











2017

TEAM

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foreword

Amalgamation of technology with information in the recent decades has provided great impetus to generation and consumption of knowledge. Creating and sharing knowledge has got the mankind where we are today. Articulation is of utmost importance for sharing ideas, thoughts and knowledge with creative expression being the innate need of human beings for progressive, peaceful and happy social groups.

'Srijan' is expected to be as much an instrument of intelligent knowledge exchange, as a platform for creative expression for most stakeholders in this space. As an educator and mentor, I am excited to witness another firm step in the direction of knowledge sharing - new edition of student initiative "Srijan".

I congratulate the authors and the editorial team, and sincerely hope that this edition of "Srijan" inspires forthcoming batches to take this baton of knowledge forward.

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Let me make this clear first - I am not talking about self-expression or colors or paintings. That is creative too. I'm talking about the ability to invent new things, ability to solve problems. Programming is always motivated by problems. If someone already solved a problem, you're not programming if you use the same approach. You are coding (sorry for disappointment). A lot of people can code. A lesser people actually program. Coder is a derogatory term sometimes used for a unskilled programmer.

Programming requires both logic and creativity. Logic is based on rules and mathematics and it is necessary for implementations. Creativity lets you build stuff. To solve a problem differently, maybe more efficiently. Creativity brings impossible to reality. While creatively looking at a problem, you even create solutions that may be helpful in other problems.

Programming is an open - ended thing. There is always another way to solve a problem. When you code, you focus on implementations. Programming lets you look at a broader perspective. Creativity lets you think out of the box. Those who create new algorithms are most creative people in my opinion.

Creativity isn't a talent, it's rather a skill that has to be practiced. It's not about borngeniuses. It needs hard work, commitment. Ideas don't come out of nowhere. You need problems first. And you get problems only when you explore. You need to be fearless about failures. If you don't fail, there is a very less chance of your success. The most creative people are willing to work in the shadow of uncertainty.

We are not trying to reinvent the wheel. We are trying to create a better wheel, or a wheel that works better for our purposes.





Industrialization and the educational system threatens creative programmers. The industrialization process makes you move from crafting to large scale production. It's efficient but kills creativity. They want you to be cheap and get the work done. Programming requires a lot of creativity, and this is something we won't find in a formal computer science education.

Don't be satisfied with X or Y. Experiment and try new things. Keep a learning curve. Build something above your potential! Create, express yourselves in code. Don't wait for inspiration to come knocking at your door. Go chase it!



"Intelligence is the art of good guesswork."

Often one has observed how ants organize their paths towards food sources. This casual observation reveals that ants often walk in a straight line between their anthill and the food source. Marching in a straight line is usually the shortest route. Does that meanants are clever little engineers or architects? The answer is NO. We cannot state "Ants are smart". "Ant colonies are smart" is a better choice. Ants as individuals are clueless what to do next, but as ant colonies they respond quickly and effectively to their environment. They do it with something called swarm intelligence.

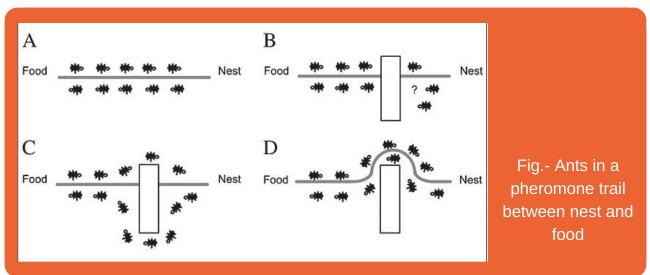
Swarm Intelligence is a study done under Artificial Intelligence. The term Swarm Intelligence (SI) was first coined by Gerardo Beni and Jing Wang in 1989, relative to cellular robotic systems.

The term 'swarm' refers to a large number of homogeneous, simple agents. The term 'intelligence' in SI refers to the way these agents interact locally and with their environment to allow a global behavior to emerge. Swarm Intelligence systems are mostly derived from biological systems. The swarm of individuals shows a collective but decentralized behavior like where to forge, where to live, and how to divide necessary tasks amongst the available workforce of agents.

The Individuals of the swarm do not possess very much cognitive abilities by themselves. Each agent usually performs independently in a swarm, doing its own job, in such a way that the colony possesses a capability of solving complex problems through coordinated interactions amongst themselves and from interactions with their immediate environment.

The use of swarm-based optimization algorithms has been successfully made in telecommunication networks, traveling salesman problems, action-response planning like playing chess, management and business planning, real-world autonomous robots etc. Some examples of social swarms in nature are ant colonies, honeybees, bird flocks, fireflies, termites etc.

One might wonder where the intelligence of swarms in nature comes from? How the simple actions of individuals of a swarm add up to show the complex behavior of a group? How hundreds of ants or bees make a critical decision about their nest or hive? Several systems have been introduced to answer these questions. One of them is Ant Colony Optimisation (ACO) model.



Introduced by M.Dorigo, it was the first example of a successful Swarm Intelligence model. This model is inspired by the natural behavior of ant colonies in the environment. As an ant traces its path towards a food source, a certain amount of pheromone is dropped on the ground that marks the path with a trail of the substance. The more ants follow a given trail or path, the more attractive this trail becomes to be followed by other ants. Initially, the probability of an ant following a given path is determined randomly. However, ants that (by chance) choose the shorter path to reach the food source faster in comparison to others. Hence pheromone accumulates faster on the shorter path. Since ants prefer to follow trails with larger amounts of pheromone, eventually all ants converge to the shorter path.

This model is most frequently used in traveling salesman problem where a salesman may be required to visit various cities. Ant colony optimization technique helps find out the shortest path the salesman can take.

That is how swarm intelligence works: simple creatures called agents follow simple rules to communicate with each other and the surroundings, each agent works for its best i.e. no agent is able to see the big picture, no agent tells other what to do and there is no boss. Swarm intelligence thus takes decentralized decisions.

Universe...



Reality or Just a Computer

Have you ever heard about the famous hypothesis that this entire universe could be just a computer simulation? Can you really call this as a hypothesis now considering there are numbers of people who have given statistical evidence that our reality is indeed a grand simulation?

Think of it as your computer system that has a hard-wired resolution limit which defines the smallest size of any object that can be depicted on the screen. Now apply the same notion in the world you live. Any moment you make is not continuous rather discrete. Everything in this universe is under a matrix. The smallest move one can make is predefined.

Cosmic rays proof: Silas Beane from University of Bonn published a paper in which he claims that as cosmic particles fly through the universe, they lose energy and change direction and spread out across a spectrum of energy values. There's a known limit to how much energy those particles have. This seemingly arbitrary cliff in the spectrum is consistent with the kind of boundary that you'd find if there was an underlying lattice governing the limits of a simulator. The laws of electromagnetic radiation are confined by the resolution of the 3-D simulation we call a universe.

From Quantum physics: Reality doesn't exist until you see it. Consider the double slit experiment. A piece of paper with two slits in it is set up in front of a wall. Then we fire a beam of photons at the piece of paper one by one. When the experiment isn't being measured i.e. looked at, then on the far wall we see an interference pattern like you would get if you had 2 ocean waves passing through the slits. But once you put detector on either side of the paper and measure it, the interference pattern disappears and you see only 2 bars of light on the wall. This is because by looking at the photons we have collapsed their wave function and forced them to either go through one hole to the other.

Near death experiences: Upon death in the simulation your consciousness leaves the simulation and returns to its source, which is the actual reality that transcends this one. This is why people who have survived near death experiences consistently report their experience as being a hyper reality that feels like it is a thousand times more real than life on earth.

What I can conclude is that either humans are just byproducts of particle interactions on a cosmic scale, with the humans never coming to exist outside the simulation but only exist in digital space; or the human themselves have created this virtual reality.

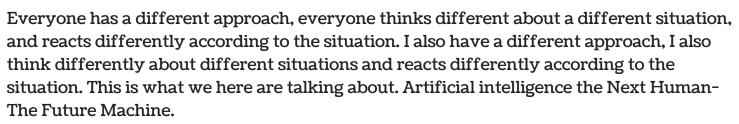
Humans are already creating simulations, whether it be in computer games or virtual real

Humans are already creating simulations, whether it be in computer games or virtual real worlds, there seems to be a driving desire to create expanded worlds in which we can live and operate. With time, there becomes a point at which we cannot tell the difference anymore. At that point, the advanced computer simulations would be so real they would probably be no different than the real world. People inside the simulations might even make their own simulations, which would lead to onto a strange mirror effect with simulations inside simulations.



Artificial Intelligence

The Next Human



In layman terms, Artificial Intelligence means a machine which is as intelligent as a human. The machine is programmed to do various tasks and machine is made to learn. Like we humans learn and store it in our brains and change our mindset according to given situation and perform: Machine too is programmed so intelligently as human that it can perform various task given according to the situation and it is made to learn from its knowledge base or data sets again and again which is concept in neural network. Such as vaccum cleaner problem, water jug problem. We are in an era where the building of machine is so powerful and where the system thinks like humans, acts like humans, the system thinks rationally and acts rationally (Rational Agent Approach). A rational agent is something that acts so as to achieve the best possible outcome and when there is uncertainty, it gives us the most expected outcome.

Weapons utilizing artificial intelligence are getting closer to reality every day—the NSA (National Security Agency of U.S) uses a secret surveillance program called Skynet. This and further military AI research has led to Stephen Hawking, Steve Wozniak and Elon Musk among many others to sign an open letter calling for the prohibition of offensive autonomous weapons (or killer robots).

But how Did Artificial Intelligence originate?



John McCarthy, the father of artificial intelligence, coined the term in the mid of 1956, at a conference at Dartmouth University. The aim of the conference was clear in the mission statement: "...every aspect of learning or any other feature of intelligence can in principle be so precisely described that a machine can be made to simulate it." Two approaches of AI came into the picture: either pre-programming a computer with a set of condition-outcome rules or making the machine learn itself cue Neural Networks.

Marvin Minsky an instigator in Artificial Intelligence and John McCarthy were favored by the US govt. which gave the two sufficient amounts of money in the hopes that AI could help win the Cold War. For a period, it showed up as if AI was soon going to be a reality with Minsky predicting that the machine with the human intelligence would be invented in the next three to eight years. The reality was far harsher: The government cut down the funding (leading to what became known as the "AI winter"), and development slacked until 1981.

Then a chess program called Deep Blue beat the world chess champion in 1997.

In a battle known as "the brain's last stand," great world chess champion Gary Kasparov went up against the supercomputer,

Deep Blue.It defeated Kasparov. It was a crucial moment that demonstrated AI could think decisively all alone.

Artificial intelligence took height in the 2000s. Self-driving cars, personal assistants, a robot arm beating the Turing Test; AI at its peak, is just round the corner.



Weaponized Artificial Intelligence

Technological advancement has depended on military funding for quite a long time. If the military didn't invest, it would have been extremely unlikely we would have GPS, computers or the Internet, so it does not wonder anyone that military investments are also financing AI research. The inconvenience is, when robots are equipped, an entire set of rules come into play.

One recommended answer to the threat is a programmed set of laws. Most artificial intelligence in science fiction stories leans heavily on Isaac Asimov's "Three Laws of Robotics", which are a short set of guidelines to guarantee robots are not capable of harming humans. In actuality, some of the worlds advanced or finest robots were created for the purpose of harming humans, with drones especially well-known choice with US military.

""The development of full artificial intelligence could spell the end of the human race.""
------ Sthephen Hawking

Quantum Computing

Taking You to Infinity and Beyond

In 1965, Gordon Moore, the co-founder of Intel, noticed that the number of transistors per square inch on ICs (integrated circuits) had doubled every year since their invention. This became the Moore's law. For decades, Moore's law was found to be accurate, with processing speeds ramping up from 740 KHz in the 1970s to 8,000 KHz (or 8 MHz) during the decade of the 1970s. Although, since the beginning of 21st century, processing speeds barely doubled, from 1.3 GHz to 2.8 GHz.

So, will we ever be able to have the amount of computing power we want? If, as Moore's Law states, the number of transistors on a microprocessor continues to double every 18 months, in only a few coming years the circuits on a microprocessor will be measured on an atomic scale.

And in come the quantum computers.

Because the quantum computers can work with particles much less than the size of an atom where the 'rules of physics' do not apply. And that is when things begin to get interesting: particles can move back and forth in time, switch between parallel universes and can even exist simultaneously. This gives quantum computers the potential to perform calculations significantly faster than any silicon-based computer. They can break encryptions and provide a new form of Quantum encryption that will be much harder to crack. The power of Quantum computing lies in 'Qubits' instead of bits that can be used to process a large quantity of information efficiently.

The memory of a computer that we use is made up of bits, where each bit is represented by either a one or a zero, and it can perform calculations on only one set of numbers. But the memory of a quantum computer is a sequence of qubits. A single qubit can represent a one, a zero, or any quantum superposition of those two qubit states. Not only that, but a quantum computer can also do an arbitrary reversible classical computation on all the numbers simultaneously. Performing a computation on many different numbers at the same time and then combining all the results to get a single answer, makes a quantum computer much powerful.

Quantum computer with 1000 qubits gives 21000 superposition states. Each state would be classically equivalent to a single list of 1000 l's and 0's. Such computer could operate on 21000 states simultaneously. Eventually, observing the system would cause it to collapse into a single quantum state corresponding to a single answer, a single list of 1000 l's and 0's, as dictated by the measurement axiom of quantum mechanics. This kind of computer is equivalent to a classical computer with approximately 2300 processors.

One of the most concerned topics in today's world is global warming which is directly related to the amount of power consumption. And power is a critical factor in any technology. The world's fastest supercomputer Tianhe 2 draws 17.6 MW of power. Imagine the amount of power required to run a huge array of computers. But with the help of quantum physics and tunneling effect, quantum computers will reduce power consumption by a factor of 100!



One such processor was recently developed by D-wave Systems Incorporative. D-Wave's quantum computer runs a quantum annealing algorithm to find the lowest points, corresponding to optimal or near-optimal solutions, in a virtual "energy landscape." Every additional qubit doubles the search space of the processor. At 1000 qubits, the new processor considers 21000 possibilities simultaneously, a search space which dwarfs the 2512 possibilities available to the 512-qubit D-Wave Two.

And all of this can be done with only a few kilowatts of energy, as much of the D-Wave hardware's power consumption—slightly less than 25 kilowatts for the latest machine—goes toward running the cooling unit.

"The operation of the quantum processor itself requires remarkably little power—only a tiny fraction of a microwatt—which is essentially negligible in comparison to the power needs of the refrigerator and servers," says Colin Williams-director of business development & strategic partnerships at D-Wave Systems.

Therefore, Quantum Computers can process information in a much better and faster way than the conventional computers and that too with only a few kilowatts of power consumption. In fact, with only 300 qubits and less than the power required by refrigerators, we can map the entire universe!

Quantum Computers will ultimately help us discover the unsolved mysteries of the universe and the beauty of randomness.

"The history of the universe is, in effect, a huge and ongoing quantum computation.

The universe is a quantum computer."

-Seth Lloyd.

ARTIST'S COLUMN



Painting Credits- Niharika Raheja (IGDTW)





RISHIJA MANGLA MCA I YEAR









ASHISH AGGARWAL MSC | YEAR



LAKSHYA SETHI MSC | YEAR







Intelligence In Machines

Artificial intelligence (AI), once a staple of scifi nerdsis now a prominent presence in everyday lives. Weather forecasts, spam filtering, Google's search predictions, and digital assistants with the likes of AI are all examples of applications of AI.All these technologies have machine learning algorithms that enable it to respond and react in real time.

The very foundation and lure of AI is its ability to continually learn from the data it collects. The more the data available, the better the machine predicts.

To give you a gist of its power and extent, Google's working on self driving cars to go in autopilot mode in the driver's seat. Machine-learning technologies have found scope everywhere. Terrorism, mass mitigation, climate change to even making your favourite cuppa- you name it and AI is there.

Extending Artificial Intelligence

These fields form the domain of AI.

Natural language processing to communicate successfully in human language;

Knowledge representation or representing information about the world in a form that a computer system can use to accomplish a given goal;

Machine learning or in layman terms, is about a machine learning to adapt to new circumstances and to detect patterns.

Computer vision to understand and detect patterns in digital images and videos

Robotics for locomotion and manipulation of matter (objects).





A Reminiscence

Those days are gone leaving memories from dusk to dawn

heading towards an erratic journey with dreams in eyes being independent becoming our own attorney

little obliterated moments of delight in search of efficacy but those were the times that made me believe everything's going to be alright

who will support me
when I will fall on my knees
this is hard to believe
all of this has been ceased

Even though we made some poor decisions
we all were sagacious leaders
making our way through thorns
with proper envisions

I will use anything but these years to bet on those days are gone leaving memories from dusk to dawn





Platform and digital cryptocurrency

What is Bitcoin? Who is behind it? Who controls it? What is the use of it? How is it anonymous and how does it work? These are the various questions one encounters when asking people about bitcoins. There is a dire need of understanding the answers and that is what this article does.

First of all, Bitcoin and bitcoin aren't same. Bitcoin is a computer program that facilitates the use of a decentralized digital currency called bitcoin. Bitcoin is an open source project ,published in 2009 by an unknown individual under a pseudonym: Satoshi Nakamoto, and licensed under the MIT license that imposes very few restrictions on the redistribution of the software. This is the reason that the Bitcoin project has been forked by many developers around the world to create something new. There is no person or institute behind it, either backing it or controlling it. Nobody can mint his/her own bitcoins. What you do is invent your own currency. And then you have to make it gain acceptance.

bitcoins have value because of social convention. People are willing to give value to it. By analogy, it can be considered as a gold coin. There are exchanges that will gladly accept your bitcoins in return for regular currency that you can use to buy anything. One of the most innovative features of Bitcoin is that it's decentralized. It operates through a P2P network of connected computers called nodes. Participants in the network might be running nodes for following reasons:

- l) For profit, as in the case of miners.
- 2) To manage full node wallets.
- 3) To collect and study information about the network

All the financial information flowing through the Bitcoin network is public except the identities behind the transactions. Bitcoin does not use personal info to identify the holders of funds but Bitcoin addresses. The addresses are not granted by the network and there is no restriction on the number of addresses that a user can generate. Bitcoin's distributed database is called blockchain as the transactions are grouped in blocks. Bitcoin is not the first distributed database to be created. Let's talk about the Bitcoin protocol in detail. To use Bitcoin in practice, you first install a wallet program on your computer. Since Bitcoin works on the public-key cryptosystem, wallets facilitate in it. They are the software that help a user manage his funds, securely hold user's private keys, create transactions that are sent to network, collect incoming and outgoing transactions to show balance of available funds and create new Bitcoin addresses.

There are broadly 3 kinds of wallets:

- l) Full Wallet: Runs a full Bitcoin node. Keeps complete copy of blockchain. These wallets have the advantage of not relying on any 3rd party server at the cost of having to store and process the whole blockchain.
- 2) Lightweight Wallet: Rely on 3rd party nodes to feed them info they need and to relay the transactions created by the wallet. Such wallet is suitable for devices like smartphones.
- 3) Web Wallet: The funds and private keys are transferred to a 3rd party which then manages the funds on behalf of the users in return for currency for their service.

The protocol requires that any node wanting to broadcast that a transaction is valid requires to show proof-of-work i.e. a computationally hard problem to solve but easy to verify. The transaction validation process is called mining and a miner that validates a transaction is rewarded. On a concluding note, Bitcoin has created a revolution on the internet. The open source nature of Bitcoin has led to many other crypto-currencies emerging enhancing the features, like dealing with more complicated problems or enhancing the anonymity of the users.





Flexible Displays in Mobiles and TV's

In May 2011, Human Man lab in Queens University, Canada, introduced the paper phone, the first flexible Smartphone in collaboration with the Arizona State University Flexible Display Center.

To implement navigation through bend gestures of corners and sides of the display paper phone uses 5 bend sensors. The paper tab is a multi-display environment, in which each display represents a window.

Nokia introduced the Kinetic concept phone at Nokia World 20ll in London. The flexible OLED display allows the user to bend the screen towards oneself, zooming in a picture one is viewing, squeezing and twisting in both horizontal and vertical manner.

At CES 2013, Samsung showcased the two handsets which incorporate AMOLED flexible display technology during its keynote presentation, the Youm and the unnamed Windows Phone 8 prototype device. The Youm possess a static implementation of the flexible AMOLED display and its screen has a curvature, which allows the user to read the text message, notifications etc from the side of the device. The unnamed Windows phone 8 prototype device has a solid base from which extends a flexible AMOLED display which itself bends and is described as "virtually unbreakable" by Samsung representatives.



The Samsung Youm with flexible display technology

Samsung Electronics and LG Electronics both have curved OLED TV's which gives us more panoramic and more immersive viewing experience and which gives better viewing angles from the side. LG set is also 3D capable in addition to the curvature.



A big uptake is seen in last five years in what machines are able to do. With the advent of lot more data and a lot more computing power we can really think bigger. In a world so messy, logical rules do not always apply to certain problems. So machine learning is all about learning from examples.

It's an intellectual investigation. Rather than writing 1000s of lines of code we instead have the machines learn from the observations about the world. Sometimes, it takes a bunch of examples, or sometimes even more than that, to identify the pattern and generalize from there. In the task of image recognition, Google has been able to train models that would take ```of the image and learn higher level features. It starts to learn that if you see a cake and a kid it may be a birthday party and if you see a cake and lots of kids, it is very likely a birthday party. Even the realization of how impressive we humans are, how amazing a 4 years old kid is, who can recognize faces, is beyond imagination.

Machine Learning

Let the Data work for You

Machine learning has led to a revolution in the field of speech recognition. To teach speech recognition of interaction in a noisy room, developers used the real world sounds and mixed it into examples that they already have. Now no matter what the noise is and the environment, their speech recognition system understands what you are saying that can separate out one speaker from another. We now have an algorithm that learns to simulate human linguist and recognize a lot of languages interspersed with emojis and stickers.

The machine learning experiments vary from person to person. Somebody with a stray cat littering the garden trained a model to identify whenever the cat is around to turn the sprinklers and scare the cat away.387 million people with diabetes are at risk of diabetic retinopathy which causes blindness. Since there are just not enough doctors, Google trained an algorithm that can read images and recognize symptoms which can help doctors get more people screened for disease.

We can now track the spread of diseases and epidemics. We can use a computer vision model for everyone who is visually impaired.

Speech recognizers, for everyone on the planet, can be made so that they are able to understand and connect with each other easily.

It is very empowering to imagine what is going to come. The promise of AI and machine learning is that we can actually produce solutions to previously unsolved problems that will really help people!



Nirbhaya Case

Did it really raise a positive awareness?

In a country where the majority of the population religiously worships female goddesses, a rape case occurred in 2012 that made international headlines and stirred an unprecedented uprising in Indian society.

Although such statistics are published, the actual number of rapes is far from being recorded, since the unreported figure is extremely high.

Immediately after news of the gang rape spread, protests erupted all over the country. The tragedy ignited such fury that the police resorted to tear gas to control the crowds. In the initial weeks, "Hang the rapists" was the cry of the Indian media. Nothing less than capital punishment would assuage the collective horror and anger of the populace. Consequently, the two Commissions of Inquiry, the Justice Verma Committee and the Usha Mehra Committee were constituted with the purpose to seek public opinion as to how the then-current anti-rape laws should be amended.

But did it really raise a positive awareness?

Clearly, the response to this Delhi gang rape case was unprecedented. With statistics such as ninety three women being raped in India every day, the public had it coming. Perhaps it was the sheer brutality of the event, but there were cases before and even shortly thereafter that were equally appalling.

As protests from the civil society gained momentum after the incident, a number of controversial and derogatory remarks made by high-ranking officials and politicians convinced the public that the rot run deep. And a interrogation into social norms was required with urgency.

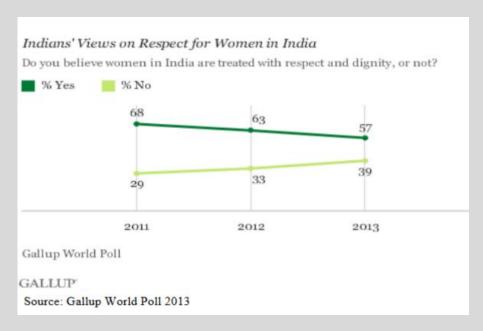
Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's theek hai ("it is okay") comment in response to the Nirbhaya rape elicited deep criticism from the public for trivializing the issue. Andhra Pradesh Congress resident Botsa Satyanarayana evoked fury in the people after describing the Delhi gang rape as a "small incident," and saying that women should not go out during late hours. Meanwhile, Congress MP (Member of Parliament) Abhijit Mukherjee also caused outrage with his derogatory reference to female protestors in Delhi. "They are dented and painted women chasing two minutes on fame, giving interviews on TV," Mukherjee told a news channel in Kolkata shortly after the incident.

It is not only men who have subscribed to these misogynistic views; women too, many of them in elected office, have also expressed them. According to Mamata Banjerjee, Chief Minister of West Bengal, "rapes are happening because men and women are interacting too freely." Sheila Dixit, now Chief Minister of Delhi, once said that a female journalist who was murdered in Delhi should not have been so "adventurous" as to be out alone at night.

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A national poll conducted by the Pew Research Center between December 7, 2013, and January 12, 2014 shows that nine out of ten Indians agreed that the crime of rape is a "very big problem" in the country. Furthermore, roughly eight in ten (eighty-two percent) said the problem is growing.

In 2012, a case of rape occurred that made international headlines and stirred an unprecedented uprising in Indian society.



Despite the fact that four of the men convicted in the infamous Delhi case were given the death penalty, nearly three in four Indians (seventy-four percent) said that the laws in the country are too lenient in punishing cases of rape. About as many (seventy-eight percent) fault the country's police for not being strict enough in investigating such cases (Pew Research Center 2014).

Therefore, while most of society agrees that violence against women is a major problem and suggests that there is a shift in attitude, the act that much of the blame is placed on the government and law enforcement implies that society does not see itself as the problem.

To conclude, it took a horribly tragic gang rape on a normal evening in December 2012 to awaken the largest democracy in the world from its oblivion about one of the greatest human rights issues of our time. Based on the findings, it is apparent that this awakening has not yet caused a collective attitudinal change in Indian society and that violence against women continues to persist.

However, there are still positive outcomes of the various responses to the Delhi gang rape case, including: the media's increasingly detailed reporting of rape cases, the government's swift passage of overhauling legislative reforms, the greater emphasis by women's movements on combatting sexual violence, and the public's recognition of violence against women as a major concern in society.

"Change starts with you, but it doesn't start until you do."

आतंकवाद का घिनौना

आतंकवाद चारो तरफ है फैला ! इसका तन भी मैला मन भी मैला !! यह है अंधकार और कुबुद्धी का रैला !!

इसकी सोच नहीं है अपनी यह है द्वेष और घृणा का कुचेला !!

ये जनता को दुख देता है!

उनका सुख चैन हर लेता है!!

अप्रिय और प्रतिकूल अंजाम देता है!

इसकी कोई जाति, धर्म भी नहीं!

फिर भी धर्म के नाम पर लडता है!

छोटी छोटी बातों पर बिगडता है!!

इसका रूप है दानव जैसा ! जैसे आया कोई यमलोक का भैसा !! ये अंजाम के बदले में लेता है पैसा !

इनकी बुद्धी पर पड गया ताला ! इनका अंत भी होता है निराला !!

बहरुपियों के रूप भी अनेक !
कभी साईकिल पर तो कभी स्कूटर पर !
कभी बक्से में तो कभी टिफिन पर !!
कभी बस में कभी कार में रखकर !!
आतंक को फैलाते हैं !
चाहे नेता हो चाहे अभिनेता
इनके चंग्ल में फंस जाते हैं !

डॉक्टर हो चाहे इंजिनियर गरीब हो चाहे अमीर हो ! कर्मचारी हो चाहे हो अधिकारी चाहे वह आम हो चाहे खास हो ! चाहे कोई अकेला हो चाहे हो रेला ! सभी इनकी भेंट चढ़ जाते हैं !

ये जनता को खूब रूलाते हैं!! मासूमों का खून बहाते हैं! निर्दोष और लाचार भी इनकी बली चढ़ जाते हैं!! चेहरा

ये आतंक और भय का रूप है ! घिनौनी करतूतों का मिला जुला स्वरूप है !! ये आवास और विकास पर भी अपना बदरंग और कुरूप चेहरा दिखाते हैं ! अपनी करतृतों से रोडा अटकाते हैं !

देश के गद्दार इनको पनाह देते हैं! बदले में इनसे चंद रूपये लेते हैं!! और कभी कभी तो खुद ही! अप्रिय घटना को अंजाम देते हैं!!

देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को, अखंडता को इन्होंने छिन्न-भिन्न कर दिया ! देश का कोई भी क्षेत्र नहीं अछुता !!

धरती हो चाहे आकाश हो ! सभी जगह चला रहे अपनी कूरता !!

26/11 जैसी घटना को अंजाम दे रहे हैं! सारी दुनिया को खून के आंसू रूला रहे हैं! बदले में दर्दनाक मौत को गले लगा रहे हैं!

प्रत्यक्ष को प्रमाण मांग रहे हैं ! फिर भी बार बार सबूत मांग रहे हैं !!

अपनी सरकार भी ढुल मुल रवैया अपना रही है ! फिर भी अपनी दोस्ती का हाथ बढ़ा रही है !!

कभी समझौता एक्सप्रेस तो कभी दिल्ली-लाहौर बस सेवा चला रही है ! दश्मन के साथ दोस्त जैसा व्यवहार कर रही है !

कभी मुंह तोड तो कभी आंखे फोड ! कभी टंगडी तोड तो कभी हाथ मरोड, जवाब देने को कह रही है !! जनता को बरगला रही है !

छोटे से पडोसी देश ने भारत के नाक में दम भर रखा है!

कभी पंजाब में कभी महाराष्ट्र में कभी गुजरात में तो कभी आंध्र में कभी यू.पी. कभी बिहार में सारे देश में हाहाकार मचा रखा है!

हमारे देश में इनके प्रति कानून भी लाचार है तभी तो चारो तरफ दिखता इनका असर है!!

ये घटना को अंजाम देकर भी बच जाते हैं! कभी हाई ज़ैक तो कभी किसी का अपहरण करके अपने साथियों को छुडवा लेते हैं!

सरकार से मेरी विनती है ! समय रहते आतंकवाद पर काबू पाये ! वरना यह ज़ख्म, नासूर बन जायेगा ! देश का बच्चा बच्चा भी, इस से हिल जायेगा

आओ हम सब मिलकर यही दुआ करते हैं वक्त रहते हुए इस देश को चलाने वालों को सदबुद्धि दे शक्ति दे यही कामना करते हैं

जय हिंद



ANUSHKA SAXENA MCA II YEAR

When Nothing Seems Right...

It takes a moment to do this. It takes just a moment to cut your hand with a knife or to swallow sleeping pills or to jump from a 25-floor high rise. But it takes days, months and sometimes years to actually solve the problem.

When I entered the room it had already been done. The worse had already been done. There was blood not so much but noticeable. I screamed, called for her parents. As soon as they entered the room the mother started crying and screaming and the father felt his world crumbling. He shouted the name of his daughter over and over again. I ran to grab first-aid. When I entered again I could listen to the sobbing of the parents. I handed over the box to the mother. She took out the bandage and started doing it round her daughter's wrist. The daughter's expressions were unreadable. The father was asking her why was she doing this to them and to herself. But she did not answer. She still had him in her mind. It was still 'him' she was thinking of. The LOVE of her life. The 'LOVE' who had dumped her. I said to her, "Try to forget him, he's not worth it." The father said, "We have not brought you up to this day darling. You are educated, civilized and strong. You should not do this again and again to yourself."

Yes! It was not the first time she had committed something like that. I saw the scared faces of the parents. I told them to take her to some hospital but they were scared that there could be a police case. Thank God! That cut was not that deep. The bleeding stopped and she was normal again. But others were not. And how on earth could they be normal after seeing their only daughter, their loving child, in that awful condition?

After having a heart-to-heart with her father she cried herself to sleep. The father sat beside her the whole time holding her fine hand and watching the other. I could see the heart wrenching pain in his eyes, red and wet. Tears were there ready to come out at any point. But he was holding them back. He wanted to be strong. Then I decided to leave them. While leaving, the mother came after me and whispered to me, "Please do not say a word about this to anybody." I could feel the pain in her voice. She was embarrassed and scared about her daughter, all at the same time. I wanted to hug her and tell her that everything would be fine but I couldn't. Instead, I said to her, "Don't worry, the secret is safe with me". And I left the place.

I thought about that incident for the next couple of days. The dreadful visions were still fresh in my mind. I could still hear the sound of their crying; still see their crying faces and most of all I could still feel the fear and pain in their hearts.

Is finishing your life for someone really love? Does life really end at some point? Do you really think there are no other options then 'dying'? And do you really believe that it would change something? Forget every other thing: do you ever think what will happen to your parents? Won't they die out of shame, embarrassment and most of all guilt-that there child never said anything to them, she never shared her problems with her parents, she didn't trust them?

Well the youth of India is smart enough to give this a thought.



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