



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S  
EDITION**

➤ Handling kids, especially during these pandemic times, can be tough for parents. Experts tell how to raise them peacefully  
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➤ Take a peek into World War II through the eyes of Markus Zusak, best known for 'The Book Thief' and 'The Messenger'  
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➤ Australia look to halt Pakistan in the T20 World Cup semi-final  
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**STUDENT EDITION**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021



One of India's holiest rivers Yamuna has been coated with toxic foam since Monday, adding to the woes of New Delhi residents already enduring a blanket of thick smog over the capital. The Yamuna is already one of the most-polluted waterways in the country but parts of the river, which courses through the centre of Delhi, were coated in mounds of white foam resembling snowfall.

[CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2](#)

## THE 'BORING BILLION' WASN'T SO BORING

No, we are not talking about any billionaire or any Hollywood movie. We are discussing the 'Boring Billion' of the Earth. The 'Boring Billion' – a period in Earth's evolution between 1,850 million and 850 million years ago – has always been considered the duller time in the Earth's history on the basis that not much happened to its climate, tectonic activity or biological evolution. However, a recent study by geologists has revealed that our planet's crust was 'hot



and thin' throughout the time period, measuring just 40km or less. What's more, the relatively thin crust shimmied

around and was populated by some low mountain ranges, created by more gentle tectonic activity.

### How Boring Billion shaped up

- According to researchers, during the Boring Billion, the thin crust, a product of high temperatures resulted in greater crustal flow and therefore, resulted in lower mountain ranges
- The most advanced life on the Earth was algae and the oxygen levels were far lower than they are today

Researchers said the era may have set the stage for the proliferation of more complex life forms that culminated 541 million years ago with the so-called Cambrian Explosion. The Cambrian Explosion saw a burst of new animal phyla, possibly due to a steep rise in oxygen, including arthropods with legs

## TOXIC FOAM ENGULFS YAMUNA



- Officials have long pledged to clean the Yamuna but without success, and the blooms of toxic foam have become an annual occurrence
- A 2020 government report found water quality in the river had become 'critically worse' over the last five years



Share your views on how to keep our waterways pollution-free at [toinie175@gmail.com](mailto:toinie175@gmail.com)

### REPORT CARD

## India retains top 10 slot in climate performance index

India has retained its top 10 spot in the best performing countries for the third year in a row in the global Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) released by Germanwatch.

Interestingly, no country performed well enough in all index categories to achieve an overall very high rating in CCPI, the report noted. As a result, the top three places in the overall ranking remain empty once again

- Denmark placed 4th and is the highest ranked country in CCPI 2022. However, it does not perform well enough to achieve an overall very high rating
- Thus India at the 10th slot is the seventh best performing country. India maintained its 10th position despite pandemic-hit operational difficulties, which saw some regulatory flexibility to put the country's economy back on track



## GOVT TO JAB KIDS ONLY AFTER NOD TO COVAXIN



Children may have to wait for some more time to get vaccinated against Covid-19, as the government will start immunisation for kids only after Bharat Biotech's Covaxin is approved for use, which might take a few more weeks, a senior official said. The government is concerned that supplies of Zydus Cadila's ZyCoV-D – a three-dose vaccine given emergency use authorisation (EUA) for children between 12-17 years – may not be adequate to begin inoculating children. (There are around 440 million children in the country per current data and government estimates around 10-12% will be eligible under pri-

Once the DCGI approves Covaxin for use in children, it will be reviewed by the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation before the final guidelines for immunisation of children are issued. The government expects to begin the programme for children by end-December or early next year, once approval is granted

orisation.) Covaxin, currently in use for adults, has already been recommended for use in children of 2-18 years. However, the final approval for EUA is pending with the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI).

## CBSE BOARD EXAM 2022

### Facility to change exam centre for class X, XII Term 1 to be available on Nov 10

The Central Board of Secondary Education, CBSE Board Exam 2022 for Term 1 would begin on November 16, 2021. The facility for change of examination centre would be available on November 10, 2021 for the students residing in some other city due to Covid 19. Students falling under this category can request for change of examination city for theory, practical or both theory and practical exams. The Board has released an important notice regarding the change of exam centres on [cbse.gov.in](http://cbse.gov.in).

If a student opts for change in exam city only for theory exams, they will compulsorily have to attend practical exams from the schools of their studies. Students must send their request to change exam city for CBSE Board Exam 2022 by November 19 till 11:59 pm



## \$228 MILLION

**FACTOID**

That's the amount generated by The Harry Potter: Magic Awakened game in less than two months since its limited launch in select Asian countries on September 9. This month the Harry Potter franchise celebrates 20 years since the release of 'Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone', also known as 'The Sorcerer's Stone' in cinemas. According to Sensor Tower, the early success of Harry Potter: Magic Awakened already makes it the number 2 ranked title in the franchise by global player spending across the App Store and Google Play.

## Goodbye Fairy Queen!

It will be the end of an era, as the replica of the Fairy Queen steam locomotive paves way for the mini replica of the semi-high speed Vande Bharat train at the Indian Railways headquarters in the national capital. The glorious Fairy Queen has occupied the place of pride in front of the Rail Bhawan for years. And it has a good reason to be given the honourable position – Fairy Queen has been a great attraction among the steam engine lovers across the world, and was certified by the Guinness Book of Records in 1998 as the world's oldest steam locomotive in regular operation.



■ Also known as the East Indian Railway Nr. 22, the Fairy Queen was built in 1855 by Kitson and Company in England. It was brought to Calcutta (now Kolkata) the same year and operated between Howrah and Raniganj. Subsequently, it was consigned to line construction duty in Bihar until 1909. And this was the end of the Fairy Queen's mainline journey for many years to come

■ In 1972, the government bestowed the 'heritage' status on the Fairy Queen, making it a national treasure. The locomotive was restored and occupied a special place in the National Rail Museum in New Delhi

Vande Bharat replicas signify the transformational changes in the Indian Railways. Equipped with upgraded amenities, better seating, security, and surveillance systems along with fire-proof features, the Vande Bharat trains have been an ambitious project of the Modi government

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**RamG Vallath**, the writer is an IITian, a tech company co-founder, motivational speaker and the author of 'Active Parenting: How to Raise Children With Boundless Potential'

# THERE IS NO ONE WAY TO RAISE A CHILD

The beauty of genetics is that there are literally billions of ways in which the genes of a mother and father can combine to produce an offspring. Two siblings can be as different as chalk and jaggery. And each could be just as different from each parent too. To try and raise them the same way would only lead to curtailing of their individuality, which will lead to them living well below their potential, and which, in turn, will lead to frustration and pent-up angst for children and for parents. So, to get the best out of each child, parents need to understand their children deeply – their motives, their strengths, weaknesses and interests. This is why my book 'Active Parenting' recommends befriending the child as an essential parenting strategy.

An essential aspect of friendship is mutual respect and trust. Parents need to respect their children just as much as they expect their children to respect them. In early years, this would mean patiently listening to them and an-



swering their questions, however silly they may sound. As they grow older, take interest in understanding their day to day life, their interests, their friends, their pop culture, etc. The more parents do that, the better they will understand their children and the better they can customise their parenting techniques to the individual child's needs.

Even the boundaries that parents set for their children need to depend on the nature of the child. Some children need structure, others thrive in ambiguity. Some are fiercely independent, others need support for a longer time.

This is why 'Active Parenting' stresses on the point – there is no one way to raise a child. What parents need to focus on is what attributes a truly successful adult should have and then proactively use every opportunity to build those.

There is no one way to raise kids. Every child is different and his/her unique strengths should be encouraged and celebrated

## KNOW IT ALL

### THERE'S JUNK IN SPACE TOO!

Turns out, human beings haven't just polluted the Earth, but outer space too. Humans have been hurling objects into space for decades and – shocker – there are consequences. As space travel becomes more common (and commercial), this poses risks and has led to attempts at clean-ups.

#### WHAT IS SPACE JUNK?

Space junk, also known as space debris, are the defunct artificial objects that are in outer space because of human intervention. More than 27,000 pieces of space junk have been tracked by the US Department of Defense, according to Nasa.

♦ This junk includes "the stages from rockets that jettison satellites into orbit and the satellites themselves once they die," according to National Geographic. Smaller bits include paint chips, nuts and bolts, a screwdriver and even a spatula.

♦ Collisions make this worse. In 2009, a defunct Russian spacecraft Cosmos 2251 with the US satellite Iridium 33. This alone added 2,300 pieces of debris.

#### WHY IS IT DANGEROUS?

These debris are travelling in space, the same way spacelights are. They travel at a speed of 17,500 mph, which is fast enough to damage a satellite or spacecraft. This means that it makes space travel even more dangerous, adding to the possibility of a collision.

♦ This isn't just hypothetical – space shuttle windows have been replaced because of the damage caused by an unknown material, later found to be paint flecks.

♦ While some of this debris is expected to re-enter the Earth's orbit at some point, that doesn't solve the problem as we are accumulating more junk.

#### HOW DO WE FIX IT?

Japan's space agency JAXA is testing a huge "electronic space whip." The size of six football fields, the idea is that it will knock debris out of orbit, sending it to burn in earth's atmosphere. China, meanwhile, has launched a military satellite to test space debris mitigation technology.

♦ Another ambitious idea is a spinning magnet. University of Utah mechanical engineering professor Jake J Abbott and his team say you could use the spinning magnet to "robotically repair or manoeuvre space junk into deep space or into a death spiral headed toward Earth without touching any pieces."

♦ Satellites are also being designed to fully self-destruct. ESA's Clean Space initiative makes sure satellites burn fully so as to not leave any debris.

♦ Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak's privateer aims to tackle this by creating "the Google Maps of space" to monitor junk. SOURCES: NAA, National Geographic, Space.com, the Birmingham Times, SciTechDaily.com

## Signs you're raising a STRONG-WILLED CHILD and ways to handle them peacefully

While parents want their children to be leaders – opinionated and strong headed – they often confuse their strong-willed nature to be something 'bad' or 'rude'. There is surely a fine line between stubbornness and being strong willed and the only way to identify is through observation and by being reasonable. Your child can be stubborn if they're strong willed, however, it in no way means that they're misbehaving. That said, here are some signs to tell you whether you're raising a strong-willed child and ways you can take care of them without any chaos

#### STRONG-WILLED KIDS STAND THEIR GROUND

If your child is strong-willed and has an opinion, they're likely to stick by it no matter what comes their way. Backing out is not an option for them and they won't budge until and unless they feel heard. For parents raising kids with strong opinions, it is important to keep an open mind. Do not judge your child for being too bossy or stubborn. Rather lend them an ear and reason out with them.

#### THEY DEMAND AN EXPLANATION

Strong-willed kids won't back down without a good, valid explanation and of course there is nothing wrong with demanding one. Surely, they are good explainers themselves and will provide you with a reasonable logic, whenever needed. That said, parents must not refuse kids an explanation. You can provide them with a short and brief account of what you think and back it up with some sweet talk. However, try not to invalidate their feelings and opinions.

#### THEY'RE OPINIONATED

No parent should be intimidated by an opinionated child. It is what will make them great leaders in the future. Strong-willed kids tend to have a view for mostly everything they're aware of. They are knowledgeable, observant and curious. Therefore, if your child has strong opinions with solid reasonings, do not ask them to change their nature. Rather, praise them and pick their brain to see how accurate they are. Avoid unnecessary conflicts and arguments just to prove them wrong.

#### PUNISHMENT IS UNLIKELY TO CHANGE THEM

When it comes to strong-willed kids, punishment will not change them. Until and unless your child is convinced or feels that they're wrong, they're unlikely to step down. So, there is absolutely no use being critical or stern. It will only make you more distant from them. Rather, listen to your kids, communicate with them and try to reason with them.



#### THEY'RE MOST LIKELY TO MAKE THEIR OWN RULES

Strong-willed kids are not the kind who'd go by rules and regulations set by others. They know how to bend the rules, even make new ones to suit their own purpose. That said, parents must not try and fit their children in a box. They must promote free thinking and innovation. Let your child's mind wander and let them make their own decisions and choices. Just be there to guide them through every thick and thin and provide them with effective insights.

#### KIDS WHO ARE STRONG-WILLED ARE LIKELY TO BE IMPATIENT

One of the drawbacks of being strong-willed is that it is accompanied with impatience. Children having such personality may be impulsive and may make rash decisions. They want results and do not think about the consequences. Keeping this in consideration, parents must be their guiding light. Do not criticise them for being impatient, rather help them calm down and think more efficiently. Make sure you do not deprive them of their choices on the way, rather help them with more alternatives.



## NUTRITION NUGGETS

# Don't like milk? Try these foods

We all know that calcium is the building block of the human body. According to nutritionist Pooja Makhija, you have more calcium in your body than any other mineral. The recommended daily intake (RDI) of calcium is 1,000 mg per day for most adults, though women over 50 and everyone over 70 should get 1,200 mg per day, while children aged 4-18 are advised to consume 1,300 mg. If you think that this requirement can be fulfilled only with milk, you are wrong. There are plenty of other foods that are rich in calcium. Have a look at a few of them and start adding them to your daily diet



#### KIDNEY BEANS

100 grams of raw kidney beans contain 140 mg calcium, which is sufficient for the human body. It is suggested to boil it before consuming to reduce the pressure of the digestive system and make it easily digestible.



#### ALMOND

As per Makhija's post on social media about calcium intake, 100 gram of almonds contain 60 mg calcium and contains monounsaturated fat, which is good for the development of the body.



#### FIGS

According to Makhija, 8 figs contain 241 mg calcium content and if consumed on a regular basis, helps keep the bones healthy.



#### TOFU

100 gms of tofu contains 680 mg calcium and the best way to consume tofu is to pan fry it or eat it raw. Excessive cooking of ingredients reduces their nutritional value, so it's best to avoid the practice of excessive cooking.



#### SESAME SEEDS

It is suggested to eat 1 tablespoon of sesame seeds daily, as it adds 88 mg calcium to your daily nutritional needs. Sesame seeds are also rich in zinc and copper.



#### BROCCOLI

One cup of broccoli contains 87 mg of calcium. Regular intake of broccoli is helpful in preventing bladder, breast, colon, liver and stomach cancers.



#### SUNFLOWER SEEDS

A single cup of sunflower seed kernels contain 109 mg calcium. These nutritious seeds are also rich in magnesium, which helps balance the effects of calcium.



## NCJPS-MUN held with fanfare

**N**C Jindal Public School, Punjabi Bagh hosted the first edition of Model United Nations conference on a virtual platform on October 25 and 26, with an objective to give an opportunity to young minds to catalyse, unify and unleash their greatest creative powers to create a legacy of global understanding, international relations and collective action as the future global leaders, ambassadors and missionaries.

The resplendent opening ceremony witnessed the presence of Tanisha Avarsekar, founder, CEO, editor-in-chief, Lok Tantra News

magazine, as the chief guest; Dr Ameeta Mulla Wattal, chairperson and executive director Education, Innovations and Training- DLF Foundation Schools and Scholarship Programmes, former principal, Springdales School, Pusa Road and Kirti Nagar, former chairperson

NPSC as the guest of honour. The ceremony opened up in an auspicious aura generated with the rendition of the school anthem and lighting of the lamp.

In the two-day conference, the delegates were divided into four committees and engaged themselves in meaningful discussions and debates keeping the elements of expression- brevity, persuasiveness and rationality upfront.

The committees and agendas framed were- United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), United

Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW), White House Situation Room (WHSR) and All India Political Parties Meet (AIPPM).

The delegates anticipated to negotiate under UN guidelines, and further prepared formal documents and resolutions, putting forward their solutions to mitigate the global issues.

The two-day educational megathon concluded with the closing ceremony that witnessed the presence of Mani Bhushan Jha, founder, Chanakya Policy Foundation as the chief guest and Sidharth Singh Gandhi, and Aryan Sharma, the chief advisors.

Anshita Arora, the secretary general of NCJPS-MUN declared the conference Closed.

The formal vote of thanks was proposed by Bharti Pushkarna. The conference concluded with the rendition of the national anthem.



## A Aggarwal enlightens educators

**A** Aggarwal, principal, St Mark's School, Meera Bagh addressed educators from Asia and Europe on the topic, 'Understanding the elements of a holistic learning environment: Teaching practices and tools'.

The webinar, which was a part of school collaboration 2021 under the aegis of Asia Europe Foundation, Singapore, had Aggarwal speak on various topics such as the domains of holistic development as well as its need for the students. Aggarwal spoke about experiential learning to interdisciplinary learning highlighting the im-



portance of self-guided learning as well as integrated learning for the holistic development of students around the world. The educators from both Asia and Europe were highly impressed by the buddy system and the meditation sessions that Aggarwal practices in her school.

## Mind Sparks ignites creative minds

**O**n October 30, Adriel High School, powered by Pratap International, organised 'Mind Sparks', a science exhibition event, in which students of all the classes participated wholeheartedly. The primary objective was to promote scientific thinking and temperament among its students, a goal shared by all the institutions under Pratap International Group.

Shalendra, the school chairman, Surabhi Bhadauria, the school director and Seema Guleria, the vice principal emphasised upon the importance of science, innovation and creativity as necessary vehicles to foster the development of our country. The school was honoured and blessed with

the presence of as the chief guest. MP Sharma and Dr Jai Gopal Sharma. They shared their valuable, life experiences with the students and encouraged students to take up careers in the field of science. Dr Sharma also emphasised on the importance of healthy lifestyle, healthy eating, and naturopathy as the engines for a better life.

Students from all the classes have prepared remarkable models and performed science experiments in front of the honourable dignitaries and the parent judges who were especially invited to assess the performance of the students. Overall, it was a good show given by the students and teachers on the learning platform.



## Students of BBMS present splendid performances

**C**hampions always have a dream, a vision and a desire to transform all envisioned dreams to reality. The students of Blue Bells Model School exemplified the verbatim and performed brilliantly by bagging coveted positions in a plethora of events in the Harmony and Ecofest competition at the 28th Perfect Health Mela 2021 organised by Dr KK's HCFI, Heart Care Foundation of India to create awareness towards preventive health practices and well-being. The versatile and zealous Bluebellians took part in the event under the aegis of health and wellness pro-



gramme of the school.

The management and teaching fraternity was overjoyed with the exemplary achievement of the students and wholeheartedly showered their blessings on them to be equally successful in all their future pursuits.

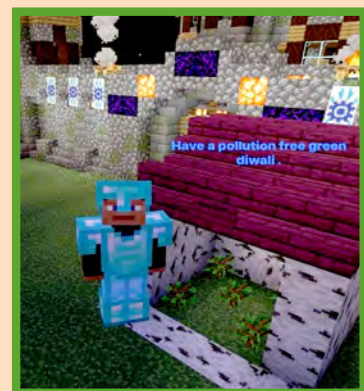
Heartiest congratulations to all the achievers and their mentors!

## VGS participates in Minecraft boot camp

**M**inecraft Education Edition is a game-based learning platform that builds STEM skills, unleashes creativity and engages students in collaboration and problem-solving. There are almost 200 global members working to ensure that learning never stops for millions of students around the world with this amazing platform.

With this view in mind Minecraft Education Edition conducted a three-day boot camp for the students and mentors of Venkateshwar Global School, Rohini from Oct 28-30. This event was covered for beginners and intermediate level learners to 'Play Craft Learn using Minecraft Education Edition'.

Day 1 was for beginners; day 2 for intermediate and day 3 was for beginners and intermediate levels. The Global Build Challenge 2021



is part of Minecraft Education Edition and comes with a game and teacher's guide that are designed for classroom or remote learning, as school closures continue in many parts of the world.

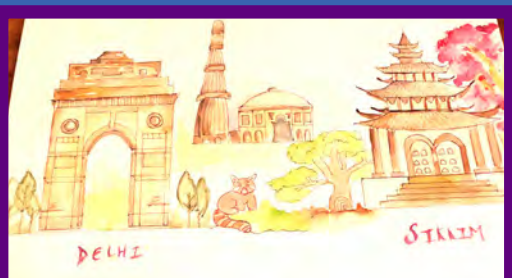
## student Corner



SAUMYA RAWAT,  
class XII D,  
Bal Bharati Public  
School, Rohini



ARHAM QURESHI, class XI, St  
Michael's Sr Sec. School, 3 Pusa Road



ARHAM QURESHI, class  
XI, St Michael's Sr Sec  
School, 3 Pusa Road

## Grow Your Own Vegetables

This is a DIY all of us must do ~ to help us understand and develop gratitude towards our farmers

**G**rowing a kitchen garden on our own is a great learning experience. For so many reasons!

To grow even a single plant is a very laborious task. Students like us, living in cities, cannot even imagine how hard farmers work to get their seasonal crop-yield. So, it is important for us to empathise with our farmers and never waste food.

### MATERIALS USED:

- Vegetable seeds
- grow pots or garden space
- soil
- water

### STEPS:

- Fill the grow pot with soil.
- Plant the seeds or germinated sprouts.
- Water them regularly.

Growing our own vegetables is the best way for us to develop great respect for all the blood, sweat and tears that a farmer puts in - just so we all can get nutritious food



daily on our plates. At home we have almost always tried to grow a few vegetables on our own. It is not easy to get plants to grow and yield fruit, but we have never given up.

In the early years, whenever we grew even a small ladyfinger, we used to get excited as if we'd grown a sack-full of vegetables. We cooked that single ladyfinger and cut it into



four parts. We would have intense pleasure distributing that one small vegetable amongst ourselves.

Our joy was not the result of the quantity of our yield but the pleasure of observing the whole process, learning the many facets of gardening and finally getting to see the fruits.

SURYANSH

RAJYAM,  
class VII, The Kalyani  
School, Pune



## CELEBRATING BAPU'S 151st BIRTHDAY

**D**elhi Heritage School celebrated 151st birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi with a pledge to follow the United Nations SDGs, a plethora of activities were organised. The values and ethics taught by Gandhiji were celebrated with a conviction to uphold truth and ahimsa. The students

decorated charkha and a 'Sativik food festival' was organised to propagate simple and nutritious food amongst youngsters.

A very well participated Gandhi quiz was organised. The students went for a virtual tour of Sevagram ashram near Sabarmati river. All students sang 'Raghupati raghav raja ram' with patri-

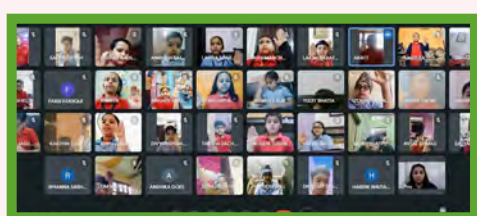
otic zest and vigour.

The head of school Vibha Gupta encouraged the students to follow the path enlightened by Bapu, to care for the environment and to adopt sustainable life practices. She congratulated the faculty and the students for organising day-long celebration to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi.

## St Michael's celebrates 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas'

**S**t Michael's Sr Sec School, 3 Pusa Road, New Delhi celebrated National Unity Day on October 30. Many activities were conducted by the Integrity Club under the leadership of Mrs Upma Chandra across all the classes and sections. Primary classes celebrated the day with great enthusiasm and passion. They paid tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's extraordinary attempt in building an integrated and inclusive modern India through poster making and slogan writing competitions. Middle school participated in map marking and speech competitions reflecting their thoughts on unity in diversity and their love for the motherland.

As an effort to build the bond of cohesion, the senior section engaged in various activities



to celebrate 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas'. Students celebrated the day by taking the unity pledge.

The celebration turned out to be a delightful and memorable experience for everyone. A total of 1217 students, 70 staff members took the pledge on the occasion of Unity Day.

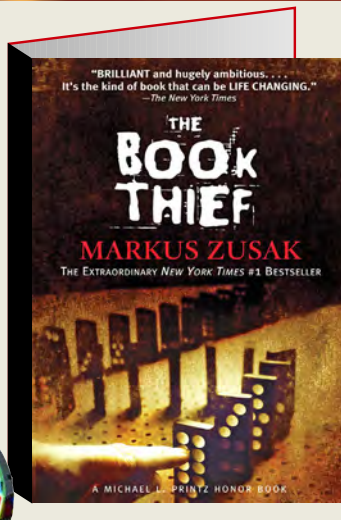
## BOOK: THE BOOK THIEF

## A WW II story told by 'Death'

**B**ooks. Don't we just love them! They can show us the world through different perspectives, or someone else's eyes. Books can haunt you in your dreams or leave you wandering in an imaginary land. I feel a good book is the one that keeps you awake at night.

A book I recently read did just that.

It was intriguing, sentimental and a bit unsettling at times, and overall a good read. It was called 'The Book Thief'. The author, Markus Zusak impressed me with his ability to describe the loneliness of the book's young protagonist - Liesel Meminger, as she struggled to adapt to the cold, foreign environment she had been unwillingly been



narrated by a personified Death, whose cleverness, sincerity and charm make this story colourful as a whole.

This story has some exciting parts too, like Hans Hubermann's mental burden of hiding a Jewish man in his basement, or the brief period of time when Liesel and her loyal companion, a blue-eyed German boy with blonde hair named Rudy Steiner joined a band of adolescent thieves who would steal apples from a nearby orchard and many more. This book entertained me till the very end and kept me at the edge of my seat for quite some time. It made my day, and I'm sure it will make yours.



ASMI ARAWANDEKAR, student,  
Blue Ridge Public School, Pune

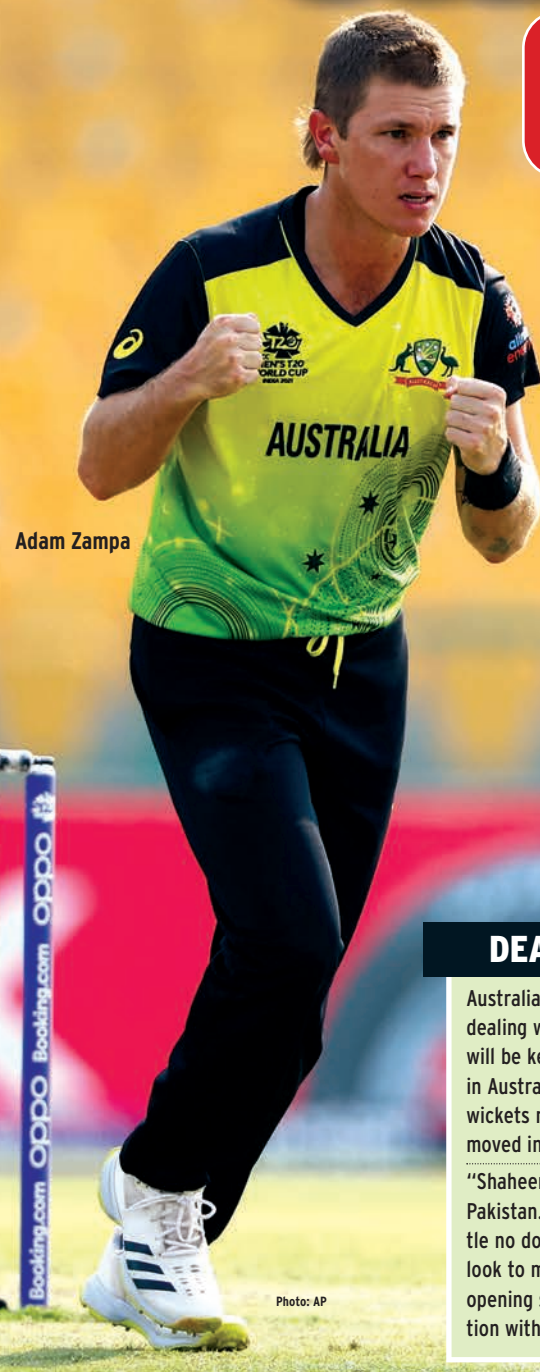




## ICC T20 WORLD CUP 2021

# AUSTRALIA LOOK TO HALT PAKISTAN JUGGERNAUT

**Plan to go for the unruns in bid to unsettle the unbeaten Pak side in second World Cup semi-final**



Adam Zampa

Photo: AP

**A**ustralia are looking to their top-order batting led by the explosive David Warner as well as Adam Zampa's bag of leg-spin tricks to get past a red-hot Pakistan in Thursday's second semi-final of the Twenty20 World Cup.

The Aussies made their first semi-final of the tournament since 2012 with four wins and a better run-rate than South Africa. But they are up against an unbeaten Pakistan who stormed into the final four with five wins in the Super 12 stage including their first ever in the tournament against rivals India.

Australia have won five 50-over World Cup crowns, including three in a row, but still await a T20 world title in six attempts. The left-handed Warner has led the charge with 89 not out in Australia's win over West Indies and a quickfire 65 against Sri Lanka, an innings that silenced his critics. He now has 187 runs for the tournament.

"I was never worried one bit about Dave's form. He's one of the all-time

great batsmen of our era," said captain Aaron Finch of his opening partner who came into the World Cup on the back of being dropped from his IPL team.

## NO HOLDING BACK

All-rounder Glenn Maxwell said the Australian batsmen will not hold back and go for the runs to unsettle the Pakistan attack led by left-arm quick Shaheen Shah Afridi. "I've seen teams go the other way and try and hold wickets back to make sure they get to go at the back end," said Maxwell. "But for us it's probably that playing with freedom at the start and really trying to make the most of the powerplay and put the opposition on the back foot."

Zampa is the tournament's joint second-highest wicket-taker with 11 victims but the 29-year-old has gone about his business under the radar. "I don't think that anyone has underrated him," insisted Finch of Zampa who claimed a tournament-best return of 5-19 against Bangladesh in Dubai. "He's someone who loves the competitiveness, loves the fight."



## DEALING WITH SHAHEEN CRUCIAL: FINCH

Australia skipper Aaron Finch on Wednesday said dealing with Pakistan pace ace Shaheen Shah Afridi will be key to success of the team. Shaheen stands in Australia's way with his ability to pick early wickets rattling opposition teams as Pakistan moved into the semi-finals unbeaten with five wins.

"Shaheen has been in really good form for Pakistan. Yeah, so that's going to be a crucial battle no doubt," Finch told reporters. Australia will look to master Shaheen in the key stage of the opening six overs when the powerplay is in operation with only two fielders allowed outside the

inner circle. "I think what we've seen over the course of the tournament is how important the powerplay is for batting and bowling. I think the stats around the middle overs and the death overs are pretty similar throughout, but the powerplay definitely holds the key."

Shaheen has claimed six wickets in five games after he set the tournament ablaze with his opening spell of 2-19 following his wickets of Indian openers Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul.

## PERFECT COMBO OF PARTNERSHIP

Inside the Pakistan camp is Matthew Hayden, the former Australia opener who is the team's batting coach. Hayden sees the partnership between skipper Babar Azam, the leading run maker at the World Cup ahead of the semi-finals with 264, and Mohammad Rizwan as key. "They are very independent players with their own styles but that blend and mix make for the perfect combination. They are unique," Hayden said.

Babar and Rizwan hit the ground running at the World Cup with an unbroken 152-run stand as Pakistan trounced India by 10 wickets - their first win over their arch-rivals in 13 World Cup matches. "We will try to continue with the kind of consistency that we have shown in the tournament so far and hope to play good cricket in the semi-finals," said Babar who has four half-centuries in five innings. On facing Australia, Babar said: "You can't take any team lightly in T20 cricket. You have to play good cricket on that day."

## ALL BASES COVERED

Pakistan have got a finisher in Asif Ali who hit four sixes off Afghanistan bowler Karim Janat to get his team the required 25 runs in the penultimate over of their Super 12 clash. Veteran batsmen Shoaib Malik, who hit an 18-ball 54 in the win over Scotland, and Mohammad Hafeez add experience to batting order. With Afridi in threatening form with the new ball, the 2009 champions seem to have their bases covered. But former speedster Shoaib Akhtar warned of complacency. **AFP**



Babar Azam

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

# CHELSEA POWER TO SEVEN-GOAL THRASHING OF SERVETTE

**C**helsea laid down a marker to their Women's Champions League rivals as a destructive first-half performance set up a 7-0 thumping of Servette in Switzerland. Paris Saint-Germain also eased to a comfortable 4-0 win at home to Real Madrid but the power of Chelsea's performance will send shivers down the spines of their rivals.

Sam Kerr and Fran Kirby both scored twice as last season's runners-up raced into a six-goal half-time lead. Melanie Leupolz and Canada international Jessie Fleming both also netted in the opening period before Guro Reiten completed the rout less than five minutes after the break. "I think in the first half we were unbelievable," England striker Kirby told uefa.com. "We set the tone from the beginning. We were really happy to come away with seven goals and three points.

Everyone played an amazing game."

This was the biggest winning margin in the inaugural Champions League group stage, although somewhat short of the all-time record - Apollon's 21-0 victory over Ada Velipoje in 2012.

Chelsea suffered a first-half nightmare of their own when losing 4-0 to Barcelona in the 2020-21 final in May. The English champions top Group A, two points ahead of Wolfsburg with whom they shared a 3-3 draw last month.

The Germans thought they had secured all three points against Juventus in Turin after goals from Lena Lattwein and Tabea Wassmuth wiped out Cristiana Girelli's opener for the home side. Wolfsburg's Felicitas Rauch, however, collected a second yellow card in the 90th minute and the resulting free-kick, the ball fell for Girelli to fire home her second and secure a 2-2 draw.

## PSG TOP GROUP

PSG made it three wins from three in Group B with a comfortable 4-0 victory over Real Madrid at the Parc des Princes. Marie-Antoinette Katoto kept her head to put PSG into a 13th minute lead and, after Sara Dabritz had doubled the score shortly before half-time, added a second - her 18th goal in all competitions this season - to make it 3-0 early in the second half.

Madrid defender Rocío Galvez then sliced an attempted clearance past her own goalkeeper to complete a miserable evening for the Spaniards. PSG top the group with nine points, three ahead of Madrid.

The Spanish side still look likely to qualify after the other game in Group B between Ukrainians Kharkiv and Icelandic side Breidablik ended in a goalless draw, giving both sides their first point of the campaign. **AFP**



Fran Kirby

Photo: REUTERS

## ASIAN SAILING C'SHIPS: GANAPATHY, VARUN THAKKAR CLINCH GOLD MEDAL

**I**ndian duo of Varun Thakkar and K C Ganapathy clinched the gold medal in the Asian 49er Sailing Championships, which concluded in Al Mussannah Sports City, Oman.

The Tokyo Olympics were 10th overall but the only Asian team to finish in the top 10. This was their 3rd medal at the Asians, having

finished first in 2018 and second in 2019.

Varun and Ganapathy will next compete at the World Championships that is scheduled from November 16-21 November at the same venue. In the Tokyo Olympics, the Indian sailors signed off after finishing qualification in 17th position in the men's 49er class. **ANI**



(From Right) Varun Thakkar and K. C. Ganapathy

## QUIZ TIME!

### Q1: Who has become the new Junior Boys Wimbledon champion 2021?

- Robin Bertrand (France)
- Samir Banerjee (USA)
- Victor Lilov (USA)
- Juncheng Shang (China)

### Q2: Who won the Wimbledon Grand slam Women title 2021?

- Ashleigh Barty
- Noami Osaka
- Karolina Pliskova
- Angelique Kerber

### Q3: The terms Volley, Smash, Service are related to which among the following sports?

- Volleyball
- Lawn Tennis
- Table Tennis
- Badminton

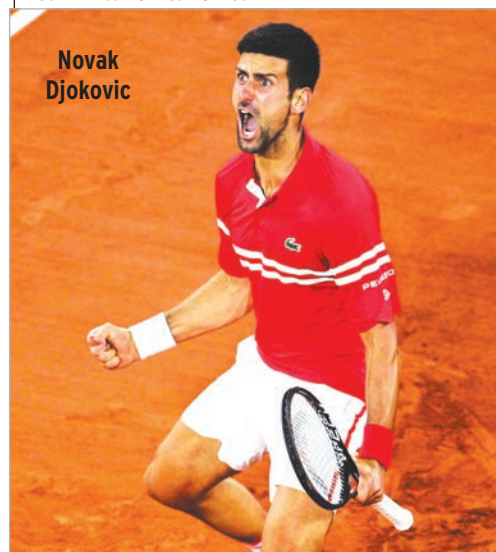
### Q4: Which among the following is played on a synthetic hard court?

- French Open
- Wimbledon
- US open
- Australia open

### Q5: Novak Djokovic lost the US Open final to fall one

### match short of a calendar-year grand slam. How many consecutive grand slam matches did he win?

- 27
- 26
- 25
- 24



Novak Djokovic

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

### Q6: Which team clinched the 2019 Ranji Trophy?

- Bengal
- Saurashtra
- Vidharbha
- Railways

### Q7: Who won the EGAT Cup International Weightlifting, that held in Thailand?

- Saikhom Mirabai Chanu
- Hou Zhihui
- Khumukcham Sanjita Chanu
- None of the above

### Q8: Which Indian squash player has won the 2019 Seattle Open title?

- Saurav Ghosal
- Ramit Tandon
- Cyrus Poncha
- Harinder Pal Sandhu

### Q9: This team won their first ever Asian Cup, by defeating Japan recently.

- South Korea
- China
- Qatar
- India

**ANSWERS:** 1. b. Samir Banerjee (USA)  
2. a. Ashleigh Barty 3. b. Lawn Tennis  
4. d. Australia open 5. a. 27  
6. c. Vidharbha 7. a. Saikhom Mirabai Chanu  
8. b. Ramit Tandon 9. c. Qatar