

FEB 2020

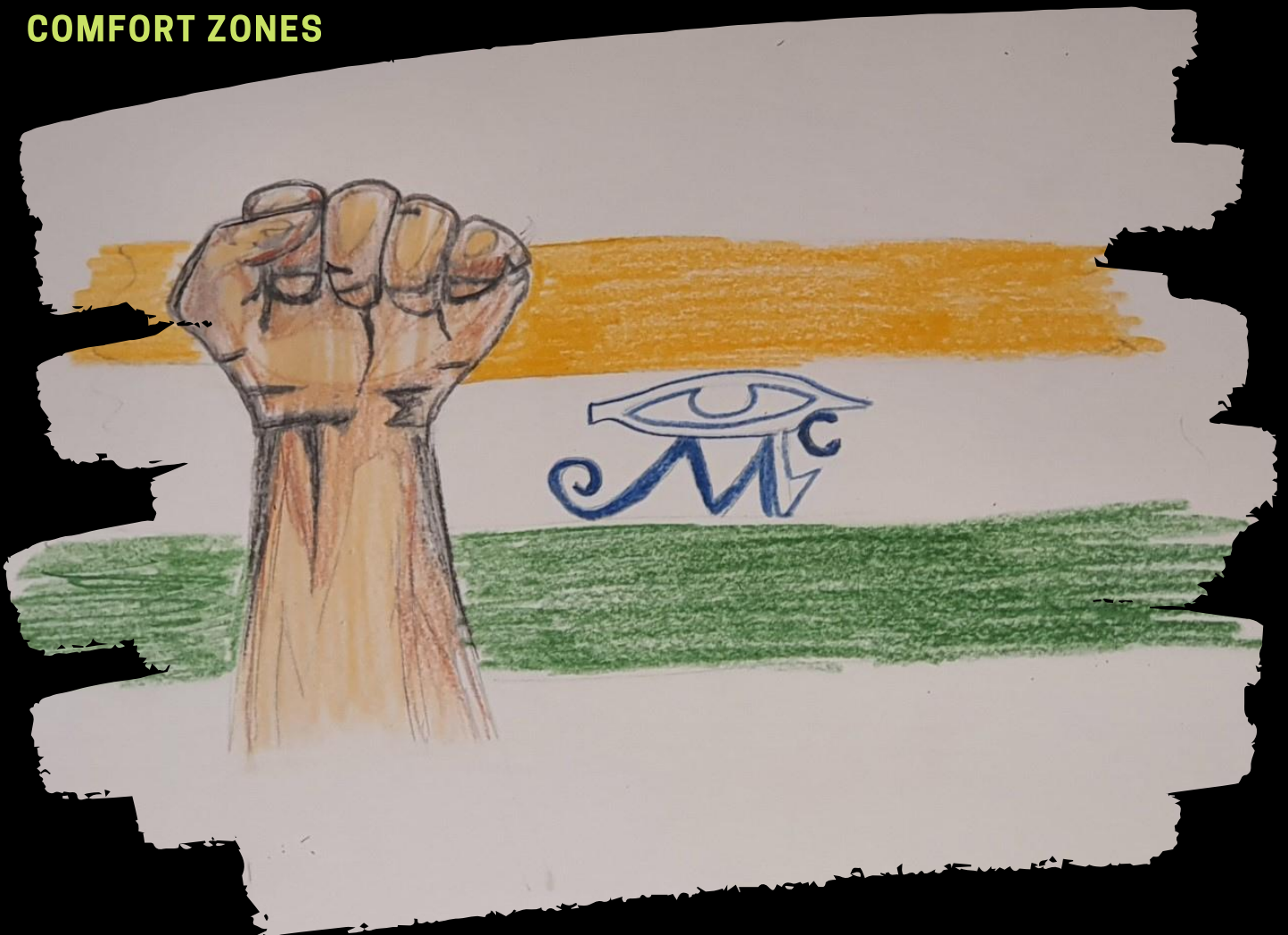
ISSUE NO. 13

# monochrome.

**PATHWAYSIANS ON CAA**  
YOUNG STUDENTS REFLECT UPON THE  
CONTROVERSIAL AMENDMENT

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**EXPEDITION TO TILONIA**  
HOW STUDENTS FROM THE ELEVENTH  
GRADE STEPPED OUTSIDE THEIR  
COMFORT ZONES



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**New!**

# A LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

*As Editors of Monochrome, we wanted to do something completely new and unexpected for our first issue, while still upholding our magazine's core values: to provide you, our audience, with a platform to voice your opinion. We decided to take the new Citizenship Amendment Act as our concept for the February 2020 issue as it is something that has, or will affect each one of us.*

*An act that challenges the nation's democracy; An act that changes what it means to be Indian; An act that provokes almost everyone you might know; An act that incites violent protests.*

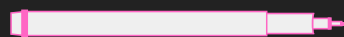
*It led us to ponder upon what the youth of this nation - you - would think about it.*

*We as youth, are constantly provided with conflicting views on the CAA. Is it against our constitutional principles or is it an act of compassion for those who have been denied citizenship by law? Is it anti-muslim or unbiased? Are the protests against the act justified or is the state's response to these protests justified? Could the Delhi riots have been avoided?*

*This issue is an attempt to get your answers to these questions.*

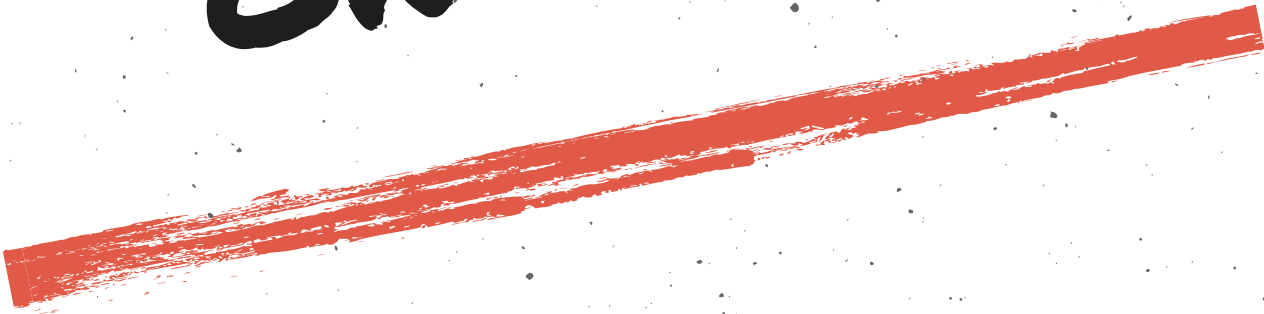
*This topic's choice arose as a need - A need that came out of our helplessness as students, who don't have a say in matters regarding our country yet.*

*This month, we were also faced with the challenge of creating a new website for Monochrome, which we did successfully with the help of Dhruv Chauhan (Technical Coordinator of Pathways Publications), so go check it out!*



*Arিকা Sukhija &  
Varun Pillai*

# **PATHWAYSISIAN ON CAA**



**Young Students  
Reflect Upon The  
Controversial  
Amendment**

Honestly I think it will reduce overpopulation, which would lead to better allocation of resources. There are other Islamic countries willing to offer refuge to Muslims.

I think it's against the democratic principles. Especially the fact that the citizenship procedure is no longer for Muslims and less for people of other religions. I don't think it would have been that big of a problem if the treatment was equal

# Anonymous Opinions

# My thoughts on the CAA

**MOKSH DHAWAN, GRADE 11**

The Citizenship Amendment Act. Act No. 47 of 2019. A poorly worded governmental document which instigated protests, led to riots and eventually a civil war-like situation in the capital city of one of the world's most diverse countries. It has also bred 42 nation-wide casualties, and counting. The CAA is a poor political decision due to which the current administration has lost all hope for another term in the future. Our diversity has become our undoing.

What's the story behind all this? Are the terms of this act truly as religiously backed as they sound? How much of our current knowledge is based in propaganda and how much is truly factual? A lot of questions, the answers to which are uncertain at best, and unattainable at worst. For starters, it is imperative to clarify one of the most controversial parts of the CAA. It is not an amendment that strips people of Islamic faith or their Indian citizenship. It is, however, one that offers refuge based on religious faith. From this, it excludes those of Islamic faith.

This bill applies only to Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh. The justification for this exclusion was that they would only accept "Persecuted Religious Minorities". This is what has caused the cascading chaos seen vividly throughout the country.

Misinterpretations, overanalysing critics, and most of all, Yellow Journalism are to blame for this civilian overreaction to an amendment that was not required to begin with. The fact that all politicians and self proclaimed revolutionaries must understand is that not all publicity is good publicity and the fact that current administration and law enforcement must understand is that reaction must always depend upon action.

Peaceful protests and organised violence can not, and must not be treated with the same degree of force. This is ineffective in the long run and a catalyst, an instigator of conflict, in the short run.

At last, what all human beings must understand is that modern interpretations of religion are, more often than not, fatally flawed. Societal groups formed by outdated norms are a valid basis for almost nothing, let alone governmental decisions and acts of war. What all human beings must learn, after centuries of failing to coexist, is to love to learn and learn to love, instead of hating love and loving hate.

Now we must, more than ever before, learn to grow.



# Expedition To Tilonia

**HOW STUDENTS FROM THE  
ELEVENTH GRADE STEPPED  
OUTSIDE THEIR COMFORT  
ZONES**



# MEMOIR

by Keya Sharma,  
Grade 11

The CAS trip to Jaipur and Tilonia was a unique and exciting experience where we got to learn about different perspectives and participate in various crafts, activities, and discussions on culture and creating and supporting communities. The trip was an excellent opportunity for us to explore surroundings, lifestyles, and ideas that we have never experienced before. We immersed ourselves into this new environment and were open to the knowledge it had to share with us. This trip helped us grow and expand our perspectives on life and the community around us.

Our first two days in Jaipur were quite interesting. We visited the forts and local markets and learnt not only about Rajasthan's rich culture but also about the idea of creating a community and the passing down of traditions from older generations. The time we spent in Jaipur highlighted how the people of Rajasthan have successfully preserved their ancestral structures and traditions while incorporating twists and developments to accommodate their daily modern lives.

Our visit to Amer Fort and the Nahargarh Water Walk taught us about how traditional practices were combined with special technologies to create structures, water collection mechanisms and waste management practices that were ahead of their time. It was exciting to learn about the complex scientific calculations the architects used to create such amazing structures with the resources they were presented with, while also hearing the fun folklore attached to some of these structures

Another really interesting activity we had was a whole day where we learnt the local crafts of blue pottery and block printing in Sanganer, a small artisans' town in Jaipur district. Learning about the different techniques and interacting with the artisans about their craft and lives allowed us to delve deeper into the specifics of Rajasthani art and culture. It was really fascinating to learn how these beautiful art pieces had a lot of effort and scientific thought behind it. This set the stage for the next step in our journey at Barefoot College.

Barefoot College, Tilonia—just the name elicited curiosity from us all even before we reached there. Barefoot is an effort by Mr Bunker Roy who has given his life to make his humanist effort a success; Tilonia is certainly his labor of love. Founded more than 40 years ago, Tilonia is an institution built by the poor, for the poor and looks at establishing equality and sustainability in villages with special emphasis on empowering women and supporting local knowledge. Today, Barefoot College operates in 1300 villages in 80 countries world-wide.

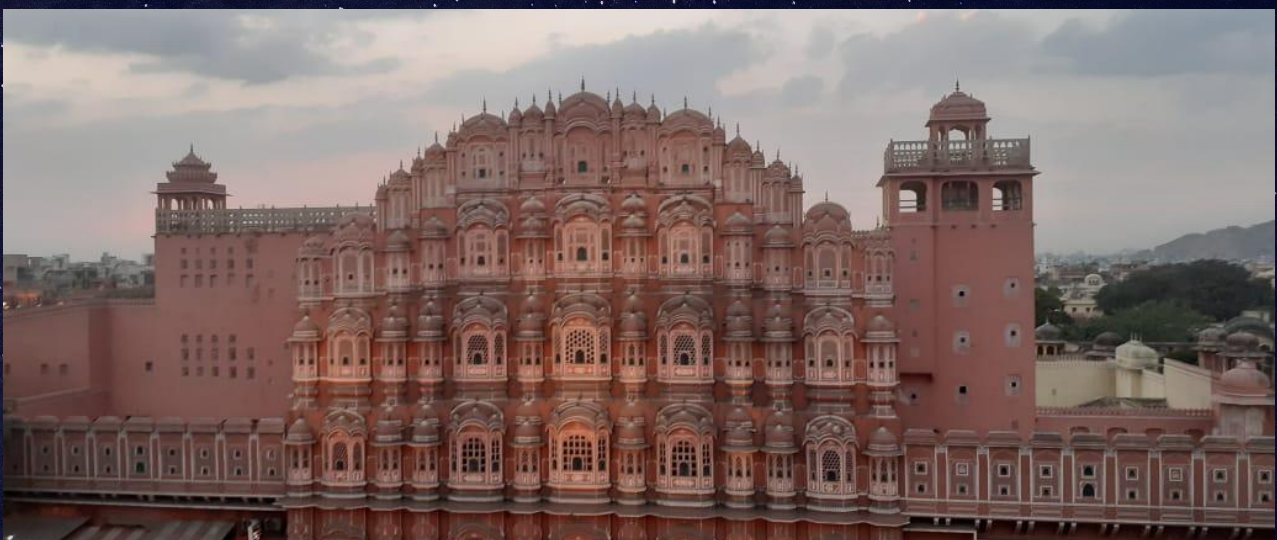
The days we spent in Tilonia where we learnt about life in the rural areas and interacted with the artisans and other local people were very enriching. These people, with little or no formal education, had created such a rich life for themselves. There were women who were managing a water bottling system, a rainwater harvesting system, a radio station for local broadcasts and much more. And of course the Kabad se Jugad (best out of waste) projects were our favorite! We also had the opportunity to interact with the children and how they lived very obviously harder lives than us. This enabled us to recognize a wider perspective on life and circumstances.

The workshops on how to create solar cookers, puppets and stationery out of waste and recyclable materials gave us a gist of the lives these artisans live but also how easy it is to make small changes in our lives to minimize our negative impact on the environment and support local communities around us.

Not only were these activities and sessions enjoyable, but they also taught us practical skills that we could take back with us and pass on to our peers and local community. By immersing ourselves in the activities at Barefoot College, activities we would not have the opportunity to participate in back home, we learnt to be empathetic and more aware of the privileged world we came from. It was truly inspiring to hear the stories these people had to share about how they have overcome their struggles and hardships. Each of us left Barefoot college with a sense of hope and newfound determination to be the best at what we do.

This trip gave us the opportunity to venture outside our comfort zone as we were faced with surroundings and activities that we were often not familiar with, and sometimes found uncomfortable. It was really fascinating to learn about how the villages in the Tilonia region sustained themselves successfully while having little to no environmental impact, which is something we cannot say about the lavish city lives we live.

# Pictures from Tilonia





# **ANNUAL SPORTS MEET 2020**

**LOOKING THROUGH A  
NEW STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE**

# **A FUN WAY TO LEARN**

**Dhruv Chauhan**

**BEING A NEW STUDENT TO THE SCHOOL AND TO THIS BOARD, I FEEL I HAVE FIT IN WELL WITH THE FABRIC OF PATHWAYS. ONE OF MY FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT THE SCHOOL IS HOW IT DOESN'T JUST FOCUS ON ACADEMICS BUT ALSO HAS VARIOUS OTHER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS HAPPENING ROUND THE YEAR, WHICH HELP ME DEVELOP MY OVERALL CHARACTER.**

**IN FEBRUARY WE HAD SPORTS WEEK, WHICH WAS CAPPED OFF BY SPORTS DAY ON FEBRUARY 24TH. TO ME, THE EVENT WAS MAGICAL. I HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH A SPORTING EVENT OCCUR OVER THE COURSE OF A WEEK ON A SCHOOL CAMPUS. THE NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES, THE HOUSE SPIRIT, THE WAY PEOPLE CHEERED FOR THEIR FRIENDS - ALL OF IT WAS INCREDIBLE. THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN DIFFERENT EVENTS SHOWED HOW MUCH TALENT EVERYONE POSSESSED, AND IT WAS A GOOD PLATFORM FOR US TO SHOWCASE OUR TALENTS ON THE FIELD. MORE THAN JUST SHOWCASING TALENT; FOR A FEW OF US, IT WAS FINDING HIDDEN TALENTS AS WELL. WHEN PUT IN A SITUATION WHERE YOU HAVE TO DO SOMETHING FOR THE TEAM, YOU TEND TO PUT YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD AND END UP DOING SOMETHING YOU WOULDN'T EVEN DREAM OF DOING - WHICH IS EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED WITH ME.**

**DURING THE WEEK, WE HAD THIS EVENT CALLED THE SKILLS CHALLENGE IN WHICH THE STUDENTS ARE SUPPOSED TO COMPLETE TASKS IN VARIOUS SPORTS. THE STUDENT WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF POINTS IN THE END WINS THE COMPETITION. THE WHOLE CONCEPT OF SKILLS CHALLENGE WAS NEW TO ME, YET I LIKED IT. THE PROBLEM WAS THAT NO ONE IN OUR HOUSE FROM 11TH GRADE HAD ACTUALLY EVER PLAYED TENNIS. SO THE HOUSE CAPTAIN CALLED ON ME TO TAKE UP THE CHALLENGE. I WAS NERVOUS SINCE I HADN'T EVER PLAYED IT EITHER! I HAD TO DO MY BEST FOR THE TEAM THOUGH. ONCE I WAS THERE ON THE COURT, THE SPORT CAME NATURALLY TO ME AND I ENDED UP WINNING.**

**THIS EXPERIENCE WAS MORE THAN JUST WINNING FOR ME. IT TAUGHT ME THAT IF I WANTED TO, I COULD DO ANYTHING. THAT'S WHAT SPORTS IS ALL ABOUT. IT'S NOT JUST THE PLAYING AND THE FUN, BUT IT'S ALSO ABOUT THE LEARNING THAT COMES ALONG WITH IT. I WAS PUSHED OUT OF MY COMFORT ZONE AND FORCED TO DO SOMETHING AND I ACTUALLY SUCCEEDED. THIS INSPIRED AND MOTIVATED ME TO KEEP PUSHING MY BOUNDARIES - NOT JUST IN SPORTS, BUT ALSO IN LIFE. AND WHEN I DO THAT, THERE IS NO STOPPING ME FROM REACHING THE TOP.**



THE MONOCHROME MUSEUM

# GROUP 4 PROJECT

*A GALLERY*

Topic - Sustainable Infrastructure





