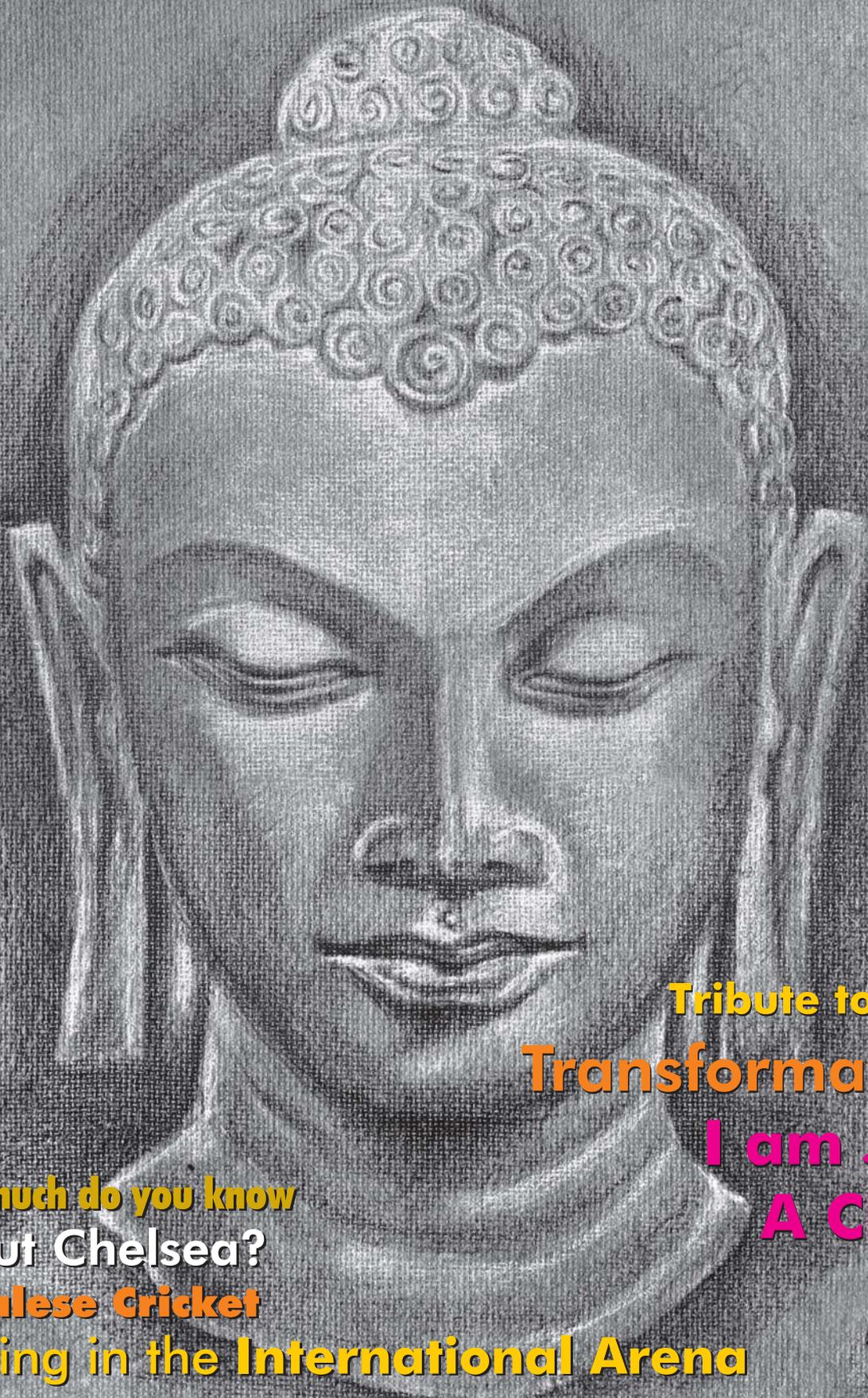


# CHELSEA WAVELENGTH

May - August, 2010

Volume 1 Issue 2



**How much do you know  
About Chelsea?**

**Nepalese Cricket**

**Shining in the International Arena**

**Tribute to GPK  
Transformation  
I am Just  
A Child**

*Sarvani Ghosh  
20*

# Message from the Principal/ Founder Director



## *Best Wishes*

To be educated is to be aware. Aware of oneself, one's realizations, and one's potential. Such awareness is only possible if we are informed of our environment, of how we are embedded in our social context. This aware person will manifest into a balanced human being, who is courageous and committed in spirit, curious and critical in thought and creative and caring in action. This represents the goal of good education.

What happens in our classroom today will happen in a larger society tomorrow. So far as I am concerned, Chelsea International Academy has been able to cater the need of global system of education in local context. We are trying to discourage rote based learning. We believe that there should be sufficient space for interpretation and analysis in teaching and learning. Effort has been made to focus on understanding rather than memorizing. We understand that the relation of learning to real life is quite important, instead of learning taking place in watertight compartments. Learning should be based on real knowledge. We are trying to avoid mechanical learning. A shift from facts to skill is a must in today's world. Truly understanding the concept should be encouraged. Language should be learnt more as something integral and useful and less as a subject for a test. The whole learning must be much more interactive, collaborative and experiential.

I would like to thank and congratulate the editorial team of the Chelsea Wavelength for the second issue and wish them all the best for the future.

*Sudhir Kumar Jha*

## From the Editor

### Adios Amigos!

The demise of the former PM of Nepal, Girija Prasad Koirala, has led Nepali politics into uncertainties. Our country has lost a great leader. The effect of this loss can be felt all around the country, the education sector not being an exception. However, amidst all these uncertainties, young minds always level to follow the path of their development. In this evolving process, when young people are in a way, to explore their potentialities, even a slight initiative by the people around them, provides a platform for making them perfect.

If I were to say that the issues of Wavelength have been providing a base for the students to shape up their minds,

I would not be wrong. In this competitive era, putting forward one's interpretation regarding books, movies and analyzing current issues, helps to boost one's self esteem and develop confidence.

This probably, being the last edition in which I am working, I must say that throughout my work tenure, I learned a lot from my fellow members and my mistakes. Handing over my responsibilities to the next batch, I am certain that they will carry it with full dedication and determination. Lastly, I would like to thank my entire team for coordinating with me and working whole heartedly in making this issue a huge success.

*Nilisha Pokhrel, Level A2*

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Mrs. Geeta Sapkota, Nilisha Pokhrel, Abhinav Khanal, Ananya Shrestha, Prayash Raj Koirala, Prapti Gurung, Bandana Shah, Anupam Siwakoti, Nishant Sapkota, Mukesh Ghimire, Ghanashyam Neupane, Nirmal Aryal, Tanuja Luitel (7-A), Utkarsha Gautam (7-B), Upama Upreti (7-C), Monila Shrestha (6-A), Nisha Shah (8), Barun Pandey (7-A), Gaurav Jung Khatri (8), Aashish Guragain (8), Kshitiz Ghimire (6-C), Sanskrit Thapa (7-B)

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# RECOLLECTIONS

**Entrepreneurs' Club** was formed at Chelsea. In its first week in operation, a documentary screening was held on "Animals are beautiful people" in association with Samridhi - The Prosperity Foundation. About 40 students enjoyed the show which was based on wild life habitat of different climatic regions of the world. Excited with the huge success of this event, Sangam Dahal, the executive member of the club said "We will be organizing similar events in the near future".

## 35<sup>th</sup> Ratna Shield

Two quiz teams from Chelsea had participated in the 35<sup>th</sup> Ratna Shield Inter College Quiz Contest 2010 organized by Godavari Alumni Association (GAA). Team B consisting of Dixit Bhatta, Roman Bhattarai, Ujjwal Poudel and Prabesh Acharya secured the first position while Team A consisting of Ghanashyam Neupane, Anupam Siwakoti, Tika Ratna Malla and Manish Mishra secured the third position. Congratulations for the achievement.

## Dance Competition

An Inter College Dance Competition was organised by Cambridge Educators Association in Nepal (CEAN) where our college bagged the second position in solo and doubles, whereas the group won the third position. The solo dancer was Alison Lama and the duet included Bishnu Saru and Siddharth Dhakal Hamal. Congratulations!

## Chelsea Day 2010

was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010 amid many students, teachers, parents and other special guests. Both the days were filled with great entertainment and joy. Besides the stage show, exhibitions on various subjects were exhibited. On the same occasion, the first issue of Chelsea newsletter "**Chelsea Wavelength**" was released.

## Miss Teen 2009

Rakshya Sherchan and Sabina Pokhrel participated in Miss Teen 2009. Sabina won the 'Miss Photogenic' award. Congratulations!

## Intra - College Table Tennis

Intra - College Table Tennis competition was organised by Chelsea Youth Red Cross Circle (YRC). The aim of the tourney was to raise awareness on the necessity to have proper physical and mental fitness. It was a very successful competition, with Mayur Thapa winning the boys' single, Rakshya Sherchan winning the girls'

single, Prabesh Acharya and Ujjwal Shrestha winning in boys' doubles and Mayur Thapa and Rakshya Sherchan winning in the mixed doubles. The president of YRC, Aayush Shrestha said, "It was a great success and we are thankful to the participants and volunteers for great support."

## Chelsea Art Competition

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Junior Chelsea Art Competition was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2010. The competition was participated

by children of age group of 3-6 years. Participants included children from 57 schools from all around Kathmandu.

## Congratulations to the Subject Toppers! (Second Internal Examinations)

Sr. No.	Subject	Name of the Student
1.	Physics	Nirmal Aryal
2.	Biology	Tika Ratna Malla
3.	Chemistry	Utkrist Adhikari
4.	Mathematics	Mukesh Ghimire
5.	Economics	Brishti Kayastha
6.	Accounts	Ujjwal Poudel
7.	Business Studies	Brishti Kayastha
8.	Computing	Utkrist Adhikari
9.	Sociology	Priya Nakarmi
10.	Psychology	Sadikchya Khanal
11.	Literature in English	Ananya Shrestha
12.	Art and Design	Prapti Gurung
13.	Environment Studies	Elisha Rai
14.	General Paper	Abhirash Bhandari

## Rotaract Quiz

Chelsea's Team A consisting of Ujjwal Poudel and Ghanashyam Neupane won the fifth Inter College Rotaract Running Shield Quiz Competition 2010 while Team B consisting of Roman Bhattarai and Tika Ratna Malla stood third in the competition. Congrats!

## VOW Top 10 College Women Competition

Tika Ratna Malla, an AS Level student was awarded "The Most Outstanding Student" in "VOW Top 10 College Women Competition 2010", which was held in Hotel Radisson on April 18, 2010. Congratulations, Tika!

## Lab/ Library Reconstructed

College Library was reconstructed at the building which was previously the boys' hostel. Students expect it to provide a wide variety of books. Similarly, new science laboratories are being constructed.

## Intra-College Basketball

competition was organised by Sports Club. Manish's team won in the boys' category while Sonam's team won in the girls' category. Congratulations!

## Scholarship Received

Abhinav Khanal, an AS Level student, received a placement at United World College of the USA with 50 percent scholarship. Congratulations, Abhinav!

# Tribute to GPK

Ghanashyam Neupane, AS Level

The skyrocketing hardship in Nepali Politics will probably become more complex after the demise of a great leader, Girija Prasad Koirala (1925 – 2010). The country and the international community was shocked and grieved to hear about his demise. The nation has lost a great warrior who fought for freedom and democracy till his last breath. He dedicated his whole life for the betterment of our nation and improvising democracy in Nepal. Infact, he was the iron man, who never created difference between his speech and deeds. Whenever there were conflicts in Nepali politics, he was the one to open the way of consensus and gave our country the right path. He led our nation most of the times in difficult situations. He was dedicated, bold, adventurous and fearless.



**"I have a habit of only looking ahead, not behind."**

Girija Babu holds a significant importance in Nepalese history. He was a part of all the big changes in Nepal for seven decades. His political life started with *Mazdoor Andolan* (Labour Movement) from where he started fighting for freedom. He never turned back in his long political career. He often said: "I have a habit of only looking ahead, not behind." He led a historic transformation in Nepal with

the success of Peoples' Movement II (2063/64 BS) which overthrew the 240 years long autocratic monarchy of Nepal. In addition, he was also the person who ended the 12 year long civil war in Nepal. He uplifted the armed Maoist to the mainstream of Nepali Politics. He was the leading man in the peace process of Nepal. He was the guardian of our nation.

Despite his critical health in the later part of his life, his commitment, dedication and will power always kept him in the peak of Nepalese politics. He always worked relentlessly in maintaining good diplomatic relations of Nepal with other countries. He became the Prime Minister for five times and that proves his status. During his tenure, he made adorable reforms to modernize Nepal. He was the first Head of State of Nepal after monarchy hit the hay. He led our nation through some of its toughest times.

He is a great inspiration to all of us and will always remain in our hearts. His contributions will be remembered in Nepal's history.

REST IN PEACE GIRIJA BABU.

## VOX POP

### What is the best thing about Chelsea for YOU?

"The canteen with the cottage style is the best place to hangout for hours with friends. That's why the canteen is the best thing about Chelsea for me!"

– Sharad Katwal, AS Level

The magic show, "Spread a Smile" which was organized by the Social Service Club was the best moment, here at Chelsea.

– Srijan Banjara, AS Level

"The overall facilities provided to the students and the homely environment is totally awesome. Compared to other colleges in Nepal, this is the most facilitated one."

– Parbat Lawati, AS Level

"The coordination and support of the teachers for the students while organizing various events is the best part about Chelsea for me."

– Sonam Bhandari, AS Level

"Chelsea has been achieving huge success in both academic and extra-curricular activities. That has been the best part about Chelsea"

– Sandhya Rayamahi, AS Level

"Though they provide water surplus food, our canteen has a good service!"

- Brishti Kayastha, AS Level

"Chelsea invests a lot for the students and is capable of making students stand on their own."

– Ujjwal Poudel, AS Level

"I like the class room environment. We have interactive classes and we learn with a lot of fun."

– Suprim Shrestha, AS Level

"The environment and its vibe is really great and friendly"

– Prayash Pradhan, AS Level

# I'M ONLY A CHILD

## - A TEENAGER SPEAKS

*Aashish Panta, AS Level*

**Before we start making the youth a scapegoat for everything immoral going around, let us look at ourselves and ask whether we are giving teenagers enough liberty to do what they actually want to. Are we giving them enough freedom to discover themselves or are we just burdening them with selfish ambition? Here is a story of one of those nameless teenagers who is a victim of parental pressure.**

He is standing on the terrace of his apartment overlooking the glittering avenues of Kathmandu. He tries to analyze the problem in his mind. He concludes that it is wrong. At the same time he fails to convince himself that the blame lies within him. He enters into a state of moral dilemma and turbulent thoughts cripple his mental balance. He looks down the building... The temptation is irresistible but he asks himself, "Is this the right thing to do?"

When he was born, he was completely devoid of knowledge or understanding. From the day he stepped into this world, he has done whatever his parents and his surroundings have taught him. Yet, when he, as a teenager, steps out of his house, he is held responsible for disregarding culture and tradition.

He was not born with thoughts of fashion and junk food embedded in his mind; he only came to know about them when he was exposed to the world. If today he speaks English and Hindi, it is because he was always taught these languages. If today he respects guests and elders, it is only because his parents taught him these virtues. Similarly if today he is westernized, he can only hold his parents responsible.

When he tried to be honest to himself, he was stopped and subtly impelled to become a hypocrite. Looking at his parents infused him with a sense of fashion; his fantasies now included a Calvin Klein perfume and a pair of Armani shades rather than fairy tales like Cinderella and Pinocchio. Whenever he went out with his parents, he heard his mother boasting of her new accessories to her friends and the places she sent him to so that he could become smarter than any other kid in her circle of friends.

He grew up and entered his teens but parental expectations went beyond his control. His parents had

decided his future without even asking him. He loved journalism and tennis but his parents wanted him to be a doctor. He was only in class 10 when he found himself going to eight different tuitions. He was sent to computer and salsa dancing classes, perhaps because his mother needed something to boast about at her parties. On the other hand whenever he expressed a desire to try journalism and tennis, the thought was treated with contempt.

However, one day, in the middle of a shopping spree, he came across a book called 'Who Will Cry When You Die?' and somehow was drawn to read it. After reading the book, his life changed forever. He finally understood the futility of fashion and realized the hypocrisy involved in his life. He thinks about it all the time, thinks about it and nothing else. Deep contemplation about his life distracts him from his studies and one evening he returns home with marks lower than his mother's so called best friend's son. His mother is furious but he avoids her and goes to the terrace. He walks up to the edge of the terrace and pauses to think. He has overcome the dilemma and the turbulent thoughts are now at rest. He understands the stupefying gulf between his parents' ideals and self contentment. He knows that he will not be able to achieve it in this life. He answers the question he had earlier asked, "Yes, it is..."

After some time, down on the street, people gather around a body, body of a teenager who jumped off a building.

This is what happens, my friends. Let me tell you that this is not an individual case. It epitomizes the condition of the youth today. Please let us be ourselves and allow us to be simple. Please keep us away from the ugly world of fashion and pubs. Please don't put us at the convergence of the blame game everytime. Please give us a chance!

To,  
Elizabeth Hazarika,  
New Settlement Area,  
Digboi, Assam  
India

There were times when I loved you the most. Then you told me that you wanted to separate from me. I agreed, as nothing was, and still isn't, more important to me than your happiness. I made the sacrifice of my love as you wanted it. Thereafter, you demanded me to help you fix your relationship with your boyfriend. I did it as well. I never told you how much he abused me when I spoke to him regarding your misunderstandings. Then again, when your almost dead love revived, you told me to help you break up with the guy. I helped you out in that as well. When you asked me to help you deepen your relationship with my best friend Palash, didn't I do that? It's because I never demanded anything out of my love for you. But now you want me to attend your marriage ceremony with Palash! How can I do that? I can't see my love being someone else's forever. Instead, I will be praying for you that whole day at a church, yeah.....the same church where we used to hang out together, for hours.

Do you remember those days that we spent in each other's thoughts? You used to tell me to gaze at the moon whenever your thoughts lingered over my mind and every morning I told you of having stared at the moon the whole night, through the window beside my bed. But I want to apologize today for having lied to you. The moon isn't visible from my bedroom window. I'm sorry for all those lies that I told you regarding my dad's wealth. He isn't actually a millionaire but a simple private lawyer earning in thousands every month. We do not have a big bungalow or well furnished rooms. It was all a lie. I'm sorry!

I do remember the day you were under your umbrella, protecting yourself from the monsoon rain. Your blue attire matching with the color of the umbrella, for blue is your favorite color. You never looked that pretty before and even never thereafter. That strand of your hair which lay upon your left cheek still appears to me in my dreams. Those letters that you wrote with writings so fine, still manage to find a place in my study's drawer. Oh those days! They seem to be just like yesterday....don't they? Don't you remember them anymore, or is it that you don't want to recall any of them?

I always believed that it is the greatest feeling to be in love. I lived to love you and wanted to live with you, forever. I had never cared about our religions being different, but you did, didn't you? Maybe that was the reason you chose to marry someone belonging to your own religion. But all these facts do not provide me with enough bases to not love you anymore. Besides the fact that I still love you, I also want you to know that I shall always be there in search of happiness for you. I had heard people saying that true love somehow craves its way out towards its destination. They were wrong.....or maybe our destination was to get separated. Or is it that ours wasn't a true love?

I believed that love is a divine feeling that, once felt, gives immense pleasure and enables a person to love anyone and everyone around. But why do I, then feel that the way I love you, I won't be able to love anyone anymore? I think I'm completely lost within my own thoughts emerging out from which seems to be more than impossible. After all, as it is rightly said, ....a man's own thoughts are to him the greatest source of annoyance and irritation..... can you help me out? But you can't do anything either..

I think I should be forgetting you now and all these memoirs of yours, for they are nothing more than a burden upon me. Even the tears have left my side now. I can't love anyone else, for my first and last love is you. Nevertheless, it's a fact that you are getting married to someone else, which I cannot falsify. But I want to know for the sake of my love, for the last time, did you never ever have any feelings for me in your heart? Did you never love me? Isn't there any way left for me to re-enter into your life? I feel that I know the answers, but still I could not stop asking you. But don't you worry, for I promise not to interfere in your life ever after, because you are my first and last love.

Yours Forever,

Sudan Bohara

## A LETTER TO MY *BELLOVED!*

Shivashish Jaisy, AS Level

After concluding the letter, the pen falls off his fingers, leaving them senseless. His eyes remained opened. He had awoken into a life after death. He could now see a lifeless body, within which he had dwelled for the last twenty-one years. A peaceful smile lit up his divine lips. He thought "how silly was I to die for a girl who never cared for me. Rather than choosing death, I could have lived to come up to the expectations of my parents."

He looked at the bottle of poison beside his left hand and

continued thinking, "Why do men create things that can kill themselves? Man is such a fool that he tends to cut the branch of a tree in which he himself is seated, knowing the fact that he would fall, but unknown of the pain after falling. For those who have lost someone very close to them I think, the one who was the closest to them is somehow still there.....within them".

Then he looked at the letter and continued smiling. All of a sudden he dissolved into the atmosphere, only to return never again.

# Beauty

*Siddhartha Dhakal Hamal, AS Level*

Problems, difficulties and sorrows everywhere  
Conflicts, misconcepts and misunderstandings everywhere  
Hurry, worry and sorry had grabbed me  
Rivalry, hostility and disputes had destroyed me.

I was fed up with all these evil deeds  
Flaws, mistakes that I had committed  
I was anxious and had grave consequence  
I was totally lost in the world of uncertainty.

Full of tensions in mind, I was sitting in a garden  
Just trying to root out the cause of my problem  
Abruptly, I happened to concentrate on a blooming rose  
That gave me a lesson of life which changed my pace.

The charm of flowers, the freshness of wind  
The greenery of grasses, the purity of leaves  
I realized the importance of beauty  
The beauty of attraction, the beauty of sight  
The beauty of nature, the beauty of life.



# Dashain Vacation

*Suwekchhya Kunwar, 6 A*

Winter, autumn, summer we pack  
Many seasons after dashain is back  
No rain, no dirt even there is no sun  
Kites and swing risen up to give us fun.

New clothes, new shoes make children happy  
They are set free and get bit naughty  
Father, mother let's visit the village  
Grandpa and ma are alone in old age.

Tika- Jamara they put on my head  
Grandma told me always to lead  
Live a long life with happy and joy  
Goddess Durga comes home to fly.

Fruits and meat make stomach pack  
Dashain is finished; let's go back  
My school is about to start  
Friends and teachers are happy from heart.

## Go Away

*Bandana Shah, AS Level*

Do me a favour;  
Go away!  
Because all you can do is  
hurt me.  
Go away!  
I've cried enough for you  
Hurt myself enough for  
you  
I tried to bring you back  
Now I know what I lack  
It was wrong for me to see  
The dream of you and me  
Because it was never  
meant to be  
I gave you all my trust  
But you made me wait till  
I rust  
Away from my heart  
Away from my dreams  
Haunt me no more  
For now I had enough  
I have no hopes  
Tired of your 'nopes'  
Take with you  
All your memories  
I don't want them  
anymore  
I don't want you anymore  
Go away!

## I have decided

*Shreyash Pradhan, Class: 6A*

**I have decided  
To do something  
My plan may be grand  
Or just can barely stand  
I may help the planet  
Or just one person on it  
I may be a success  
Or learn from my mess  
But I have decided  
To do something.**

**I have decided  
To do something  
I may run with the  
breeze  
Or crawl on my knees  
I may be applauded  
Or go unrewarded  
I'll do all that it takes  
And I'll make mistakes  
But I have decided  
To do something.**

## Illusion

*Jenish Pakwan, AS Level*

Noises of lashing feet  
Step by step enclosing  
A staircase in between  
That separate worlds apart.

The echoes of my heart  
Collide within to amplify  
As I look up  
Where the angel lurks.

Curls of perfect hair  
Lips of fragrant roses  
And cheeks of blossomed cherry  
Nurture her sublime features.

Those radiating shoulders of hers  
Warms my body and soul  
While her starry eyes  
Guide me towards her.

Unaware of its master  
My limbs glide forth  
The heavens brighten  
Blinding my dreamy eyes.

Alas, my dear friend  
The curtains pushed aside  
My sleepy eyes awaken  
To greet the harsh morning light.

## SAVE The World

*Suman Nepali, A2 Level*

You know my friends; this  
world is our dwelling  
And we all are the limb of this  
dwelling  
So don't think you are alone,  
here  
And it's not possible to live  
alone here.

So when you make any  
decision, don't think  
Only about you and your kith  
and kin  
Since you are not alone here  
So think about everything.

We are the people who have to  
save this world  
But it is not possible by  
individual  
So we need to work hand in  
hand to save it  
So please make an iron will to  
save the world.

I am sure we will be able to  
maintain  
Hodge-podge form of the world  
But it depends on your labour  
So please save the world.

## How much do you know

# About Chelsea?

- 1 **When was Chelsea International Academy actually established?**
  - a) 1999
  - b) 2000
  - c) 2003
  - d) 2005
- 2 **Who won the college section's Best Teacher award in 2009?**
  - a) Suresh Lohani
  - b) Tripti Thapa
  - b) Upendra Chand
  - d) Meghali Daniel
- 3 **How many buildings does Chelsea own as an institution?**
  - a) 16
  - b) 19
  - c) 13
  - d) 21
- 4 **How many students were admitted in Chelsea in the AS batch of 2010?**
  - a) 150
  - b) 180
  - c) 230
  - d) 190
- 5 **How many steps are there in the college section's reconstructed slope?**
  - a) 22
  - b) 20
  - c) 18
  - d) 17
- 6 **Which of the school section's teacher got the Narayan Gopal Yuva Sangit Puraskar 2066?**
  - a) Sharad Paudel
  - b) Pradyuman Paudel
  - c) Shishir Yogi
  - d) Pranai Moktan
- 7 **Which former Prime Minister of Nepal has visited Chelsea International Academy?**
  - a) Girija Prasad Koirala
  - b) Puspa Kamal Dahal
  - c) Krishna Prasad Bhattarai
  - d) Sher Bahadur Deuba
- 8 **What is Chelsea's unofficial cheer?**
  - a) Boom boom pow! Chelsea'll win, we'll show you how!!
  - b) Pan ko paat, Chelsea ko saath, haami lai harais vane ta bhuteko bhaat
  - c) Chocolate, chewing gum, lollipop; Chelsea on the super top!!!
  - d) Everywhere we go, people wanna know...who we are, where we come from. So we tell them, we are from Chelsea, Chelsea Chelsea Chelsea!
- 9 **How many students' clubs are there in the college section?**
  - a) 6
  - b) 8
  - c) 10
  - d) 11
- 10 **When was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Junior Chelsea Art Competition held?**
  - a) 22 Feb '10
  - b) 23 Jan '10
  - c) 23 Feb '10
  - d) 22 Jan '10

## TIT BITS

# What's there In A Name?

*Ananya Shrestha, AS Level*

How rightly has said Juliet, "What's there in a name?" because a rose with any other name would smell just as sweet and look the same.

It's not who you are but what you do that really defines you and a truth whether called false, still remains true.

Every Khan is not a terrorist, every Sherpa does not climb mountain peaks; you can't just generalize since every Brahmin may not abstain from steaks.

All boys may not like blue, a girl can even detest pink; it depends on what you learn and more on how you think.

Every hand may not have five fingers, every eye may not see; but that won't stop you from trying to be what you can be.

Rich men won't always be rich, all poor shall not stay poor; anytime the tables may turn because opportunity and luck can knock at any door.

Rainbows are pretty due to their colours, plain white would look so bland; and if not for ordinary people, extraordinary achievements wouldn't be so grand.

People can be different, just spread love and eliminate hate; we all are equal as humans, smile and please don't discriminate!

# Transformation



*Jeet Gurung, Chief Academic and Administrative Officer (College Section)*

I always felt the power of the word 'transformation'. Transforming what we view as failed experiences into valuable fodder for our future success is important. Naturally, it is never pleasant to experience failure, but that does not make it a bad thing. As hard as it may seem to believe, there are benefits to experiencing failure. Personal coaches and top psychologists both agree that we can learn valuable lessons from these experiences.

In my personal life, I have always tried to strive to look at life situations from different angles, by finding opportunities and learning lessons when things do not work out as planned. One example that comes to mind is of my close friend who I still remember. Her hope was to become a fantasy writer, but that dream was compromised when every agent and publishing house that she contacted rejected her first write-up. When I first met her, she was in a frustrated and dejected place and wanted to know what her astrological chart revealed about her professional life. As we both were very much interested in Zodiac signs, we discussed together and I consoled her to keep on trying and to also explore other ways to utilize her writing talents.

But she decided she needed to take a break so she began volunteering at a local children's hospital. She became a storyteller and made up all kinds of fantastic adventure

stories to entertain the patients in the children's ward. She was well received as a storyteller and soon she started writing her stories down to share at other local hospitals.

I bet you can guess the rest. She became a very fulfilled and successful children's author and is now very happy that she "failed" at writing fantasy novels. She is currently in the "Indian Book Trust" and encourages young people to volunteer in every little way they can. Her story is a proof that not only can failed experiences encourage us to be more flexible and determined, but they can also point us in the perfect direction.

I hope her transformation will remain with you all, so that the next time you feel yourself struggling with the idea of "failure", you will think differently about it. When you open yourself up to the gifts the universe brings, you can find amazing opportunities.

Please give this message some thought and give yourself a pat on the back for moving along the path to success and keep on moving until you get it right.

Don't be afraid, think of good things you possess, which other people in your surrounding do not.

*"Courtesy to Rocel"*

## Piece of **ADVICE**

*Tripti Thapa, Sociology Teacher*

People are constantly guided by others from time to time, whether they want it or not. One encounter or the other with people and the advice comes for free! I have always been told what to do or what not to do and it has always been easy to let go of all that's been said or done. What has confused me the most is when there's no justification and such a situation has caused adverse effects depending upon my mood.

If perspectives match, then the jigsaw puzzle is solved, if not, just let it go, others end up feeling frustrated. They say, "Life is a bed of roses" yet "every rose has thorns"; "every cloud has silver lining" yet "even heaven has rainy days"; "far from sight far from mind" yet "distance makes the heart grow fonder". Similarly, it's been said "first you deserve and you desire". It's



good to realize one's own potential and reach for it accordingly. If you are good at it, it surfaces up and dreams can be achieved. However, it's not always the case. Mostly, things don't turn up the way, you want it to be: so what do you do? "Try try until you succeed"? or adopt the fox's "grapes are sour" attitude and let go?

That's what life has in store for you. If there is a day, there is night too. The dawn marks new beginning and leads you to light, sunshine and happiness. Dusk on the other hand, marks the end of chapters and leads you to darkness, silence and sadness. The journey is at ease if you accept events as they enter and leave, appreciated goodness and capture positive vibrations and let go the sadness releasing negativity.

# MOMENTS AT CHELSEA

"Today's wonderful moments are tomorrow's beautiful memories"





# Adieu A2

May the road rise up to meet you,  
 May the wind be ever at your back.  
 May the sun shine warm upon your face  
 and the rain fall softly on your fields.  
 And until we meet again,  
 May God hold you in the hollow of his  
 hand.

Whether I be far or near, may I hear only  
 good news of you.

A sunbeam to warm you,  
 A moonbeam to charm you,  
 A sheltering angel, so nothing can harm you.

May you have warm words on a cool evening, a full moon  
 on a dark night, and the road downhill all the way to your  
 door.

May your pockets be heavy and your heart be light,  
 May good luck pursue you each morning and night.



**Dear A2 brothers and sisters,**

We are really sad to say goodbye to you  
 but it is something one cannot avoid in this  
 world. Meeting and departing are the  
 regular facets of our lives. So, it is  
 necessary to have the power to face good  
 bye!

We had an awesome time with you. You  
 were inspirations to us in every field. We learnt to live a  
 college life from you. From the academics to extra activities,  
 you motivated all of us. You were the assets of our college!

Goodbyes are not forever.

Goodbyes are not the end.

They simply mean I'll miss you

Until we meet again!

- A1s

# सिमा अतिक्रमणका पिडाहरु

अर्जुन श्रेष्ठ, ए. एस. लेभल

इतिहासको कुनै कालखण्डमा ऐतिहासिक महापुरुष पृथ्वीनारायण शाहले, 'हाम्रो देश नेपाललाई दुई विशाल ढुङ्गा बीचको तरुल हो' भन्दै बाईसे-चौबीसे राज्यहरूको एकिकरण गरी ऐतिहासिक योगदान पुऱ्याएका थिए । ती दुई ढुङ्गाहरू (चीन र भारत)को बीचमा निश्चय नै हाम्रो मुलुक नेपाल सानो थियो र छ पनि । यी दुई ढुङ्गाहरू बीच तरुलको बेलो (टुसो) पलाउन कयौं कोशिस नभएका पनि होइनन्, तर ती ढुङ्गाहरू छिचोल्न नसकेको यथार्थता आज यस स्तम्बकारले मात्र नभई सम्पूर्ण नेपालीहरूले नजिकबाट नियालिरहेका छन् । आज नेपालको मानचित्र ज्यादै खुम्चिदै तथा साँघुरिँदै गइरहेको अवस्थामा छ । नेपाल आमाको सिङ्गा शरीर यसरी खुम्चिँदै तथा अरुद्वारा अतिक्रमित हुँदै गइरहेको स्थितिमा हामी नेपालीहरू गर्वले छाती फुलाएर गोर्खाली हौं भन्दै हिँड्ने अवस्थामा पटककै छैनौं । वीर गोर्खाली भनी अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय जगतमा हामी जति ठूलो घमण्ड गर्छौं, त्यति नै आज देशको अस्मितामाथि नै ठूलो प्रश्न चिन्ह खडा हुँदा पनि किन नतमस्तक छौं हामी ? हिजो लुकिछिपी खेलिएको यो अतिक्रमणको भयानक खेल आज किन खुलेआम रूपमा खेलिँदैछ ? विश्व मानचित्रमा अत्यन्त सानो हाम्रो देश अब कतै विश्व मानचित्रबाट नै हराएर त जाँदैन भन्ने भयानक चिन्ता म एउटा साधारण विद्यार्थीलाई मात्र होइन, सबै नेपाली जनताहरूलाई छ । तर किन राष्ट्रनिर्माणको बागडोर सम्हालेर बसेका नेताहरू मुखमा पट्टी बाँधिभै मौन छन् ? यस्ता विभिन्न प्रश्नहरू, समुन्द्रि छालभै मेरो मनमा निरन्तर छुचल्कि रहन्छन् । नेपाल रहयो भने मात्र हामी नेपाली रहन्छौं भन्ने यथार्थतालाई बुझ्ने क्षमता किन छैन हाम्रा देशका जिम्मेवार वर्गहरूमा ? किन बिर्सका होलान यस ध्रुव सत्यलाई ? सुस्ता, दशगजा, कालापानी जस्ता कयौं हजारौं हेक्टर नेपाली भूमिमा विदेशी सैनिकका बुटहरू बजारिँदा, सिमामा केही समस्या छैन, सबै समाधान भइसक्यो भन्नु कति सम्म कायर र लाचारीपन हो ? त्यो हामी सबै नेपाली जनताहरूले बुझ्नु अत्यन्त जरुरी भइसकेको छ । पुर्खाहरूको पाला देखिनै संसारभरि वीर कहलिएका हामी नेपाली किन आज मौन र विवस छौं ? यस्तो संवेदनशील घडीमा आज हाम्रो मुलुक धमिराले खाईसक्न लागेको काठभै भएको छ । ती काठ खान पल्किएका धमिराहरूले सबै सिध्याउलान् भन्ने कुरामा हाम्रा जिम्मेवार वर्गहरूलाई न त कुनै चिन्ता छ न त कुनै शंका नै ।

हिजो अतिक्रमणको शुरुको अवस्थामा हामीले कुनै बुलन्द आवाज नउठाएकै कारणले आज हाम्रा छिमेकी मुलुकहरूको मिचाहापन र ठूल्दाइपन अत्यधिक रूपमा बढ्दै गएको हो । आज नेपाली समाचार जगतमा सिमा अतिक्रमणको दर्दनाक पिडाहरु सस्ता र अति सामान्य व्यथा बन्न पुगेका छन् । मासु खान पल्किएको स्यालले शिकार भेट्टाएन भने मान्छेलाई नै नभ्रम्टेला भन्न सकिन्छ । हाम्रो मुलुक एउटा स्वाधिन राष्ट्र हो । इतिहासमा हामी माथि कसैको उपनिवेशवाद हावी भएन भन्दै राष्ट्र र राष्ट्रियताको गौरव गर्ने वीर नेपाली आज बाघले मासु लुछे जस्तै मुलुकका महत्वपूर्ण विभिन्न भू-भागहरू छिमेकी राष्ट्रद्वारा अतिक्रमित हुँदा पनि प्रतिकार गर्न डराइराखेको छौं । "म काठमाडौंमा सुरक्षित छु, अतिक्रमण त सुस्ता, दशगजा, कालापानीमा पो भएको हो" भन्ने स्वार्थी

मनस्थितीबाट हामी नेपालीहरू अबै पनि मुक्त हुन सकेका छैनौं । यो तीतो सत्य हो । खुट्टामा निस्किएको घाउ क्रमिक रूपमा फैलिँदै जाँदा जसरी अन्त्यमा क्यान्सर हुन सक्छ, त्यसरी नै हाम्रो सिमा क्षेत्रमा मात्र परेका ती गिद्धे आँखाहरु विस्तारै सिङ्गै मुलुक माथि पर्न सक्ने हुनाले हामी सम्पूर्ण नेपालीहरूले समयमै सचेत हुनु अत्यावश्यक भइसकेको छ । हुन त, हाम्रो देशको सिमा समस्या केवल राजनीतिक एजेन्डा, घोषणापत्रमा र सरकारबाट बाहिरिँदा लागेको चोट निको पार्न प्रयोग हुने भौतिकीको नीरर्थक मन्त्रभै सावित भएको छ । सरकार तथा मुलुक चलाउन हाम्रा राजनेताहरूलाई ती कठोर ढुङ्गाहरूको आर्शिवाद चाहिन्छ । तर तिनै ढुङ्गाहरूले कुनै दिन किच्लान्की भन्ने शंकासम्म पनि तिनलाई कहिल्यै लाग्दैन तर यस विषयमा अब हामी सम्पूर्ण नेपाली दाजुभाइ तथा दिदीबहिनीहरु चनाखो हुनु अति जरुरी छ । नेपाल एउटा स्वतन्त्र राष्ट्र हो र नेपाली जनता स्वाभिमानी हुनु तर सुस्ता, कालापानी, दशगजा जस्ता सिमा क्षेत्रहरूमा बसेका नेपाली जनताहरू स्वतन्त्र नभई शरणार्थी सरह जीवन जिउन बाध्य छन् । एउटा स्वतन्त्र मुलुकका जनताहरूले शरणार्थी जीवन बिताउनु भनेको कति गहिरो पिडाबोध गर्नु हो, यो हामी सबैले स्वच्छ आत्माले मननु गर्नु पर्ने विषय हो । के हामीले यसलाई आत्मादेखि बुझ्ने प्रयास गरेका छौं ? उदाहारहणका लागि छिमेकी राष्ट्र भुटान र त्यहाँका जनतालाई लिन सकिन्छ । ती देख्नका लागि मात्र भुटान र भुटानी हुनु तर अदृश्य रूपमा भारतका अंग भइसकेका छन् । त्यसमा कसैको दुई मत नहोला । अगाडि मीठो खाना दिएर मुखमा फलामे पट्टी बाँधिदिए पछिको स्थिति के हुन्छ, त्यो हामीले नजिकबाट कल्पना गर्नु पर्छ र समयमै सतर्क हुनु पर्छ । यस जटिल घडीमा हामी सबै सिमा अतिक्रमण प्रति चनाखो रहेनै भने हामी वीर गोर्खालीका सपुत हौं भन्नु नीरर्थक हुन जान्छ । तसर्थ, नेपाल आमाको अस्मिता जोखिममा हुँदा हामी शत्रुहरूको सामना गर्न तयार हुन सक्नु पर्छ । अब हामीले यस्ता सिमा अतिक्रमण र ज्यादती विरुद्ध देशव्यापी रूपमा जनदवाब सिर्जना गर्नु जरुरी छ । आज हामी विभिन्न जातिजाति तथा भाषाभाषिकको नाममा पुनः बाईसे चौबीसे राज्य तिर फर्कन तमिसिएका छौं । "भाइ फुटे गवार लुटे", भनेभै यस्तो परिस्थितिबाट त्सेगो शिकारी पक्षले फाइदा नउठाउला भन्न सक्ने स्थिति छैन । अब जातियताको नारा घन्काएर होइन देशभक्तिको ज्वाला दन्काएर सम्पूर्ण नेपालीहरूले राष्ट्रनिर्माणमा लाग्नु पर्ने बेला भइसकेको छ । जातिय विभाजनले देशलाई साम्प्रदायिक हिंसा तर्फ धकेल्छ र यस्तो परिस्थितिमा "के खोज्छु स कानो आँखो" भनेभै अतिक्रमणकारीहरूलाई नयाँ उर्जा र थप अतिक्रमणको अवसर प्राप्त हुन जान्छ । स्वाधिन देशका स्वतन्त्र नागरिक भएर सबै नेपालीले स्वतन्त्र रूपमा ढुक्क तथा शान्तिको सास फेर्न पाउनु पर्छ ।

त्यसैले, अब हाम्रो मुलुक नेपाल एउटा लाचार दुई ढुङ्गा बीचको तरुलको बेलो भएर होइन, ढुङ्गाको काप फोरेर उम्रने पिपलभै प्रस्तुत हुन सक्नुपर्छ । यसका लागि सबैले हातेमालो गर्नु पर्ने त छुँदै छ साथै हामी सबैले विदेशी हस्तक्षेपको विरुद्धमा खुलेर प्रतिरोध गर्नु पर्दछ अनि मात्र स्वतन्त्र र स्वाधिन नयाँ नेपालको परिकल्पना गर्न सकिन्छ ।

## Personal Data

**Name:** Neus Nadal Pasqual

**DOB:** 11 May, 1982

**Born in:** Mallorca, Catalan Countries (Spain)

**Profession:** Anthropologist and Teacher

**Current job:** Teacher at Chelsea International Academy

**Q.** Why did you come to Nepal and how did you manage to join Chelsea?

**A.** I had never been in Asia before but I knew this agency, Ideal Friendship Nepal. I E-mailed them and got the chance to come to Nepal as a teacher. I came to Chelsea as a substitute for Aingeru.

**Q.** What are your likes and dislikes about Chelsea? Please feel free to comment on anything good or bad.

**A.** I like staying here at Chelsea very much. Mostly, I like the students and the coworkers I have. Personally, I used to hate it when the students 'bunked' my classes.

**Q.** Tell us about your experience as a teacher here at Chelsea.

**A.** It's nice to work in the Pre-primary section. Children are sweet and teachers work as a real team, which helps a lot. About General Paper, it's a subject I enjoyed teaching the most, because it is about thinking. I always repeated to my students: "Be original, be creative!" It's a beautiful job, and hard, especially because the students don't always do their homework! [laughs]

**Q.** How did you find Nepal and Nepali people?

**A.** I love the hospitality offered by Nepali people! People are really nice and friendly. Now, after staying here for months, I have a clearer opinion about issues like gender equality.

**Q.** If you were to leave your native country forever to stay here in Nepal, what would you do? Be very honest.

**A.** [Hesitates] hmmm..... This is a committed question. I will be very honest: I wouldn't live in Nepal forever. I may also add that I would not live in any country but mine. It's not that I don't like Nepal, it's just that I love my country so much; not because I think it's better, but only because it's the place I belong. For certain reasons, I am deeply connected to the land where I was born – the Catalan Countries, a nation without state, which now belongs to Spain. I have strong feelings toward my culture, language and community. I have plans for future to work for my country because of which, I would like to live there. I enjoy



traveling, but I will always come back home.

**Q.** Tell us something interesting that your students in Chelsea don't know.

**A.** My passion is singing and I was a member of a musical band for many years. We recorded two albums. I also play the violin. I guess my students would request me to play and sing if I told them, so I kept it a secret.... (laughs)

**Q.** Your future plans after you leave Nepal?

**A.** I am not planning to settle down, get married, have kids, and run a traditional, conventional life. I want to do something different. I recently got a job offer as a Spanish teacher in a school in the UK. However, I feel like spending some more time

in the island. I have a research to finish (precisely about gender equality), after which I have to find some sponsors who can help me to execute my project – a program to avoid sexual discrimination and assure gender equality in schools. Alongside that, I will have to find a job to get some income while working on my project. Furthermore, I would also like to be with my family and friends for a while before traveling again.

**Q.** What did you learn from Nepal that could be useful for you in future?

**A.** New places, people, different language and culture. The most important thing is that you learn about yourself. Travelling is the best school.

I wish the students at Chelsea International remember me, even after I leave.....J

*(As told to Sajana Gajurel and Yojana Khadka - A2 Level)*



# संघीयता

# र बयाँ नेपाल



निर्मल अर्याल, ए. एस. लेभल

नेपालको अन्तरिम संविधान २०६६ को धारा १३८ अनुसार राज्यको पुर्नसंरचना सम्बन्धी विषयवस्तु टुङ्गोमा पुग्नुपर्ने समय नजिकै आएको छ। यद्यपी, राज्य बाँडफाँड एवम् पुर्नसंरचनाका लागि उपयुक्त मापदण्ड छनोटको अभावले संघीयता शब्दलाई नै आलोचित तुल्याएको छ। देशभरि संघीयताको नारा घन्किरहेँदा यसको अर्थ नै नबुझेहरुको जमात पनि ठूलै रहेको छ, भन्ने कुरा नेपालका ग्रामीण भेग नियाले थाहा पाउन सकिन्छ। हालैको एक सर्वेक्षणले पनि अधिकांश मानिस संघीयताको विषयमा अनभिज्ञ रहेको देखाएको छ। वास्तवमा के हो त संघीयता ? यसले देशलाई कसरी फाँडा पुऱ्याउँछ ? यसका बेफाइदाहरु के के हुन सक्छन् ? यसको मापदण्ड कस्तो हुनु पर्छ ? हामीले अन्तराष्ट्रिय उदाहरणबाट कस्तो शिक्षा लिनु पर्दछ ? यी र यस्ता यावत् प्रश्नहरु माथि गम्भीर छलफल हुनु अपरीहार्य छ।

संघीय प्रणालीमा देशलाई स-साना प्रान्तहरुमा बाँडिन्छ। केन्द्रीय सरकारको नेतृत्वमा हरेक प्रान्तमा प्रान्तीय सरकार गठन गरिन्छ। प्रान्तीय सरकारलाई आन्तरिक नियम बनाउने, आन्तरिक स्रोतसाधनको परिचालन गर्ने, विकासका योजनाहरु अघि बढाउने, राजस्व उठाउने जस्ता अधिकारहरु प्राप्त हुन्छन्। त्यस्तै केन्द्रीय सरकारले प्रान्तीय सरकारलाई आफ्नो अन्तर्गत राख्ने, देशको सैन्यशक्ति परिचालन गर्ने, अन्तराष्ट्रिय सम्बन्ध राख्ने तथा अन्तराष्ट्रिय सन्धि-सम्मौता गर्ने जस्ता कामहरु गर्दछ। यदि कुनै प्रान्तीय सरकारले कानूनको परिधि बाहिर रहेर जनचाहना विपरीत काम गर्‍यो भने त्यसलाई नसीहत दिने र बर्खास्त गर्न पाउने अधिकार केन्द्रीय सरकारलाई हुन्छ। प्रान्तीय सरकार विघटन पछि अर्को व्यवस्था नहुन्जेलसम्मलाई उक्त प्रान्त केन्द्रीय सरकारले हेर्ने गर्दछ।

संघीयताले देशलाई धेरै फाइदा हुन सक्छ। वर्तमान प्रणालीको केन्द्रिकृत विकास कार्यक्रमले देशमा विकासका कार्यक्रमहरु असमान रूपमा देखा परेका छन्। संघीयताले वर्तमान शक्तिलाई विकेन्द्रीकरण गरी समान विकासमा टेवा पुऱ्याउन सक्दछ। प्राकृतिक स्रोतसाधनको पूर्ण सदुपयोग हुन गई देशमा विकासका काम द्रुतगतिमा अघि बढ्न सक्दछन्। शक्तिको समानान्तर बाँडफाँडले भेदभाव, नातावाद, कृपावादलाई न्युनीकरण गर्न सहयोग पुऱ्याउँछ। जातिय पहिचान तथा वर्गीय उत्थानमा पनि संघीयताले सहयोग पुऱ्याउँछ।

अर्कोतिर संघीयताका बेफाइदाहरु पनि थुप्रै छन्। नेपालको सन्दर्भमा हेर्ने हो भने, हाम्रो जस्तो सानो मुलुकमा धेरै राज्य तथा धेरै सरकार बनाउँदा

आर्थिक भार बढ्न गई विकासनिर्माणका कामहरु प्रभावित हुन सक्छन्। आफ्नो प्रान्तलाई सुदृढ बनाउने होडमा प्रान्तीय सरकार बीच अस्वस्थ प्रतिस्पर्धा हुन गई देशको भविष्य नै अन्यौलमा पर्न सक्छ। अझ, जातिय आधारमा राज्य बाँड्दा भविष्यमा ठूलो जातीय द्वन्द्व भड्किन सक्ने सम्भावना रहन्छ। बहुसङ्ख्यक जाति र भाषा भएको देशमा जातियताका आधारमा देश बाँड्नु भनेको देशलाई सयौं चिरा पार्ने कामको आरम्भ गर्नु हो। जातिय मुद्दालाई बढी प्राथमिकता दिँदा राष्ट्रिय प्राथमिकताका पक्षहरु छायाँमा पर्न सक्छन्। जब राष्ट्रिय एकता कमजोर हुन्छ, विदेशीको प्रभाव हावी हुन थाल्छ। उनीहरुको चलखेल र हस्तक्षेप बढ्दै जान्छ।

अन्तराष्ट्रिय स्तरमा हेर्दा, आजको विश्व अर्थतन्त्रको केन्द्र संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिकाले पनि संघीय प्रणाली अपनाएको छ। यसका पचास संघीय राज्य मध्ये एउटा पनि जातिय आधारमा नामकरण गरिएका छैनन्। ती राज्यहरु बीच आपसी एकता र सहकार्य छ। त्यसैले उनीहरु निरन्तर प्रगतिपथमा उन्नत छन्। त्यस्तै स्वीट्जरल्याण्ड, भारत, अष्ट्रिया आदि देशहरु पनि संघीय प्रणाली अपनाएका सफल राष्ट्रहरु हुन्।

नेपालमा राज्य पुर्नसंरचनाको मापदण्डका रूपमा जातियतालाई उठाइनु अत्यन्त विषमपूर्ण छ। यसले राष्ट्रिय एकता खलबलाउनुका साथै वर्गसङ्घर्ष र वर्गीय प्रेमलाई नै धरापमा पारेको छ। बाहुन किसान र मगर किसानबीच बैमनष्यता बढ्दै गएको छ। त्यसैले, सही मापदण्डमा रही राज्यको पुर्नसंरचना हुनुपर्दछ। नेपालको एकताका लागि विभिन्न आधारहरु मध्ये सबैभन्दा महत्वपूर्ण साभा भूगोल तथा साभा बसोबास हो। राज्य बाँडफाँड र सीमाङ्कन गर्नुअघि कुनै ठाउँको भौगोलिक सुगमता, जनघनत्व, सांस्कृतिक पहिचान, प्राकृतिक स्रोतको अवस्था जस्ता विषयमाथि विचार पुऱ्याउनु पर्छ अनि मात्र देशले सहकार्य र प्रगतिको नयाँ गति समात्न सक्छ।

अतः कुनै पनि कुरा शतप्रतिशत ठीक वा शतप्रतिशत गलत हुँदैन। त्यसैले कमीकमजोरी र सीमिततालाई न्युनिकरण गर्दै अगाडि बढ्नु नै बुद्धिमानी हुनेछ। हामीले अन्तराष्ट्रिय उदाहरणहरुबाट पाठ सिक्ने आफूलाई अगाडि बढाउनु पर्दछ। जातिय राज्य ठूलो कुरा होइन, जातीयता ठूलो कुरा हो भन्ने भावनाको विकास हुनु पर्दछ। तसर्थ, नेपाल जस्तो जातिगताको विविधता भएको देशमा, हरेक जाति र समुदायको अस्तित्वमा असर नपर्ने गरी उनीहरुको पहिचानको ग्यारेन्टीका साथ वैज्ञानिक पद्धति अनुसार संघीयता अपनाउनु नै आजको युगको माग हो।

# AMERICA'S Real Dream Team

*Thomas L. Friedman, The New York Times, 2009*

I went to a big Washington dinner last week. You know the kind: Large hall; black ties; long dresses. But this was no ordinary dinner. There were 40 guests of honor. So here's my Sunday news quiz: I'll give you the names of most of the honorees, and you tell me what dinner I was at. Ready?

Linda Zhou, Alice Wei Zhao, Lori Ying, Angela Yu-Yun Yeung, Lynnelle Lin Ye, Kevin Young Xu, Benjamin Chang Sun, Jane Yoonhae Suh, Katheryn Cheng Shi, Sunanda Sharma, Sarine Gayaneh Shahmiran, Arjun Ranganath Puranik, Raman Venkat Nelakant, Akhil Mathew, Paul Masih Das, David Chienyun Liu, Elisa Bisi Lin, Yifan Li, Lanair Amaad Lett, Ruoyi Jiang, Otana Agape Jakpor, Peter Danming Hu, Yale Wang Fan, Yuval Yaacov Calev, Levent Alpoge, John Vincenzo Capodilupo and Namrata Anand.

No, sorry, it was not a dinner of the China-India Friendship League. Give up?

O.K. All these kids are American high school students. They were the majority of the 40 finalists in the 2010 Intel Science Talent Search, which, through a national contest, identifies and honors the top math and science high school students in America, based on their solutions to scientific problems. The awards dinner was Tuesday, and, as you can see from the above list, most finalists hailed from immigrant families, largely from Asia.

Indeed, if you need any more convincing about the virtues of immigration, just come to the Intel science finals. I am a pro-immigration fanatic. I think keeping a constant flow of legal immigrants into our country — whether they wear blue collars or lab coats — is the key to keeping us ahead of China. Because when you mix all of these energetic, high-aspiring people with a democratic system and free markets, magic happens. If we hope to keep that magic, we need immigration reform that guarantees that we will always attract and retain, in an orderly fashion, the world's first-round aspirational and intellectual draft choices.

This isn't complicated. In today's wired world, the most important economic competition is no longer between countries or companies. The most important economic competition is actually between you and your own imagination. Because what your kids imagine, they can now act on farther, faster, and cheaper than ever before — as individuals. Today, just about everything is becoming a commodity, except imagination, except the ability to spark new ideas.

If I just have the spark of an idea now, I can get a designer in Taiwan to design it. I can get a factory in China to

produce a prototype. I can get a factory in Vietnam to mass manufacture it. I can use Amazon.com to handle fulfillment. I can use freelancer.com to find someone to do my logo and manage my backroom. And I can do all this at incredibly low prices. The one thing that is not a commodity and never will be is that spark of an idea. And this Intel dinner was all about our best sparklers.

Before the dinner started, each contestant stood by a storyboard explaining their specific project. Namrata Anand, a 17-year-old from the Harker School in California, patiently explained to me her research, which used spectral analysis and other data to expose information about the chemical enrichment history of "Andromeda Galaxy." I did not understand a word she said, but I sure caught the gleam in her eye.

My favorite chat, though, was with Amanda Alonzo, a 30-year-old biology teacher at Lynbrook High School in San Jose, Calif. She had taught two of the finalists. When I asked her the secret, she said it was the resources provided by her school, extremely "supportive parents" and a grant from Intel that let her spend part of each day inspiring and preparing students to enter this contest. Then she told me this: Local San Jose realtors are running ads in newspapers in China and India telling potential immigrants to "buy a home" in her Lynbrook school district because it produced "two Intel science winners."

Seriously, ESPN or MTV should broadcast the Intel finals live. All of the 40 finalists are introduced, with little stories about their lives and aspirations. Then the winners of the nine best projects are announced. And finally, with great drama, the overall winner of the \$100,000 award for the best project of the 40 is identified. This year it was Erika Alden DeBenedictis of New Mexico for developing a software navigation system that would enable spacecraft to more efficiently "travel through the solar system." After her name was called, she was swarmed by her fellow competitor-geeks.

Gotta say, it was the most inspiring evening I've had in D.C. in 20 years. It left me thinking, "If we can just get a few things right — immigration, education standards, bandwidth, fiscal policy — maybe we'll be O.K." It left me feeling that maybe Alice Wei Zhao of North High School in Sheboygan, Wis., chosen by her fellow finalists to be their spokeswoman, was right when she told the audience: "Don't sweat about the problems our generation will have to deal with. Believe me; our future is in good hands."

As long as we don't shut our doors.

# Poor but Rich

Ujjwal Paudel, AS Level

He does not know the reason behind his presence on Earth. Many endeavors were made but his thirst to 'know thyself' as Socrates put it, has never been quenched. He is compelled to live the mundane life in a way many people are living, where a person is more like a robot, with vacuum inside. He is compelled to adapt in the society where his prolific insights are sabotaged by the age-old religious traditions. Above all, he is compelled to be the slave of money because these with little or no affluence are annihilated from the so-called 'category of people'.

Is he an invitation and a necessity to this planet or just an accident when two people were having a romance, was what he asked himself. However, his soul was always confused. He too inquired to himself if he was just a small being in a multitude of billions or was with intrinsic treasures such as potentiality to rescue those who are submerged in ocean of suffering. Many more like this, he used to raise, during every sunrise, against himself but eventually end up being numb and crying the tears of request to the sky to fulfill his appetite.

Life goes ahead even when we are motionless as someone said it more lucidly; time and tide wait for no man. He fell in love with a girl at the first sight, who was three years elder, because as they say 'first sight love saves times'. She came like a flash and went away like a lightning. Despite

her sojourns, she glittered his miserable life with bliss. With her, he was exuberant as Dante was with Beatrice. Since the situation forced him to abandon her, they would walk the opposite way. This incident further broke his heart because she was like an angel and was his most loved person.

He feels her absence in his life. From people who he could never mingle with, he only received frustrations and phantoms like 'life is meaningless'. As he could not purchase the happiness and people were over merchandising, he became almost a lonely person in the world. It seemed as if God was prejudice against him because he could not make things happen his way.

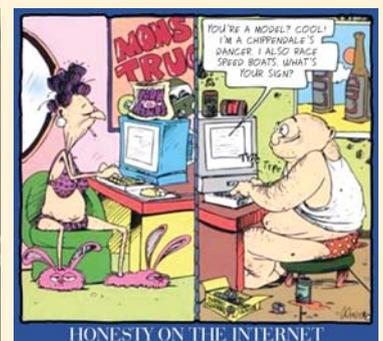
He wants to fly across this spacious sky to reach the God and the great people who visited this planet. He wants to rest his head over to the feet of masters such as Buddha and Jesus. He wants to plea to the almighty with two hands to come down and teach people to care more for their soul than for their money. He wants to die. Forever, he wants to sleep on the lap of his God.

He is my best friend, as beautiful as my girlfriend, as loving as my mother, motivating like my father and so on. But he is no one to this world. My poor friend but rich he is, for he understands the real meaning of life. God bless you, my friend!

## HUMOUR

A man finds a genie lamp. He rubs the lamp and a genie comes out and says "I may grant you 3 wishes, but your wife gets double." The man wishes for a new car. The genie gives him a new car and the man's wife 2 new cars. The man then wishes for a new house. The genie gives him a new house and the man's wife 2 new houses. The man then says, "For my final wish, I wish to be beaten to half-death."

Will was trying to teach his son the evils of alcohol. He put a worm in a glass of water and another in a glass of whiskey. The worm in the water lived while the one in the whiskey curled up and died. "All right, son," said Will, "what does that show you?" "Well dad, it shows that if you drink alcohol you will not have worms."



## Nepalese Cricket Shining in the International Arena

Ghanashyam Neupane, AS Level

I was in euphoria when Mehbob Alam hit a match winning four against USA in World Cup Division Five Final match. The match was really bewitching. Rahul VK's seven wicket haul and openers' partnership were adorable facets of Nepalese Innings. The win opened the door for the next platform for Nepali Cricket to prove itself. We all hope and wish that Nepal will carry this winning wave in further World Cup selection matches.

We have good scope in cricket. Though we are poor in physical infrastructures and technology, we have a lot of young talents who keep the virtue and competence of dragging Nepal to greater height in international cricket. The next factor I am really proud about is the increasing popularity gained by cricket in Nepal. The crowd present in TU Cricket Ground in the finals was really fascinating. It seems every youth cares about Nepali cricket proceedings. The passion of cricket on Nepalese is increasing everyday.

The entry of Nepal in Division Four was down to the wire till Friday night. But, fate or say, the blessings of motherland pushed Nepal to it. The decision making match against USA was not expected to be as exciting. I

was there for the first time in Nepal's only international cricket ground and was happy to see the enthusiastic crowd there. But, I was saddened and surprised when I saw spectators throwing stones, bricks and bottles on the ground. It was done because Nepal was on the verge of losing the match which was an immature and disgusting action. We all know that winning and losing are like two sides of the same coin. We cannot always expect to win. And that is not how we encourage our team. The misdeed has worsened the status of Nepal in the international arena. Since cricket is a sport known for its sportsmanship; discipline and respect to opponents, this kind of behavior must be dealt with seriously. It may also cause the loss of faith of International Cricket Council (ICC) on Cricket Association Nepal (CAN). Such misbehaviors will reduce the chances of hosting international tournaments in Nepal. All in all, development of cricket in Nepal may be hindered.

Also, CAN should focus on improving the security status in stadiums. We all have seen the disciplinary and security actions taken by ICC in our neighboring nations. So, let's show the rational attitude to develop cricket in Nepal. Let's grow up!

## ARE WE HUMANE?

Shivashish Jaisy, AS Level

It has been aptly remarked: "...by the side of a beneficial medicinal plant 'mistletoe', which grows on an oak tree, also grows 'mandrake', a poisonous plant." Such is the case with our thoughts. Whenever we try to think something positive, something negative flows in. This is a fact. We try a lot to restrict our negative thoughts, but they do not cease getting inside our brains...corrupting it.

We, the humans, believe ourselves to be the most compelling creature. But are we right enough? Don't the birds and animals have much more freedom than us? They are free to move about...carefree, without the consent of any of its social rules. We consider them undeveloped with regard to ourselves. But in fact, they too follow the rules...the natural rules. They too have the sense that what is beneficial or harmful for them, without the teachings of the parents or teachers.

The divine nature itself is the only perfect teacher. She knows the best, what to be taught to whom and when. Isn't it nature who teaches us that if we try to touch fire it would burn us? Then why do we, the humans try to be the teachers ourselves?

When a child is born, it seems to know nothing. But in fact, it has been taught everything beforehand. It knows the greatest truth...that there is no use talking to fools, and therefore speaks to none. It just babbles or cries, which are the only language of nature, adapted by all other creatures as well. The babies, if noted, do not have any fear. But the parents gradually turn them fearful, like themselves. Initially babies do not consider anyone or anything to be their enemies, but we teach them to create enemies. Aren't we misleading them, training them to be future terrorists?

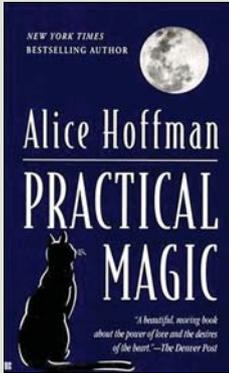
Gradually growing, a child starts taking in all the complexities of

life...which were before birth so much simple for them. They are admitted into schools, where they are taught to sacrifice all their thoughts, in the name of discipline. Parents expect them to be the best, to be what they like the child to be...an ungrown matured. But why? Why can't the children remain what their age demands them to be?

Then as the load of their school bag increases, they get confused within themselves. The increasing pressure of their parents regarding good behavior, good marks in examinations, good friends' circle; leads them to be mentally handicapped. They stop deciding what is correct for them, relying completely upon their parents and teachers. They stop thinking for themselves, but just enact to what their governing institutions impose upon them. The parents and teachers normally say, "They are incapable of deciding what is right or wrong". Are the parents or teachers perfect then? Had they never committed any mistakes when small? Why don't we think that it's from our mistakes that we learn?

Today very few numbers of children actually do grow up to become themselves. Normally, the children, in the process of enacting out their parents' perspectives, actually end up being nothing. Because of the loss of their real identity somewhere amidst the restrictions of their childhood, they succeed in becoming nothing. The life of these children, when they grow up into adults, fills up with frustrations, irritation and emptiness...agonizing them throughout. Even if not themselves, they try to be something, but fail. And gradually, they get jealous of those who, unlike them, are themselves. They try to pretend to others that they are happy within, for they think that everyone is noticing them for their oddness. This feeling further leads them to their destruction...the most painful one!

Once in a millennia comes a book that redefines your very definition of love and evokes in you a thrill equivalent to a real-life roller coaster ride, to rainstorms and sunshine and ice-cream in the cold- a great and unrivalled treat. One of such few is Alice Hoffman's **PRACTICAL MAGIC**.



Published first in 1995  
Printed in the USA

After the Hollywood success of her Children's Bestseller 'Aquamarine', Alice Hoffman's 'Practical Magic', also adapted as a major motion picture now, brings forth a unique and deeply riveting tale about three generations of mystical women and their intertwined lives where the 'fantastic' meets the 'mundane'.

First published in 1995, Practical Magic recounts the story of the Owens sisters, Sally and Gillian, who are greeted to an extraordinary

upbringing after the tragic death of their parents. The orphans go to live with their eccentric aunts and with these old 'hags', Sally and Gillian enjoy a completely different childhood with no rules and restrictions while their only guardians are busy selling love potions and solutions to heartache to the love-stricken at Magnolia Street. As children, they are subject to mock and scrutiny and both girls deal with this situation in their own ways, growing up into siblings totally different from each other. In due course of time, they separate to live their own lives on the quest for true love. Never had they thought that their reunion years later would be the way it becomes.

Sally has her daughters to worry about, Gillian has her incurable problems and battling amongst auras and souls and a conscientious police officer at their wake, will these sisters find what they are seeking...will it be enough to keep them alive?

The story unravels in four parts- Superstitions, Premonitions, Clairvoyance and Levitation at a pace so breathtaking and enchanting that their world of witchcraft and desires and familial ties all come up true. The beauty of Hoffman's writing clearly bounds up from the pages; from the subtle way her stories grow within each other, her quotable poetics and her soul-shattering literary skills. For me, Practical Magic is one of the best books ever written, even better than the Twilight Saga, the Harry Potter series or The Lord of the Rings trilogy, and everyone should at least read it once. Trust me; you'll really miss a great experience otherwise. So go, get your copy, buy it or borrow it, download an eBook version because if you don't, you'll be the one to regret. Happy reading!

Ananya Shrestha, AS Level



**Directed by:** Tim Burton  
**Written by:** Linda Woolverton (screenplay)  
 Lewis Carrol (Book)  
**Starring:** Mia Wasikowska, Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, Anne Hathaway, Crispin Glover, Alan Rickman and Stephen Fry  
**Stars:** ★★☆☆

When bright colours, pale people and mad minds occupy the new world, which Burton has created in his latest film "Alice in Wonderland"; it is a trip you might want to take.

Alice (Mia Wasikowska) is a 19 year old girl who's facing the possibility of marrying a man she does not love. As she runs off to consider the proposal, she falls down in a rabbit hole and finds herself in 'Wonderland', a place that she had previously visited when she was much younger but apparently forgotten about. Upon her arrival, she learns that it has been foretold that a girl named Alice will slay the Jabberwocky, a dragon that is controlled by the evil Red Queen and also free the land from her tyranny. However, there is just one problem: there appears to be some confusion over whether or not she is the right Alice for the job.

The characters as well as set designs are visually striking. In addition, the animation work is one of the movie's greatest strengths. As the next major 3-D film after 'Avatar' from a visionary director many people are looking forward to the wonders of it. Burton, as usual has casted his two loyal usuals, Johnny Depp and Helena Bonham Carter. However, these two are not the only big names in film. Alan Rickman, Anne Hathaway, Crispin Glover and Mia Wasikowska all joined into the project, making it a rather unique cast. Even though Alice is a bit older in this version, this is a movie that is aimed squarely at kids and lacks some depth that readers might demand from adaptation of its classic tale.

It is important to note that this movie was not shot in 3-D like it had to. All of the 3-D was added in post-production. This is the reason why the world does not feel quite fully realized and immersive. At times the environments feel a bit washed out and empty, which could be a result of the 3-D not meshing well with some of the darker colours. It is still recommended primarily on the strength of the visuals and some of the performances.

Prapti Gurung, AS Level

# US Billboard Review

Mukesh Ghimire, AS Level

## 1 Rude Boy – Rihanna Album: Rated R

Rude Boy is going to be another favourite of Rihanna fans out there, and her sulky, icy vocal style finds its peak in this record. A good symbol of her goodbyes to Chris Brown from her career, Rude Boy exposes a nice dominant female for listeners. Forgetting all ethical issues with music, it is a good song to just sit back and listen to. After hits like: SOS, Umbrella, Take A Bow and Disturbia, Rude Boy has secured its rightful place on top, and looks forward to a long lifetime up there.



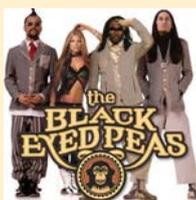
## 2 Need You Now - Lady Antebellum Album: Need You Now

Good old country through the natural vocals and instrumentals of Lady Antebellum really catches the heart of soft listeners out there. Its lyrics have quite the sentimental value, and they reflect what people go through when they experience the ups and downs of relationships. It has been

there on the chart for 31 weeks and still boasts second place. Be sure to check this out if you are not sure about country, it would give a great first impression to the genre.

## 3 Break Your Heart - Taio Cruz featuring Ludacris Album: Rokstarr

A great comeback from his previous position, Taio Cruz hits the top with his single Break Your Heart featuring Ludacris, but has seen his drop to third position in the past few weeks. Break Your Heart is a must include in your iPod, and if you don't know it, you don't know pop.



## 4 Imma Be - Black Eyed Peas Album: The E.N.D. (Energy Never Dies)

The Black Eyed Peas, as they have been, are now and will be, are a legend in modern music. Like their multiple successive albums: Elephunk and Monkey Business, The E.N.D. has its reign over the chart with its multiple singles and

Imma Be is just another great hit. If you hear the song a minute into it and a minute before it ends, they sound like pieces from totally different songs. It is another masterpiece by the Peas and it maintains the success of the band. Great music, great beat, I encourage you to check it out.



## 5 Nothin' On You - B.o.B featuring Bruno Mars Album: The Adventures of Bobby Ray

It's his first album, first single, and he hits the chart on fifth. Pretty remarkable piece of a newcomer, and as he is up there, he is giving us a good dose of classy Hip Hop, accompanied by Bruno Mars. B.o.B.'s great

vocals move on the soft beats and the lyrics are quite worth noting if you listen for them rather than the beat. The rhythm is rather soft and the rap is toned up, but the great combination with a nice chorus and bridge, is a great hit.

## 6 Hey, Soul Sister – Train Album: Save Me, San Francisco

Soft rock of the kind that enjoys the vocals and the lyrics are beautiful as they are what the song is all about. The guitar is played with fingers, and if you listen to this song carefully, you will notice that the great music is not only what has kept it going for so long. Last week's 7<sup>th</sup>, Train looks forward to climbing higher on the ladder to greatness, as more people truly look into Hey, Soul Sister for its musical and lyrical essence.

## 7 BedRock - Young Money Featuring Lloyd Album: We Are Young Money

Not much without the vocals, but the beat is still amazing, as it leaves a lot of space for fill, and that's what BedRock is all about. Rapper Lil Wayne, Gudda Gudda, Nicki Minaj, Drake, Tyga and Jae Millz fill the song with its smooth lyrics, as they perfectly move along the beat and rhythm. This song is a compilation of various talents and is a must check out for rap fans out there.



## 8 TiK ToK - Ke\$ha Album: Animal

Hands turned on the clock, day turned into night, many things changed in time, but Ke\$ha's TiK ToK is still on the charts, taking its time. This song is one of the best, a staple electronic on your iPod, and it boasts great rhythm and the chorus is amazing. I say: If you haven't already heard this song, where on earth were you?



## 9 Telephone - Lady Gaga Featuring Beyoncé Album: The Fame Monster

Showing up new on the top ten chart, telephone is booming with fame. It has a brilliant bridge, and great vocals from Lady Gaga accompanied by Beyoncé. Great beats accompanied by rapid-fire verses,

meets great combination with Beyoncé's collaboration to the piece, and it all seems as natural as it was meant to be.

## 10 In My Head - Jason Derulo Album: Jason Derulo

Jason Derulo's In My Head still remains on the top ten in the US billboard. Without a say, this piece truly deserves its place there, as it truly displays a masterpiece representing soul and pop. His tones and vocals make the song shine in its position. The chorus is awesome enough to stop you on MTV when surfing the channels on television. The shimmering beat and rhythm complement the lyrics beautifully, and the various tones that he displays in his voice give the song great versatility. I recommend it for all the R&B, pop, and softie listeners out there.

### (ANSWERS)

"How much do you know about Chelsea?"

1 d, 2 a, 3 b, 4 d, 5 b, 6 c, 7 b, 8 c, 9 b, 10 b



Above Bajra, the instrument of Gautam Buddha and below Kalash, both being parts of the Astamangal – The Eight Signs.

*Prapti Gurung, AS Level*