

ASHOKA SOCIETY OF LITERATURE PRESENTS

# Literature

## Unbound

EDITION #2  
OCTOBER 2024

FEATURING:  
POEMS, ARTICLES AND  
MORE!

SPECIAL AMUN FEATURE  
SPECIAL AMUN FEATURE  
**SPECIAL AMUN FEATURE**  
SPECIAL AMUN FEATURE  
SPECIAL AMUN FEATURE

VIACRANZ



# GLOBAL GOALS OF LITERARY CLUB

**1. *Unleash Unique Personalities:*** Empower each member to discover and magnify their distinctive personal strengths, fostering a profound sense of self-worth and individuality. Our aim is to cultivate a vibrant tapestry of unique voices within our community.

**2. *Elevate Communication Skills:*** Sharpen and refine speaking abilities to enable confident, articulate, and eloquent self-expression through the profound art of literature. Transform every member into a compelling orator who can captivate and engage any audience.

**3. *Expand Lexicon:*** Enrich the vocabulary of our members, enhancing their ability to communicate with clarity, precision, and depth. By mastering an extensive lexicon, members can express their thoughts and ideas with unmatched eloquence.

**4. *Holistic Development:*** Promote comprehensive personal and intellectual growth by engaging in diverse literary activities that stimulate creativity, critical thinking, and emotional intelligence. Our goal is to nurture well-rounded individuals who thrive in both personal and professional spheres.

**5. *Foster Leadership and Teamwork:*** Cultivate effective leadership skills and a robust sense of teamwork. Encourage collaboration, mutual respect, and shared success within the club, ensuring that members learn to work harmoniously towards common goals.

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*Collection of*  
**Poems**

# The *Cloudfarer*

Hearts beat in anticipation,  
Heads trickle with perspiration,  
Though winds do howl and the  
chill doth creep,  
In bated breath they await the  
ship.

As seconds slither by,  
And time seems to deceive thy,  
A tiny spot of light in the  
impervious fog's embrace,  
Leaves countless eyes to light up  
in joy, a happy daze.

Then the mist parts, the fog  
unfurls,  
And ascends the mighty  
Cloudfarer  
Amidst the hues of greys and  
blues,  
The ship radiates resplendence  
and power o'er the ocean's brew.

First the mahogany mast, draped  
in a velvet cloak,  
The looming merman's statue,  
heralded by the wing-shaped hull  
Pierce through the mist,  
unveiling its splendour  
To intimidate the entourage with  
its formidable stir.

Indeed, naught but all are  
shaken by its presence,  
For even baffled by it are  
the exalted heavens,  
Cracks of moonlight in the  
silv'ry sky

Bathe the Cloudfarer's  
surface in ethereal light.

At last, despite the quaking  
of the unstable sea,  
The ship is moor'd, the wait  
has ceased.

Enchanted mist whirls out  
like tendrils,  
Forming a billowing carpet  
to welcome the sailors.

Thou gazest at the  
Cloudfarer, heart wrapp'd in  
warmth

For wherever it sails, it doth  
radiate a silvery sliver of  
hope.

And thine eyes behold,  
there, at the wooden  
balustrade!  
Was it a writhing tentacle, or  
perhaps a siren's scales?

— Sarah Shaikh

# The tale of the *diamond necklace*

The starteth imp'fect  
The journey adventurous,  
The moments madeth me blush  
The smileth did wond'rs.  
The toucheth claim'd me his  
The voice didst get mine own inn'r wrench out.

Oh! How that gent is in comparison to mine own bookish  
men,

And the way that gent cometh upto mine own  
expectations.

The way that gent couldst make me smileth at my w'rst  
And rememb'r about mine own dates, I myself can't.

That gent couldn't recieveth any bett'r n'o any selfless,  
just at which hour that gent gaveth me yond  
diamond necklace.

— Honisha Samnani

# the sweetest *flower*

The Sweetest floweth'r yound  
blows,  
I giveth thee as we part  
For thee, it is just a rose,  
For me, it's my own heart...

Face like a rose,  
Make nay useth of a soul filled of  
thorns,  
Cause for each petal drop,  
There is a beast that mourns,  
These stems that emerge from  
the soil,  
They turn our parting into  
turmoil,  
But, still I alloweth thee to go

The bench park once did  
surrounded by roses,  
now I find barren,  
I seek condolence in,  
"It's not the worst thing to ever  
happen."

Cause I'd rather be hurt by  
your leaving  
Than to ever accept thy  
discord,  
Cause I'd rather hurt myself,  
Just to health you of thy scars.  
Help me help thee understand,  
This isn't the right place for me  
to be,  
Don't you understand?

The thorns of thy planteth,  
Prick me right through my  
own heart,  
This is not the beauty of a  
rose,  
You are afraid to walk on a  
path you chose,  
I'm not guilty of thy crimes,  
cause poems are meant,  
more than just rhymes

I'd rather plant a new rose  
that adores me,  
Just as thy thorns,  
I'd rather find a garden,  
that frees me from the  
justice of thy norms,  
I'd rather have rain water  
me,  
than bear the limitations of  
thy scorns,

This new plant that I  
become,  
though seemeth to be still,  
but it is the most free,  
yound has ever been,  
on this land where I find  
peace within.

So alloweth me asketh  
thee a question,  
shall thee lend me a rose  
while we part?  
shall thee promise is not  
just a rose,  
But thy heart...

# The *Phoenix* Within

I am Ash, and I stand tall,  
No matter, whether I break or fall.  
I am Phoenix, by name and by fire,  
And from my ruins. I shall rise higher.

You tore me down, you crushed my soul,  
You have tried everything, to make me fold.  
But be certain and it is true,  
From every fall I'll return bright, in my true hue.

You broke me once, you may try it again,  
Sadness fills me, I may bear the pain.  
But deep within, be certain and it is true.  
I am Ash, and I'll be born anew...

I am sensitive, loving, gentle and kind,  
Generally considered as weaknesses, but that's fine!  
Try to shatter me or try to bend.  
But be certain, I'll rise stronger in the end.

I have my own blues, sometimes I whine,  
But remember, my resilience shines through every time.  
Because I am Ash, I win again and again...  
Like the Phoenix, I rise from every pain...

- Mrs Ashwini Kushare



*Collection of*  
**Articles**

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# THE ASHOKA *HORIZON*

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## ASHOKA GROUP OF SCHOOLS PRESENTS AMUN 6.0

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“Bagging a title is easy, but the real challenge is to live up to it,” says the Secretary General of the sixth edition of Ashoka Model United Nations, Miss Pranada Wani. She is a person of unending optimism and remarkable leadership, always filling the room with her peaceful and charming essence. While our Deputy Secretary General, Miss Jiya Manchanda seems to be her polar opposite; with her fiery enthusiasm, is always ready to embrace every challenge thrown at her. The two born leaders together form the perfect combination of peaceful chaos and a fusion of tranquillity and energy.

It is our family of more than forty members of the Organising committee who anchor the ship of our AMUN 6.0, making sure the sail is on the right track. With less than a month remaining for the event, a lot of

tension has built up amongst the Organising Committee; but they stand united, ambitious and collectively responsible to combat every challenge and achieve all the small milestones leading to success.

It is not the destination itself, but the journey that takes us there that matters. This journey of the Organising Committee has their own ups and downs is on the track of improving and leading towards a great cause. With over one-fifty delegate registrations in less than three days, Ashoka Model United Nations 6.0's Organising Committee has proven its competency, unity and attainability

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# THE ASHOKA HORIZON

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attainability of their aims and goals. "Jiya is the life," stated their mentor Mrs Simar Alhuwalia "and Pranada is the breath." This ultimate duo fights every challenge unitedly with resilience and vigour. While never letting their family of OCs fall apart.

As stated by Miss Manchanda, what is different about this AMUN is, that "Ashoka Model United Nations Sixth Edition is going to be the best among all." With more delegate registrations, excellent sponsors, and a lot of ambition in the young minds of Ashoka. AMUN 6.0 aims to contribute towards 'igniting curious minds into becoming creative thinkers' by expanding the linguistic repertoire of our members, allowing for more effective communication.

During this journey of organizing a completely student-led event, Ashoka's youth have recognized their own potential and exposed themselves to the art of orchestrating events, planning, coordination, socializing and much more. This experience, as described by Miss Wani has "taught us, not to underestimate ourselves." helping them to recognize the powers they possess.

With the principles of 'empowering, not imposing,' the Organising Committee of AMUN 6.0 is heading towards the path of making this event a huge success, from being a delegate to managing delegate affairs; from internal disputes to having moments which they will remember for the rest of their lives. These students of merely eighteen years of age have come a long way and achieved commendable efforts. Their motive for making this event a success lies in "we think like a delegate, as someone attending this event, what needs would we have are taken into consideration," says Miss Wani and Miss Manchanda.

Such ambition, determination, optimism and endeavour have pervaded the hearts of the OCs, with their ultimate goal to make AMUN 6.0 the best experience for all.

*- Niharika Khedekar*





# What Next? - New Age Careers in Science

processes. For example, NASA's Mars 2020 mission will collect data that could help identify signs of ancient microbial life on Mars!

The next, most in-demand and ever-thriving career is ethical hacking and cyber-security. Ethical hacking is the authorised practice of detecting vulnerabilities in an organisation's system. Security experts assume the role of an unauthorised user and attempt to gain access to a private network or computer. These exercises are preventive measures against a real cyberattack.



If your favourite subjects include biology and physics, then I present to you: biophysics! As the name suggests, a biophysicist is a scientist who specialises in the application of physics to biology. In this fascinating career choice, biophysicists develop and use computer modelling methods to see and manipulate the shapes and structures of proteins, viruses and other complex molecules, to develop new drug targets, or understand how proteins mutate and cause tumours to grow.

Last but not the least, enthuse yourself in the thought-provoking field of nutrigenetics. Nutrigenetics is the study of how genetic variations impact how people respond to diet. The goal of nutrigenetics is to use this information to develop personalised nutrition recommendations to help people achieve optimal health and prevent disease.

Exploring such career choices fundamentally expands your knowledge, for research is the first step. Most importantly : If you are still debating over selecting a career for yourself, remember to chase your passion, not money. Because chasing money is like chasing the horizon, and chasing passion is like undertaking a fulfilling journey that will take you to the stars and beyond.

*- Sarah Shaikh*

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# Social Awareness

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Mothers and Fathers leave for work, and the laughing and crying of a little child, stops, hypnotized by Mother Internet.

Mother internet with fervours and people both wholesome and nefarious roaming free in her veins. The child is now all grown up and the school corridors glow with a strange enigmatic light.

There, now the bullies, friends and well-wishers stand together in one boat.

Bullying no longer just hides in the shadows of school corridors.

It thrives behind screens, spreading silently, like wildfire, through messages never spoken face-to-face but etched in pixels.

Today's era, where millions are online, cyberbullying has become a lurking predator, preying on those who never expected it—each click, each post a sharp reminder that they are being watched, judged, excluded.

Yet it does not alone stand in the pixels but behind also the teacher's back. The age is gone where bullies were physical, openly aggressive. No. Times have changed and so have the bullies. From isolating and name calling, banners and rumors to online dox groups and cruel meme pages.



Bullying, eight in every fifteen people go through it, often silently.

I was one to have seen a different facade of it.

I remember being called a Virus.

It started as a joke by one of the boys and quickly spread. They would feign disgust or pretend to run away whenever they saw me. I never personally knew them, nor did I know their names. It puzzled me, and silly though it seems, it hurt.

It's like it was everybody's world, but mine.

I laugh at it now, but that isn't the case with everyone. Younger me cried about too. We really need to be very thoughtful in our words and actions, or we might knowingly or unknowingly break someone's heart.

# Social Awareness

To be excluded in a situation where the community defines you feels like disappearing. The cyberworld, too, once a place of freedom, now feels like a trap, the cliques gathering like storm clouds, raining cruelty with every post, every share. Words here are weapons, and sometimes, the silence screams louder than anything else.

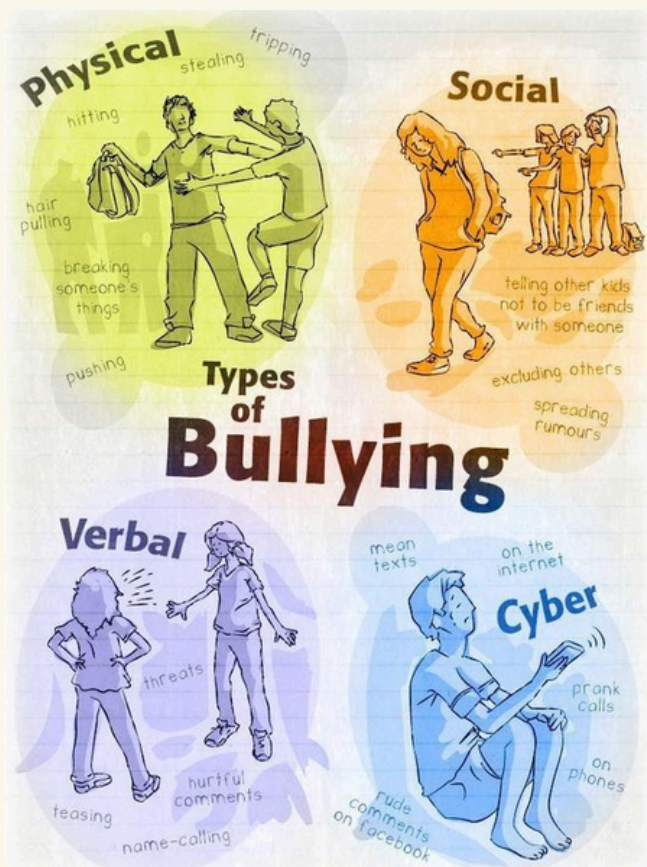
This kind of bullying isn't new, but online, its reach is vast. The rejection isn't a shove in the hallway, but the sound of a door slamming shut on your digital self—leaving someone

outside, in the cold, wondering what they did wrong. A million eyes may scroll past, but none pause long enough to help. And that silence? It cuts deeper than any insult, leaving behind a wound no one sees, but it bleeds nonetheless.

Fellow youngsters! hypnotized by the world beneath their screen, this is my call to you!

For you to be kind, and let both your school and your screen a safe space for you and those around you. Only then can we silence the cruelty and turn away the empty, judgmental gaze of a million screens.

– *Aadya Pandit*



# Book Review

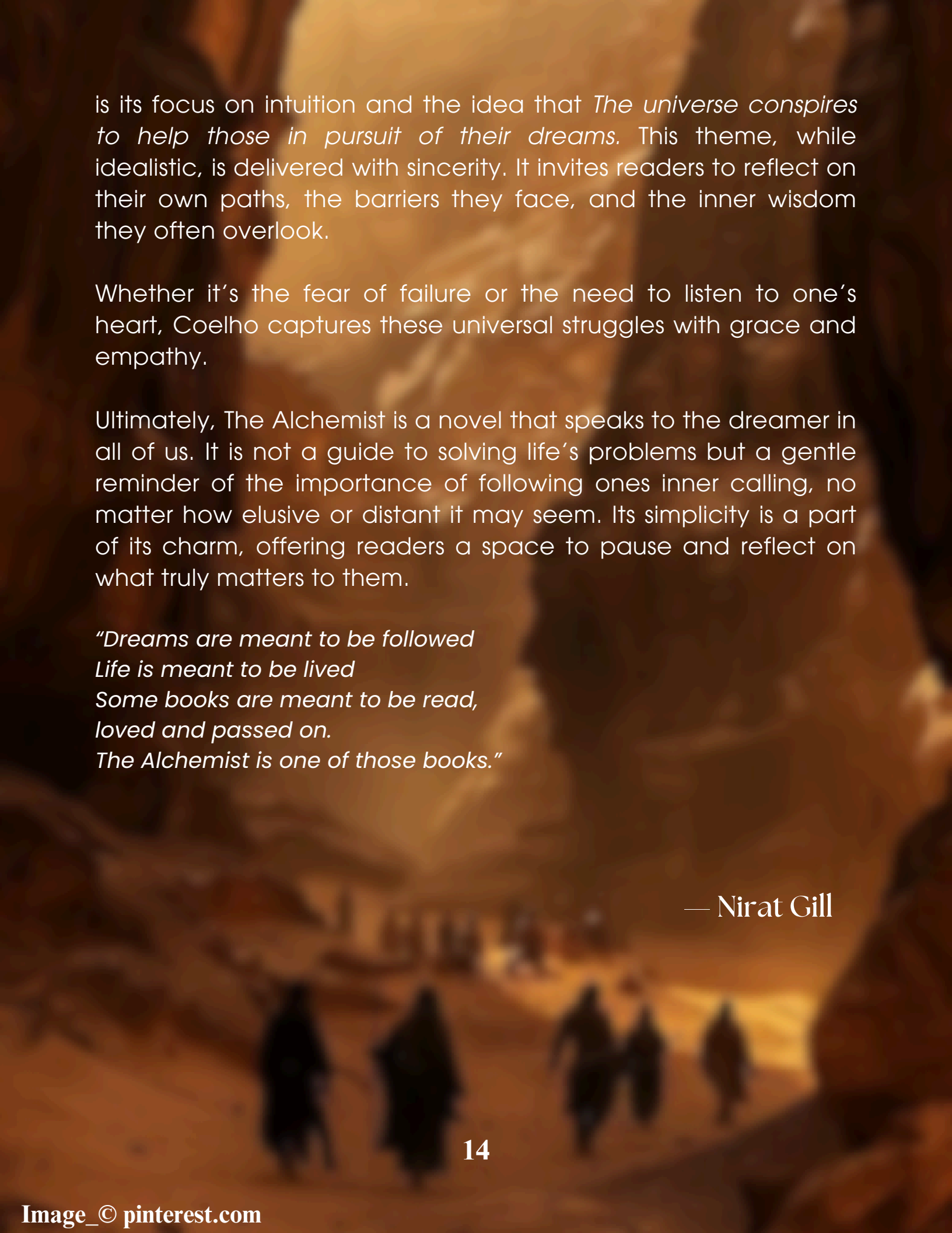
Paulo Coelho's *The Alchemist*, published in 1988, is a widely translated international bestseller with over 150 million copies sold. At first glance, the premise seems simple: a young shepherd named Santiago sets out on a journey to find treasure buried near the Egyptian pyramids. However, beneath this seemingly straightforward tale lies a profound exploration of dreams, destiny, omens, and growth. What makes it so special?

Coelho's writing is clear and direct, avoiding the overly complex or philosophical tones one might expect from a story about pursuing dreams. Instead, he offers a fable-like narrative that is universal in its message: the pursuit of our dreams, or what the novel calls our "Personal Legend," gives life meaning.

Santiago's journey is not just a physical quest but a spiritual and an emotional one. Along the way, he encounters various characters—a king, a crystal merchant, an English alchemist—who offer him guidance and insight. Through these encounters, Coelho subtly weaves in reflections on self-discovery, fear, and the courage it takes to follow through on one's dreams.

One of the novel's most compelling elements, and my personal favorite,





is its focus on intuition and the idea that *The universe conspires to help those in pursuit of their dreams*. This theme, while idealistic, is delivered with sincerity. It invites readers to reflect on their own paths, the barriers they face, and the inner wisdom they often overlook.

Whether it's the fear of failure or the need to listen to one's heart, Coelho captures these universal struggles with grace and empathy.

Ultimately, *The Alchemist* is a novel that speaks to the dreamer in all of us. It is not a guide to solving life's problems but a gentle reminder of the importance of following one's inner calling, no matter how elusive or distant it may seem. Its simplicity is a part of its charm, offering readers a space to pause and reflect on what truly matters to them.

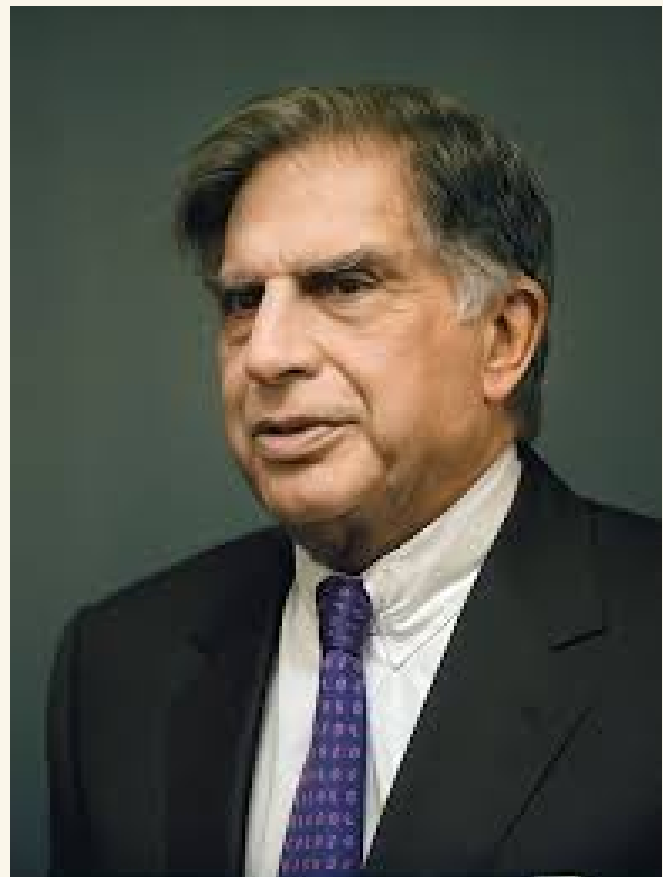
*"Dreams are meant to be followed  
Life is meant to be lived  
Some books are meant to be read,  
loved and passed on.  
The Alchemist is one of those books."*

— Nirat Gill

# Hon. Ratan Tata

We pay our tributes this year to Ratan Tata, an illustrious businessman with a trail within the orbit of ethics, for instance, exploring new vistas. He was an exemplary philanthropist, who lead the Tata Group during his watch, he did not only extend the business of the Tata Group beyond the borders of India; he also made successful acquisitions and was increasingly noticed on the world stage. His honesty, innovative thinking, commitment to morals were not only to the group but also to the country. In fulfilling his role, requirements set by the times and directions of the Tata Group have enabled its payment system to be anchored within banking systems and participate actively in various industries. He was heavily involved in developmental activities in health care, education, and other sectors, and his contributions are still held in good esteem by society. Most of Ratan Tata's characteristics, including leadership abilities, business methodologies, and social responsibility, are great

assets for the rising dais of leaders. He supported the country during crucial times such as the pandemic. The man, after all, is a visionary leader and his vision shall remain for posterity.



You'll stay in our hearts forever!

*- Arya Gupta*

# Editor's Message

Taking into consideration the vision of our Honourable Chairperson, Mr Ashok Kataria; We, the students of Ashoka, would like to contribute to 'igniting curious minds to become creative thinkers' by providing them with a platform of boundless realms in the form of this monthly magazine. We want to help the members of our Literary Society implement their skills and accelerate their growth by challenging them with a practical-oriented approach that contributes to their holistic development.

We aim to foster a sense of companionship among fellow wordsmiths and provide opportunities for both personal growth and creative collaboration. Through engaging discussions, interactive workshops, and group projects, members of the Ashoka Society of Literature will have the chance to delve deeper into the craft of writing and unlock their creative potential.

When you pick up this magazine, you will find all sorts of topics varying from poems to articles, new-age careers to social awareness and most importantly, the happenings of the Ashoka Group of Schools. With the help of this magazine, we will foster a sense of camaraderie and enhance the literary expression in our fellow schoolmates.

*– Niharika Khedekar  
Chairperson*

# President's message

Greetings of the day,

Ashoka Laureates is an exuberant initiative taken by my team promotes outright art forms which is enticing in nature. The Ashoka's Society of Literature is working with the aim of providing a platform to any artist regardless of their age.

This magazine is not only pertinent to literature but also promotes outright art forms which is enticing in nature. This magazine is not only made on the strong grounds of motivating students to learn in one discrete language of English but also for the crowd with a vivacious way of expressing themselves. The goal is not just to provide knowledge but to provide merits to the journeys of impetus who aspire to inspire and thrive to behoof such contingency. Also as a president of this society I aspire to bestow an elbow room to my team and all the artists who are eloquent with their art work.

We aspire to influence everyone not only to express themselves but also to show them the strength of their adroitness. Last but not the least I would like to appreciate everyone including my team , teachers and all the well wishers for their steadfastness for this magazine. We are confident that this edition will meet your expectations. Peruse, ponder, and enjoy the insights within.

Thank you.

*-Tanishika Parmar  
President*

# The Court of Literature in Action!



# The End or the Beginning?

