



St. Xavier's University, Kolkata

DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION

presents

pression

Volume 4, Issue 4
December, 2024

NO FOLD, NO SWORD

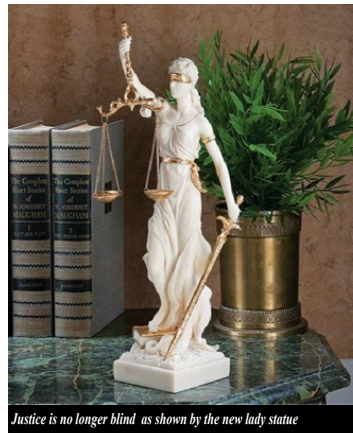


“Justice is no longer blind”: New Lady Justice statue at Bombay High Court reflects evolving judicial values

Srija Mukherjee, BA Sem 5

The recent new unveiling of the Lady Justice statue at the Bombay High Court on October 15, 2023, caused a buzz and engaged all online communities. It represented a more modern, post-traditional concept—its design is not unlike the visions that represent current Indian culture and judicial needs. Traditionally, Lady Justice has been represented blindfolded; this is symbolic to imply that justice is indeed not blind to status, power, or influence. What is remarkable about this statue is that it did not include the blindfold to signify a more open sense of awareness about social context and commitment to openness and transparency. This has implications in the sense that evolving understanding of justice as something more than just being neutral also shows familiarity with social realities. The most radical change is the sword substitution with the Indian Constitution. Traditionally, the sword in Lady Justice has always stood for authority and power of enforcing laws through punishment measures. The new version has instead replaced the sword with a copy of the Constitution that underlines the principles of democracy, human rights, and a protectionary/empowerment-over-punishment justice system. In addition, Lady Justice's attire has been modi-

fied according to the Indian ethos. The old one was dressed in judicial clothing from the



Justice is no longer blind as shown by the new lady statue

colonial era, but the new Lady Justice is dressed in a saree—a cultural icon that has relevance for contemporary Indian society and also reflects the country's steps toward decolonization. Despite these revisions, both statues still retain important symbols: the scales of justice are unchanged, representing balance and equality, symbolizing a commitment to fair decisions and judgments based on evidence and reasonable argument. This new sculpture is a significant step forward in the evolving symbolism of justice in India, reconciling respect for traditional values with a vision for an open and responsive judicial system. As the discussions are ongoing, this new Lady Justice statue at Bombay High Court stands as a stark representation of how India's

judiciary evolves to reflect the nation's ideals and changing social needs. Even though the new



Source- Indiamart&Scoopshoop

Lady Justice statue in India was unveiled at the Bombay High Court on October 15, 2023, it became viral and is all over the internet since last week. So here are a few changes that I noticed.

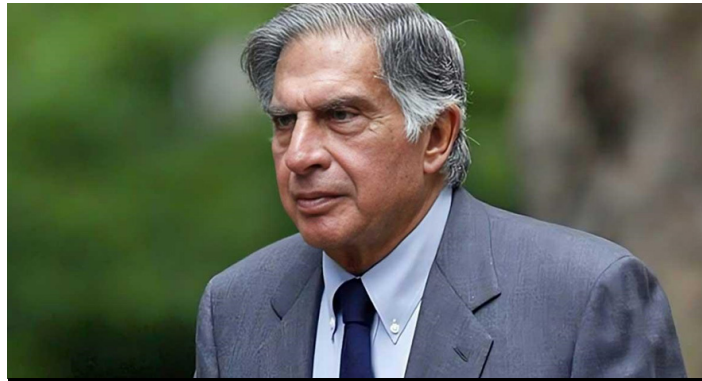
Traditionally, Lady Justice has been depicted wearing a blindfold, symbolizing impartiality and the idea that justice should be administered without bias, regardless of the status or power of the individuals involved. The new one got the blindfold removed which represents awareness of societal realities and promotes transparency in judicial processes. The old representation included a sword, which symbolized authority and the power to punish wrongdoing. This element often conveyed a punitive approach to justice, emphasizing

ing enforcement and control. The new one got constitution replaced with sword which emphasizes democratic principles and human rights, moving away from punishment towards protection and empowerment. The old statue's robe reflected a legacy of colonial-era judicial symbolism. The new one is wearing saree which reflects Indian culture and resonates with contemporary Indian society. Both the statues also have few similarities such as symbolizing balance, fairness, and equality in the judicial process, the focus on impartial decisions based on evidence and arguments from both sides. In conclusion, the move from “old” to “new” Lady Justice in India represents the changing nature of the country's legal system. While the “old” Lady Justice represented traditional values, advocating fairness while remaining somewhat disassociated from modern societal problems, the “new” Lady Justice represents a more responsive, inclusive, and dynamic approach to justice. This shift incorporates technology breakthroughs and social changes, integrating the justice system with modern democratic norms. Thus, Lady Justice in India today serves as a guardian of rights, always adjusting to meet the requirements of a diverse and dynamic community.

The world deeply mourns the loss of Ratan Tata

APARAJITA DEB,
BA Sem 1

India's most respected industrialists and philanthropists, Ratan Tata has passed away at the age of 86. The news of his demise was conveyed to the media houses by the Tata group, one of the largest conglomerates in India which was led by Ratan Tata for two decades. Ratan Tata was one of India's most internationally recognized business leaders. He took over as the chairman of Tata group in 1991. His leadership and guidance had led the company through significant



Sir Ratan Naval Tata

Source: Google File photos

changes and global expansion. Under his leadership, the company has made several high position acquisitions, including the takeover of Anglo-Dutch steelmaker Corus, UK-based car brands Jaguar and Land Rover,

and Tetley, the world's second largest tea company. In 2012, he retired as chairman of the group and was appointed chairman emeritus of Tata Sons, the group's holding company. Ratan Tata is admired not only

for his business strategy but also for his commitment to ethical business practices. His leadership philosophy emphasized not only economic growth but also a deep sense of responsibility towards society. He made significant contributions to Philanthropy through Tata Trusts, which support education, healthcare and rural development. His passing marks the end of an era for the Tata Group. His legacy, however, is one of visionary leadership combined with a deep sense of responsibility toward society, making him a remarkable figure in both business and social impact.

Bomb scares hit Indian airlines, cause panic

Procheta Bhattacharjee,
BA Sem 1

In less than 24 hours, 11 flights from various Indian Airlines received bomb threats, triggering a major security scare and heightened concern in the Indian Aviation Sector. On October 18, the London-bound Vistara flight (UK17) from Delhi was diverted to Frankfurt after receiving a threat via social media, while the Jaipur-Dubai Air India Express flight (IX 196) faced a similar threat that later proved to be a hoax, creating considerable disruption. Additionally 5 Akasa Air and 5 IndiGo flights were also the target of these bomb threats on October 19. The threat to the Air India Express flight caused delays for

the return Jaipur-Dubai flight the local authorities carried



"Bomb Threats Disrupt 11 Indian Flights in 24 Hours"

Source: Unsplash.

(IX 195), which departed after a delay of over an hour. Akasa Air stated in a post on X, that following safety and security protocols all passengers had to deplane while

out the necessary procedures, with each plane meticulously checked. They requested passengers' understanding, emphasizing that the ground team did everything possible to

minimize the inconvenience. Flights operated by the Indian Airlines have received a shocking 70 such calls in the past 6 days, causing major operational difficulties. These notorious threats are causing significant financial losses which are estimated to be at around 3 crores per false alarm. The Union Civil Aviation Ministry and the BCAS met to discuss ways to tackle the issue. In the investigation, they found that the IP (internet protocol) addresses from which some threats were made were from London, Germany, Canada, and the US. They did not, however, rule out the use of VPN (virtual private networks) by the people who made the threats to hide their actual locations.

Trump secures victory in US elections

Donald Trump has emerged victorious in the 2024 U.S. Presidential Election, marking his return to the White House after four years. The former president, who had previously served from 2016 to 2021, secured a significant number of electoral votes, defeating his Democratic opponent Kamala Harris in a closely watched race. Trump's campaign, focused on issues such as economic growth, border security, and a strong stance on national defense, resonated with many voters. His victory underscores the deep political divisions within the country, with widespread debates over the economy, health-care, and foreign policy. As Trump prepares for his second term, questions remain about his policy priorities and the direction of the Republican Party. The election results also highlight the ongoing impact of political polarization in the U.S., setting the stage for a contentious period leading up to the 2024 inauguration. Donald J. Trump is the projected winner of the 2024 U.S. presidential election according to multiple news sources.

Resurgence of brutal gang wars in new India

Shaunak Chakraborty,
BA Sem 1

On October 14, 2024, Baba Siddique, a prominent Nationalist Congress Party leader and a former Maharashtra cabinet member, was shot in Mumbai. This assassination took place in Bandra, near his son Zee-shan Siddique's office, where Baba Siddique was meeting with some political workers. Later that night, he was sent to Lilavati Hospital but was pronounced dead after several hours. Several Bollywood actors, including Salman Khan and Shahrukh Khan happened to be friends with Baba Siddique previously. Recently, Siddique switched to Ajit Pawar's Nationalist Congress Party faction and aimed to play an active role in the upcoming local elections. A possibility of the inclusion of



Zee-shan Siddique and Arshia Siddique at Baba Siddique's funeral procession (Nitin Lawate) -Hindustan Times

Lawrence Bishnoi's gang has also been sensed, which has been engaged in many targeted killings, and is also said to be connected to the murder of Sidhu Moosewala, a Punjabi singer. Police confirm that they had been investigating Bishnoi's background. The assassination might also be related to Salman Khan and the ghetto rehabilitation projects, or possibly even more. During the attack, three men targeted Baba Siddique. Two of the

three attackers were arrested at the crime scene, while the third one escaped. The police mentioned it was clear that it was a planned execution, and assumed that the people who pulled the trigger had already been paid. This case has raised concerns about the protection of powerful figures in Maharashtra, with accusations that the state government is not doing enough to curb the influence of gangs like Bishnoi's.

The Rise And Fall of NFTs: A bubble bound bursting

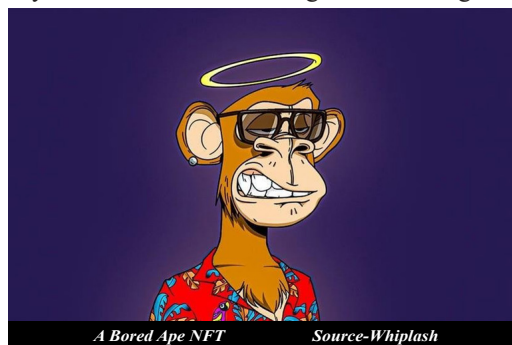
Abhiraj Bhattachryya,
BA Sem 1

The Non-Fungible Token (NFT) phenomenon took the world by storm in 2021, made a small number of people very rich and then experienced a huge downfall. With the emergence of cryptocurrency and blockchain technology, the concept of digital ownership was a topic of discussion and debate within many circles. NFTs were unique digital tokens that represented the ownership of a specific digital item or content like music,

videos or digital art, usually bought through cryptocurrency. The digital artwork "Everydays: The First 5000

However, just as quickly as they rose, NFTs started to collapse. By late 2022, the market began to show signs of

losses once the market deflated. One of the main causes could be the oversaturation of the NFT market, with an influx of NFTs engaging in artificial inflation and scarcity. The fact that most NFTs would not retain their value became common knowledge and buyers lost interest, dropping market prices. NFT trading volume dropped nearly 90% from its peak in early 2022 and according to OpenSea, trading volumes fell from a peak of \$405 million in August 2021 to \$5 million in 2023.



A Bored Ape NFT Source-Whiplash

Days" by Beeple was sold for \$69.3 million in March 2021. Celebrity Grimes made \$6 million in minutes by selling her digital art as NFTs in early 2021.

volatility and the broader cryptocurrency crash led to a sharp decline in prices. Many buyers, once drawn in to buy by the fear of missing out, faced substantial

Canada's growing strained diplomacy over Khalistan

Sophia Jamil,
BA Sem 5

The Khalistan movement, a decade-long separatist movement seeking to establish an independent Sikh state, has sparked tension between Canada and India.

The conflict of creating an independent Sikh homeland in Punjab, a region split between northern India and Pakistan, gained momentum in the 1980s culminating in the 1985 Air India bombing a violent rhetoric act which killed 329 people, mostly Canadians. Over 468,000, members of the Canadian Sikh community has been accused of supporting Khalistani separatism. In 2022, India accused Canada of harboring Khalistani



Khalistani hostilities further strain India-Canada diplomacy. Source- Google file photos

separatists, causing diplomatic tension. Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau acknowledged the presence of Khalistani extremists but emphasized Canada's commitment to combating terrorism. The situation took a turn for the worse with the assassination of Hardeep Singh

Nijjar, a prominent separatist leader, in June 2023. Canada's PM alleged that Indian government agents were involved in the murder. Trudeau's government faced criticism from the opposition parties and Indian authorities for allegedly tolerating the Khalistani separatism.

In response, Canada listed Babbar Khalsa and the International Sikh Youth Federation as terrorist entities. While Canada seeks to maintain a good relations with India, it must also address the concerns of its Sikh community, as many Sikh Americans have felt targeted, and have reported experience of harassment and intimidation, with some even facing accusations of being extremists.

The issue remains contentious, with ongoing debates on the Khalistani influence in Canada. As tensions persist, Canada must navigate the delicate balance between combating terrorism and protecting the rights of its diverse citizenry.

Humanitarian crisis unfolds in Gaza amidst escalating conflict

Rooprekha Ghosh,
BA Sem 1

A significant current affair is the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza, which has drawn widespread global attention. The conflict between Israel and Hamas, which escalated dramatically in October 2023, has led to devastating loss of life and widespread displacement of civilians. Thousands of people have been killed, including women and children, as intense airstrikes and ground battles continue in the region. The Gaza Strip, Home to approximately 2 million Palestinians, had endured

a protracted humanitarian water, and electricity are in



Gaza's humanitarian crisis reaches new depths everyday. Source- Google

an crisis since 2007. may The humanitarian toll is immense. Hospitals are overwhelmed, with medical supplies dwindling, while food,

short supply. International organizations are urging for a ceasefire to allow aid to reach those in desperate need. The United Nations

and various governments are calling for diplomatic solutions, but a political resolution remains elusive. This situation speaks to the human cost of protracted conflicts, where innocent civilians often bear the brunt of the violence. The destruction of homes and infrastructure has left entire communities devastated, with many families facing an uncertain future. The international community watches closely, but for those on the ground, the immediate need is survival. This conflict highlights the urgent need for peace and humanitarian support to prevent further tragedy.

Calcutta Youth Meet chapter 8: Empowering the next generation

Srija Bhattacharya,
BA Sem 5

The Calcutta Youth Meet, a flagship initiative by Script Productions, marked its eighth edition on October 4 at Gyan Manch, Kolkata, achieving resounding success. This vibrant event united the youth of Kolkata, providing them with a platform to showcase their skills and creativity through various cultural activities. Major attractions included the Battle of Bands, Miss Calcutta, and a Fashion Show, offering spectators an engaging musical and glamorous experience.

An awards ceremony underscored Script Productions' commitment to recogniz-



Script Productions

Source: Google File photo

ing outstanding individuals. Shubhashish Mukherjee received the Lifetime Achievement Award for his significant contributions to the film industry, while Bonny Sengupta and Koushani Mukherjee

were honored with the Youth Inspiration Award. Notable content creators Shaheb Laxman and Unmesh Ganguly were named Youth Icons of the Year. Founder Shinjan Mitra emphasized the importance

of empowering youth, stating, "We will provide a space for new talent and creativity. We aim to encourage and motivate young minds to achieve their dreams." Chapter eight of the Calcutta Youth Meet has set a new benchmark for cultural events in Kolkata. Looking ahead, Script Productions plans to continue inspiring, innovating, and creating safe and equitable spaces for the youth to nurture their creativity. The Calcutta Youth Meet is an inspiring gathering of young minds in Kolkata (formerly Calcutta) aimed at fostering creativity, leadership, and creativity leadership, and collaboration.

Chhath Puja: Celebrating sacred harmonies and cultures

Shristi Kumari, BA Sem 1

Chhath Puja is an ancient Hindu festival primarily celebrated in the Indian states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Nepal. Dedicated to the worship of the Sun God, Surya, the festival is based on the belief that the Sun provides health, prosperity, and happiness to all living beings. It is a time when devotees express gratitude to Surya and seek his blessings for the well-being of their families and communities.

The festival spans four days, each with its own significance. The first day, Nahay Khay, marks the cleansing and purification process, where devotees bathe in holy rivers or ponds and prepare for the rituals ahead. The second day, Karna, involves a day of fasting and the preparation of offerings, particularly the special "kheer" (a sweet dish). The third day, Sandhya Arghya, takes place in the evening, when devotees gather to offer prayers to the setting Sun. Finally, Usha Arghya, the fourth day, is dedicated



Chhat puja offerings



Source: Google File photo

to the worship of the rising Sun, with devotees offering their final prayers at dawn. Chhath Puja is a time of intense devotion, marked by fasting, maintaining purity, and offering sacrifices. It showcases the commitment of both men and women, who adhere to strict rituals

and vows to honor Surya and Chhathi Maiya, the goddess associated with fertility and well-being. The festival fosters a sense of unity and community spirit, as families come together to share in the devotion, emotions, and joy of the occasion, creating lasting memories.

Mohun Bagan claims Derby victory in thrilling encounter

Irfan Molla,
BA Sem 1

The Kolkata Derby (locally known as “Boro Match” or ‘Big Match’ in Bengali) is the football match in Kolkata, between arch rivals East Bengal and Mohun Bagan. The rivalry between these two teams is over 100 years old, and the matches witnessed large audience attendance and rivalry between patrons. The Bengali community is divided into two sects that is the “Bangals” and the “Ghotis”. The Bangals represent East Bengal and the Ghotis represent Mohun Bagan. It is considered as one of the biggest Asian footballing rivalries. Such is the hype for this match, that the prices of hilsa fish and lobsters increase due to heavy demands. These two water creatures are equally connected with this rivalry between these two sects. The first match was played on 8 August 1921 in Cooch Behar



Mohun Bagan on match day

Source: Hindustan Times

Cup and latest match of this historical derby was played on 19 October 2024 in Indian Super League.

East Bengal crashed to a 0-2 defeat vs Mohun Bagan in the ongoing Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 season's first Kolkata Derby, at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata on Saturday, 19th October. The first-half was a cagey affair, but MBSG managed to take a 1-0 lead. In the 41st-minute, Manvir Singh's siz-

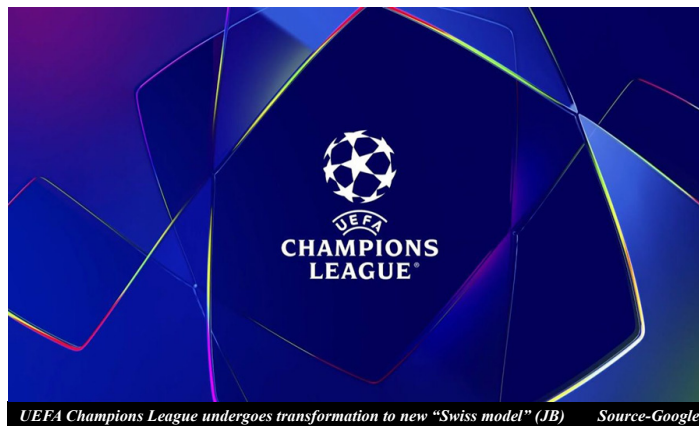
zling low cross found Jaime Maclaren, who converted it with ease. Then in the second-half, Bagan dominated and EBFC failed to find any momentum. Then just before full-time the goalkeeper fouled Petratos, who converted the resulting penalty to make it 2-0. The season's first derby was scheduled to be held on mid August in the Durand cup but was abandoned due to security concerns amid the R.G Kar rape and murder case. Since then East Bengal's for-

tune seems to be not working. EBFC is currently going through a rough patch, where they are still finding a win in the ongoing season. Four consecutive defeats led to the departure of last season's Super Cup-winning coach Carles Cuadrat. Now it is all on their new coach Bruzon to steady the ship and deliver results. East Bengal have found some rhythm now, after qualifying for the quarter finals of AFC Challenge League competition. The Red and Golds are the only club representing India in Asia this season. On the other hand MBSG is comfortably sitting at the second spot of the table winning 4 out of 7 games and having lost only one. They are statistically one of the best teams in ISL at the moment and are on the race for the ISL Shield. The second Kolkata derby is scheduled on 11th January, 2025 which is expected to be yet another banger of a clash between the two footballing giants.

Revamped UEFA Champions League: A bold step towards innovation

Jayosnata Basu,
BA Sem 5

Starting from the 2024-2025 season, the UEFA Champions League will undergo its biggest transformation in over two decades. This new format, often called the “Swiss model,” replaces the traditional group stage, expanding the competition from 32 teams to 36. In the revamped structure, each team will now play eight matches in a single league table, rather than the previous system of six matches in a group of four. These eight games will feature four home and four away fixtures, drawn from seeded pots, ensuring a mix of opponents. The league-style table will determine progression to the knockout stages. The top eight teams from this



UEFA Champions League undergoes transformation to new “Swiss model” (JB)

Source-Google

league phase will automatically qualify for the round of 16. Teams finishing 9th to 24th will enter a two-legged playoff to fill the remaining eight spots. This adds more competitive depth and excitement by providing additional knockout opportunities for teams that narrowly miss the top eight. One of the most significant changes is the calendar. The

competition will stretch over ten European midweeks, giving fans more chances to watch high-quality football throughout the season. This shift increases revenue potential for UEFA and clubs, with broadcasting rights expected to grow. The new format addresses the desire for more marquee matchups and increases fan engagement. However, it

also raises concerns about player fatigue and fixture congestion. As the landscape of European football progresses, all eyes will be on this new structure to see if it delivers its promises of more thrilling and meaningful competition. The format also aligns with UEFA's goal of raising viewership and revenue, offering an additional 100 matches per season. This innovation comes as part of UEFA's efforts to address the demands of top clubs and retain the Champions League's status as Europe's premier football competition. With more games, a fresh league approach, and a wider representation of clubs, the new format promises an era of high-intensity football and broader opportunities for clubs across Europe.

Ethereal Moments



Editorial Board

Chief Patron:

Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J,
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor

Advisors:

Dr. Susmita Halder
Dr. Harish Kumar

Managing Editors:

Dr. Somak Sen
Dr. Nitesh Tripathi

News Editors:

Anushka Majumder (BA Sem 5)
Debdyuti Sarkar (BA Sem 5)

Designer:

Debarpita Ghosh (BA Sem 5)

Sub-Editors:

Ishita Biswas (BA Sem 5)
Samridhho Sengupta (BA Sem 5)
Arkaprabha Banerjee (BA Sem 5)
Eshita Shukla (BA Sem 5)
Soumily Sengupta (BA Sem 5)
Shrabana Guha (BA Sem 5)
Swastika Moulik (BA Sem 5)
Riddhi Chakraborty (BA Sem 5)