

KNOWLEDGE TRIBE

The Home of the Knowledge Community!



The Journey Beyond the Peak

Bachendri Pal

India's first woman
to conquer Mt. Everest

In This Issue

Knowledge
Events You
Can't Miss

The Quiz
Premier League
Kicks Off!

A Chat with
Quizmaster Vinay
Mudaliar

Glimpses with
Entrepreneur
Vignesh
Ramaswamy

and much more...

KNOWLEDGE TRIBE

Editorial

Rashmi Marian Furtado
Vishnu Rao
Aaqilah S.
Sweta Choudhary

Design

Debanjana Saha
Nilufer Nisha
Mayuri Saurkar
Jobin Abraham

Support

Team Greycaps

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CONTACT US

www.knowledgetribe.in
ross@knowledgetribe.in

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Celebratorial



Dear Knowledge Enthusiast,

This New Year, let's celebrate knowledge. Let's celebrate talent.
Let's celebrate you!

“

Well, knowledge means nothing. Yet, everything is knowledge.

- Priscilla Chang
Knowledge Tribal, Sydney

”

“

Knowledge is the ability to choose between right and wrong in an unbiased manner and know what is sensible. Knowledge is common sense.

- Nikhith Thomas
Knowledge Tribal, Bengaluru

”

“

Knowledge is one's benchmark for oneself.

- Gautami Shinde
Knowledge Tribal
Surat

”

What's
Knowledge
To Me?

“

Knowledge is any learning that boosts one's confidence.

- Madhuri Sarkar
Knowledge Tribal, Bhilai

”

“

Knowledge is a highly underestimated and valuable life skill. It is something that everyone has in common, and yet is so unique to every individual.

- Praveen Reddy
Knowledge Tribal, Visakhapatnam

”

“

Knowledge is the stepping stone for empowerment.

- Shagun Bharadwaj
Knowledge Tribal
New Delhi

”

“

I have to say the clichéd 'Knowledge is a necessity.' But knowledge is also a celebration of our existence, and everything in between.

- Aparna Kamat
Knowledge Tribal, Kuwait

”

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Picture credit: femina.in

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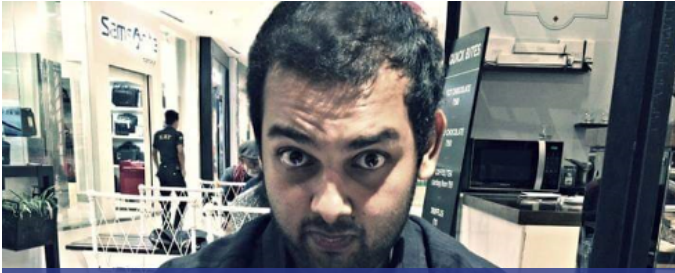
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Picture credit: wallpaperscraft.com

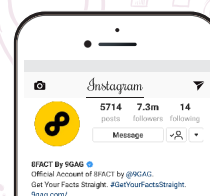
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Amazing Content Creators
You Should Know

Facts are fun, but most are presented in a boring and badly edited videos. The Infographics Show focuses on making animated motion infographic videos, made in a fun and entertaining way. Some topics we cover are military comparisons, celebrity comparison, video game comparison a lot more.

SUBSCRIBE



Bachendri Pal is famous as the first Indian woman to reach the peak of Mount Everest. She is also known for being the recipient of the prestigious Padma Shri. But there is still so much that the world does not know about her. In this interview with the Knowledge Tribe, she shares a few lesser-known aspects of her life before and after her famed ascend, along with some wonderful words of wisdom. Go on, and catch some excerpts from this delightfully inspiring chat.

BACHENDRI PAL

Knowledge Tribe: How did the dream of scaling Mount Everest take birth in your mind?

Bachendri Pal: I come from the small village of Nakuri in Uttarkashi, a district in Uttarakhand. Mountaineering is something that I liked doing since my childhood. I trained for it in my own way by carrying heavy stones in a rucksack and climbing up the mountain near my house. I also jogged every day. One day, there was an event in my village and the person who spoke on the occasion, mentioned mountaineering as a profession. I tried and was successful in getting employed as a mountaineering instructor at the National Adventure Foundation. After that, I just kept training for a fair period, and was finally able to achieve my dream in the year 1984.

The Everest that I scaled is still small. The Everests that we create for ourselves and for others, are far larger to scale.

KT: How do you feel when you reflect on the moment when you finally scaled Mount Everest and anchored the Indian National Flag on the peak?

BP: It is a proud feeling. It was an overwhelming feeling to trek along the mountain, carrying the flag. Only a few fortunate people get an opportunity to carry the Indian Flag and anchor it on the peak of Mount Everest.

KT: Was it difficult for you as a woman during your time, to achieve what you did?

BP: It was difficult. Society has always had its own expectations from a girl. It is up to us to put our effort and be courageous to face challenges. Society creates many mountains in our path, but those mountains can be scaled. The mountains that we create for ourselves are more difficult to conquer. We need to overcome our prejudices and shortcomings to realise our potential and achieve what we are capable of. The Everest that I scaled is still small. The Everests that we create for ourselves and for others, are far larger to scale.

KT: You have now become a mentor to many mountaineers, with the opportunity to interact with numerous people from the younger generation. What is your message to today's youngsters?

BP: Effort is very important to achieve anything in life. I grew up in a village household, where I had to take on the responsibility of my siblings and of the household from a very young age. This type of upbringing got me exposed to understanding responsibility and how to put in the effort to achieve something. Over a period of time, these experiences helped in developing leadership ability in me. This helped me in scaling Mount Everest.

When I scaled the Mountain, the award and reward that I received, came with a responsibility. What is my next step? How do I give back to society? For how long would I have spoken about the same achievement? At this point, Tata Steel created an Adventure Foundation and empowered me completely to train young individuals. Through this platform, I can reach the masses and give back to the society.

The intent to give back to the society stemmed out of the effort I put in, the responsibilities I was exposed to and out of the leadership qualities. This effort is something that lacks in the youngsters today. Everything is readily available and made easy for them. This creates a huge hindrance, as they fail to recognise the potential that they have. I believe that experiencing hardwork, effort and teamwork is very important for youngsters, and that doing these through sports will help them hone their skills better. ●

THE JOURNEY

BEYOND THE PEAK

Key Updates

- Ujjit Patel resigns as the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). He was the 24th Governor of the RBI and had the shortest tenure since the year 1992.
- Indian badminton superstar P. V. Sindhu rewrites history by becoming the first Indian to win the finals of the BWF World Tour. She beat her opponent, Japan's Nozomi Okuhara, 21-19, 21-17.
- NASA's research finds that Saturn is slowly 'losing' its rings, in the form of 'ring rain'. Data from the Cassini-Huygens spacecraft which studied Saturn, indicates that its rings could vanish in the next 100 million years.

Events This Month*



Empower Her**

IIM, Amritsar



Quizen- Quiz 3**

IIM, Trichy



Arthneeti**

International Management Institute,
New Delhi



Karmanta (Round 1)**

International Management Institute,
New Delhi



Karmanta (Round 2)**

International Management Institute,
New Delhi



TAPMI QoTB (Qualifiers- Finale)**

TAPMI, Manipal



Markopolis 2019

Narsee Monjee Institute of Management
Studies, Bengaluru



Spandan (Prelims)**

Great Lakes Institute of Management,
Chennai



Aagamya 3.0 (Round 2)

Symbiosis Institute of Business Management,
Hyderabad



Aagamya 3.0 (Round 3)

Symbiosis Institute of Business Management,
Hyderabad



Titan Elevate 5.0 Workshop

Titan



Reliance Quiz-a-thon 4.0-

The Marketing Quiz**

Reliance Industries Limited

Knews

10 Titan Elevate 5.0 (Semi-finals)
Titan

11 Titan Elevate 5.0 (Grand Finale)
Titan

12 Ecomafia (Prelims)**
International Management Institute,
New Delhi

12 LIBA Chrysalis- Godzilla's Island**
Loyola Institute of Business Administration,
Chennai

12 The Capitalist 2019 (Round 2)
Symbiosis Institute of International
Business, Pune

13 Invader (Prelims)**
Great Lakes Institute of Management,
Chennai

14 Expressions 2019 (Prelims)**
International Management Institute,
New Delhi

15 Globus Feneratus**
International Management Institute,
New Delhi

**19 Reliance Quiz-a-thon 4.0-
The E-commerce and Digital Quiz****
Reliance Industries Limited

24 tHRive (Finals)
Symbiosis Centre for Management and
Human Resource Development, Pune

24 Tact-4-Ops
Symbiosis Centre for Management and
Human Resource Development, Pune

24 InFINity (Finals)
Symbiosis Centre for Management and
Human Resource Development, Pune

25 Amuse Bouche- Business Quiz
IIM, Trichy

26 Spandan (Finals)
Great Lakes Institute of Management,
Chennai

**30 Reliance Quiz-a-thon 4.0-
The Brand Quiz****
Reliance Industries Limited

31 Alcheringa 2019
IIT, Guwahati

****Online events**

*Listed here are the events and their
organisers. For the full event calendar,

[Click here](#)

Feature your knowledge event for FREE!

[Submit Now](#)

FOF - Knowledge Tribe's Top Fans on Facebook



Sanjay Chowdary

TATA Crucible Campus
2018 Vizag champion



Pranay Kumar

Knowledge enthusiast

Shiladitya Roy

Quizzer, music lover



Rajarshi Chanda

Quizmaster, Runner-up at
Edelweiss Brain Bout 2017



BIT Mesra presents
Wolf of Dalal Street, a business
quiz, on January 12, 2019.

Don't miss **Illume'19**, the quiz
fiesta of **Quiz Society, SRCC**,
on January 23 and 24, 2019.

This Month, We Celebrate...



J. R. R. Tolkien's birthday - J. R. R. Tolkien, the author of renowned fantasy novels such as *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*, was born on January 3, 1892. Catch our special factoid with some lesser-known facts about this literary genius.

[Click to Watch](#)



Muhammad Ali's birthday - Known by various names such as Cassius Clay, 'The Greatest' and Cassius X, American professional boxer Muhammad Ali was born on January 17, 1942. Don't miss our factoid on this sporting legend.

[Click to Watch](#)



The Indian Republic Day - The Constitution of India came into force on January 26, 1950, making India a republic nation. This year, as the country celebrates Republic Day for the 70th time, Knowledge Tribe brings you a few facts that you probably didn't know about this occasion.

[Click to Watch](#)

On Our YouTube Channel



Knowledge Tribe

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The Knowledge Tribe YouTube channel is a platform where we host tons of videos on a variety of topics. This month, we introduce you to a couple of series on the channel which you can add to your binge-watch list.

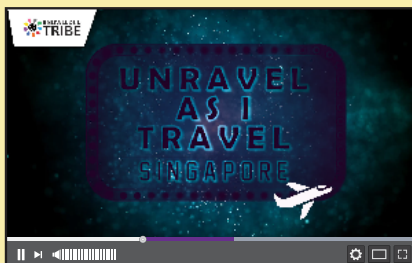
This Month in History



This Month in History is a series that highlights the key events that went down in history each month, in a manner that will delight even those who dislike the subject. This January, our hosts AQ and Shivangi talk about India's Republic Day, the Imperial Bank of India, Stephen Hawking and lots more.

Click to Watch

Unravel As I Travel



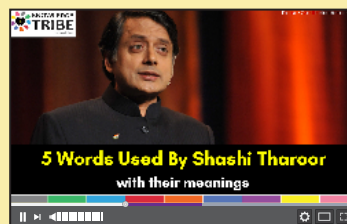
Unravel As I Travel is our travel trivia series, through which one can learn some fascinating insights and facts about different places in the world. In this episode, catch host Palak Kumar unravelling some exceptionally well-kept secrets of Singapore, featuring Changi Airport, Jurong Bird Park, the famous Clarke Quay and many other tourist attractions.

Click to Watch

Highlights of 2018



Click to Watch



Click to Watch



Click to Watch

Want to contribute to our fast-growing YouTube community? Write to us at ross@knowledgetribe.in



Vinay Mudaliar

Quizmaster and 'The Mind' at Mindcogs

A Journey of the Mind

Vinay Mudaliar has the distinction of being the only quizmaster in India to be associated with Encyclopaedia Britannica and the Oxford University Press, in imparting knowledge across India through the sport of quizzing. Vinay is the recipient of multiple awards and has been recognised for efforts towards spreading knowledge among children across the length and breadth of the country.

Known for his keen wit, his high-quality content and his ability to instantly connect and engage with his audience, Vinay Mudaliar has conducted over 600 quizzes in more than 40 cities across India and holds the distinction of being the youngest quizmaster to be associated with the CBSE and ICSE board in their endeavour to spread knowledge in a fun and innovative manner. He continues to write inspiring articles and Facebook posts as part of his desire to inspire, ignite curiosity and encourage the spread of knowledge.

By his own admission, Vinay Mudaliar was initially more into cricket than quizzing. He says, "I first started quizzing in school, in the seventh grade. I wasn't inclined towards quizzing from a very young age. I actually got into quizzing

while watching the ESPN School Quiz at home." While watching the popular show hosted by Harsha Bhogle, Vinay experienced the thrill of getting a lot of answers right and then decided to join the quiz club in his school. "My school, St. Paul's (English School, Bengaluru), was a very competitive quizzing school and the teachers were very enthusiastic and supportive of our quizzing efforts. Quizzes were lesser in number, and we used to wait for a good quiz to be conducted. We used to sit after school hours and keep quizzing each other, honing our skills and getting ready for the competition." As it turned out, he had inspiration in his own family. "My cousin Avinash was a part of the Karnataka Quiz Association (KQA) and is a very good quizmaster. I frequently accompanied him to quizzes, sat in the audience or maintained the scoreboard. I think all of these have contributed to my love for the sport in general."

Vinay continued quizzing into his college days, discovering that, “The level of competition was higher than in school. After passing out of the 12th grade, I studied law. I noticed that fifth year students in the law course generally used to win the quiz. But as a youngster, it is important to never lose hope. We kept going to all the quizzes and staying back, watching the finals.” This level of preparation and observation eventually paid off. “By the time I got to the third year of college, I got a good teammate and then we started dominating the quizzes. We travelled to various parts of the country, often at our own expense and winning quizzes.” How? “Momentum is very important. Once you start winning, you get into a flow and you carry on from one quiz to the next with the same momentum.” However, it wasn’t only about winning. “We kept participating in all quizzes, so much so that I used to focus more on quizzing than my studies. I kept on quizzing, I kept travelling– Surat, Ahmedabad, Delhi, places down South– we just went to all the quizzes that we could and built the momentum.”

More than anything, Vinay Mudaliar credits all these travels with some treasured memories, moments and more importantly, a great deal of experience. This experience furthered his desire to go beyond just being a participant and actually conducting quizzes and impacting the minds of young quizzers. “For me, the journey is more important than the destination. This is something that holds true even now. It inculcated a passion to keep going, not stopping once a quiz was won or when a quiz was done. This is what I tell children: it is the journey that is important. Keep playing, keep competing– the prize will always be there. If the Tata Crucible is your World Cup victory, the smaller quizzes that you take part in to build your momentum, are just as important. Set smaller goals while keeping the larger goal in mind.”

Vinay Mudaliar’s larger goal is to inspire children to come to love learning and knowledge; to no longer have quizzing just be defined by the prizes or the victories. “There are quizzers out there today who still compete for the love of the sport. I wish that more children take inspiration from such people; go to a quiz for the experience. Even if you do not qualify for the finals, stay in the audience; watch some great quizzers take part, learn lessons from them, understand how they play, observe their strategies. All of this will help in your quizzing journey, one way or another.” Wise words from a man who did exactly this and moved on from the sport of quizzing to now being one of the key players in the ever-growing quizzing industry in India.

“

Momentum is very important. Once you start winning, you get into a flow and you carry on from one quiz to the next with the same momentum.

- Quizmaster Vinay Mudaliar ”

For now though, Vinay Mudaliar continues to revel in the journey, making new memories, this time as a quizmaster. We are sure that those who attend his quizzes walk away with some amazing memories of their own. ●

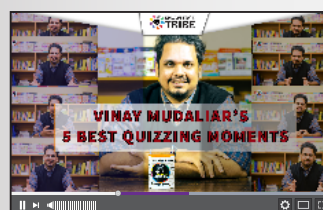
- Editorial Team

WANT MORE? Catch Vinay Mudaliar’s exclusive chat with the Knowledge Tribe.



Vinay Mudaliar talks about five of his favourite quiz hosts.

Click to Watch



Vinay Mudaliar fondly remembers five of his best quizzing moments so far.

Click to Watch

Quizmaster's Challenge

When he's not busy as an entrepreneur shuttling between Bengaluru and Chennai, Arjun Mohan can be spotted participating in a quiz or hosting one himself. Arjun has been a quizzier for the last 15 years and a quiz host for the last decade, with special interest in the fields of food and beverage, travel and living, music and wildlife. He has worked as part of the question production team of the Tamil and Malayalam editions of the popular television show, *Kaun Banega Crorepati*. In his free time, Arjun likes indulging in karaoke competitions and exploring the newest restaurants in town.



Arjun Mohan

1. When one mentions the Insein Prison of Myanmar, the name of which Nobel Peace Prize winner and former inmate of this prison comes to mind?
2. Which constellation named after a man-made object, is also the name of a society whose members are said to have high IQ?
3. The famous armless Venus statue, one of the most recognised Greek sculptures, was discovered in 1820 on an island. The name of this island is a part of the statue's name. Which island is this?
4. If you see the words 'American Humane Association' in the credits of a movie or a television show, which four-word phrase are you also most likely to see?
5. When Richard Nixon was the President of the USA, 'Sample 70017' was cut into fragments and distributed to all states in the USA and to 135 countries around the globe, as a goodwill gesture. What was Sample 70017?
6. Anna Bertha exclaimed, "I have seen my death!" after seeing her photograph that was taken by her husband in 1895. Who was her inventor-husband?
7. The key attribute of which distinctive ethnic group is said to have resulted due to the low ultraviolet light levels in rainforests, limiting calcium uptake for bone growth?
8. Bicycle mechanic Charlie Taylor is best known for his collaboration with which two gentlemen sharing their surname, in the early 20th century?

Answers in next edition.



Unscramble These!

Given below are the names of 10 bravehearts who played a key role in the Indian independence movement. Unscramble the letters to find the names.

1. ohamdnas hmadrakanc adghin
2. thgaba ighsn
3. ekuvhsd apraht
4. aiavhsrm agjurur
5. aall tapjla ari
6. ahrhakserncha adza
7. abl rdgaagnah itlka
8. lla adbrhua hsstrai
9. ibnpi hdranca alp
10. hukimdra esbo

Challenge Yourself!

Unscramble these names mentally. If you take-

20 minutes- **Good!**

15 minutes- **Amazing!**

10 minutes- **Excellent!**

GLIMPSES

Been struggling to get the job of your dreams?
 Passionate about a career line, but unaware of its opportunities?
 Allow us to give you some valuable glimpses into some of the
 world's professions, ranging from the most sought-after, to the surprisingly obscure.



Vignesh Ramaswamy



This month, we give you a glimpse into the world of an entrepreneur through Vignesh Ramaswamy, the founder of Tartl, a collaboration platform for content creators. Vignesh is also the creator of Penumbra, an online, open youth magazine, which is currently in its sixth year. Read on to know more.

Knowledge Tribe: What were you doing before founding Tartl?

Vignesh: I am an electronics and instrumentation engineer from SASTRA University. Introduced to entrepreneurship at the age of 19 by people like Badri Seshadri, Sama, Sijo Kuruvilla, Vaidhyasubramaniam and Pavan, I started Penumbra during my undergraduate studies. Simultaneously, I explored content types, conclaves, marathons and meetups across India. After undergraduation, I worked in an agency as a brand consultant across sectors. That's when I realised the importance of content. This led to Tartl and I started working on it along with Srikkant Srinivasan and Shravan Kumar.



KT: Take us through the initial development process of Tartl.

V: Initially, we interacted with creators across types and languages, alongside a few organisations I had worked with. Based on our interactions, we worked on a very minimalistic website and shared it with the stakeholders. Then we built a beta version of Tartl, based on feedback from the creators, organisations and mentors.



KT: What are the opportunities that Tartl has in its field?

V: The content and media industries in India are still in their nascent stages. However, with respect to content creation and consumption, people the world over are becoming open to new ideas. Platforms like Behance, Patreon, Amazon Prime, Netflix, YouTube, etc. have proved that content is the king. Hence, a platform like Tartl, where creators can channelise their content and earn sustainable revenue from their supporters, has a huge potential in its field. This can bridge the gap between talent and opportunity for content creators.

KT: What is a typical day at work like, for you as an entrepreneur?

V: There is no specific schedule for any entrepreneur, especially during the initial days. You don't know what's going to happen next, and that's the best part! Usually, I am up by 8 AM and start my work from 10 AM. Work goes on till midnight or sometimes even past that. So, I can have a life of my own choice and balance work and personal life.

KT: Are there any challenges that you faced as an entrepreneur?

V: Yes, absolutely! It's like a sinusoidal graph. Often, it is unpredictable. Broadly, the challenges were in bringing a structure to the idea, making people believe in it and putting the core team in place, seed funding, getting suitable mentors, getting initial users on board, and then scaling the idea there onwards. Moreover, I am an engineer-turned-media explorer. So, it was difficult for me to establish credibility. Currently, creating awareness about a niche concept like Tartl, is a task. It is fun to tackle challenges though, especially when you taste a bit of success; it gives you pure joy.

KT: Any advice for budding, young entrepreneurs out there?

V: Firstly, persistence is as important as passion. Second, never underestimate the power of networking; talk to people, take up small projects. A bonus advice would be that I follow Steve Jobs in every step possible and firmly stick to his thought, "Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your inner voice." Always explore your inner voice no matter who says what. It's better to explore, fail, get up and move ahead, than to not do so at all. So, let's create a dent and make sure that a lot of people fall into it, shall we?

QPL

The Journey Begins



Palak Kumar

Architect of the Quiz Premier League

Palak Kumar is India's youngest professional quiz host. He is an alumnus of NIT, Jamshedpur. He is the national champion of the Tata Crucible Campus Quiz 2017. With more than 100 quiz shows to his credit as a quizmaster, Palak has hosted various shows at schools, colleges such as IIMs, IITs and NITs, and employee engagement events for corporates like BPCL, Cognizant, etc. He is the architect of the Quiz Premier League.

They say, 'All's well that ends well', but I'd like to disagree and with good reason. I believe that ace beginnings provide just as much of a motivation as good endings do. 'Do or do not, there's no try' are very powerful words spoken by the wise Master Yoda, but I believe that everybody will agree that if the 'try' turns out to be encouraging, it colours the whole endeavour a little more positively. A very fine example of this is the very first steps of the Quiz Premier League (QPL).

“
What amazed everyone was the fact that 'non-quizzers' outsourced the more established quizzers, while schools without quiz clubs now had the makings of one on the cards.
”

December 4 and 5, 2018 saw the realisation of a dream which was nursed for a long time, from the halls of NIT Jamshedpur to Greycaps, but we have already been through this in another article. The first two sessions of QPL were launched with anticipation in two schools in my beloved hometown Jamshedpur, with

Mount Litera Zee School and Hill Top School becoming the first two patrons of the event on their premises.

Before I delve into the fabulous experience that QPL proved to be, as I saw it from a host's point of view to how the schools saw it as organisers, let me acquaint you with the 'blueprint' of this venture.

So, QPL has three stages: **The Qualifiers**, which are a set of 50 preliminary questions that serve the purpose of a filter so to say, followed by the **Player Selection Process** or (as most kids get a kick out of referring to it as such) 'The Auctions', followed by the last and most important part, **The League**, which is a multiple-day extravaganza of quizzes by and for the teams.



The QPL session at Mount Litera Zee School, Jamshedpur.

Mount Litera Zee School and Hill Top School conducted The Qualifiers online, for a whopping number of 300 students from grades 6 to grade 8, out of which about 25-30 students were selected in each school. What amazed everyone was the fact that 'non-quizzers' outscored the more established quizzers, while schools without quiz clubs now had the makings of one on the cards.

Then came 'The Auctions'. Personal preference would be to call it 'The Player Selection Process', but since I was dealing with a generation that has grown up watching game changers such as IPL and ISL, 'The Auctions' it was. Happy to note, what a major crowd-puller in both the schools this turned out to be!

There's something to learn from the QPL for everybody involved, and so, it managed to teach me as well, a lesson or two about management. During my commute to Mount Litera Zee School, the idea of bid placards struck me, and the school was graciously accommodating of my last-minute request, creating a placard for each table within an hour. Served well to remind me what a hothouse of talent the educational institutes in our country are. This stage of QPL also taught the students various lessons and life-skills. I could see future leaders in the students who opted to become team leaders even though they may not have been the best quizzers or the top-scorers. I attempted to explain the process of auctioning to them and give them tips, but I very soon realised that this wasn't necessary. These were savvy and street-smart kids who already understood the nitty-gritties of the process. They had a minimum

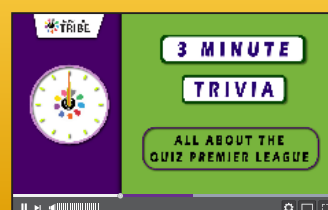
number of players and a budget allocated to them. Some learnt management the hard way while some played smart, but each of them took something back from the experience as they bid and created teams. The administration of both the schools echoed my sentiments in this regard as they lauded the auctions as being one of a kind and something they hadn't witnessed before.



The QPL session at Hill Top School, Jamshedpur.

The major highlight of the entire event for me was a student coming up to me and telling me how 'cool' the auction was and how it could serve as a model to teach business and its gimmicks to students. Here was a 14-year-old who had no clue about management and business but could identify this aspect of QPL all by himself! With that said, all I could think of was the fact that our future was in bright and capable hands. And hence, the first steps of QPL concluded with all the grandeur and satisfaction I could have asked for, and then some. ●

Catch Palak's exclusive
Three-minute Trivia on the QPL:



[Click here](#)

YOUR SPACE

The Malala Story

As any trivia buff would know, in 2014, Malala Yousafzai became the youngest ever Nobel Laureate in the world when she won the Nobel Peace Prize. She was 17 years old. What people tend to forget is why exactly Malala won the prize.

Today, she's a student at a university, but also travels the world talking about the importance of education, especially for girls, and focusses her speeches on conflict zones. A good place to begin to understand what Malala had achieved by the age of 17 is the book she wrote—

I am Malala. It is short, very well-written and offers a wealth of information on her life as well as on social conditions in parts of Pakistan.

Malala was born in Mingora in the Swat Valley, in 1997. She describes the community she was born into, as being ready to fire guns to celebrate the birth of a boy, but not hesitating to hush up the birth of a girl.

Her family, however, was different. Malala's family celebrated her birth and named her after the Afghan heroine, Malalai of Maiwand, who exhorted the Afghan army to victory over the British, falling in battle herself. Her father, Ziauddin Yousafzai, a social activist and educator, had set up a school in Swat, which Malala attended.

In 2008, the BBC approached Ziauddin Yousafzai with a novel proposition: they wanted to run a blog with diary entries by a school girl. This was to gain authentic experiences of a young girl growing up in the increasingly oppressive Taliban-controlled regions. Looking around for candidates, Ziauddin suggested that his own daughter take this up. Thus began Malala's blog on BBC Urdu, with entries narrated over the phone!

But while this was an interesting experiment, it was quite dangerous. It involved openly defying the Taliban and this was defiance from a girl, insisting that everyone should be educated, while the Taliban was trying to ban girls from going to school! The BBC blog entries were published under a pseudonym. However, her father took her with him to public meetings and she would speak out against the Taliban at these meetings, thereby becoming quite prominent.

In her book, Malala describes the threats her family received. She became convinced that she would be shot one day. When this did happen, she was on her way back from school after writing an exam. A Talib stopped her school bus (an open truck) and another poked his head in from the back. Having ascertained who Malala was, he shot her thrice. She was airlifted to Peshawar and then moved with her family to the UK, where she continued with her schooling once she recovered.



Yousafzai with the Obamas

Today a student at Oxford University, she continues to be a vociferous champion for human rights and the right to education and has met with top leaders around the world. One of the most amusing and powerful incidents she recounts is meeting with Barack Obama in the White House on her own terms (she declined to visit for a photo-op and said that if she did visit, Obama would have to listen to her) and talking to him about the role that the USA played in 'supporting dictatorships and the drone attacks in Pakistan and other countries'.

Her book is also a good read, detailing the experiences in her hometown and recording the changes that came with the Taliban regime, as well as describing the courage and values that her own family instilled in her at every step. ●

- **Akhila Phadnis**
Knowledge Enthusiast



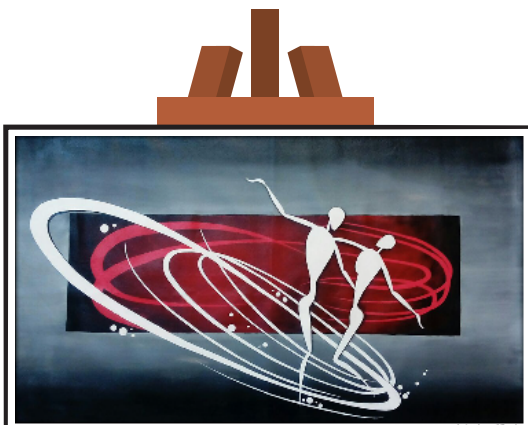
Black and White

I wake up yet again to a darkness around me,
A voice in the distance, the smell of freshly cooked eggs;
Yet nothing I see,
I open my eyes to an orange roof, a green sun,
And down the fluorescent steps, I start to run,
As I reach the foot, I feel my body tilt,
And a pair of arms grab my waist,
I reach my arms out and feel my sister's amicable face,
As her lips ask me to quit my haste.

I go out to greet the dancing trees with their blue leaves,
I look up at the birds as a glittery trail behind they leave,
Like all other days, I sit under the giant black flower
in my usual brood,
Mother pulls me in, disturbing my peace. Oh! She's so rude,
Yet I sit and lovingly tell her about the red grass' tale,
And how the turquoise moth over it did sail,
"The sky is blue, the grass is green, moths are brown.
All you can see is black and white; you're blind,
Don't dream and cut that frown."

The world reminds me each day, how far I am from it,
Yet I stay nonchalant, for my dream is more pleasant
that the world can ever get.

Sanchita S.
Achieve School of Education, Bengaluru



Lucky Tyagi | Artist



Sanju T. | Elillusion



Unearthing Future Leaders

They say that leadership is a skill, a test of character, a test of poise under pressure, the ability to take difficult decisions. These were the qualities that were on display at the 2018 edition of the Hill Top Leadership Challenge at Jamshedpur.

A long-running event at the Hill Top School, the Leadership Challenge is an exhibition of the students in the area pitting their wits against one another and showcasing the qualities of a good leader. This year was no different, with 46 participants from 20+ schools in Jamshedpur and the surrounding areas including Ranchi, battling through a set of gruelling rounds.

Over the course of six group discussions, participants debated over a variety of topics, and were judged on their ability to convey their opinions, their ability to deal with the pressure and stand out in a group and make their voices heard. At the end of it all, 17 well-informed participants, supported by their articulation and grace, rose to the personal interview.

Prior to the personal interview, the selected participants were given words which generally have negative connotations and were expected to present five positive statements in defence of the word. During the personal interviews, noted hosts Rashmi Furtado and Palak Kumar tested the participants' ability to handle queries under pressure. The participants showcased wisdom beyond their years and wowed the judges. Eight of them journeyed into the finals. They were Ayati Mishra of Hill Top School, Parth Chatterjee from Narbheram Hansraj School, Vaibhav Singh from Rajendra Vidyalaya, Rashmi Singh from Sacred Heart Convent, Agnidh Ghosh of Loyola School, Romit Bose of Vidya Bharati Chinmaya



The top eight finalists of the Hill Top Leadership Challenge

Vidyalaya, G. S. Vishnu from Little Flower School and Smriti Sultania of Delhi Public School who had travelled from Ranchi just to be a part of this event.

In the finals, every minute was an advantage that a participant had to seize, and seize they did. Charged with introducing themselves in the form of a Twitter bio, the participants' creative thinking was on full display. Introducing themselves amidst the who's who of Jamshedpur had no influence on the fearlessness of their youth. From fiercely debating heated topics, to showcasing leadership styles while campaigning for understanding from the United Nations on a pressing global topic, the next generation of leaders was ready and raring to go.

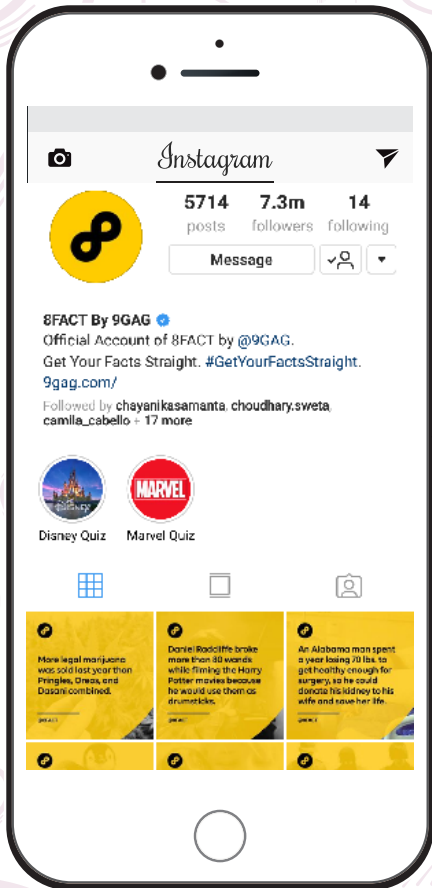
However, we all know that not everybody can win. At the end of the night, four students walked away with prizes. Ayati Mishra from Hill Top School emerged as the unanimous winner, while Agnidh Ghosh from Loyola School was the first runner-up. Romit Bose of Chinmaya Vidyalaya shared the position of the second runner-up with Smriti Sultania, whose trip from Ranchi had ended in success.

Congratulations, young leaders!
The future is bright. The future is yours! ●

Varsha Ramdas | Knowledge Enthusiast

Pick Of The Month

Here's where we bring to you, works of knowledge, creativity and passion from knowledge tribals around the world. So follow, like, share, subscribe and do whatever it takes to nurture these knowledge communities and help them grow!



Instagram- 8fact

What it's about: Trivia

What we like: The variety of facts, ranging from the mindblowing to the futile-yet-amusing.



<https://www.instagram.com/8fact/>

YouTube- The Infographics Show

What it's about: The edge in knowledge

What we like: How the channel manages to both quench and create curiosity around a plethora of topics; its colourful illustrations and the engaging narration.



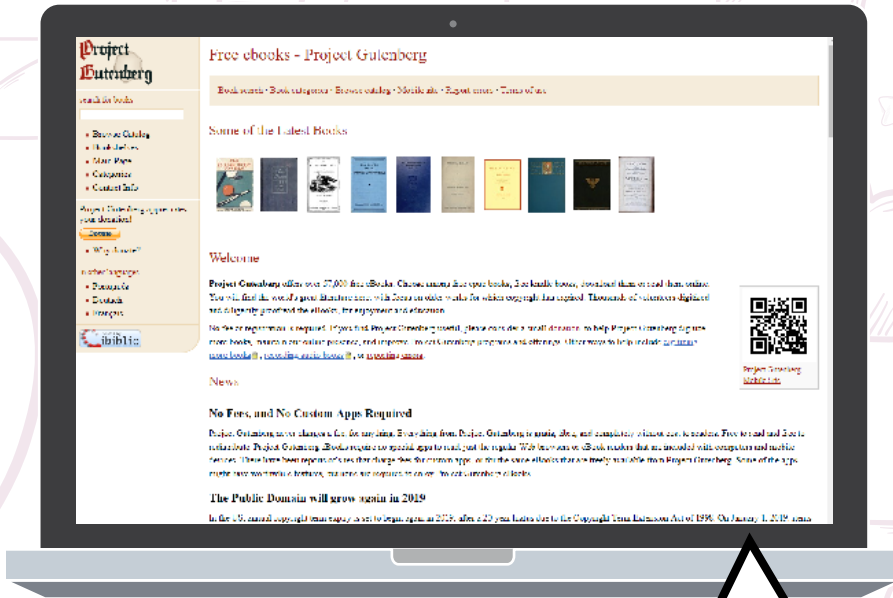
<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheInfographicsShow>



The Infographics Show

Facts are fun, but most are presented in a boring and badly edited videos. The Infographics Show focuses on making animated motion infographic videos, made in a fun and entertaining way. Some topics we cover are military comparisons, celebrity comparison, video game comparison a lot more.


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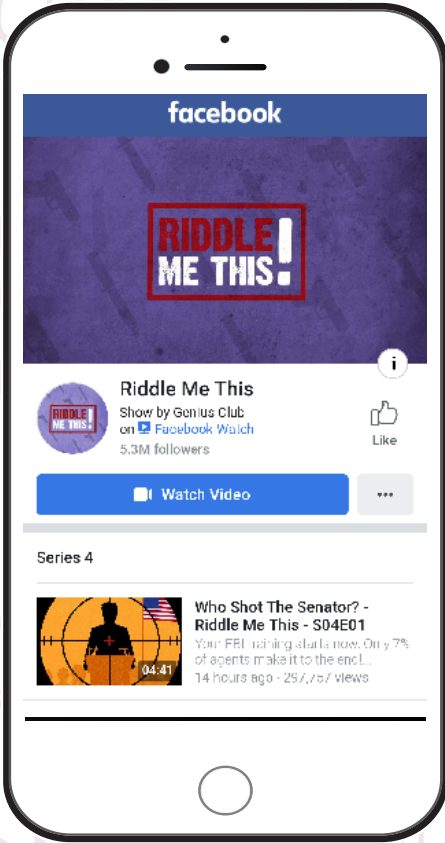


Website- Gutenberg

What it's about: Free books

What we like: The amazing collection of books from several languages, which one can easily browse using their multiple category filters.


 <https://www.gutenberg.org/>



Facebook- Riddle Me This

What it's about: Brain teasers, puzzles and riddles

What we like: The out-of-the-box riddle formats, especially their 'Name Me If You Can' series and 'solve the mystery' posts.

 <https://www.facebook.com/RiddleMeThis.Jellysmack/>

Answers to Last Month



Quizmaster's Challenge

1. Mr. Peanut
2. Donkey
3. Éclair
4. Milwaukee Bucks
5. Porsche AG
6. Antarctica
7. Virus
8. John Casado
9. Sir Tim Berners-Lee
10. Taobao

[To view the questions, click here.](#)

Responses to Last Month



Have You Ever Wondered?

Earlier in Britain, owing to the underdeveloped drainage system, gushing waters during heavy rains would wash away animals such as cats and dogs. The phrase probably originated from this situation.

- Anirudh Jadeja

At one time in England, animals such as cats, dogs and mice lived on the thatched roofs of houses. When it rained, these animals would 'pour down' the roofs, giving birth to the phrase!

- Mythili Ravichander

[To view the question, click here.](#)

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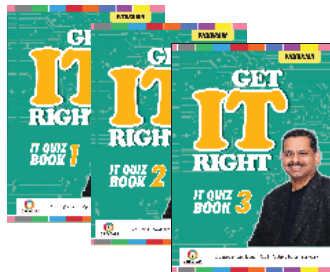
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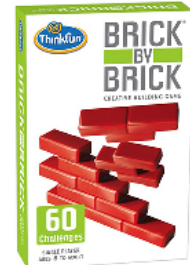
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