

Qila Quotes

TRIENNIAL
PUBLICATION

THE SCINDIA SCHOOL

volume
25

**CELEBRATING
THE ESSENCE
OF SCINDIANNESS**





Mellifluous strains of music in the scenic background.



Harnessing the creativity of the boys.

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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information printed in this edition of the Qila Quotes. If an error has occurred, please accept our apologies and contact the editor at puja@scindia.edu.



A token of remembrance for the Old Boys.



Flagging off the car rally at Editors' Conference 2015.

PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Dear Members of The Scindia School fraternity.

On the auspicious occasion of the 118th Founder's Day of the School I extend a warm welcome to you and your family.

The last three months have been marked by several significant changes, excitement and round the clock work. You will all experience the fruits of the restoration, renovation and upgradation of the school infrastructure that has been going on at war footing. Our endeavour behind all of this has been the beautification of the campus, safety and comfort of our children while ensuring that the pristine charm of the school remains untampered.

Dr. Martin Luther King Junior famously said, "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education." I can say with immense pride and gratification that we, at The Scindia School, always work to achieve this noble objective.

On the academic front we are constantly working towards the creation of an ideal school where we provide intellectually challenging spaces for students. The members of our faculty care about the students and adapt their instruction to suit the needs of the learners. We encourage our teachers to build a toolbox of strategies that is geared towards diverse learners so that they are able to deal effectively with each of the students.

We also look into the emotional health, personal integrity and character building of our students. We educate them to value others, their voice and need for choice.

So this Founders let us reaffirm our faith in all those values which have become our distinguishing mark. Let us also rejoice that we have been successful in nurturing the dream of our Founding father.

Here's wishing you a joyous Founder's Day once again.

Dr. Madhav Deo Saraswat
Principal, The Scindia School



Fine attention to details



Explaining the model

EDITORIAL

Qila Quotes, The Scindia School Triannual Publication released its Inaugural issue on 21st October, 2008. It started as a quarterly with a view to establishing a close connect with our alumni and parent body. Through its pages we also wished to project the vibrancy and richness of our school life. Seven years hence, with 24 popular issues behind us and numerous letters of appreciation from all quarters I feel happy that the Editorial Board could achieve whatever it had set out to do.

However any publication which aspires to be truly representative cannot grow and flourish without the contribution and feedback from its readers. So we thank all our patrons for having supported us in our journey. In this Silver Jubilee edition we delve into Qila Quotes nostalgia, talk about journalistic issues and have articles from those friends and well wishers who have been associated with us from our first issue.

Happy Reading

The past three months have been marked by various Interschool events, visits, Round Square Conferences and MUNs. Each of them gave our boys an opportunity to learn and expand the horizons of their knowledge. We also played the perfect host to all those who visited us to share their nuggets of wisdom or to take back some of our best practices.

Infrastructure

The last three months have been marked by a massive drive to give a facelift to the school. The original historic character of the school is being restored and due care has been taken to enhance the aesthetics and functionality of all places.

The Shukla Memorial Open Air Theatre presents a modern, swanky look however its basic frame and spirit which generations of Scindians so closely associate with has been left untampered. It is now equipped with a centralised control room. The seating capacity too has been enhanced and better lighting facility has been provided which will add to the quality of our musical and theatrical productions. The first Phase of the renovation of the Health center has been completed. The school will be working in close collaboration with the architects and engineers of Fortis Hospital to match the highest standards in Healthcare. The Health center also

provides facilities of Physiotherapy and the services of a dietician to look into the specific exercise and dietary requirements of our recuperating patients. The infirmary vehicle has also been modified into an ambulance.

The athletic track has been relaid however its finished look will be visible in a few months time when the greening gets complete. Our Cricket field meets the highest standards of excellence and has been accepted by BCCI for the conduct of matches at U-14, U-16 and U-19 levels. The Hockey field too has been relaid and is being watered and maintained on a regular basis.

We have also taken proactive steps to augment the water supply on the Fort. This has been done by laying a three inch pipeline from down the Fort which is yielding an additional one lakh litres of water per day. This enhanced supply is being used for the greening of the campus and for meeting the requirements of the Fort denizens. In keeping with our water conservation efforts very soon we will have a Bio Digester Plant for converting the toilet water of the Gurudwara into raw water for watering the playgrounds in the North Block Area.

The School dining hall has been renovated. Aesthetically and ergonomically designed furniture has been provided to create a healthy, happy and welcoming



Delegates from Bhutan

facilities for video conferencing and webinars. This will go a long way in supporting our endeavours for faculty enrichment.

The Boarding Houses where our boys spend most of their time have been given special attention. The Junior Houses' campus is always a priority for us so as to ensure the seamless integration of the news boys into Boarding school life. The painting and repair of a few Senior Houses was undertaken during the Summer vacation. The other Houses will soon be taken up for the same. The repair and renovation of Shivaji House and the Academic Block is being done in collaboration with INTACH.

While so much has been achieved in the past few months there are many more interesting plans on the anvil. We will be sharing some more of our proposed projects in due course of time.

Social Responsibility

'Kamna Project' envisioned by Principal, Dr M.D. Saraswat has been launched for empowering the girls of Nathon Ka Pura. In the first phase 12 girls from the village were invited to the school campus for six days. They learnt the techniques of tie and dye, the art of making envelopes and paper bags, basics of metal work and pottery work using clay. All the items prepared by them will be sold during Founder's Day and the profits will go to these girls.

Inter School events

The School hosted the 42nd Platinum Jubilee Memorial English Debate. Nine schools participated in the debate which was contested in three rounds. Maharani Gayatri Devi, Jaipur won the debate by virtue of their superb arguments, reasoning and impeccable delivery.

Ten schools from different parts of the country participated in the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Quiz hosted by The Scindia School. The quiz was conducted by ace quiz master Ajay Poonia (Ex Sh, 2006). The quiz was won by Mayo College, Ajmer and Vasant Valley School, New Delhi were the runners up.

The School hosted the Science Fest which was attended by seven schools. The three day fest, which had Chemistry as its theme this year, saw eminent resource persons deliver informative talks on scientists and their achievements. While the Science exhibition gave an insight into the ingenuity of the boys the educational games helped them unwind and learn with fun. The overall trophy was won by Daly College, Indore.

The 4th edition of the Editors' Conference hosted by the school elicited enthusiastic participation from 11 schools from different parts of the country. In the course of the three day conference the delegates attended keynote talks by an eminent panel of speakers who were specialists in different areas of journalism. Each of them shared their skill with the students and spoke about the ethics, challenges and rewards of journalism. The delegates also went scouting for news, designed newsletters and received constructive feedback on them by the speakers. The conference which is totally noncompetitive in nature was praised by both the delegates as well as the speakers for the learning it promotes.

The School hosted the HH Maharaja Madhavrao Scindia Memorial Inter School Hindi Debate. 8 schools from different parts of the country participated in it. The debate was contested in two rounds. Each of the speakers spoke with great eloquence and put forth their views with logic, coherence and passion. After a fierce contest the debate was won by The Scindia School but since the host school does not compete for the trophy hence it was given to the Runners Up team Syna International School, Katni.

Visits

Seven delegates from The Royal Government of Bhutan accompanied by Ms Usha Pathania of 'Universal Learn Today' visited the Fort. They met several teachers from various verticals of the school and asked relevant questions to understand the nuances of work in a boarding set up. This visit was a part of an initiative by their government which seeks to establish 'Central Schools' across several districts of Bhutan.

Mr. Tony Hyde, a Round Square veteran and currently the Honorary Member of Round Square visited the Fort. During his stay in school he gave presentations on the Tchadar Trek and the Zanskar Valley to the boys and also addressed the staff.

Academics

We have concluded our first cycle of formative and Summative Assessments. The performance of the boys has given greater clarity on the high achievers and those in need of remediation. Personalised attention in the form of enrichment and remedial classes will be provided so as to help them realise their potential. We also enlisted the help of our alumni to add more variety into our academic planning.

The first Programme under the aegis of SOBiR (Scindia Old Boys in Residence) had **Dr Abhimanyu**



Empowering the women

STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

Nanhi Chaan an NGO, recently organized a national level essay writing contest on 'Gender Equality is the only way forward'. Two thousand students from across the country participated and only 14 of them were shortlisted for the second round. Hrithik Malhotra of The Scindia School was among the 14 students. He was awarded a certificate and a mini iPad.

The Scindia School participated in IPSC U-17 Hockey Tournament, organized and hosted by MNSS Rai, Sonapat. Our team won 3 out of 5 matches and won the IPSC Bronze medal after many years. Congratulations to the team!

A delegation of seven boys from The Scindia School (Kushagra Kaushik, Sparsh Jain, Keshav Sarawagi, Sarthak Arora, Yash Agarwal, Jayant Kishnani and Hardik Jain) participated in the 2nd Creative Eye Film festival hosted by The Assam Valley School. Jayant Kishnani won the best editor and sound award for their short film: A Day in the life of a Pen.

The Scindia School football team participated in the Mayo Football Tournament, Ajmer. The School team under the able captaincy of Vivek Singh topped the league table. The team was declared the Runner up after a close contest. Rekeela Bhutia was awarded the 'Man of the Tournament' trophy. Congratulations to the team!

Our students participated in the Gwalior Division Open Swimming Competition held at Gwalior Taran Pushkar. Five students (Alankrit Awasthi, Adarsh Gupta, Samarjith Nalvade, Teyjanveer Singh Boora and Satyam Chaturvedi) performed exceedingly well and won medals in different events.

The School Shooting team participated in the 18th M.P State Open and 14th M.P State Inter-School Shooting championship held at the Daly college Indore. Out of 31 Shooters who participated in the MP state Inter School Championship 29 have qualified for the All India Inter-School Shooting Championship and 16 have qualified for G.V. Mavlankar

Shooting Championship (Pre-Nationals).

The Scindian Shooters bagged 7 medals in various categories:

M P State Inter School Shooting Championship

Toshit Goyal and Rachit Agarwal won the Gold and Bronze medal respectively in the Air Pistol ISSF Youth Men's Category
Shashank Kumar won the Silver medal in the Air Pistol NR Sub Junior Men's Category.

Aditi Joshi won the Bronze medal the Air Pistol NR Sub Junior Women's Category.

M.P State Open Championship

Toshit Goyal and Rachit Agarwal won the Silver medal and Bronze medal respectively in the Air Rifle ISSF Youth Men's Category.

Shashank Kumar won the Bronze medal in the Air Pistol NR Youth Men's Category.

The Scindia School students recently participated in the 3rd All India IPSC Skating competition. Keshav Agarwal secured the second position in Under-14 Inline 1500 m Road Race and 1000 m Rink Race. Kushagra Kaushik secured the second position in Under-17 Quads 2000 m Road Race and third in 500 M Rink Race. Harsh Raj Gond secured the third position in Under-19 Quads 2000 m Road Race.

Shashwat Puri secured the third position in Under-19 In line 1000 M Rink Race and 300 m Rink Race. He stood third in the 500 m Rink Race.



Our ace shooters

OLD BOYS' NEWS

Yashwant Mahadik Ex-Ja, 1974 will soon be joining India's largest drug maker Sun Pharmaceutical as its HR head. He will be leading a work force of 30,000 people. We wish him all the very best for his new endeavour.

29 Old Boys of the **Class of 2000**, several of them with their families, visited the School on the 15th of August for their Crystal Jubilee Reunion. They participated in the March-Past, attended the Astachal and enjoyed a sumptuous breakfast at the Principal's residence. Post-breakfast they were presented a memento each by Principal, Dr M.D. Saraswat. This was followed by a friendly football match with the students at the Siddhartha Field. The Old Boys also invited the teachers of their time, the senior management team and the SOBA office bearers on the 14th of August for a get together at the Usha Kiran Palace Hotel. Several members of the fraternity were felicitated and it was a wonderful evening, full of warmth and camaraderie.

SOBA Bhopal hosted the **Central SOBA Executive Meet** on 1st August 2015. Several members of the

Executive Committee and other Old Boys from various cities attended the meet. The meet focussed on raising funds for supporting Scindians who might be in need of financial aid to pursue college education. The hectic deliberations and brainstorming also led to the identification of a number of events and activities which would showcase the school in a positive light.

Vivek Singh Sahariya (Ex- Mj, 2015) is the recipient of the SOBA Scholarship. SOBA has accepted to fund up to Rs. 1.50 lakh annually for him for the next 3 years. He is presently pursuing B.A. (Hons.) in Political Science from Shivaji College, Delhi University. Vivek aspires to become a civil servant. We wish him all the best.

Anuragam Vatsa (Ex-Rn 1988) has written a book entitled 'Listen to Heart: The other side of life'. The book is basically a vision through Gita in which Krishna preaches to Arjuna on the methodology to deal with our lives.

Vaibhav Singh (Ex- DL 2012) has been offered admission in the prestigious London School of Economics to pursue a Postgraduate course. He will be doing an MSc in Accounting, Organizations and Institutions.

Sansrisht Bhatia (Ex Mj, 2015) has been making waves in the equestrian world in the cities of Jaipur and Delhi. He recently participated in the National



Welcoming the Class of 2000.

OLD MAN CENSORSHIP

When I first came across the word censorship, it came with a certain alienation and distaste. It was during my school days in the 1980s on the Fort. Radio was the preserve of a few privileged seniors, television was restricted to Mahabharat episodes in the Housemaster's drawing room and the newly installed computers in the school still ran only on DOS.

Our primary mode of entertainment was the Saturday screening of a movie - mostly Hollywood - in the Assembly Hall. An English movie, we licked our lips, promised plenty of masala, and with that thought we waited out the week. So imagine our plight when the screen abruptly turned dark, or lights came on, every time the characters on the screen took off their clothes, or even came close to each other for the cursory peck. That darned old man named 'censorship', upstairs in the projector room, snipped his scissors to cut short all our pre-adolescent curiosities.

Once out of school, into adulthood, and then into journalism, the same old man has taken on different roles, finally settling to become a friend, philosopher and guide. Every instance of my decision-making as a news editor now undergoes the scrutiny of his keen eye. He helps me configure my thoughts, and rein in the profligacy in selecting news, visuals and bytes. He wants me to specifically report just the news, without the blood, gore, nudity and obscenities. He makes my readers read better, my viewers view cleaner and my listeners already shun out the unwanted. For instance, when photos of the dead arrived from the recent stampede at the Haj, he made sure that only a few went out to my reader causing minimum hurt to the victims' relatives. Born in Rome more than 2000 years ago, this old man's job was primarily to supervise public morality or maintain civic sense in society. But since then this highly responsible and powerful person has seen many a season - under emperors, heads of states, self-appointed messiahs, governments and regimes. Some used him as a tool, while plenty also became his instrument. His greatest foe, says histo-



Arindam Mukherjee (Ex Jp, 1991)

MOTHERHOOD

Motherhood makes us women such "expression" queens – or "emoticon" queens if we go by today's generation.

They don't have the time to "express" in words, so they just punch an emoticon, but I challenge them to match even remotely to a mother's emotions. Ranging from joy (on the first day when we hold the proverbial "bundle of joy") to surprise, happiness, contentment, irritation, patience, anger, hurt, anxiety, peace, horror (yes, they do come in later).

And they come on such unexpected moments that it hits us like a bolt.

Now, if I were to skip the initial years and come straight to Scindia expressions! (Sigh! Seems just like yesterday!)

On a lazy Sunday morning I got a phone call – and someone croaked, "Hi Maa!!"

"Who?"

"Suvrat"

God! Couldn't even recognize his cracked voice. I had a lump in my throat, tears in my eyes, sadness that he was away and I was missing his growing up. Worried if he was alright, wanted to hug him, kiss his forehead and so many more feelings all at once.

Try putting this in any one word or for that matter in an emoticon!!

Suvrat was home for his summer vacations. He was trying to teach me how to attach, mail, upload, download etc. etc. on the computers. But, I kept forgetting what he had taught me the previous day and he had to restart.

He was irritated. "It's so simple, wonder how you keep forgetting!"

I was hurt.

"Look Suvrat, it took me more than three days each to make you learn the spellings 'hippopotamus', 'diarrhoea' and 'disease'.

"I made the spelling of church easier for you by saying CH, CH and U R in the middle.

"It took me some time and effort to make you understand why female gender of *lala* is not *lali*.

"I revised your question and answers in the bath, and your tables on the bus stop, and believe me it was all very easy for me!!"

I think I won the battle. Suvrat was more patient after that. Now, how would you express the mixed feelings of hurt and happiness together?

I remember he was chosen to speak for the Platinum Jubilee memorial debate. He called to read his debate to me and asked for my inputs. Very thoughtfully, his teacher Mrs. Bishnoi invited me to his debate. What a proud moment it would be to hear him speak! I was eagerly looking forward to the day where he would be competing with some of the finest

debaters. I was nervous, probably more nervous than him.

The day before, he called up.

'Maa, please don't come for it.' It took me a second to understand what he said.

'Why?' was all I could muster in anger and surprise.

'I'll get nervous, if you're there.'

'Really?' I said sarcastically.

'I'll forget.'

'Suvrat, I'm invited!'

Heartbroken, I decided not to go. After his debate his English teacher lent him her mobile and asked him to talk to me. It was my birthday.

'Happy Birthday Maa! Your birthday gift, we've won the debate.'

In a fraction, all the anger and regret turned to pride and joy. But then, does anybody know how to express this in the language of emoticons?

There are so many such instances, that I could go on and on... but would mention the one that happened last week.

He sent me his "selfie" with a beard of three months and his head shaven.

I was close to the "horror expression".

He wanted that reaction from me. What was the point if mom doesn't let out one of her squeals?

But you see, we mothers master the art of camouflaging our expressions over the years.

So I didn't punch the horror emoticon. There isn't one that aptly describes this anyway!

I ignored it.

After two hours Suvrat "texted".

"No reaction, Maa?"

Ha! Now guess what my expression was, and try drawing it!!

I know this emotional journey will go on... forever.

After all we have deliberately chosen to let our hearts be tugged, pulped, shredded, diced, minced, chopped and sweetened!

Will we trade this for anything else in the world?

NO WAY!

Smita Jhavar (Mother of Suvrat Jhavar, Ex Rn, 2010)

FORTITUDE

(LIVING ON THE FORT WITH ATTITUDE!)

The Fort has an unfair advantage; it rises above the squalor and stench of Gwalior with its pockmarked roads and odiferous by lanes. The Fort transcends it all. It's not surprising therefore that the residents walk just that little bit taller when they strut their stuff.

The advantage that a Scindian education gives a common or garden Scindian (Scindianus vulgaris) is one of pride in being from a secret society to which admission is denied to most except the select few.

In my case of course it was the Common Entrance Test, craftily devised by the Indian Public Schools Conference to exclude a large swathe of the world's population from admittance to the wonders of their member schools. However, I actually failed. I left the Hindi paper blank. Well, not blank precisely, I scrawled across it that I had no knowledge of Hindi, being (a) a South Indian, who while conversant and fluent in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam, had no clue of anything north of the Vindhyas; (b), I had hitherto had all my education in countries such as China, (The People's Republic, not the Nationalist) Britain and West Germany, and while I was conversant with Mandarin and German, and could somehow muddle through in English, Hindi somehow never entered my life as a 'need-to-know' language. The other three papers were General Knowledge, (of which I had a preponderous store having been a collector of absolutely trivial and useless knowledge since birth), Mathematics with which I had a mere nodding acquaintance never having liked it at all also from birth; And English a language with which I was certainly conversant, having studied in a rather well known public school in Britain prior to my reluctant attempt to gain admittance to Scindia. Nevertheless the powers that be decided to allow me and that hammered the final nail in my attempt to not be an Indian.

My Father had very strong views on Indianism, and having taught at the Doon School himself in the last century, felt that I was becoming too British, and that a strong dose of Indianism would be a good thing in my life. He was very taken up with everything that Scindia stood for. Humility, he said; Simplicity, he added; Tradition, he felt; Indianness, he insisted. Well with that kind of PR, and of course my own inability to make any choices on my own, there I was, willy-nilly, a Scindian. Of course my father had been lost in a dim fog of idealism, because he had not seen the sanitary fittings and the ablutionary facilities tucked away behind the Houses which were, then, places where jaundice, typhoid and several undiscovered diseases proliferated in gay abandon. He had not visited the dining hall under Mahadji and Jeevaji Houses and tried to eat the not-so-comestible fare they offered.

Despite this, I survived. So did 556 other boys that were my school mates. And we all did splendidly. We were able to withstand the brutal ragging in the colleges we gained admission to after school, we were able to strut our stuff with aplomb and carry on with panache wherever we went and we were able to hold our own in any company we found ourselves in. It is true that we have not, so far, produced a Prime Minister or a President, but these posts have not always been the province of people with Simplicity, Humility, Tradition and Indianness with some exceptions, Radhakrishnan, Kalam and Shastri come to mind. But in every other field, we have excelled beyond the expectations of our hopeful parents. Scindia does indeed give us these gifts, and well has it taught us to make use of them. And this is in large measure to those men and women that had the patience and dedication to put us on the path



पत्रकारिता और छात्र

हम अपने रोजमर्रा के जीवन में लगभग रोज मिलते हैं। कभी बाजार में, कभी राह चलते और कभी एक दूसरे के घर पर, मुलाकात होते ही पहला प्रश्न होता है। क्या हालचाल है ? या आप कैसे हैं ? या फिर क्या समाचार हैं ? हम अपने मित्रों तथा सहकर्मियों से हमेशा उनका कुशलक्षेम या उनके आसपास की घटनाओं के बारे में जानना चाहते हैं। अपने आस-पास की चीजों, घटनाओं और लोगों के बारे में ताजा जानकारी रखना मनुष्य का सहज स्वभाव है। उसमें जिज्ञासा का भाव बहुत प्रबल होता है। यही जिज्ञासा समाचार और व्यापक अर्थ में पत्रकारिता का मूल तत्व है। मन में जिज्ञासा नहीं रहेगी तो समाचार की भी जरूरत नहीं रहेगी। पत्रकारिता का विकास इसी सहज जिज्ञासा को शांत करने की कोशिश के रूप में हुआ है। वह आज भी इसी मूल सिद्धांत के आधार पर काम करती है। आज देश-दुनिया में जो कुछ भी हो रहा है, उसकी अधिकांश जानकारी हमें समाचार माध्यमों से मिलती है।

कहा जाता है कि अच्छी पत्रकारिता, अच्छा साहित्य है, उस तरह से यह भी कहा जाता है कि अच्छा साहित्य अच्छी पत्रकारिता की भूमिका निभाता है। अर्थात् दोनों का लक्ष्य एक ही है। साहित्य निर्जीव चीजों में चेतना भर देता है। यह चेतना ही सृजनात्मकता है। आज कला और साहित्य छात्रों के लिए वास्तविक और अमूर्त कल्पना बनकर रह गया है। इसलिए छात्रों को यह जानकारी देना अति आवश्यक है कि हर रचना की आधार भूमि भाव होता है जिसकी जड़ें यथार्थ से जुड़ी होती हैं। यूँ तो लेखन से छात्रों का सम्पर्क और संबंध स्कूली दुनिया में प्रवेश के साथ ही हो जाता है लेकिन सृजन क्या है ? यह इन छात्रों को प्रारंभ में नहीं पता होता। सृजनात्मकता की बुनावट की पहचान जहाँ उनमें एक ओर रचनाशीलता के प्रति ललक पैदा कर उन्हें रचनाशील बनाती है, वहीं दूसरी ओर साहित्य और साहित्येतर लेखन को जानने समझने में भी मददगार हो सकती है।

पत्रकारिता और साहित्य जहाँ एक ओर छात्रों को जिम्मेदार नागरिक और रचनात्मक व्यक्तित्व दे सकने में सहायक होता है वहीं दूसरी ओर उनकी व्यवहारिक लेखन क्षमता भी निरंतर बढ़ती है। आज सिंधिया स्कूल के छात्र पत्रकारिता के क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका अदा कर रहे हैं। कई पूर्व छात्र विभिन्न चैनलों में उद्घोषक के रूप में और विभिन्न समाचारपत्रों में एक कुशल संपादक या पत्रकार के रूप में अपने व्यक्तित्व का परिचय दे रहे हैं। रचना प्रक्रिया एवं पत्रकारिता का गहन अनुभव के पीछे स्कूल द्वारा चलाए गए विभिन्न गतिविधियाँ एवं प्रकाशित की गई कई पत्र-पत्रिकाएँ रही हैं। सिंधिया स्कूल ने अन्तर्विद्यालयीय स्तर पर 4 वर्ष पूर्व पत्रकारिता रुपी पुस्तक में एक महत्वपूर्ण नया पृष्ठ पत्रकार वार्ता (एडिटर्स कॉन्फ्रेंस) के रूप में जोड़ा और जो प्रतिवर्ष अनवरत आयोजित किया जा रहा है जिसका श्रेय पत्रकार वार्ता की संयोजिका श्रीमती पूजा पंत को जाता है। इसके पीछे स्कूल का एकमात्र उद्देश्य पत्रकारिता के क्षेत्र में राष्ट्र स्तर पर छात्रों की क्षमता को बढ़ाना, रचना प्रक्रिया को गहन रूप देना तथा नई सकारात्मक सोच को उजागर करना है।

सामान्य तौर पर किसी घटना, विचार और समस्या के समाचार बनने की संभावना तब बढ़ जाती है, जब उसमें नवीनता, निकटता, प्रभाव, जनरुचि, टकराव या संघर्ष, महत्वपूर्ण लोग, उपयोगी जानकारियाँ,

अनोखापन, पाठक वर्ग एवं नीतिगत ढाँचा शामिल हो। किसी भी समाचार संगठन की सफलता उसकी विश्वसनीयता पर टिकी होती है। पत्रकारिता की साख बनाए रखने के लिए तथ्यों की शुद्धता, वस्तुप. रकता, निष्पक्षता, संतुलन एवं स्रोत आवश्यक हैं। आम तौर पर यह देखा जाता है कि छात्र का स्कूली शिक्षा-जीवन बड़ा ही महत्वपूर्ण एवं जिज्ञासु होता है। ऐसी स्थिति में वह पत्रकारिता की शुद्धता, वस्तुप. रकता एवं निष्पक्षता को बारीकी से सीखता है। छात्र जीवन में सीखी गई पत्रकारिता की अपनी कुछ सीमाएँ होती हैं। उन सीमाओं से बाहर जाकर छात्र एडिटर का काम नहीं कर सकता है क्योंकि वह राजनैतिक भेदभाव, जाति, वर्ग एवं सम्प्रदायवाद से अलग रहता है। समय, विषय और घटना के अनुसार पत्रकारिता के लेखन के तरीके बदल जाते हैं, यही बदलाव पत्रकारिता में कई नए आयाम जोड़ता है। इन आयामों को जोड़ने में आज का छात्र पत्रकार सक्षम है। समाचार के अलावा विचार, टिप्पणी, संपादकीय फोटो और कार्टून पत्रकारिता के अहम हिस्से हैं। इनके बिना कोई समाचार पत्र स्वयं को संपूर्ण नहीं कर सकता। ये नए आयाम छात्रों के लिए उपयोगी सिद्ध होते हैं। सिंधिया स्कूल में संपादक वार्ता (एडिटर्स कॉन्फ्रेंस) के दौरान, संपादकीय पृष्ठ, फोटो पत्रकारिता, कार्टून कोना एवं रेखांकन और कार्टोग्राफ पूर्ण रूप से छात्रों से छात्रों के लिए संपादकीय, फोटो पत्रकारिता एवं कार्टून में क्षमता एवं परिपक्वता उत्तरोत्तर बढ़ती जाती है। पत्रकार की चार बैसाखियाँ महत्वपूर्ण हैं, जो संकट या दुविधा के समय उसके काम आती हैं। पहली बैसाखी है - सच्चाई, विश्वसनीयता इसी पर टिकी होती है। दूसरी बैसाखी है- संतुलन, सच्चाई की कसौटी पर कसे जाने के बावजूद यह अनिवार्य है कि तथ्यों, बयानों और आक. डों के प्रयोग में संतुलन रखा जाए। तीसरी बैसाखी है - निष्पक्षता, जो पत्रकार अपने समाचारों में निष्पक्ष नहीं हो, वह पत्रकार नहीं हो सकता। चौथी बैसाखी है - स्पष्टता, समाचार से कोई भ्रम पैदा नहीं होना चाहिए। उसे शीशे की तरह साफ होना चाहिए। इसके लिए अनिवार्य है कि समाचार में वाक्य सीधे और छोटे हों, जिससे उनमें कोई उलझाव न हो। सच्चाई, संतुलन, निष्पक्षता, एवं स्पष्टता ये चारों बैसाखियाँ छात्र पत्रकार को सही दिशा दे सकती हैं। आज विद्यालयों में एडिटर्स कॉन्फ्रेंस आयोजित करने का मुख्य उद्देश्य यही है कि छात्र समाज को व्यवहा.



Learning from experts.



Educative talk

REMINISCENCES

It is very heartening to know that Qila Quotes is coming out with its 25th edition this Founders.

It was the year 2008 when it was felt that though we had a fortnightly publication in the form of the Scindia School Review, that gave an opportunity to the students for creative writing and reporting of school events, the school had not been able to present its progress, rich heritage and achievement to all stake holders.

It was decided that the School should come out with a Quarterly publication. It should be done very professionally and should give space to Old Boys and parents along with students and members of the faculty to express their reminiscences and feelings. It was also decided that it should be more pictorial than the Review.

The work on the first edition started in September 2008. I decided to give the responsibility of coordinating and editing of this new project to a very new teacher in the School Ms Puja Pant. Today I feel vindicated and very happy that she carried out this huge responsibility so well.

A lot of discussion amongst students, teachers, Old Boys and Board members went into deciding the name of the publication. Finally it was agreed that it would be called Qila Quotes. I must not fail to mention the contribution of Mr Bharat Patel and Mrs Sujata Kulshreshtha in starting this project. The first few editions were given for designing to a professional company Studio Print with Ms Renee Singh as the graphic Designer.

The first edition released on Founder's Day 2008. After 14 editions the Editor and the students at the school opted for in House designing. I am extremely happy to note that they proved to be no less than professionals. Kudos to the team for such splendid work!

I wish Qila Quotes all the very best for having become a great creative addition to the rich cultural history of the Scindia School.

Mr NK Tewari, Former Principal

I was on the Board of Governors of the School when I was entrusted with the responsibility of creating a publication that was primarily meant to reach out to parents and stake holders of the School. The School Review existed and was great for internal reading but had details that did not necessarily interest parents. The website was also up and active but parents did not seem to access it for regular updates. We required something that could package a slice of life from within the majestic Fort walls.

A lot of brainstorming went into the selection of the name. Mails flew back and forth but it was finally QILA QUOTES that hit a note with everyone and so it was to be! Since this was conceived as the flagship publication of the School it needed to be well-designed and contemporary to look at. We approached Renee Singh, an accomplished graphic designer to help us evolve what we had in mind. A lot of heart and soul

went into the design - right from the selection of the font, to the masthead and the layout of every single page.

I remember Puja being a part of the editorial team right from inception. I think she had joined the School very recently. It wasn't an easy task to compile every issue, for it meant sifting out only the best. Whether it was the photographs, the poems or the articles - they needed to carry in them, the Scindian stamp.

It's been great to be a part of the journey of the Qila, and of the Qila Quotes. The publication has grown from strength to strength and become synonymous with the spirit of the Scindia School.

I'd like to wish the team the very best on the occasion of this milestone.

Mrs. Sujata Kulshreshtha

It feels good that the name 'Qila Quotes' for this very popular school publication of ours, was suggested by me.

The Board had asked me and Mrs. Sujata Kulshreshtha to assist in starting this magazine. Sujata, being a brilliant graphic designer and creative mind put in a lot of hard work. While trying to arrive at a suitable name for the publication I had various thoughts in my mind. I have always known that the Fort is the heart and soul of our school giving it a uniqueness which perhaps no school in the world can ever achieve. The Hindi word for Fort, Qila, brings out the unique Indian ethnic character of our school. The word Quotes was chosen for its alliterative impact when used together with Qila. The best part was that the Board enthusiastically and unanimously approved this name of the School Magazine.

Mr Bharat Patel

I consider myself lucky that the proposal to start the Qila Quotes came up in 2008, the year I joined the Review Editorial Board. The preparation and efforts for the inaugural edition were enormous. We collaborated with the team from Delhi who provided us creative help. The Editorial Board at school put in a lot of work and evolved a far more rigorous pattern of working. It is a wonderful feeling to realise that it is coming out with its 25th edition this Founders.

Prithvi Khanna, Ex Md-2010

The first 14 issues of the Qila Quotes were designed in New Delhi by a professional company 'Studio Print'. When we took over the designing I had to understand the entire design concept, the font styles and size. I realised that the layout and colour scheme that was used in it was more or less fixed and had reader approval. I must admit that it was a tough task to follow someone else's creativity while also introducing some of my own creative elements. Our Chief Creative Editor Mriganka Ghosh has brought in a lot of professionalism into it and has designed many cover pages. We are switching over from Corel Draw to InDesign for its formatting from this issue.

Mr Jitendra Jawale, Faculty of ICT



The release of the Inaugural issue of Qila Quotes.



Synonymous with the spirit of Scindia



The first Editorial Board of Qila Quotes.



Training young minds.

QILA QUOTES: A LABOUR OF LOVE

How often does one hear the truism that all good things happen not by design but by default. My seven years of association with Qila Quotes tell a somewhat similar story.

It was in September 2008 when Mr N K Tewari shared with me that the Board wanted that we, at school, should start a new magazine. This publication, which would be a quarterly, was to be our window to the outside world and had to be a celebration of the essence of Scindianness. Since I was already the staff editor of the Scindia School Review he asked me if I was ready to take the responsibility of being the editor of this new publication too.

With just one year into the school I was in no position to dither over such an offer and I consented, albeit a bit reluctantly. Any which way I was well aware that these requests from Mr Tewari were actually camouflaged commands. At that time what excited me was that this magazine was to be in colour and would have glossy pages, things that I had always wanted in the Review but was not able to push through due to budget restrictions. What intimidated me however was the constant refrain that it had to meet the highest standards of literary excellence and designing. So in order to get more clarity and also to streamline our efforts I, along with my first Editorial Board had a series of meetings with Ms Renee Singh. This immensely talented and creative lady had been entrusted with the responsibility of designing the magazine. Board Member Mrs Sujata Kulshreshtha was there to handhold us in the beginning.

A lot of brainstorming and planning went into deciding the tone and flavour of articles, the distribution of content and the finer details of layout. We also sought suggestions for a name which would reflect the character of the school as also the magazine. Finally the name 'Qila Quotes', which was suggested by Mr Bharat Patel, was selected from among many others. It was decided to release the Inaugural issue on Founder's Day 2008.

Today when I look back to those days I can say with much gratification that we had quite a daunting task ahead of us but we managed to accomplish all of it in such less a time.

Coming back to our work for the inaugural issue, we realised that with so much work chalked out and with the kind of expectations around it our first requirement was to expand the strength of the Editorial Board. Hence we created new portfolios like Associate Editor, Co Editor and Correspondents and had each person's role neatly etched. Together we worked tirelessly for long hours and managed to collect all the content by the very stiff deadline which had been set for us. The designing was done in Delhi and Ms Singh and I exchanged ideas and suggestions through mails and phone calls. This was definitely not so easy as it sounds. Of course

we were supported by Mrs Kulshreshtha all through.

As per plan the first issue of Qila Quotes was released on Founder's Day 2008 and it became an instant hit.

Since then there has been no looking back. We worked on edition after edition trying our level best to better content and look with each successive issue. While most issues have been a mixed bag we also came out with theme based issues like the ones on environment, IT, Social Service, Mr NK Tewari, Adventure and the Scindia School Review.

Qila Quotes remained a quarterly till the 14th issue i.e. till January 2012. After that it became a Triannual Publication and from that issue we also took over the responsibility of designing it in house. Mr Jitendra Jawale along with student editors like Aditya Sharma, Jivitesh Mazumdar and our current Editor-in-Chief Mriganka have ensured that we adhere to the same high standards of excellence in our designing as set by Ms Singh.

Qila Quotes went on to achieve everything it had been envisioned to do. It has helped to bind the entire Scindian community together. Parents, Old Boys, students, faculty old and new all contribute articles for it and the magazine keeps us connected, informed and entertained. It also showcases our glorious moments to all those who care for us.

Of course all of this has been possible due to the effort and hard work of the student editors who worked tirelessly but in the bargain honed their journalistic and creative skills. They remained committed to maintaining the high standards that have become a byword for the Qila Quotes. I can say with confidence that the columns of the Review and Qila Quotes have been a training ground for a long line of student editors and have contributed in no small way to their lifelong passion for journalism.

As for me I am grateful to Mr Tewari for showing such absolute faith in a rank newcomer like me and giving me complete creative freedom to decide how I wanted the magazine to grow and flourish. I am also thankful to Mr Ghosh for putting up with my constant whining every time I complained of workload but not letting me give it up. His creative inputs and superb literary skills always kept me on my toes. My thanks are due to Dr Saraswat for allowing me to work with the same autonomy that I have gotten so used to. His openness for bolder topics and thrust on freedom of expression will surely take the Qila Quotes to greater heights.

Having seen the magazine through its 'Diaper Days', then its first few nimble steps and now its confident presence as a well known name in the circle of prestigious Public schools I have much to feel good about.

May it see many more such illustrious milestones.

Puja Pant, Staff Editor Qila Quotes

IN AWE OF QQ

The first time a dummy of an issue of Qila Quotes came to my table was in July or August 2009. The Editor Ms. Puja Pant explained to me the genesis of this special and classy publication and its protocols with an air of quiet confidence. I was hugely impressed and a little intimidated to realise that I had to write a message befitting the high standards of the magazine.

Allow me to fast forward to October 2015 to explain why I was forced to put many of my doubts and apprehensions aside and sit at the computer to put down my thoughts for this issue. The teacher editor, who remains unchanged for 25 issues and will surely continue for many more, knew very well that I would do anything to avoid having my photograph printed in the publications. I politely expressed my hesitation about writing for QQ in an email and prompt came her reply :

'As for your write up for the 25th issue I thought I'll just remind you of my earlier policy that when you give me less content then I put a big picture of yours. Maybe I'll do the same even now if you don't send anything. Maybe this will be of some help in resolving the issue in your mind.'

The matter WAS resolved.

It indeed was a pleasure to be a witness to many phases of this wonderful courier of the Scindia School spirit. Ms. Renee Singh, a professional designer from Delhi set a very high standard for the look and feel of the quarterly. Her influence is still evident in QQ. Her cover designs had a wonderful mix of the topical and abstract visuals. We had to be alert all the time to meet her expectations, deadlines and the invoices. Once in an email I used the upper case letters casually. I didn't get a prompt reply from her, which was a bit unusual. The Editor appeared at my office door late that evening to educate me that using upper case letters in an email was equivalent to shouting at the receiver. I remembered all alive or dead - who taught me English at various stages of my life and called upon them to bless my fingers with the most polite expressions and words while I typed the next email. It worked.

Ms. Sujata Kulshreshtha contributed to the ideas of which QQ was born and she guided the publishing team in many ways. She supported me solidly every time at a Board meeting someone raised the question about the cost of production of QQ or suggested that it should be a self financing project making its chances of survival look rather bleak.

The question of printing cost never seized to haunt the Editor

and her team. The number of copies were suddenly reduced and I got an SOS to revert the 'order', the printer in Delhi was summarily dismissed and the trusted printers in Gwalior had to be trained to maintain the same standards of printing and recycled paper for a lesser cost. But the fonts came from Delhi so that the visual character of QQ wouldn't change. It brought to the fore the creative talents of students like Jivitesh, Aditya and Mriganka as they designed the cover and helped with the layout. At one point of time repeated appeals were made to entice advertisers to the magazine. Corporate houses missed a great opportunity to boost their sales and to spread their nets wider. Well that's their loss. And those who we thought could never sever their umbilical cords with the institution didn't go for page donation. Hence QQ found its permanent place on the revenue expenditure budget.

I cannot remember even one occasion when I met fellow Principals of IPSC or Round Square member schools when several of them wouldn't praise the quality and variety of themes and articles of QQ.

QQ really brought all the Scindia fraternity together on one platform. The Old Boys, ex & present teachers and the students continued to enrich it. It is absolutely unique in its character and I haven't seen a similar publication anywhere else. The Editor chose the themes carefully and worked burning the midnight lamp to give the concepts a final shape. There was no escaping from working on strategies to tackle the perpetual contributors of long articles who usually were touchy about being ignored or cut down to size. Everyone would read the news section with enthusiasm to know what was going on in School and some would count how many times other people's names or pictures appeared.

If some enterprising soul can steal the file of rejected articles and publish them, he is sure to get an international award for absurd literature, angst literature and ultra modern genre where grammar is thrown to the wind.

QQ is that pigeon from the Fort which brings a message of warmth straight to the heart of any Scindian and it does so without compromising on its formal protocol of layout and language.

I can never quite get over the awe of QQ.

Samik Ghosh
Ex-Principal (2009-15)



Former Principal Mr Samik Ghosh



Mr Dinesh Siriah; capturing every moment of school life.

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