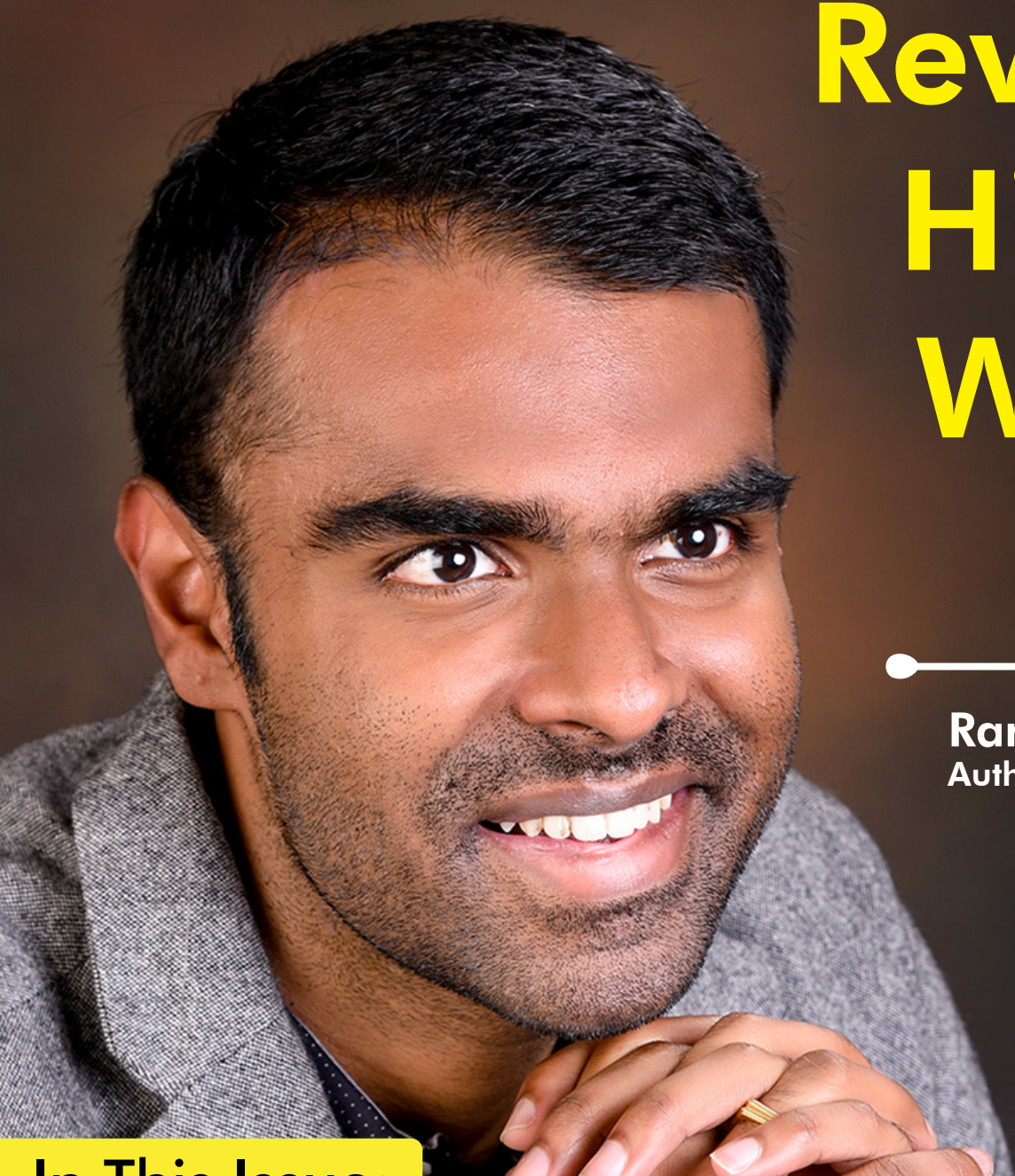


KNOWLEDGE TRIBE

The Home of the Knowledge Community!



Reviving History With A Twist

Ram Sivasankaran
Author, The Peshwa series

In This Issue:

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Month

Singapore's
Quizzing Stars

Autobiographies
That Could
Change
Your Life

Young India At Its
Finest

and much more...

KNOWLEDGE TRIBE

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Dear Knowledge Enthusiast,

This magazine has no editorial or editors.
Because it is about celebrating you, not us.

“ With the infinite wisdom of an economics student, I'll make a 'prediction'. I believe that the more knowledge there is, the more is the probability that your decisions are based on facts and not on opinions we gather by peer influence or otherwise. ”

Vikhyat Muthyala
Knowledge Tribal, Singapore

“ Knowledge is what makes me have better conversations. ”

Akhila Phadnis
Knowledge Tribal
Pune



“ Knowledge means good ice breakers. ”

Berty Ashley
Knowledge Tribal
Madurai

“ Knowledge is the ability to build a better tomorrow. ”

Apoorva Upadhyay
Knowledge Tribal
Bengaluru

“ Knowledge is the doorway to the future. ”

Blessy Mariam
Knowledge Tribal
Pathanamthitta

“ Knowledge is anything that helps me grow in life and which makes me more informed about the world. ”

Jayanthi K.V.
Knowledge Tribal
Coonor

“ Knowledge is the opportunity to meet more people, build relationships and create communities. ”

Racheta Choudhary
Knowledge Tribal
Kolkata

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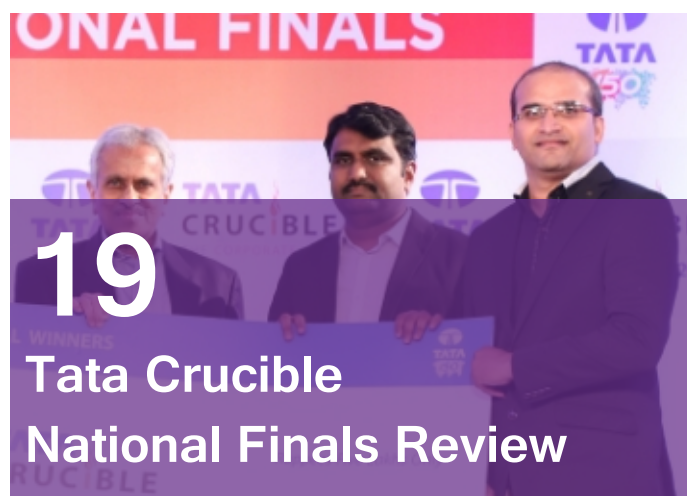
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The Quiz Premier League is Here.
Join the #QPL



Reviving History with a Twist

Ram Sivasankaran
Author, *The Peshwa series*

Ram is an Indian historic fiction author. He rose to fame with his 'The Peshwa' series of novels, in which two books have been currently published. His aim is to stoke interest in forgotten heroes from the history of Bharatavarsa through fiction and imagination. Ram currently resides in the United States of America.

Knowledge Tribe caught up with him on one of his recent trips to India. Here are a few excerpts from our rendezvous.

Two books. One compelling story.

That's a perfect summary of author Ram Sivasankaran's 'The Peshwa' series. The key character of the series, Peshwa Bajirao, is known to some of us through our history textbooks. The titular character also made a foray into greater public consciousness, thanks to director Sanjay Leela Bhansali's epic film, 'Bajirao Mastani'. For Ram, however, the story of one of India's greatest military strategists inspired him to take up writing seriously. The Knowledge Tribe caught up with this articulate and imaginative writer, while he was in Bengaluru on a whirlwind tour across the country to promote his book.

When you first meet him, Ram comes across as an articulate, yet soft-spoken person. However, it is not difficult to see the talent for storytelling and the passion for bringing to life some of India's greatest stories and introducing them to newer audiences, both within the country, and across the world. Storytelling seems to come easily to Ram, having written his first story in the 3rd grade. Ram mentions fondly that even an amateur piece of work, written as an impromptu essay at the time, was appreciated by teachers and peers alike. If you look at Ram's vividly imaginative writing style and marvel at the ease with which he paints a picture using his words, it would surprise you to know that when he first moved to Oman, the writer's home for twelve years, he 'did not speak a lick of English and was frequently reprimanded for his inability to understand what was being taught in class.' Resolving to improve his English, Ram then turned to storybooks. Fuelled by his determination, he improved his language to an extent where his first story earned him plaudits and an opportunity to read it to the rest of his class. This initial bit of writing began a love affair which has continued since; from short stories to articles, from blog posts to, finally, full-fledged novels. It was in fact a chance comment by a friend who spoke about how his storytelling style



'The Peshwa' series- Now available in stores and online!

stood out in his articles and blog posts, that inspired Ram's decision to become a novelist. The author already had a protagonist in mind, and some free time between completing his master's thesis and starting his full-time job. In his own words, "It was a time when I used to write furiously, and, before I knew it, I was done with my manuscript in a matter of months."

Ram's influences have been Hinduism, war, military strategy and 'other impactful topics', as he puts it himself. His fondness for military strategy led him to delve deep into history, "Not just Indian history," he hastens to add, "I looked at several other stories, including the American Revolution and stories of Napoleon Bonaparte, to name a few." Napoleon was an interesting character for Ram. "Napoleon was an accomplished and daring cavalry leader, who fought battles on his own terms. He came from virtually nothing and went on to rule France as its Emperor, for a period of time. His military sense of strategy and thinking deserves to be lauded." While researching Napoleon, a stray comment from a reader online, somewhere in a public forum, about 'India's Own Napoleon' led Ram to the story of Peshwa Bajirao. "I first read about Bajirao in

an Amar Chitra Katha comic and realised that he lived before Napoleon. Far from calling him the Napoleon of India, it would have been apt to call Napoleon the Bajirao of Europe, for I felt the latter surpassed him." More deep-diving led Ram to examine the role that Bajirao had in the establishment and consolidation of the Maratha Empire. "I thought, here's somebody who has had a profound impact on the turn of the tide of Indian history from the eighteenth century and yet, he is an obscure, even unknown, figure to much of the country." Thus, the seed for 'The Peshwa' series took root.

However, there are always challenges to writing about real, historical figures. "I have done some research around the character, but I am not an academic historian myself. I want to encourage more people to read up on Peshwa Bajirao." While facing this dilemma, Ram realised that the 'Historical Fiction' genre was a great way to reconcile his twin aims of telling a story and also stoking the curiosity of a reader to learn more. "Historical Fiction is a genre which gives me some artistic liberty to tell the story in a fast-paced style and appeal to the masses, but, at the same time, invoke a sense of intrigue in my readers to do their research themselves and read more into the actual lives and times of my protagonists and antagonists."

The first book - The Peshwa: The Lion and the Stallion - ends with a teaser chapter, 'The Princess of Bundelkhand,' indicating a transition into a sequel. When asked whether this was a decision taken only after the successful completion and publication of the work, Ram is keen to note that he had always intended to write a series. "I initially meant for it to be a series of two books, but there were

“My goal is to ensure that young readers are enticed into doing their own research without the aspect of boredom that's associated with history.”

several landmark events in Bajirao's life that I wanted to tell in greater detail, plus a couple of others to extend the fictional narrative. So, I ended up with a plan for not just two books, but three!" The second book in the trilogy, 'The Peshwa: War of the Deceivers' highlights the role of Bajirao's younger brother, Chimaji Appa.

"Chimaji Appa plays a mysterious, yet prominent, role in the story captured in the sequel. In fact, the story is designed in such a way that there is a deepening sense of tension and enigma to parts involving the character, as one reads on." 'The War of the Deceivers' is largely devised around the conventional and unconventional battles fought between the Marathas and the Mughals. Each side has a vast spy network gathering and implementing intelligence, counter-intelligence and sabotage on the other. "I wanted to focus on the covert war between the famous enemies, in addition to the conventional war that is fought on the battlefield. That aspect, I hoped, would make it a thriller worth reading."

The book also introduces strong, female protagonists through Kashibai, Bajirao's first wife, as well as Mastani, his second. There is a strong emphasis on violence against women and the highlight on some women who transcended some prevalent societal norms. "In the past, conquerors used to usurp women as a means of further humiliating their vanquished foes. Under the atrocities unleashed by some of the savagely ruthless dynasties that raided and held sway over the Indian Subcontinent for hundreds of years, indigenous women were often a target for violence. One reads of the horrors inflicted on the Yazidi women by terrorists today, but this practice goes back to the past as well, particularly between the eleventh and seventeenth centuries in the Indian Subcontinent. I wanted to explore the barbarity of this unsavoury aspect of Indian history, as well as pen down a just resolution or rather, retribution, to conclude the plot."

Ram's stories stand out for their attention to periodic detail while continuing to keep a younger readership engaged. "The first thing is to keep the language a little more refined than modern slang, avoid certain contemporary, colloquial phrases, and yet, avoid archaic terms and words. The material aspects are a little easier to follow. For instance, some Maratha warriors carried matchlock rifles in the day. Their attire and uniform also conformed to a certain standard. Aspects like this, in addition to using words that have no English counterpart, such as addressing the Peshwa as 'Shrimanth,' instead of 'My Lord' is aimed to add to authenticity."

At a time when there seems to be a growing interest in rediscovering roots and looking at significant events and great men and women from Indian history, 'The Peshwa' series presents an engaging look at one of the more iconic, yet, often forgotten heroes of history. ●

- Editorial Team

WANT MORE? Here's Ram Sivasankaran himself talking to the Knowledge Tribe!



Ram Sivasankaran talks about the authors who inspired him.

[Click here](#)



Ram Sivasankaran tells us about the historic stories that he would like to tell.

[Click here](#)



Ram Sivasankaran shares some valuable words of advice that every aspiring writer must hear.

[Click here](#)



Key Updates

- The Nobel Peace Prize 2018 has been jointly awarded to Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad for their efforts towards ending the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict.
- Author Anna Burns wins the Man Booker Prize for her novel, 'Milkman'.
- As of 2018, Indian batsman Rohit Sharma becomes the fastest to hit 200 sixes in ODIs, making it in 187 innings, beating Shahid Afridi's record by 9 innings.

Events This Month

15 **Presidency Cup Challenge**
Mangaluru

16 **ConQuizTador 2018**
PES University, Bengaluru

16 **NIRNAY**
Xavier Institute of Management,
Bhubaneswar

16 **Jack of All Trades**
Xavier Institute of Management,
Bhubaneswar

16 **HR Colosseum 3.0***
XLRI Xavier School of Management,
Jamshedpur

16 **17** **Manfest-Varchasva**
IIM, Lucknow
18

17 **TCS IT Wiz**
IIT, Delhi

17 **The Argumentative Indian**
FORE School of Management,
New Delhi

17 **18** **MICANVAS 2018**
Mudra Institute of Communications,
Ahmedabad
19

18 **Ingenium- The General Quiz***
Mudra Institute of Communications,
Ahmedabad

18 **Jigyaasa- The General Quiz**
IIM, Indore

18 **Inquizzitive'18- The General Quiz**
Xavier Institute of Management,
Bhubaneswar

19 **20** **Presidency Cup Challenge**
Bengaluru

24 **XIGYASA**
Xavier Institute of Social Service, Ranchi

*Online events

For the full event calendar,

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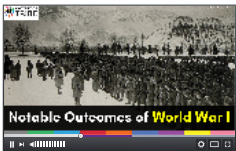


Kapinjal Chowdhury



Follow **Quiz Society, SRCC** on Facebook for their exclusive TueQuest and FriFact posts.

This Month, We Remember...



The end of World War I - World War I came to an end on November 11, 1918, after more than four years of battle. 100 years since, join us as we look back at some of the significant developments that took place during and after this historic war.

[Click to Watch](#)



Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's birthday - India celebrates Children's Day every year on November 14, in loving memory of its first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Watch this special factoid to know some lesser-known facts about our very own Chacha Nehru.

[Click to Watch](#)



The release of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone - On November 16, 2001, Harry Potter and the Philosopher Stone, the first film in the Harry Potter series, was released in the UK and the USA. Don't miss our special factoid with some amazing facts about the Harry Potter franchise.

[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 is sure to delight even those who dislike the subject.

This November, our hosts AQ and Shivangi tell you about International Tongue Twister Day, the launch of Sputnik II, Virat Kohli's birthday and more.

[Click to Watch](#)

The Story Behind



The Story Behind is our newest series, in which we venture into the lesser-known story behind the origins of various things from our day-to-day lives. In our pilot episode, watch Shivangi talk about the story behind the immensely popular photo-sharing social network, Instagram.

[Click to Watch](#)

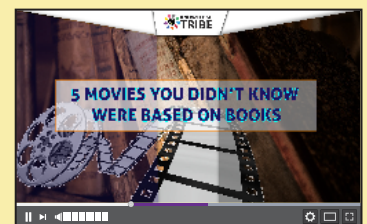
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Want to contribute to our fast-growing YouTube community? Write to us at ross@knowledgetribe.in

Singapore's Quizzing Stars

Have you always wanted to become a quizzer? Do you think you entered the quizzing space fairly late? Well, you can get all the inspiration you need, from Shalini Gupta and Vikhyat Muthyala, students of Singapore Institute of Management.

Winners: TAPMI QoTB Singapore, 2017 and 2018

Winners: Tata Crucible Campus Singapore, 2018 and 2018-19

KT: Firstly, how did quizzing begin for you and what inspired you to pursue it?

Vikhyat: My town didn't really have any quizzes of scale and we all waited for Mr. Derek O'Brien's quiz. Regular quizzing for me only began in college. I was introduced to the crazy, competitive world of Crucible. I used to read a lot, and knowing answers to stuff others didn't, felt good. But once I realised the adrenaline-packed sport that quizzing could be, knowing answers was no more the fun part.

Shalini: Vikhyat introduced me to quizzing around three years ago. We watched videos of some quizzes and I was completely awed by the participants' enthusiasm and with the different types of questions about companies. I knew it then that I wanted to quiz on stage. I was ignorant of the stories of businessmen and world leaders at that time and would always remain silent during discussions about the same. I wanted to improve that.



**Vikhyat
Muthyala**

**Shalini
Gupta**

KT: Tell us about your first onstage quizzing experience, and what it taught you.

S: My first onstage quizzing experience was both, nerve-wracking and exciting. I had trouble focussing on the questions. But I got a lot of support from Vikhyat and we shared information about the topic with each other and tried to arrive at an answer.

V: My first important onstage experience happened in high school. Apart from the lessons of teamwork and enjoying preparation with friends, what it taught me most was how fast, thrilling and stressful it could be. That was the day quizzing became a sport more than a knowledge pursuit to me.

“One thing that motivates me is the humility that, if last year’s winner who you thought was epic, could be beaten by some new guy, then you can be too.”

KT: What have your experiences at the Tata Crucible Campus and TAPMI QoTB been like?

S: I had become a huge fan of Pickbrain’s by watching his quizzes on YouTube. Vikhyat and I were looking forward to meeting him...

V: And every time we wanted to meet him after a quiz, we’d stop ourselves saying that we want to win first. And finally winning, meeting him and hanging out with quizzers who blew our minds for years, was something we’ll always remember.

KT: How do you prepare for an event like the Tata Crucible or TAPMI QoTB? And what would you credit for your victory at quizzes such as these?

V: Well, obviously I am going to give a generic answer like ‘read newspapers’. Another thing that motivates me is the humility that, if last year’s winner who you thought was epic, could be beaten by some new guy, then you can be too. Plus, a team

you can rely on, to be more obsessed with this than you, is what I’d credit my victories to.

S: Yes, staying up-to-date always helps. And I too would definitely credit the team dynamic to our success. Also, the excitement to learn more about companies and leaders.

KT: So, working as a team would definitely have its challenges. How do you tackle them?

V: We both are very different as quizzers, with different knowledge sets. Our simple strategy is, ‘If you’re into soccer, don’t preach on tennis’. So we share and learn.

S: And we also share what we learn, with each other. This way, we both have knowledge of the topic, which helps us answer more effectively.

KT: Describe the quizzing scene in Singapore. How does it compare to what you’ve seen in India?

V: Quizzing in Singapore is very different from India. There are no quizzing clubs. In many cases, there is no one even in your course or college who did this before you. So, it is an exciting journey where you are putting the pieces together slowly. I believe that makes the teamwork a lot more fun. India however, just blows my mind by how many people are into this seemingly trivial college sport, but it is not trivial.

S: Yes, in comparison with India, Singapore definitely lacks the high level of quizzing culture. However, there is huge potential to accelerate the quizzing scene by making students more aware, introducing clubs and organising occasional quizzes in universities and companies. ●

Quizmaster's Challenge



Palak Kumar

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 around 100 quiz shows to his credit as a quizmaster, Palak has hosted various shows at schools, colleges such as IITs and NITs, and employee engagement events for corporates like BPCL, Cognizant, etc., and is the architect of the Quiz Premier League.

1. Bengal, Indochinese, Malayan, Siberian and Sumatran are subspecies of which animal?
2. Which city in India gets its name from the fact that it lies between the Varuna and Assi rivers?
3. US Dollar, Pound, Yen, Euro and _____ are the only five currencies in the world that have a unique symbol. Identify the fifth one.
4. Wood, Iron, Wedge, Hybrid, Putter and Chipper are all used in which sport?
5. Which specific agricultural product from West Bengal was the first to be given the G.I. tag in 2004-05, by the Indian Patent Office?
6. Which traditional Japanese garment means 'a thing to wear', in Japanese?
7. Kilt is a garment resembling a knee-length skirt, traditionally worn by men as part of which country's highland clothing?
8. In 2012, Italian campaigners collected over 1,50,000 signatures calling on the Louvre Museum in Paris to return a painting to the home city of Florence, Italy, but were turned down. Which famous painting was this?
9. The inspiration to start this company came after the founder was charged late fees for returning a rented copy of the movie 'Apollo 13' after the due date. Which company is this?
10. Which football club was formed in 1878 as 'Newton Heath LYR Football Club', by the Carriage and Wagon Department of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway (LYR) depot, at Newton Heath?

Answers in next edition.



Decipher This!

Given below are quotes from famous movies. Each letter in the quotes has been replaced with the letter following it in the alphabet. Substitute the correct letters and decode these quotes. Also, name the movies they belong to.

Challenge Yourself!

Solve this cipher mentally, without writing down the order of the alphabet.

If you take-

20 minutes- **Good!**

15 minutes- **Brilliant!**

10 minutes- **Outstanding!**

Example: "Tpnf qfpqmf bsf xpsui nfmujoh gps."

Answer: "Some people are worth melting for." - Frozen

"Ju jt opu pvs bcjmjujft uibu tipx xibu xf usvmz bsf. Ju jt pvs dipjdf."

"Uif qbtu dbo ivsu. Cvu uif xbz J tff ju, zpv dbo fjuifs svo gspn ju, ps mfbso gspn ju."

"Zpvs njoe jt mijf uijt xbufs, nz gsjfoe. Xifo ju jt bhjubufe, ju cfdpnft eiggjdvmu up tff. Cvu jg zpv bmmpv ju up tfuumf, uif botxf s cfdpnft dmfs."

"Jg zpv gpdvt po xibu zpv mfgu cfijoe, zpv'mm ofwfs cf bcmf up tff xibu mijf bifbe."

"Zpv'sf csbwfs uibo zpv cfmjfwf, boe tuspohfs uibo zpv tffn, boe tnbsufs uibo zpv uijol."

Answers in next edition.

Young India At Its Finest

Rajendra Vidyalaya Science Exhibition



Aparajita Srivastava | NIT Jamshedpur

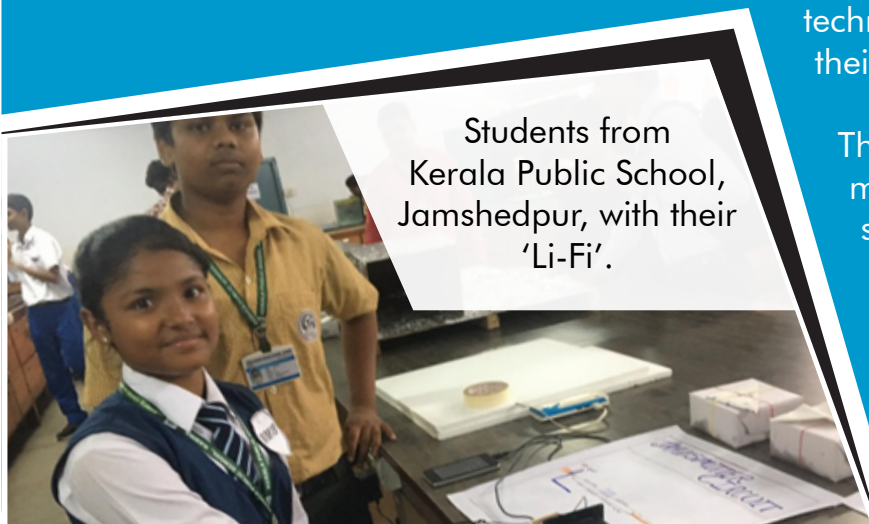
'Young India' is a moniker often rewarded to Gen Y and Gen Z of the nation. And as youngsters, we are well-acquainted with statements like 'Young India is the future of the nation', 'Young India treading the wrong path with their gadget obsession', 'Young India going down the road to lethargy', and so on. But, 'Young India' can also be extremely intelligent and innovative, in which case, them being tech-savvy is only a boon. A perfect example of this was the science exhibition held at Rajendra Vidyalaya in the steel city of Jamshedpur on September 15-16, 2018.

The exhibition, apart from being a platform to parade the students' talents in science and technology, was also

a manifestation of the fact that so many of our homes are breeding absolute geniuses without much awareness of their exceptional grey matter. Intellectuality isn't a scarcity but is the norm of today's India.

The exhibition had schools from all over Jharkhand participate in three major categories which were model making, presentation and poster making. The exhibition was open to students of grades 9-12 and they portrayed tremendous knowledge of technology and the sciences for their age.

The highlight of the event was model making, wherein students constructed working as well as static models with equal finesse. The working models and projects especially, were a lesson in innovation. A pair of 9th grade students from



Students from Kerala Public School, Jamshedpur, with their 'Li-Fi'.

Srikrishna Public School, Jamshedpur came up with the idea and life-sized model of a car which could be controlled by the motion of their hands. Another pair from the city's Kerala Public School made a 'Li-Fi', which applies the principle of Wi-Fi to light waves! They delightedly claimed their creation to be 'unhackable', contrary to systems depending on Wi-Fi.

What's more heartening was that the students not only thought about innovation for profit, but also about the welfare of the environment. A trio of students from Mount Litera Zee School conceived the concept of 'Marine Declutter', complete with a list of possible drawbacks it could have, ways to overcome them, and adjustments to be made if the project was to be done on a larger scale.

Similarly, students from grade 10 of Carmel Junior College had constructed a model depicting a 'Smart Irrigation System', and the ones from St. Xavier's had fashioned 'Smart Farmer Shoes'. In fact, a pair of grade 9 students from DBMS English School, Jamshedpur, had fabricated a Methane and LPG sensor using an MQ-6 gas sensor, which is an electronic device that even many undergraduate students would not be familiar with. Upon being asked if they were taught all of this in school, the students sheepishly declined but readily agreed that they were taught to 'think out of the box' in their respective alma maters.

Students with a working model of a rover.



Projects, models and concepts like these were evidence of the fact that these students didn't just care about winning the competition or coming up with the most technologically fancy model. The social impact and consequences of their work mattered to them too. In fact, it is events like these that restore one's faith in the future of the nation, especially during times when overwhelming news of young individuals caught in a web of transgressions and felonies are constantly doing the rounds. In dark times, it is kids with minds and hearts as bright as these that become beacons of hope and light. ●

Exhibition Highlights:



[Click to Watch](#)

YOUR SPACE



Girija Premji Kumar
SICA Senior Secondary School, Indore

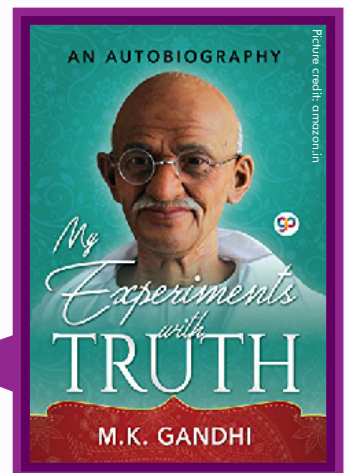
5 Autobiographies That Could Change Your Life

Autobiographies are testimonies to the inspiring and amazing life experiences of people. They enrich our lives with their real-life situations and serve as a guide for all of us. Here are a few autobiographies which I think everyone must read.

The Story of My Experiments with Truth



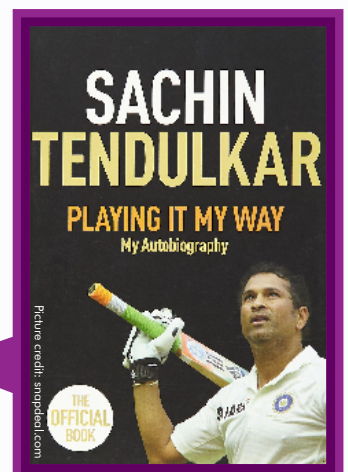
Written in the 1920s, this autobiography of Mahatma Gandhi is perhaps the most familiar one for most of us. Originally published in weekly instalments, this book follows the highlights of Gandhi's life, from his early childhood till his early 50s, which includes seminal developments like the struggle for Indian independence, as well as multiple events in his personal life. A valuable takeaway from this autobiography is the various influences that made Gandhi the man he was. This celebrated work is filled with humility and interesting revelations, and in my opinion, is possibly the most honest autobiography there is out there.



Playing It My Way



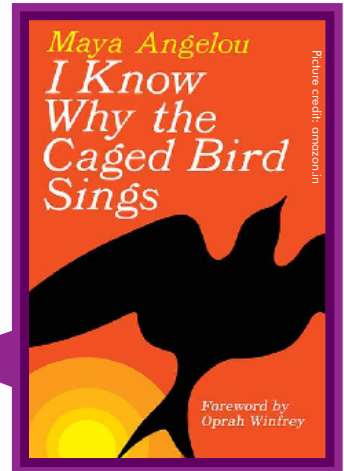
This 2014 book is the autobiography of former Indian cricketing legend, Sachin Tendulkar. It traces Tendulkar's cricketing journey, beginning in his early years and going all the way into his career as a professional cricketer. Frank and delightfully detailed, this one is a compelling read for every cricket fan.



I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings



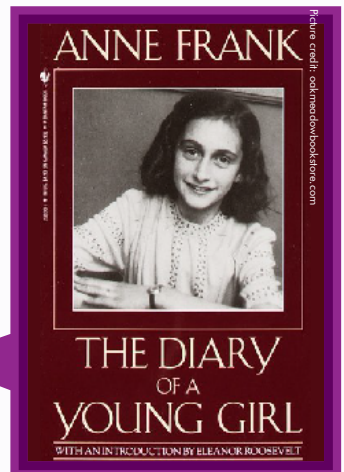
This 1969 work is the autobiography of American poet and author, Maya Angelou. Focussing on her life nearly up to her late teenage, this book narrates the tale of Angelou's struggle against racism, and with personal trauma. The first among Angelou's seven autobiographies, what stands out in this classic is her poignant writing, which beautifully illustrates the role that literature played in her journey from a caged bird into a confident young lady.



The Diary of a Young Girl



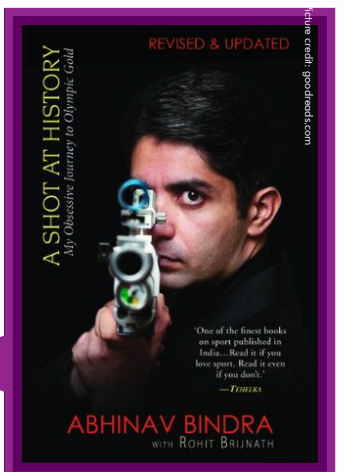
This book contains writings from Anne Frank, a young girl who was a victim of the Holocaust. Anne had penned these words in the Dutch language in her diary, from 1942-1944, when she and her family were in hiding during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands. Mostly addressed to 'Kitty', the writings in this autobiography throw light on the untold tales of World War II, along with Anne's honest confessions, deep thoughts and other insights into her personal life.



A Shot at History: My Obsessive Journey to Olympic Gold



Released in 2011, this book is the autobiography of Indian Olympic gold medallist, Abhinav Bindra. It carries the inspiring story of Bindra's training and career as a professional shooter, as he emphasises the importance of will power in success. Read this book for its powerful message of staying motivated and hungry to strive for excellence.

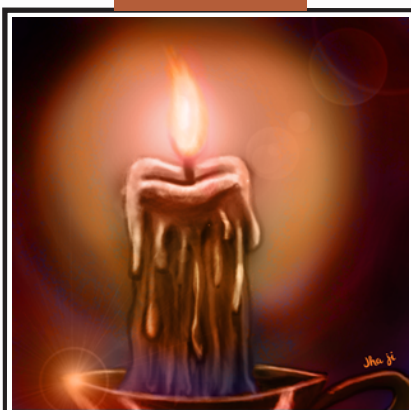


Requiem for the Unfallen



To the magicians who trade their tricks in verses.
To the warriors who fight with, and for words.
To the kings and queens who rule rhymes and in turn, hearts too.
To the survivors who choose to make their stories heard.
To the angels who defeat their demons with ballads.
To the scorned who decide to forgo the swords and pick up pens.
To the lovers who weep on paper with tears of ink.
To the heroes who bleed courage and frame them in odes
every time and again.
To poets, poetesses and everyone else in between.

Aparajita Srivastava | NIT Jamshedpur



Mudita Jha
ICAT Design and Media College



Jobin Abraham | ICAT Design and Media College



The Tata Crucible: A Test of Fire

A journey that began on August 5 in Visakhapatnam finally culminated at the historic Taj Mahal Palace, where Prasad Shetty and Siddharth Mishra from Loansingh.com emerged as national champions. From then till October, the Tata Crucible bandwagon travelled 25 cities; from historic Jaipur to idyllic Goa, from the technology hotspots of Bengaluru and Hyderabad to the strongholds like Mumbai, New Delhi, Chennai and Kolkata; participants flocked to hear noted quizmaster Giri Balasubramaniam aka 'Pickbrain' say those familiar words, 'Hello and a warm welcome to each and every one of you.'

This year was very special as the Tata group celebrated 150 years and the Tata Crucible was officially 15 years old. This Crucible season saw many past champions return, with Ramdas Mullath, the first ever winner, taking part from Coimbatore, and Rahul Gupta, the first ever runner-up, taking part from Mumbai. Powerhouses like Edelweiss and TCS also made it to the finals, along with public sector giants like SAIL and BHEL, a startup in Loansingh.com, and MNCs like Deloitte and Capgemini in the final eight.

Last year, the public was awed by Naveen Kumar and Sai Mitra, as they blew the other teams out of the water. This year, the game was completely different. All the teams were on their best game. We saw some really good answers (Edelweiss' answer for 'custom made products for left-handed people' and Loansingh.com's answer for 'Standard



Meters' spring to mind), but what really stood out was the overall willingness to take risks despite taking negatives.

For the neutral, knowledge-loving public, the quiz was a display in how to capitalise at key moments to build up a lead, and then have the other teams catch up, and that is precisely what Loansingh.com did. Comfortably placed at 600 points, they had the luxury of watching the other teams try to catch up to them although they would have had a few nervous moments as first Edelweiss, and then TCS from Chennai came close. However, with both teams at 550 with only one question to go, the team from Goa backed themselves to sail through, making Prasad Shetty a three-time Tata Crucible national champion.

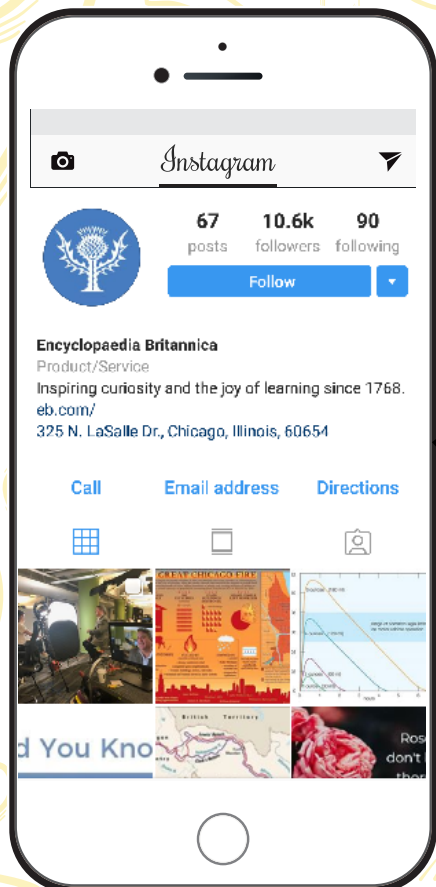
Adults, it is said, do not easily show emotions and yet, as both Edelweiss and then TCS Chennai missed out on the last question, tears of joy flowed from the winners as the years of preparation payed off. As Pickbrain remarked, this is how much winning a quiz like the Tata Crucible meant to everyone.

And thus, a historic season of the Tata Crucible comes to an end. Now, time to hit the books and prepare for next year's edition. ●

Kalyan Ray | 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- Britannica

What it's about: General knowledge and fun facts.

What we like: Mindboggling facts that do not disappoint, dished up in varied formats.

What especially caught our attention is the #WTFact photoseries that features some great trivia with precise, effective explanation.



<https://www.instagram.com/britannica/>

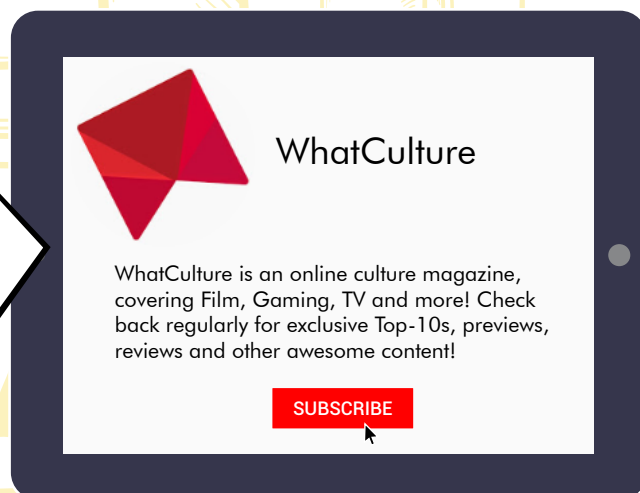
YouTube- WhatCulture

What it's about: Sports, entertainment, fan theories, quizzing and lots more.

What we like: The varied content on the channel, that strikes a good balance between information and entertainment.



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM7Srv4mxJejt2NLmumkRRQ>



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WhatCulture is an online culture magazine, covering Film, Gaming, TV and more! Check back regularly for exclusive Top-10s, previews, reviews and other awesome content!

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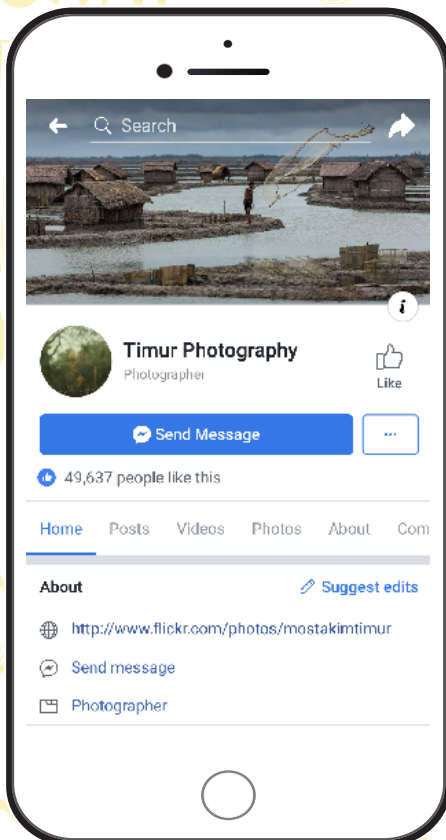


Blog- niharikashenoy.blogspot.com

What it's about: Travels, sketches and experiences.

What we like: The creator's unique style brought about by the combination of self-created paintings and beautiful writing.

 <https://niharikashenoy.blogspot.com/>



Facebook- Timur Photography

What it's about: Photography.

What we like: The creator's fantastic photographic timing and aesthetic sense, capturing both the mundane and the unusual, in striking frames.

 https://www.facebook.com/timurphoto/?ref=br_rs

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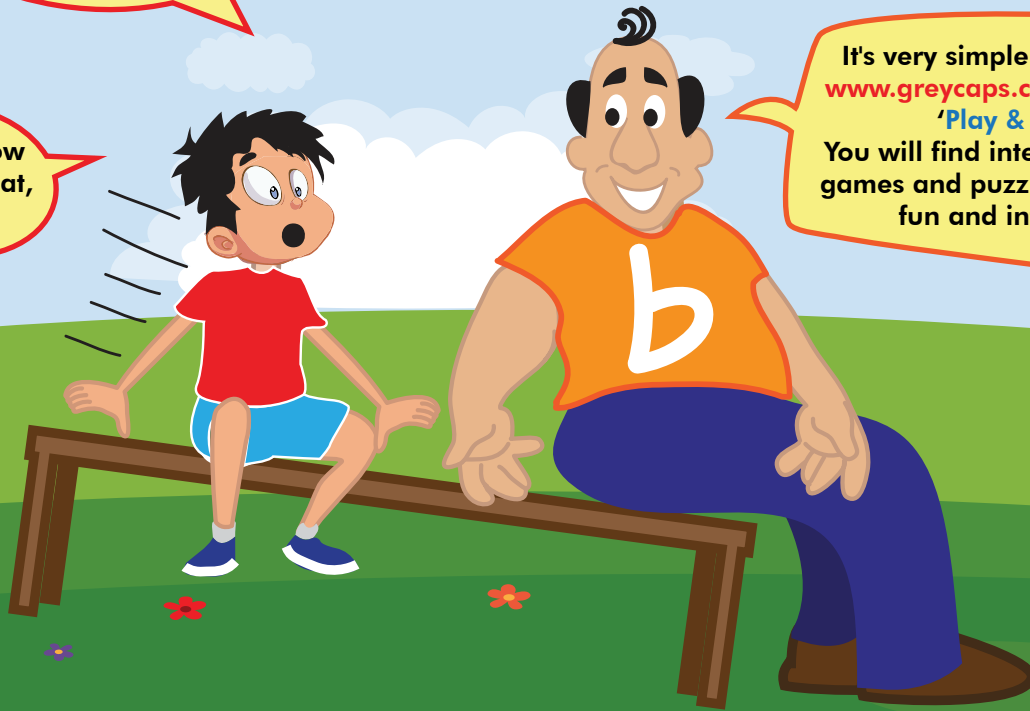
PLAY & LEARN

Hello, Uncle Babbage!
I want to play, but I
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Can I do both at the
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Yes, Chip. You can do
both together!

Wow! How
do I do that,
uncle?

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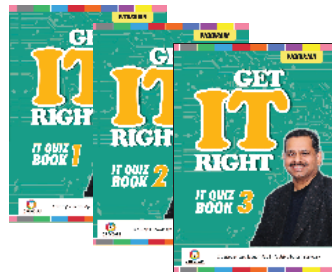
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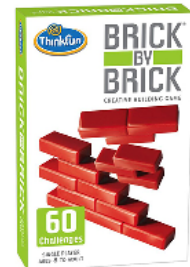
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