

# THE ORIGINALS



## BILL WHIRLED TO BRAWL

~ Divyanshi Singh



Hong Kong was a British colony until in 1977 when it was restored to China under the theory of "One country, two systems." which granted Hong Kong its own legal and economic system. Recently several demonstrations are happening in Hong Kong as a consequence of **Hong Kong Extradition Bill 2019.** Extradition means shifting a fugitive from one jurisdiction to another. The bill was introduced on 3rd April 2019 by the Secretary of Security, John Lee, and submitted to the city's legislative council by Chief Executive of Hong Kong, Carrie Lam. It seeks to amend the fugitive offenders ordinance and the mutual legal assistance in criminal matters ordinance, therefore, updating existing law that governs extradition processes. The bill brings about a system of case by case fugitive transfers between Hong Kong and other territories which has no formal extradition record with Hong Kong. According to the bill if a suspect is accused of any of thirty-seven criminal offences including murder, sexual assault, money laundering and so on, then they can be extradited. The authorities pushed for the new law by citing the case of a 19-year-old Hong Kong man who allegedly executed his 20-year-old pregnant Taiwan girlfriend in February 2018. Since there is no pre-existing agreement with Taiwan he could not be sent back to Taiwan for trial. Carrie Lam cited a legal loophole was preventing the extradition of fugitives. As stated by the draft, the Chief Executive would

have the authority to decide upon any requests and the LEGCO (Legislative Council of Hong Kong) would have no role in the process. Hong Kong's courts are not allowed to cross-examine the quality of justice and also only China's highest court can file an extradition request. Legal assistance can be asked by outside investigators for criminal cases. People who dissent the motion believe that the bill will sabotage the independence of Hong Kong's legal system. They doubt China's opaque legal system. Lawyers suggest that there are not enough safeguards for fair trials. Critics fear greater political interference from Beijing though China has patently denied any role in the policymaking. The protest erupted on 28th April 2019 with thousands of people marching towards Hong Kong's parliament demanding to scrap of the proposal. Ever since there has been no termination in the demonstration so far. From democrats to students and even other countries are triggered by the bill. The protestors had five core demand among which only the demand for withdrawing the bill was fulfilled on October 23 2019. There have been more than 1000 demonstrations and even after this year-long brawl, no upshot is there. Moreover on the ground of eradicating protests China passed a new national security law which will erode more freedoms from Hong Kong. The rage is still slithering and there is no new ray of hope imparting that this scuffle will end any time soon.

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## A SPLENDID DYSTOPIA; YEMEN

~ *Melonee Maibam*

Skimming through my daily tabloid, witnessing news regarding nepotism and Indo-China clash has been my everyday affair during this pandemic, which has left so many lives uprooted and the most heartbreaking example of it is Yemen. Security and resources are the most vital components for a nation to thrive, but Yemen, having a failed political transition, has one of the worst humanitarian crisis in history. Almost 70% of the population cannot afford food with the issue of food insecurity, shortage of safe water and proper sanitation. In 2011, the former President of Yemen, Ali Abdullah Saleh, handed the authority to Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi which led to rebellions, the Houthi Movement, to strengthen in the country. Speculations of it being supported by Shia power Iran led the nation to try to defeat it and since then, Yemen has been in an uproar. Around 7700 civilians were killed by airstrikes and thousands due to malnutrition and poor health. With the world's lowest testing rates and unavailability of basic facilities in hospitals, it is not a wild dream that Yemen could be erased from the map. Along with financial issues, a social crisis is happening as well. Girls as young as nine are being involved in child marriage as a coping mechanism for the families to use the dowry for food and reduced number of family members. Water, sanitisation and hygiene facilities for the nation could stop if UNICEF does not receive funds by July.

We are living amongst the press which puts the lifestyle of celebrities on a pedestal over the lives of millions. Jawaharlal Nehru once quoted, "I would rather have a completely free press, with all the dangers involved in the wrong use of that freedom, than a suppressed or regulated press.", but who do we look up to if the same press neglects the cries of tortured millions?

After the microscopic summer vacations from the virtual school, the school treated us with a Recap test. The team wishes you best of luck for the results are going to be out soon. Hope the Houses flourish with academic points.

## THE YEAR THAT COULD HAVE DELETED HISTORY

~ *Ishanvi Roy*

If you were to time travel to the New Year's eve on 31st December 1999, you would witness the hype and fear the countdown brought. As Gen Z, we may not know about the minor glitch in the computers of the last millennium that could have caused near-catastrophic level failures worldwide. Y2K' which stands for the 'Year 2000', or the 'Millenium Bug' meant that all computers could fail, as the year transitioned into 2000 from 1999. This was because all computers made prior, used two-digit abbreviations of the year to save memory space, 1999 was defined as '99' so on and so forth. So when the year 2000 ticked around the date on systems would just be '00', the problem was, that data critical systems would misinterpret it as 1900. The mangled data could affect civilisation in a way that only the complex Chaos Theory could calculate the multiple ramifications of the event. Computers crashing, water and electricity unavailable, banks collapsed, businesses shattered, 747s falling out the sky, nuclear missiles accidentally launched, were only a few of the predicted fears. In hindsight, this may seem a bit ridiculous, as all of it never came to occurrence, but this could be credited to the feverish preparations and national campaigns that were launched worldwide to make every gadget Y2K compliant. The Y2K bug could have quite possibly changed history and would've caused the greatest deficit in the IT of today. Now that the Y2K bug is 20 years behind us, the next big thing is less than 20 years in the future. Y2K 38, or the Year 2038 problem. It is a similar situation which is said to strike at 3:14:07 am on January 19, 2038. The computers running 32-bit systems will run out space to store the time which counts up from the year 1970. When it overflows, computers will not be able to tell the difference between 1970 and the current time. A fun thing to note, this was actually demonstrated by the hit song Gangnam Style. Back in 2014, when Gangnam Style's view count topped, Youtube's 32-bit capacity was exceeded. The system could not cope, and the view count froze, luckily for PSY, it later was changed to a 64-bit capacity. IT workers have already started working on Y2K38 to prevent the nightmare that occurred all those years back.

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## *The Diary of a Mistar*

	<p>Hey Diary, it's been a while, hasn't it? Today was an amusing day. Amusing because someone asked me why I write. That question caught me off-guard, to be honest. In hind thought, I never really thought about it. I never questioned myself as to why I write. I just wrote. Similar to how nobody questions why they breathe, they just do. It's the same for writing with me. This might sound quite superficial but I can't do anything about it. There are very few things I enjoy in life, writing and reading are one of them. I couldn't answer the question at that moment but now that I think about it, I want to think about it, so diary, thanks for lending me your ears. Writing to me isn't just a hobby, it's something which I find solace in. People might think that I am exaggerating but my fellow writers will understand. Writing gives us the joy of creation. The joy which is only provided by the world we create, the world that runs on our rules and the worlds where we run off to hide when we face actual despair in real life. Another reason is it is fun. It is plain ole fun. It's fun to make people how I want them to be, it's fun to create circumstances that I may or may not like to be in, it's fun to make a world without the things we dislike. But then again, there is no reason as to why I write. I just write to write. Nobody else might understand but that's all there is to it. I just write.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">~ Samiksha Singh</p>
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### **A STEP TOWARDS STABILITY OR SUPREMACY?**

The world has been affected by the utmost perspicuous fashion since the epidemic. The economy has encountered a definite downfall since November striking Russia with a 6.6% collapse within a year. When a country tackles such a despicable spell, they turn to their front-runner longing for some luminosity. The same was done by Valentina Tereshkova in the parliament when she introduced the extension of presidential term for Vladimir Putin in March of 2020. She firmly believed that Putin should be there in case something goes wrong. Along with the same proposal, 41 other constitutional amendments were passed by state дума. In July of 2020, the country went into voting, 78% favouring the constitutional amendments. The new amendments include the reset of Putin's presidency, ban of gay marriage, and many more. Putin quotes, "God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steven." How wise was the comment amidst the "pride" month? Putin, who is sixty-seven, has already served over 20 years of his life as the President of Russia. The up-to-the-minute amendments reset the course of his two-term presidency giving him in hand another 12 years as the nation's leader. By doing so he will turn out to be the longest-running president leaving behind Stalin. Even after the extension he is hesitant if he would want to rule again but is ready to serve if his nation calls for him. He says, "I'm sure that together, we will do many more great things, at least until 2024. Then, we will see." Russian communist and orthodox beliefs grew stronger with these amendments administering more and firmer presidential powers, all termed as 'stability'. But is this need for stability and control driving Russia towards an unquestionable dictatorship?

~ Ananya Agrawal

Mussoorie International School  
Established in 1984

### **JOURNEY THROUGH THE MYSTERIOUS GLOBE**

- 83 Multinationals including Nike, Adidas, Microsoft, Apple and Samsung linked to forced labor by Uighurs in factories across China.
- World's second-largest data centre inaugurated in Panvel near Mumbai.
- Nepal cable TV operators ban Indian news channels except the government run Doordarshan.
- Dil Bechara trailer becomes most-liked trailer in 24 hours on Youtube surpassing 'Avengers: Infinity War' and 'Avengers: Endgame'. The trailer received over 5.9 million likes within 23 hours.
- CICSE to not publish merit list for the results this time "in view of exceptional circumstances".
- Famous American rapper-singer Kanye West tweets about running for Presidential elections of 2024.
- Galaxy Watch Active2 4G Aluminium Edition is the first ever made in India smartwatch to be launched by the Multinational giant Samsung.

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## THE ULTIMATE NO BOREDOME GUIDE

“Okay I'm bored in the house and I'm in the house bored” This describes the mood of every Mistar during this Pandemic. It is funny how at school when we had no phones and rare internet access we never really got as bored as we are right now, surrounded by electronics. So presenting before you the ultimatum:-

1. **Write a letter to your future self.** Future is unpredictable. Where do you see yourself ten years from now?
2. **Experiment with your hair.** Practice curling it with a straight iron, or get it damp and put some rollers in. See if you can find a new look.
3. **Put together a time capsule.** Bury it at the back of your hall closet. Forget about it, and then look at it when you move out.
4. **Write an article for The Originals.** Our newsletter team is working so hard to make it feel like school. Moreover, this is our chance to put forward our opinions.
5. **Start learning a new language.** Hola! Review a couple of words per day.
6. **Have a jam session.** Aren't you also missing them? Invite all your friends on zoom and get those socks hopping.
7. **Call an old friend** you haven't talked to in forever. Catch up or leave a lovely message.
8. **Stage a home photoshoot.** Take pictures of something you love, be it food, your apartment, or your dog; then edit and share on Instagram.
9. **Give an old room new life.** Maybe you have outgrown your room. Those pink walls are not that appealing now. Go ahead, DIY it.
10. **Make a new playlist.** Ask your most musically inclined friend for a new band recommendation. Listen to it, and get into a new group or style of music.
11. **Watch a TED Talk.** Boredom is also caused due to lack of motivation. It will be a good substitute for all our morning Ma'am Meeta sessions.
12. **Start an Instagram feed for your pet.** Who knows? Your pup could be the next Instagram sensation!
13. **Read a book.** I am sure there's a book lying around your house that you have never read. Find it and read the first chapter.
14. **Grab your yoga mat.** Being in a good shape is never out of fashion and we don't mean a circle.

So now we believe next time someone asks you, “How are you?”

“I am BORED” is NOT your answer.

~ Anisha Dhirasaria

## BOREDOM BUSTER

For each of the following, find a word ending in ‘ \*cate\* ’

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Suspend a student.   | 11. Make involved in.     |
| 2. Cut the end of.      | 12. Prove not guilty.     |
| 3. Make unclear.        | 13. Devote to.            |
| 4. Very detailed.       | 14. Pope's tenure.        |
| 5. Highly sensitive.    | 15. Official document.    |
| 6. Make a copy of.      | 16. Set boundary.         |
| 7. Renounce throne.     | 17. Discover position of. |
| 8. Make completely dry. | 18. Leave position.       |
| 9. Completely remove.   | 19. Impart knowledge.     |
| 10. Divide into two.    | 20. Slip out of position. |

Source: <https://www.queryhome.com/>

ANSWERS	
10 Bifurcate	1 Rusticate
9 Eradicate	2 Truncate
8 Desiccate	3 Obfuscate
7 Abdicate	4 Intricate
6 Duplicate	5 Delicate
5 Certificate	6 Demarcate
4 Pontificate	7 Locate
3 Dedicate	8 Vacate
2 Vindicate	9 Educate
1 Implicate	10 Dislocate



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