

THE LAWRENCE SCHOOL, SANAWAR

# The Red Roof Oscene

ISSUE 5

*"The unspoken at the edge of the spoken"* JULY 12, 2021

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*The Doodleverse. Riddles  
and more!*

# The Symbol of Hope

ABHIRAJ BHATIA

**H**umanity is a term which is used to describe the quality of being humane. The reason we consider ourselves to be superior beings is because we are sentient, and we can feel emotions. As children we are taught moral values and empathy. Adults in society try their hardest to imbibe in us the values of kindness and sympathy. As we grow older this value of kindness is termed as the quality of being humane, and yet in the world at large the basic value of kindness is lacking. We may blame the previous generation for this discrepancy in our society but we also see acts of great courage and bravery that prove that our predecessors clearly succeeded in imbibing that spirit in most of us.

Society today is in a state of imbalance. Many have been forced into a life that they had never hoped to live. Blow after blow has been dealt to the human race during the course of this pandemic and another such blow could prove to be fatal and devastating on a scale that may even be greater than a global pandemic. In such a delicate situation, to many who are less fortunate than most in terms of their financial standing, it may seem that hope is a luxury that they cannot afford. Seeing family members on the brink of death and mourning, the loss of dear ones is bound to be rattling for anyone. Today the governments are scrambling to get the needy the help they so desperately need, at the same time we see that much of this is an attempt to secure their rise to power once again. It is a time where wallets are thin and patience even thinner.

During the second wave many have been affected and seen what a pandemic is truly capable of. Is it fair to give up hope at a time when the scrambling for hospital beds and medication is so desperate that the sight of death in cars is a common occurrence?

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**“As long as someone is willing to help, a symbol remains. A symbol built by countless generations, a symbol of hope, a symbol of peace, a symbol of humanity.”**

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Many may feel fed up and hopeless after this gruesome spell, but humanity is what shines bright in this world when all else fails. There remain those who are willing to drop everything and help to the best of their ability. Our faith in humanity is further strengthened by the doctors who worked for days on end with no sleep and food to ensure good health of their patients and ordinary people who willingly paid for the treatment and medication of those less fortunate. These seemingly insignificant actions are often the ray of hope that drive people to meliorate and strive for a better future. Humanity has propelled us to this era of prosperity and that is what will carry us forward. As long as someone is willing to help others, a symbol remains. A symbol built by countless generations, a symbol of hope, a symbol of peace, a symbol of humanity.

# Awaiting the Red Roofs

KAHKASHAN SEHGAL

Today's children and adolescents indeed face an unprecedented dilemma and misfortune. For when they grow up, they will be regarded as the 'Lost Generation', both by themselves and by the society. Their lives will forever fall in the shadow of a global pandemic because they have lost essential time and opportunities at a critical stage of their lives. From their academic scores and achievements to their social skills and mental health, the pandemic is a crisis for today's children – and its fallout may haunt them for the rest of their lives. They will have to fight the badge of being substandard. Already, today's graduates are a laughing stock as they are regarded inadequately skilled. This is just the tip of the iceberg while describing the effect of the pandemic on students today.

The worst affected of these are the students of residential schools and Sanawarians fit neatly into this framework of despair. The usual Sanawarian life and routine has been throttled as a result of the pandemic. Being at home, away from Sanawar, a home most of us identify more dearly with, has been a very strange and sore experience for Sanawarians. To not wake up at 6 AM daily and proceed to P.T. has been a blessing-turned-curse. To jump across the bed, rather than march up to school is more dreadful than it sounds. The realisation hits now, that home-made food and delicacies are no substitute for Wednesday breakfasts in CDH and virtual classes not for real time teaching. The 'luxuries' of long showers

and soft beds that we looked forward to in school, are a dread now. After a year and a half of staying at home, every Sanawarian longs to go back to our common home.

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Despite our shared desperation, the pandemic has inhibited our desires to go back, to enjoy the eventful terms, to eat CDH food, to sleep in dorms, to walk in Birdwood, to play on Barne Field and to make many more memories at the place that will soon be our alma mater. Everyday a thought crosses every present Sanawarian's mind, "What would I have been doing in school right now?". This thought is usually followed by a series of thoughts, eventually leading up to wishful thinking and prayers that our school reopens quickly. Although learning has not ceased and continues to happen online, but it can never match up to the picturesque Birdwood building, the sound of the school bell and the bustle of a day in Sanawar. Someone has very aptly said 'Sanawar is a feeling which can never be replicated at home'. Even though some of us got to spend some time at school, it was far from the normal 'Sanawar feeling' without the entire school and with a multitude of restrictions and limitations due to the coronavirus.

Though our hearts yearn to go back to school, we must not let sentimentality overpower rationality. The coronavirus is still an imminent threat to all of humanity and the situation is particularly dire in our country. The second wave of COVID-19 in India was much more havoc-wreaking than the first, with shortage of vaccines, hospital beds, oxygen cylinders and other medicines in most parts of the country. As per the experts the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave is about to strike soon. This simply means that Sanawarians will have to wait a little longer to return to their beloved hilltop and when we do, we must ensure that all COVID-19 protocols are strictly

adhered to and the 'bio-bubble' thus created is maintained for the safety of everyone on campus. A plus point would be the availability of a large campus and better testing kits which will enable and ease quarantine and early detection of COVID-19 suspects at school respectively. The past year and a half has been like no other. There have been a myriad of challenges and a million reasons to give up on so many things. And yet, we have overcome all challenges as a team and emerged victorious! We must persevere only a while longer. The hilltop of Sanawar is alive, with the whispers of memories and now, we have a promise to keep — NEVER GIVE IN!

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## DOODLEVERSE

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# The Origin of Inventions

Dia Atal

The original discoveries to be made by man were that of fire and agriculture and the first human invention was that of the wheel. After much deliberation, it stands irrefutable that they were imperative in bringing about the transformation of human lifestyle. One school of thought believes that these inventions were a means for their survival, a step in their evolution to more intelligent beings. However, if we view such beliefs scrupulously, we find that human beings need very little for their survival and that these inventions and discoveries were, in fact, a fulfilment of the early man's desire for comfort and luxury. On analysing contemporary scientific discoveries as well, it is evident that these innovations were not being made to ensure survival but to fulfill our need for knowledge about the world that we live in and our quest for comfort since time immemorial.

Similarly, fields of study such as Philosophy, Science, History, Mathematics, Jurisprudence, Linguistics and Geography were brought out to fulfill our need for education and learning. While the origin of this need is not definite, what is known is that this need and the attempts at its fulfilment have been evident not only among prehistoric humans but animals as well. Early humans began to learn fire-starting soon after its breakthrough into early civilizations. According to historical records, it can be concluded that the skill was shared by various human groups. Furthermore, the development of a capacity for language amongst humans as early as 50,000 years back is conclusive of the theory that even though the concept of learning had not been devised, it was undoubtedly put into practice. Animals too, have shown evidence of learning. They are able to learn behaviours through visual observation which, in most cases, occurs without augmentation from a secondary being.

Human beings also created the concept of religion as a fulfilment mechanism that virtually puts the ideals of their conscience into words, in the form of various religious principles. God was created as a way for humans to feel safe due to their faith in the supernatural power to protect them in all times of adversity and despair. They devised the concept of religion as a substitute or complement to the presence of their conscience which rationalizes the "little voice inside their heads" that helps them differentiate between their actions and claim them as being right or wrong. Religion was, and still is, something that connects people worldwide. The idea of somebody else belonging to the same religion as theirs appeals to them in a way that makes them desirous of knowing the person better. It operates as a pre-existing similarity between strangers and hence, acts as a connection between them, thus prospering a mutual sense of trust and comfort. Humans first created the concept of currency and trade in the form of mere barter of grains and minerals. They established small businesses and today, that similar concept and need has given rise to multinational corporations. The economy, from what it was like about 10,000 years ago - if what existed back then can be termed as being an economy at all - has come a long way ever since; not as a means of human survival but for the fulfilment of mankind's need for luxury and the ambition of a better lifestyle. The said need is also fulfilled in the form of furniture, upholstery, clothing, dining in restaurants and worldwide travel. Logically, the word "need" may not necessarily be

described as something that is essential for basic survival but something that is wanted or desired.

According to the latter definition, every invention and discovery was made by humans for the fulfilment of a certain desire, be it the desire for education, luxury or connection. These desires were what led to the formation of ideas of invention and discovery of physical articles such as the wheel and fire or invisible ones such as the economy and God. Human desires give rise to ideas which in turn give rise to the development of the entity or theory that fulfils their need. Every man-made invention around us has been developed as a result of this series and this remains to be an incessant process. The day this process ends, it will be the collapse of man's intellectual prowess.

## Games of the Globe

*Simar S. Gabadia*

*This article catches up on the recent world affairs in a quick read.*

This edition brings with it a whole lot of changes on the global political spectrum. Israeli PM, Benjamin Netanyahu, has finally been dethroned and former tech entrepreneur, Naftali Bennet, has replaced King Bibi. Israel, which already had plans to annihilate Palestine, is closer on that path with the new right-winged PM. Around the world too many positions have changed. Ebrahim Raisi has replaced the moderate President of Iran Hassan Rouhani. Nikol Pashinyan, has been elected as Armenia's Prime Minister. Microsoft CEO, Satya Nadella, has been named as the company's new Chairman. Not everywhere have the tables turned though. Bashar-al Assad has clung to power as Syrian President for the fourth term. At the same time, the UNSC has voted to grant the UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, a second term along with certain new non-permanent members. On to some stability, Joe Biden's administration believes in keeping their friends close and their enemies even closer. Biden finally met with Putin in a high level summit and both sides have described the meeting as successful (seems like he is living up to the legacy of his predecessor). He is also warming up to China and has lifted the ban on multiple Chinese apps. Although the US troops have promised to withdraw from

Afghanistan, new reports indicate that not all will leave (US tactics). El Salvador has become the world's first country to make Bitcoin legal tender. Temperatures are rising around the world from Canada to Pakistan and leaders are only expressing concern, be it G7 or BRICS. Closer home, India has maintained its position on the SDG rankings 2021, among the lowest at 117. India has now begun the vaccination process under the central government in full swing, but the Delta and Kappa variants that are said to have originated in India continue to spread havoc worldwide, with numerous places slipping once again into COVID restrictions. Hold on to us and catch up with the next wave, next edition.



# SANAWAR BLUES

## 1. If there was one thing that you could change that you did in school, what would it be?

I joined The Lawrence School, Sanawar, last year in Lower VI. I wish I had more time to experience the Sanawarian life.

-Parul Yadav, Upper VI

I wish I could go back in time and make better use of my junior years by taking more interest in extracurricular activities.

-Nihal Singh Sidhu, Upper VI

## 2. How do you feel about the cancellation of the class 10 Board Examinations?

I feel bad because I had studied very hard and now the exams have been cancelled.

-Mrigna, Lower VI

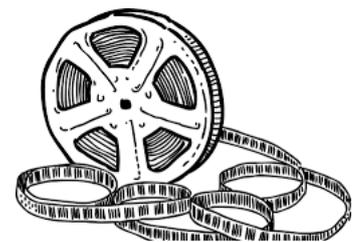
I am relieved that the Board Examinations are cancelled as I did not want to take exams in the middle of the pandemic. Though I regret missing out on a good opportunity to be better prepared for the class 12 Board Examinations.

-Chitesha Rewari, Lower VI

# THE FLIX JOURNAL

## TV SHOWS OF THE EDITION

Lucifer  
Ozark

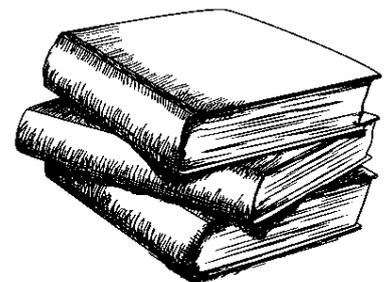


## SONG OF THE EDITION

In My Blood by Shawn Mendes

## BOOKS OF THE EDITION

The Sleepwalker by Robert Muchamore  
Every Three Hours by Chris Moone  
A Column of Fire by Ken Follet



# LITTLE RIDDLES

A went to the market with his dog. He rode on a horse to the market, Yet walked. The horse's name was Artax and the dog was from Serbia. What is the name of the dog?



*The views expressed in the articles published are the author's own and do not reflect upon the opinions of the institution.*



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