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# HAKUNA MATATA

Independence Day Edition



 Cambridge Assessment  
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# EDITORIAL

Freedom, Liberty, Independence - these words have differing and personal connotations for each of us. As India celebrates its 75th Independence Day, we wanted to explore the underlying nuances of freedom. This edition is our celebration of freedom; through art, poetry, prose, music and so much more.

As social historians have pointed out in the past, freedom can flourish only in the presence of duties and responsibilities. As students, young people and citizens at large, we must look not only at the rights given to us, but also at the responsibilities conferred on us. We must realize the sense our founding fathers had that democracy and freedom are fragile, and their fragility depends on its citizens' sense of social responsibility. Unless we regularly ask questions, speak out against injustice and strive to fulfill the duties given to us by the Constitution, freedom and democracy become dead abstracts, rather than a living reality. It is a process and not a product, a matter of the daily choice to be a good citizen.

India's independence struggle is filled with touching tales of courage, sacrifice and tenacity. Each life lost was for a cause greater than any individual or country. It was for the noble belief that everyone deserved liberty. Most of us are lucky to be born in a free country with no recollection of pre-independent India. As we celebrate the fruits of this struggle, let us not forget the true ideals behind it. The events of the past are shaping our future and the future of this country. We must respect our freedom - the freedom to express ourselves, the freedom to make choices, and the freedom to shape our future.



# CURRENT NEWS



## Protests in Cuba



Massive anti-government protests have broken out in Cuba since 11th July, 2021. The protests are a result of the mishandling of the pandemic, the state of the economy and shortages in essential supplies such as food and medicine.

The Cuban government had paused tourism in the state, which was a major source of income for the nation, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The action effectively resulted in a large downfall in the economy. The government implemented a policy which caused a huge spike in the prices of goods, further affecting the population. Some economists suggest that if these rates continue, the costs of goods could increase by more than 500%. Cuba had also seen an extremely unsatisfactory harvest this year, resulting in food shortages across the country.

The Cuban government held the US embargo accountable for these issues. Throughout 2020, the pandemic was managed well in Cuba. However, in 2021, the number of cases in the country, as well as the death rate, spiked considerably. Citizens have reported that it is difficult to access necessary medication, such as aspirin. Hospitals are overcrowded and people are dying due to the lack of medical assistance.



*A protest is being held*



*People are furious with the government.*



*The Cuban flag*



# Cabinet Reshuffle



On 7th July 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the biggest cabinet reshuffle since he took office in 2014. The new cabinet has 78 ministers, which is just 3 short of the constitutional limit of 81 (15% of the total seats in Lok Sabha). The reshuffle includes key personnel changes with 43 new ministers like Jyotiraditya Scindia and Sarbananda Sonowal being inducted, following the addition of 28 ministers of states. Many experienced politicians like Ravi Shankar Prasad and Prakash Javadekar were also dropped from the cabinet. Another noteworthy development was that a new ministry, namely the Ministry of Cooperation was also created, which will be headed by Home Minister Amit Shah.

Another prominent change included Mansakh Mandaivya taking charge of the health ministry. He will be assisted by junior minister Dr. Bharati Pawar and together they will spearhead the country's vaccination programme. Some crucial changes include Ashwini Vaishnaw, a prestigious businessman with extensive technical knowledge, becoming Minister of Railways and Kiren Rijju taking charge of the Law and Justice ministry. Jyotiraditya Scindia has been given charge of the Civil Aviation Ministry, and has his job cut out for him with the massive recession faced by the industry due to the pandemic.



*The newly appointed cabinet ministers*



*The female cabinet ministers*



*A discussion regarding the cabinet reshuffle*

The central government has hailed this cabinet as the most "representative Council of Ministers in a long time", with 11 women ministers, 27 ministers from backward classes, and 12 Dalit ministers.



# Floods in Germany



Germany is facing an environmental catastrophe unlike anything witnessed in the last 60 years. A major storm, followed by heavy rains, struck Western Germany and parts of Belgium, Austria, Switzerland and the Netherlands on 14th July, 2021. However, Germany was the most affected nation in this calamity.



*A flooded area*

As of 19th July, two regions of Western Germany - North-Rhine Westphalia and Rhineland Palatinate have seen 163 confirmed deaths, while the total death toll is close to 200. The soil in these regions cannot absorb more water. The floods have destroyed people's homes and belongings, effectively ruining the entire infrastructure of the cities.



*High water level due to floods*

The German government had released a warning for this storm two days before it had hit. However, there were hardly any preventive measures taken locally. Authorities have said that it would have been impossible to detect the severity of these floods.



*The citizens' adaptations for the floods*

Politicians, as well as the German Meteorological Service have blamed the natural disaster on climate change. Coincidentally, these floods occurred in the same week as the European Union's announcement regarding their plan to combat climate change by reducing their carbon emissions by 55% , within 2030.





# SPORTS



## Game Faces



With spectators waiting with bated breath, the Olympic Games have been rescheduled for the 23rd of July, following the effects of the pandemic. The extensive opening ceremony will introduce 11,000 athletes from 200 nations. This will run till the 8th of August. With up to 33 sports, successfully encompassing 50 disciplines, the Games have introduced witnesses to five new sports. Iconic venues, recycled medals, and the inspiring torch relay - the Olympic Games are set to bring all they promise.

Several members of the Indian Olympics team have arrived in Japan, begun with their intensive regimen to prepare. Renowned athletes, including Deepika Kumari, Pravin Jadhav, P.V. Sindhu and more, were seen practising for the long-awaited event. Though restrictions do not allow spectators to watch the Games physically, it will not stop us from rooting for our nation!

The Union of European Football Associations organizes the prime association football tournament- the UEFA in every four years. These got postponed in 2020 due to Covid-19. This year the championship title was retained - "UEFA Euro 2020". In total, 51 matches were played across 11 cities in Europe.



*PV Sindhu and Mirabai Chanu*

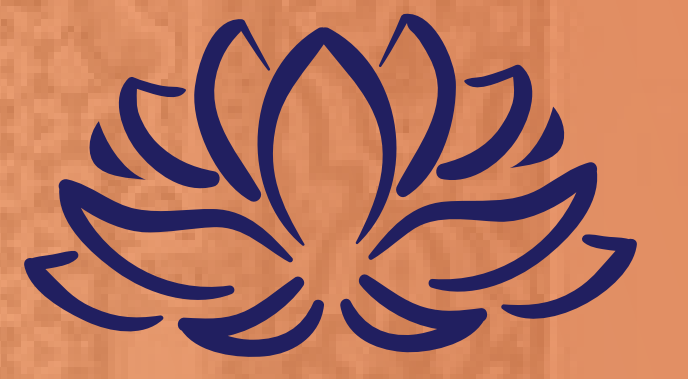
The semifinals and finals were held at the Wembley stadium in London. Finals were held on July 11, 2021 between Italy and England fighting for the continental crown. Italy made it to its fourth final ever and was keen upon adding another feather to its cap after the title they had won in 1968.

Above 31 million exhilarating TV audiences were cheering, the final was a close match triumphed by Italy, lifting their subsequent title after winning the Championship again. The penalties were the moment when Italy beat England 3-2. The player of the tournament award was handed over to Gianluigi Donnarumma, Italy's goalkeeper for his outstanding performance!

After winning their 15th consecutive match in the UEFA Championship, Italy accomplished a new record for the longest winning streak in the games. It will be interesting to see if Italy holds on to its winning streak in the Olympics or the profound South American teams get to taste the last drop of blood!



# हमारी सोने की चिड़िया



स्वर्णिम चिड़िया की स्वर्ण कहानी,  
शहीदों के बलिदान की रवानी,  
फहराते तिरंगे की आन,

और सम्पूर्ण, सशक्त, स्वावलम्बी एवं स्वतंत्र भारत हर भारतवासी की हैं शान।

कुछ सदियों पहले ,भारत अपनी संपत्ति और समृद्धि के कारण 'सोने की चिड़िया' के रूप में प्रसिद्ध था । आज भी, हमारी संस्कृति और सभ्यता के कारण हमारा झंडा दुनियाभर में लहराता हैं । भारत कई अलग-अलग संस्कृतियों वाला देश है और यहाँ तीन सौ से अधिक भाषाएँ बोली जाती हैं।

प्रतिवर्ष, भारत में पंद्रह अगस्त के शुभ अवसर पर अंग्रेजों से अपनी आज़ादी का समारोह मनाया जाता है। इस वर्ष भारत अपनी ७४ वीं स्वतंत्रता वर्षगांठ मनाएगा। अंग्रेजों ने लगभग २०० साल तक भारत पर शासन किया था और इसी कारण भारतवासी स्वयं को अंग्रेज़ो से मुक्त करवाना चाहते थे। ब्रिटिश साम्राज्य के दौरान, लोगों का जीवन पीड़ादायक था। भारतीयों को अंग्रेजों के खिलाफ आवाज उठाने की इजाज़त नहीं थी और उनके साथ गुलामों जैसा व्यवहार किया जाता था। ब्रिटिश अधिकारियों ने भारतीय सम्राटों को अपने नियंत्रण में रखा था। । ब्रिटिश सेना में भारतीय सैनिकों के साथ तुच्छ बर्ताव किया जाता था, और किसान भूखमरी के शिकार हो रहे थे क्योंकि उन्हें अपनी फसल का सही मूल्य कभी नहीं मिलता था और उन्हें खेतों का बहुत 'कर' चुकाना पड़ता था ।

महात्मा गांधी, सुभाष चंद्र बोस, सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल, जवाहरलाल नेहरू, भगत सिंह और रानी लक्ष्मी बाई जैसे स्वतंत्रता सेनानियों ने ब्रिटिशों के खिलाफ निर्भीक होकर उन्हें चुनौती दी और भारत को गुलामी के बेड़ियों से मुक्ति दलाई। उन्होंने अपने प्राणों की फिक्र ना करते हुए भारत की आज़ादी के लिए संघर्ष किया और इसी प्रयास में कई सारे वीर शहीद भी हो गए। उनके योगदान को भारत के स्वर्णिम इतिहास में स्वर्ण अक्षरों में लिखा गया हैं। भारत के लिए स्वतंत्रता संग्राम न केवल कठिन था बल्कि काफी दर्दनाक संघर्ष भी था, लेकिन कई सारे वीर देशभक्त और त्यागियों के बलिदान से हम आज स्वतंत्र जीवन जी रहे हैं। इसलिए स्वतंत्रता दिवस हमें हर साल भारतवासियों के इन बलिदानों की याद दिलाता है और हमारे अंदर की देशभक्ति को जागृत करता है। इस दिन, हम भारतवासी अपने देश की सेना और उन सैनिकों के लिए सम्मानपूर्वक श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करते हैं, जिन्होंने भारत की आज़ादी के लिए अपने प्राण न्योछावर कर दिए।



# মহিলা আর স্বাধীনতা



১৮৪৭ সালে ১৫ অগাস্টে ভারত স্বাধীন হয়েছিল। বিশ্বের কিছু দেশে এখনো স্বাধীনতার লড়াই চলছে। আমরা অনেক রকম স্বাধীনতার কথা ভাবতে পারি। যেমন অন্যদের নিপীড়ন থেকে স্বাধীনতা, মহিলাদের পুরুষতান্ত্রিক সমাজ ব্যবস্থা থেকে স্বাধীনতা, ইত্যাদি। পুরুষতান্ত্রিক সমাজে পুরুষরা হুকুম দেয় তাদের মনের ইচ্ছা মতো। অনেক বছর ধরে অনেক মহিলা এই সমাজ ব্যবস্থা থেকে স্বাধীনতার জন্যে লড়াই করছে।

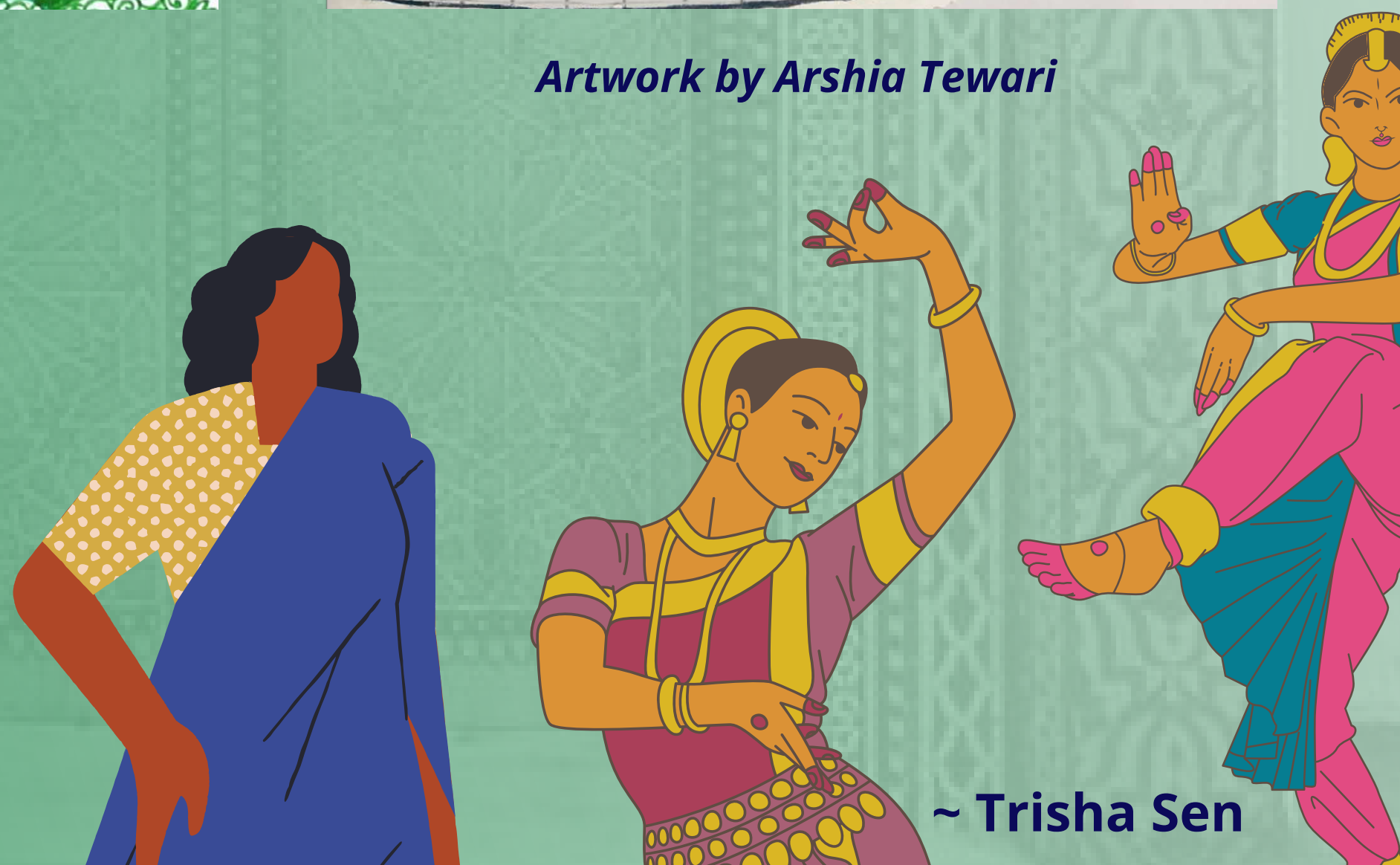
রানী লক্ষ্মীবাই, মালারা ইউজফসই, গ্রেটা থানবার্গ, এরা সবাই এই লড়াইএ যোগ দিয়েছেন। কিন্তু এখনো সমাজে পুরুষ ও মহিলাদের মধ্যে অনেক বৈষম্য আছে। আমি আশা করছি যে সামনের বছরগুলিতে আরও অনেক মহিলা এই স্বাধীনতার লড়াইএ যোগ দেবেন।



Artwork by Ananya Mishra



Artwork by Arshia Tewari



~ Trisha Sen



# BUSY WITH BUSINESS

India was under British rule from 1858 to 1947. During this period, India was struggling for freedom and saw the rise and fall of many different businesses, like the Indian Tobacco Company Ltd, which was founded on August 24th, 1910. The company had a humble and modest beginning, which started in a small office on lease in Radha Bazar Lane, Kolkata. It was a company that was originally associated with businesses that worked with cigarettes and leaf tobacco products.

Sixteen years after its successful inauguration, the ITC bought a plot of land for Rs 3,10,000. This plot was situated at 37 Chowringhee Road, now known as J.L. Nehru Road, in Kolkata. This decision turned out to be extremely significant, as it marked the beginning of the prosperous and eventual expansion of ITC, a factor of India's future.

ITC today is a billion-dollar company that has been running for 111 years. It encompasses a multi-business portfolio of an extensive line of businesses, such as a chain of hotels, lifestyle retailing, agri-business, information technology etc.



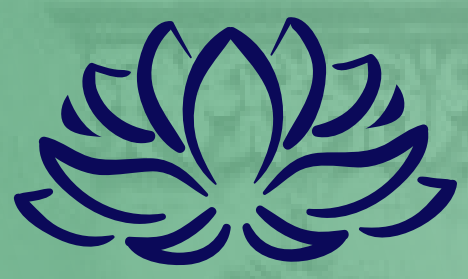
*ITC in various industries*

Since 2000 onwards, ITC pushed itself to scale up company status by trying its luck with business ideas such as branded packaged foods, safety matches, personal care products, stationary and much more. They have helped foster the development of Indian Classical music and worked on the development of sustainable agricultural practices.

In the recent past, the new ITC hotel, Royal Bengal, has just opened in Kolkata. It has proved the high potential that ITC has, with making customer satisfaction its topmost priority. It is impressive that the company has diversified so well and successfully moved away from products that are harmful to consumers' health. Without realising, almost every Indian household uses ITC products on a daily basis. The company that was set up during the British Raj has reinvented itself and become a shining example of successful Indian corporations.



*The different aspects of a business*

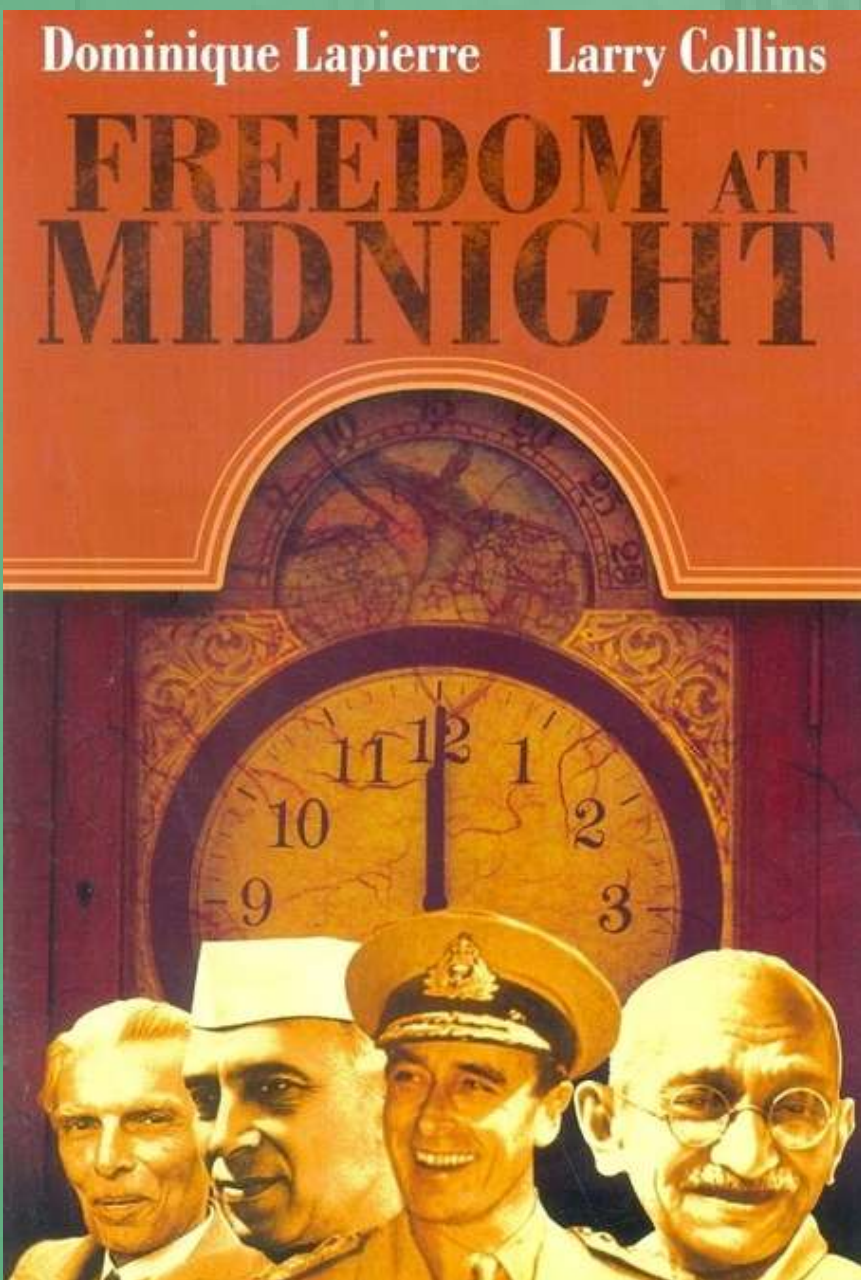
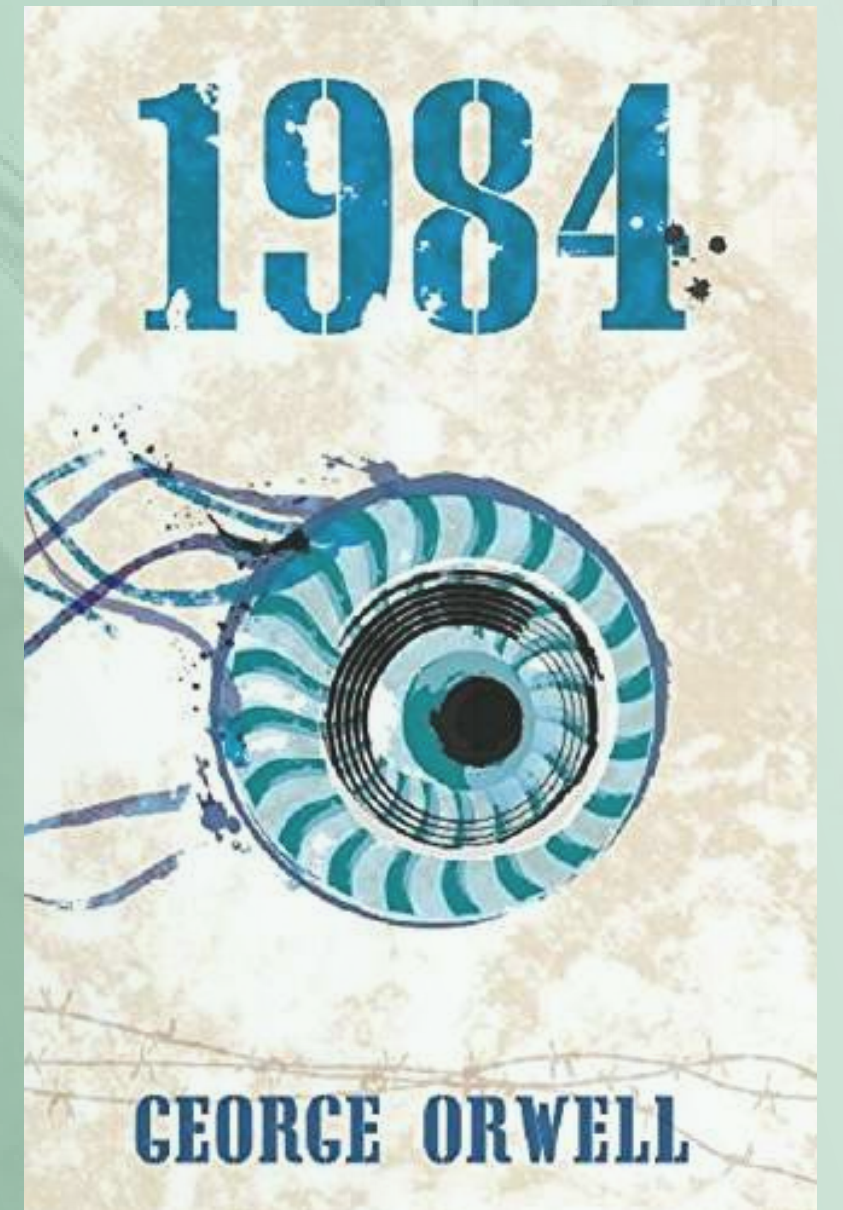


# PAGE TURNERS



**1984:**

By creating a fictional world where the state acts as a Big Brother with intrusive amounts of surveillance, this dystopian novel by George Orwell encourages readers to appreciate freedom of thought, assembly, movement and human rights more than ever. It makes readers imagine what life would be like if the Indian constitution didn't grant us fundamental rights such as the right to freedom, right against exploitation, right to freedom of religion, etc. To envision a reality where everyone's thoughts are constantly under scrutiny and people are forbidden to think freely makes readers feel an increased sense of gratitude towards the freedom we have today.

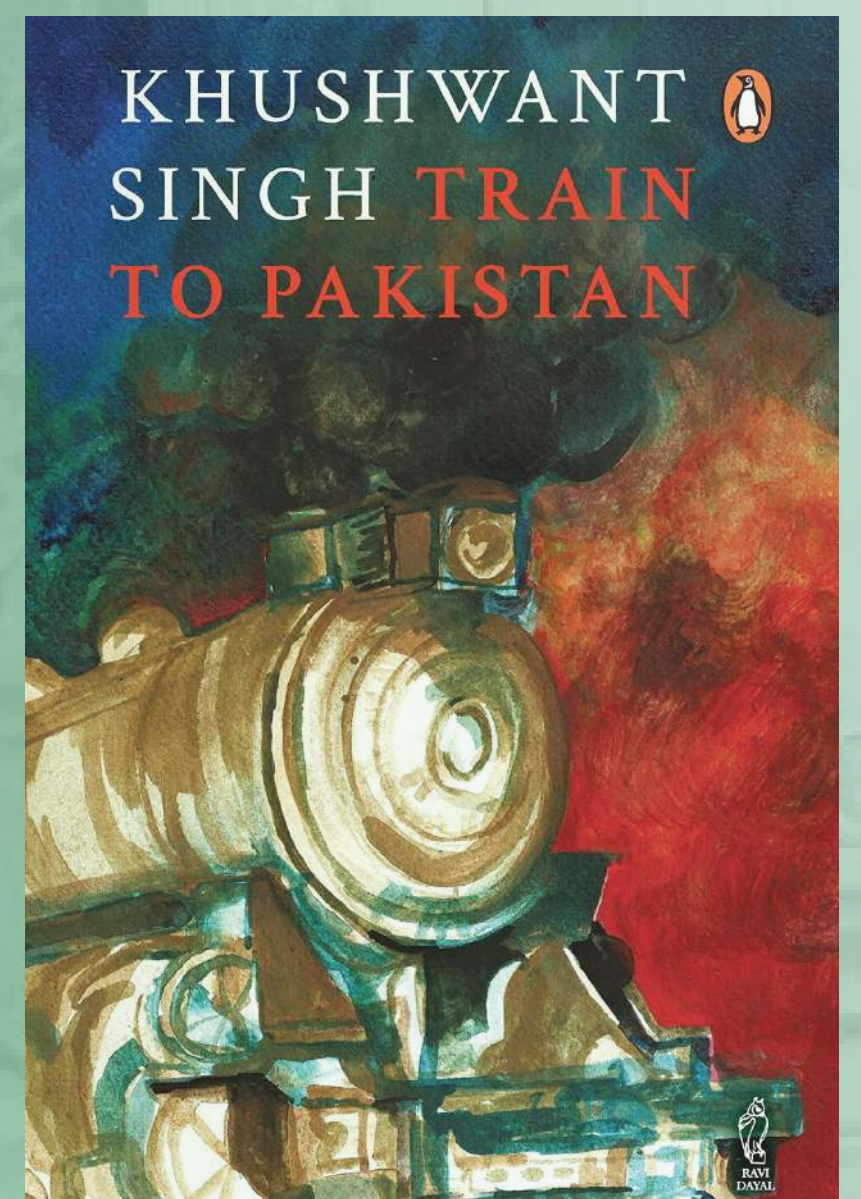


## *Freedom at Midnight:*

Freedom at Midnight, a book by Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre, is an accurate retelling of significant events and situations that took place during the struggle for Indian Independence. It begins with Lord Mountbatten of Burma being chosen as the last Viceroy of British India and ends with Mahatma Gandhi's assassination. This book is gripping from start to finish and definitely deserves all the praise it gets.

## *Train to Pakistan:*

This novel written by Khushwant Singh in 1956 gives an account of the tragedy and terror of the Partition of 1947. It gives readers an insight into the lives of the people affected by the partition. The novel portrays the huge changes to the peaceful environment of a Sikh-Muslim village when a "ghost-train" arrives from Pakistan and pressures the residents into religious hate.



# "ELEMENT" OF SURPRISE

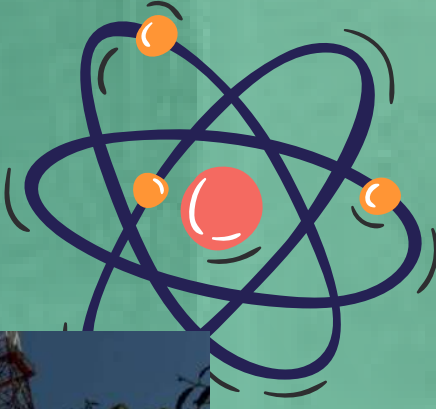
## Indian scientific achievements during the British rule :

India has a rich heritage of scientific pursuits etched in its culture. During the British rule, native scientists learned to follow the Western contemporary principles of science.

Various Indian scientists gained popularity for their ideas throughout Europe. Notable amongst them are Meghnad Saha for the development of the Saha ionization equation, which describes the chemical and physical condition of stars. Jagadish Chandra Bose who was a biologist, physicist and botanist pioneered in radio and microwave optics. Sir C.V. Raman who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for his work in the field of light scattering. Srinivasa Ramanujan was a prominent mathematician who made consequential contributions to several areas of mathematics, but most importantly in the number theory and infinite series. Satyendra Nath Bose, a mathematician and physicist is known for working with Einstein to develop the theory for the Bose-Einstein condensate.

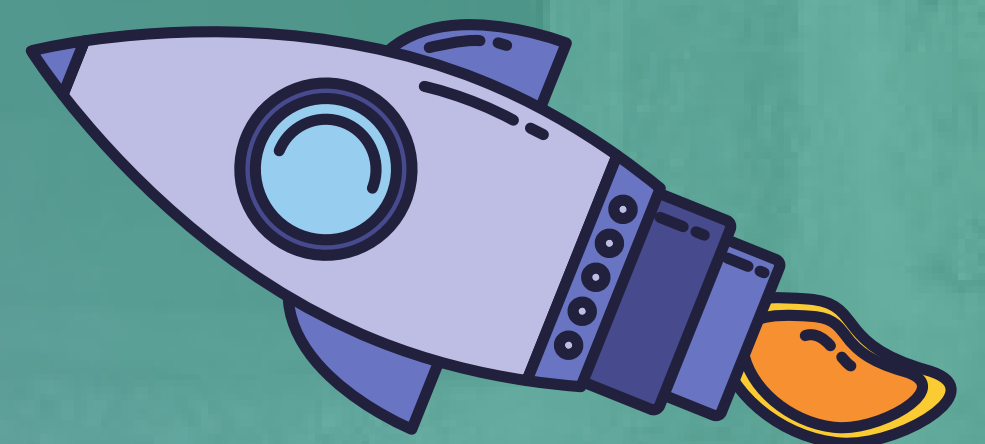
The contributions of these scientists laid the foundation for modern science in the modern Indian state. However, the work and names of many others remain buried in the pages of time and history.

## Future plans in science :



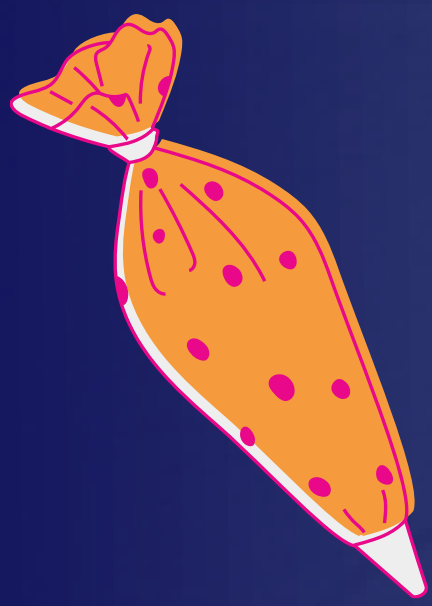
*The takeoff for the Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM)*

India has carried on the legacy of its past glory by ingenious innovations in various scientific fields: space research being the foremost. After the success of Chandrayaan 1 and 2 and MOM (Mars Orbiter Mission), ISRO has planned other important missions like Gaganyaan, Chandrayaan 3 and Mangalyaan 2. Through the 3 Gaganyaan Missions, ISRO plans to send Indians to space before our 75th year of independence in 2022. LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory) is scheduled for completion in 2024 and is a gravitational wave observatory part of a worldwide network. It is designed to detect cosmic gravitational waves and use them as an astronomical tool. India's progress in science and technology will continue unabated, powered by its young and bright minds!

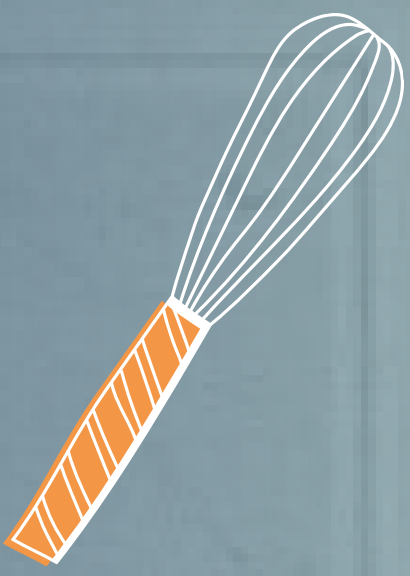


~ Ananya Mishra & Sanvee Sharda.





# RECIPES



## Rasmalai Tres Leches Cake

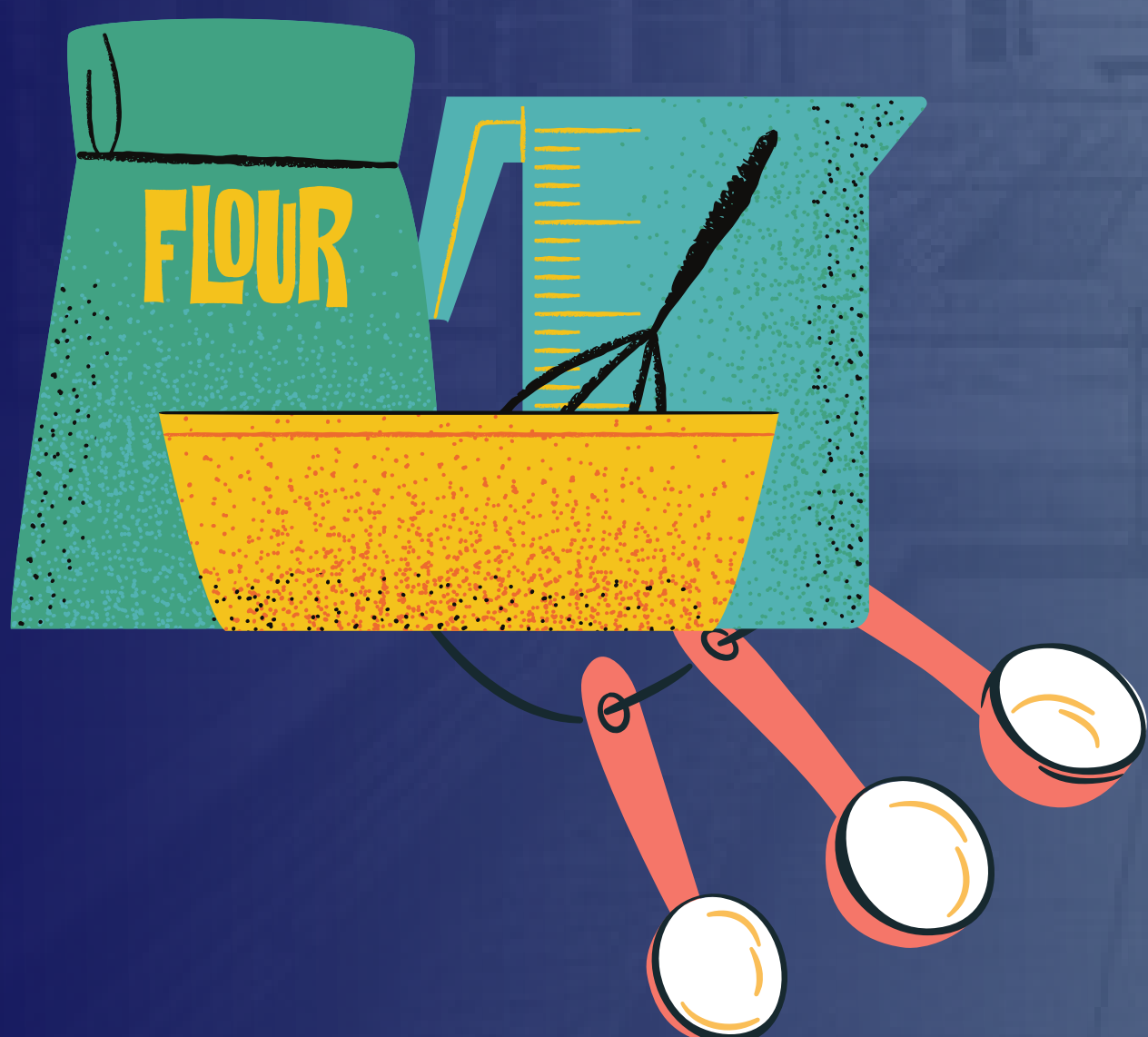
Who has not enjoyed a refreshing, classic Indian *rasmalai*? Be it a grand Holi party or just a 2AM delight. Here, it has been used in a 'tres leches' cake with the hidden flavours of saffron, cardamom and pistachios. Why not satisfy our summer cravings with some delicious fusion food?

### INGREDIENTS -

- 1 + ½ cups (180g) all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon (4g) baking powder
- 1 cup (285g) fresh yogurt
- ½ teaspoon (3g) baking soda
- ¾ cup (150g) castor sugar
- ½ cup (120mL) vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon (5mL) vanilla extract
- 1½ cups milk
- ½ cup condensed milk
- ¾ cup heavy cream
- ½ tsp cardamom
- 7-8 strands of saffron
- Whipped cream, pistachios



*Tres Leches made by Soumyaa & Vani*

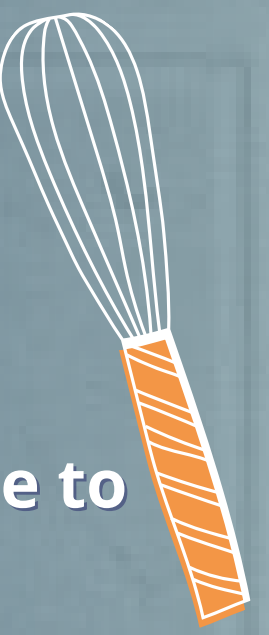


*Serving the tres leches*



## METHOD -

- Pre-heat the oven to 180 degree C and line an 8 inch square cake pan with parchment paper.
- In a bowl whisk together flour and baking powder and set a side.
- In a separate bowl add the yogurt and sprinkle baking soda over it and set it aside to foam up.
- Whisk together castor sugar and oil in a separate bowl until pale and well mixed.
- Now pour the yogurt mixture into the oil and sugar mixture and mix well.
- Add the vanilla extract.
- Gently fold in the flour and mix until everything is well combined and there are no large flour pockets in the batter. Do not over mix at this stage.
- Transfer the batter to the prepared cake pan.
- Bake at 180C for 30-35 minutes or only until a skewer inserted in the center comes out clean.
- While the cake is baking, make the milk mixture by combining warm milk with saffron and cardamom powder.
- Add the heavy cream and condensed milk to this milk mixture and whisk well.
- After the cake is baked, prick it with a fork while it's still hot.
- Pour the milk liquid on the cake and tilt the pan to spread the liquid over the entire cake.
- Let it sit in the fridge for one hour.
- After one hour, demould the cake from the pan.
- Top with whipped cream, pistachios, some more liquid and serve chilled!



*Tres leches dessert by Vani and Soumyaa*



*Soumyaa mixing the batter*

Hope you enjoy making this cake as much as we enjoyed sharing it! The moist and rich flavours of this cake are bound to leave you craving for a second slice! Enjoy!



# KIND THOUGHTS



**"May your choices reflect your  
hopes, not your fears"**

**- Nelson Mandela**

**"Freedom is never given, it is won"**

**- A. Philip Randolph**





# CREATIVE CORNER



## TIMELESS

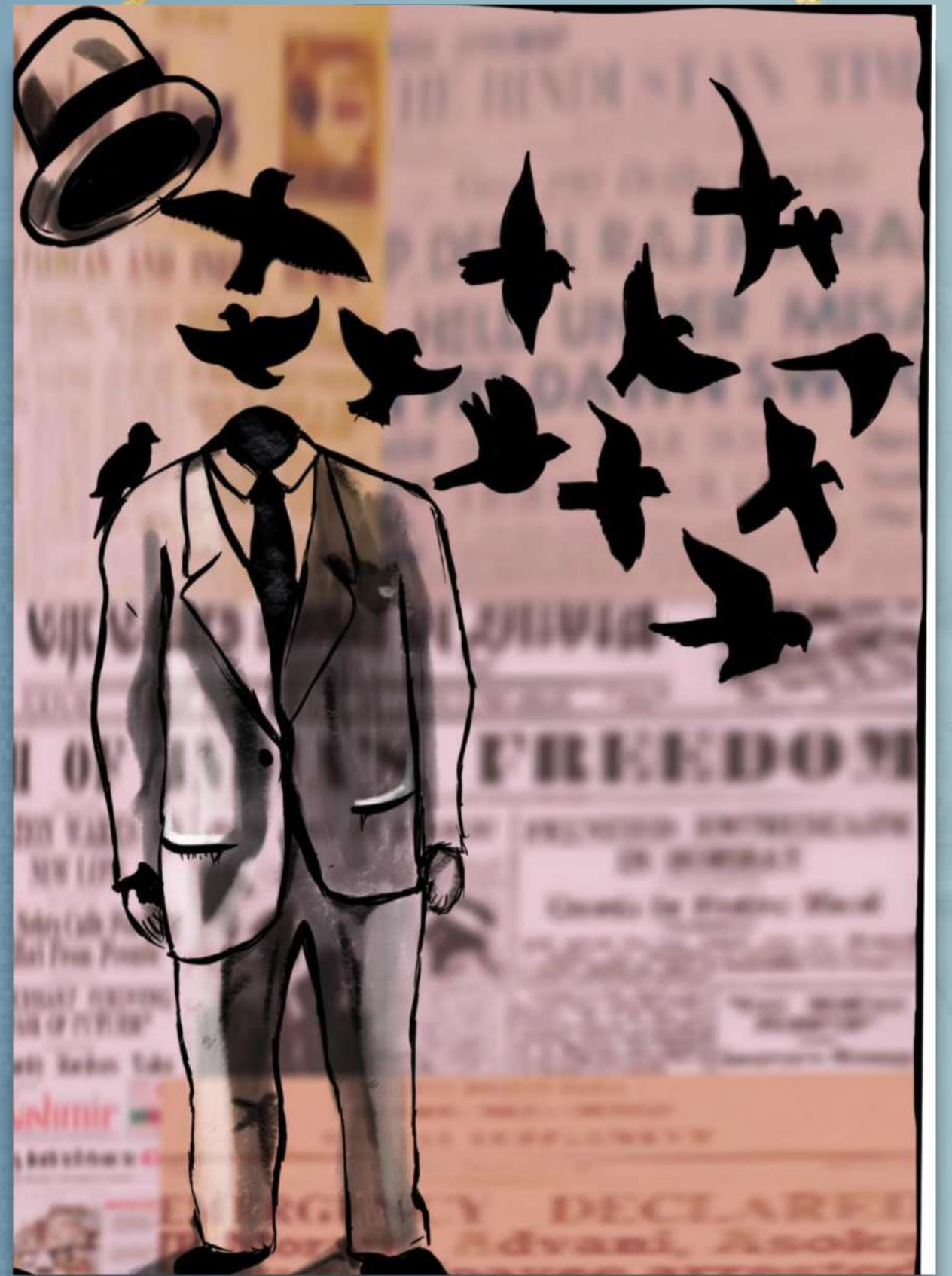
Timeless as the dust on stone  
Words so sharp, cut to the bone  
Tell a tale of a thousand lives  
Bite your tongue, a thousand lies.  
Paint them bright as you could,  
Don't colour it blue like Rockwell would.  
Every sun sets to end the day,  
Just picture it in a prettier way.  
Roll your sleeves and forget the scars,  
Tell stories of the moon and stars.  
I know your pride, it's all you've earned,  
But the brightest light leaves shadows burnt.  
So close your eyes, to all you've seen,  
Let it flow like a breeze that's been.  
Come a time, come and thrive,  
Leave your keys, let them drive.

~Yamuna Seth.

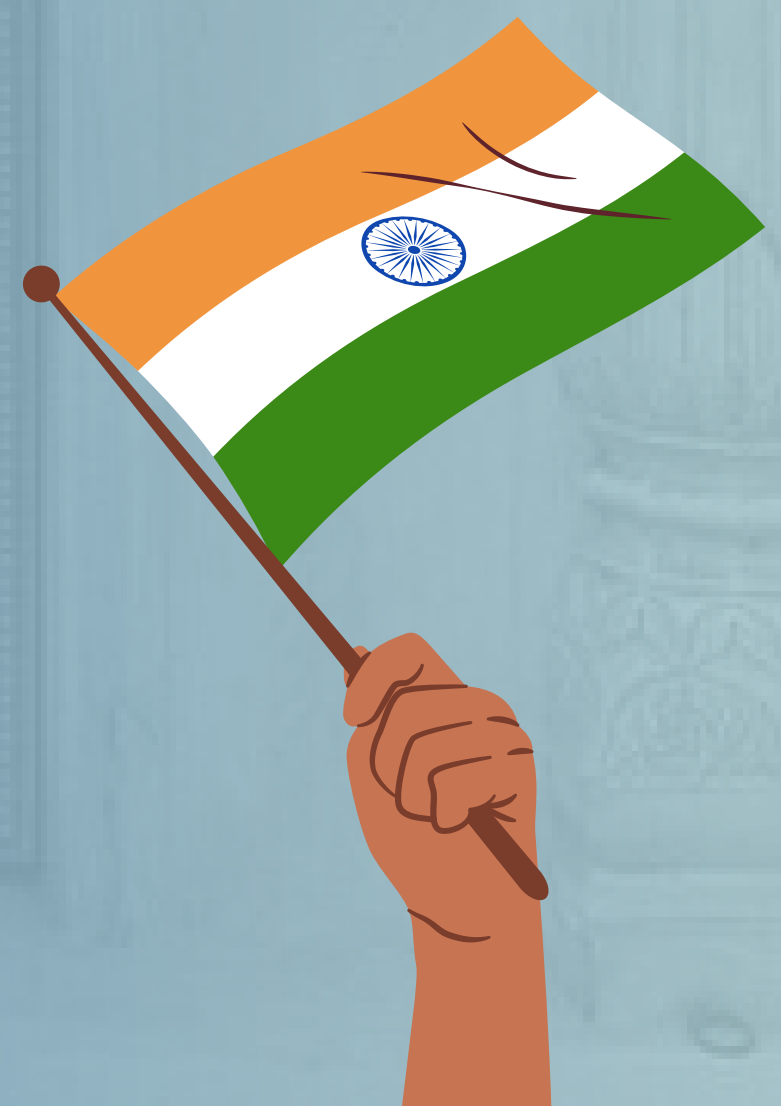
## FUTURE

If you too for many years have lived  
By what others chose for you;  
Made prisoner to the habits of those around you,  
Then do yourself a favour,  
Break free and seek what your heart wants to pursue.  
Instead of just thinking about how you wish things were  
Break free from restraints and others opinions  
Do things the way you prefer  
Fight for your personal freedom  
And walk on the road of self discovery with care  
Soon you'll find you value your independence  
And realize that there is nothing more important or rare.

~Arshia Tewari



Artwork by Priyal Binani



# Lady Liberty

She choked on her words,  
Her traitorous speech,  
Going against society,  
Violating customs set in stone.

Freedom of speech, they called it  
But the people still rebuked her,  
For freedom was monitored, wasn't it?  
By the watchful eyes of conventions

When her soft voice was drowned  
out by the shouts of 'Normal'  
She used her keyboard,  
The digital world welcoming her.

She typed her voice,  
Reminding everyone who would listen  
Of the lyrics of liberty,  
Melodious and true.

Admonished, reproached,shamed;  
Doubts coursed through her,  
The next day the headline shone,  
'reporting Lady Liberty's murder'.

*~Priyal Binani.*

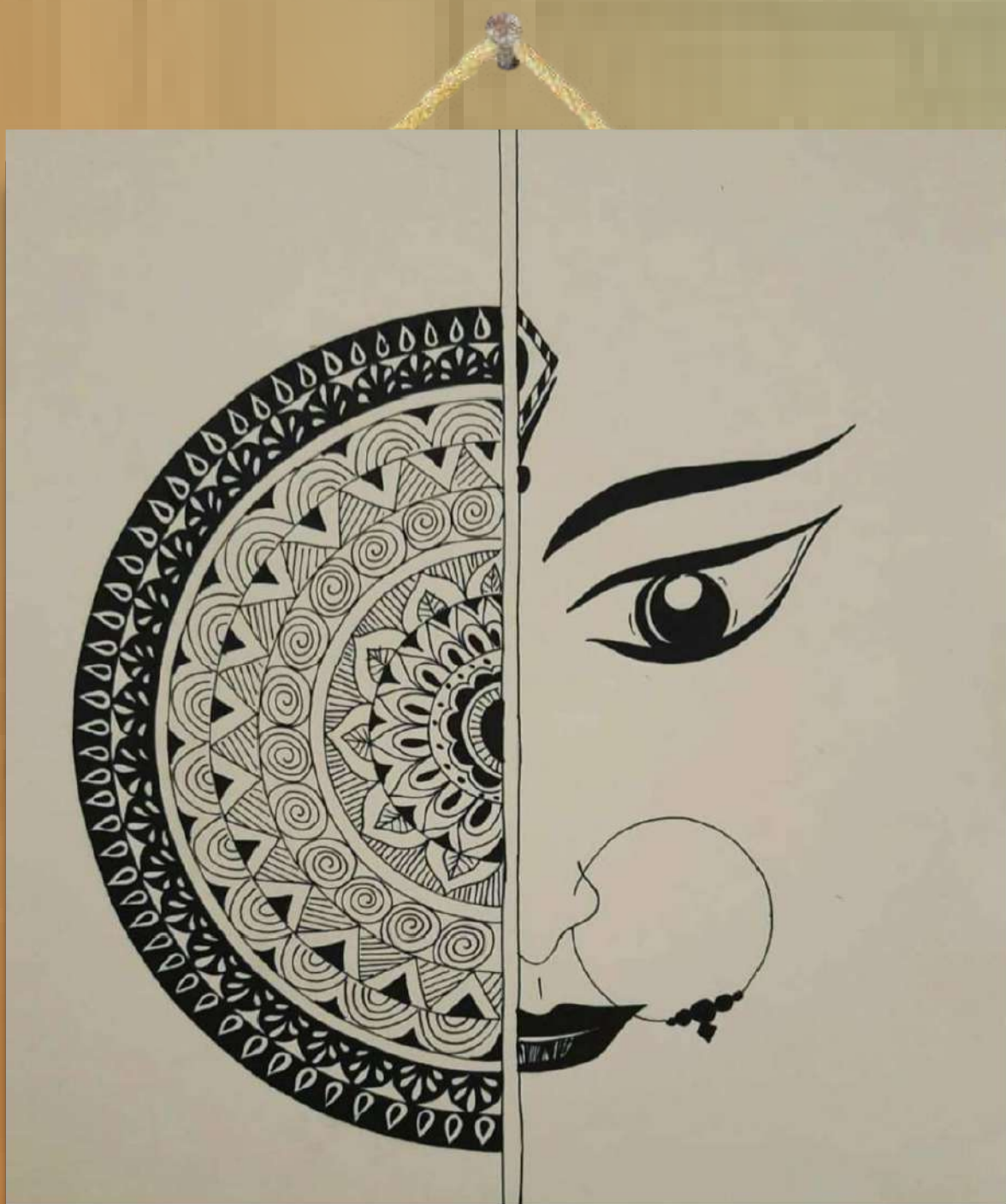
# MANDALAS

Mandalas were originally created in service to Buddhism. The lady in the right hand side of the mandala is Maa Durga - a form of Shakti. Maa durga is a major deity in Hinduism and is a symbol of protection, strength, motherhood, destruction and power.

*~Soumyaa Mall.*



*Artwork by Priyal Binani*



*Artwork by Soumyaa Mall*



# Gaganendranath Tagore

Gaganendra Tagore's caricatures are said to be one of the boldest things done under British rule. This cartoon reflects the contradiction between participation and denial, desire and ridicule, and provides contradictory tools to visualize colonial resistance. His cartoons show the physical mechanism of combining images and rhetoric, satire and modernist forms, along with politics and games.

~Ananya Mishra.



*Artwork by Ananya Mishra*

# Jamini Roy

This painting was made by Jamini Roy, who was the most famous student of Abanindranath Tagore. Jamini Roy mainly made Kalighat paintings in the time of the Bengal Renaissance. Most of his paintings include portraits in the Indian style. He was trained in the western style of arts but went ahead to adapt to the Indian style during the renaissance.

~ Soumyaa Mall.



*Artwork by Soumyaa Mall*





# Golden Freedom



1947, the proud British crown had finally been dethroned,  
The vastly illustrious India, finally owned its home.

Independence flowed in every Indian's veins,  
The Golden Bird was finally free of its chains.

The British unshackled the mighty India,  
'Jai Hind' the people roared, across millennia.

All the nationalities worked unitedly in harmony,  
The religious partition led to the unforgotten irony.

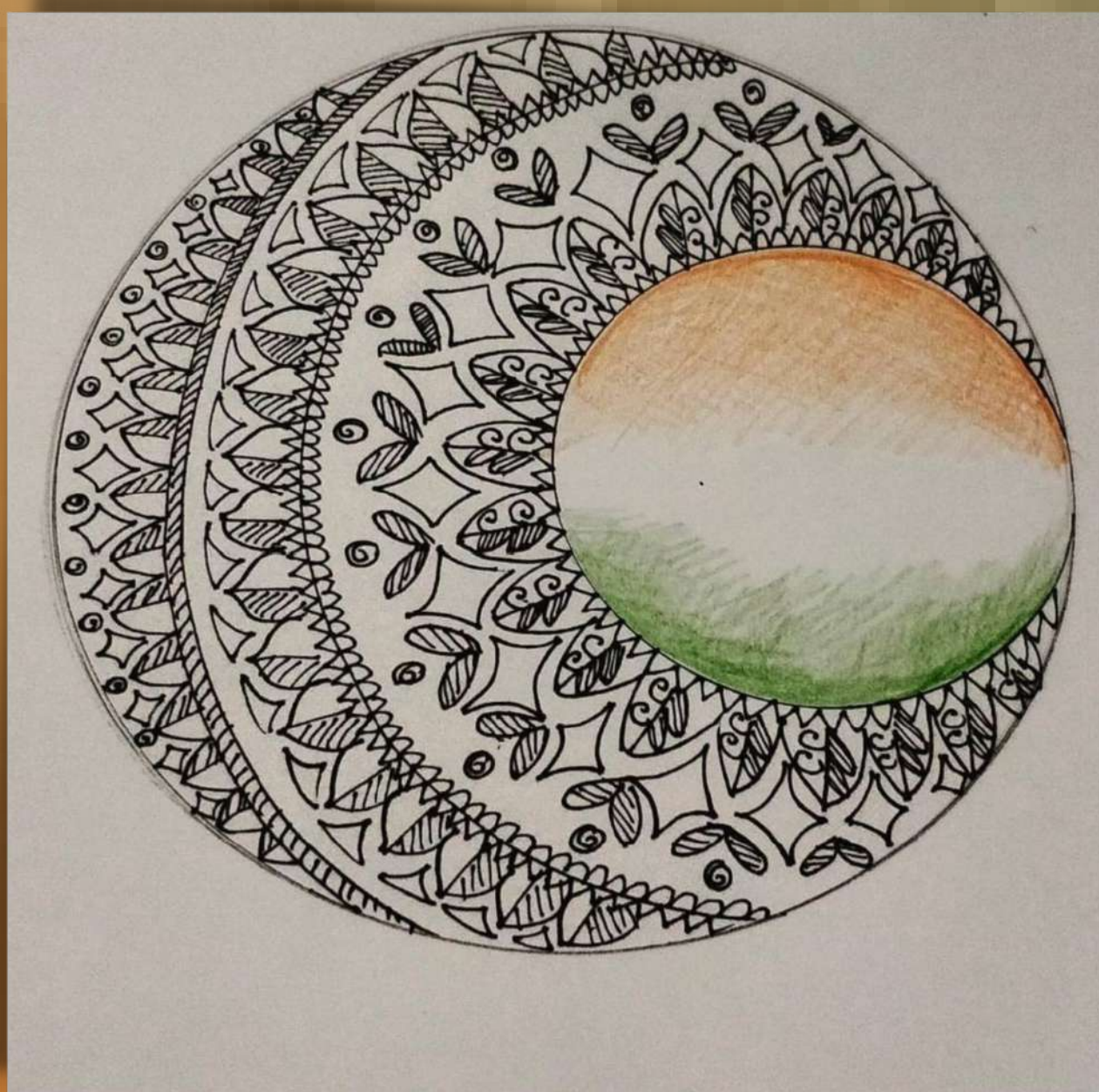
The separation of communities, of faith, brought great rage and pain,  
Colossal migration and riots everywhere, left a deep perpetual stain.

'Inquilab Zindabad' some eagerly chanted,  
People's patriotism, this slogan had demanded.

Pride and prestige replenished Bharat once again,  
On peace, the stability of the country did depend.

The Indian flag with its Ashok Chakra soared high above,  
In courage, dharma and growth, a nation filled with love.

~ Devikaa Sureka.



Artwork by Urvi Jain



Artwork by Sanvee Sharda



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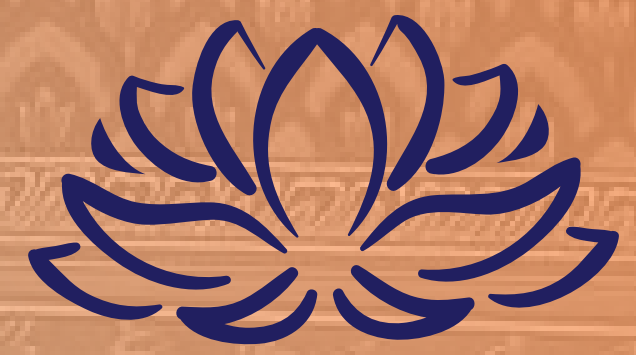
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