



S P Jain  
School of Global  
Management

DUBAI • MUMBAI • SINGAPORE • SYDNEY

BATCH OF 2018

# VALOUR

SP JAIN STUDENT MAGAZINE: DUBAI EDITION

LOCKDOWN &  
QUARANTINE STORIES

FEATURED: STUDENT  
SPOTLIGHT

EXCITING GAMES AND  
QUIZES

PHOTOGRAPHED BY ARYAN PANJIAR



# Meet the Editorial Team



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## EDITOR'S NOTE

### Desperate times call for resilient measures

It is now one more day that I wake up to mark a tally on the wall near the window. An unexpected wait to settle back to what is deemed as a “normal” lifestyle. Peeking through my window I see her again as she opens the balcony door determined to sunbathe in Vitamin D for another consecutive day. Although she is restricted to stay within 36 square feet, for these few minutes of sunlight her mind can bring down walls that take her to her very own free-spirited state of mind.

**Resilience** is one of those words I identify as explicitly ‘daunting’. It is a word that is strong enough to push you out of your comfort zone and leave you hanging by the edge of your fears and doubts. To be resilient one must be strong hearted to leave pain and disappointment aside and get back up with the same amount of determination, hope, and aspirations as before. It is particularly important during this period of isolation to put this word into practice. It is not an innate talent to be resilient nor it is a skill that can be learned overnight. Persistency is the key to obtain a resilient mindset that grants peace of mind and the attitude to move forward.

This edition of Valour is very dear to my heart as it holds the memories of a journey that was too good to be true and it had to cease to an end before its time. In it you will find an ode to the adventures we shared, the talent that grows from within, and small details that will bring a momentary smile, but that will create a memory that sources happiness for a lifetime.

I like to think back to that woman that has built up her happiness and freedom within the limits she is restricted to. She serves as a reminder that there is no strict definition to what is ‘normal’ since a resilient person adapts quickly, as change is to be embraced rather than feared. Every day of our lives is deemed to be normal with its ups and downs, through good and bad. I invite you to dive into the content of this magazine as you keep in mind that all that is included here could not have been done without a resilient mindset and the attitude to move forward.

The wind has now changed and it is drifting from the arid and majestic desert of Dubai into the vibrant and colourful city of Sydney. Like most of you, I will be reading this message within four surrounding walls; but with a heart that is capable of setting my mind free, I will reminisce the kind moments we had in The City of Dreams and eagerly wait for the change that is soon to come until we shall see each other again.

*Sara Gazaro*





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Disclaimer: Valour is a student driven magazine at SP Jain School of Global Management for the students and by the students. Valour allows business students to express creatively and explore insights, perspectives and stimulate conversations among the university community. Valour would like to thank School faculty, management and facilities for their support. The opinions expressed in our published works are those of the author(s) and do not reflect the opinions of School.

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Dear Jaguars,

The past 8 months have been one of the best experiences of my life, but like everything in life, there comes a time to bid farewell to these moments.

I always thought of myself as a person who's good at framing my thoughts into sentences, yet somehow, I find it difficult to pen each and every moment we have relished together.

Never in my wildest dreams would I have imagined that a batch of 250 students would be so close, despite our differences, standing together as a pack in these trying times. Your reception for the E-Farewell was a true testament of what SP Jain means to each and every one of you, and the value of the memories we have created in Dubai together, that we have learned to treasure. No speeches or posts or words can do justice to those moments that each and every one of you cherish, so I've taken the liberty to leave it at that.

This year wouldn't have been possible without the unwavering leadership of Prof Nitin Patwa, whose guidance we will always cherish and who's nicknames for us we will never forget.

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Ms. Megna Kalvani, Senior Manager for Global Learning & Student Life, thank you for the exposure to industry and student life events, for the constant push that you have provided and for plotting fun and excitement in every step of our journey, and Ms. Donita, Manager for Student experience thank you for the seamless journey – and the end of it all Dubai wouldn't have been memorable without all of you. Ms. Laarni and Ms. Jacquelynne from the Program office, your tenacity to bear our relentless pursuit, be it to grant us that extra attendance or for those unending late submissions, is unparalleled. Our program wouldn't have gone so smoothly without you, thank you!

In the past two years amongst you all, I have learnt that to “leave a legacy” and to “achieve greatness” is not to get money and recognition, it's to leave those with whom you cross paths with a little more happiness and a little more hope. Our time here in Dubai won't be remembered by grades, popularity, the number of likes we received, but by friendships, the kind of person you were, these are legacies, the kind we must strive to leave.

I always lived by the quote, “your company defines who you are”, and I'm proud and honoured to be surrounded by a company of 250 students, each unique in their own ways, and yet have found unity in this diversity. Thank you for making the scorching heat and the chilly nights of Dubai, memorable!

**Be phenomenal or Be Forgotten**, and Jaguars, no one could ever forget this **vibe!**

**Yours Truly,**

**Abhimanyu Shivaji**

**President of Student Council 2019-2020**



# A Year to Remember

By Raghav Bansal

Words can't really capture the delight of our second year experience at SP Jain Dubai, which witnessed an exuberance of joy, bonding, and companionship. One word I can think of, to sum up, the year would be **'breath-taking'**. Reflecting back now, every moment seems to be so precious and unique, which will be remembered forever.

It all started with the orientation in the leadership hall, making many new friends, meeting the fantastic faculty members; there was something different with the whole vibe. I'm sure you all remember our first Global learning activity in Dubai, Cultural Orientation Breakfast and Brunch at the Sheikh Mohammed Cultural Centre, that made us fall in love with Dubai instantaneously. Now, it just feels like it all happened yesterday. Yes, time flies!

Thereafter, things kicked off, assignments and submissions started coming in. We loved the classes and hated them at the same time – always a love-hate relationship for us, students 😊, but we also had loads of fun with every professor. I'm sure we all will never forget the precious advice and life lessons shared by our kind professors. We all got some words to live by, which will always be remembered in certain situations. They surely will be missed- they made an impression on us!







It was fascinating to see how everyone united and participated together, making so many activities and events a success. Diwali Night, Lunar New Year and Christmas celebration were magical. We all were enraptured with the talent seen in the Karaoke Night and the Gaming Night. Club activities, competitions and classes kept us in college from 9 AM till 7 PM. Overnight Camping was surely an experience of the lifetime, that **bonfire** saved our lives 😊. It was great to witness the unparalleled bonding and companionship during the year; we together achieved various milestones and overcame a few obstacles. S P Jain's flag waived high winning various inter-university competitions. Student Council received great support from the cohort and worked well to make the year **unparalleled** to any other.



All these thoughts made my heart poetic, so here comes one –

***“We all came along and got together like a knot, Believed in each other and never broke the bond. We will always be there for you, It is a delight to have a friend like you. Through thick and thin, together we glow, Thanks for being there and helping us grow.”***

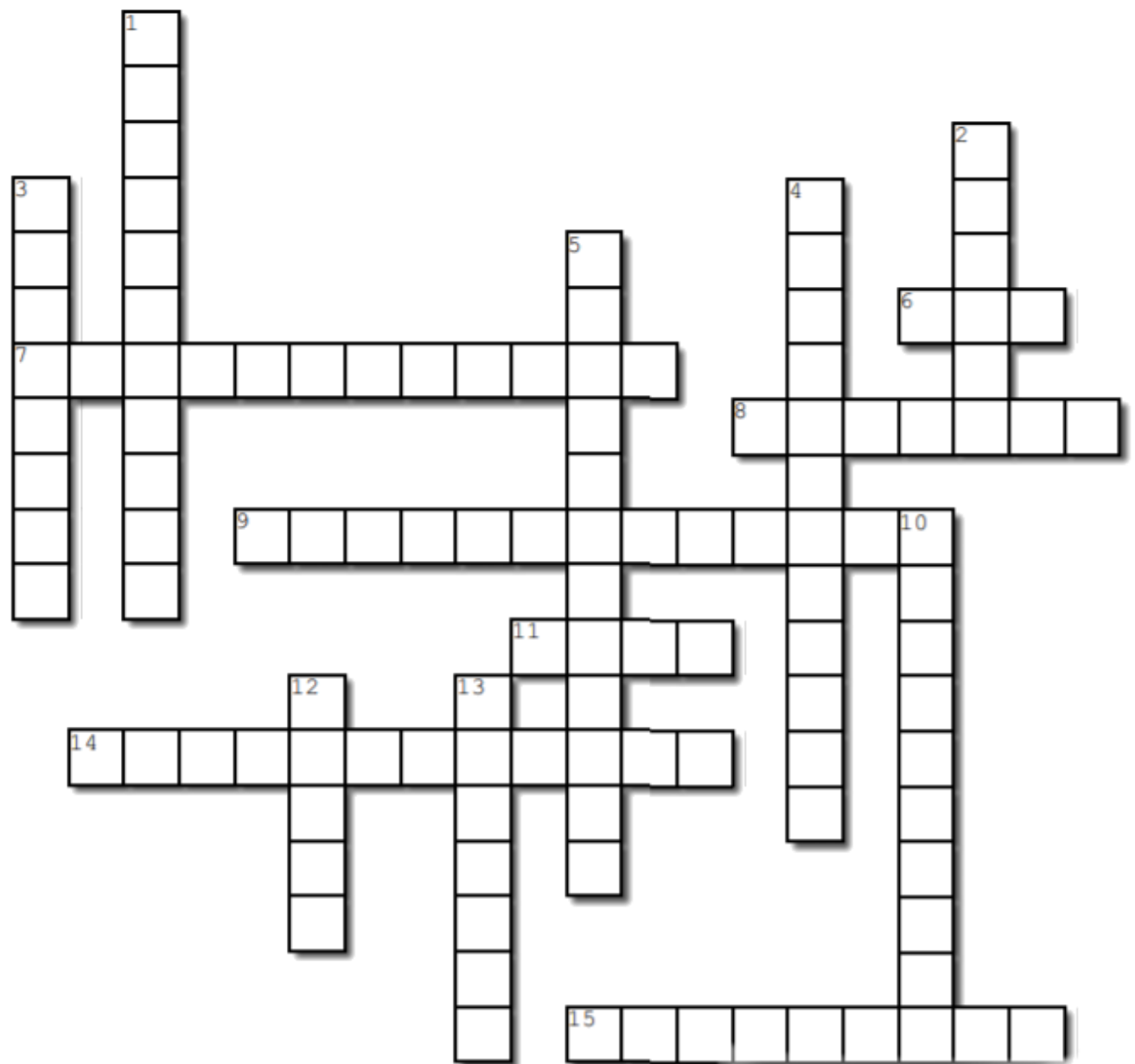
Next year awaits another adventure. Being part of the BEC cohort, continuing our final year in Dubai – I can share that we will absolutely miss our fellow BBA classmates and wait to see you again until next time! It was an absolute pleasure to be with you and share all the lovely moments together, those memories will never fade away. Thanks for making this year beautiful and ‘breath-taking’! Cheers to more adventures, memories and milestones!!





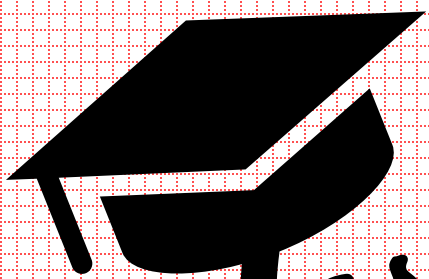
### Down

1. Tallest of all
2. Camp night with batch mates
3. Hotel and water park together
4. Fastest roller coaster
5. Best drink available in the vending machine
10. Hey Girl, Hey Boy
12. One side old Dubai, one side new Dubai
13. Ever heard of sleeping in college (legally)



### Across

6. Bank account that almost every student had
7. Location of our college, also a bus stop
8. Another name for SPJ students
9. Customer is your CEO
11. The new mode of communication
14. No roads still cars are allowed without rules
15. Cafe just outside food court



Test your S.P. Jain  
Dubai Knowledge with  
this little crossword

By Yashashvi Muchhal



# Professor by Day & Artist by Night: Tête-à-tête With Dr. Monica Gallant

By Ahmed Nadzry

**How did you get started in making art pieces? Were you always attracted to do crafts?**

I've been doing crafts since I was a very young girl. My family is very artistic. My father, while he was also an engineer, liked to do oil paintings. When I was a young girl, I would observe my father painting, and I used to even sit underneath his painting table and play with my dolls while he was painting. My mother also loved to do handicrafts, and she loved to do all sorts of handicrafts. She had a whole room dedicated in the house with all arts and crafts supplies, whenever you want to do something, you could go into my mother's little room, and there would always be some materials there to do things.

I always like to do just different kinds of art. I also took sewing classes from when I was very young, and my favorite thing at that age was to make stuff, toys and arts and crafts things. I did do some sewing of garments as well, but I was never as interested in that. I always liked crafty things more.

**What inspires you? What's the source of inspiration behind your art?**

I like art to be happy. One of my highest compliments is when someone looks at my art and says, Oh, that makes me smile. I really like my art to make people feel happy. So. You know, all my animals that I make are always happily looking. Even wild animals that I make, they're happy looking animals. I'm always like trying to look for happy, happy things, happy colours, happy expressions, and I like to gift my art to people. So a lot of the things I've made are made with the intention to give them





**When you started working full-time, do you continue your craft, or is there a moment where you have forgotten on the arts and crafts?**

I was never away from arts and crafts. Never. There were times when I was busier or less busy and would maybe have less time to do things, but I would adjust the kind of craft I would do to the amount of time I had. I've done such a wide variety of, of arts and crafts, but it would evolve.

When I was pregnant, I made maternity clothes because I found that I couldn't purchase beautiful maternity clothes and then when the babies were born, I made like clothing and stuff toys for them. I also made decorations for their rooms. I also like to crochet, so I made crochet blankets. In fact, my daughter used the crocheting blanket that I made for her as her security blanket for years and years. When I was on vacation for a while, I was doing needle needlepoint because it's very portable. For example, something like the cross-stitch, which is really small and you can do it anywhere. I got into quilting at one point, and then I made quilts for both my children and for our ourselves.



**These artworks take a lot of time to complete, and you have a busy schedule. How do you balance this?**

I believe it's essential to get a balance in your life. I think that you need to save some personal time. A personal space just to rejuvenate your soul. I work really hard when I'm at work, but then when I go home, I try to switch off. I try to plan my time so that when I'm at work, I achieve what I need to achieve at work and then when I go home; I like to have my home time for things at home. I do a lot of things, I have a lot of friends I get together with, I also have my dog, and I also have my garden. So, I like gardening. I like walking with my dog. I like spending time with my husband. I also like to find time for art. I spend every Friday pretty much at the ceramic studio. And I have friends there, and I just go there, and it's a very relaxed and very chilled space. There, you tend to just let any

stresses go and just focus on making things that you feel happy to make them.

**Why is it vital for us to have these kinds of moments? You always mention this as your “Zen” moment.**

I think you have to find stress relief. For some people, it's a sport. For my husband, it's absolutely sport. For him, sport is essential to life. If he can't do sport, he's heartbroken. While I do all this variety of crafts, he does a whole variety of sport. I think for everyone it may be something different. These kinds of things can be whatever makes you happy. But I think you need to be able to step away from the stress of your life. So whether that's studying or work, there has to be, something else you can do that you really look forward to. Sometimes, it's like a reward. It's like, okay, I'm going to complete this thing I have to do, and then I get to do this thing I really want to do.

**What're the future developments for your art project? Are you planning to make something big in the next 5 years?**

I think for me, there isn't. There isn't a plan because that takes away from the Zen of it all. For me, I just enjoy making what I like to make and what I like to make changes. If someone asks me to make something special I'll make it, or if I try a new technique and I enjoy doing it, then I make more of that. I'm adding. A future structured plan would take away some of the joy, as part of the joy is just being spontaneous, making whatever I like and not thinking too far ahead. With that said, once in a while, I'll do a craft market. To sell my products only because I have too many of them and it's not to make money. It does help to fund my pottery habit. But it's more that I enjoy the feedback. I like to see their reaction. So, if I sell things, then it's like, Oh, people enjoy. Then I might make more of that. It's nice to hear people say, Oh, this is so interesting, or I love this technique or that thing, especially if it's someone who's not your friend. If people come and say, Oh, you know, I look at your work, and it just makes me smile. It's like just a little glow in my heart happened.







# Talent Spotlight

By Sara Gazaro

S P Jain finds great pride in having great talented and ambitious students; their goals and aspirations go beyond expectations. In this edition, Tushaar Giria, a BBA Student from the 2018 Batch, shares his rooting passion towards scuba diving and music.

## **Cutting to the chase, what makes you unique?**

Tushaar: I am a very adventurous person. I have done 18 scuba dives; I have taken 2 courses leading to advance level and diving up to 30 meters deep. I am taking a rescue course, and in the future am thinking of taking a master course by which I will be able to teach people how to dive. I want this to be my part-time job in Sydney and work with diving schools as I get my degree. I am also a musician. I play 3 instruments: the saxophone, the drums, and percussion. I started playing the drums when I was in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and I still play. I started a saxophone 2 years ago. I have played in front of 400 to 500 people.

One more spontaneous thing I have done is called Farina, a trigonometric survey. For 20 days, I worked in Australia with a local school, towards exploring an unknown area that was abandoned. The team and I mapped the entire place. We used trigonometry to make maps of that place so tourists could visit. I have always been adventurous. I remember not hesitating even once when the school took my batch for scuba diving or for skiing for 15 days in the Himalayas.

## **How do you manage your time with your hobbies?**

My schedule goes on a priority basis. I do not really have a schedule for hobbies, but I try to make time for musical instruments once a week. Because of my studies, I would go to the music room on the campus to release stress and play the drums to calm down. Scuba, on the other hand, is spontaneous as I must have free time to go to the dive centre.



# TUSHAAR GIRIA



**In how many cities have you dived?**

I went to Batam in Indonesia, Phuket in Thailand, Australia, Sri Lanka and my last dive was in Fujairah. Scuba diving, for me, is like breathing. Without it, I cannot exist. It is my life, and I need it with me as it is my passion.

**What are the best places you would like to dive in?**

I would like to dive in the Maldives if I get the opportunity before it sinks! I also wanted to dive in the great barrier reef, but it is closed now. Also, I would love to dive in the Andaman Sea and the Indian ocean.

**What are the preparations for scuba diving?**

For open water diving, the course takes 3 days, and it includes 4 - 5 dives about 18 to 20 meters deep. If you run out of the air in the water, you must learn how to remove your gear and equipment and follow the protocol to swim back up. If you do not do these steps correctly, your life is at risk.

**How do you travel with your saxophone?**

I brought it to Singapore and played on the famous bridge next to campus! I didn't bring it to Dubai, but I for sure want to go back home and bring it. Playing is one of the things I enjoy in life, and I do not like making it an obligation, rather it should be a part of my lifestyle.

**You want to work part-time in Australia as a diver, what about a musician or formalizing your music career in Sydney?**

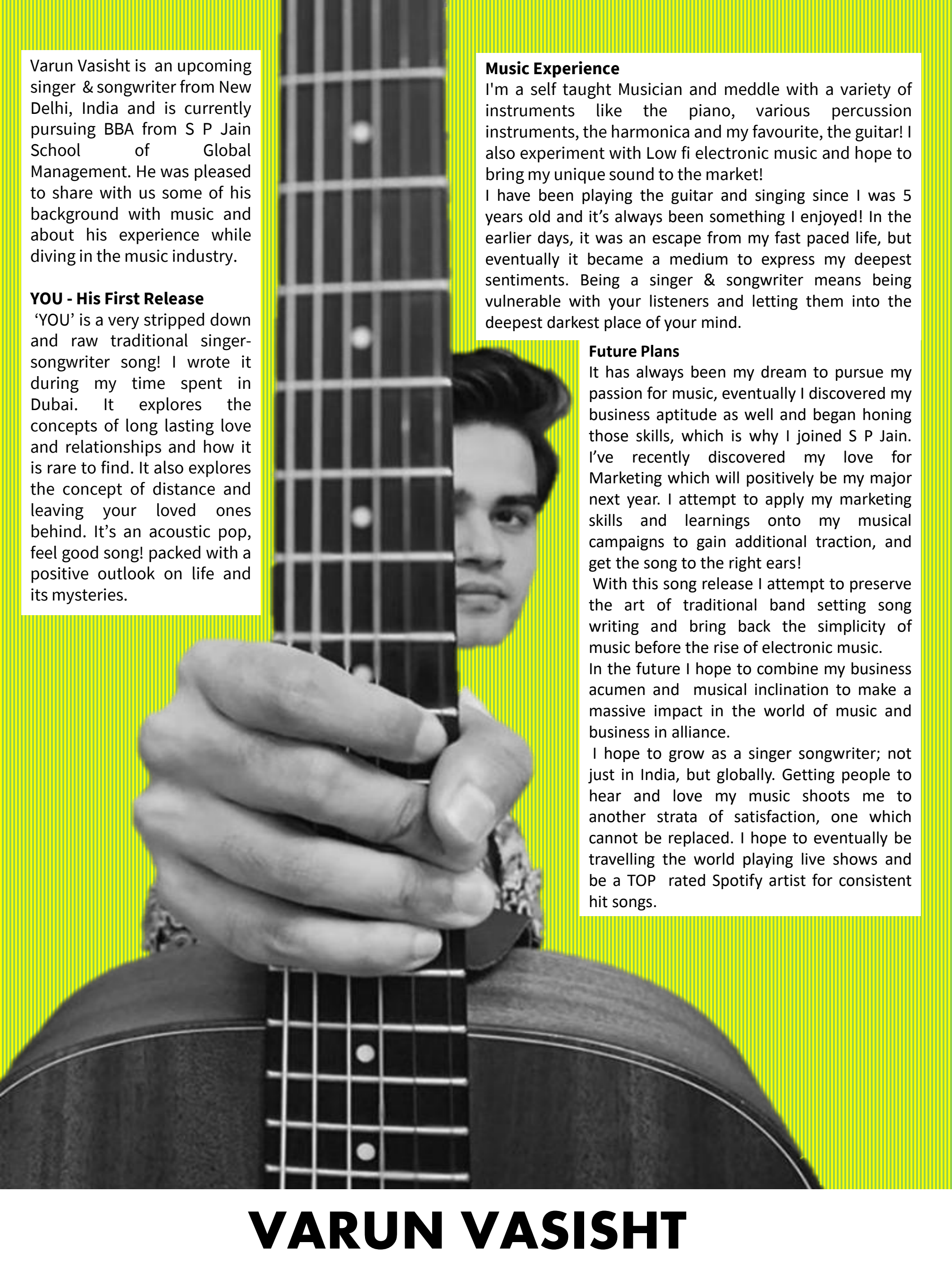
I dream of playing my saxophone on the roads of Sydney or take an instrument and just perform on the streets. I want to try and play in front of strangers and get them close to me. I believe I need to practice more in a formal manner as I am spontaneous, and I play in different ways. I do not follow notations; I just catch the note make my own as I feel the rhythm and the sound of what I like doing the most.

**What would you say to those trying to pursue a passion but fear it?**

Whatever passion you have in life, pursue it because even if you do not know, yet it is a part of you, it will help release stress and motivate you. You do not have to fear your passion. It is a part of you it so should not matter whether it is small or big, but as it is a large portion of what makes you happy. My mantra is to follow my own passion and not care about what people think.

All I have left to say to you is that everyone should try scuba once in their life. If you or anyone needs help, let me know. I am more than happy to help you have an excellent scuba time!





Varun Vasisht is an upcoming singer & songwriter from New Delhi, India and is currently pursuing BBA from S P Jain School of Global Management. He was pleased to share with us some of his background with music and about his experience while diving in the music industry.

#### **YOU - His First Release**

‘YOU’ is a very stripped down and raw traditional singer-songwriter song! I wrote it during my time spent in Dubai. It explores the concepts of long lasting love and relationships and how it is rare to find. It also explores the concept of distance and leaving your loved ones behind. It’s an acoustic pop, feel good song! packed with a positive outlook on life and its mysteries.

#### **Music Experience**

I’m a self taught Musician and meddle with a variety of instruments like the piano, various percussion instruments, the harmonica and my favourite, the guitar! I also experiment with Low fi electronic music and hope to bring my unique sound to the market!

I have been playing the guitar and singing since I was 5 years old and it’s always been something I enjoyed! In the earlier days, it was an escape from my fast paced life, but eventually it became a medium to express my deepest sentiments. Being a singer & songwriter means being vulnerable with your listeners and letting them into the deepest darkest place of your mind.

#### **Future Plans**

It has always been my dream to pursue my passion for music, eventually I discovered my business aptitude as well and began honing those skills, which is why I joined S P Jain. I’ve recently discovered my love for Marketing which will positively be my major next year. I attempt to apply my marketing skills and learnings onto my musical campaigns to gain additional traction, and get the song to the right ears!

With this song release I attempt to preserve the art of traditional band setting song writing and bring back the simplicity of music before the rise of electronic music.

In the future I hope to combine my business acumen and musical inclination to make a massive impact in the world of music and business in alliance.

I hope to grow as a singer songwriter; not just in India, but globally. Getting people to hear and love my music shoots me to another strata of satisfaction, one which cannot be replaced. I hope to eventually be travelling the world playing live shows and be a TOP rated Spotify artist for consistent hit songs.

# **VARUN VASISHT**



# SP JAIN'S CONTENT CREATORS

By Sara Gazaro

## ARYANIZER - ARYAN PRADHAN

### What is your platform/ content about?

I make vlogs with the main objective to entertain people and make them laugh. I share the humorous events with my friends and also the food. The content does not have a specific narrative but rather a compilation of random clips. I don't want to restrict myself to an introduction, premise, conclusion but rather have a fast paced YouTube video.

### What inspired you to start your initiative?

I've been very curious about how videos are made and edited and it occurred to me, Why don't I try to make one myself. Even though at first it was curiosity but it was soon followed by the response of my first video. All my friends and almost every single person in college had seen the video. Several of my friends came up to me and said that they enjoyed the video. The fact that people enjoyed something I made and wanted to see more is what majorly impacted me the most and inspired me.

### Share something unique about the experience you've had while creating content and why you recommend or inspire others to do the same.

While making videos, I've learned a lot about editing them. I've made eight videos and constantly tried to enhance them. The best experience is the fun I have with my friends while making the videos. Even if nobody watched them I'd still make them because the entire process is so much fun and entertaining.

After finishing and uploading a video, the positive feedback you receive will feel immensely satisfying. The small sense of accomplishment will have a big impact on your life and inspire you for more.

As we dive in a pool of talented students, it is very difficult not to notice those who are adept in creating eye catching and entertaining content in various digital platforms. This hobby as much as it is fun it is also long and sometimes even tiring to edit and make sure the content to be uploaded is spot on. In this edition we acknowledge the hard work, the creativity, and the talent of our students who vlog, write, and create with deep rooted passion.





**What is your platform/ content about?**

We started this podcast called THE VOID, which talks about self-development and how people can recognize this with the help of being aware of their surroundings and by constantly questioning about what makes life special. Our ultimate goal is to make people happy by realizing their inner potential instead of relying on external sources to be happy.

**What inspired you to start your initiative?**

We try to be more updated with what is going on in this world and how we can incorporate current situations to our podcast that will leave a lasting impact on our audience. We were inspired to start our podcast because we felt that we had a lot of valuable content that we thought we must share with the world. Moreover, we wanted to personally get out of our comfort zones and wanted to try something new and enriching that would be a win-win situation for the audience and us.

**Share something unique about the experience you've had while creating content and why you recommend or inspire others to do the same.**

One of our unique experiences that we felt throughout our podcasting journey was that, we sometimes weren't even aware of how we had so much of content while speaking. In fact, we felt that the guests that were invited to our podcast also felt really positive about what we shared, and how we were able to resolve issues they were facing in an optimistic manner.



**BY HOLONG SIHOMBING AND SHUBHAM DUTTA**



# Reviews

The latest in-depth reviews from our expert writers, covering flights, hotels, lounges and more.



## HOTEL REVIEWS

### Taj Deccan, Hyderabad - Review

Primarily catering to the business market, the 30-year-old Taj Deccan is located in the famous Banjara Hills and has restaurants and malls in close proximity.



SAADAAN

30 MAR 2020 • 12 MIN READ



## FLIGHT REVIEWS

### Oman Air 787-9 business class - Review

Oman Air is known for offering reasonable fares for one-way tickets and I recently travelled with them in business class from Mumbai to London, via Muscat.



LUKE

26 MAR 2020 • 12 MIN READ



## FLIGHT REVIEWS

### Vistara A320 premium economy - Review

Vistara is the only Indian airline to offer premium economy, so I was keen to try this product - pitched as a significant upgrade from economy, for just a little extra.



SAADAAN

23 MAR 2020 • 7 MIN READ

## TAKE OFF WITH GURU - SAADAAN SHAIKH

### What is your platform/content about?

I started a travel blog with my friend Luke King, our goal is to help our readers travel better - for less. We focus on great deals on five-star hotels, as well as business class and first class flights. If you want to know how you can travel the world in luxury for not much more than the price of an economy ticket, you've got to visit our site. Our regular 'review' articles help our readers 'try before they buy', so they know whether an airline or a hotel is worthy of their hard-earned cash.

### What inspired you to start your initiative?

My passion for travelling and a huge gap in Indian market inspired me to work on this. Further motivating factor was that I got a downtime of around 5-6 months to build our platform, which would give us the much needed benefit in terms of gathering content on the website. Our potential competitors have already started seeing a fall in their revenues and I am glad that once we have gained some traffic on our website, we would have already been past what many are calling the worst phase of this generation (referring to the covid-19 situation).

### Share something unique about the experience you've had while creating content and why you recommend or inspire others to do the same.

It is an overall experience of creating something from scratch that is unique and beautiful itself. Be it having long discussions about the content calendar or going over and over through the different bids from logo designers to doing competitive analysis. I would also like to shed light on the exponential growth I have seen in myself from all the things I have learnt while creating and building something new. I can't wait for the lockdown to get over, so I can again carry out the hotel reviews and try some of the luxury flights we are writing about on a daily basis.





# ARTISTIC COMMUNICATION BREAK

Communication and expression are two of the most beautiful parts of life as not everyone does it the same way. Those lucky enough are able to express in such unique artistic manners that are kind-hearted and soul-touching. Within this edition we find BBA 2018 students Anushka Sharma and Daksh Monga. Take a sneak peek into their artistic free zone!



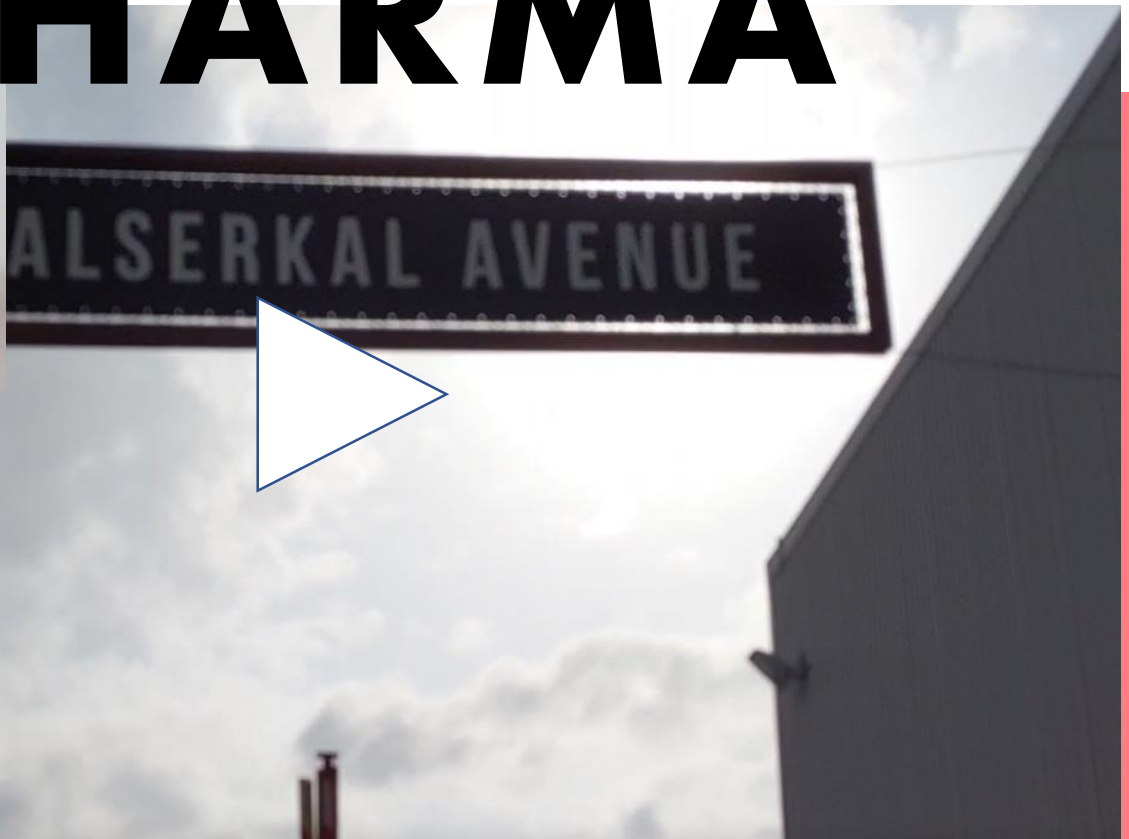


I am just an ambitious kid that loves to convey and pour my thoughts or hyperactive imagination into something creative by using music, visuals, photographs or just very philosophical lines sometimes do the job too.

While growing up, I faced a lot of difficulty communicating simply with others. Overtime I think somehow I adapted and became a person that loves to project what I experience while I pursue my dream of traveling and growing whilst still learning more and more about myself and people. I find inspiration and curiosity in languages, cultures, earth, and nature.



# ANUSHKA SHARMA





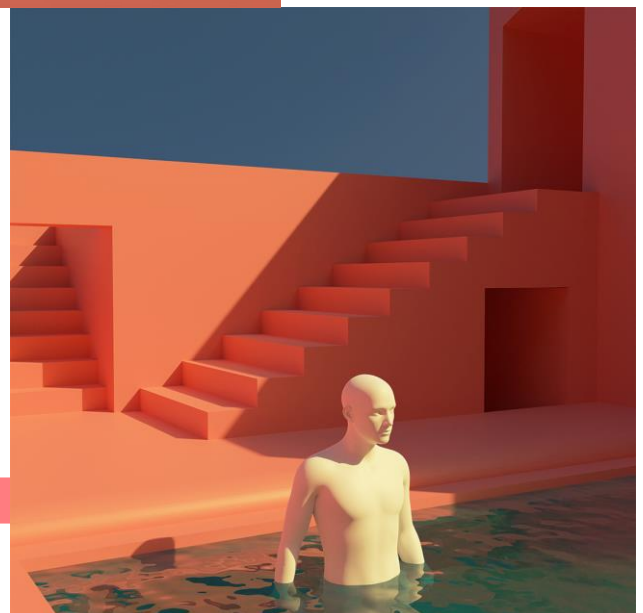
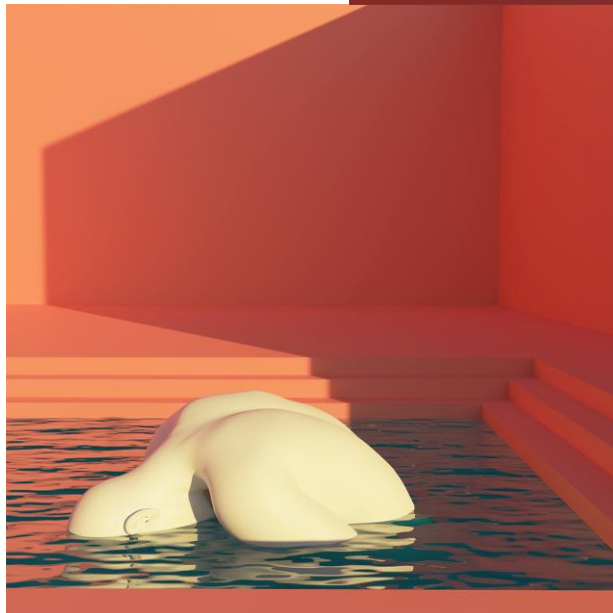
# DAKSH MONGA

Finding my own art style has been my dream ever since I first started drawing back in 10th grade. Uncertain of my own skills and techniques, I would follow artists and take inspiration from their work, hoping that one day I will stumble upon something that I can resonate with. Calling something my own became a fantasy. Keeping that in mind I taught myself how to use digital design software, and this gave me more flexibility as I wasn't restricted by my own shortcomings like being unable to draw a certain thing.


I soon realized that I need to stop searching for my 'own style', but rather focus on learning new software and techniques to hone my skills. Never have I been this satisfied with what I do, regardless of not having my own niche. Giving this a thought, I put all my attention and time to exploration, and that made me not only acquire new skills, but also helped me in finding new avenues to use my art in the business world.

Creating things has always been, and always will be my way to communicate my thoughts to the world. Understanding and learning new software to create art is something I am now very passionate about. Not in a million years had I thought I would be able to learn so much so fast, and I would like to tell all those people who are reading this, that it is very easy, as long as you keep aspiring. Trust yourself and the process.

Self-sufficiency is my driving force.







Which  
SPJ city  
do you  
belong to

FIND OUT NOW







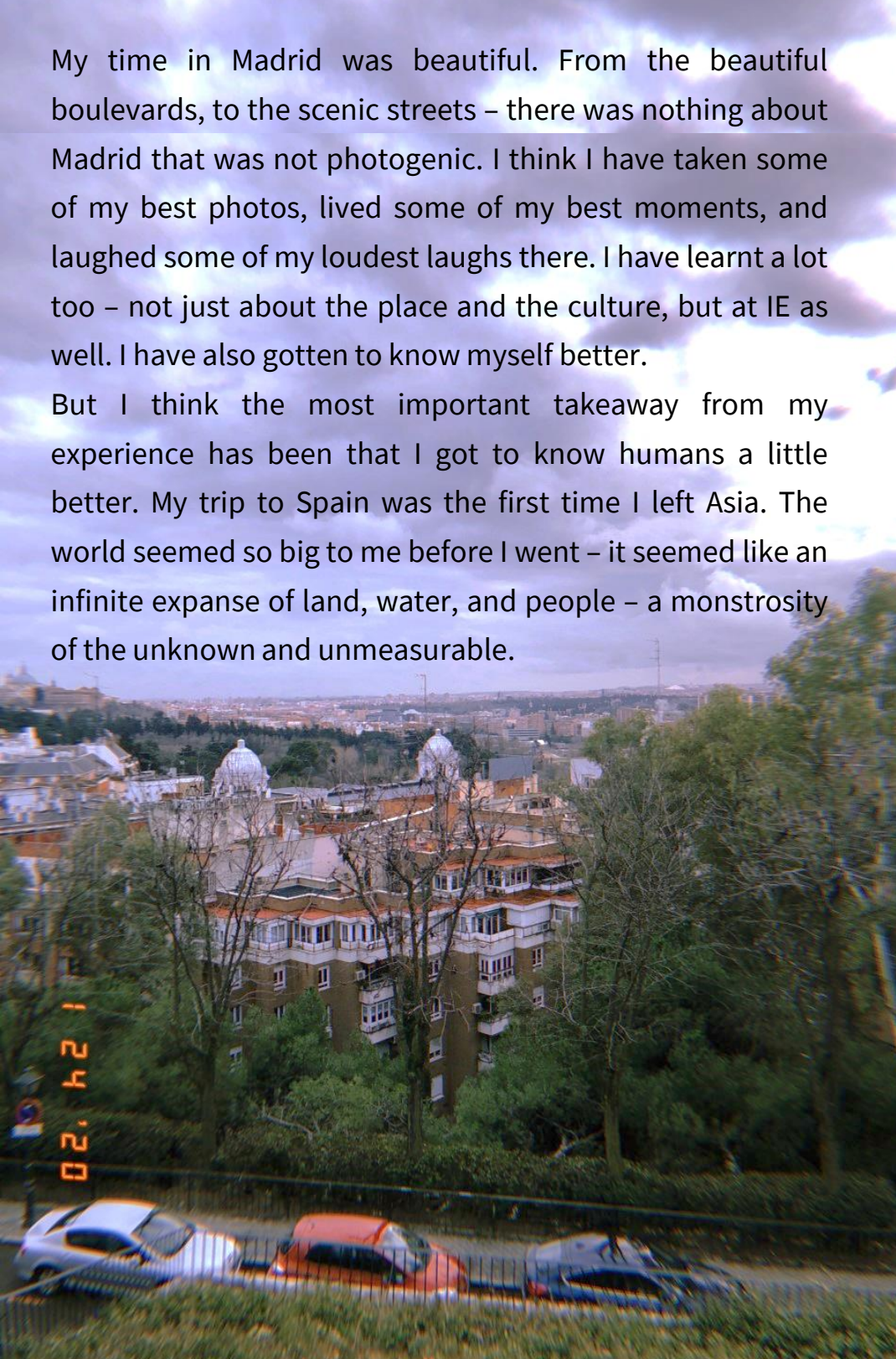
**EL MUNDO ES UN  
PAÑUELO – THE WORLD  
IS LIKE A  
HANDKERCHIEF**

By Pooja Agarwal



My time in Madrid was beautiful. From the beautiful boulevards, to the scenic streets – there was nothing about Madrid that was not photogenic. I think I have taken some of my best photos, lived some of my best moments, and laughed some of my loudest laughs there. I have learnt a lot too – not just about the place and the culture, but at IE as well. I have also gotten to know myself better.

But I think the most important takeaway from my experience has been that I got to know humans a little better. My trip to Spain was the first time I left Asia. The world seemed so big to me before I went – it seemed like an infinite expanse of land, water, and people – a monstrosity of the unknown and unmeasurable.



The world, obviously, is still that big; however, the enormity of everything that exists no longer fazes me. On the surface, we have little in common with people who have been brought up in a completely different environment, with starkly contrasting experiences, perspectives, and beliefs. However, the more time you spend with people who are different, the more you realize how alike everyone truly is, when it comes to things that matter.

Sometimes, we call it the unknown, or the unmeasurable, not because it cannot be quantified, but maybe because we would be doing it a disservice by compartmentalizing it. I think that's the case for humans – we harp on our differences, and label everything about ourselves that's not alike – probably because accepting that we have a lot in common with people we haven't met yet, and probably never will, is a little too overwhelming.

I talk so much about people, because it was the people in Madrid that made my time there what it truly was. I have the best memories with my host family, with friends I made during my exchange and with random locals I shared a song, a dance, or a smile with; never to meet again.

I think that's the most beautiful thing about going on exchange: you meet a set of people that you know you probably won't meet again – and that changes you in a lot of ways – it's easier to let your guard down, to shrug off your inhibitions, and to truly be yourself.

One of my fondest memories during my time there was when I finally got to meet a friend I made online for real (she's from Madrid itself) – we got in touch on a pen pal site and were friends for about seven months before we finally met. Talking to her over text seemed like a gateway to another world – until I was in the world – and it was magnificent; she showed me around, Retiro, the Plaza Mayor, the Schweppes building, and other things she'd talked about before we met. I had always known she was real, but somehow seeing all of that made the entire experience of knowing her more tangible, in a sort of sense.







Incredibly beautiful moments in life are finite. They are also fragile and fleeting. I think going to Madrid gave me a handful of these moments – moments where I understood the world a little more and realized the true magic of travel. Nothing is out of reach in the times we live in – like my host family said to me before I left:



El mundo es un pañuelo – The world is like a handkerchief; and the distance between where I am, and where I want to be; is one fold, one crease on the fabric – just like taking the singular step of going on exchange changed my world for good.



At S P Jain School of Global Management, we take extensive care to curate student experiences that allow our students to experience the city and grow as business leaders and socially responsible citizens.

In February 2020, we had groups of our Undergrad and Postgraduate students visit indoor adventure park, Jumble in Dubai, as part of their student life activity to practice and test various skills in groups as they solve different levels of urban maze challenges.



# Jumble Learning Teamwork

As an extension of their course learnings, our undergrads were able to work in their research groups to boost their social engagement and bonds, practice their communication and leadership skills. Along with that their critical thinking and response to a diverse set of situations that required them to act a team and use resources efficiently.

"it's in the name - Jumble. The whole experience made you rethink everything. Just when you thought you cracked it.



Another challenge would be thrown at you." said Keagan Kurien, BBA sophomore student.

For our Postgrads Jan 2020 cohort of Global MBA and Master of Global Business students who were in their Term 1 of their program – the added objective was to create a stronger environment of social engagement and destress from the first month of their rigorous study.

"Intellect & skill can only function at its peak when the body is healthy & strong to take any challenges...Jumble maze competition organized by SP Jain truly tested best in us to emerge victorious." Said Ashish Swarup, GMBA student.

To make things more competitive for our students, based on the speed and ability to complete rooms based on difficulty, the teams were awarded first, second and third places.



# ACROSS SANDS OF TIME

## Learning about the Culture of Camel Racing in Dubai

SP Jain Jaguars are headed to the race stands, but it's not fast cars or horses. It's camels! For most of the cohort – we had never seen camels let alone them racing!

Camel racing in the UAE is an essential element of the national culture that's loved by all Emiratis. A lucrative business that draws in spectators from around the country and the world.

Megna Kalvani, Senior Manager for Global Learning & Student Life in Dubai shares that these events are essential for our students to be exposed and attend for these are the events that are among the best opportunities in the country to experience an authentic Emirati tradition while mingling with locals, ex-pats and seeing it at an international platform.

The BBA 2017s attended Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Camel Race Festival in February in 2019 while the BBA 2018s attended the famous Al Marmoum Heritage Festival on 7th February 2020.

Typically, races start as early as 6:30am – 9:30am but knowing us, sleepy jaguars. We headed for the single series of the afternoon race at 2:30pm, where we were welcomed with absolute hospitality with Emirati food. We were then taken on a bus that ran adjacent to the race so we could have a closer view.



“I loved watching the races; it's always pleasant as you can see the excitement and passion of the people involved. Crowd engagement is awesome; we ourselves made internal guesses on our favourite camels to win the race. Many cheered for the camels that they supported while some spent trying to get a good picture with a camel in the background. The best part was when we were shuttled in buses moving adjacent to the tracks for close-up race experience. It was ecstatic!” said Borak Zahwa, student of Bachelors of Business Communication.





It was not just racing, but also the competition among the most beautiful camels, a camel pageant. Mahalia, Asayel, Muhajanat, and 'purebreds, 'interbred' or 'firstborns' - hang about the camel hippodromes or auctions for a while, and you'll hear these words thrown around in reference to the most coveted racers. These contests are taken very seriously as a single camel can fetch well over 1 million dirhams, the pageant alone presents 50 different competitive categories.

The Short History of Camel Racing Culture: To a Bedouin, a camel is more than a loyal pet. Over the centuries, tribes across Arabia owe a part of their survival to their herds of camels. Used for transportation, milk, meat, hides, or as high-value assets, camels have been involved in the everyday customs of desert dwellers. Camel races took place as part of weddings and other ceremonies. During the late 20th century, it grew as an organized sport in Africa, the Middle East, India, and Australia. We witnessed the technology boom in the Emirates and the neighbouring regions.



Camel racing became a priority soon after the nation's union and started to revive this part of Arab heritage.

Today, camel race is among the wealthiest races in the world, a leading hub for global camel racing events, regulations, and research. The sport has undergone a massive makeover in the past few decades - from presenting the winning jockey with a small gift (usual food) to winning luxury cars, prize money worth millions and more dirhams, and trophies.

### **DO YOU KNOW - Why are Camels called the 'Ship of the Desert'?**

There are two predominant theories as to why they are called the 'ship of the desert.' One theory suggests that it was because of the way they walked, swaying side to side like a ship on a tumultuous sea. According to the other, because of the incredible ability of these animals to traverse the desert with so much weight on their back.





# Camping Under the Stars



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***By Anushka Rakesh and Cherie Parakh***

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On 30th January 2020, the 2018 BBA batch was off for an overnight desert adventure to Mleiha Overnight Camping site in Sharjah, UAE. Little did they know that memories of a lifetime were about to nourish from this experience. For most of us this was our first up front encounter with the Arabian desert in its truest form: a wide deserted dune paradise with jaw-dropping sunsets and sunrises that peeked through the horizon. Our expectations over this special weekend were beyond fulfilled as S P Jain immersed into Bedouin traditions, Middle Eastern cuisine, and Arabian entertainment.



“

What makes  
the desert  
beautiful is  
that  
somewhere it  
hides a well.”

~ Antoine De Saint-  
Exupery

For most of us this was our first up - front encounter with the Arabian desert in its truest form: a wide deserted dune paradise with jaw-dropping sunsets and sunrises that peeked through the horizon. Our expectations over this special weekend were beyond fulfilled as S P Jain immersed into Bedouin traditions, Middle Eastern cuisine, and Arabian entertainment.

#### **The overview**

As most of the students would describe it, the weekend was divided into three parts: the playful afternoon in the sand, the star gazing night, and the sunrise dune dashing adventure. Early in the afternoon the camp welcomed S P Jain with a set of team building activities that got us all rolling in the sand and laughing our lungs out. It was followed by a serene evening with bonfires under the moo, and star gazing activities. Lastly Mleiha surprised us with its pride and joy; to witness the breath-taking sunrise over one of its highest peaks.

#### **Falconry - cultural immersion**

During our stay at the camp we were granted a Falcon show to depict its importance in the Emirates culture. The animals were used by Bedouin hunters that date back hundreds of years, making it one of the most

important animals in the country.

Falconry is a popular sport in the UAE, and enjoyed by all members of society. It consists of hunting big or small animals with the help of these agile animals. The popularity of falconry in the UAE has grown so strong over the years that the country has established two specialist hospitals to take care of these birds. In addition to having access to medical care, falcons are the only animals in the UAE that are legally allowed to travel inside planes – but only in business and first class, enjoying a level of luxury that most humans can only dream of.

At last, the weekend spent in the desert will surely harvest memories for a lifetime. But most importantly this was an experience that helped the cohort to understand and learn about the culture in the UAE. This activity became particularly memorable for it not only builds teamwork, leadership skills, sense of awareness and responsibility, an exposure to the desert life, but also gets us students out of our shells - creating stronger friendships as a cohort of future global leaders.



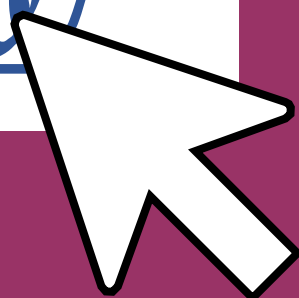






Which  
Middle-  
Eastern dish  
should you  
try next

**FIND OUT NOW**





# MAGNATE

On 14<sup>th</sup> April, we hosted our annual inter university business and cultural festival, '[MAGNATE' 2020](#). We hosted 5 competitions that saw over 10 universities compete and a cumulative of over 70 submissions.

'Magnate' is our annual Inter University Business & Cultural festival spearheaded by our Jaguars that invites UG & PG students from all UAE based universities. Since 2016, it is a tradition that has been passing from one batch to the other at the Dubai campus. Each year, layers of competitions customized to match the personality and competitive advantage of the batch. Our UG 2018s in Dubai were planning this year's edition of the marquee event when the pandemic hit us. "Instead of cancelling the event, as we had already put in months of work & overnight, our student committees, clubs & council restructured all events to go online. And so, our 4th edition became our 1st edition of an

[Online SP Jain Inter University Festival](#) bringing in series of competitions that included: Writing, Dance, Singing, Art, Photography, Business Pitch, and Sustainable Pitches.

Besides the rush of competition, the intent was to keep the momentum going among our UG & PG cohorts and engage positively with the university community," said Megna Kalvani, Senior Manager, Global Learning & Student Life at SP Jain Dubai campus.

"I would like to commend that our students rose to the challenge, exercising their social media marketing skills at its finest, going all out to promote the event using social platforms, creating partnerships with different stakeholders, identifying & liaising with judges, coordinating with student teams and individuals part of the contest, taking up roles like online hosts, moderators, program curators and best of all being able to participate themselves while being in quarantine in their own countries and between their e-classes/projects." She added.

The best part in collaborating with our partners: Not only did we learn from each other but selected winners and participants have been offered virtual internships with AIESEC UAE (online overseas volunteering based on SDGs), Trift (Travel & Lifestyle Blog based in Ireland)





"It's been hard continuing our regular programs even at our own campus so thank you for creating such events that allow us to return to a sense of normalcy in our existence, means a lot and really appreciate the SP Jain team for that!" said Hafsa Ahmed from New York University Abu Dhabi, first place winner of our Involve (CSR competition dedicated to SDG 3)

"I love that SP Jain continues to keep our youth engaged during this pandemic and opportunities like this one allows them to grow and learn from each other. I wasn't sure if an online competition would do justice but everything was well organized, all in real-time from scoring to interactive engagement and all together seamless," said Rekha Setpal, in5 director (judge of Jaguar Think Tank – entrepreneurial competition).

"Thank you for inviting me to be the judge in the event "Involve"

it was great experience to witness the way SP Jain was able to attract brilliant students with impactful ideas to join the competition and pitch. This event creates a great social impact on a different

level," said Shaima AlQassab, CEO of AIESEC UAE (AIESEC – world's largest youth organization).

**RENTWAY**

-Peer to Peer Marketplace for Rentals



-Reham Salman

Middlesex University Dubai

**AIESEC**

**MAGNATE**

ONLINE BUSINESS & CULTURAL FESTIVAL

**GREENSPACE**

Team leader: Tanishqa



**2ND PLACE**

**Thank  
you to our  
Judges**

### Jaguar Think Tank includes Startup

**Mentors:** Rekha Setpal (Head of in5), TP Anand (Chief Strategist at Leap Tech), Ketaki Sharma (CEO, Algorithm Research)

**Write Away:** Purva Grover (Editor of Young Times/Khaleej Times) and our Alumna Menaka Ramakrishnan (from BBA 2010) who is now a published writer

**Pop Twist (Art competition):** Zahra Goulamhousen (Founder of [Zed.link](#) – local artist) and Alumna [Suraj Thite](#) (from GMBA May 17 batch) works at WIPRO but a great artist!

**Trift Photography:** [Founders of Trift](#), conscious travel/tourism startup launched at Intelak in 2018

**Involve - CSR competition:** Shaima Al Qassab, CEO of [AIESEC UAE](#) (World's Largest youth organization), Simarna Singh (Youngest Sustainability Hospitality Consultant & SDG Youth Advocate, our very own Dr. Monica Gallant

### About Founders



Tanishqa Akar  
SP Jain Global Management  
School



Smeet Patel  
SP Jain Global Management  
School  
Mumbai, India



Winning Teams		
Competition: Jaguar Think Tank		
First Place	Second Place	Third Place
<b>Ioletic – Sarthak Sethi</b> <b>BITS Pilani Dubai</b>	Green Space – Tanisqa, Chimany, Abhimanyu SP Jain School of Global Management Dubai	GreenVenn - Aadil Khan, Aisshni Chaterjii, Sneha V, Simran S BITS Pilani Dubai
Competition: Write Away		
First Place	Second Place	Third Place
<b>Krishea Aswani</b> <b>American University of</b> <b>Sharjah</b>	Patricia Anne Calma SP Jain School of Global Management Dubai	S Karlyn Birla Institute of Technology and Sciences
Competition: Pop Twist – Art		
First Pace	Second Place	Third Place
<b>Winona Ortega, SP Jain</b> <b>School of Global</b> <b>Management Sydney</b>	Aishwarya Naidu IMT University Dubai	Brandon Chiong SP Jain School of Global Management Dubai
Competition: Involve CSR Competition		
First Place	Second Place	Third Place
<b>HealthMinds:</b> <b>Hafsa Ahmed &amp; Team</b> <b>New York University Abu</b> <b>Dhabi</b>	Green Space – Tanisqa, Chimany, Abhimanyu SP Jain School of Global Management Dubai	Sarthak Sethi BITS Pilani Dubai
Competition: Trift – Photography Competition		
First Place	Second Place	Third Place
<b>Ja Ba Dam Nay</b> <b>With the photo ‘The</b> <b>Silken Tofu Lady’</b>	Manthan Shah ‘Moksha’	Thomas George ‘A bit of everywhere’



# How to overcome a quarantined mind?

Being quarantined, felt like an easy thing to do in the beginning until it started affecting my mental health. Humans are social creatures and without the hustle and bustle of life that we are typically used to– it can slowly get to you. As students who are away from our homes, lethargy, boredom and the feeling of being lonely can easily kick in. So, it's important to find ways to stay mentally and physically healthy during the whole period of quarantine.

## Ask yourself, what are the things you love to do?

By asking yourself, what are the things are you love to do – you can embed them into your routine. Among the many things that helped me, the most effective ones were working out, watching Netflix and cooking. Each had their own way of making me feel calm and composed.

### Getting Active

I had been extremely physically active in my school days. Sports was a passion and I spent hours every day practicing. As years passed, and I shifted abroad for my studies, I lost the habit of playing. This quarantine made me realize that I had no excuse to be lazy anymore. It gave me the motivation to start being physically active.

Working out daily makes my body feel alive and energetic and therefore my day doesn't pass in bed feeling tired and bored. Going out in the balcony also gives me that fresh air to defeat the feeling of being cooped up in a house.

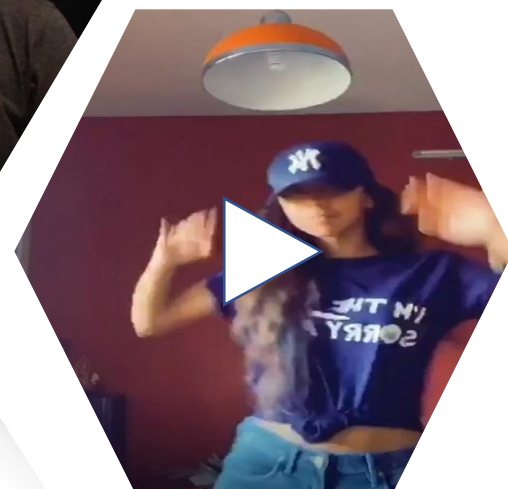
### Learning by doing

I am a foodie by nature and not being able to go out and try new cuisines and dishes was a big setback for me.

This is why I resorted to cooking and surprisingly it became the most fun part of my day during the quarantine. Learning a new skill was exciting and finally the end result gave me a feeling of accomplishment which was just the motivation I needed to keep cooking. I try new recipes everyday and eating good food makes me content.

### Find your Entertainment Factor

The third thing that helped me pass time easily during this quarantine was entertainment.



As we are exposed to a lot of content on the internet, watching a TV show or a documentary not only distracted me from the negativity but also made me more curious and intrigued. Gaining knowledge about different things, watching powerful content on Netflix is an interesting end of my

day. A good blend of these three activities has kept my mind sane, calm and relatively happy.

They have become an essential part of my day and I am glad I am being able to use this time to learn a new skill and be healthy, physically and mentally.

## 4 Ways to Stay Physically and Mentally Healthy during the lockdown

By Utkarsh Sanghvi



There I was, standing in our shared room looking at Yashu sitting on the bed and laughing at something Vanshika had just said. I didn't know what they were talking about, but just looking at them laugh, made me feel complete. They are like my lifelines. I wouldn't have survived the two years of college if it weren't for them. Suddenly the walls of the room started to crumble down, Yashu and Vanshika also started to fade away, and the room started spinning. I didn't understand what was happening and I felt panic and dread filling up my heart as I felt as if I was being choked. Then my eyes shut open and I took a deep breath. My dream had taken me back to our dorm room. I miss them so much; it's like a part of my heart is missing. This pandemic hit us hard. All our plans shattered just like our hearts.

Yashu, Vanshika and I had first met on the 28th of August 2018, in Singapore, for our first year of college.

The moment I set foot in the campus my mind was riddled with doubts; will I make friends? I won't be a loner, right? Will I get along with my roommates? and I didn't know how to answer any of these questions. But, God gave me these two as my roommates as my support through college. The first year of college was a bliss. And we had to leave each other with promises for the next year. Even though it was not a goodbye but a see you later, it was difficult to stop our tears.

The second year in Dubai was supposed to be tough academically, but not due to a pandemic. Coronavirus took our plans away. We had realized that we only had a year left together.

Due to the different courses, we would be separated. They were staying back but I had to go to Sydney. So, we decided to make the full out of this year. First four months went by in a blink. The next thing we know, only a few months were left for the studies to end. We made plans of staying back in Dubai for do our internships afterwards. All we wanted was a little more time together.

We wanted a proper goodbye. But, little did we know that our goodbyes were never to come. We had come back home for just a seven-day vacation,



# A “See You Later”

# Moment

By Divyanshi Pathak

not for six months and a lifetime of video calls. We didn't want online classes or E farewell; we wanted a chance to be together and hug our sorrows away before going our different ways, but we never got closure.

Yes, I know that college is supposed to be hard. But that to me always meant academically. But in reality what made it hard was parting ways with my friends. And I was not prepared for it. College gave me a new family. And the pandemic separated us untimely.

As angry as I am about it, I am also grateful for it. This lockdown prepared me to stay away from them. It would have been unbearable to say goodbye, so it saved me from a lot of pain. Maybe even saved me from months of heartbreak.

It helped me grow and realise that it was never going to be a goodbye. We will be connected, and they'll just be a call away. They'll be with me throughout. I can always count on them.

We are not saying goodbye. We are just growing to be a person we can be proud of. Carrying on with our lives with a hope in our heart that one day we'll hug each other again.

Until that day comes,  
See you later.



# HAPPINESS STORIES

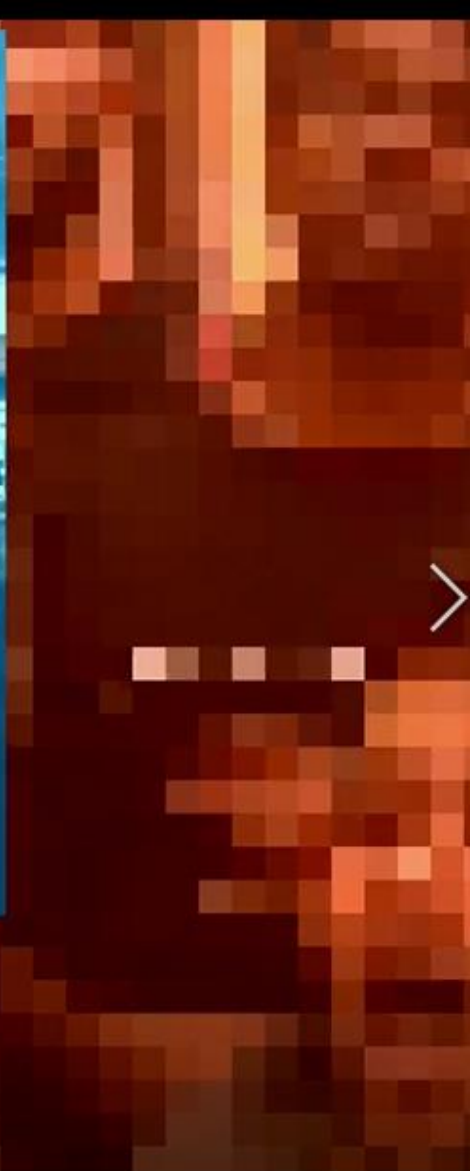
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Our students have immense talent and some of this was reflected by the stories in the Magnate competition “Write Away”. These beautiful tales reflect how the idea of happiness for everyone is so similar yet completely different.

Here is Valour we would like to give you chance to read these pieces of delicately woven words and feel happiness through someone else’s eyes. Please click on the links below.

- ◉ [\*\*Finding Happiness in Solitude by Brandon Chiong\*\*](#)
- ◉ [\*\*Happiness by Darya Koroviy\*\*](#)
- ◉ [\*\*The Pursuit of Happiness in a Time of a Pandemic  
by Vuong Luan Nguyen\*\*](#)
- ◉ [\*\*Happiness-A Story by Manthan Shah\*\*](#)
- ◉ [\*\*It’s in the Details, Really\*\*](#)
- ◉ [\*\*Why am I happy? by Vritti Bhambhvani\*\*](#)
- ◉ [\*\*Words of a happy soul spreading happiness to  
other souls by Wassim Nunhuck\*\*](#)





# MEMORIES





















