
A friend wants to see you smile.  
A friend will value your advice,  
A friend will always think about you before anything else.  
A friend wants you to be happy.  
A friend thinks you to be the best,  
A friend looks up to you.  
A friend wants to be like you.  
A friend cares for you,  
A friend wants to share all intimate feelings  
with you.

**A FRIEND IS SOMEONE WHO WALKS IN TO  
YOUR LIFE TO MAKE THE WORLD A  
BETTER PLACE.**

**Guntash, Kirat, Asangla**

L-V

## A Friend In Every Way

We seldom, come across  
so many people everyday,  
We may or may not like  
them in many a way,  
But as we get to know  
each other more,  
We struggle our way  
to reach their door,  
The time spent together  
is like sweet old memories  
And the time flies  
Then comes a time when  
we have to go away,  
Depression and sadness  
is there the whole day,  
Then they move on  
to different places,  
Places where you  
see new faces,  
New friends are made  
almost everyday,  
The old sweet memories  
will guide my way,  
You'll be my friend;  
A Friend in Every Way ! .....

Sonal Ahuja  
L-V

## A Good Deed

She was tall, thin and kind.  
Looked simple, had a generous mind  
Her eyes expressed her love for all  
Anything, be it big or just small  
Admiring a little boy, as she was,  
Her gaze would not lose a pause.  
The boy had a broken arm  
She thought he was a charm.  
He was small but helpful enough  
for him helping a blind woman  
wasn't a decision so tough.  
She stood there alone amongst the  
crowd  
Watching the boy she felt so proud  
As she looked at him for a while  
His eyes met hers and he had a  
triumphant smile.  
She encouraged him by smiling  
back,  
This helped him choose the right  
track,  
Then he started to walk away,  
He had done his good deed for the  
day.

Shagun Ahuja, Tara Mann  
L-V B

## The Third Possibility

Under the Shining Sun  
with a clear blue sky,  
they both were playing together  
and chasing a butterfly

A strong bond of friendship  
lay between them.  
They both were beautiful flowers  
but each had different stem.

As they grew older  
this bond became stronger  
But for their parents  
The meaning of this friendship  
was wrong.

Not only their own parents  
but others also asked them  
'Are you brother and sister  
are you boy friend & girl friend'

Friendship is not a crime  
so, why should they feel guilty.  
The other thing which struck their minds  
was why isn't there the third possibility.

Why are there only boy friend & girl friends  
why can't there be a simple relationship  
other than brother & sister also,  
which is known as friendship.

ANSHU PATANJALI,  
L-V

## Her Point of View

### An Unforgettable Scene

I was eleven years old,  
And that morning was cold,  
This scene really affected me,  
A scene that not many see,  
It was really something amazing  
And I am not exaggerating,  
I remember it because,  
It was such a beautiful sight.  
One could only see it at a height.  
There, the sun was rising,  
which was really mesmerizing,  
There it was behind the mountains  
The rays coming out like fountains.  
Each ray underlining each peak,  
A sight for those who come to seek.  
A special place in my heart  
A sight which I will never part.  
For it has made me appreciate  
the ways of nature and its state.

Natasha Khanna  
L-V

When, I first came to this school, I noticed a big difference. I'm not talking about being away from home- I'm not talking about being away from my parents and being on own. I talk about a difference, a difference I noticed. I noticed how differently girls were treated from boys. I know, I come from a different environment, where, the kids are given more freedom and are quite used to having their own way, but I never expected there to be that big a difference. Here, the boys are encouraged and allowed to do a lot of things, girls are not allowed to do. Boys are allowed to go on many outings that we are not allowed to go for and they can take part in many sports we are not allowed to take part in. But, that's not the only difference I have noticed. I have noticed that girls are always expected to be more well behaved than the boys. When we make a small mistake, it like the world coming to an end, but when boys do something, somethings really bad it like nothing has happened at all. It's okay for boys to get in to trouble, but not okay for girls to get into trouble. And when teachers see a girl and a boy talk it is described as 'dating', discouraged and treated like a crime. I don't know, after reading this, I might seem like a brat, but this is how I feel, how I really feel.

Natasha Khanna

## Peace Day

SHANTI.....

FRIYHEID.....

PEACE.....

FRIHEND.....

SHALOOM

All these different words in different languages have the same meaning- that is "peace!"

" If the pursuit of peace of both old and new, it is also both complicated and simple. It is complicated, for it has to do with people, and nothing in this universe battles man as much as man himself".

We must remember that nothing can bring us peace but ourselves. Peace comes from within ourselves only by looking deep within, can we find inner peace, we must do this before universal peace can be attained. If one person lights a candle, all the others light theirs through the first one. Think that the light is peace and so spread it accordingly.

Keeping this in mind, we celebrated Peace Day in our school, On the 14th of September, we lit candles, formed a human chain and walked from Independence Garden till The Chapel. We sang two English songs, "Heal the world", and " we are the world", also a Russian Song. To further enhance the meaning of peace, we dressed up all in white. It was an awesome scene, with all of us holding candles and walking by, thus spreading the "message of peace."

People are always expecting to attain peace when they ultimately dwell in heaven, but whatever peace they get there will be ready-made, it will be like spoon-feeding a baby. Whatever peace there can be it must be here, here on the earth.

Therefore, let us all light a candle of peace within ourselves today, and work together to spread peace as the international denominator by looking deep inside ourselves finding peace and furthers spreading it- worldwide!

*Tanya Budhiraja*

L-V

## **An Awakening Encounter**

She kept sitting in her car looking at him getting wet in the rain. She looked into his eyes and just kept looking as there was something about his look that couldn't get her eyes off of him. She could see desperation and sadness, in his eyes. It was cold outside and all he wore was a shirt all torn and which had may be never been washed. His hands stretched out in front of his face which barely reached her window, and when he would implore, his hands would touch his head at the window. His hands seemed hard, rough and all black with dirt. There he was with hardly any flesh on his body, he looked lean and pale, it seemed he hadn't eaten for days. His legs were shivering in the cold. He kept standing in the rain and didn't "give in", he went on asking her to give something- anything. She knew that minute, that she could not let that boy keep standing there like that, in the cold, she fished out her raincoat from the back of her loaded car, then, she also remembered she had bought food for her children. She knew that the boy needed it more than her children. She wrapped the raincoat around him and gave him a hot meal. She had never seen such a twinkle of happiness, appreciation & satisfaction in a child's eyes. He gave her a smile which seemed to appear for the first time. He looked at her as if she were - God. She realised that moment, that, to help someone. Even in the smallest way can surely bring a smile to that person's face and ofcourse, make you also feel nice too. She put the car into gear and when a little ahead, she looked into the rear-view mirror, and saw the boy staring at her car, with a wanting look in his eyes, wanting- her to come back.

Today! she looks back at this incident and it sparks of a flame within her, a flame with which she may render some comfort or warmth to some forlorn soul- for she feels, to share and care are things we must nurture in ourselves and if possible in others too. The next time you get to see a soul- feel as if you can do something for that soul for tomorrow, think, maybe that soul be you.

Guntash Dhingra

L-V



## APPRECIATION—THE BEST TONIC

O life! For thy brevity I wonder,  
And experience for thy wide range, I ponder  
O Criticism ! You save us from flounder  
And, sometimes tear heart asunder.

O Praise! for attainment of thee  
I work, otherwise, would like to flee.  
The remaining world to see  
Make friends and foes to agree.

In this short span of life, man undergoes a wide range of experiences that continue educating him throughout. Out of these series of experiences, are all experience equally pleasant and relishing to chew and cud ? Are all incidents worth recollecting ? The answer would be 'No'. Some of the experience are disgusting, had it been possible one would have wiped them off from the slate of memory without a second thought. But to quote A. A. Brill, "A person's attitude is always the product of the sum of his impressions and it is absolutely impossible for him to cut out a period or a segment as it were of his life and go ahead. There is no break in the continuity of psychic life". Experiences are an integral part of our life that cannot be possibly wiped out from the mind and leave their hangovers. They contribute immensely to learning - indeed.

Let those unpalatable experiences be a reminder to cover up, to bridge the gap, to learn a lesson for betterment and glorification. Let them be an inspiration to resume the pursuit to excellence. Let those be accepted as a challenge to weather all storms, rather than harping over the sad tune of past failures. Moreover, had there been no sour experiences, one would never have tried to improve. Failures may spur to success. Every setback or failure brings with it a silver lining, a streak of bright light, a radiant ray of hope. Every insult brings with it a determination to prove one's worth. On the contrary, the experiences pleasant and memorable are savoured from time to time. Their fond memories linger on in our mind and spread tentacles all around. Those moments are recollected with thrill and anxiety. A modest success leads to- a big applause-deep sense of appreciation- laudations- accolades, this praise and notice brings about a visible change in the behavioural pattern. People have been known to go hungry rather than to give up the opportunity to hear the welcome sounds of applause. It not only boosts their morale but also inspires them to do arduous tasks with spontaneity, confidence and

consummate ease.

Undoubtedly encouragement, appreciation and praise are of paramount importance for one's personality development. The constant ridiculing and sarcasm, carping and criticism result in a malignant type of personality that is distorted, disorganized, deformed and perverted. Mostly, children get bogged down by criticism and fail to get out of this morass. They become hostile pugnacious and aggressive. But at the same time, the younger generation should also accept criticism in its right perspective and instead of taking ill, they should try to take the path to improvement. This would help them in developing themselves into wholesome, well rounded personalities. We are all learners- in the vast ocean of experiences.

Each failure should be looked upon as a stepping stone towards success, and each word of appreciation considered as an incentive to advance two steps rather than one on the ladder of success. Appreciation and constructive criticism both have a significant role to play provided they are doled out in the right spirit.

Manpreet Gogia  
L-V

### **The Art of Debating**

The origin of debating probably dates back to the beginning of speech. When, man overcame savagery and decided to settle disputes without physical fights, the first debate was held. Over the centuries debating has helped shape human civilizations.

Debating, as we know of it today, is a very cultured and peaceful way of showing disagreement. Debating forms the base of Democracy. Various parties or people debate on various issues, directly or remotely and the formation of opinions thus made are reflected in poll results.

In, schools like ours debates are encouraged from grass root levels. The first impression anyone would have of an inter-house debate would be, " Slap the other

person hard-but- without letting him know". It is at junior classes, when one is not aware of the importance of debates and arguments that one develops a style. For example, some serious students do from junior classes onwards speak sensibly. While, a few may take pride in ridiculing their opponents. And yet another class of objects will end up making fools of themselves.

At the senior level, debates are not merely just any event, a debator's prestige and image rest on the speech. One is more focussed and aggressive. Vocabulary, delivery, matter, stance are all equally important components of a debate. Inter college or inter-university debates all considered best platforms to project the institution's academic superiority. Although student level debates are important, it is beyond that in the administrative fields

where they play a vital role.

At all levels of administration, debates are a necessary feature. Policies, laws, budgets, all the important features of the countries management must be discussed or debated in both Houses of Parliament. If a house " fails " the motion, the bill or the application must be immediately withdrawn. Such is the authority and productivity of debating.

Even in countries like the USA, where a two party system exists, a Presidential debate, between the two presidential candidates is an important engagement. Now, after having discussed the significance of debating, we should take a look at the ingredients of a good debate.

Before any speaker even utters a word, the viewers begin to form their opinions. Body language sends that message across. A confident and yet decent stance would mean, the back is straight, chin high, hands should not gesture unnecessarily and eyes should not blink too often or be kept low at all times. It is very important to arouse the listeners and involve them in the cause of the speech. This is possible by using the correct body movements.

The next important factor is, the debate matter or the substance. It is highly valuable to address those distinguished personell, who need to be. In one's matter, one should be able to identify the weak or strong points appropriately. The general form of arranging key points is : strong before the weak. The best and the core topic is to be touched soon after begining, lest the listeners lose interest before even the ace is

released. When the end is approaching let the listeners know. If the debate ends unexpectedly, the speaker doesn't get the applause he deserves.

Vocabulary used is also a deciding factor in the quality of the debates. It needs to vary from gathering to gathering occassion to occassion. It must be simple, so as to let the masses also understand, and yet be graceful to maintain the speaker's elegance. The speaker's should refrain from picking words out of his daily usage. It is possible that a word picked, because of it's uncommon usage, to describe a happy notion is generally used for unhappy or sad circumstances.

Lastly, any debate is unaccomplished without good delivery. All words spoken should be loud and clear. Debator's tone must vary with the emotions involved. Sorrow must be expressed with a deep and low voice. Happiness and joy must be portrayed with a cheerful voice. One should avoid laughing at one's own joke. It is good to pause after delivering a strong but slightly complicated point. The entire speech must sink into the minds of the listeners. And it is never a good idea to leave the audience with any statement that would make them ponder.

The above mentioned points are from our point of view, of considerable value and would in enhance the quality of debating.

Sunil Juneja  
Anurag Pandey  
U-VI

## A Communication From Nature

### Appreciating Art.

Address : Hearts of All.

Date : Whenever Read

A certain Mr. Patterson prided himself on how mean and insensitive he could be. He was a critic of the first order. He criticised everything from his food to golf balls. One fine Saturday Morning Mr. Patterson decided to visit the Art Gallery. He entered in his own haughty and arrogant way, looking at all the paintings in disgust. He pondered over them mumbling how the colours were all wrong and how the styles were immature and lines squiggly. But even though he mumbled he remained composed. Until, he came across a mid-size portrait. On seeing this, he couldn't control himself and laughed out aloud. He yelled for the Gallery curator. When he came he impressed his views on the eyesore, to the curator who tried to speak but was kept quiet by the now fuming Mr. Patterson. He went on and on about how the painting was an obstruction to society and how the gallery should be sued for the display of such an ugly and hilarious portrait. He said , " look at the lines, all squiggly and the colour splashed about without measurement and how disgusting it looks.... and I suppose you call it ..... hmm..... modernart ?" Then he laughed again. All this while, the curater listened quietly and upon hearing Mr. Patterson finish, timidly replied, " Actually sir, we call it a mirror".

Karan Behal

U-VI

Dear Sanawarians,

Hello ! I hope this finds you in the best of air and the wamest of sunshine.

Nestled in the shadow of the Pines', your school has been provided a beautiful campus. You get to enjoy the purest of air, sweet sounding birds and the most beautiful sight of the snow covered mountains to gaze upon. There is so much for you people to do, through out the day. I really appreciate the way generation of your school's family, have made their stay a properous one. I had been admiring the way they utilised every minute, in a very dedicated manner, in terms of working at a stretch from one activity to another. Sanawar, itself can boast of its fantastic culture and rich heritage. The school has children and culture which are of eccentric values. Before you forget, I must remind you all of the above mentioned qualities. I can boast of myself being responsible for providing you with the best of atmosphere.

There are quite of few of you, who visit the school hospital because of being physically unfit, in the sense that you are suffering from some sort of an illness. Even, I have begun to have fever and the temperature has reached to about 99<sup>o</sup> C. This is because most of you are exploiting your environment. Little things matter a great deal, like throwing wrappers wherever you feel like, especially around

the tuck shop area. When you eat a packet of chips, you are expected to throw the wrapper in the dustbin. You very well know that plastic is injurious to my health and difficult for me to digest, even then you do not realise that you're too casual in caring about me. Sanawarians could be recognised as the only ones to have the decency of picking up litter from their paths. Is this the way you carry on the traditions of "Spartan Life".

Another area where I'd like to lay emphasis on is the amount of wastage done in the C.D.H. If you cannot have an unlimited amount of food, then please, for heaven's sake, do not serve your self so much. When the entire waste is dumped into the junk yard, the air stinks. I really feel sick and giddy.

I expect a favourable response from you on this issue, in order to, to give me immediate aid.

With Best Wishes,  
A Friend of Yours,  
If you wish to be,  
Nature.

By : Maneet Singh

L-VI

### **"The Good Old Days"**

We often hear people talking about the "good old days" of their vintage past; the past that is remembered fondly, the cherished memories that can never be forgotten. These memories never leave us, they remain within the deepest recesses of our mind throughout our lifetime.

It is strange, though, to see that the realization of the importance of the "good old days" sets in only when they are over. Only when that particular chapter comes to a close do we realize that it was the most wonderful part of our lives.

Practically speaking, it would be wrong to use the term, the "good old days". It is up to us to shape our own lives and to go in the right direction. Our outlook towards life decides whether our days will be spent happily or not. If a person is optimistic, he need not think about his "good old days", he will be happy and content with his present life. In today's fast paced world, there is little time to reminisce about what happened in the past.. We have to concentrate on how to make our lives better and utilise our time to do something constructive; not keep talking about how life was earlier and how it could be better today. It is not wrong to appreciate our "wonder years", but what is of greater importance is the fact that we must think and work towards making a better tomorrow, which is the first step towards making this world a better place for us to live in.

These days, most of us while talking about our "good old days" refer to the time when we were young and carefree, the time when we had little to do with responsibilities and duties; the time when we were immature, and everything in life was associated with fun and happiness.

The fact that now we are mature and still prefer our past to our present, shows our reluctance to take on responsibilities and duties. Anything associated with work and

duty is frowned upon; we'd much rather be relaxing and lazing around.

Why do we miss our "good old days" so much! What is it about that period of our lifetime, that appeals to us now? The answer to these question is the fact that now that we have grown up, no more, is there that innocence and purity of the heart. Vices, like greed and selfishness- which were not there before- have set into us. We have got caught in the fast pace of today's unnerving, and more often than not, dishonest way of life. What we need to do today is to slow down. We need to think seriously about our aims and ambitions and take the appropriate (honest) path towards achieving them. We need to re-arrange our set of values and our priorities, and try to be imaginative and constructive in our outlook. We need to realize that life is not a bed of roses. We must remember that in those "good old days" of ours, we dreamt high dreams for ourselves. Now that we have grown up, it is our responsibility to make those dreams come true. Hence, what we need today is a basic change in our outlook towards life, and the way we want to live.

Once, we achieve this, no more will be feel the need to remember our "good old days" or envy that period of our lifetime, because of the simple fact that there will be so many better things to do and think about.

**Ashwat Dhillon**

U-V

## **Changing Medicine!**

For the last few years, allopathic medicine i.e. conventional medicines were in much demand. Companies like Schering-Plough and Pfizer's were booming. But these medicines do more harm than good. They have acute side effects and cripple the acquired immune system. More than 500,000 deaths occur every year due to the failure of allopathic drugs.

Now, the people have wized up and more and more people are turning to alternative medicinal practices. Homeopathy, naturopathy, magneto-therapy, ayurveda etc. have come up in recent years.

More patients are diagnosed by homeopaths nowadays than doctors of the conventional stream. The pioneer in homeopathy was a German Physician, Samuel Hahnemann. It was based on the law "like cures like". The drugs or other treatments prescribed in homeopathy would produce in a healthy person, symptoms of the disease being treated. They believe in minute doses of medicine, which are gradually increased over the course of time. These medicines are taken by being soaked in sugar granules. This practice has been popularized due to their assured cure and minimal side effects.

Naturopathy and ayurveda were practiced in India since ancient times. Ancient manuscripts mention herbal remedies and natural therapy for various ailments. However in recent years,

ayurveda has come up drastically due to its safe remedies and low cost. Companies like "Dabur" make millions selling ayurveda products. But conventional practitioners have criticized ayurveda because it carries no scientific evidence of its effectiveness. However ayurveda has evidence of its effectiveness through an experience of thousands of years. Even the developed countries of the West are consuming Ayurvedic products.

Naturopathy prescribes changing of lifestyles. In order to maintain alternative medicinal practices to the West is Dr. Andrew Weil, who is a botanist and a M.D. He is one of the most popular doctors in USA. People living far and wide consult him.

Most medical institute today offer a degree in alternative medicine. However anyone who has been run over by an automobile would obviously like to be treated by a modern surgical facility. So the conventional medical system cannot perish but many of its spheres can be substituted by alternative medical practices.

Ankit Jain  
Kanishka Jain  
U-V

### **SLEEP !**

In a place like the one we live in, one comes to know the value of 'sleep'. Usually, sleep is referred to as a state of relaxation. A person living in a metropolitan city, doing nothing but inhaling polluted air might grade sleep as an absolute waste of time. But when you get up at 5.30 in the morning exert your body physically, go for classes, go for hobbies, then sessions, prep,

followed by night study hour and what not, when you finally collapse on your bunk bed and close your eyes, it's like God's gift really come true.

Here, in Sanawar, we learn the meaning of a peaceful sleep. We regard it not as an act of laziness, but as means to revive back the lost energy. When we wake up after a sound night sleep, we are always 'cribbing' as we grudgingly walk towards Peacestead, we realize that the night passed in a minute. This voices discontentment in us and we say that we don't get enough sleep. The fact is that when the night passes so quickly, that itself means that we slept soundly.

So, here in this part of the world, sleep is important. Sleeping properly or not getting enough sleep makes a difference. We could even fight for it. We actually wish it rains early morning so as to miss PT and get another half an hour of sleep. Sleeping is one's favorite pastime. (Unless you are a health freak!)

Even during classes when a teacher gives 5 minutes off, we find ourselves relaxing. Our heads on top of our desks and this adds another 5 minutes to our 'sleep'. Exhausted after a long day or boring classes, most of us come back to the dormitories and retire to sleep on our beds.

Moreover, we often tend to sham and get admitted in the hospital to get some sleep.

Today sleep has become a heart felt desire of every student in Sanawar.

Sleep Matters!

- Simer Thandi  
Shayari Singh  
U-V

## **Book Reviews**

### **HAROUN AND THE SEA OF STORIES (SALMAN RUSHDIE)**

In a distant city, a sad city, a city so sad that it had forgotten its name, lived a happy man with his son and wife. This man Rashid was the Shah of Blah, he had the Gift of Gab, and everytime he opened his mouth a story came out, and in that story another story, and in that another, but this was, according to the Genie who supplied his stories, a process too complicated to explain.

Rashid was a subscriber to the moon of Kahani, where the Sea of Stories existed. He got all his stories through an invisible pipeline. But then it changed. This wife, Soreyya, ran off with Mr. Gupta, a measly clerk. Rashid became sad, and his son became even sadder. So when Rashid was invited by a shooty politician called Buttoo to the land of K to give a speech on Buttoo's behalf, all that came out of his mouth was a croaking sound

One night, as he and his son Haroun were sleeping in their boat over the Dull Lake, Haroun stole the wrench a genie called off was using to sever Rashid's story connection. He then followed of riding on Butt the Hoopoe. On the magical moon of Kahani, he helped clean the Sea of Stories with the help of Mali the gardner and Goopy and Bagha the plentimaw fishes, destroyed the evil lord of silence and darkness, Khattam- shud, and reconciled between the fun-loving Gup people and the silent Chup people, member of the cult of the zipped tongue, people who sealed their

lips together. He rescused to princess of Kahani, the wife of Prince Bolo, Princess Batcheat. In this too, Butt the Hoopoe helped him by transporting him, Mali the gardner removed weeds in the sea of stories, Gopy and Bagha who cleaned the Sea of Stories in the same manner as earthworms cleaned soil, General Kitab, the componder of the Pages', the army of Gup, and Blabber mouth, a soldier.

In the end, Haroun asked the people of Gup to grant him but one award, happiness. And when he returned to his city, he found that the Walrus and the Eggheads at P2CZE house (the intelligent people of Gup) had granted his city happiness by reminding them the name of their city, Kahani. And when he returned home, he heard the sweet melodious singing of his mother Soreyya, who had returned.

Abhimanyu Singh Sisodia

L-V

### **God of Small Things**

Arundhati Roy was trained an architect. She has worked as a production designer and has written the screenplays for two films. She lives in New Delhi. The God of Small Things is her first book. This book was the winner of the 1997 Booker Prize.

It's a sad story, told hilariously and has so effectively cut-through the clokes of nationality, caste and religion to reveal the bare bones of humanity.

It has been set in Ayemenen somewhere in Kerala near Cochin. Ammu, a woman



has spent most of her early years in Ayemenen. Her father was an Entomologist and his life's greatest setback was not having had named, the moth, that he had discovered, after him. Ammu's mother had started a pickle factory 'Paradise Pickle', which was taken care of by Chacko, Ammu's brother.

Velutha, is a paravan who works with Ammu's family. Later on, in the story Velutha has a relation with Ammu. A relation between a Paravan and a caste Christian is a taboo. Velutha is beaten to death and Ammu is turned out of her home. The villain is the "holy and pious" Kochamma, Ammu's aunt who is consumed with envy for Ammu and plots her disgrace while claiming to be doing God's will and all the problems Velutha faces. Velutha is the God of Small Things. Along with love themes the story revolves around jealousy and guilt. Jealousy of Rahel when Sophil Mole got all attention in the family and guilt caused due to the death of Sophie, partly due to Rahel and Estephan's fault.

Its a simple story which moves between different time periods. It contains details of life in Kerala of the 60's and 70's is especially of the Syrian Christian community. Its filled with descriptive passages and that's the appreciation it deserves.

Roshan Sapam  
L-VI

## " AN EQUAL MUSIC"

The book "An Equal Music" is written by Vikram Seth. He was born in 1952, trained as an economist & has lived for several years in England, California, China & India. He has written many novels and four volumes of poetry.

" An Equal Music" is his first novel after "A Suitable Boy". It a story, both in intricate and intimate. It works at two levels, firstly, it is about love, lost, found and at the end lost again. The main character Michael is in love with Julia when they are learning music together in Vienna, but they soon part and are reunited after ten years when Michael accidentally sights Julia on a bus in London. For the short period that follows their love affair goes on but destiny has something else in store for them and at the end of the book they go their separate ways.

On another level it is about music and how the love of music can run like a passionate theme through a life. In the book Julia being a successful pianist is slowly and steadily losing her ability to hear and how she copes up with this . There is also a quartet in the book formed between Michael, Billy, Pierce and Helen and to an extent the book is generally about their relationship. Thus in a subtle manner it is about human relationships.

A book rich with music, art, humour and emotion introducing the reader to another facet of Vikram Seths unique talent.

Pragya Bhakshi  
L-VI

## **The Godfather**

One of the most inspiring novels I've ever read is, the Godfather, by Mario Puzo, Puzo's book was published in 1968 and is universally considered a classic, a masterpiece- " Never hate your enemies, It only makes you judge them wrong" such words of wisdom occur in this book.

The now late Puzo (Who died in July 1999) tells the story of two generations of a New York Mafia family. The "Corleones" , immigrants from Sicily. It is the saga that brought the outside world to know more about the "underworld". Now the inspiring aspect of this book is not the violence that is portrayed in it but the character of Don Vito Corleone and his sons Sontino, Micheal and Frado.

The book begins with the wedding of Vito Corleone's daughter Constonzia or Connie as she was affectionaltely called to a friend of her brother Santino. Vito Corleone is a traditional Sicilian. Fellow Sicilins are shown arriving to congratulate the Don whom they address as the "Godfather". They have their own problems which only their "Godfather" can solve. It is this value of Don Vito Corleone which earns him the respect of all Sicilians in America along with American Politicians, Judges, Lawyers, Senators, Congressman and also heads of the other so called five families of New York.

Vito Corleone was set sail with the Abandanos by his mother at the age of twelve for America. This was because the local Mafia in Sicily wanted to kill him. He worked in the Abondane bakery for eight

years. Then he started some illegal business. There was a local gangster in the neighbourhood a man named " Fannuci" who took everyone's money. Vito got rid of him and thus at the age of twenty people started treating him with respect and started arriving with their problems. It was his policy that one earns respect by doing out little or big favours along with respect he also earns power and prestige. This was true as he controlled the strongest Mafia Organisation in America. He had some other great virtues also.

He would rather die than indulge in business like drugs or prostitution even though they were the most profitable.

Vito Corleone had three sons Sonny, Mecheal and Fredo. Santino (Sonny) the oldest was regarded as the future heir to the Corleone family. He was the good man of business and possessed that ruthlessness required for a man in such a business. But he had his weakness and that was his temper, an undisirable quality for a don to possess. Fredo was a weak man. Not Don quality. Micheal, the youngest was a perfect son, calm intelligent, elegant, ruthless, but it was, not what he had in mind and nor did his father. He was the apple of his father eye and even though his father protested, he served in the US army in the second world war.

Now the turning point of the story comes. The Corleone family is given a proposition for Narcotics- Vito Corleone promptly refuses but Sonny shows some interest. Vito Corleone is shot and though he doesn't die he is injured. This is where Michael gets involved in the family

business. Seeking revenge he shoots Virgil Solozo the man who brought the proposition and is made to flee to Sicily for two years.

Santino declares war and is killed by a sabotage. When Michael returned he takes over as the don as Vito Corleone is semi retired and the rest of the story is basically on how he brings back the declining Corleone family to its former power.

Now the readers of my review may argue that this book is only full of violence. But look at the other side of it. The beauty lies in Vito Corleone's devotions to his family, the Don's heart which never denies someone's favour, the loyalty of men like Luca Brasi, Peter Clemenza, Tom Hagen, the intelligence of Michael Corleone. The book also teaches you a lot like 'Keep your friends close but your enemies closer', a man who does not have time for his family can never be a real man". I have read this book four times and is undoubtedly my most favourite one.

Vivan Sehgal

L-VI

### **Interview with the retired H.O.D. English Dept. Mr. E. Sequiera**

Q : Tell us something about your experience as the Head of English Deptt. for such a long time period ?

Ans. : I was appointed as the Head of English Deptt. in 1987, after Dr. Dhillon left the school. I had the task of editing the newsletter also.

Q. : What is your opinion of the various changes that have taken place in Sanawar during your tenure of 29 years ?

Ans. : Well, some changes are for the better, and some not. But change should not be just for the sake of change, there should be a purpose behind it. Sanawar has very old and deep-rooted traditions, but traditions should not hamper progress. A positive change that I have noticed is, that children are being given more opportunities to play a wider range of games and to choose from a long array of hobbies.

Q. : Please tell us about your hobbies.

Ans. : All my life I have been basically into sports. I played a lot of badminton and soccer, apart from Swimming and boxing, and I like to read, ofcourse.

Q : Which is your favourite book ?

Ans. : It would definitely be a tough decision to make, but 'Dr. Zhivago' really appealed to me.

Q. : Tell us about some memorable experience that you had in Sanawar.

Ans. : My life in Sanawar has been a memorable period. I have remained active throughout, Athletics, boxing and soccer kept me on my toes most of the time. I also introduced badminton in Sanawar.

Ashwat : Tell us something about your long stint as the soccer coach ?

Mr. Sequeira : I joined on March 31st, 1970 and after playing in the soccer festival match that year, I was immediately chosen to be the soccer coach for the colts school Team, and then the First XI.

Q : What is your view on the quality of soccer in Sanawar today ?

Ans. : Well, the quality has not changed much, but the School is definitely showing more interest towards the promotion of the sport. Tournaments are being taken more seriously. The support and love for the game among the students has also increased.

Q. : Your message to the children ....

Ans. : I would like to ask the students to set their priorities right. They have to realize the importance of their value system to do well in life.

#### An Interview with a retired tabla Teacher

Mr. R.K. Malaviya.

Q.1. Sir, why did you choose Tabla as a music career? What inspired you to take it up ?

A. I used to hear many artists in instrumental & vocal but I was more fascinated by the rhythm and beat, in these performances. I use to look up to one of my distant cousins who was a highly placed officer and also a tabla player. These factors made me take

up tabla. What made me continue in the big league was that I made many friends like Hari Parshad Chaurasia a flutist, Guru Parsad- a violinist who would want me to accompany them so I felt I had the latent potential to become an artist in my own field.

Q.2 How long did you work for the music Department in Sanawar and what do you think you have achieved in those years ?

Ans. : I worked for 29 years (1970 to 1999).

Ans. : I think my biggest achievement has been that I made students play the Tabla, Before me the tabla teacher would only accompany various musical programmes and House shows. Students would not even touch the Tabla. Way back in 1972-73 I made students learn Tabla enough to accompany performances house shows and in any musical performances like school orchestra etc. Later they even went on to win a prize in Youth quake. They even took up Tabla as a subject in XI and in XII and got distinction in it. Today, I am happy that many of my students have taken up tabla. Even girls have taken up

Tabla.

Q.3 Please tell us a few incidents which you remember.

Ans. 3 My very first encounter with my Head of the Department was something which I remember even today. As an artist I had gone to meet him before my interview. He scolded me and said I should come after the Interview, to which I replied that I had come to see him as a fellow artist and not for any other reason. Later he called and offered me a cup of tea. When I went for the interview I saw most of the candidates were more qualified than me. I had about an hour long interview and I was asked to perform also. Later the Headmaster gave me the good news that I had been selected. Later on I realised the standards of fairness and justice in the School and also the fact that the School knew how to select teachers. The other two incidences.

When Sanjay Dutt was about to pass out, I asked him what he was going to do in life? His reply was that he would like to become an Army officer. I said "nothing doing, you will become an actor like your parents". He said, Sir, Lets have

a five chocolates bet. "Till today I am waiting for the chocolates.

There was a British Teacher who had come on Exchange in our school to teach piano. She was so impressed by Tabla and the atmosphere in the department that she came to learn regularly is to me to learn. Later she came from England on her own to continue learning Tabla from me. Even now she corresponds with me regarding the instrument.

Q.4 What is your advice to the School, the Music Department and the Students ?

Ans. For the School and for the Department and students I would like to say that music is a therapy. It is worship. Music is something which can take care of so many evils, so many irregularities in our life and it can bring peace. Tabla which is beat, rhythm is something like salt in our diet without which every thing is bland.

Q. 5 How do you feel after retirement ?

Ans. Some times I miss my students and the daily routine of the school but over all I feel I am a free man. I feel I am myself and I am pursuing what I ought to be doing.

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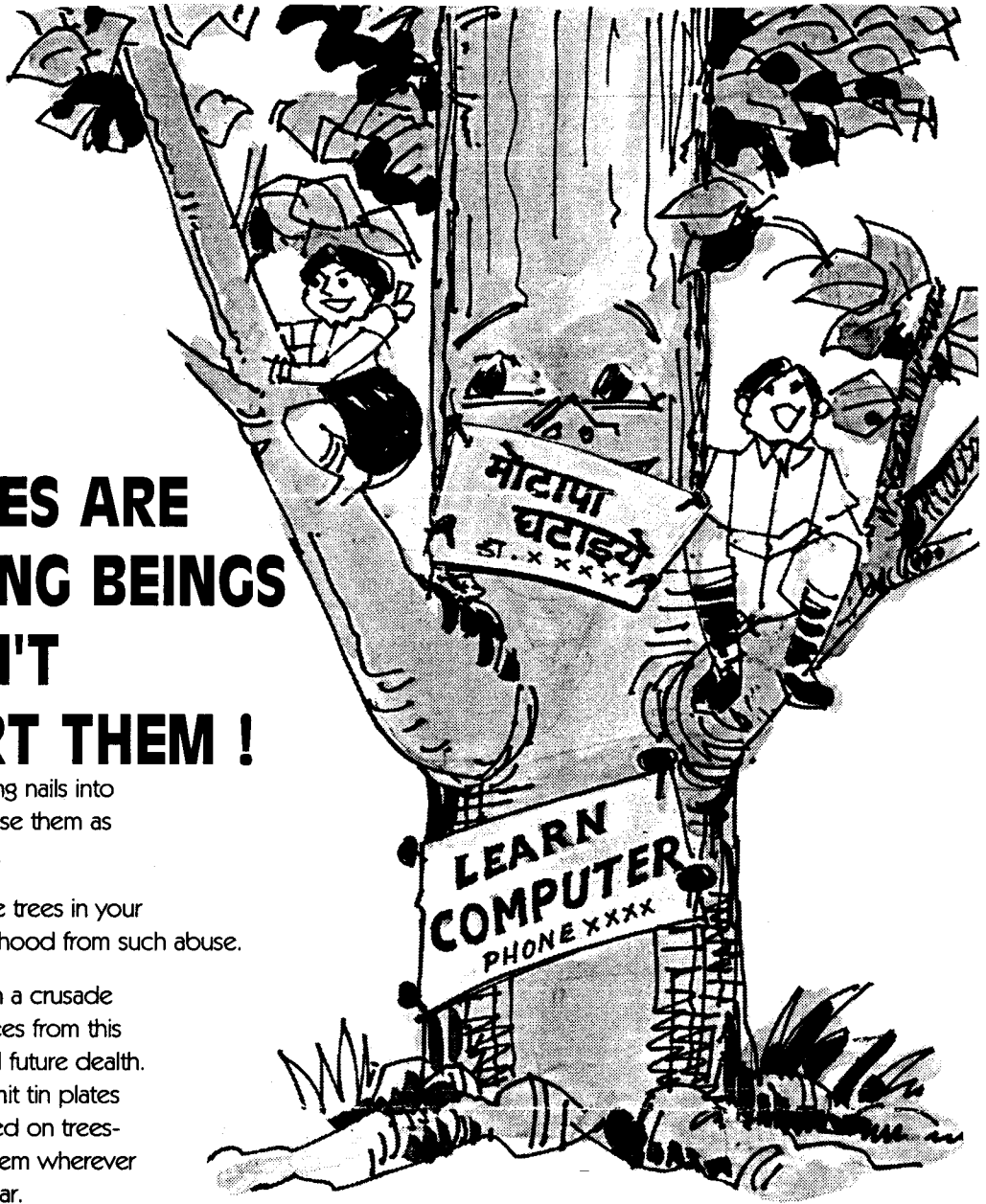
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neighbourhood from such abuse.

Let's join in a crusade  
to save trees from this  
agony and future death.  
Don't permit tin plates  
to be nailed on trees-  
remove them wherever  
they appear.

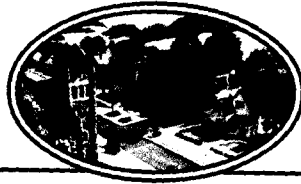
After all, one doesn't bite  
he hand that feeds.



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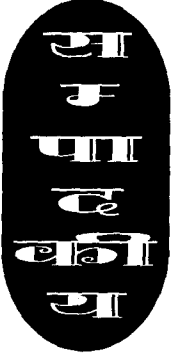


हिन्दी खाण्ड

“ राष्ट्र भाषा का प्रचार-प्रसार  
ही सच्ची राष्ट्र सेवा है”



क्रमांक	विवरण	द्वारा	पृष्ठ संख्या
<b>(क) गद्य भाग</b>			
1.	वर्तमान परिस्थितियों में भक्तिकालीन हिन्दी सन्त कवियों की उपादेयता	एस० खान	5
2.	सूक्तियाँ	वी० के शर्मा	8
3.	ईमानदार	कृष्णा पुरी	9
4.	ज़बान पर पैर	सुल्तान सिंह	10
5.	आदर्श मनुष्य के संस्कार	अंकित जैन	10
6.	सनावर-खूबसूरती का पूरक	सनी गोगिया	11
7.	कारगिल	जफीत हिमपात	12
8.	मेरी नज़र में एक अच्छा नागरिक	गुन्ताश डींगरा	12
9.	ऑपरेशन-विजय	अमनदीप	13
10.	क्या मनुष्य की पहचान धर्म है	मयंक, प्रबोध, रजत	14
<b>(ख) पद्य भाग</b>			
11.	चिड़िया	अजय पाल	15
12.	कारगिल की लड़ाई	अमनपार्थ	15
13.	मित्र	सुमी शर्मा	16
14.	मैं पार जाऊँगी	पुल्किता परसाई	17
15.	राष्ट्रभाषा	दीपक शर्मा	18
16.	उनको सिर झुकाओ एक बार	नरेन्द्र शर्मा	19



## प्रथम प्रयास

कुछ गिने चुने हम उम्र एक ही दिशा में दौड़ रहे थे, अभी थोड़ी सी दूरी तय हुई थी कि उनमें से एक हॉफते-हॉफते गिर पड़ा, परन्तु औरों को भागते देखकर हिम्मत करके उठा और फिर दौड़ने लगा, पर कुछ क्षण बाद फिर वही स्थिति-हॉफना-शक्ति शून्य होकर रूकना, फिर भागना - फिर---फिर--। आखिर उसके साथ ऐसा क्यों था? वह उन सभी धावकों से इतना पीछे क्यों रहा? - क्योंकि उसे दौड़ने का अभ्यास नहीं था, कुछ हिम्मत थी, जिसे बार-बार जगाता था, पर दूसरों की दृढ़ इच्छा शक्ति के समक्ष बौना हो जाता था। हमारे इस हिन्दी परिवार की स्थिति ऐसी ही है (कुछ को छोड़कर) मेरा तात्पर्य सीधा -सीधा यही है कि रचनाकार का दौड़ने का (लिखने का) अभ्यास कुछ कम है। वह इसलिए भी कि वह दौड़ने का प्रयास भी कम करता है। शायद मातृभाषा के पठन-पाठन को विशेष महत्ता नहीं देता है, कई बार उसे अपमान सूचक मान लेता है, जो गर्व किसी अन्य भाषा के बोलने में महसूस करता है, वह इस भाषा में हीनता सी लगती है। अर्थ स्पष्ट रूप से भाषा-विशेष पर आक्षेप करना नहीं, अपितु व्यक्ति विशेष की रुचि की अल्पगुणग्रह्यता पर है। यह गुण ग्रहण प्रवृत्ति रुचि रस से ही घटाई या बढ़ाई जा सकती है। अब रुचि रस को बांटने वाले को भी बहुत निष्पक्ष रहना पड़ता है। ग्रहणकर्ता की अपनी इच्छा है कि वह कितनी मात्रा में, किस प्रयोजन से रुचिरस लेता है। यहां इस हिन्दी संस्करण में रचनाकार जैसे नदी के इस किनारे खड़ा है। वह कितना तैरता है, कितना आगे तक जाता है, कितना पार कर पाता है, यह बाद की बात है। इस अंक तक मुझे इतनी संतुष्टि है कि वह नदी तक तो पहुँच गया है और यहाँ पहुँच गया, तो आगे भी अवश्य जाएगा। आशा है पाठकगण इसे सहज रूप से स्वीकार करेंगे।

नरेन्द्र शर्मा (हिन्दी अध्यापक)

## वर्तमान परिस्थितियों में भक्तिकालीन हिन्दी सन्त कवियों की उपादेयता

हिन्दी साहित्य के भक्तिकाल में साधु-संतों ने जो अमृतमयी वाणियां कहीं वे आज भी इतनी ही प्रासंगिक एवं उपादेय हैं, जितनी उस समय थीं इस युग में अगर हम ध्यानपूर्वक देखें तो भक्तिकालीन संतों की उपादेयता आज और बढ़ गयी है, क्योंकि जिन परिस्थितियों में यह साहित्य रचा गया वे आज और अधिक प्रबल एवं चुनौतीपूर्ण हो गयी हैं। जाति-पाँति, छुआछुत का प्रभाव इधर थोड़ा कम हो गया है, लेकिन सामाजिक ऊँच-नीच की विषमता बढ़ने के साथ ही समाज में धार्मिक विद्वेष की खाई और अधिक गहरी हो गयी है। सारा देश साम्प्रदायिकता की अग्नि का इंधन बना जा रहा है। जहां संसार विकास की ओर अग्रसर है, वहीं हमारा देश धार्मिक, राजनीतिक झगड़ों में जकड़ा जा रहा है।

लोक-कल्याण की कामना संतों की मूल विशेषता थी। इसी भावना के द्वारा सन्त लोग समाज के हितैषी एवं सुधारक बने। सन्तों ने अपने काव्य में मानव - जीवन के मूल्यों की स्थापना की है। सन्तों का ध्येय था कि सभी धर्मों का लक्ष्य मानव है। जीवन को सुखमय बनाना और संघर्षों से मुक्त कराना। सर्वधर्मसमभाव का जो मूल्यवान संदेश संतों ने व्यक्ति समाज तथा देश को दिया है, वह बहुधर्मों को संयुक्त करने के लिए ही नहीं, बल्कि विश्व की सुख-शान्ति के लिए भी अत्यावश्यक है। कबीर कहते हैं कि संसार में आपका कोई शत्रु नहीं है।

“जग में बैरी कोई नहीं, जो मन शीतल होय।

यह आपा तू डार दे, दया करे सब कोय।।”

**व्यक्ति, समाज, देश और संसार के लिए मूल्यवान संदेश :-**

व्यक्ति, समाज, देश तथा समूचे विश्व के लिए इन संतों ने मानवता का जो अमर संदेश दिया, वह निश्चित ही अमूल्य है। संतों का लोक-संग्रह में दृढ़ विश्वास था। वे लोक-कल्याण को ईश्वरीय प्रेरणा मानते थे। संतों का कहना है कि ईश्वर ने हमें लोक-संग्रह के लिए पृथ्वी पर भेजा है।

भक्तिकाल में संतों ने मानव-जीवन को सार्थक बनाने के लिए जिस भाई-चारे की, सहिष्णुता और आपसी-मेलमिलाप का संदेश दिया, वह भारतीय जन-मानस में विहार करता हुआ व्यक्ति और देश की चौहदियों को लांघकर अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर प्रतिष्ठित हुआ। ये संत समाज के तथाकथित निम्नवर्ग से उद्भूत हुए तथा समाज ने इन्हें ठुकराया, जिससे इन्हें अदम्य साहस और शक्ति प्राप्त हुई। संतों के इसी व्यवहार से वह समाज जो इन संतों के प्रति हेय दृष्टिकोण रखता था, कालान्तर में उन्हीं संतों का अनुयायी हो गया। संतों की वाणियों में यथार्थ की शक्ति थी, इसलिए समाज और अधिक इनकी उपेक्षा नहीं कर सका। अतः संत भावना शनैः शनैः अविच्छिन्न रूप धारणकर एक सामाजिक परम्परा के रूप में प्रतिष्ठित हुई।

सन्तों का समष्टिगत व्यक्तित्व अनेक सामान्य मान्यताओं की आधारभूमि है। सन्तों का साहित्य भावात्मक

एवं अनुभूतिपरक है। भावों की सच्ची अभिव्यक्ति ही इनका लक्ष्य था। लोक-कल्याण की भावना से प्रेरित होकर सन्तों ने प्रचलित शैलियों में स्वानुभूति के आधार पर ही अपनी वाणियां कहीं हैं। सन्तों की वाणियों में सांसारिक तथा आध्यात्मिक समस्याओं का समाधान प्रस्तुत करने की चेष्टा सफल हुई है।

सन्तों की बहुत बड़ी विशेषता यह है कि इन्होंने बाह्याडम्बरों को त्यागकर सदाचारी जीवन व्यतीत किया। वर्तमान में चारों ओर फैली साम्प्रदायिकता, संकीर्णता, भाषावाद, जातिवाद, क्षेत्रीयवाद इत्यादि के घोर विनाशकारी ताण्डव में तो सन्त साहित्य और अधिक प्रासंगिक हो जाता है। समाज की एकरूपता तभी संभव है, जबकि समाज सभी वादों से परे हो। हृदय की चश्मानुभूति की दशा में राम और रहीम में कोई भेद नहीं रह जाता। साध्य तो एक ही है, साधन अनेक हो सकते हैं। सन्त रज्जब ने कहा है-

नारायण और नगर के, रज्जब पंथ अनेक।

कोई आवै केहि दिसि, आगे स्थल एक॥

सन्तों ने समाज के सम्मुख अनेक उदाहरण प्रस्तुत करके सामाजिक सद्भाव स्थापित करने का प्रयत्न किया। सन्तों में देश तथा परदेश की सीमाओं को समाप्त कर विषय स्तर पर जिस प्रकार विचारों की पताका लहराई वह प्रशंसनीय है। इन्होंने मानव - मानव को अभेद बताया।

हिन्दी साहित्य में भक्ति से सम्बन्ध रखने वाली भावधारा के अन्तर्गत सन्तकाव्य का विशेष महत्व है। सन्तकाव्य ने प्राचीन परम्पराओं की स्थूल रूपरेखा ग्रहण कर उसमें जीवनगत पवित्रता के आधार पर विश्व-धर्म की स्वाभाविक प्रेरणा का रंग भरा है। हिन्दी के धार्मिक साहित्य में सन्त काव्य जन-जीवन के धार्मिक उन्मेष का एक नया प्रयोग है। सन्त सम्प्रदाय में धर्मत्व का सहज निरूपण करते हुए भाषा का ऐसा रूप प्रस्तुत किया, जो एक और व्यापक जन-जीवन को स्पर्श करता था और दूसरी ओर उसमें काव्यात्मकता का प्रयोग भी सम्भव हो सकता था। इस भाँति निर्गुण सम्प्रदाय की प्रतिष्ठा करते हुए जन-जीवन की स्वाभाविक अनुभूतियों में सामान्य भाषा के माध्यम से सन्तकाव्य हिन्दी के भक्ति काव्य का एक महत्वपूर्ण अंश बन सका।

सन्तकाव्य की ऐतिहासिक स्थिति विक्रम की पन्द्रहवीं शताब्दी से मानी जाती है। इसके प्रवर्तक संत कबीर हैं। संतकाव्य का उन्नयन करने में अनेक प्रेरणाओं और परिस्थितियों का योग है, जो पन्द्रहवीं शताब्दी के पूर्व भी वर्तमान थी। यह अवश्य कहा जा सकता है कि कबीर ने उन प्रेरणाओं और परिस्थितियों का समन्वय इस प्रकार किया कि वे एक नवीन सम्प्रदाय में अंकुरित हो सकीं और उन्होंने एक नए दृष्टिकोण का निर्धारण किया।

जिन परिस्थितियों में सन्तकाव्य की रूपरेखा साकार हुई, उनसे हमारे देश के धार्मिक, राजनैतिक एवं सामाजिक इतिहास की पृष्ठभूमि है। इसलिए यह स्पष्ट है कि उसमें अनुभव-ज्ञान भी है। उसमें जीवन का प्रत्यक्ष दर्शन है, इसलिए यह स्पष्ट है कि उसमें प्राचीन परम्पराओं की शास्त्रसम्मत मान्यता का आग्रह नहीं है। संतकाव्य के मूल में निगम्-आगम्-पुराण आदि का कोई महत्व नहीं है।

सन्तों ने जाति प्रथा का पूर्णतः विरोध कर मानवता पर अधिक बल दिया। गुरु नानक देव ने हिन्दू-मुसलमान

की वैर-विरोध की भावनाओं को त्यागकर एकता और भ्रातृत्व भावना का प्रसार किया। ज्ञान प्राप्त होने पर उन्होंने पहली बार “न हिन्दू ना मुसलमान” की वाणी की घोषणा की और वे जीवन भर अपने विचार व्यवहार में इसी का आदर्श अपस्थित करते रहे। उनकी संगतों में हिन्दू-मुसलमान सभी सम्मिलित होते थे। खान-पान में छूत-अछूत की प्रथा समाप्त कर, उन्होंने साथ-साथ खाने-पीने और एकता के व्यवहार पर बल दिया। विषमता को मिटाने के लिए ‘लंगर’ की प्रथा चलाई। संगत और लंगर की प्रथा से एकता और भाई-चारे का प्रसार हुआ।

संतों के इस प्रकार के प्रयत्न से दो स्वतः सफल लाभ हुए। एक अभिजात वर्ग का अहंकार दमित हुआ और दूसरे पतित समाज में सांस्कृतिक चेतना और क्रान्ति उपस्थित हुई। संतों ने धार्मिक और सामाजिक वैमनस्य के उस संक्रामक युग में दृढ़ता के साथ मनुष्य-मनुष्य के बीच समानता की घोषणा की। निर्भीकता एवं निर्लिप्त भावना से रूढ़िवाद एवं पक्षाग्रह का खण्डन करते हुए सामान्य मानव धर्म की दीक्षा दी। मानव मात्र की एकता का बिगुल बजाया। दोनों धर्मों के नेताओं को खरी-खोटी सुनाकर साम्प्रदायिकता का उच्छेद करते हुए प्रेम और सहानुभूति का संदेश दिया।

समाज का सम्बन्ध एक और तो राजनीति से है, दूसरी और धर्म से। जब राजनीतिक परिस्थितियां अव्यवस्थित होती हैं, तो समाज के आचरण और व्यवहार में भी उच्छृंखलता आ जाती है। प्राण और धन-हानि की आशंका सिर के ऊपर झूलती हुई तलवार की भाँति, जिस समाज के ऊपर हो, उसकी आचार-प्रवणता कैसे सुरक्षित रह सकती है। जनता देखती थी कि अधिकांश विदेशी आक्रमणकारी अपार धन-सम्पत्ति लूटकर भोग-विलास में लीन हो जाते थे और अपने चारों और विलासता छोड़ जाते थे, जिसमें समाज पतनोन्मुख हो सकता था। इसलिए उसे सचेतन करने में संत, कवियों ने संतकाव्य के माध्यम से समाज में जागरूकता का बिगुल बजाया। कबीर ने अपनी साखी में कहा है-

कबीर कंचन के कुंडल बने ऊपरि लाल जड़ाउ।

दीसहि दाये कान जिड़, निज मनि नहीं नाउ।।

इस भाँति पन्द्रहवीं शताब्दी में सामाजिक स्थिति अत्यन्त अव्यवस्थित थी। राजनीतिक और धार्मिक परिस्थितियों की विषमता, अव्यवस्था और परम्परा ने समाज को जर्जर कर दिया था। जब तक समाज व्यवस्थित नहीं होता, तब तक किसी भी विचार या सिद्धान्त का प्रसार संभव नहीं है। यही कारण है कि कबीर अनुभूति-सम्पन्न संत और कवि होते हुए भी समाज की अनिश्चित परिस्थितियों के प्रति उदासीन नहीं रह सके और वे भक्ति अन्दोलन के प्रमुख प्रवर्तकों में होते हुए भी समाज-सुधार के अग्रणी भी बने।

अतः पूर्ण विश्वास के साथ यह कहा जा सकता है कि हमारे देश भारत से ईर्ष्या-द्वेष मिटाकर, मेल-जोल,

# सूक्तियाँ

प्रत्येक मनुष्य की अपनी मानसिक सीमाएँ होती हैं और इसी कारण वह प्रेरणाओं को ग्रहण करने में समर्थ नहीं होता। मनुष्य की बुद्धि को अधिक से अधिक विमल बनाने के लिए प्रत्येक युग में धर्माचार्य, संत, शिक्षक, समाजशास्त्री इत्यादि विविध विधियों की खोज करते रहे हैं। अच्छे साहित्य के सार रूप में महान सूक्तियों की प्रतिष्ठा चिरकाल से चली आ रही हैं। सूक्तियाँ पृथ्वी पर उपलब्ध अमृत हैं, बल्कि वे वास्तव में “अ-मृत” ही होती हैं। प्रस्तुत हैं कुछ सूक्तियाँ जो प्रत्येक व्यक्ति के जीवन को गुणकारी औषधि का प्रभाव दे सकती हैं :-

1. सज्जन पुरुषों के लिए दया करना ही महान् धर्म का लक्षण है।  
(वेदव्यास : महाभारत अनुशासन पर्व, 5/24)
2. दुःख को भूल जाने से दुःख मिट जाता है।  
(महात्मा गांधी : प्रार्थना -प्रावचन, भाग 1,188)
3. सज्जन दुर्जन के सम्पर्क में भी अपना शील-उत्कर्ष छोड़ता नहीं है।  
(गोवर्धनाचार्य: आर्यासप्तशती, 279)
4. मनुष्य रुपया कमाना जानता है, परन्तु सभी को यह मालूम नहीं होता कि कमाई का सदुपयोग कैसे किया जाये।  
(सरदार पटेल : सरदार पटेल के भाषण, पृ. 573)
5. धर्म ही लोक में सर्वश्रेष्ठ है। धर्म में सत्य प्रतिष्ठित है।  
(बाल्मीकि : रामायण, आयोध्याण्ड, 21/41)
6. पुरुष में नारी के गुण आ जाते हैं तो वह महात्मा बन जाता है।  
(प्रेमचन्द : गोदान)
7. देवता परिश्रमी के अतिरिक्त किसी की सहायता नहीं करते।  
(ऋग्वेद 4/33/11)
8. बच्चों का हृदय कोमल थाला है, चाहे इस में कटीली झाड़ी लगा दो, चाहे फूलों के पौधे।  
(जयशंकर प्रसाद : अजातशत्रु)
9. मनुष्य जैसे लोगों के साथ रहता है, जैसे लोगों की सेवा करते और जैसा होना चाहता है, वैसा ही हो जाता है।  
(वेदव्यास : महाभारत, उद्योग पर्व। 36/13)
10. मतभेदों का होना अनिवार्य है। इन का हमें सम्मान करना चाहिए और ऐसा नहीं करना चाहिए कि दूसरों के मतभेदों को मिटाने के लिए अपनी मर्जी उन पर थोपी जाए।  
(नेहरू : जवाहरलाल नेहरू के भाषण प्रथम खंड)

वी० के० शर्मा

# ईमानदार

सृष्टि में जब से कालचक्र चला है, इस भरीपूरी दुनिया का रस लेने के लिए रसिकों, कर्म करने के लिए कर्मवीरों, भोग करने के लिए भोगियों, त्याग करने के लिए त्यागियों का अपना-अपना स्थान रहा है, परन्तु बहुत से मनोविकार या भाव, आदतें, इच्छाएँ, प्रकृतियाँ कोटियाँ विचार की भिन्नता के होते हुए भी कहीं न कहीं, किसी न किसी अंश में एक समान ही रही है। क्रोध में आगबबूला हो जाना, गरीब और मासूम को देखकर क्षणभर के लिए करुणामय होना, सौंदर्य को देखकर पलभर नजर उठ जाना, त्रुटिपूर्ण कार्य करने पर मन में ग्लानि होना, सत्य-सत्य, सही-सही, ठीक-ठीक करते रहने की हल्की सी लालसा रहना (चाहे बहुत बार व्यक्ति इससे बचकर निकल जाता हो) और धर्म पर, ईमान पर बने रहना।

मनुष्य मन के लिए धर्म का भय सबसे भयंकर है। धर्म के आधार भिन्न-भिन्न हो सकते हैं - चोर का धर्म चोरी है, क्योंकि उससे ही उसका पेट पलता है, कर्मवीर का धर्म कर्तव्य निष्ठा है, क्योंकि उससे उसको शांति मिलती है, साधु का धर्म सत्य निष्ठा है, क्योंकि उसे इससे संतोष मिलता है, ईमानदार का धर्म ईमान है, क्योंकि उस पर बने रहने से उसकी आत्मा प्रसन्न रहती है।

आधार कुछ अधिक हो गया, इसका मुझे ध्यान है, परन्तु पाठक को विषय तक पहुंचाने के लिए कई बार इतना आवश्यक भी होता है। धर्म पर, ईमान पर बने रहना - इन शब्दों का, वाक्यांशों का प्रयोग मैंने किया है। जो ईमानदार बना रहता है- वही ईमानदार है। इस संसार में हर पल आत्मा की आवाज पर चलना बहुत कठिन है, परन्तु केवल अपने को अपना कहना और पराए को पराया कहना इतना मुश्किल नहीं है। यहां अपना पराया व्यक्ति विशेष नहीं, अपितु वह चक्रक है, जो मनुष्य को लोभ में लपेट लेता है। यह लोभ क्षणिक भी हो सकता है और बहुसामयिक भी। इस कुचक्र से बचकर जो रहता है, रहना चाहता है- वही ईमानदार है। साधारणतयः हम कह सकते हैं कि जो मनुष्य 'और अधिक' पाने का (बिना कर्म किए) जिज्ञासु रहता है, लालच में आवश्यकता से अधिक नीयत डिगा देता है, जो पराए धन या सम्पदा को पाकर बहक जाता है, जो अपने कर्म के प्रति सजग नहीं है - वही लोभी है, बे-ईमान है, ईमानदार नहीं है। अपना छोटा सा मत प्रकट करने के बाद विषय को सीमित करते हुए मैं इतना ही कहूंगी कि लोभी न बनें, बे-ईमान न बनें, लालची न बनें, धर्म पर चलें, सत्य सत्य करें, ईमान बनाए रखें, तो शायद हमें कभी लज्जित न होना पड़े और सदा मन में संतोष बना रहे कि मैं अपने धर्म पर चली हूँ, मैंने ईमान को बनाए रखा है, शायद यही कारण है कि मैं कुछ संतोषी हूँ।

कृष्णापुरी



## जुबान पर पैर

एक बार सतसंग से वापिस पहुंचते -2 गुरु जी काफी थक गए थे। घर आकर विश्राम के लिए लेट गए। एक श्रद्धालु भक्त उनके चरण दबाने लगा। अत्यधिक चलने के कारण उनकी कमर में बहुत दर्द हो रहा था। अतः उन्होंने अपने उस भक्त को कमर पर चढ़ने के लिए कहा। गुरु जी की बात सुनकर भक्त अचंभित होकर बोला, “गुरुजी, मैं आप जैसे महान् आदमी की कमर पर पैर कैसे रख सकता हूँ, आप तो एक पवित्र आत्मा हैं, मैं आप की कमर पर कदम रखने का यह धिनौना कार्य कदापि नहीं कर सकता।” गुरु जी के बहुत कहने और समझाने पर भी भक्त नहीं माना, तो अन्त में गुरु जी थककर बोले, “भक्त तूने मेरी कमर पर पैर तो नहीं रखा, लेकिन मेरी जुबान पर अवश्य रख दिया।” अतः इस कहानी से हमें यह शिक्षा मिलती है कि गुरु भक्ति शरीर की उपासना नहीं, बल्कि गुरु वचनों को बिना तर्क वितर्क के मान लेना ही सच्ची गुरु भक्ति है।

सुलतान सिंह

L-VI

## आदर्श मनुष्य के संस्कार

1. जीवन में एक श्रेष्ठ लक्ष्य होना चाहिए।
2. अपने लक्ष्य को पाने के लिए हर बाधा को धैर्यपूर्वक पार करना चाहिए।
3. अपने माता-पिता, अध्यापकों और बड़ों का आज्ञाकारी होना चाहिए।
4. सेवाभावना, ईमानदारी, कर्तव्यनिष्ठा, सच्चाई तथा अहिंसा उसके आभूषण होने चाहिए।
5. हमें अपने बड़ों से आदरपूर्वक वार्तालाप करना चाहिए और छोटों से प्रेमपूर्वक।
6. हमें अपने छोटों के लिए एक मूल्यवान उदाहरण पेश करना चाहिए।
7. हममें अपने देश के प्रति प्यार अर्थात् देश भक्ति की भावना भरी होनी चाहिए।
8. हमें गलती से कुछ अशिष्ट करने पर अपनी गलती स्वीकार करनी चाहिए, उसके लिए माफी मांगनी चाहिए और पश्चाताप करना चाहिए।
9. अपने हक के लिए लड़ना चाहिए, पर अपनी सीमा को नहीं भूलना चाहिए।
10. किसी दुर्घटना या दुर्भाग्य के कारण घबराना नहीं चाहिए, बल्कि ऐसे समय पर दूसरों का सहारा बनना चाहिए।
11. अपनी ज़िन्दगी को एक हँसमुख तरीके से बिताना चाहिए और दूसरों का दुःख बांटना चाहिए।

अंकित जैन

LV-C

## सनावर-खूबसूरती का पूरक

सनावर में आए मुझे अभी दो महीने हुए थे कि गर्मियों की छुट्टियां आ गईं, लेकिन जब मैं घर पहुंचा, तो मुझे सनावर की खूबसूरती का अहसास हुआ। वहां की हरियाली, स्वस्थ वातावरण और हमें हर सुबह जगाने वाली ठंडी हवा मेरे दिल को छू जाती है।

‘पाइन्स’ में घिरा हुआ सनावर एक ऐसी जगह है, जिसकी कल्पना अगर कोई सपने में करें, तो उसका अगला दिन एक ताजे दिमाग के साथ बीतेगा। वहां के पेड़ पौधे पूरे स्कूल को घेरे हुए हैं और वह जगह तो मानो कोई जन्नत है, शहरों की व्यस्त जिन्दगी से बाहर।

वहां पर जिन्दगी जीने का मजा ही कुछ और है। हर तरह के लोग, हर तरह की संस्कृति वहां देखने को मिलती है। यहां पर आवारा भंवरों और तितलियों की तरह मंडराते बादल, जो हम में एक नई आशा की किरण जगाते हैं, फूलों और पेड़ों के तन से सरसरती हुई आती हवा, एक ठंडी और भानी खुशबू लाती है, जिससे हमारी सोच साफ रहती है।

इस बड़ी दुनिया में अगर मैंने पहला स्वर्ग महसूस किया है, तो वह यहीं है।

आशाओं से बनी इस जगह में,  
जिन्दगी की आवाज सुनी मैंने,  
खूबसूरत लगती है हर चीज यहां की,  
दो पल अहसास किया मैंने।

सनी गोगिया

( XI A )

## कारगिल

कश्मीर भारत का एक ऐसा अंग है, जिसकी सराहना हर देश में होती है। यह वही राज्य है, जिसको पाकिस्तानियों के हाथों से बचाने के लिए बहुत से भारतीय जवानों ने अपनी कुर्बानियाँ दी है। भारतीय जवानों ने सर्दी में, पहाड़ों पर युद्ध किया। इस युद्ध का मकसद था, पाकिस्तानियों ने, जो भारत का हिस्सा अपने कब्जे में ले लिया था, उसे वापस प्राप्त कर उनको मुहँतोड़ जवाब देना।

भारतीय जवान अपने आखिरी दम तक लड़ते रहे। काफी भारतीय शहीद हुए और उनकी चिताएँ उनके बच्चों ने गर्व से जलाई। उनके माता - पिता खुशी के आँसू बहाते रहे, अब उनको श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की जा रही थी। आज कश्मीर सुरक्षित है। हमें इसके लिए उन जवानों, शहीदों का कृतज्ञ होना चाहिए।

जफीत हिमपात

## मेरी नजर में एक अच्छा नागरिक

एक नागरिक को अपने देश के नियमों का पालन करना चाहिए। हर नागरिक को देश भक्त होना चाहिए। नागरिक को अपने देश के लिए और अपने लिए निम्नलिखित बातों को याद रखना चाहिए।

1. एक अच्छे नागरिक को मन से अच्छा आदमी होना चाहिए।
2. एक नागरिक में देशभक्ति होनी चाहिए। देश जब मुसीबत में हो, तो अपनी तरफ से जो हो सके, वह करना चाहिए। अपने देश के लिए कुर्बान होने के लिए तैयार रहना चाहिए।
3. नागरिक को अपने वातावरण को साफ रखना चाहिए।
4. नागरिक को चुनाव में वोट सोच समझकर देने चाहिए, ताकि हमारी सरकार हमारी भलाई का काम करे।
5. एक अच्छे नागरिक को लोगों की हत्या नहीं करनी चाहिए।
6. नागरिक को चोरी जैसी बुरी आदतों से बचना चाहिए।
7. शराब, तम्बाकू आदि का सेवन नहीं करना चाहिए।
8. नागरिक को अनपढ़ों को पढ़ाना चाहिए और बढ़ती आबादी जैसी समस्याओं के बारे में सोचना चाहिए।
9. बढ़ती आबादी का अर्थ है- मुसीबतें ही मुसीबतें। आदमी बढ़ सकते हैं, पर धरती नहीं। खाना उगाने के लिए भी तो धरती का प्रयोग होता है।
10. गरीबों की मदद करना अच्छे नागरिकों का फर्ज बनता है। हो सके तो, उन्हें कपड़े और खाना भी देना चाहिए।

अगर हम चाहते हैं कि हमारा देश आगे बढ़े, तो हम नागरिकों को कुछ करना होगा। अगर सभी थोड़ी - थोड़ी मदद करेंगे, तो हमारे देश की उन्नति होगी।

गुन्ताश डीगरा

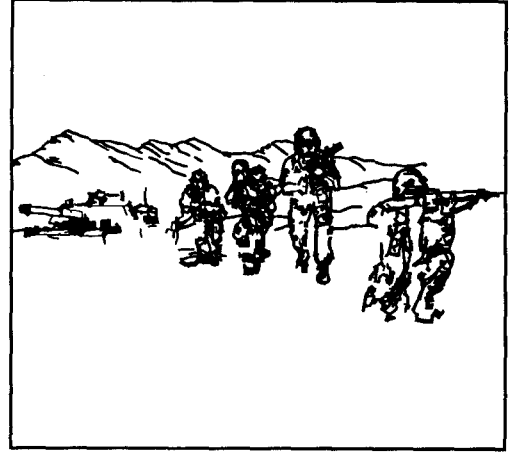
L-5-C

# ऑपरेशन "विजय"



“कारगिल”, यह नाम अब शायद किसी के लिए अनजान नहीं होगा । कंकपपाती ठण्ड में बहुत सारे पाकिस्तानी सैनिक भारतीय सीमा के अन्दर आ गए और उन्होंने भारी मात्रा में गोला बारी शुरू कर दी, तब भारतीय थल सेना और वायु सेना कसर कसकर ऑपरेशन विजय को निभाने आ गए। इसके बाद दोनों ओर से न जाने कितनी गोला बारी हुई, न जाने कितने सैनिक मरे, न जाने कितने परिवार बर्बाद हुए। भारतीय सैनिकों ने साधारण हथियारों से काम चलाया, जबकि पाकिस्तान ने बहुत अच्छे हथियारों का प्रयोग किया, पर फिर भी जीत हमारी हुई । पूरे देश के लोग जैसे सैनिक बन गए। देश में राष्ट्र भक्ति की लहर दौड़ गई। भारतीय

सैनिकों के साहस के सामने पाकिस्तानी सैनिक पीठ दिखाकर भागने लगे। ऑपरेशन विजय सफल हुआ। भारतीय सैनिकों को भारी मात्रा में हथियार प्राप्त हुए। पाकिस्तानी सैनिक अपनी सीमा के अन्दर जाने से पहले ज़मीन में माईन बिछाकर चले गए, जो किसी के भी पाँव रखने से फट जाते हैं। ऑपरेशन विजय की कामयाबी में कितना समय लगेगा, परन्तु इस विजय से भारतीय सैनिकों के सामने सारे देश का सिर श्रद्धा से झुक गया। हमें अपने सैनिकों पर नाज है।



‘जय हिन्द’



अमन दीप

L-IV B

## क्या मनुष्य की पहचान धर्म है ?

संसार के सभी जीवों में मनुष्य सबसे श्रेष्ठ अर्थात् ऊँचे आसन पर विराजमान है, क्योंकि सृष्टिकर्ता ने मनुष्य को अनेक अनुपम, उत्तम व अमूल्य गुण यथा प्रेम, प्यार, त्याग, दया, करुणा, बंधुत्व व अहिंसा इत्यादि उसके जीवन को समृद्ध, सुखी व शांतिमय बनाने के लिए प्रदान किये हैं।

‘धर्म’ उस विषय व कलाकृति के समान है, जिसको सृष्टिकर्ता रूपी चित्रकार ने चित्रित किया है। धर्म से अभिप्राय है सृष्टि निर्माण, शिव व सौन्दर्य के जीवन में समन्वय। धर्म वह है, जिससे संसार का निर्माण मनुष्य रूपी चित्रकार अपनी कलाकृति से निर्मित करता है। यह मनुष्य पर आधारित है कि वह अपनी संसार रूपी कलाकृति को किस प्रकार सजाता व संवारता है। यदि मनुष्य उपर्युक्त गुणों में अपनी कलाकृति को सजाने का प्रयास करता है, तो वह अपने धर्म को सार्थक व निर्वाहित बना रहा है।

धर्म सौन्दर्य है अर्थात् विभिन्न प्रकार के फल, फूल, हरे-भरे खेत व हरियाली संगीत, विद्या, मनोहर दृश्य और मनुष्य द्वारा निर्मित स्थल जैसे ताजमहल, स्वर्ण मंदिर इत्यादि। धर्म ही शिव है अर्थात् संसार की सारी रचनाओं का रचयिता है। यदि धर्म इस प्रकार परिभाषित किया जाए, तो मनुष्य की पहचान के लिए धर्म एक प्रदीप्त सा, प्रकाशमान दीपक के समान अत्यंत आवश्यक है। इसलिए मनुष्य को हर हालत में धर्म की रक्षा करनी चाहिए।

धर्म मनुष्य को सन्मार्ग पर चलने व सज्जन बनने की प्रेरणा देता है। संसार में जहां धर्म अर्थात् सौन्दर्य, रचना व सृष्टिकर्ता द्वारा प्रदान किए गए गुण हैं। दोनों के बिना एक दूसरे को परिभाषित नहीं किया जा सकता। अपनी सुविधानुसार मनुष्य ने धर्म को एक नाम दिया है जैसे सनातन, मुस्लिम, सिख व ईसाई। आदिकाल से तथाकथित धर्म में हिंसा अर्थात् अर्धम विद्यमान है। जैसे सनातन धर्म में बलि देना, सती प्रथा, आडम्बर, रूढियाँ, कुरीतियाँ इत्यादि प्रचलित थी। इन बुराईयों को नष्ट करने के लिए अनेक आंदोलन व अन्य नव जागृत धर्म उदित हुए जैसे सनातन धर्म ने हिन्दुत्व व शिखासूत्र धारण करने पर बल दिया, जैन धर्म ने आठ सिद्धान्तों का परित्याग करने का आग्रह किया, आर्य समाज ने हवन यज्ञ आदि करने की प्रवृत्ति पर बल दिया व बौद्ध धर्म ने मूर्तिपूजा का विरोध किया। इस प्रकार इन सबने मिलकर धर्म रूपी सड़क पर फैली पत्थर रूपी बुराईयों को नष्ट करने का पूर्ण प्रयास किया व काफी बुराईयों का अन्त किया। सभी महापुरुषों में शंकराचार्य व चाणक्य का नाम प्रमुख है।

ईसाई व मुस्लिम धर्म की बुनियाद हिंसा थी, जैसे ईसाई कैथोलिक ने गैर कैथोलिक जनता का व मुस्लिम ने गैर मुस्लिम जनता का खून बहाया व भयंकर अत्याचार किए। आज भी ये धर्म हिंसा के मार्ग पर चल रहे हैं। मुस्लिम के लिए एक हाथ में कुरान और दूसरे हाथ में तलवार अनिवार्य है। मनुष्य को हिंसा, वैर, द्वेष, घृणा व असत्यता, इनका परित्याग कर देना चाहिए।

अन्त में मनुष्य की पहचान तो उसके वास्तविक धर्म “ मानवता की सेवा” में निहित है। मनुष्य को संसार की प्रत्येक रचना से प्रेम करना चाहिए व उसके विकास में सहायता करनी चाहिए। जिससे मनुष्य जाति अपने श्रेष्ठता को बनाए रख सके। मानव जाति विकासपथ पर अग्रसर हो, ताकि धरती एक स्वर्ग बन जाए।

मयंक, प्रबोध, रजत

## चिड़िया

चिड़िया उड़ रही है।  
चिड़िया आ रही है।  
चीं चीं कर रही है।  
गीत गा रही है।

कभी आ रही है।  
कभी जा रही है।  
दाना ढूँढ़ रही है।  
दाना खा रही है।

कभी इधर बैठती है।  
कभी उधर बैठती है।  
चिड़िया उड़ रही है।  
चिड़िया आ रही है।

अजय पाल

L-VI B

## कारगिल की लड़ाई

कुछ दिन पहले हुई लड़ाई,  
कारगिल में बड़ी तबाही,  
कर लिया पाकिस्तान ने कब्जा,  
लगा नहीं हमें यह अच्छा।

उठाली बंदूक , आ गया भारतीय जवानों में जोश,  
तब उड़ गए सब पाकिस्तानियों के होश,  
कारगिल में मरे बहुत से लोग,  
परिवारों में फैल गए शोक।

थी वाजपेयी की सरकार,  
हो गई पाकिस्तानियों की हार,  
फिर भारत का झंडा फहराने लगा,  
खुशियों का समय फिर आने लगा।

अमनपार्थ मानकतला

L-IV

## मित्र

स्वार्थ हित जो मित्र कहकर क्लेश युक्त करता है।  
सर्प है हितकर नहीं जो कृत्य ऐसा करता है॥

मित्रता प्रेम मोतियों में जड़ी होती है।  
विश्वास है विश्वास की कड़ी होती है॥

मित्रता मंत्रणा अर्पण की न कोई कटुवचन है।  
एक साथ है, आनन्द है पर नहीं कभी जलन है॥

जो साथी है, अंधकार में हटता नहीं पल भर।  
वेश हो, आवेश हो, फिरता नहीं पल भर॥

जो दोषमुक्त करता सदा सद्मार्ग पर ले जाता है।  
मेरी नज़र में वही सज्जन पुरुष मित्र कहलाता है॥

“सुमी शर्मा”

U-4A

## मैं पार जाऊँगी

मन तरंग को चीरता,  
खो नहीं चुका धीरता।  
चाहे चीख रहा है मण्डल,  
कमर बंधी है वीरता।

लहरें हिलोरें देती हैं,  
धैर्य नाव सेती है।  
शीश और युग बाँहें ये,  
हर व्यथा को सहती हैं।

पल पल तीर दिखाई दे,  
हर आह शून्य विदाई दे।  
कभी हर्ष में दृग्गचल हो,  
स्वप्न लोक बधाई दे।

नहीं अभी है पार जाना,  
तम पटल के पार जाना।  
नींद की परियाँ जगाकर,  
रत्न मोती ढूँढ़ लाना।

प्राप्त होगी मेरी आशा  
हर संकट का नाश है।  
केवल विश्वास नहीं, मुझे पूर्ण आस है,  
पार जाऊँगी जो मेरी प्यास है॥

पुत्किता परसाई.  
U-4B



## राष्ट्र भाषा

हिन्दी है हमारी राष्ट्र भाषा,  
इसका नहीं है कोई जवाब माशा।  
हिन्दी फिर वापिस आ जाएगी इस वतन में,  
यही है मेरी इक आशा।  
इसकी महत्ता को नहीं कोई तोलता,  
आजकल इसे अक्सर कोई नहीं बोलता।  
अंग्रेजी का बढ़ा है भाव,  
सबको इस को ही बोलने का है चाव।  
जब से हिन्दी का गिरा है भाव,  
तभी से लोगों का कठोर हो गया है स्वभाव।  
पहले बोला करते थे हमारे पूरख,  
अब इसे बोलो तो सब समझते है मूर्ख।  
अंग्रेजी के साथ हिन्दी भी बोलनी चाहिए,  
अपनी राष्ट्र भाषा दूसरी भाषा से नहीं तोलनी चाहिए।  
हिन्दी में ही राष्ट्रगीत, हिन्दी में ही राष्ट्रगान।  
इसीलिए तो है मेरा भारत महान।।

दीपक शर्मा

L-III C



## उनको सिर झुकाओ एक बार

मातृ भूमि की रक्षा हेतु शीश कटाने के लिए,  
इस वेदी पर हँसते-हँसते कुछ पुष्प चढ़ाने के लिए,  
बिखरा है जिनके जिस्म का, यहाँ-वहाँ तार-तार।  
उनको सिर झुकाओ एक बार।

जिगर के टुकड़ों को जो माँ पाल-पोस कर बड़ा करती है,  
मस्तक तिलक लगा उन्हें हिमालय पर खड़ा करती है,  
जिस ममता ने किया इन्तजार, छिन गई फिर भी बहार।  
उनको सिर झुकाओ एक बार।

रह रह के किसी दिल में इक कसक सी उठती होगी,  
देख कर बेजान उस देशभक्त को किसी की छाती तो फटती होगी,  
इस मिट्टी पे कर दिया जिसने कुर्बान, वो तन, वो मन, वो प्यार।  
उनको सिर झुकाओ एक बार।

बिलखते हुए बच्चे का वो पल देखा नहीं जाता,  
उमड़ता है जो सैलाब आँसुओं का वो देखा नहीं जाता,  
था जिसे पल भर के लिए, पिता की गोदी का इन्तजार।  
उनको सिर झुकाओ एक बार।

रंगीन सपनों की दुनिया में, जो अभी कदम भी न रख पाए थे,  
वे ही मातृभूमि की खातिर सारे विजय दीप लाए थे,  
शिला से सीने पर दनदनाती गोलियाँ, खाने को थे जो तैयार।  
उनको सिर झुकाओ एक बार।

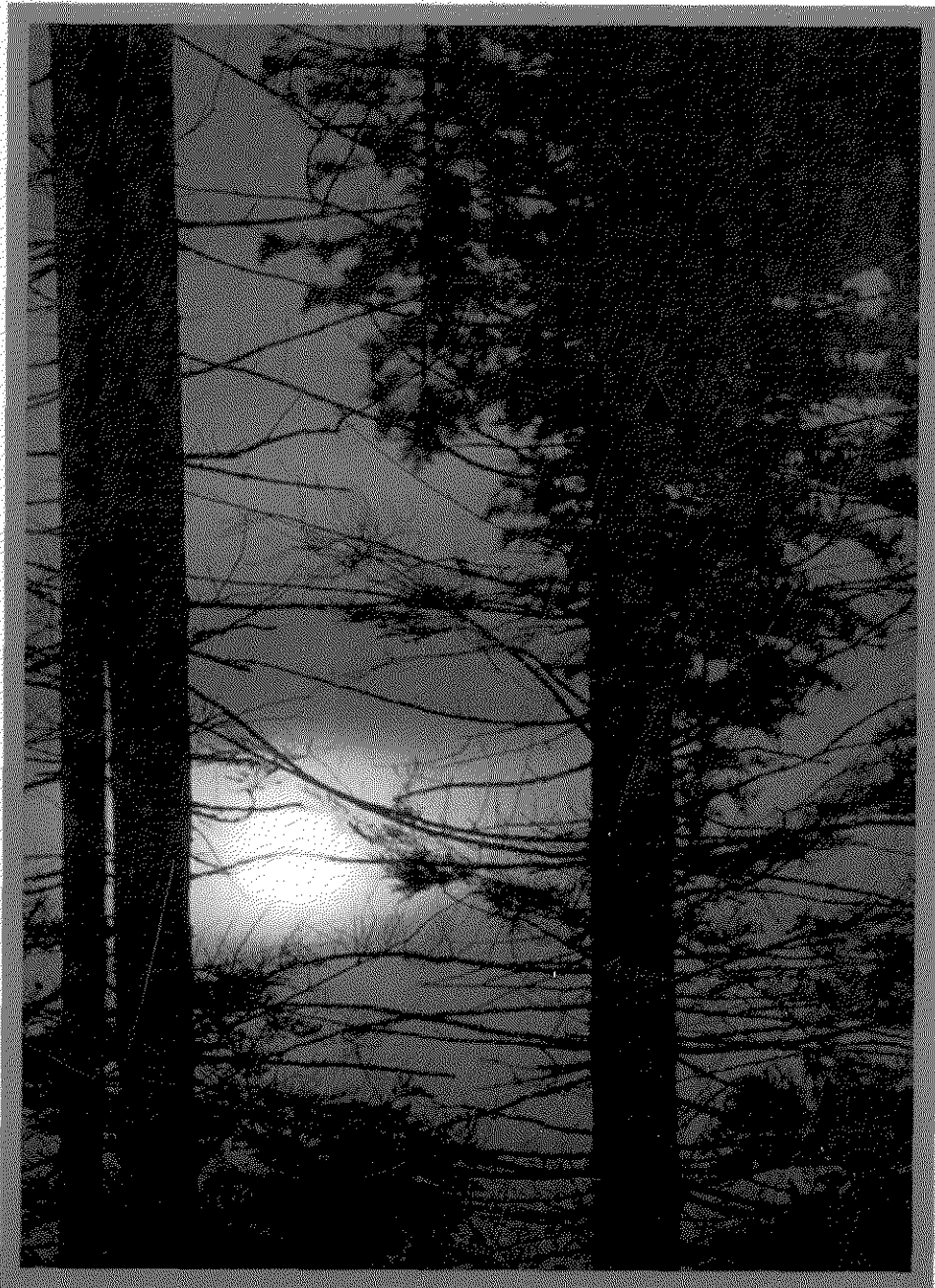
कितने लहू के रंग से यह रंग आज बन पाया है,  
है कितने अनाम शूरवीर जिन्होंने सर्वस्व लुटाया है,  
जो गल गए, जो छिद गए, जो कट गए, पर न झुकने को थे तैयार।  
उनको सिर झुकाओ एक बार।

इस अंक में आज, मैं कुछ ऐसे बताने आया हूँ  
के बरकरार रहती नहीं ये आजादी यूँहि कहने से,  
लहू को सींचना पड़ा है इस पौधे को रहने से,  
राष्ट्र भक्ति जिसमें नहीं वह कलुषित है कलंक है,  
ऐसे निकृष्ट प्राणी तो सर्वस्व पाकर भी रंक हैं,  
जो अपने श्रेष्ठ कर्म में लिप्त है वही मातृभक्त है,  
शिराओं में दौड़ता उसका ही रक्त रक्त है।  
हो करबद्ध शीश नवां, करे जो नमन राष्ट्र को बार-बार।।



उनको सिर झुकाओ एक बार।  
उनको सिर झुकाओ एक बार।

नरेन्द्र शर्मा



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