

THE CROSSROADS

C20 SPECIAL EDITION

Editorial

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam

(Rethink Realign Reboot)

By Adithyan Diwakar Vidya



THE CROSSROADS

नित्यम् सत्ये प्रतिष्ठितम्
Ever rooted in the truth

There is no Planet B

by Gaurav Vibhu Ranjan

*Living a responsible life
towards all creation*

By Navadarshanth S

Art and Culture
Exploring the
Connection

By Himanshi Goyal

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Presentation on G20 Culture Working Group
Ft. Grade 12 Students
April - 2023



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Editorial

*Exploring our school theme Re-Think Re-align Re-Boot with
the lens of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam
by Adithyan Diwakar Vidya*

Why are we here? To study? To play? To learn? Or are we here for something higher, something worth living for?

Life has become a maddening rush. It hurtles past us with blinding speed, spinning us around and distorting our purpose. When life goes fast and the mind goes slow, we fall into the ruthless vices of mediocrity and agitation. In this meager campus, tucked away in a small corner of the world, we have a throng of perhaps the greatest minds the future will ever behold - we, the students.

We have amongst us artists of matchless mastery, speakers of unsurpassable eloquence, and sportsmen of unparalleled grit. Yet, why don't we shine as bright as we could?

A simple thought answers this question that has vexed many an aspiring youth. The outside world is a reflection of the world within. All that we see, hear and feel are naught but a reflection of our own thoughts and emotions. We, more than anyone else, should know the indescribable worth of our inner selves. Yet, somewhere along the way, in the ceaseless pursuit of all things superficial, we have forsaken the driving force behind all our actions: our purpose.

So now, we seek a solution, a magic formula to waive our woes. It is that very magic formula which has been encapsulated into three short words, manifesting as our school's motto for this year: Rethink, Realign, and Reboot.

These Three R's, if brought to life, could bring about an unprecedented metamorphosis of the self, elevating one's intellect to parallel the thinkers of old. It is time we examined each of these aspects under a microscope, unsheathing their myriad connotations and unveiling their innumerable merits.

We begin with the basics. Rethink. Let us shed off the cloak of superficiality and delve deep into our own minds. What is our vision? What is our mission? What is our purpose? The answers to these questions shall take on a different hue for each one of us; but it is essential to bear in mind one thing: clarity is the name of the game. When there is a dearth in clarity of thought, a dearth in quality of actions follows.

With the vision set in stone, we must make our first move. Realign. The negativities that oft plague us must be mercilessly weeded out, and every trait we admire in others must become one of our own. We must piece together the puzzle of our life, harmonizing our intellect with the world around us. With this, our bows are drawn, the bowstrings are pulled, and the arrows are notched to our singular goal of perfection. All we must do is let go.

Twang! The arrow streaks past in a blinding flash. We have rebooted. Endowed with the timeless boons of purpose and strength, we rise from the depths of depravity to the heights of humanity, becoming fulfilled, capable and most of all, happy. When the individual becomes virtuous, society becomes perfected. When we sculpt our personality to be the best it can be, we shine with a brilliance that dwarfs the stars themselves.

This year, Bharat has taken the call to bring the Vedas' ultimate teaching to the globe: Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. The world is one family. All that walks, all that breathes and all that lives, is one. With such a profound understanding crowning our nation on the global stage, it is our highest responsibility, not just to practice it, but to exemplify it. Who else can rise up as the paragons of a new age, than those who have clarity in thought, vision, and action?

So, here we stand, at a generational crossroads, facing our future. The road is paved, the goal set in stone. Let us root our thoughts deep into virtue and let us reach for the stars. I shall leave you with a question. I hope it rings true in your mind, and sparks a flame that you never knew was alight. Why are you here?

01

Art and Culture - Exploring the Connection

*Almanshi Goyal Explores Vasudaiya Kutumbakam
Through Art, Culture, and Literature*

Art is a powerful medium of expression, just like writing. It allows us to convey our emotions, ideas, and opinions about the world. Some individuals choose to express themselves through art instead of writing, just as some people prefer to journal or keep diaries. Culture, on the other hand, refers to the shared values, beliefs, and practices of a group of people. Our culture has a significant impact on our emotions, ideas, and opinions about the world, which are often reflected in the art we create.

Despite cultural differences, some similarities can be observed when comparing works of art created by artists from different cultural backgrounds. Therefore, while art can be culture-specific, it is a transnational concept that helps us understand our interconnectedness as a global community.

Frida Kahlo, the daughter of a German father and a Mexican mother, is a prime example of an artist whose works reflect her mixed cultural heritage. After her marriage to Spanish painter Diego Rivera, Kahlo became increasingly interested in her Mexican heritage. She adopted various indigenous cultural practices, dressed in traditional Tehuana attire, and explored Mexican symbolism in her paintings. However, she also integrated elements of her European ancestry into her work. Kahlo's art often dealt with deeply personal topics, such as her identity as a culturally hybrid female artist, the physical pain she endured due to a bus accident, and the concept of life and death.

'The art of a people is a true mirror to their minds' - Jawaharlal Nehru



Similarly, half-Indian and half-Hungarian painter Amrita Sher Gil studied art in Paris but ultimately settled in India due to her interest in her Indian heritage and rising nationalism during India's freedom struggle. Sher Gil drew inspiration from the paintings at Ajanta and depicted the plight of underprivileged rural Indians in her work. She blended the techniques she learned in her classical European training with her Indian identity.

Kehinde Wiley, an American painter raised by a single mother with five siblings in California, is another artist whose work blends traditional and contemporary conventions. Wiley's paintings appropriate the technical aspects of traditional portraiture used by classical European artists and insert black bodies into spaces previously reserved for white nobility and royalty. His work explores the ideas of racial, gender, and cultural identity among African Americans.

At first glance, these three artists seem to come from completely different backgrounds. However, upon closer inspection of their lives and cultures, we discover similarities. Despite their diverse backgrounds, their works are rooted in deeply personal topics, such as identity, pain, and hardship, which bind them together as a community. Their art highlights the fact that everyone faces similar struggles, albeit in different contexts.

In conclusion, art and culture are closely linked. Culture influences the emotions, ideas, and opinions of individuals, which are reflected in their art. While art can be culture-specific, it is a transnational concept that can be used to understand our interconnectedness as a global community. The works of artists such as Frida Kahlo, Amrita Sher Gil, and Kehinde Wiley serve as an excellent reminder that despite our cultural differences, we share a common human experience.



"I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way - things I had no words for." – Georgia O'Keeffe



02 There is no Planet B

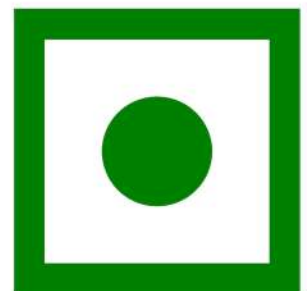
*Gaurav Ranjan of Grade 12 writes on
Climate Change - The most crucial topic
discussed across the globe today.*

With the start of the new G20, there are innovative and pressing questions emerging, including what lifestyle changes we can make to ensure the survival of our environment. As global temperatures rise, the population increases exponentially, and resources deplete at an alarming rate, it is crucial that we take action. Our Earth's beauty and magnificence must be preserved so that future generations can thrive just as we have.

To begin with, we must reduce the load on our planet. One way to do this is to reduce our consumption of meat and consume more plant-based food. The production of meat is causing significant harm to the environment, accounting for about 14.5% of global greenhouse gas emissions; more than the entire transportation sector. Livestock require large amounts of water for drinking and irrigation of crops, contributing to water scarcity. In contrast, plant-based diets have a lower carbon footprint and consume less water. By changing our eating habits, we can reduce our carbon footprint and create a more sustainable world.

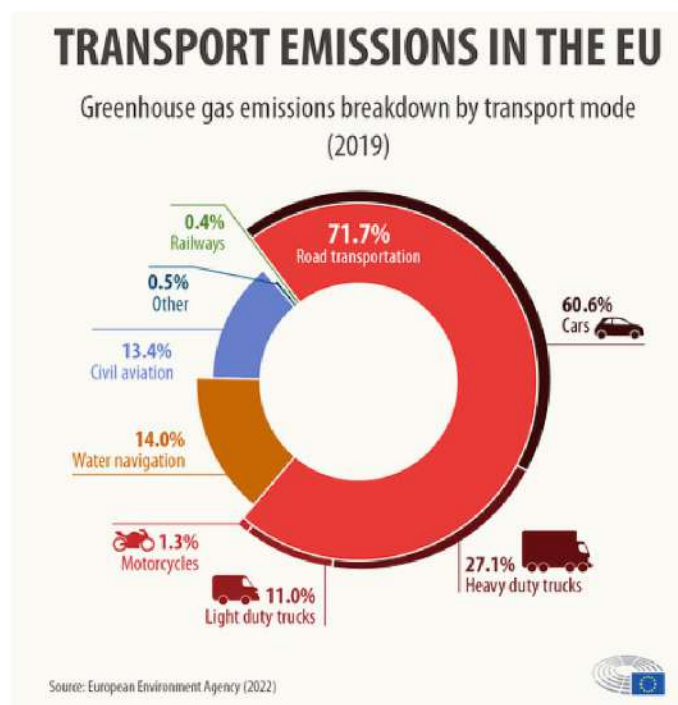
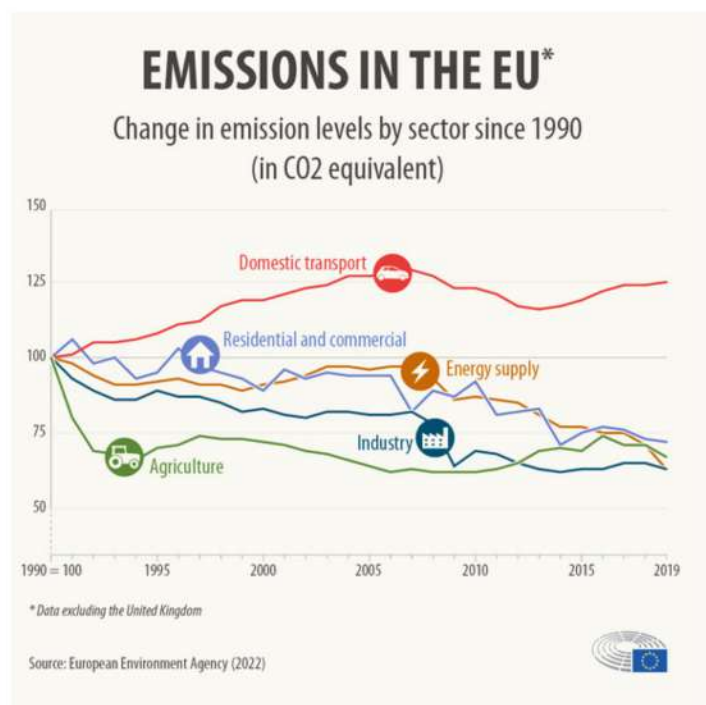


going →
ZERO
WASTE



The second lifestyle change we can make is to address the issue of fast fashion. Fast fashion produces clothing quickly and cheaply to meet the demands of fast-changing trends. However, this business model has serious implications for the environment, including textile waste contributing to 5% of all landfill space, 10% of global carbon emissions, and 20% of global wastewater. Supporting sustainable and ethical brands, mending and repairing clothing, and buying less can all help to reduce the impact of fast fashion on the environment.

Lastly, transportation too is a leading source of air pollution globally, accounting for approximately 14% of global greenhouse gas emissions. It causes an estimated 4.2 million premature deaths worldwide each year, making it a significant contributor to air pollution. We can reduce our carbon footprint by using public transportation, carpooling, or walking/cycling when possible.



In conclusion, the problems are evident, the facts are clear, and the solutions are apparent. With the start of the G20, there is no better time for change. It is up to us to act and make lifestyle changes that ensure the survival of our environment for future generations.



"We are the first generation to feel the impact of climate change and the last generation that can do something about it." — Barack Obama

THE CROSSROADS



LIVING A RESPONSIBLE LIFE TOWARDS ALL CREATION

Navadarshanth of Grade 12 talks about individual change to foster collective change

Living a responsible life towards all of creation is no easy task. Individuals must make a conscious effort to recognize and appreciate the interdependence of all living things and their surroundings if they are to live responsible lives towards all creation. Although the idea of living responsibly is not new, its significance has grown as people have become more conscious of the catastrophic effects of their activities on the environment.



The idea of living in harmony with all of creation has been covered by numerous thinkers and religious figures. In order to safeguard the gifts that God the Creator intended for everyone, we have a responsibility towards creation, and we should see it as our obligation to execute that responsibility in public life. God has given everyone access to the environment, and in using it, we have a duty to the underprivileged, towards future generations, and towards mankind as a whole. We have a responsibility towards creation, and we should consider it as our duty to carry out that responsibility in public life. The concept of sustainability is at the heart of responsible living. Living sustainably is, taking care of one's needs now without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to do the same. This entails adopting a global perspective and realizing how everything is interconnected.

This covers human communities, the economy, and cultural systems. Making decisions that take into account how they will affect each of these factors is part of living responsibly. Consumption reduction is one of the essential elements of responsible living. This entails actively working to cut down on waste, conserve resources, and lessen the effects of our lifestyle decisions. This can be accomplished by implementing sustainable behaviors like recycling, taking the bus or train instead of driving a car, using less energy, and buying ecologically friendly goods.

Being conscious of our impact on the environment is another aspect of responsible living. This entails adopting measures to protect biodiversity, maintain ecosystems, and lessen our carbon footprint. Supporting conservation initiatives, cutting greenhouse gas emissions, and limiting human influence on delicate habitats can all help achieve this. The impact of our decisions on other individuals and communities is a crucial component of responsible living. This involves encouraging social fairness, upholding cultural diversity, and supporting fair trade practices. We need to think about how our consumption affects employees in other nations and make sure that our decisions don't encourage exploitation or unjust labour practices.



Reducing our carbon footprint is one of the most essential steps we can do to live a life that is respectful of all creation. The term "carbon footprint" describes how many greenhouse gases are produced when people engage in activities like using energy or driving cars. We may make easy changes, like cycling or walking instead of driving a car or taking public transportation, to lessen our carbon impact. We can considerably lower our carbon emissions by switching to sustainable energy sources like solar or wind power.

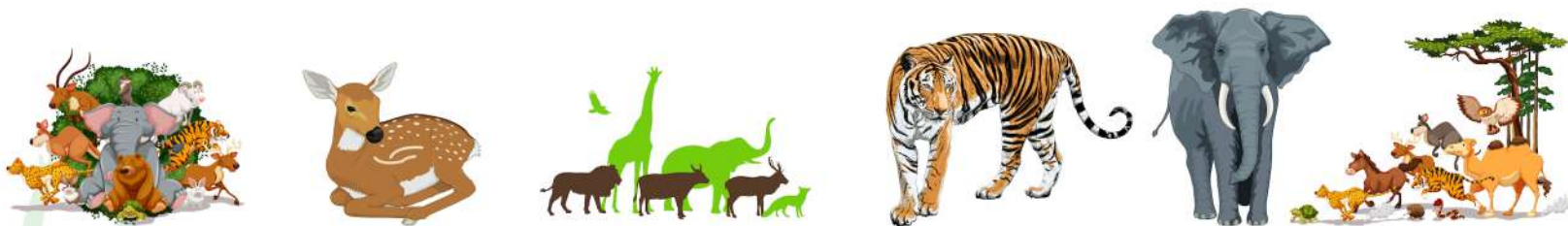
We must also support education and awareness in order to live a responsible life towards all creation. This entails funding educational initiatives that encourage environmental stewardship and sustainability. It also entails motivating people to take action by increasing public awareness of the effects of our choices on the environment. Conserving natural resources is an essential part of living a life that is kind to all creation. We can accomplish this by using fewer non-renewable resources, such as water, oil, and gas. Adopting a minimalist lifestyle and minimizing our reliance on material items are two ways to do this. By replacing leaky faucets and taking shorter showers, we may also cut down on our water usage.

Living a life that is responsible to all creation includes reducing waste output. The three R's (reduce, reuse, and recycle) can be used to achieve this. We can drastically minimize the quantity of waste that ends up in landfills by using fewer things and properly disposing them. To lessen the amount of waste that fills landfills, recycling should be done as much as feasible.

Living a life that is accountable to all of creation means protecting wildlife and maintaining biodiversity. This can be done by contributing to the causes of conservation organizations and supporting them. Additionally, it is critical to practice responsible tourism, which includes refraining from harming wild creatures, reducing environmental damage, and assisting regional conservation initiatives. The treatment of animals in farming and hunting has become a significant concern in recent years, raising alarm and grief. By treating animals with kindness, we not only demonstrate compassion and empathy but also improve the environment. This entails cutting back on meat consumption, engaging in morally-responsible hunting and fishing, and respecting wildlife.



We also need to adopt a way of living that supports sustainability. This means that in order to ensure that resources are replaced at the same rate as they are being consumed, we must use them in a certain way. We must also take care to avoid harming other living beings with whom we share the planet. This includes avoiding practices that could endanger the survival of other species, such as overfishing, hunting, and deforestation. Promoting justice and equality is another aspect of leading a life that is responsible to all of creation. This entails making sure that everyone has access to the necessities of life, regardless of their socioeconomic standing, race, or nationality. Additionally, we must work to advance ethical business practices and urge decision-makers to take action to safeguard both human and environmental rights.



In conclusion, leading a responsible life towards all creation necessitates a comprehensive strategy that takes into account how our decisions will affect the environment, other communities, and future generations. Each person has a moral obligation towards the earth. We are accountable not only for our own deeds but also for how they affect the environment, animals, and the communities in which we live. Being attentive of our consumption habits competent to care for the environment, and respectful of other living things are all necessary parts of leading a life that is responsible towards all creation. Through sustainable practices, promoting justice and equality, and making conscious efforts to reduce our impact on the environment, we can ensure that the world remains healthy, habitable, and bountiful for generations to come. It is our responsibility and ours alone.

04

THE POWER OF HABIT

Devashree Agarwal



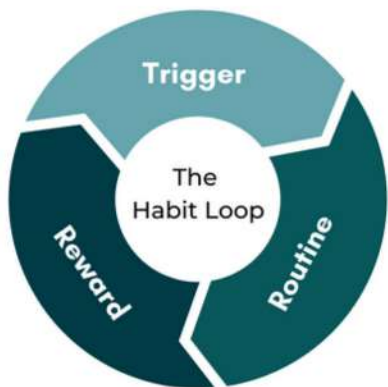
Claude C. Hopkins was a prominent figure in the advertising industry in the early 1900s, although the industry hardly existed a decade earlier. One of Hopkins' friends once approached him with what seemed like a revolutionary idea - toothpaste. This toothpaste is now known as "Pepsodent."



Hopkins, also known as "The Ad Man," convinced American women to purchase Palmolive soap by proclaiming that Cleopatra used it too, despite the constant protests of disturbed historians. He also made Puffed Wheat famous by advertising the fact that it was "shot from guns" until the puffed grains were eight times their normal size. However, when approached with the idea of toothpaste, he showed only feigned interest and gradually declined it, regardless of how serious the American dental health condition was.

The dental health of the American populace was so serious that government officials said that the rotting teeth of recruited American soldiers in World War I were a national security risk. Hopkins thought that selling toothpaste would be financial suicide because of the reluctance in its usage among citizens.

But upon his friend's persistent requests, he eventually gave in and agreed. He took some time with dental textbooks, although he disliked reading them, and Pepsodent became a hit, which is said to be one of his wisest financial decisions ever. Within five years, Pepsodent was one of the most used products internationally, and Hopkins had achieved something no one else had. He created a habit of toothbrushing that moved from America to everywhere else where he could buy ads. It became a ritual in the lives of the American people.



Hopkins said that the secret to this success was the fact that he found a certain kind of cue and reward that fueled this particular habit. In one of the books, he found something about the mucin plaques on teeth which he resolved to call "the film." That appealed a great deal to him, and he decided to sell toothpaste as an architect of beauty. He advertised this continually, and after all, who doesn't want a prettier smile, particularly when all it takes is a quick brush with Pepsodent?

It's amazing what he really did. He created a craving for something once neglected, and that craving, in turn, is what made cues and rewards work. This craving is what powers the habit loop. Even more fascinating is that before Pepsodent, only 7% of Americans had a tube of toothpaste, but within a decade, the number went up to 65%. Towards the end of World War 2, the military literally downgraded their concerns about the recruits' teeth because so many soldiers were brushing regularly.

And this is how a single man inculcated a habit so vital in so many people. This is the power of habit. If one person could inculcate a habit in almost 58% of the American population, it was only because he believed that change could happen. We need to believe that change is possible.

Changing habits is undoubtedly one of the toughest things to do, and making these changes will push your patience to its edge. But the important thing is to understand how to work the habit and the operation of a habit. Identify the cue.



Make your routine and claim your reward. Once you do this, you have the power to make any change in your life.



To our final years



The day has been long and the journey quite a feat,
But all you've left behind are memories sweet!

As you soar high – spirits ablaze; sweeping the tide in all its might,
We look on with a poignant smile – a hug or two won't set it right.
You've been amazing! A stellar inspiration to look up to.

With a tremor of gloom, we bid adieu; for, your absence, we shall
always rue. The best of luck, dearest of seniors,
You shall forever be remembered despite the passing years.

Reshmika, IB 2nd Year

05

REVERBERATING RAAGAS

Jigyasa Bothra and Manvi Bhattad of Grade 9 Explore the deep musical traditions of India, where every Raga can elevate one to the heights of Spiritual glory.

Music never fails to uplift us. Don't we all wait for our MP3s on Sunday just to listen to our favorite music?

Different people prefer to listen to different genres that they connect to. It is in this way that Music truly enables us to connect to our inner selves. The diverse range of genres in music offers us a variety of experiences. Patriotic songs instill a sense of pride in our motherland and help us see the true beauty of our country. Music helps us to the extent that it can be seen in fields like music therapy which has a deep impact on our lives. Moreover, if you listen to the right song, it uplifts your mood and makes you happier. Classical music, for instance, is one of those genres that never fail to make you more joyful.

Classical music has a very deep meaning. There are many sub-genres within it, like ghazal (a form of poetry). But do we really listen to them? Most of us are so invested in the Western world that we forget the importance of tradition. Justin Bieber and Ed Sheeran concerts run out of tickets as soon as the bookings start. But classical music concert halls are barely filled and we hardly give any recognition to classical artists. How many of us know Pushpavanam Kuppuswamy – the classical artist credited for reviving “Naatupura Paatu” – a Tamil folk art? Such things often go unnoticed.

Our perspective of music is that it is a boundless way to express ourselves. Whenever we feel low, singing out aloud makes us feel better. The child in us comes out and we just love vibing with the music. This is how we feel, now let's see what our teachers think. We interviewed a few of our teachers and this is what they think about music.



Music calms my mind down. Even if classical music is not my cup of tea, I like listening and vibing to modern songs of Illayaraja and the like.

SHRI. CHANDRAMOULI

Music should be sweet and it should be sung for the divine. Music is a way to connect to the divine and music sung for the divine is like communicating with the divine himself.

SMT. LAKSHMI MOHAN



Music is my breath; it is what I live for. My alarm rings in the morning with soothing music. I love listening to music when I cook, I feel it adds an extra flavour to my dish. Music flows in every other mundane activity that I might do.

SMT SUJATA



Indians have used music as an extremely efficient tool for recording knowledge and transferring it from generation to generation. For example, even books on math, astronomy and medicine have been written in poetic verses. The world's first thesaurus which was in Sanskrit language was itself composed in poetic verses.

SWAMI ANUKOOLANANDA JI



Music is an ornamentation of Silence

-Swami Chinmayananda



A Dance with Death

Rishabh Palany

*Death is but the next great
adventure*

Albus Dumbledore

Standing idle on a banquet night-
I notice a pretty lass, regal at sight
She was alone and so was I-
Lost in her beauty until she met my eye.
Afraid to approach her as even steps looked like miles
Yet she noticed my motives and walked with a slyish smile.



The music was jazz and the night went on.
She laughed at my jests, showing no sign of con.
When the music stopped, I looked at my side.
The pretty lass urged me to take her outside.

My heart yearned for her without even knowing her name.
And yet we danced and slowly started to sway.
When I looked at my side again and my lass was gone.
Gazing in horror in what I truly saw.



A man clad in black stood with his bloody scythe.
With my lass in his arm, laughing at my sight.
He brushed her cheek and said "Well done lovely one
Go find the others for their time has come"

The lass carried the ruse and went on with her night
The man said nothing but gave a fear none could fight
Raising his scythe he said to my face-
"At last, it is the end of the chase"



Seeing my demise, I saw the lass one last time,
Dancing and swaying with yet another friend of mine.
Realizing it was folly to have known this lass of mine.
As death would have come either ways or in a glass of wine...



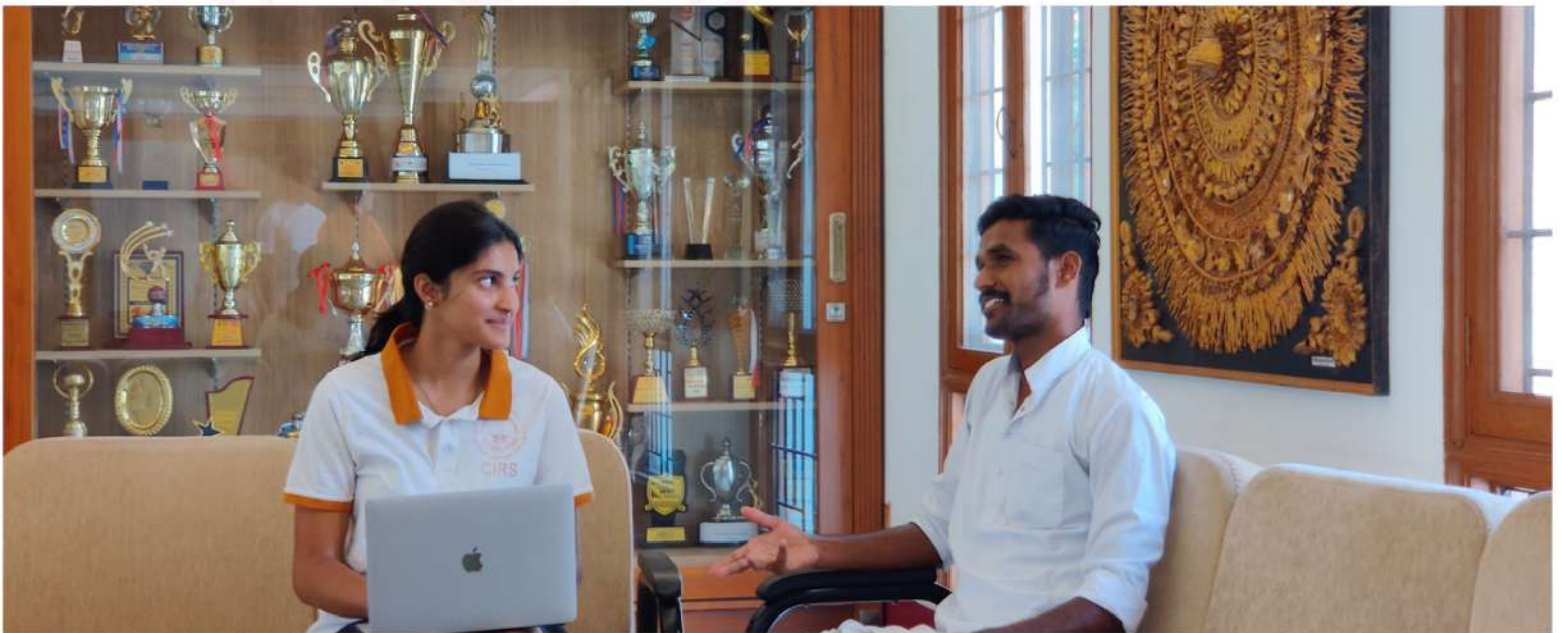
06

THROUGH HIS LENS

A soul-filling interview with Shri Narayan Baban Shete, our ever-dynamic and most loved Sanskrit Teacher and Spiritual Guide.

What's your most memorable college experience?

As cliché as it sounds, I was fortunate enough to have highly qualified professors. They weren't just professors who studied in universities, but they had a history with the gurukul system of learning, and I could feel a difference in their teachings because of that. Their understanding of the importance of knowledge was unlike what I had seen before. When it comes to university professors, they have a target to achieve, a syllabus. But my professors were adamant on clearing concepts and prioritizing our understanding over marks and as a student, there's no better feeling than that.



What's the one thing you'll miss the most after leaving this school?

I've lived a life all across India; in different situations surrounded by different people. So change is nothing new to me. Here at CIRS, I lived a life with children. When I think about leaving, I know that the most painful part is knowing that I won't be surrounded with the same energetic and lively spirit that only children can spread. However, I know I made the right decision because frankly I do not like the education system children are being forced to follow. The exams, the way of teaching and the syllabus - I do not like any of it. So, I don't think I'll join another school. However, if at all I ever do it'll be because I'm in desperate need of money which seems rather unlikely. One thing is for sure. If I ever decide to teach again, it'll always be to experience the joy I get when I'm surrounded by children.

What made you join the Vedanta course at such a young age?

There are quite a few stories regarding this but let me tell you the facts. I have always had a knack for speaking, so naturally I decided to take it up as a profession and everyone knows that once you become a speaker in Maharashtra, you are in high demand. I decided to attend a small gurukul where I would learn a little bit about spirituality, so that I can use it in my speeches. It was my sure shot plan to earn money. I went with this mindset, thinking my plan was foolproof. However, it wasn't until I changed my gurukul did I realize what I actually wanted to do with my life. It was in this place that I first learnt the basic rules of Sanskrit grammar. I never expected myself to be so fascinated with the language. Surprisingly, I found myself enrolling into a university to get my bachelors in Sanskrit soon after. As I went further, I found myself deeply enjoying the subject because I was curious and I wanted answers. The first year of Sanskrit was just preparation for Vedanta as all the texts were in Sanskrit. So, I knew I had to learn the subject if I wanted to understand things like the Mahabharata or Ramayana. When my first year got over, I decided it was time to study Vedanta. It's unlike any stereotype that people have of the Vedanta course thinking it's all Bhakti and Bhajans. Rather, it revolves around your intellect, acceptance level, mental and emotional abilities and how you choose to observe these things. Then come the facts, what is god? What makes him real? What evidence do we have? Honestly speaking it was the first time I studied anything like this because before this if someone told me Lord Vishnu was God, I would just accept it, but Vedanta gave me answers and that was what I always wanted. The course provided me with an unforgettable feeling, the feeling of being intellectually satisfied.



What is it about Sanskrit language that makes you so passionate?

There are two ways in which one can learn a language; you can either learn the grammar rules and slowly start building on your vocabulary or you surround yourself with people who are well versed in the language and will help you take the first steps in becoming fluent - I learnt Marathi and Hindi that way. But with both Sanskrit and English I started learning the grammar rules first and slowly progressed to speaking practice. When learning two languages at once, it's natural for you to compare the two with each other and what I felt when I compared English with Sanskrit is that grammar in Sanskrit will forever possess a greater extent of power. I've not seen anything equal to that type of grammar yet; no, I can't see anything like it. It is brief, very short but when you learn it, you gain an endless enthusiasm. The beauty of Sanskrit lies in the fact that I can still understand what the ancient poets have composed and vice versa. This speaks volumes about the stability and consistency of Sanskrit. However, if I wish to do the same with English, I know my current knowledge of English won't help me understand Shakespeare or Julius Caesar, and for those reasons alone, Sanskrit will be my eternal passion.

07 WHAT IS W20?

GIRLUP CIRS - PARVESH PRABHU AND ZIYA GHODASARA

W20 is the official G20 engagement group focused on gender equity. The initiative began in 2015 under the Turkish presidency, it began almost 16 years after the G20.

Its primary objective is to ensure that gender considerations are mainstreamed into G20 discussion and translated into G20 leaders. It is high time all gender-related issues are also discussed in forums, to help women from all different countries in gaining their rights and freedom. The vision of the organization is to create a world of equality and equity where every woman lives with dignity – a much-needed and crucial goal.

Coming to W20 under India's presidency, India is focusing on bringing Prime Minister Modi's "Women-led development" vision to life. W20-2023 is focusing on removing barriers to women-led development and ensuring an enabling environment and ecosystem for women to realize their full potential, transforming their lives as well as the lives of others. One of the main goals set by the W20 is to ensure the continuity of the W20 agenda from the past presidencies while establishing a stronger global network.

This year, five priority areas have been identified by the W20 team.

- (i) **Womens' leadership at the grassroots**
- (ii) **bridging the gender digital divide**
- (iii) **education and skill development / women & girls as change-makers**
- (iv) **Climate resilience action**
- (v) **women in entrepreneurship**



India's W20 team consists of several formidable women, who are experts in their respective fields. The chairman is Dr. Sandhya Purecha, with the group consisting of Dr. Jyoti Shukla - Rajasthan's finance commission, professor Shamima Ravi, an economist, Ms. Bharati Ghosh an IPS officer, Ms. Bansuri Swaraj, an advocate of the Supreme Court of India. Apart from these women from esteemed positions we have celebrities and actors like Raveena Tandon are taking part in W20.

The team W20 itself is a great inspiration to all the little girls who dare to dream. These women are an inspiration and a beacon of hope to girls everywhere, as they are proof that any woman can do anything, and any woman can create her mark in any industry despite being shunned and put down. It is truly admirable that this dynamic team has taken up the W20.

The theme for the W20 **"Pursuit of Equality, Equity, and Dignity for Women-Led Development".**

The W20 has already begun its operations, on 27-28 February 2023. an inception meeting was held in Aurangabad, Maharashtra. The theme adopted following the meeting was "pursuit of equality, equity, and dignity for women-led development". They aim to discuss, deliberate and develop a logical strategy to target gender-related issues. Another idea that the meet wanted to focus on was empowering women in nano, micro, and start-up enterprises, areas that can positively impact our economy. Women are often suppressed when it comes to ideas related to business because that industry is more widely known as a "male-led industry" often ignoring the ideas women come up with. This enlightening meet was only the starting point. It will be followed by several other meets: Jaipur, Rajasthan, on 13th - 14th April, Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu, and on 15th -16th June, etc.

These days, India is aiming to witness a change from womens' development to women-led development. This idea is extremely progressive as around the world several feminist events are taking place almost daily. However, what we actually need to focus on is women-led development, because that is real women empowerment. W20 meetings are envisaged to play a pivotal role in driving collaboration and promoting women's economic empowerment.

"It is the power of democracy that a daughter born in a poor house, a remote tribal area can reach the highest constitutional office in the country."

Draupadi Murmu - 15th President of India

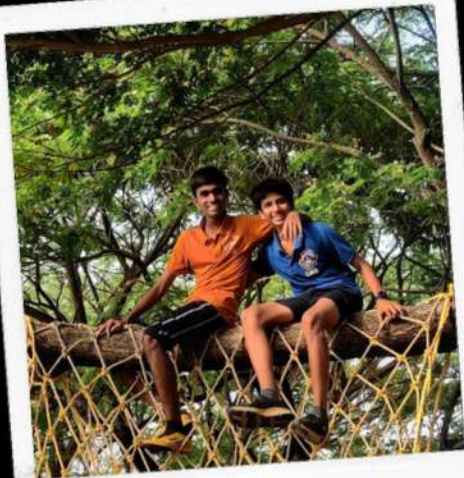
THE CROSSROADS



CIRS CAPTURES

From our Archives (Present and Past)





CREATIVE CORNER!



*Special Creatives from the G20 art competition based on the theme
Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*



Oh! Friendship So Great!

The story of friendship, goes by like a flash.

The power of friendship is so strong, like the effects of a beautiful song.

A bond full of emotion, a journey without hesitation.

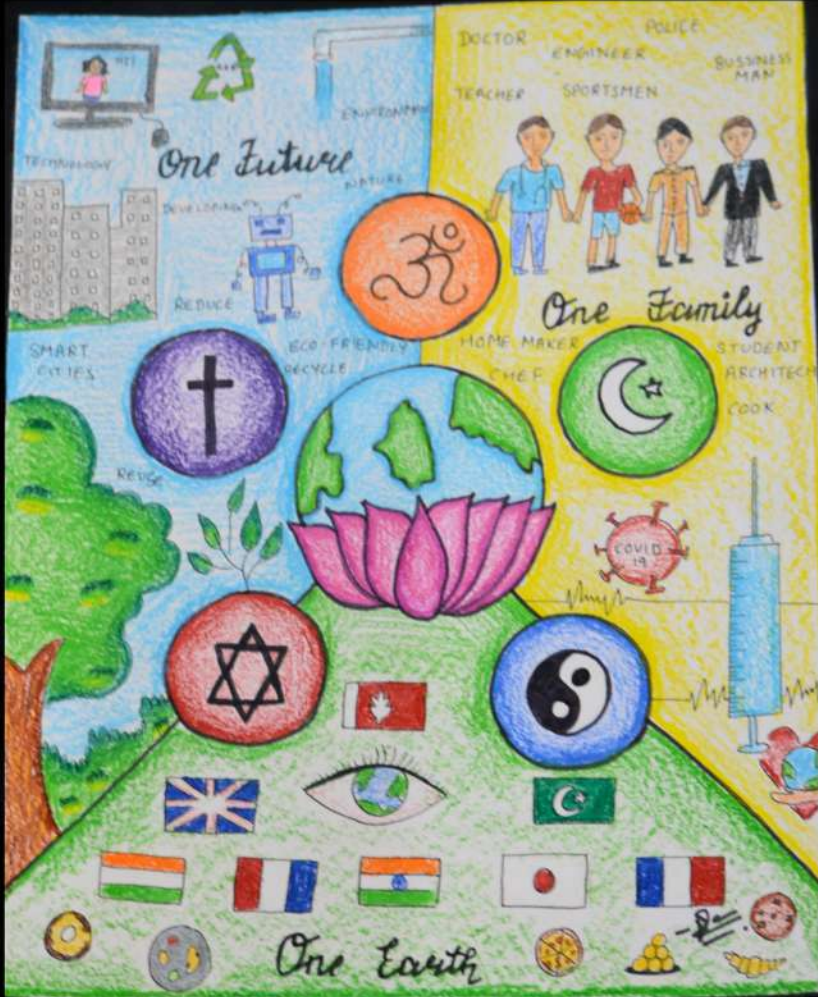
Abundant happiness shared together; our friendship goes as smooth as a feather.

We enjoy life to the fullest, our joy is surely the biggest.

Our bond is unbreakable, and that's what is so great.



ANIRUDH GRADE 6



VIVAAN JAIN X D



ARTH AGARWAL GRADE 6



RISHI IYER IB 1

VASUDHAIVA KUTUMBAKAM

One Earth One Family One Future



We dedicate this issue to the dynamic efforts of our students and staff in bringing out the various themes of the C20 conference. We at the Crossroads humbly acknowledge the great efforts of the Chinmaya Mission Central team in organizing the various C20 events across the country under the sub-group 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'. We offer our humble gratitude to the entire team for involving our students in this global initiative.



CIRS CELEBRATES VASUDHAIVA KUTUMBAKAM
WITH SEMINARS, DEBATES, ARTS
AND MUCH MORE

CIRS Monthly Newsletter



C20 at CIRS

*11,304 Bihu Dancers set Guinness World Record for
'Largest Bihu Dance in a Single Venue'*

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Our Gratitude to the CIRS Management for giving flight to our initiative

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