

# THE ORIGINALS



## ASCENDANCE OF PRIDE

After a week full of tasks, selections, interviews and nerves, The Originals Team is proud to announce our interns for this year. Congratulations to all of you, we look forward to working with you. We wish you a great journalistic experience.

Correspondents:

1. Kamakshi Agarwal
2. Jigyasa Mathema
3. Rose Arora

Editors:

1. Sana Singh
2. Ocean Jain

## SKY'S THE LIMIT

~ Nirali Sawartha

Orange is not just a colour; it is a million different emotions. For me, it is warmth. In warmth, you can sense rising hope, like you are surrounded with joy. It is the feeling of positivity and oneness as if love walks through the door. Ever since I first stepped into Lakshmi house, it has never felt like a foreign land. I belong here. I have continued to feel mesmerised by the raging house spirit that each member carried then and continues to, now. This has taught me to be resilient. We might not come home with flying colours every day, but it teaches me to value learning over victory. It teaches me to bounce back stronger every time. Over my years, I have been inspired by exceptional leaders writing history with actions of gold. I have instilled a keen understanding of empathy, courage, equality, and equity to name a few, from them and this house. Learning is constant. Every member of the house has managed to imprint my heart with wisdom. I am learning from my people, every day. I am learning that "No journey is difficult with the right mindset and spirit when hard work pumps our blood, unity gives us courage, our dreams are big and "sky's the limit".

## CORRUPT CHAUVINISM

~ Sana Singh

Corruption is not something unheard of in Russia. High-level and petty corruption is common, especially in public procurement and the judicial system. While seeking to restore the country's influence on the world, Moscow has practiced numerous acts that could be labeled as bribery such as lobbying on the weapons market and advancing its pragmatic interests under the guise of medical programs. But even with such a depraved government, people were not ready to oppose the ones with power.

But this fear soon changed when a man named Alexei Navalny, a Russian lawyer and opposition leader rose to the limelight by initiating an anti-government party and standing up against the extortion in the state. In 2013, he was suspended on grounds of defalcation but this still allowed him to run for the mayor elections in Moscow and outperformed expectations by coming in second place; however, soon after he was suspended yet again. Both of his criminal cases were widely considered to be politically motivated and intended to bar him from participating in any elections in the future. His message in the 2017 documentary, 'He Is Not Dimon To You' which openly accused the then prime minister Dmitry Medvedev of being corrupt left many with resentment and chauvinism which resulted in major protests nationwide. In 2020, he was suddenly rushed to the hospital as he was poisoned with a Novichok nerve agent and he later accused President Vladimir Putin of this crime. In January of this year, he returned to his country was detained on accusations of violating parole conditions regarding a trial in 2014, and a month later was charged and is now facing two years in prison. Many see him as a man with a vision for a better tomorrow and he has inspired many to stand up against the unjust organizations filled with corrupt leaders.

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## WHAT ELSE IS LEFT FOR SOUTH AFRICA?

~ Gurnimrat Brar

Riots in South Africa have been present since the capture of their former leader Jacob Zuma. It brought about plundering and brutality in the country's two generally unmistakable and crowded regions, in the midst of the continuous pandemic. Mr. Zuma was the leader of South Africa from 2009 until 2018 when debasement was at its peak in the public authority and the executive parties. Fights started when Zuma gave himself to the police to serve a 15-month sentence for contempt of court. Zuma's allies responded angrily to his capture, barring significant streets and requiring a closure popular of his delivery.

The protests developed into riots on a large scale, something that was infrequently seen by the country. Organizations in each area were plundered, consumed, and petroleum besieged in urban communities and towns across KwaZulu-Natal, even Gauteng, which encompasses the country's greatest city, Johannesburg. Some are calling last week's occasions South Africa's "haziest hours". In any case, 212 individuals have passed on in the dissent and more than 2,500 have been captured from the two regions.

The blockages had prompted deficiencies of food and other basic items, and disturbed fares from a portion of the country's horticultural center points, and even trading points, with other African economies as far abroad as the Democratic Republic of Congo. The shopping centers, plants, stockrooms, and more modest organizations focused on, in the uproars are significant managers, particularly for less fortunate and lower-gifted South Africans. Authorities have cautioned that modifying the harm could require years.

## THE MONARCH

~ Kamakshi Singh

"Innovesta" was an Inter-House Originals Competition. I thought to give it a try so we could have enough participation. When I first saw the recruited list, I was shocked as I did not actually expect myself to be selected as the Editor in Chief for the Laxmi House newsletter. Initially, I was a little out of space with what to do and how to go about things but with the guidance of my House Captain, I finally started allotting tasks and making decisions. Seeing the team members so enthusiastic, my spirits lifted up and I felt confident that we could win this. The correspondents and editors were quick with their tasks and met all their deadlines. I was really impressed at the pace we were progressing. It was all so new and consuming that within the blink of an eye the deadline was on our head and we were yet to figure out our theme and segments. In between all this, I realised how difficult being in this position is and the responsibility that comes with it. The IT team members put together a great layout that exceeded all my expectations. We came up with segments like "rumour has it" and "critique pier" which were pretty unique and catchy. After a week of the team's hard work and contribution, I was finally looking at "THE MONARCH" with a feeling of accomplishment flooding through me.

## JOURNEY THROUGH THE MYSTERIOUS GLOBE

1. Islamic festival Eid al-Adha's prayers continue in the presidential palace in Kabul, with President Ashraf Ghani in attendance, despite attack rockets being launched nearby. The attack in Afghanistan came amid a rise in violence in the country as foreign troops withdrew after 20 years.
2. Jeff Bezos, former founder and CEO of Amazon, launches to space aboard the New Shepard Rocket ship, along with his brother, Wally Funk, an 82-year-old pioneer of the space race, and an 18-year-old student.
3. With massive floods in Henan Province, more than 10,000 people have been evacuated, rail stations and roads have been submerged. Following an extremely active rainy season, the province of 94 million people has issued the highest degree of weather warning.
4. Mali's interim president, Assimi Goita, was attacked in Bamako's Great Mosque by two armed men, one of whom held a knife. The attack took place during prayers for Islamic festival of Eid al-Adha.

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## STORY BEHIND ACHIEVEMENTS

“Scoring a whopping 99.75% definitely surprised me. Congratulations to all my batchmates on their exceptional results. A big thank you to all my teachers for their unwavering support and guidance. It would be impossible without them. I am glad that our hard work paid off.”

~ Sanskriti Sarraf, XII

“A good result comes from good guidance. It is an honour to have been under the guidance of the most supportive teachers in Mussoorie International School who always taught us, ‘If you put in the work, the results will come. Not always the right way but in the end, if you are consistent in the quality and quantity of your work, the results will come.’

Rock bottom is not the end of the world; it is the foundation that can form the greatest growth of your life.

~ Khushali Agarwal, XII

“I did not think I could score this well, it was quite unexpected. But as the result came it felt really great and proud to be one of the merit list holders.”

~ Niyati Agarwal, XII

“I do not have enough words to express my feelings, but I owe a lot to my Principal, to all my teachers who had faith in me and always told me, ‘If you make up your mind, you can achieve anything’ and yes, it really proved to be the truth.

I will keep up to the great values that have been inculcated in me.

Proud to be a MISTAR.”

~ Jia Juneja, XII

“How anxious and exasperated would you feel when the CISCE result portal is open, you can access your result in ten seconds, and you have all the necessary details, but not a three digit number to acquire it? The window of my brain was in an absolute flustered state making me feel as if I was in a thousand different places altogether.

Anyway, after a heated discussion in the Esoteric group for that number, my friend called me and told me that she accessed my result and relayed my result of 97.5%. I was completely flabbergasted and in a state of ecstasy at the same time. And with this, we all were done with school.”

~ Diya Bansal, XII

**Mussoorie International School**  
**CONGRATULATES**  
**ICSE Class of 2021**  
**OUR STUDENTS MAKE US PROUD AGAIN**

**100% Result**      **98% Distinctions**

 Radhika Chhaparia 94.40 %	 Saranya Singh 93.60 %	 Kanishka Singh 93.60 %	 Shreya Sharma 93.20 %	 Anandita Khanna 92.80 %
 Manya 92.00 %	 Ibadat Sandhu 91.80 %	 Krishna Singhal 91.80 %	 Ojasvi Singh 91.60 %	 Zannat Chauhan 91.40 %
 Shivanshi Rajora 91.20 %	 Shirin Gupta 90.80 %	 Harshita Gupta 90.80 %	 Kamakshi Agarwal 90.00 %	 Sunandita Mukherjee 90.00 %

**ALL FIRST DIVISIONS (ICSE)**  
\* 45 Students Appeared in Examination  
\* 224 Distinctions  
\* School Average 86.60%  
\* 33.33% above 90%  
\* 6 Perfect Scores

**90 - 95% - 15**  
**85 - 90% - 17**  
**80 - 85% - 6**

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Traditional Values Modern Outlook

“The words ‘dream come true’ would be an understatement to describe how I felt when I came to know that I have got the first rank. I have worked hard, not only in the past year, but have been striving consistently and have finally seen my hard work pay off. I can not thank my teachers and friends enough for being my guiding light and I hope to aim even higher in future.”

~ Radhika Chhaparia, X

**Mussoorie International School**  
**CONGRATULATES**  
**ISC Class of 2021**  
**OUR STUDENTS MAKE US PROUD AGAIN**

**100% Result**      **100% Distinctions**

 Sanskriti Sarraf Commerce 99.75%	 Brinda Jaiswal Science 98.75%	 Khushali Agarwal Science 98.25%	 Megha Jain Commerce 98.25%	 Diya Bansal Humanities 97.5%	 Jahvi Jain Science 97.25%	 Prerna Yadav Science 97.25%
 Dhriti Baid Commerce 96%	 Divyanshi Singh Humanities 96%	 Ananya Agrawal Humanities 95.75%	 Suchi Saraf Commerce 95%	 Tanvi Agarwal Humanities 95%	 Avni Shroff Commerce 94.5%	 Tenzin Nyidon Commerce 94.25%
 Vishakha Galkwad Science 94%	 Bugi A Sangma Humanities 93.75%	 Shruti Singh Science 93.25%	 Michelle Bagchi Humanities 93%	 Vidhi Jain Humanities 93%	 Parinita Chaudhary Commerce 92.75%	 Janvi Vasant Humanities 92.5%
 Aanya Panwar Science 91.5%	 Shefali Bhatia Commerce 91.25%	 Niyati Agarwal Commerce 91.25%	 Ananya Tripathi Humanities 91.25%	 Unnati Pattanaik Humanities 90.75%	 Snigdha Jain Commerce 90%	 Jia Juneja Humanities 90%

**ALL FIRST DIVISIONS (ISC)**  
\* 37 Students Appeared in Examination  
\* 122 Distinctions  
\* School Average 92.28%  
\* 75.6% above 90%  
\* 27% above 95%  
\* 7 Perfect Scores

**95 - 100% - 10**  
**90 - 95% - 18**  
**85 - 90% - 8**  
**80 - 85% - 1**

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Traditional Values Modern Outlook

“Being a part of MIS has proven to be one of the best things ever. I learned so much from everybody here, from the teachers to my fellow classmates. My grades, which are in the 90th percentile, and where I am today are all because of the consistent efforts of our teachers who always encouraged us even in these unprecedented times.

I owe my success to MIS.

Thank you Ma'am Principal, Sir Vice Principal and the faculty for always supporting me.”

~ Harshita Gupta, X

“I was more than delighted when I received my results. Scoring an average of 92% definitely surpassed my expectations and made me believe in my capabilities as an academic student. I am beyond grateful to my teachers and the community at MIS for nurturing me into being able to score this total”

~ Ojasvi Singh, X

“After all this hustle, we finally received our results yesterday. Trust me, it was such a relief because we finally graduated grade 10 officially. All of us have scored remarkably, and I believe it is credited to our teachers.”

~ Shreya Sharma, X



# THE ORIGINALS

## Our Two Cents



### THE DILUTION OF ACADEMIC TERMS IN POPULAR CULTURE

'Trigger', 'normalization', 'toxic', 'romanticization', 'gas-lighting', 'glorification'.

You have likely seen these words plastered over social media, being overused and diluted to the point where you are no longer sure of what they mean. These terms are often utilised out of context, used only to make the user appear smarter. However, the meanings of these words are often changed as this happens. In an extract from 1984, George Orwell mentions the concept that overuse of words depletes the meaning and purpose for utilising the term. Many academic and mental health words are precisely

undergoing this transformation. Academic terms on social media are often used to make someone seem like they have more credibility for using more complicated terminology. These words begin to lose significance by becoming a victim of social media overuse, an action that leads to simplification of heavy concepts, changing their true intent as words. Although social media has a lot of power, its ability to invalidate specific terms is problematic. Not just academic phrases, but even mental health language, are being displaced by social media. An example of this is 'gaslighting', which began to be used as a comical term, such as within the phrase 'gaslight, gatekeep, girlboss'. While most are probably using the word to be humorous, this is damaging since it diminishes the weight of gaslighting as a form of assault. It is a heavy topic and not one to be joked about towards people who have suffered from it. The term 'trigger', which refers to something that upsets one's emotional state to the point of grief, first appeared in popular culture in 2018. This desensitised people to the weight of actual triggers. *Trigger warnings* are utilised in most places, specifically for heavy topics such as suicide, violence, etcetera. However, now, many find trigger warnings to be useless, due to incorrect usage. To effectively use a trigger warning, it must be signified – it is not enough to simply say 'trigger warning'. The hyper specificity (very highly specific nature) of some trigger warnings also renders them useless. It is best to keep them simple, short and signified, lest they continue to lose their meaning. This is not to say that conversation surrounding mental health themselves should not be normalised. It is certainly important to have conversations regarding mental health struggles and illnesses, allowing for people to have a safe space to heal. However, it is necessary to be careful regarding the language being utilised. To act otherwise is to deplete the meanings of varying terms, and lightning the weight that comes along with discussions of mental health.

### SPORT MANIA

In honour of the upcoming Olympics, guess the sport with the names of its famed players.

- |                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Cristiano Ronaldo | 5. PV Sindhu     |
| 2. Usain Bolt        | 6. Roger Federer |
| 3. Michael Jordan    | 7. Sandy Morris  |
| 4. Michael Phelps    | 8. Carl Osburn   |

ANSWERS: 1. Football, 2. Athletics,  
3. Basketball, 4. Swimming,  
5. Badminton, 6. Tennis, 7. Pole Vaulting,  
8. Shooting



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