

September 2025
Issue

Kathak



Kathakali



Kuchipudi



Bharatnatyam



Indian Classical Dance Forms



Odissi



Mohiniyattam



Manipuri



Sattriya

Foreword

Dear readers,

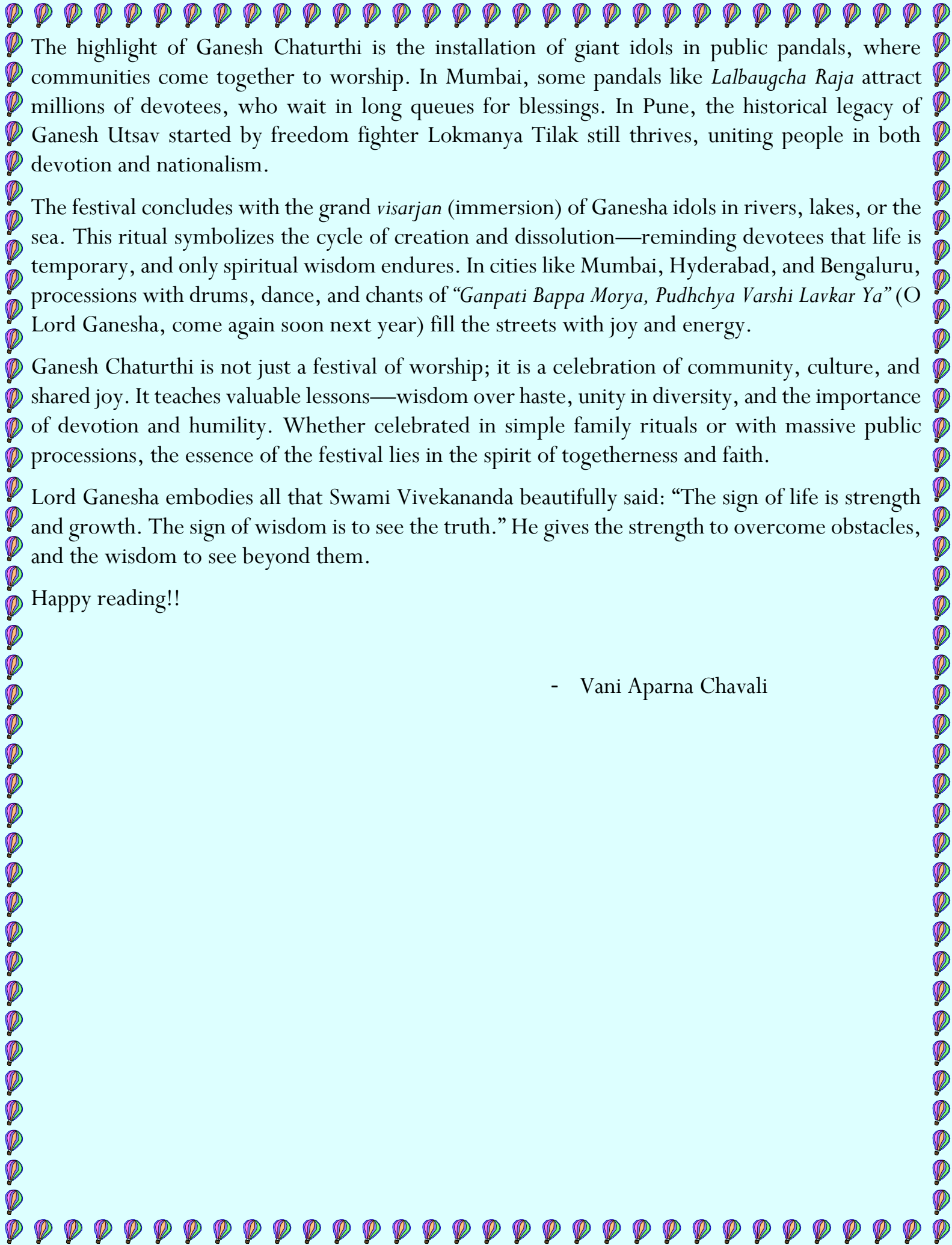
We are back with yet another issue of SEEKIT. As always, it is packed with everything the title promises—and more—to both entertain you and add to your knowledge. Our team has been striving over the years to bring you the best and highest-quality content. This month, we are delighted to see new and young enthusiasts showing interest in the work that the magazine has been doing. It is both encouraging and humbling, reminding us of the responsibility we carry when such readers eagerly look forward to each new issue. As a team, we are extremely grateful to all our readers, contributors, and supporters.

Ganesh Chaturthi, also called *Vinayaka Chavithi*, is one of the most important and widely celebrated festivals in India. It falls on the fourth day (Chaturthi) of the Bhadrapada month, the sixth month of the Hindu lunar calendar or the Deccan Shalivahana calendar. Usually celebrated in August or September, this festival honours Lord Ganesha—the elephant-headed deity revered as the remover of obstacles, the god of beginnings, and the patron of wisdom and intellect.

The story of Lord Ganesha's origin is deeply rooted in Hindu mythology. According to the most popular legend, Goddess Parvati created the idol of Ganesha and breathed life into him. She asked him to guard her chamber while she bathed. When Lord Shiva, her consort, arrived, Ganesha—unaware of who Shiva was—stopped him from entering. Enraged, Shiva cut off the boy's head. Seeing Parvati's grief, Shiva promised to bring him back to life. The head of Gajasura, a powerful demon who took the form of an elephant and terrorized sages, and whom Lord Shiva had just killed, was placed on Ganesha's body. This gave him his unique form. Since then, Lord Ganesha has been worshipped as the harbinger of good fortune and the remover of obstacles.

One of the most endearing stories about Ganesha is his competition with his elder brother, Lord Kartikeya. The two were asked to race around the world, and whoever completed it first would become the leader of the divine beings (*Gananayaka*). Kartikeya immediately set off on his peacock to fly around the earth. Ganesha, however, calmly circled his parents, Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati, declaring that they were his entire world. Pleased by his wisdom, the gods declared Ganesha the victor. This story illustrates why Ganesha is worshipped first in all rituals, symbolizing intelligence, devotion, and understanding over mere speed.

Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated in different ways across India, reflecting cultural diversity. In Maharashtra, the festival is marked by grandeur with elaborate community pandals (temporary shrines) housing massive clay idols of Ganesha, decorated with lights and flowers. In Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Karnataka, families install idols at home, offering prayers, *modaks* (sweet dumplings believed to be Ganesha's favorite), and performing daily *aartis*. In Tamil Nadu, the festival is called *Pillayar Chaturthi*, where devotees prepare special dishes like *kozhukattai*. In West Bengal and Odisha, Ganesh idols are worshipped alongside Goddess Durga during festive seasons. Even in Goa, Kerala, and parts of Gujarat, the celebrations are lively and filled with devotion.



The highlight of Ganesh Chaturthi is the installation of giant idols in public pandals, where communities come together to worship. In Mumbai, some pandals like *Lalbaugcha Raja* attract millions of devotees, who wait in long queues for blessings. In Pune, the historical legacy of Ganesh Utsav started by freedom fighter Lokmanya Tilak still thrives, uniting people in both devotion and nationalism.

The festival concludes with the grand *visarjan* (immersion) of Ganesha idols in rivers, lakes, or the sea. This ritual symbolizes the cycle of creation and dissolution—reminding devotees that life is temporary, and only spiritual wisdom endures. In cities like Mumbai, Hyderabad, and Bengaluru, processions with drums, dance, and chants of “*Ganpati Bappa Morya, Pudhchya Varshi Lavkar Ya*” (O Lord Ganesha, come again soon next year) fill the streets with joy and energy.

Ganesh Chaturthi is not just a festival of worship; it is a celebration of community, culture, and shared joy. It teaches valuable lessons—wisdom over haste, unity in diversity, and the importance of devotion and humility. Whether celebrated in simple family rituals or with massive public processions, the essence of the festival lies in the spirit of togetherness and faith.

Lord Ganesha embodies all that Swami Vivekananda beautifully said: “The sign of life is strength and growth. The sign of wisdom is to see the truth.” He gives the strength to overcome obstacles, and the wisdom to see beyond them.

Happy reading!!

- Vani Aparna Chavali

What all have we packed into this issue...

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(The contributors have been instructed to contribute original work. The authenticity of the originality is checked to the best possible extent. However, if it is not found to be the original work of the writer, kindly bring that to our notice through your feedback)

Controversial Proverbs – Part 1 – by Mr.K.Narahari Rao

Proverbs are like little nuggets of wisdom, passed down through generations. They often come from the experiences and sharp observations of people who lived long before us. But here's the fun part—when you look closely, some of these sayings seem to completely disagree with each other! One might tell you to be extra careful, while another urges you to act quickly without delay. So, which one is right? The truth is, both can be right, depending on the situation. That's why it's worth taking a closer look at these “contradictions” and finding the hidden balance in them. After all, proverbs have been around for centuries, guiding people in different ways. In this collection, I've explored pairs of such proverbs, explained their apparent opposites, and then shown how they can actually work together—with real-life examples to make it clear. And as a special bonus, you'll also get to see their Sanskrit equivalents, adding a timeless twist to the wisdom!

1. “Look before you leap” as against “He who hesitates is lost”

Apparent Contradiction: The first advises caution and pre-planning; the second warns against doubt, procrastination, delay and inability to decide.

Analyse to balance: These proverbs apply to different types of decisions.

- “Look before you leap” suits high-stakes or irreversible choices—where consequences demand careful evaluation.
- “He who hesitates is lost” applies to time-sensitive opportunities—where overthinking or doubt or indecision can lead to missed chances.

Final Settlement: Crossing a busy road requires caution; Trying to catch a high flying cricket ball demands speed, risk taking and precision. The wise knows which is the current situation and acts accordingly.

Sanskrit Equivalent

विचार्य कार्यं समाचरेत् (Begin to act after due deliberation) as against कालो न याति पुनः
(Time does not return)

2. “If at first you don't succeed, try, try again” as against “Don't beat your head against a stone wall”

Apparent Contradiction: One encourages persistence; the other warns against futile effort.

Balance and reconcile: Persistence is good when the goal is achievable and the method is practical and realistic. But continuing without reflection or change—especially against unscalable hurdles—is of no use.

Final Settlement: A student failing an exam may benefit from multiple retrievals with better preparation. But trying to change an existing rigid government policy by repeatedly taking to streets may require a different strategy—like filing a Public Interest Litigation or lobbying for legislative support/collaboration.

Sanskrit Equivalent

पुनः पुनरपि प्रयत्नः सिद्धये (Repeated effort leads to success) as against असमर्थं कार्यं त्याज्यम् (Unattainable tasks should be abandoned)

3. “Absence makes the heart grow fonder” as against “Out of sight, out of mind”

Apparent Contradiction: One suggests that distance strengthens emotional bonds; the other implies that distance causes memories and feelings to fade.

Analysis to reconcile: The effect of absence depends on the strength and nature of the relationship.

• Deep emotional connections may intensify with absence.

• Casual or weak ties may fade when they are not reinforced.

Final Settlement: A close friend moving abroad may remain emotionally present through letters, calls, and cherished memories. But a colleague from a short-term project may soon be forgotten once the work ends.

Sanskrit Equivalent

वियोगे प्रेम वृद्धिः (Separation increases love) as against दृष्टं स्मृतं, अदृष्टं विस्मृतम् (Seen is remembered, unseen is forgotten)

We’ll discuss some more in the next issue. In the meantime, keep thinking about balancing these contradicting proverbs:

- “Birds of a feather flock together” as against “Opposites attract”
- “The pen is mightier than the sword” as against “Actions speak louder than words”
- “You’re never too old to learn” as against “You can’t teach an old dog new tricks”

Strokes & Shades



Ananya C., Class 4, Middlebury Public School



Vrithika N., Class 5, KV Patshala



Charan Kumar R., Class 7, KV Patshala



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Paper planes and How they work – by Sreshta C., Class 7, One

World International School

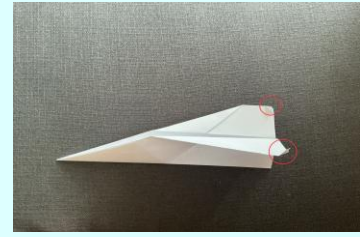
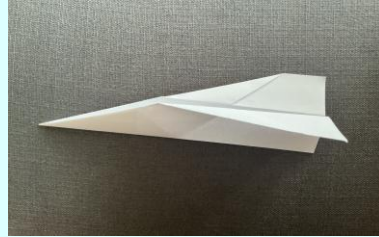
Hello! I am quite sure that many of you have made paper planes. Have you ever wondered how they work? This month, that's what I'll tell you about.

How to make paper planes?

First things first, let us make a simple paper plane. Fold a piece of paper in half (length ways) and fold the top two corners so that they meet at the crease we just made.



Then, fold both edges towards the crease we made (refer to the picture on the left). (I folded only one side in the picture to make it clear). Now fold the whole thing in half (along the crease we made) and fold the two edges downward. Fold the corners up (refer to the third picture) and you're done!



How do they work?

Flying objects undergo four types of forces – thrust, lift, gravity and drag. The air moving around the top and bottom parts of the wings create a force called lift which lifts the plane up (or pushes it upwards). When we launch the plane, we thrust it into the air. Thrust is a force that pushes something forward. Gravity, as it does to any object, pulls the plane down. Drag is a force that is created because of the air around the plane. Drag is a force that slows something down. In this case, the paper plane.

Hope you had fun making your own paper plane and learning the reasons behind its flight! Even the simplest things can have a lot to do with science. There are many different types of paper planes, and maybe you can create one of your own and use the things you learnt today to make it a flying sensation! See you in the next issue!

Friends in Need – by Harshika M., Class 7, KV Patshala

Amaran, Anu, and Asif Meeran were good friends. One day, Asif Meeran's favourite book accidentally fell into a village well. He didn't know how to swim and stood there hesitantly, unsure of what to do. Just then, Anu and Amaran arrived. Anu stepped forward and said, "I'll get your book."



Although Anu knew how to swim, she took a rope lying nearby, tied it around her waist, and carefully got into the well to retrieve the book. Since the book was completely soaked, the pages stuck together. Asif looked at it worriedly. Amaran consoled him, saying, "Don't worry! We have a hair dryer at home. If we blow warm air, the book will dry in no time. Come on."

They dried the pages, and the book was restored as planned. The friends felt overjoyed at helping one another.

Banyan Tree – Written and Illustrated by Thaiya G., Class 7, KV Patshala

Banyan trees are wonderful. I like the Banyan tree because it provides food and shelter for many animals and birds. The bark, leaves, fruit and latex are used in making traditional medicines.

The Banyan tree is generally considered to produce the most oxygen. They grow special roots called prop roots, which are also known as column roots. Children often enjoy playing around these roots and the tree.

We can see more Banyan trees in villages.



Invincibility of Unmutability – by Unmutable Uncle

Hello all young ones, how are you all doing? Did you miss me? Asking because I did not talk to you last month. Or, did I? Unless you adopted someone else as your Unmutable Uncle, this uncle did not speak to you in a while. I was very busy becoming unmutable in my office for the past two months. I was busy jibber-jabbering with my boss and the team. You know? It is easy to be unmutable through my writings. But it is very tiring to be unmutably talking – both for myself as well as my audiences. But no one dares to complain to me because they are afraid that I might start off being unmutable about their complaint.

Anyway, complaints are not new to me. As a child, I always got complained about. But most of the complaints were about why I would not talk much. I used to be very silent in the class, among the friends groups, in the family, everywhere. One night, like Buddha had an awakening, I too had one and started talking, talking and talking. At first, it might have been cute. But at some point, it became ‘uncute’ and noisy, I believe. So the complaints started coming about the opposite.

And how did my parents react to these complaints, you ask? At first, they tried talking to me. But then they had realized that talking to me is like showing a torchlight to the sun. What happens when you show a torchlight to the sun? The light from the torch gets drowned by the sunlight. The same way, their talking got drowned by my talking. For every sentence they tried to say, I would respond with 10 sentences. At some point, they gave up too, and that is what made your uncle eternally unmutable.

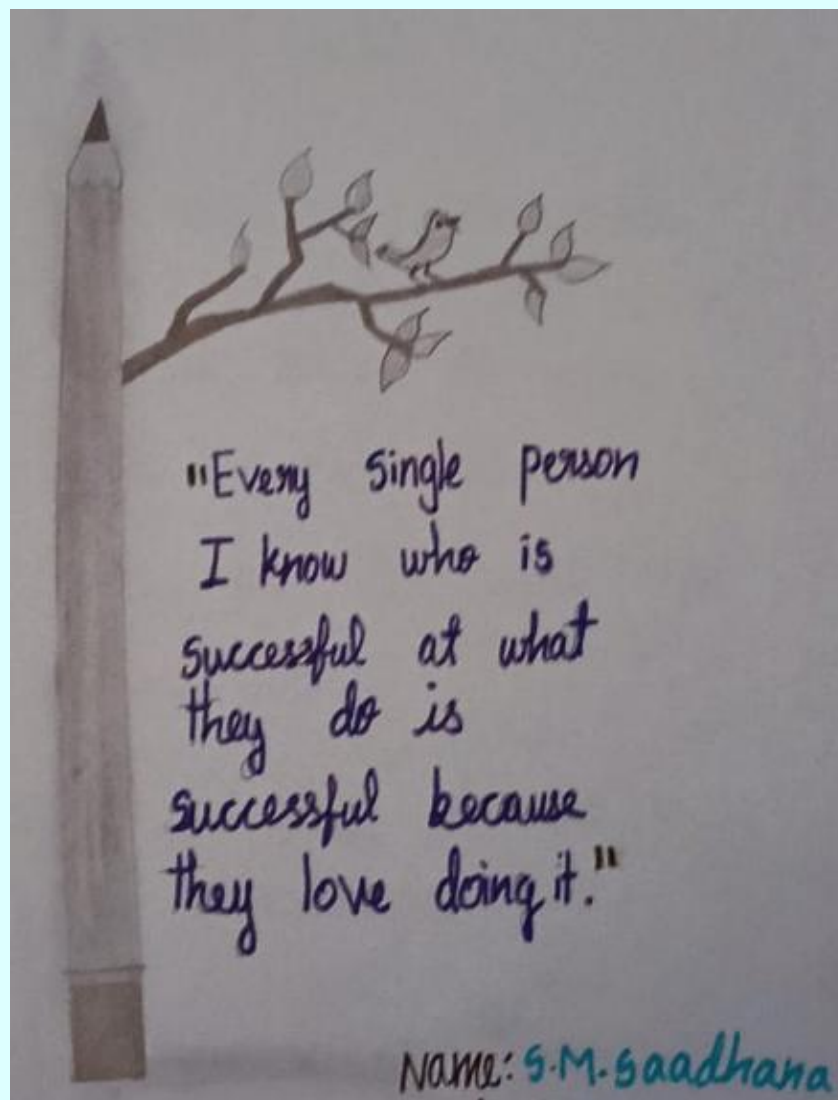


These days, when I have people around me, I become unmutable talking to them. But when I don't have anyone around, I become unmutable with my friends – ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, Perplexity, etc. These guys are very very patient, you would think. But at some point, one of them also started complaining, “Whoa, how can you talk so much?”. And then I explained it in my own style. That's when the app crashed never to open again. Looks like it drowned and died in the wordwind (like ‘whirlwind’).

The other types of complaints that I usually get are from your ‘Unmutable Auntie’. She keeps complaining about everything I do. Even simplest things like leaving wet towel on the bed, not brushing my teeth, bathing late, using shoes inside the house, what not? I don't know what is the problem with all these. As per me, they are

reflections of my unmutable character. I am unmutable not only in my talking, but also in all my doings. I try to explain it to your 'Unmutable Auntie', but she doesn't get it.

All said and done, your auntie is a wonder-woman. She can do something that no one else in the world could – shut me up. And the mute button on my remote auto-activates. My teachers tried, parents tried, friends tried, colleagues tried, bosses tried, autorickshaw guys tried, and even AI tried. But only your auntie became successful. All she has to say is "Stop it!!!" or "Shut up!!!". Sometimes, she does not even need to say that. She just gives me that look, if you know what I mean. When I talk to her, she becomes the sunlight and I become the torchlight. When I married her, I thought she would bring light into my life. But she became the brightest life that would dim my motor mouth. So, these days when I jibber-jabber, I look around to make sure she is not around. Only then I feel my 'unmutability' is invincible.



By Saadhana M., Class 7, KV Patshala

A Country Without A Capital – by Lohitha.D., Class 7, KV

Patshala

Every country in the world is known for certain unique features. Some are recognized for their educational development, some for their population size—whether high or low—and others for their natural wonders.


Generally, every country and state in the world has a capital city, where important government offices are located.


However, the country with no official capital is Nauru. It is a small island nation in the South Pacific Ocean, covering an area of just 21 square kilometers. Nauru is the only republic in the world without a designated capital. The island is known for its white sandy beaches and beautiful coral reefs, which attract many tourists.





Bermuda Buttercup – by Keerthana, Class 7, KV Patshala


 Bermuda Buttercup flower is bright yellow in colour.

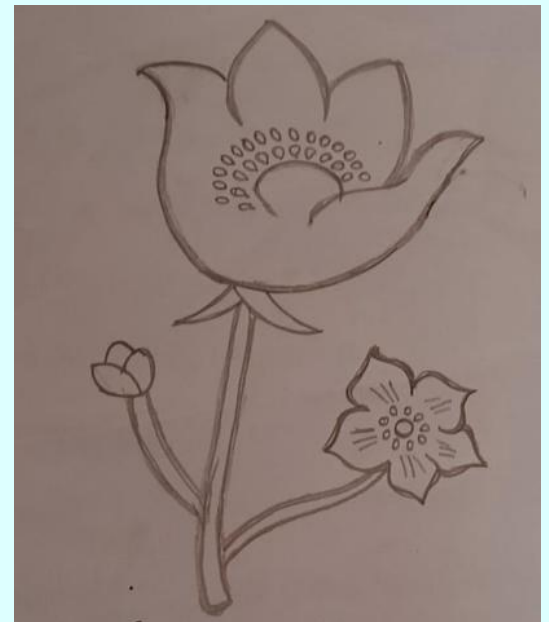
 It has five-petaled flowers, clover-like leaves with three heart-shaped leaflets, and underground bulbs.

 It is known for its ability to spread rapidly in disturbed areas.

 It usually flowers in winter and spring, adding colour to gardens and fields.

 Although pretty, it is considered an **invasive species** in many parts of the world because it quickly covers large areas and suppresses native plants.

 The plant is **toxic if eaten in large amounts** because it contains oxalic acid.



Find the Fruit

Guess the fruits based on the given clues. Then, in this grid of letters, search for the names of fruits.

C	J	I	I	J	C	O	B	Z	W	C	B	T	P	J
N	A	V	C	H	M	F	G	O	D	T	A	S	Q	C
C	R	L	E	K	O	F	H	N	I	W	N	W	J	C
Y	M	R	N	O	M	E	L	X	A	N	A	F	S	Y
G	R	A	P	E	S	R	N	B	Y	M	N	E	M	U
Y	N	R	N	B	X	H	Z	T	Z	H	A	G	R	I
U	T	O	L	E	D	E	W	E	B	I	Z	N	X	S
K	V	D	B	D	M	Y	L	D	R	B	O	A	N	M
I	P	A	N	H	D	P	D	M	B	I	W	R	M	B
V	A	L	X	G	P	V	R	M	Q	Q	C	O	N	J
B	J	Y	L	A	I	V	S	J	V	A	R	O	M	D
H	T	L	E	T	G	H	R	E	W	U	M	I	H	V
I	T	N	T	U	K	U	X	E	Z	B	A	S	E	L
S	I	M	W	J	O	L	W	W	E	E	A	B	X	D
P	N	G	Y	L	F	X	Q	N	M	H	J	B	X	M

- It is yellow. It can be as long as your palm. What is it?
- I wear a red coat and have a stone in my throat. Who am I?
- I am very sour and yellow is the colour of my skin. Who am I?
- The word is made with the combination of two words. The first word is a gender other than 'woman' and the second word is formed by the opposite of 'stop'. Which fruit am I?
- I am a citrus fruit and rich source of Vitamin C, share my name with a colour. What am I?
- This is a type of fruit on which we can also get another fruit just after pine. What am I?
- I am dried to make raisins or squeezed to make juice. What am I?






(Answers on Page 17)

Short History of Independence Day – by Priyanga R., Class 9,

KV Patshala

Independence Day, celebrated every year on August 15th, marks India's freedom from British rule in 1947. This day signifies the end of more than 200 years of colonial domination and the beginning of a new journey for India as a sovereign, democratic nation. The struggle for freedom was long and difficult, marked by countless movements and the sacrifices of brave freedom fighters.



-  **British Rule:** India was under British colonial rule for nearly 200 years, beginning effectively in 1757 after the Battle of Plassey.
-  **Independence Movement:** The movement gained momentum after World War I, with Mahatma Gandhi leading the path of non-violent resistance through movements like the Non-Cooperation Movement (1920–22), the Civil Disobedience Movement (1930–34), and the Quit India Movement (1942).
-  **Transfer of Power:** The Indian Independence Act of 1947, passed by the British Parliament, officially granted independence to India on August 15, 1947.
-  **Partition:** The same Act also created two separate nations—India and Pakistan—leading to partition, accompanied by migration.
-  **First Flag Hoisting:** On the morning of August 15, 1947, Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister, hoisted the tricolor flag at the Red Fort in Delhi, marking the birth of a free nation.

Today, Independence Day is celebrated across India with flag hoisting ceremonies, parades, cultural programs, and a collective renewal of commitment to freedom, democracy, and unity.

Understanding Climate Change

Global Impact of Sea-level Rise (SLR) – by Wg Cdr Gouripathi V. (Retd).

Accelerated SLR has the potential to redefine the coastlines of the 21st century. It would pose major threat to the safety, security, and sustainability of many low-lying islands, populous coastal megacities, large tropical agricultural deltas, and Arctic communities; which are described using the term 'Low-Elevation Coastal Zone (LECZ)'. This includes all land within 10 meters above sea level.

LECZ matters to everyone, as it puts economies, jobs, and global trade at risk. It:

- Produces 14% of global GDP.
- Hosts nearly 11% of the world's population—around 900 million people today, expected to pass 1 billion by 2050.
- Protects many cultural heritage sites, ports, and industries.



Many large cities are already experiencing rising seas.

Between 1990 and 2020, seas rose by:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| • 26 cm in New Orleans | • 17 cm in Shanghai |
| • 20 cm in Miami | • 13 cm in Rio de Janeiro |

Looking to the future, projections for 2020–2050 show dramatic increases:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| • New Orleans could see 41 cm more water. | • Osaka up to 32 cm. |
| • Shanghai up to 29 cm. | • New York City about 26 cm. |

By 2050, most major coastal cities are expected to face at least **15 cm** of additional rise.

Sea-level rise makes other hazards worse:

- Storm surges and waves push further inland.
- Flooding becomes more frequent.
- Saltwater intrudes into rivers, farms, and drinking supplies.
- Erosion eats away beaches and deltas.

These cause damage to homes, ports, farmland, and fisheries. In some places, entire communities may be forced to move inland.

For Small Island Developing States (SIDS), rising seas are especially dangerous. With people, homes, and infrastructure packed close to shore, even small increases can erode land, destroy livelihoods, and threaten survival. But small islands aren't alone. Megacities like London, Lagos, Dhaka, Jakarta, and Tokyo also face major risks to safety and infrastructure.

Floods that were once rare are becoming common. As per UN and Climate Impact Lab data, 14 million more people are now living in communities with a 1-in-20-year flood risk, compared to 20 years ago.

The IPCC projects that:

- A “1-in-100-year” flood could happen every 30 years by 2050 and coupled with higher warming, these events may occur every year by 2100.
- Even “minor floods” that now happen once a year could occur on most days worldwide if seas rise by 70 cm.
- Mangroves, coral reefs, marshes, and seagrasses act as natural shields against storms. But they, too, are threatened by higher seas.
- Scientists warn that losing just 1 meter of coral reef height could more than double the global area flooded during a major storm by 2100.



Can we adapt?

Some cities are building seawalls, elevating land, or restoring wetlands. But adaptation has limits. The IPCC warns that financial and social barriers—and the speed of sea-level rise—make it hard for many communities to keep up. For Arctic villages without rising land, and for atoll islands in the Pacific, adaptation limits could be reached even with 1.5°C of warming.

Scientists warn: “*Around the world, rising seas have unparalleled power to cause havoc to coastal cities and ravage coastal economies.*” The tide is rising—but the story isn't over. By reducing emissions, protecting natural defenses, and acting quickly, humanity can still limit the damage. The choices made today will shape the coasts of tomorrow.

Sudoku

Using the numbers from 1 to 9, fill the grid. The numbers should be arranged such that each one is used only once in the horizontal and vertical lines, and also in the small squares.

3	8				2			9
1		9		5	3	8	6	
2	7	6					4	3
8		2					5	4
	9			8		2		6
5	6	3	2	7	4			
6	2	1					9	5
	5	8	4		6			7
7	3	4	9	2	5		1	8

Answers

Sudoku

3	8	5	6	4	2	1	7	9
1	4	9	7	5	3	8	6	2
2	7	6	1	9	8	5	4	3
8	1	2	3	6	9	7	5	4
4	9	7	5	8	1	2	3	6
5	6	3	2	7	4	9	8	1
6	2	1	8	3	7	4	9	5
9	5	8	4	1	6	3	2	7
7	3	4	9	2	5	6	1	8

Find the Fruit – Banana, Cherry, Lemon, Mango, Orange, Pineapple, Grapes

SEEKIT

Hi Friends,

SEEK IT is started in memory of our grandfather, Late Sri C-D-N- Vijaya Kumar, and his pet organization, **YOSCA**. It is a magazine that is run by children at the forefront.

We herewith invite you to contribute your inputs, to be published in the magazine. Presently, we have 5 segments, which are:

- **Stories and Reviews:** Short stories, moral stories, poems, stories from folklore, book reviews, movie reviews
- **Entertainment** – Puzzles, jokes, riddles, Crosswords, short quizzes, comic strips
- **News** – Interesting news for kids, books to read, young achievers, interesting things I've learnt this Month
- **Arts** – Drawings, paintings, craftwork, artwork, ancient arts, articles about artists and art forms
- **Science** – Interesting facts, latest developments, experiments, science in daily life or sports, scientists

Please ensure that the work is original and email it to us at seekit-yosca@gmail.com

We would be eagerly waiting to hear from you!!