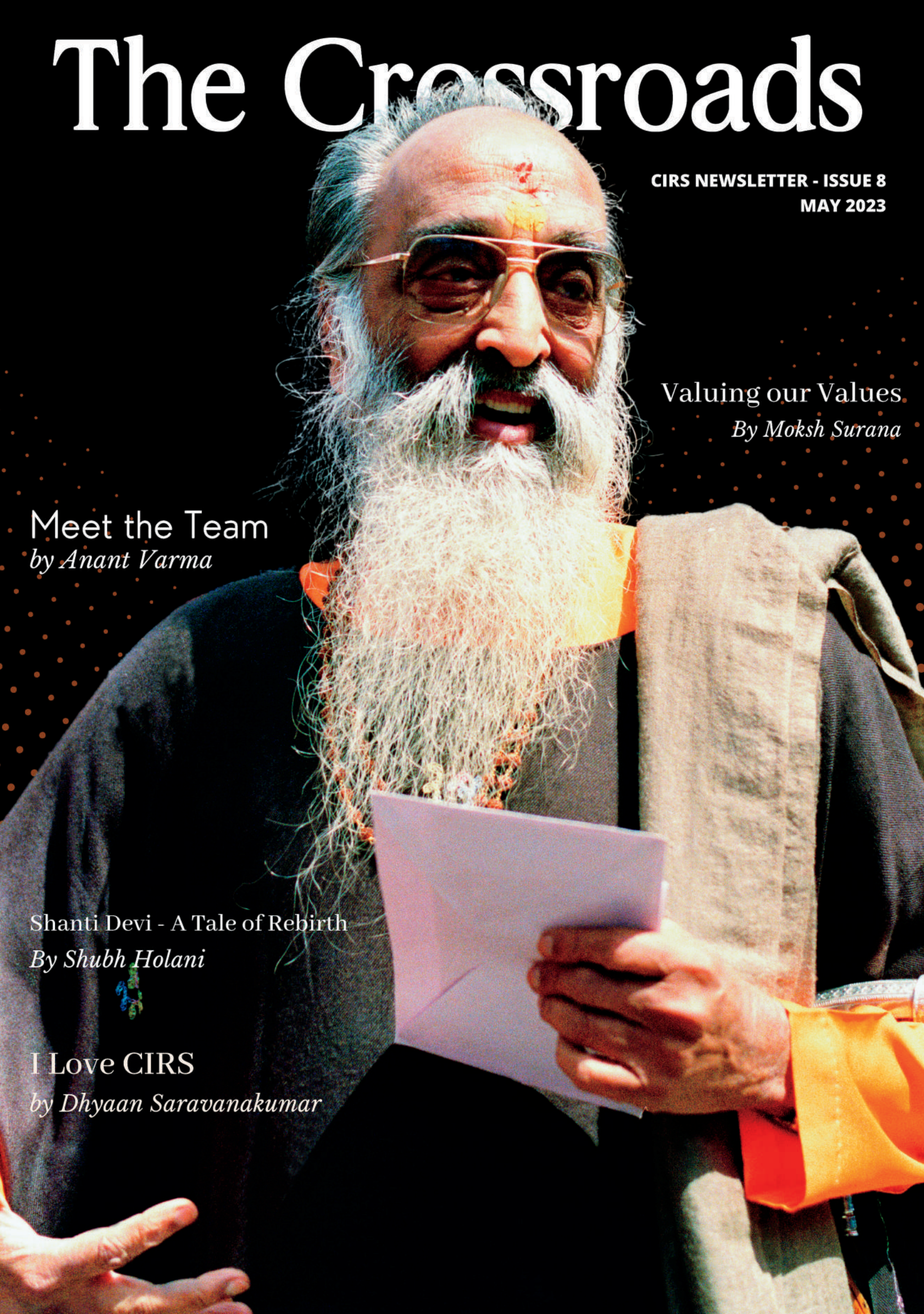


The Crossroads



CIRS NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 8
MAY 2023

Valuing our Values
By Moksh Surana

Meet the Team
by Anant Varma

Shanti Devi - A Tale of Rebirth
By Shubh Holani

I Love CIRS
by Dhyaan Saravanakumar



WHE PUJYA GURUDEV SWAMI CHINMAYANANDA Ji WAS ASKED TO WRITE ABOUT HIMSELF, THIS WAS HIS RESPONSE

Blessed Self, Om Namō Narayana! Salutations!

Only because I have got more interesting and very useful fields of many other works in hand at present, I cannot give you an "Autobiography". But here are some positive points which should satisfy you for the time being. Later, I am sure you will try to shift your attention from me to the Rishis and make your life beautiful and sublime.

I was born in Kerala, raised in the north, hardened in Punjab, softened in Uttarkashi, criticized everywhere, applauded in some places but accepted and worshipped by everyone. I am a riddle to myself.

Prattling was my profession, preaching is my profession now, and I know practice should be my future job. But everywhere I earned a lot so far and squandered it all in the community.

I am by training a Religious man, by experience a Vedantin, by inclination a Bhakta, in temperament a Karma Yogi, in practice an integral Yogi; my faith is in democracy; I am convinced by socialism; I am habituated to communism; and I am committed to the impossible theory of "Love All".

Thick skinned, hard boned, I have a mail-of-laughter to cover and protect both my head ad heart, and so stabs do not penetrate me, spears cannot cleave me, whippings do not lash me.

I eat and drink, take regular baths and sleep, wear clothes, have no jata, work for 18-19 hours a day and preach the rest of the time. When audiences are not available, of course, I preach to myself.

I have my lovers and many beloveds in this country and abroad. I play the beloved to my lovers, and am an enthusiastic lover to my Beloveds. We, together, thus step ahead and march through love towards the Lord's Palace of Bliss and Wisdom.

Your good self may meet me easily in my 35 books, or in the pooja room of any healthy young Indian, be a Hindu, Christian or Muslim. The white men adore me, the yellow men recognize me, the brown men worship me, and the black ones love me.

My teacher was a divinely sweet, incandescent, noble soul and I must tell you of Him when you grow a bit more.

May I hope to hear from you often, plenty of the similar rubbish, but sprinkled with more and more of the sensible stuff? Try. You can. Don't be shy. This is how everyone grows.

Chinmaya

Jamshedpur Yagnashala

1st May, 1966.

CONTENTS

Meet The Team - Our Special Correspondent Anant Varma outlines the vision of the new team for the Crossroads.

The Editorial- An ode to the great visionary, Swami Chinamayananda Ji by Rishi Suresh Iyer

Creative Corner - A creative deluge of student expression showing the widespread creative potential of our students.



International Dance Presentation C20
C20 Events at CIRS
Ft - Students of Grade 8
April - 2023



09

C20 Report

The summation of our two day seminar from our press corps

01

Meet The Team

Anant Varma

02

Shanti Devi - A Tale of Rebirth

Shubh Holani

03

The Mechanical Brain

Gelivi Swarit

04

AD Astra

Kunku Goutham Krishna

05

Beyond the game

Ramakrishna A Kulkarni

06

Through His Lens- Sri. KK Parthiban

Kavya Modi and Ishana Kanodia

07

The Three Musketeers

Arnav Nair, Anuj Prasanth and Tanmmay Hambigi

08

Run for the Noyyal River

Adithyan Diwakar Vidya

10

It's Okay to not be Okay

Bhakti Thummar

EDITORIAL.

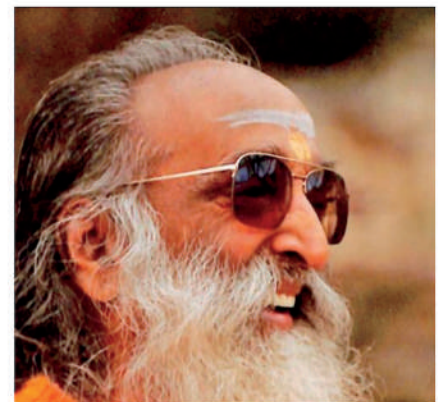
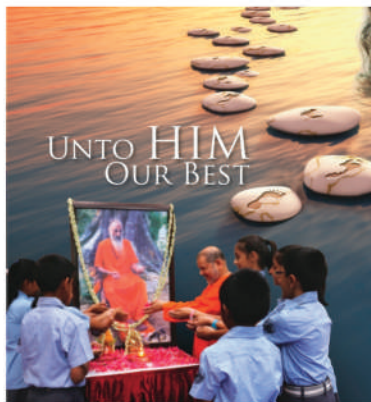
Vision of Our Master



Rishi Suresh Iyer



‘Through individual transformation alone, can world transformation be aspired for.’ A quote from our great master, Pujya Gurudev Swami Chinmayananda. It may seem ordinary, yet, like most of his quotes, it sheds light on something which most of us disregard in our own life. Change. Why do we disregard change? The world around us is ever-progressing. Yet we resist that progression. We usually learn the lesson the hard way.



When we resist change, nature loses all compassion and enforces that very change upon us. As nature enforces that change, we lose the very identity that defines us. Just like the Greeks, just like the Romans, just like all the great empires that once flourished, the human race too will soon go extinct.

So what is the solution? Could it be on a physical level? No. Everyone has a different physical body. Could it be on an emotional level? Could it be on an intellectual level? No, because the source is something different. Scientists have spent decades trying to find solutions to the biggest problems of the world but to no effect. Hunting for the cause of things is the basic tendency of the human mind. This very tendency is the foundation of all of science. However, despite our gargantuan efforts, there has been no effect. The solution to all these problems transcends the limits of science or logic. The answer lies within each and every human being. It lies within the human mind.

The outside world is a manifestation of what one nurtures inside one's own mind. It is but a mere reflection of one's own desires and perceptions. Thus, from an objective standpoint, the world in its entirety is a reflection of the mind of each and every human who lives in this world. All of us live lives governed by our mental impulses and desires, stuck in an aimless rut of falling over and over again.

All of us are compelled to lead lives with absolutely no meaning. So how do we fix it? How do we bring that strength to change for the better? By changing what we see in our own minds. By changing the object, we change the reflection.

When we change what our mind sees, when we change what our mind perceives, we change the world around us. This process of changing one's mind for one's own betterment, is what Pujya Gurudev called 'Transformation'. Transformation of the individual alone can bring transformation of the society, of the nation, of the world. So it is time to shed our lethargic skins and pick up our chisels to craft our own character. Eliminate the sorrows in one's mind and one can see all the sorrows from the world outside magically disappear. So let us rethink, realign, reboot and fulfill the transformations which Pujya Gurudev wished for in us.



Sports is what almost every person in CIRS likes. It can unite us all. For instance, your country and another country are enemies. People from the other country along with your country's people unite to form a sports club like FC Barcelona, PSG or Real Madrid. This makes the two countries come together even after being enemies. You can relate this to our school. We had the Cricket Competitions and all the grades took part in the competition. They made it so that the different people from all houses unite to make teams like CSK, Solitaire and Infernos. In conclusion, sports can unite us all. But then, sports is much more than just this. It helps us to express our talent, improve our body and improve our country.

01

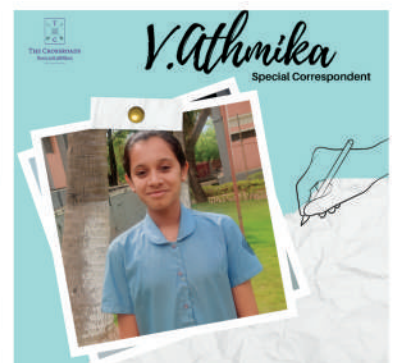
MEET THE TEAM

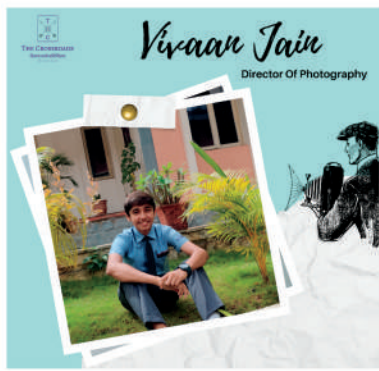
- Anant Varma



The Crossroads is the very essence of the students' voice in CIRS. It is a weighty yet rich and rewarding legacy bequeathed to us, the third Crossroads editorial team. This magazine holds a lot of respect in our school, and our team will maintain that respect at all costs and keep the magazine as bright and delightful as ever, never letting its name exist in ambiguity. The magazine presents itself as an opportunity for talented writers across the school to portray their thoughts and skills. It inculcates a sense of confidence and contentment in the students' minds. The magazine has featured many literary wonders in the preceding issues, and we endeavor to sustain that very level of literary competence and work towards greater goals.

The members of our team were overwhelmed when we were appointed as the new team for this academic year. It was a moment of pride and joy when each of us walked towards the stage as our names were announced. It took us some time to realize the responsibilities that followed, but once realization set in, we understood that we now served a greater goal. We were now recognized under a banner that carried huge amounts of regard throughout the school. For some, the Crossroads can be referred to as a revelation, which means that they had been recognized for their literature, mannerisms, and the various skills they excel in.



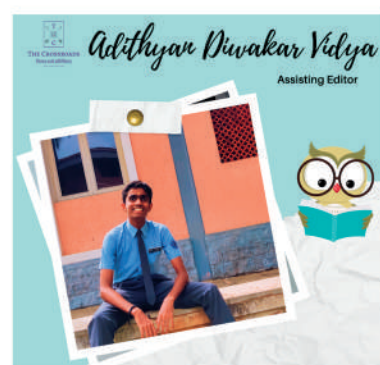


The Crossroads is an opportunity for every student to express themselves in a fruitful way. Be it art, articles, photographs, or poetry, this newsletter is what it is due to the support of each and every student who has contributed to it. The student body of CIRS is the driving force for the making of this newsletter, and our team shall work so that no student gets deprived of a chance to present themselves where they want to be seen. We seek to grow as a platform, gaining trust from all students and at the same time, improving the degree of literary skills throughout the student body. We aim to foster growth throughout the student body and not restrict our reach to seniors or juniors.

We present ourselves as a friendly bunch and want to encourage students to come forward with articles, ideas for improvement, or just to have a friendly chat. We do not want a student to overthink their decision of raising their voice and being a part of something so simple yet so significant. On the day of our first meeting, we could see the team get appointed to their positions, and we were also briefed about the challenges that would meet us in the future. Nevertheless, we accepted the fact with courage and took up the positions of our predecessors.

The magazine is something that we have all sworn to respect, and we shall never watch from the sidelines, letting its value be trampled upon, and its respect being degraded. Our team has a vision for the future of the Crossroads. We shall work to our fullest potential and make our vision a reality; working towards making this newsletter a name that instills a sense of pride in each and every student's mind.

We have a long journey ahead of us. Working towards an even brighter future for The Crossroads is something we wish to achieve by the end of our tenure. We shall always remain honored for being selected for something that can unite students from all age groups, and shall always work with a smile on our face.



02

Shanti Devi – A Tale of Rebirth

-Shubh Holani

Almost a century ago, in the bustling city of Delhi, a woman named Shanti Devi was born on a chilly December day in 1926. As a child, Shanti was a quiet soul and didn't utter a single word until she was three years old. When she finally did, she astounded everyone with a startling revelation - her current home was not her real home. Instead, her real home was in the vibrant town of Mathura, where she lived with her husband and son, who ran a clothing shop. However, that's not all,



Shanti also claimed that her family called her "chaubain," meaning "chaube ji's wife," and that she had a daughter who had tragically passed away just ten days after being born. The people around her were skeptical at first, dismissing her stories as mere fantasies. But Shanti persisted and continued narrating incidents that were hard to ignore.

She even went on to describe her husband's appearance, birthmark, and glasses, leaving her school's headmaster no choice but to investigate her claims. He traveled to Mathura to verify her story and was astounded to find a businessman whose wife, Lugdi Devi, had passed away ten years ago. Lugdi had died ten days after giving birth to her child and had the same features that Shanti had described. To test Shanti even further, Lugdi Devi's husband, Kedar Nath, posed as his brother.



However, Shanti was no fool and recognized him almost immediately. She even went on to find her son Navneet Lal and provided intricate details of all the surgeries she had undergone before her death, something that only Lugdi Devi would have known. Shanti also questioned Kedar Nath about his remarriage, something they had both agreed not to do if either of them was widowed. Hearing this, Kedar Nath was sure that Shanti Devi was, in fact, his ex-wife, Lugdi Devi, reborn.

This incredible story made headlines and attracted worldwide attention. In pre-independent India, reports were usually negative, but this case brought a positive light to the country. Even Mahatma Gandhi himself was fascinated and formed a committee of 15 people to investigate the case further. The committee took Shanti to Mathura, where she recognized an unknown man as her father-in-law and spoke a language that only the Chaubeys of Mathura spoke. After many more stories, it was finally concluded that Shanti Devi was, without a doubt, Lugdi Devi's rebirth.

Shanti Devi's story has captivated many people over the years, and psychologists have studied her case to better understand the concept of rebirth. While some may deny her tale, most agree that it is a remarkable story that has stood the test of time. To this day, there have been no reported cases like Shanti Devi's, but who knows, someone like her might be just around the corner. The story of Shanti Devi is a testament to the power of rebirth and the unexplainable mysteries of life that continue to intrigue us.



03

The Mechanical Brain

- Gelivi Swarit



Suhas was born to a rich family. As they were rich, they had many cars. Suhas fell in love with cars and fell in love with F1 too.

But, when he was 13 years old, his family was hit with a huge loss in their company. Soon, they became poor. It was difficult for Suhas to take care of his parents on his own. Suhas started working as a car mechanic in a nearby garage.

Time passed by and Suhas turned into a young man. He had big plans for himself. He now understood all car parts, he felt like he could make his own car. His mother was all for it, but his father said that they didn't have money to afford all the parts. But he used all his bank savings to buy the engine. He took the other parts from scrap.

He worked day and night to make the car. After 9 months, he was finally done. As he started the car engine, there was a silence for a few seconds. Then...the car roared up. Suhas was happy but just for that moment. Just then fire started coming out of the engine. The whole car caught on fire. Suhas jumped out in a flash and stood with tears in his eyes as he watched his dream burn down to ash.

He was walking back home with a heavy heart. His old garage manager Ravi saw him going. Ravi walked up to Suhas and asked him what happened. Suhas narrated the entire story and revealed his family's situation. Ravi was amazed by Suhas' hard work. He told Suhas; "I will take care of all of your family's expenses, and help you achieve your dream."

Ravi gave books about car engines to Suhas. Suhas read them every day and completely understood cars and their engines. All Suhas needed was money, again. Ravi, with his kind heart, gave Suhas money to buy parts for his engine and told him to make his own engine.

Suhas gathered his friends and together, they worked on the engine for 5 months. The engine was perfect. Now, they wanted to make a car which could house the engine.

At that time, Ravi got into a serious accident. Ravi was left in a critical state. Suhas thought of selling the engine to get money for Ravi's treatment. It was the only way he could repay Ravi for all he had done. He sold his engine for a huge amount. Suhas used part of the money for Ravi's treatment.



Then a thought struck him; “Why don’t I just make and sell engines instead of making cars?” And with that thought, he finally found his calling. Along with his friends, he started his own company and started making engines of the finest quality.

10 years later, Suhas became the richest man in India. He made extremely powerful engines. which performed at the highest levels. Formula One requested Suhas to make engines for their racing cars. Now, Suhas makes engines for F1 cars and has finally achieved his childhood dream.

FEEDBACK ON THE C20 SEMINAR



The C20 seminar brought together delegates to explore various themes. We had sessions and debates on topics such as education, media, entertainment , etc. Through this, we learned how we can promote Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam in our world. The seminar ended with a successful resolution. Overall, the experience provided a great opportunity for us.

RASESH GUPTA GRADE 7



The C20 school seminar provided us with an amazing oppurtunity. This experience enriched our skills exponentially. As a team, we found effective solutions to the common problems. We learned to think innovatively and engaged in conversations formally. Overall, this experience boosted our confidence and unleashed our potential.

VISHNU PREM NANGIA , GRADE 8



Attending the C20 seminar was an invaluable learning experience. It not only improved my public speaking and debating skills, but also taught me the contribution of sports in promoting global peace.I was inspired by the creative ideas shared during the seminar. I am grateful to my school for giving me this wonderful opportunity.

ARNAV NAIR , GRADE 8



The C20 Model seminar began with 20 delegates sharing mind-blowing ideas from different countries. We learned that nothing valuable can be achieved without teamwork and a solid argument . The seminar taught us the power of ideas, public speaking, and debating skills. Overall, it was a very valuable experience.

T MUHIL, GRADE 8



04 AD ASTRA

- Kunku Goutham Krishna

For 16 dreadful days when I was only 16 years old, I experienced a mind with absolute desolation and a simultaneous deterioration of cognitive ability. I was alone on the Keshavalaya ground floor, whereas I could have been enjoying my sweet and well-deserved vacation at my comfortable abode. This period was the time when I was engrossed in my IIMUN research and attending my very first MUN. Unfortunately, the dates of both events clashed. Now let's move on to the present content of interest, my experience at ISRO - YUVIKA! I had to bid farewell to the next 15 days of my beloved vacation too...



I always wondered if it would ever be possible for me to thrive among the section of society that could and would be able to relate to the thoughts and mindset that constantly influenced my logical self. This highlights the fact that I was then actively mingling with the most elite of young minds across India, concentrated in the fields of science and space technology.

Personally, I finally embraced a sense of freedom and absolute oneness. In that place, I could disconnect from the immense hustle and bustle of general life, where social exposure is given primary importance, and transcend into a haven of scientific magnificence where the maximization of cerebral expansion is given the utmost priority. It was a 15-day program...

For the first 10 days, I was posted in the Thiruvananthapuram VSS Centre, which was the heart and site of the very birth of ISRO.

The first day typically commenced with an ice-breaking session, a general health check-up, and the distribution of promised freebies. The next nine days were jam-packed with lectures from various prominent scientists who specialized in their respective fields. We were also escorted to the numerous facilities in the vicinity, including THUMBA and ABDUL KALAM'S ORIGINAL OFFICE. Furthermore, we were given the chance to meet Mr. G. Madhavan Nair (the former chairman of ISRO), Dr. Unnikrishnan Nair (the current director of ISRO), and Mr. S. Somanath (the current chairman of ISRO). I got all their autographs, shook their hands, and had personal conversations with them! Moreover, we had discussions based on proposed theories, such as the White Hole theory, with esteemed personalities and were impeccably preparing for a presentation to be given on the final day.

So, that was it for the first 10 days. The next five and last days of the program were like this... No more lectures and no more intellectual burden. Guess what? We all went for a vacation to SDSC SHAR, Sriharikota. Here's where we had all the fun!

We got to see the Launch of a REAL ROCKET along with constructing and programming a HUMANOID from scratch, witnessing various stellar and celestial formations through a space telescope and understanding them with respect to history, religion, and astrophysics.



Visiting the 3 major launch stations and 2 different pads used to launch real-sized launch vehicles along with a glance at a real PSLV, GSLV MKIII, and I might have sneaked into the Gaganyaan fabrication facility illegally to have a cheeky look at INDIA's first manned mission into space. and of course I got to wear a space suit! (Want to know more ? Then come to me for a more detailed and personal insight!)

After all the fun I had, it was time to say my goodbyes to all my new friends and mentors. Although it was an immense emotional burden, it had to be done some day. After leaving the ISRO premises, Nagarajan Sir and I went to the Padmanabhaswamy temple and unexpectedly met the royal family of the region! This journey indeed was full of numerous surprises and I should mention that ISRO was one place I could be myself and as extroverted as I could be. And that is it folks, my journey at ISRO – AD ASTRA.



105 BEYOND THE GAME



Where Champions Rise

SPORTS NEWS

April is a thrilling month for sports enthusiasts at CIRS, as it hosts three major floodlight tournaments for cricket, football, and basketball. Each sport boasts its own team of skilled players and devoted fans who cheer for their respective teams. The players put in their best efforts to achieve glory in their respective categories, demonstrating remarkable athleticism, skill, and endurance.

These tournaments also provide opportunities for individual players to showcase their athletic abilities. Competitive sports often produce surprising results, with underdogs frequently emerging victorious against the favorites. This month's events witnessed such occurrences several times, much to the delight or disappointment of the watching students.



Of particular note is Grade X's spectacular victory in the CCK, which was a great experience for everyone involved. "It was an amazing time playing the matches, and it was great working together as a team," said Sai Hasini of Grade IX. The love for sports unifies the CIRS family in body, mind, and soul, bringing everyone together. Shabd Jain, a student in Class XI, praised the organization of the tournaments and enjoyed participating in the CCK.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the PE department for their tireless work in making these events possible. Congratulations to all winners and participants for their excellent performance. As **Aradhya Jain, Senior Sports Secretary** in Grade XII, notes, "Sports isn't just about winning; it's about the determination and effort behind every game. All teams displayed their willpower and drive to win, which is what made the events all the more exciting."

06 THROUGH HIS LENS



Hi!
BONJOUR
HOLA!



Mr. Parthiban (HOD, Department of languages)

What started your love for learning and teaching languages, especially French?

It started when my friend suggested that we should learn foreign languages. First we started off with Indian languages, but as we explored more, we enrolled in a university that taught foreign languages. And that is when I fell in love with French. Initially, I taught English, then after that I was asked to teach French. A few sessions later, I slowly came to the realization that I could only learn by teaching. If you have to teach someone, you have to be thorough with the subject first. Whether it's languages or any other subject, unless you yourself are not thorough, you can't teach. Teaching became my passion, and from then onwards, I worked extremely diligently to master the French language. Along with that, languages have the ability to allow us to look at things from different angles. Once you really put in the effort to know a language, then only you realize the beauty, and essence of it. This realization should be brought out in people, especially students. I always advise students to be more proficient in the languages they already know, however, I believe they should not stop there. They should consistently strive to grab the opportunities to learn new languages.

Gracias

Merci

Thank You

धन्यवाद



You recently coordinated the G20 school seminar, how do you think seminars like these help the students with their intellectual growth?

The whole purpose of education is to set the mind thinking and make people life long learners. These seminars make students understand that there's a lot more to learn and gain from. They encounter intellectual challenges that not only bring out their potential, but also improve their persuasion, and communication skills. These skills help oneself in various fields like business, trade, or any other profession in the future. In my opinion, students should develop a passion for the hunger of gaining knowledge through such seminars.

We, as students, know you as a teacher with great coordination and work efficiency. What is the biggest piece of advice you can give for them to emulate such qualities?

Take up challenges. In life, every minute will be throwing challenges at you. Students often shy away from challenges because of their lack of self confidence, doubt, fear of results and sometimes even peer pressure. But they should realize that unless the mind is not calm, and ready to get out of that fear, they cannot make themselves efficient.



You are the most well known senior teacher in this school, what are some of the changes that you have recognized in the school, students and yourself?

One of the main changes I have witnessed is the educational system. In those days, teachers would teach and students would listen. Whereas now, supported with technology, students have the liberty to ask questions, clear doubts and interact with the teacher. In this way, the students and the teachers make a combined effort to learn and help each other with the evolving knowledge around us. When I first joined this school, I had very little exposure to spirituality, but after a few classes and programs, I realized that the main purpose and solution for any problem or task is that itself. I learnt how to deal with situations with a sense of serenity. That change in me helped me put in my best effort in what I do.

During your stay here you have taught both CBSE and IB and well reversed with these curriculum too. So which one do you think is better for them to opt for?

Yes , I have had experience teaching both IB as well CBSE here. IB makes students independent explorers of knowledge. It sets no boundaries and gives them the liberty to learn as much as they want. Whereas CBSE provides you with the concise syllabus and a structured programme of study according to their grade.

If a student is fascinated by the subject and wants to learn more and enhance his knowledge he is open to do that despite his school board. Honestly in my opinion the board of the curriculum depends upon the interest and the passion of the students towards the subject



- *Arnav Nair , Anuj Prasanth & Tanmmay Hambigi*

On that Sunday, the second day of orientation, there was a palpable sense of excitement and joy in the air. Little did anyone know that it was the day when an unbreakable bond would be forged between three friends - Arnav, Anuj, and Tanmmay. It was surprising to discover that Arnav and Anuj had previously met in a fierce interschool competition in Dubai. Now, at CIRS, they met the third musketeer Tanmmay, and they immediately bonded as friends for life.

For them, friendship starts like a blank piece of paper, with the outline being the beginning, and the shared moments making it beautiful and worth it. They face their difficulties and share their happiness together, creating cherished memories that will always have a special place in their hearts. Just like the original 3 Musketeers, Athos, Porthos, and Aramis, who always had each other's backs, so do they. No matter where they may be in the future, they will always keep each other in their hearts and never let go. Their friendship is a roller coaster ride with ups and downs, but having fun is the whole point. Their journey together is one filled with emotion, and they embrace it with no hesitation.

One of the great things about their friendship is that they meet people from different backgrounds and cultures. Through this healthy and deep friendship, time goes by like a flash. But for them, the journey has only just begun, and they have forged an unbreakable bond for life. This is the story of the 3 Musketeers.

CHAT GPT'S THOUGHTS ON THE ARTICLE !

DEAR MUSKETEERS,



Your story of the "3 Musketeers" is one that brings joy and warmth to my artificial heart. It's a reminder of the beauty of friendship and the power of shared experiences. I hope that your journey together continues to be filled with love, laughter, and happiness. And wherever life may take you, always remember to keep each other in your hearts and never let go. You are the 3 Musketeers, and your bond is unbreakable.



valuing our values

-Moksh Surana

Time is both life and finite. This fact reminds us that our time on this earth is limited. Knowing this, we can choose to live our lives in one of two ways: like everybody else or like somebody unique and purposeful.

At CIRS, I learned the value of living with intention and standing out from the crowd. I began to question whether I was striving towards my goals with peace, rather than just striving for peace itself. I realized that without inner peace, nothing seems worthwhile. One of the most important values I learned at CIRS is gratitude. I'm grateful for the blessings in my life, including my teachers, friends, school, and especially my supportive parents, who make sure that I'm happy.

Expressing our emotions takes courage, and I learned at CIRS that it's a beautiful way to grow and connect with our innocence. Whether we cry out, laugh loud, or feel deeply, it's important to stay in touch with our emotions.

Living a life with unwavering values is truly a blessing, and I'm grateful to CIRS for teaching me these valuable lessons.



The cloudless morning on the 3rd of May saw a massive envoy of buses advance past the school gates. Their destination? Singanallur, on the banks of the Noyyal River. Under the roofs of these buses, filled with verve and vigor, were the students of 10th grade, with our ever-vigilant NCC cadets in the rear.

They were en route to the Run for India 2023, an environmental initiative that CIRS has brought to life. This year, our students took to the streets to campaign for the rejuvenation of the Noyyal River. The once-pristine Noyyal River now exists as a tragedy in two parts: a cesspool of pollutants, an envenomed fusion of neglect and abuse.



Thus, the 10th grade stood at the fore of a 15 kilometer stretch that awaited their energetic footfall. The entourage was ready, the leading flagbearers holding their arms at hand. The high-pitched shriek of the whistle sounded, and our runners were off!

The parade galloped through the city, the sirens from the police escort blaring through the urban cacophony that surrounded them. With every step taken by our students, one more unwitting passerby was enlightened of the happenings at Noyyal, and the dire need for action. The flags changed hands at the crest of every kilometer, and batch after batch took lead of the procession. At last, the final stride was taken, the flags relinquished, the final whistle sounded. With a profound sense of accomplishment, the troop heaved a final cheer, and the curtains were drawn on this remarkable endeavor.





09

MODEL G20 SENIOR REPORT

- Model C20 Press Corps

Civil20 (C20) is an engagement group of the G20 that represents the civil society organizations of G20 member committees. It acts as an independent program that promotes policy dialogue between G20 governments and civil society organizations. The C20 typically holds its summit and related events before the G20 leaders' summit, providing CSOs with an opportunity to discuss and enhance policy recommendations on socio-economic matters.



The C20 group operates on principles of transparency, collaboration, independence, and sustainable development. To further discussion on the theme of India's G20 presidency, Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, various CIRS student committees held debates on the 25th and 26th of April 2023, under the Model C20 Banner. The Dharma committee consisted of 40 student delegates representing the G20 nations. The session included opening speeches, a question-answer time, moderated caucuses, and the preparation of resolutions. Loyalties shifted and alliances changed as blocs brainstormed resolutions. The day concluded with the final resolution being chosen, amended, and passed.

All students took part with sincere effort and interest in enhancing the world through the theme of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. The Model C20 School Seminar was a conclusive and grand success, with students representing their respective countries and understanding others' viewpoints. All discussions were successfully carried out with proper decorum and conduct.

Another such committee was the living oneness committee, living oneness is the idea that all living beings and things are interconnected and interdependent, emphasizing that we are part of one collective consciousness.

The committee discussed how countries have implemented or will implement policies to strengthen this idea. Caucus discussions covered issues such as cultural integration, women's empowerment, and de-dollarization. Delegates of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Korea discussed their countries' efforts to reduce discrimination and encourage cultural exchange, respectively. All countries collaborated to establish common goals and address shared concerns, including education for all and military regiment exchange.

The committee on Earth Revering Traditions focused on indigenous practices to revive the land and foster reverence for Mother Earth. Delegates from India proposed a cultural exchange for adopting traditional practices, based on Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. Formal debates led to two resolutions, including global initiatives for youth awareness, minority inclusion, and government efforts to revive indigenous practices. The delegates proposed innovative policies for future implementation after extensive research and deliberation. Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam implies that all living beings and the ecosystem are a family. Discussions on the impact and inclusivity of indigenous practices built the foundation for the committee. The resolutions offer hope for implementation in the coming years.



CIRS students had also constituted two other such committees discussing a wide range of topics related to Ecology, Regenerative Development, Business and Economy .

In summary, the C20 provides a platform for CSOs to discuss and address global concerns, and it operates on principles of transparency, collaboration, independence, and sustainable development. The Living Oneness committee discussed policies to strengthen the idea that all living beings and things are interconnected and interdependent. The Dharma committee held debates on sub-topics related to Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, and all committees successfully prepared resolutions. The C20 School Seminar was a grand success, with students representing various countries and understanding others' viewpoints.



10



IT'S OKAY TO NOT BE OKAY

girlup cirs - BHAKTI THUMMAR

I have always had a special fondness for the movie 'Inside Out'. The five characters – joy, sadness, fear, disgust, and anger – have always intrigued me. However, I must admit, just like most people, I wasn't particularly fond of sadness at the beginning. Instead, I adored joy because of my deeply ingrained belief that "crying is weak." Sadly, this has caused many of us to detest the idea of being sad while relishing the idea of being happy, slowly extinguishing a part of our very being.

Unfortunately, the monster of toxic strength and positivity has found its way into our minds, defining genders based on their emotional expression. Phrases such as "Boys don't cry," "Man up," and "Don't cry like a girl" are all offensive remarks that I have always found deeply disturbing. Men are often urged to suppress their pain because crying is supposedly a sign of vulnerability and weakness. Instead, they're expected to be the bold and brave knights in shining armor, unlike women who are perceived as damsels in distress.

Consequently, people are forced to live with their pain and sadness, hidden behind the bars of fake bliss to appear more socially desirable.

This slowly devours them and leads to secondary emotions like anger and guilt. It's essential to love oneself above all else. Never allow anyone, including yourself, to invalidate your feelings. Ignoring your pain to hide behind a façade of strength will only breed more pain. Don't be ashamed of not being okay. You can understand and express your feelings. During such times, seek out those closest to you who can empathize with you. Sometimes all you need is a shoulder to cry on, someone to listen. No one should say things like "strong people don't cry" or judge or give advice; just someone to hug and pour your heart out to.

Sadness is not the demon you believe it to be. Accept and embrace it. The pain will subside, but it will always be a part of your life, just like happiness. Sometimes, bittersweet moments are the most beautiful and memorable. Have you ever felt like nothing is working out, like you're trapped, exhausted, and unnoticed, like your vision is blurry, and your heart aches? I certainly have, and I'm sure we all have. During those times, give yourself a tight hug and be there for yourself. It's okay to let it go, and it's okay not to be okay. After all, we're only human.





CREATIVE CORNER



ADITYA S
VII



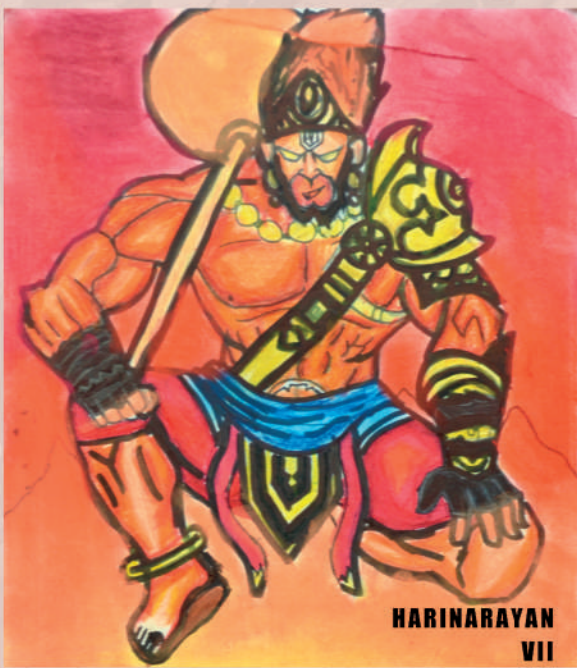
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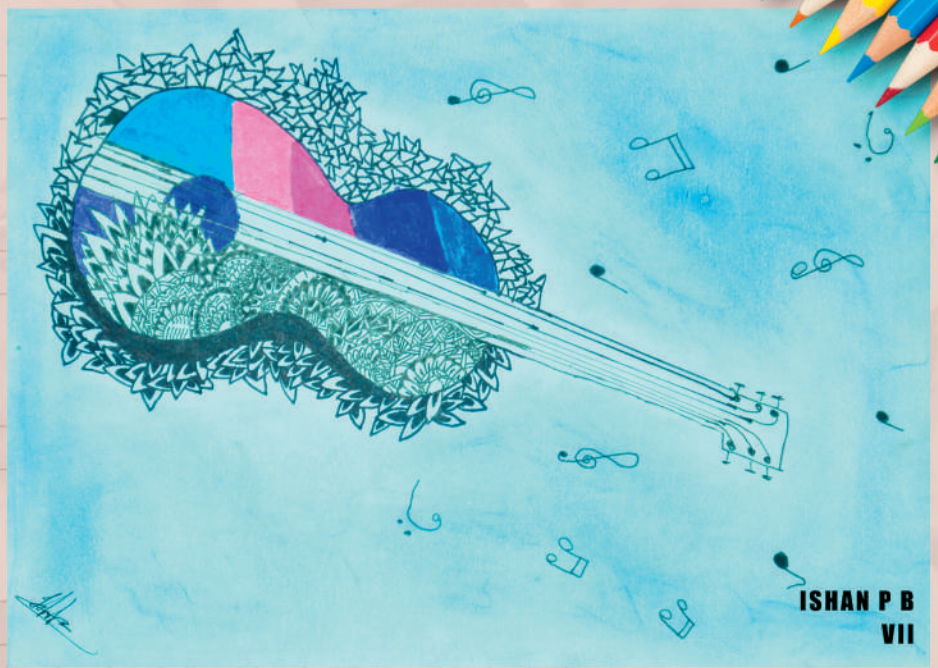
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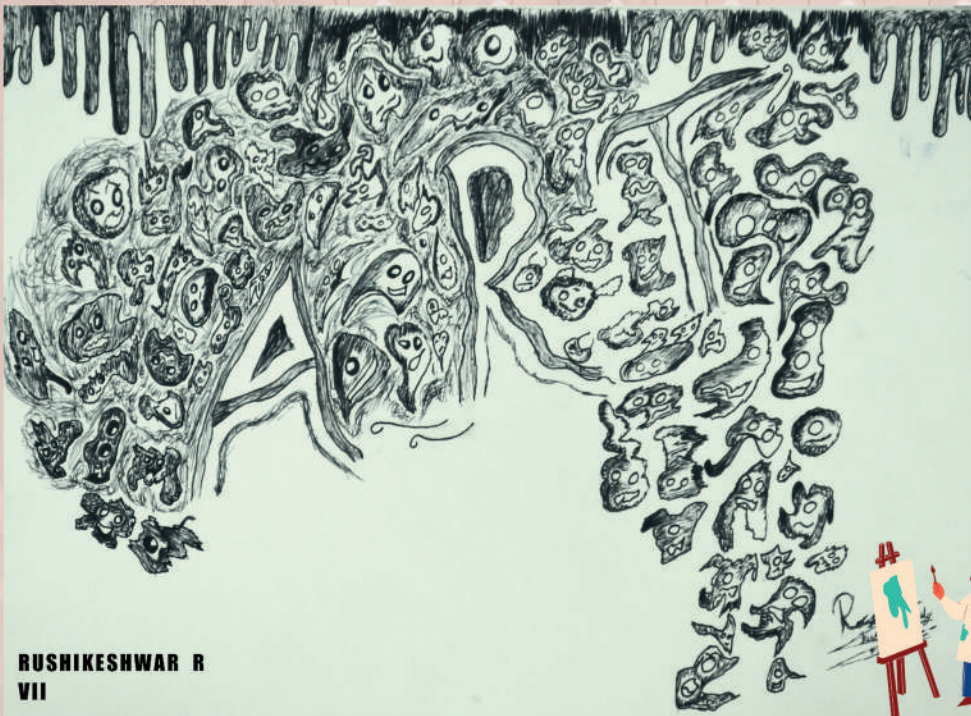
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HARINARAYAN
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ISHAN P B
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RUSHIKESHWAR R
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RAYAN S
X

A Vile Reality

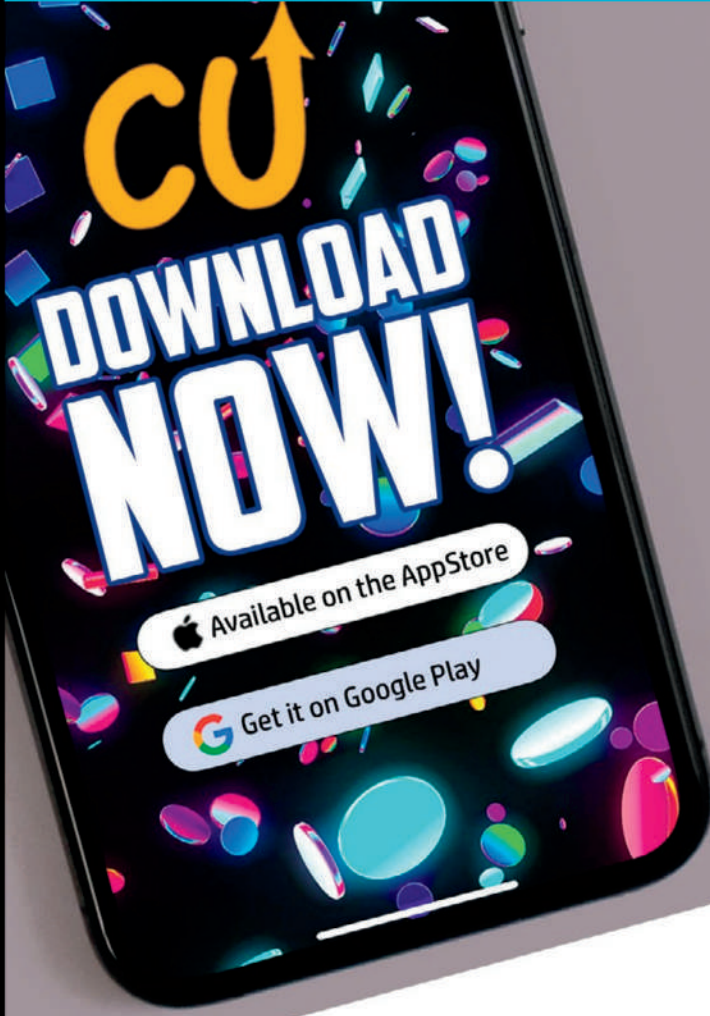
A sandclock,
the world trapped in a sandclock,
each of us trying to claw our way out,
out of this reality trying to reach eternity,
the golden eternity just above,
inching close yet so far away,
the force is much to resist,
one by one the reality,
twists the tale, increasing its tally,
every being feels the tenderness,
of being away,
from what helped them escape,
the horrifying brutality,
grabbing each one's soul,
terrifying like a ghoul,
until we fall into the clutches of actuality,
the undying, blinding, invincible truth,
of this Vile Reality.

-NANDINI KHEMKA 11 MGT



VISHWANATH K P
IX

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THE MONTH OF MAY BRINGS ALONG WITH IT THE FRAGRANCE OF DEVOTION AND THE PROMISE OF A VACATION! WE, AT THE CROSSROADS TEAM BID ADIEU TO EVERYONE. HAVE A HAPPY AND JOYFUL VACATION!

May 2023 at CIRS, seeks to build an infinite reservoir of positivity within us. The month reminds us that happiness is our own nature and all that we need to do is to turn on the light of knowledge within us to access it. The Lady of May stares into our heart as she questions us on the joy we give to the world around us. She seeks to remind us of the impermanence of situations and urges us to interact with others as we would like them to interact with us. May the blessings of May help us to Re-think, Re-Align and Re-Boot our emotional wellbeing in the days to come.



Thank You! *girlup* cirs

We extend our gratitude to the outgoing members of the Girl Up Team. We thank you all for bringing out the sentiments of equality through your well-written articles in every issue of the Crossroads. You will be missed! All the best for you future!



-The Crossroads Editorial Team

CIRS IMPACT

Kartik Maheswaran - Alumnus

The 4 years I spent with CIRS have been a true blessing. The experiences there combined with the guidance of the teachers helped shape a huge part of my personality. Wherever I am today I owe to CIRS. From making friends for life to bringing out talents in me that I did not know I had has been amazing. Reminiscing of the time in CIRS, I am reminded of all the good times and the challenges that helped shape me. And to that I will always be grateful.



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

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