

THE CALAMITY

THE PULSE



Rhythm of Young Thought.

strawberry fields
HIGH SCHOOL

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OF HUMANITY



Editors:
Ishitta Grover
Rushil Khanna
Riddhima Pande
Ambreen Sidhu
Armaan Kapoor

Designer:
Kaashvi Kapoor



THE UNVEILING OF THE HIJAB

In the current global atmosphere, tensions are at an all time high. The most devastating thing to see is women being harassed, fired from jobs, denied access to public places, and otherwise discriminated against just because they wear a hijab, which is a scarf or clothing worn by Muslim women to cover their hair in order to maintain modesty and privacy from unrelated males either in public or at home.

Recently in Karnataka, the court passed an interim order insisting a ban on the hijabs in government schools. It all began two months ago, when six teenagers at a government-run college in Karnataka's Udupi district began protesting after they were barred from classes for wearing headscarves. Initially, such students who were denied an entry into the examination hall were only six, later their number increased manifold. Despite students pleading against it and their parents arguing with the college authorities, that it is a constitutional right to wear their clothing as per their religious practices, there was no impact on the schools or the government.

It is tragic to watch how these forces are manipulating the feelings of people. It is nothing short of diabolical that conflicts

are being organized and divides are being fostered among young people at a time when thousands of students have lost out on an education because they were unable to access a device during the recent need for online schooling. In my opinion, wearing a hijab should not and does not hurt anyone else. It is a choice of the person concerned, if they feel comfortable. It is a Muslim religious practice born out of usage of the mandate for centuries. To force students to not to do what they feel strongly about being a part of their religious practice is a violation of their right to life and to live with the dignity defined by them. Let their dignity not be compromised and education not interrupted. Lives are being lost, but more cracks are appearing in a system that is no longer working for many angry people who want a different way of life. It is their choice, it is their life.

~Arshya Garg, (9-B)

THE CHOICE IS OURS.

Children cried, old men were traumatised and so many youth departed this world. Sorrow does visit us in waves, ebbing and then flowing, and the cycle goes on.

Covid-19 and the Russia - Ukraine War, are two very recent events that have had great global impact. We have lived through, probably the most testing times of our lives. However, there already have been several other, maybe even worse situations in the world, which Mankind has survived. This is simply because our will to emerge triumphant has not diminished. Man is Man's adversary and has the wherewithal to destroy thousands of lives.

For instance, why do wars occur? Not because of their advantages, but because Nations seek to assert, to oppress and make a display of power. Hitler wanted to conquer the world and declare that he is the most powerful. This inflated ego and over ambition leads to one's own doom. At last, he could not succeed because it is rightly said, 'No matter how hard evil tries it can never quite match up to the power of good.'

Closer to our time, COVID 19 has shown the world its extreme vulnerability. Innumerable lives were lost and the fact that Mankind was held to ransom became evident , globally.

For whatever reason this virus ravaged the world, it instilled great fear in every thinking person.

The online platform not only changed our lifestyle but also served as a boon for wildlife. Nature was given a fresh lease and Life became valuable again.

In conclusion, I would like to say that we must stand by each other, to maintain peace, harmony and the welfare of the world and ourselves.

~Vasundhara Sarna, (9-A)





Oppression and human rights violations are widespread and ongoing issues that affect individuals and communities around the world. One particular group that often faces these types of abuses is those whose voices are silenced. This can include individuals from minority groups, such as people of colour, members of the LGBTQ+ community, and individuals with disabilities, as well as women and other marginalised genders.

Voices that are silenced or oppressed can be a result of a variety of factors, including discrimination, prejudice, and systemic inequality. For example, people of color may face discrimination in the workplace, leading to a lack of equal opportunities and pay. This can begin a cycle of scarcity and lack of access to resources, which in turn can further silence their voices and limit their ability to speak out against injustices.

The LGBTQ+ community also faces unique challenges when it comes to oppression and human rights violations. In many countries, homosexuality is still illegal and punishable by imprisonment or even death. This creates an environment where individuals are forced to hide their true identities, leading to a lack of representation and visibility. This can make it difficult for members of this community to advocate for their rights and have their voices heard.

Individuals with disabilities often face discrimination and barriers to equal participation in society. This can include

lack of access to education, employment, and other opportunities, as well as physical barriers, such as buildings and infrastructure that are not designed to be accessible to all. This can silence the voices of individuals with disabilities and prevent them from advocating for their rights and participating fully in society.

Women and other marginalised genders also face oppression and human rights violations. In many parts of the world, women are not afforded the same rights and opportunities as men. This can include unequal pay, limited access to education and employment, and a lack of representation in leadership positions. This silencing of women's voices can prevent them from speaking out against injustices and advocating for their rights.

It is important for individuals and communities to recognize and speak out against oppression and human rights violations. This can include supporting organisations and movements that work to promote equality and justice, as well as advocating for policies and practices that promote the rights of these individuals and communities. By working together, we can create a more equitable and just society for all.

~Armaan Kapoor

VOICES MUFFLED

RIGHT TO RIGHTS

Human rights violation,
A pervasive disease,
A plague upon our world,
A cancer that won't cease.

It takes so many forms,
Injustice and abuse,
Discrimination and violence,
Hatred and misuse.

It victimises the weak,
The vulnerable and small,
Leaving them to suffer,
With no one there to call.

But we must not be silent,
We must not look away,
We must stand up for justice,
Make your voices heard today.

For human rights are universal,
And we are all entitled,
To live in dignity and peace,
With freedom, truth and pride.

So let us raise our voices,
And fight for what is right,
For human rights belong to all,
And no one should have to fight.

~Armaan Kapoor



CLIMATE CHANGE

Out of thin air, upon high winds
Rites begin when the sun descends
I have felt what few will ever know
Have seen the truth beneath the glow,
Of the ebb and flow, where roots of all mysteries grow
We are below, so far below
Venturing through the never ending
Graphic vinyl of time
Our primal brothers
Would be appalled to see us aloof from the natural world
Because the present-day can only see the fallen leaves
from rooted trees
As for the remainder of the past, only they knew
We hold conferences on how to classify their disappearance
Ironically, we are the beast, we worship
We clench our hands we seize it
We close our eyes, we shred it
We allow the whirling mathematicians to confirm what we are
So morally incorrect
penitentiaries would be taken aback,
Lament for our own mistakes
We don't deserve this.

~Siddhartha Jain

ENABLE THE DISABLED

In modern discourse, we always hear about the sufferings of African-Americans in the United States, the plight of the Afghan women being terrorized by the Taliban and the cries of the Palestinians whose native lands are being seized by Israel. But we keep forgetting our disabled siblings, who are subject to gut-wrenching atrocities on a daily basis as a result of the increasing number of violent instances being committed across the world.

In today's world, there are not nearly enough measures to protect the disabled, who are more than three times as likely to suffer from serious violent crimes, including but not limited to aggravated assault, domestic abuse, sexual assault and theft. Furthermore, the disabled do not have access to the facilities they need, culminating in homelessness and forced hospitalization in the case of the neurodivergent, who face additional brutality in such mental institutions.

Where does all of this hatred stem from? Though ableism may seem to be the most obvious answer, many forget the danger posed by a lack of awareness. For instance, even you, the reader, may associate disabled people with people confined to wheelchairs, forgetting that mentally impaired people are also included in the definition. So, how can we make people more aware? Attend seminars, interact with as many disabled people you encounter on a daily basis, and most importantly, model your mindset to be more inclusive. In addition to this, governments around the world must step up and pay special attention to the issues faced by disabled people for real change to take place in the world.

It is only with action that we can make the world a better and more colorful place.

~Ambreen Sidhu



मानव अधिकारों में वे मूल अधिकार शामिल हैं जो हर जाति, पंथ, धर्म, लिंग या राष्ट्रीयता की परवाह किए बिना हर इंसान को दिए जाते हैं। सार्वभौमिक मानवाधिकारों का वर्णन इस प्रकार है:

जिंदगी जीने, आज़ादी और निजी सुरक्षा का अधिकार
समानता का अधिकार

न्यायाधिकरण द्वारा बचाव का अधिकार

कानून के सामने व्यक्ति के रूप में मान्यता के अधिकार
भेदभाव से स्वतंत्रता

दासता से स्वतंत्रता

अत्याचार से स्वतंत्रता

मनमानी गिरफ्तारी और निर्वासन से स्वतंत्रता

अपराध सिद्ध न होने तक निर्दोष माने जाने का अधिकार

उचित सार्वजनिक सुनवाई का अधिकार

आंदोलन की स्वतंत्रता

गोपनीयता, परिवार, गृह और पत्राचार में हस्तक्षेप से स्वतंत्रता

अन्य देशों में शरण का अधिकार

राष्ट्रीयता को बदलने की स्वतंत्रता का अधिकार

विवाह और परिवार के अधिकार

शिक्षा का अधिकार

खुद की संपत्ति रखने का अधिकार

शांतिपूर्ण सभा और एसोसिएशन बनाने का अधिकार

सरकार में और निः शुल्क चुनावों में भाग लेने का अधिकार

विश्वास और धर्म की स्वतंत्रता

सही तरीके से रहने/जीने का अधिकार

समुदाय के सांस्कृतिक जीवन में भाग लेने का अधिकार

सामाजिक सुरक्षा का अधिकार

वांछनीय कार्य और ट्रेड यूनियनों में शामिल होने का अधिकार

अवकाश और विश्राम का अधिकार

ऊपर दिए अधिकारों में राज्य या व्यक्तिगत हस्तक्षेप से स्वतंत्रता

~Rushil Khanna



सार्वभौमिक मानव अधिकार



मानव अधिकार

मानव अधिकार मुख्य रूप से वे अधिकार हैं जो प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को इंसान होने के कारण मिलते हैं। ये नगरपालिका से लेकर अंतरराष्ट्रीय कानून तक कानूनी अधिकार के रूप में सुरक्षित हैं। मानवाधिकार पूरे विश्व में हैं इसलिए ये हर जगह और हर समय लागू होते हैं। नगर निगम के साथ-साथ अंतरराष्ट्रीय कानून में कानूनी अधिकारों के रूप में संरक्षित, इन अधिकारों को अनौपचारिक मौलिक अधिकारों के रूप में जाना जाता है जिसका एक व्यक्ति सिर्फ इसलिए हकदार है क्योंकि वह एक इंसान है।

मानव अधिकार वे मानदंड हैं जो मानव व्यवहार के मानकों को स्पष्ट करते हैं। एक इंसान होने के नाते ये वो मौलिक अधिकार हैं जिनका प्रत्येक व्यक्ति स्वाभाविक रूप से हकदार है। ये अधिकार कानून द्वारा संरक्षित हैं।

हमारे यहां कुछ बुनियादी मानवाधिकारों को विशेष रूप से सुरक्षित किया गया है। जिनकी प्राप्ति देश के हर व्यक्ति होनी चाहिए।

जीवन का अधिकार:

प्रत्येक व्यक्ति के पास अपना स्वतन्त्र जीवन जीने का जन्मसिद्ध अधिकार है। हर इंसान को किसी अन्य व्यक्ति द्वारा नहीं मारे जाने का भी अधिकार है।

सोच, विवेक और धर्म की स्वतंत्रता:

प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को विचार और विवेक की स्वतंत्रता है उसे अपने धर्म को चुनने की भी स्वतंत्रता है और अगर वह इसे किसी भी समय बदलना चाहे तो उसके लिए भी स्वतंत्र है।

दासता से स्वतंत्रता:

गुलामी और दास प्रथा पर कानूनी रोक है। हालांकि यह अभी भी दुनिया के कुछ हिस्सों में इसका अवैध रूप से पालन किया जा रहा है।

अत्याचार से स्वतंत्रता:

अंतरराष्ट्रीय कानून के तहत यातना देने पर प्रतिबंध है। हर व्यक्ति यातना न सहने से स्वतंत्र है।

अन्य मानव अधिकारों में स्वतंत्रता और व्यक्तिगत सुरक्षा, भाषण की स्वतंत्रता, भेदभाव से स्वतंत्रता, राष्ट्रियता का अधिकार और इसे बदलने के लिए स्वतंत्रता, विवाह और परिवार के अधिकार, आंदोलन की स्वतंत्रता, संपत्ति का अधिकार, शिक्षा के अधिकार, शांतिपूर्ण विधानसभा और संघ के अधिकार, गोपनीयता, परिवार, घर और पत्राचार से हस्तक्षेप की स्वतंत्रता, सरकार में और स्वतंत्र रूप से चुनाव में भाग लेने का अधिकार, राय और सूचना के अधिकार, पर्याप्त जीवन स्तर के अधिकार, सामाजिक सुरक्षा का अधिकार और सामाजिक आदेश का अधिकार जो इस दस्तावेज़ को अभिव्यक्त करता हो आदि शामिल हैं।

हालांकि कानून द्वारा संरक्षित इन अधिकारों में से कई का लोगों द्वारा, यहां तक कि सरकारों के द्वारा भी, उल्लंघन किया जाता है। हालांकि मानवाधिकारों के उल्लंघन पर नजर रखने के लिए कई संगठन बनाए गए हैं। ये संगठन इन अधिकारों की सुरक्षा के लिए कदम उठाते हैं।

कई बार ऐसा देखने को मिलता है कि जिन लोगों के ऊपर मानव अधिकारों की रक्षा की जिम्मेदारी होती है वही अपने शक्ति का दुरुपयोग कर लोगो के मानव अधिकारों का हनन करने लगते है। इसलिए इस बात को सुनिश्चित किया जाना चाहिए की देश के सभी व्यक्तियों को उनके मानव अधिकारों की प्राप्ति हो

रूशिल खन्ना

~Rushil Khanna

ਮਨੁੱਖੀ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ



ਹਰ ਮਨੁੱਖ ਨੂੰ ਜ਼ਿੰਦਗੀ ਜਿਉਣ, ਆਜ਼ਾਦੀ ਅਤੇ ਆਪਣੀ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ ਕਰਨ ਦਾ ਹੱਕ ਹੈ"

ਕੀ ਅਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਹੱਕਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਲੈ ਕੇ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਅਤ ਹਾਂ? ਕੀ ਇੱਕ ਆਮ ਆਦਮੀ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਜ਼ਿੰਦਗੀ ਆਪਣੀ ਮਰਜ਼ੀ ਨਾਲ ਜਿਉਣ ਦੀ ਆਜ਼ਾਦੀ ਹੈ? ਕੀ ਉਹ ਆਪਣੇ ਹੱਕਾਂ ਲਈ ਆਵਾਜ਼ ਉਠਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ?

ਇਹ ਕੁੱਝ ਪ੍ਰਸ਼ਨ ਗੌਰ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਲੇ ਤੇ ਸਮਝਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਹਨ। ਅਸੀਂ ਇੱਕੀਵੀਂ ਸਦੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਜੀ ਰਹੇ ਹਾਂ ਪ੍ਰੰਤੂ ਅੱਜ ਵੀ ਹਰ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਕੋਲ ਉਹ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਨਹੀਂ ਹਨ ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਵਿੱਚ ਮਾਨਵ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਜਾਹਿਦਿਮਨ ਰਾਈਟਸ ਕਹਿੰਦੇ ਹਾਂ। ਇਹ ਉਹ ਮੂਲ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਹਨ ਜੋ ਹਰ ਆਮ ਆਦਮੀ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਬਣਾਏ ਗਏ ਹਨ ਤੇ ਇਹਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਰੱਖਿਆ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸਰਕਾਰਾਂ ਨੇ ਕਾਨੂੰਨ ਬਣਾਏ ਹਨ।

ਪਰ ਕਈ ਵਾਰੀ ਭ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟਾਚਾਰੀ ਸਰਕਾਰ, ਅਤੇ ਨੁਕਸਦਾਰ ਅਗਵਾਈ ਕਾਰਣ ਵੀ ਆਮ ਜਨਤਾ ਕੋਲੋਂ ਉਹਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਖੋ ਲਿੱਤੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ ਜਿਵੇਂ ਕਿ ਅਸੀਂ ਰੋਜ਼ ਅਖਬਾਰਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਯੂਕਰੇਨ- ਰੂਸੀਲੜਾਈ ਵਿੱਚ ਹੋ ਰਹੀਆਂ ਘਟਨਾਵਾਂ ਪੜ੍ਹਦੇ ਹਾਂ, ਕਿਵੇਂ ਅਮਰੀਕਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਨੇ ਗਰਵਭਾਤ ਨੂੰ ਗੈਰ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਘੋਸ਼ਿਤ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਹੈ, ਕਿਵੇਂ ਤਾਲੀਬਾਨ ਨੇ ਅਫ਼ਗ਼ਾਨਿਸਤਾਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਔਰਤਾਂ ਦੇ ਬੁਨਿਆਦੀ ਹੱਕ ਉਹਨਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਖੋ ਲਏ ਹਨ, ਅੱਜ ਵੀ ਬੜੇ ਸਾਰੇ ਮੁਲਕਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਬਾਲ ਮਜ਼ਦੂਰੀ ਹੁੰਦੀ ਹੈ। ਨੇਰਥ ਕੋਰੀਆ ਦੇ ਹੁਕਮਰਾਨ ਨੇ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਦੇ ਸਾਹ ਲੈਣ ਤੇ ਵੀ ਰੋਕ ਲਾਈ ਹੋਈ ਹੈ।

ਐਸੇ ਮਾਹੌਲ ਵਿੱਚ ਇੱਕ ਮਨੁੱਖ ਕਿਵੇਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਆਪ ਨੂੰ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਅਤ ਮਹਿਸੂਸ ਕਰ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ? ਵਿਸ਼ਵਪ੍ਰਸਿੱਧ ਫੀਫਾ ਕਪ ਦੀ ਮੇਜ਼ਬਾਨੀ ਅਰਬ ਦੇਸ਼ ਕਤਰ ਕਰ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ ਜੋ ਕਿ ਵਿਵਾਦਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਘਿਰਿਆ ਹੋਇਆ ਹੈ।

ਅੱਜ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਅਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਮੂਲ ਅਧਿਕਾਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਬਚਾਉਣ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਆਪਣੀ ਆਵਾਜ਼ ਬੁਲੰਦਕਰੀਏ ਨਹੀਂ ਤਾਂ ਆਉਣ ਵਾਲੀ ਪੀੜ੍ਹੀ ਦੀ ਆਵਾਜ਼ ਹਮੇਸ਼ਾ ਲਈ ਬੰਦ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਜਾਏਗੀ

~Gurarpn Singh Sawhney



A SPOTIFY PLAYLIST

~by *Riddhima Pande*

'Waka Waka (This
Time for Africa)'
~Shakira and
Freshlyground

'Money, Money,
Money'
~ABBA

'All You Need is Love'
~The Beatles

'Last Christmas'
~Wham

'Happy Xmas (War Is
Over)' ~John Lennon &
Yoko Ono

'You're on your own
kid'
~Taylor Swift

'Die for you'
~Joji

'Lift me up'
~Rihanna

'The Man'
~Taylor Swift

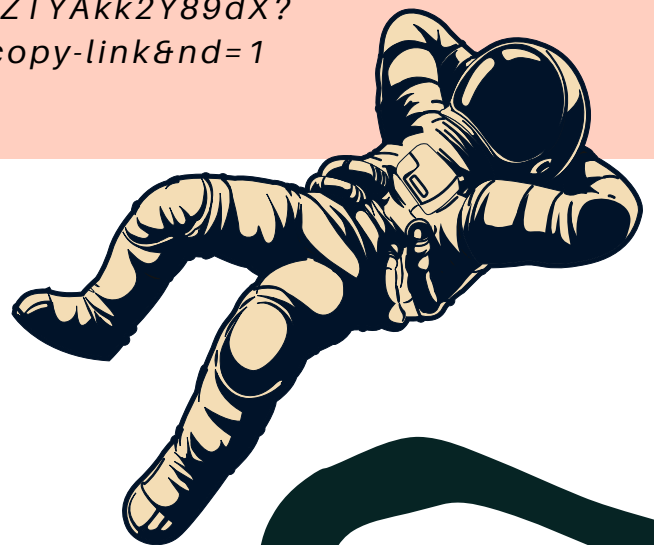
'Alag Aasman'
~Anuv Jain

'Kasoor'
~Prateek Kuhad

'What A Wonderful
World'
~ Louis Armstrong

Use this link to access the playlist!

[https://open.spotify.com/playlist/0M1q5uT6frZTYAkk2Y89dX?
si=gevVnkH3SJm7pV0j_Aqkbg&utm_source=copy-link&nd=1](https://open.spotify.com/playlist/0M1q5uT6frZTYAkk2Y89dX?si=gevVnkH3SJm7pV0j_Aqkbg&utm_source=copy-link&nd=1)



MOVIE AND SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS

~by **Riddhima Pande**
and **Ambreen Sandhu**

- **The Life and Death of Marsha P. Johnson:** Johnson is a 2017 American documentary film directed by David France. It chronicles Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera, prominent figures in gay liberation and transgender rights movement in New York City from the **1960s to the 1990s** and co-founders of Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries. *[Available on Netflix]*
- **There's Something in the Water:** Community activists embark on a crusade to protect the environment from landfills and pollutants in Nova Scotia. *[Available on Netflix and Prime Video]*
- **The Dissident:** When Washington Post journalist Jamal Khashoggi disappears after entering Saudi Arabia's consulate in Istanbul, his fiancée and dissidents around the world are left to piece together the clues to a brutal murder and expose a global cover-up perpetrated by the very country he loved. *[Available on Prime Video]*
- **Pride:** During the 1984 Welsh miners' strike, LGBTQ+ activists forge an unlikely alliance with the families of the striking miners. *[Available on Hulu]*
- **The Art of Political Murder:** An investigation into the truth behind the murder of Guatemalan Bishop Juan Gerardi, who was killed in 1998 just days after trying to hold the country's military accountable for the atrocities committed during its civil war. *[Available on HBO Max]*
- **'Jojo Rabbit' directed by Taika Waititi:** Jojo is a lonely German boy and a Nazi fanatic living in the times of World War 2. Trouble follows as he learns that his single mother is harbouring a Jewish girl in their attic. As he strikes up a friendship with the girl, Jojo must challenge his blind nationalism with the help of his imaginary "friend", none other than the infamous Adolf Hitler. This movie will make you laugh and cry as it provides a humorous perspective of a little boy brainwashed into Nazism while depicting the heartbreaking traumas he is subject to on a daily basis. *[Available on Disney+]*
- **Our Boys(show):** In the summer of 2014, three Jewish teenagers are kidnapped and murdered, leaving Israel shocked. Two days later, the burned body of a 16-year-old Palestinian from eastern Jerusalem, is found. Based on true events, this HBO limited series follows Simon, an officer from the Shin Bet, as he investigates the murder, while the parents of the slain teenager seek justice. *[Available on Prime Video]*

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

~by Ambreen Sidhu

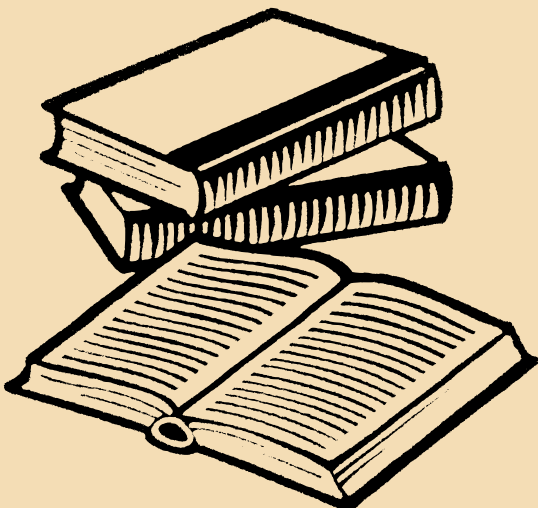
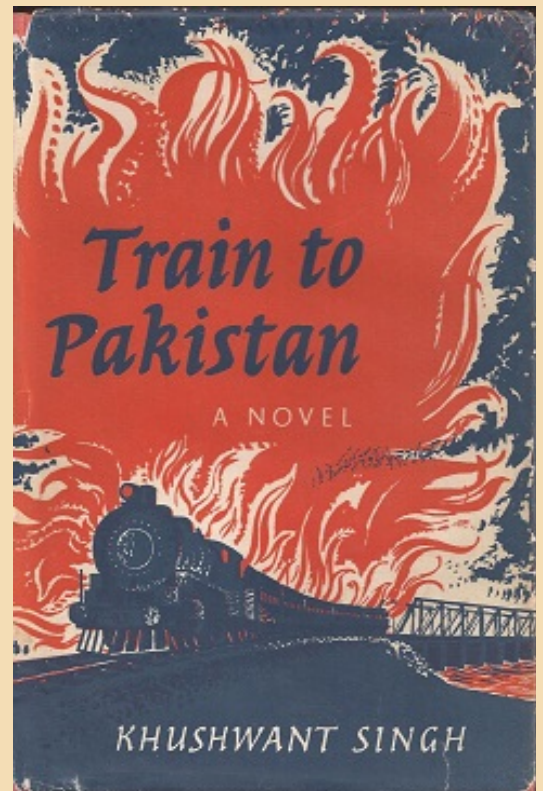
- 'I Am Malala: The Story of the Girl Who Stood Up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban' by Malala Yousafzai: A rousing autobiography written by Malala Yousafzai, who is now a globally renowned activist for girls' right to education, this book follows not only the author but also her family, whose lives are turned upside down by the settlement of the terrorist Taliban group in Pakistan. Malala and her father, who is the owner of a school, push for female education, and in doing so, catch the heat of the bigoted Taliban, with Malala even being shot as revealed by the book's title. This book provides an insightful perspective into the lives of Pakistani girls who are denied the right to education simply because of their gender. It shows the bravery of both the women and men who fight and risk their lives for girls to be granted equal rights in Pakistan, an admirable trait that becomes increasingly crucial in today's world.
- 'To Kill a Mockingbird' by Harper Lee: Narrated by six-year-old Jean Louise Finch, this novel, deemed a must-read classic of American literature, takes place in the fictitious town of Maycomb, Alabama, the county seat of Maycomb, throughout the three years of the Great Depression. It is a sombre drama about the causes and effects of racism and prejudice which explores how good and evil may coexist, demonstrating the greyness of morality prevalent in today's world. It is also a coming-of-age tale of a young girl, which many readers may find relatable.
- 'The Diary of a Young Girl' by Anne Frank: The diary of Anne, a young Jewish girl living through the horrors of the frightening World War 2, starts on June 12, 1942, the day she turns thirteen, and finishes not long after her fifteenth birthday. It narrates the tale of her family, who reside in Frankfurt, Germany, and who are abruptly forced into hiding due to how the Nazi Party and Hitler treated Jews in Europe during the Second World War. They manage to flee to Amsterdam, where they hide out with other Jews. This tearjerker of a memoir depicts the torment inflicted upon the Jews by the Nazi Party through the eyes of a young girl forced to live through horrors considered unimaginable today.
- 'Midnight's Children' by Salman Rushdie: It is a historical account of contemporary India that focuses on the fates of two children, Saleem and Shiva, who were born at precisely midnight on August 15, 1947, in a hospital in Bombay, where a nurse switches them. What is interesting about this switch is the fact that Saleem, a son of a Hindu woman and British colonist, is given to a Muslim couple, while Shiva, a Muslim-born boy, is adopted by a Hindu. This pageturner explores not only the importance of cultural mixing, but also serves as a loose allegory for the events that follow the bloody Partition of India.



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

~by **Ambreen Sidhu**

- 'The Hunger Games' by Suzanne Collins: This post-apocalyptic and dystopian trilogy remains one of the most popular works of art in the world, and for good reason. The Capitol of Panem, located in what was once North America, is controlled by its dictatorship, called The Capitol. The Capitol exercises its control over its twelve districts by making each one choose a boy and a girl, known as Tributes, to compete in a nationally broadcast competition known as the Hunger Games. Every citizen is required to observe as the youths engage in matches to the death until only one is left. This trilogy captures the evils of capitalism as The Capitol tortures the Districts for entertainment, while showing what the youth, represented by sixteen-year-old District 12 Tributes Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark, can do to fight for their well-deserved rights. The trilogy shows the willpower and sacrifices made by the Districts as they rebel against the Capitol and call for the abolition of the Hunger Games.



- 'Train to Pakistan' by Khushwant Singh: In this historical book, Khushwant Singh describes how Sikhs and Muslims coexisted together for centuries before the Bloody Partition. Through the eyes of Mano Majra, a fictitious border village, the book describes the August 1947 Partition of India. Life in Mano Majra was still largely tranquil, and there were people of several religions living there, including Christians, Muslims, Sikhs, and Hindus. However, the peace is disturbed when the first ghost train arrives, carrying many corpses. The book follows this traumatic event which leads to the Sikhs and Muslims turning against each other.