



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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STUDENT EDITION

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2020



WEB EDITION

BUDDING STAR

LYDIAN NADHASWARAM
AGE: 14 YRS
CLAIM TO FAME:
PIANIST

Lydian Nadhaswaram may be only 14, but his skills as a pianist reveal maturity beyond his age. The teenager, who has been mentored by music maestro, AR Rahman, will also debut as an actor in a Hindi film, 'Atkan Chatkan'. Lydian plays a 12-year-old protagonist, Guddu, who is a chai delivery boy and has a passion to observe, listen and create new sounds. The teenager, who hails from Chennai, rose to fame last year, when he won the American reality show, 'The World's Best.'



ON HIS JOURNEY: I was inspired by my sister and father, who play piano. Besides, when I was nine, my father sent me a YouTube video of a Chinese boy playing the piano. I got inspired, and that's how I started taking interest in it.

ON AR RAHMAN: Rahman uncle is one of the biggest supports in my life. He has motivated me, and advised me on various things

LAUNCHED

COLLINS EVALUATE: A DIGITAL PLATFORM TO AID TEACHERS AND EDUCATORS ASSIGN AND EVALUATE COURSEWORK

Collins Learning, the learning and education division of HarperCollins India, has announced the launch of Collins Evaluate, a secure and convenient online tool for educators to assign coursework to their students.



► With Collins Evaluate, a teacher will have access to a bank of more than 30,000 questions to create assignments from across the subjects. A teacher will also be able to add his/her own questions, edit the existing ones, and track and share students' results on the platform

SALAMI-SLICING

WHAT: Three years ago, the then Army chief General Bipin Rawat had warned against China's muscle-flexing on the Line of Actual Control (LAC). The **salami slicing** is something we have to be wary of, and remain prepared for the situations emerging, which could gradually emerge into a conflict, he had said. The fresh imbroglia on the LAC has brought China's salami slicing tactic to the forefront all over again. **Salami slicing** is a

The term, coined by a Hungarian dictator, Mátyás Rákosi, was used to justify the actions of the Hungarian Communist Party to grab complete power in Hungary in the 50s. In the recent past, it was used to describe China's unilateral military actions in Doklam, India, Japan, and countries in the South China Sea region



divide-and-conquer tactic used to dominate the opposition territory, piece by piece.

WHY: Such military operations are too small to result in a war. They leave a neighbouring country confused, as it is not able to decide on how and to what extent it should respond. Apart from avoiding diplomatic attention from the global players, such military actions cumulate over a period of time, and result in a strategic advantage for the aggressive country.

HOW: Post World War-II, China is the only country that has adopted the policy of territorial expansion, using military means. The acquisition of Tibet and Xinjiang, the capture of Aksai Chin, are an example of Beijing's expansionist policy. The tools of salami slicing depends upon the region. For example, in Ladakh, China brings in the ethnic Han pastoralists, and gives them cover to use the land across the areas of unprotected LAC. In the process, the Chinese army drive them away from their pastureland, thus adopting salami slicing.

X-PLAINED



WHERE ELSE CHINA IS USING THE TACTIC?



In the South and the East China Sea, the tools of salami slicing involve hydrocarbon-exploration leases, and asserting fishing rights. In the East China Sea, China has deployed paramilitary agencies against Japan over the Senkaku Islands, which it calls Diaoyu. China's aggressive strategy has worked in its favour, as the world community now recognises the islands as a disputed territory

WORD PLAY

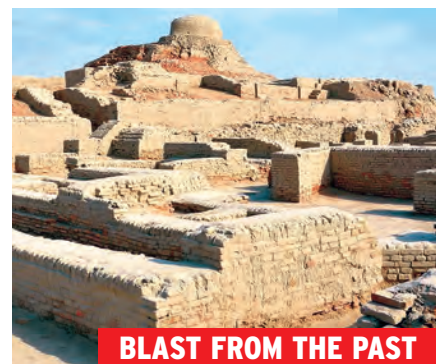
LOOK IT UP: 2020 EVENTS SPARK UPHEAVAL AT ONLINE DICTIONARY

Dictionary.com, which boasts of 70 million monthly users, has announced its biggest ever revision—more than 15,000 words will be updated, out of which, many will reflect the social upheaval and racial unrest of 2020. "The unprecedented events of 2020, from the pandemic to the protests, have profoundly changed our lives and language," Dictionary.com said.



- The Covid-19 pandemic gripping the world added a raft of new words to many English speakers' everyday vocabularies, from technical labels, like asymptomatic to behavioral terms, like social distance.
- Many of the more than 15,000 words that have been added or updated on Dictionary.com are placed under a single word: respect. They reflect the changing ways the society addresses race, sexual orientation, mental health and other issues.
- The website has capitalised 'Black' in its entries, and has created a separate entry for a Black person

CLIMATE CHANGE LIKELY LED TO THE FALL OF INDUS VALLEY CIVILISATION: STUDY



BLAST FROM THE PAST

Shifting monsoon patterns linked to climate change likely caused the rise and fall of the ancient Indus Valley Civilisation, according to a study, which analysed data from North India, covering the past 5,700 years.

- The study used a new mathematical method to study the ancient climate patterns in North India over time, providing insights about the past climates, using indirect observations
- While there are several theories on why the Indus Valley Civilisation declined, including invasion by nomadic Indo-Aryans, and earthquakes, climate change appears to be the most likely scenario, the study noted
- According to the analysis, there was a major shift in the monsoon patterns just before the dawn of the Indus civilisation, and the pattern reversed course right before it declined, indicating that it was in fact the climate change that caused the fall

NEWS IN BRIEF

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CRISTIANO RONALDO IS THE HIGHEST-PAID FOOTBALLER: FORBES

Footballers, Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi have been at loggerheads for most part of their careers on the field. Now, Messi and Ronaldo seem to be fighting against each other off the field too. In the latest Forbes Rich List, Ronaldo has beaten Messi as the highest-paid footballer in the world by a mere \$1 million.

RICHIE RICH

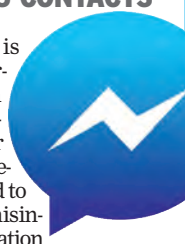
Ronaldo is the most-followed athlete on social media, with more than 200 million Instagram followers. Of the \$105mn he earned this season, \$60 million came from his salary/winnings, while \$45 million came from endorsements



TECH BUZZ

FB MESSENGER TO LIMIT FORWARDING MSGS TO 5 CONTACTS

Facebook Messenger is all set to bring a forwarding limit, which will let the users forward messages to only five people or groups at a time. The latest development has been targeted to reduce the spread of viral misinformation and stop the circulation of fake news through the messaging platform. Back in 2018, FB had introduced a similar forwarding limit to the WhatsApp platform in India, and then expanded to global markets in Jan last year.



In April this year, WhatsApp had narrowed down the limit of frequently-forwarded messages to one chat at a single time. In Messenger, if you add more users to your forwarding list, the app will flash a notification, stating "forwarding limit reached."

CHANNING TATUM TURNS WRITER WITH CHILDREN'S BOOK



BOOK

Actor Channing Tatum is set to release his first children's book, and has dedicated it to his seven-year-old daughter, Everly. The actor took to Instagram to announce the picture book, titled, 'The One and Only Sparkella'. Published by Feiwei & Friends, the book focuses on a young girl named Ella, who is teased on her first day of school for loving sparkly things. Kim Barnes has created the illustrations for the book.

- Calling Everly his greatest teacher, Tatum said, the book is an ode to all the little girls. "To Everly, the most brilliant magical being that I have ever known. You are my greatest teacher. This is also for all the dads... Wear whatever, dance however, and be as magical as you can. Because I promise they will return the love," he said
- 'The One and Only Sparkella' will hit the stands on May 4, 2021

FACTOID ₹32 CR

► Price of an untitled 1974 oil-on-canvas painting by VS Gaitonde that was sold at an auction recently. It has become the most expensive work of art by an Indian artist. The work, bought by an unnamed international buyer, was part of an auction titled, Looking West: Works from the Collection of the Glenbarra Art Museum, Japan.

The sale broke the record held by another work of Gaitonde that fetched ₹29.3 crore at a Christie's auction in Mumbai in 2015. 'Saurashtra' by SH Raza, which fetched ₹16.3 crore in 2010, and a self portrait by Amrita Sher-Gil that fetched \$3.2 million at a New York auction in 2015, have been among the other works that have held the title of the most expensive work sold by an Indian artist at different times



YOUNG INFLUENCERS

ISHA AMBANI, AKASH AMBANI, ADAR POONAWALLA ON FORTUNE'S 40 UNDER 40 LIST

Reliance Jio Board Directors Isha Ambani and Akash Ambani, Serum Institute of India CEO, Adar Poonawalla, and Byju Raveendran, co-founder of India's leading education technology company, Byju's, are among the "emerging leaders" from across the world named by Fortune in its annual list of influential people under the age of 40.



- The 2020 Fortune 40 Under 40 list highlights 40 influential people, each in five categories of finance, technology, healthcare, government and politics, media and entertainment from around the world
- Featured on the list are 28-year-old Ambani twins, children of Reliance Chairman billionaire, Mukesh and Nita Ambani
- The list also names Raveendran, the 39-year-old CEO of Byju, India's, "biggest education technology company"
- The list also includes SoftBank group senior vice president, investments, Akshay Naheta (39), head of digital assets and distributed ledger technology (DLT) at TD Ameritrade, Sunayna Tuteja, global vice president Xiaomi and managing director, Xiaomi India, Manu Kumar Jain (39), Maverick Ventures' managing director, Ambar Bhattacharyya (37), PharmEasy co-founders, Dhaval Shah and Dharmil Sheth (31), and ACLU chief product and digital officer, Deepa Subramaniam (39)

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS



VIVEKANANDA MISSION SCHOOL

The 74th Independence Day was observed by the members of the Vivekananda Mission School family in a different way, owing to the global scare caused by the virus Covid-19. Few eminent members of our VMS family were present at the extended campus for the flag hoisting ceremony. The flag hoisting was followed by the singing of the National Anthem and principal



sister's speech. Sister's short but motivational speech stirred the minds of all.

The ceremony was broadcasted from our official Facebook page - Vivekananda Mission School, Joka, Official. The remaining part of the day's schedule, a cultural programme was pre-recorded virtually by our teachers and students of various classes and uploaded in our FB page. The virtual cultural programme was an initiative taken by the members of the VMS family to convey their patriotism towards Mother India. Jai Hind!



THE BSS SCHOOL

This 74th year of Independence, was a pleasant surprise in disguise of the pandemic. With the virus raging on outside, students of The BSS School, did not let the spirit of independence die out. They held on to sheer determination and paid tribute to the martyrs through a rectangular screen.

Students, headed by the Student Council, put up an array of performances, ranging from dance medleys to singing the tune of Ae watan. Both the primary and secondary sections were involved in this massive production that left no detail untouched. In the end, the blood, sweat and tears of the martyrs shone through the eyes of every student and a wonderful spectacle was molded by the students themselves.



THE HERITAGE SCHOOL

In this pandemic-induced lockdown, Independence Day was celebrated the 'new normal' way at The Heritage School. The flag was hoisted in the school premises by the chairman of the school managing committee, Vikram Swarup accompanied by Pradeep Agarwal, CEO, Kalyan Bharti Trust, principal Seema Sapru and other dignitaries, in the presence of a very limited gathering.

The flag hoisting ceremony was telecast live on its social media page. Students watched the proceedings live from their homes. Unlike previous years, celebrations this year have been restricted to virtual medium but bound with oneness and belonging.

The students prepared their first ever virtual Independence Day cultural programme with a lot of enthusiasm. The council members of the student body proudly repeated the pledge after the school captains, sang the National Anthem and showcased their talent by singing some amazing patriotic songs, retaining the fervour through colourful dances, skit and mime presentations.

The little patriots also personated the National Symbols, intrinsic to the Indian identity and heritage. Even in these toughest of times, the students, free in their minds, surging ahead with their thoughts, saluted our Motherland in their own humble way. It was a day of elation for the Heritans, instilling in themselves the value and reverence for the gift of freedom by the great leaders of our country. The virtual celebration made everyone feel connected which is one of the most important factors in this time of crisis. Proud is our heart when we are one!



CALCUTTA GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

This year, due to the Corona pandemic, since all schools are closed and classes are being held virtually, Calcutta Girls' High School came forward to celebrate the beautiful occasion of Independence Day virtually. The theme was uploaded in the form of a video in Youtube and saw children from various classes performing dance, recitation and singing. The programme started with an inaugural speech given by the principal, Basanti Biswas and continued with dances and songs with patriotic songs and heart touching poems. - Aishaani Basu, Class VIII, CGHS

Sing-a-Song contest for teachers

Teachers will now get a golden chance to showcase their singing skills in English, Hindi or Bengali and win exciting prizes. The Times of India-NIE is organising a teachers' online singing competition, Sing-a-Song, on the occasion of Teacher's Day to celebrate the contribution of the teaching fraternity in the society. The Times of India seeks this opportunity to entertain the teachers who are the backbone of society, the guiding lights who provide directions to our lives and so thank them profusely. The competition will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 4.30 pm onwards.

The participants will include teachers from various city schools. The judges will be Anupam Dutta, renowned music director and composer and Sidhu, renowned singer from Bengali rock band Cactus.



BHS MUKUNDAPUR STUDENTS INDULGE IN CLOUD GAZING

An interesting activity 'Cloud Gazing' was done by the children of class II. This activity not only calms the mind of a child but also enhances his/her creativity and abstract thinking. Children were asked to gaze at the sky and take the picture of what they could see. They applied their creativity and sketched their vision. It encouraged them to think out of the box.



CLOUD

Mr. Cloud, Mr. Cloud
Why are you so loud?
Are you feeling very proud?
And why you always stay in the crowd?
Mr. Cloud, Mr. Cloud
Where did you go?
When you cry, why you are so low?
Mr. Cloud, Mr. Cloud
Are you a rhino?
Or you making a statue of a dino!
Mr. Cloud, Mr. Cloud
Why are you so high?
I always wanted to Reach the sky..

By Aryadev Ghosh

LOST IN THE NIGHT

CHAPTER 1 : "A THIRSTY LEOPARD"

Once upon a time, there lived a leopard and a cheetah. They were best friends. They lived in a cave. One night, the cheetah was having a nightmare. In that nightmare, a lion was fighting with the cheetah and the leopard. Scared, the cheetah woke up. It was still night time. The cheetah thought his friend was beside him sleeping. But when the cheetah turned his head to see if his friend was there or not, the leopard was not there. The leopard was thirsty so it went in search of water.

CHAPTER 2 : "FURTHER IN THE WILD"

The cheetah and the leopard usually went to a pond to drink water. But only the cheetah knew the way. Many times, the leopard tried to remember the way, but it could not. Sometimes, the cheetah would test if the leopard knew the way to the pond or not. Sometimes luckily the leopard could find the pond from where they drank water and other times the leopard would find a different pond or would end up finding no pond. The cheetah was worried. What if the leopard found a cave which looks the same as their cave, but actually was a lion's or tiger's cave? And if the lion or tiger is inside, it might attack the leopard. The cheetah was thinking about what to do. Meanwhile the leopard reached a lion's cave. Luckily the lion was not there. The lion was away hunting for food. The leopard went inside the cave and then came out immediately seeing that was a lion's cave. The leopard went behind the cave.

CHAPTER 3 : "A RIVER BEHIND THE CAVE?"

And guess what, the leopard found a river behind the cave! It drank lots of water and left to look for the cheetah. It came to the end of the forest. The leopard thought all the animals in the forest would die because the woodcutter would cut the trees and all the animals in the forest would have no place to live. It started running madly because it was scared and was searching for its own cave. It stopped when it saw the cheetah. "My friend!" the cheetah said happily. The leopard went in the cave and promised it would go to drink water only in the presence of the cheetah. But, even after that incident, the leopard still could not remember the way to go to the pond!

- By Soumabho Mazumder



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