

BRAINWARE NEWS

Weekly News Magazine

Barasat, May 09, 2020

AP wins Pulitzer for Kashmir coverage



Deblina Ghorai

The story of India's role in Kashmir during August 2019 was difficult to show to the world when there was lockdown along with curfew and shutdowns of phone and internet. But Associated Press (AP) photographers Channi Anand(1), Mukhtar Khan(2) and Dar Yasin(3,4) found ways to let outsiders see what was happening. Now, their work has been honoured with the 2020 Pulitzer Prize in Feature Photography category. Congratulations!

Family bonding & indoor games



Jyoti Bhattacharya

In today's fast paced world, new norms are being set every day. Replacing the old to bring in the new has always been the rule, but throwing out the baby along with the bathwater was never wise. Family games such as ludo has transformed to the ludo king on a mobile app. We still play the game, but not with family and friends.

Chinese checkers, bagatelle, snakes and ladders, monopoly or business, scrabble are fast losing ground to all devouring mobile and video games. The charm, romance, filial love, family bonding which these games helped nurture are being replaced by a never ending competition of higher scores on the world wide platform which is all virtual. The real family, friends and relations are gradually talking less, interacting lesser while mutual regard, respect and love is virtually on the death bed. The gentle conversation with the roll of the dice, the slight favour, the gentle guidance on how to play better are thus getting lost in the sands of these whirlwind times.

The current lockdown has redefined many aspects of our lives; it has made us pause and rethink. Maybe we all have realised that we have wilfully set aside many good things. Family games are one of them. So while we reset our lives to the new norm, we would fare better if we rekindled our lost practise of the family games..and as the name suggest have more happy families.

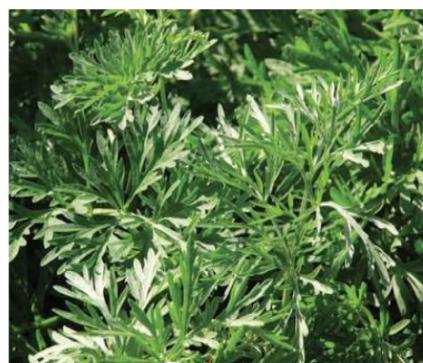
What is Africa's miracle drink

Yash Sharma

As COVID-19 spreads across the African Continent and many leaders put their countries on lockdown, the Madagascan President has launched a new herbal drink called Covid organics and he claims this product can cure Covid-19.

This herbal drink is made from a plant called artemisia and other indigenous herbs, according to the Malagasy Institute of Applied Research, which developed the beverage. The plant was

first imported into the island nation in the 1970s from China to treat malaria. The President of Madagascar has said that for now the drink is being marketed in bottles as herbal tea, but clinical trials are underway to produce a form that can be injected into



Artemisia plants

the body. The World Health Organization on the other hand has dismissed the Madagascar President's claims that a herbal tonic produced within the country can cure patients of COVID-19. Still several African countries, including Tanzania, Liberia, Equatorial Guinea and Guinea-Bissau, have either placed orders or have received delivery of the remedy. COVID-19 has spread to almost all the countries in Africa and at least 1,911 people across the continent have died from the virus.

Locust attack: new approaching disaster

Debkanya Banerjee

Amidst the COVID-19 phase, what if India responds to severe natural disasters? Foodgrains serves as a major part of human life. If a disaster is likely to happen with our food stuff, how we will all survive! This summer a giant locust attack is expected to enter farmlands in South Asia. These are short-horned grasshoppers. Found in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, locusts inhabit some 60 countries and covers one-fifth of Earth's land surface. Desert locust outbreaks may

threaten the economic source of revenue of one-tenth of the world's humans. A group of Locust can eat 423 million pounds of plants each day.

Two streams of Locust attacks are expected. One will pass over the Middle East countries passing over farmlands of India (Punjab, Haryana & Indo Gangetic Plains). The other stream passing over the Indian ocean can attack directly the farmlands in Peninsular India heading towards Bangladesh. As assumed, together this can cause a disaster situation in food security issues. Food & Agri-

culture Organization has ade-

tailed study of this matter. David Beasley, executive director of the UN World Food Programme quoted, that the pandemic could now be fusing into a 'hunger pandemic'. COVID-19 would push an additional 130 million people to the edge confronting unexpected starvation that will rise to 265 million. India is acquiring drones and high-value equipment to watch the movement of locusts and spray insecticides to keep off a replacement outbreak that may desolate crops as reported.

CAMPUS, CORONA & MORE



Brainware in association with Barasat Police station distributed 750kg rice & 150kg dal of free ration among 150 underprivileged local.

Doctors concerned as containment zones increase

Sohini Porel & Debkanya Banerjee

The containment zones are growing day by day despite lockdowns and awareness programmes across the country. Areas from which corona infected people are being found or are likely to be infected, are being made containment zones. No outsiders can either enter and no insider can go outside. In West Bengal the containment zones are increasing everyday. Kolkata recorded as the highest increase that extended from 318 to 334 in the containment zone. Second in the list South 24 Parganas with an increased rate from 1 to 22. North 24 Parganas also increased 61 to 65, Howrah 74 to 76. East Midnapore, Hooghly, West Midnapore, Nadia, Malda, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, Kalimpong are also under Containment. Doctors are concerned about the increased rate of containment. The doctors of hospitals, and health workers are affected by corona. Various hospitals have been closed or are on the verge of closure. According to some doctors, if the containment zone continues to grow in this way, isolation of corona affected people will be a difficult task. It is evident that the number of containment zones are increasing due to the increase in the number of victims. It seems, the lockdown was not taken seriously by the ordinary citizens. Ordinary Indian citizen, it seems have not followed the rules of social distancing. The entire society is suffering the consequences. Are we really fulfilling our role as responsible Indian citizen?

Manmade heat to burn mankind!

Vandana Singh

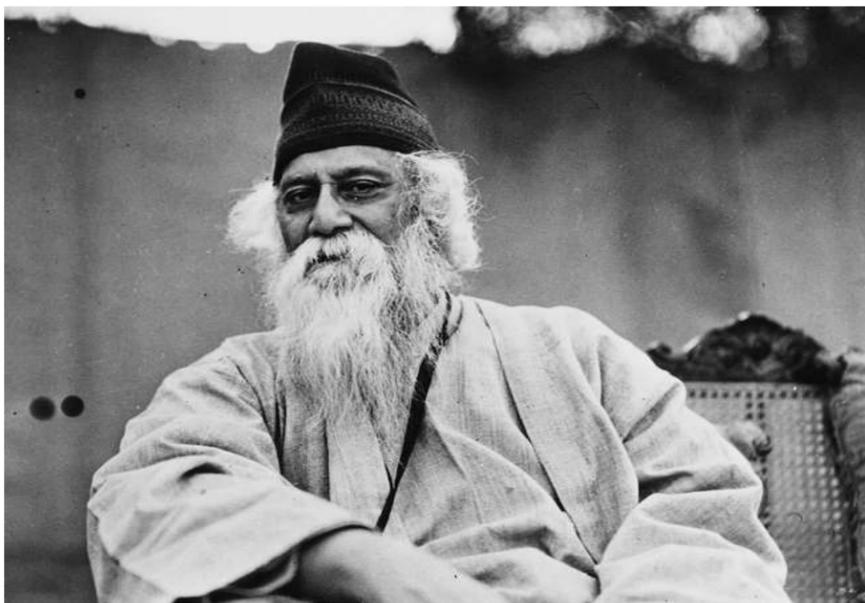
A billion people will either be displaced or forced to endure insufferable heat for rise in the global temperature, according to a study. The heat affected areas currently home to a third of the world's population will be as hot as the hottest parts of the Sahara within 50 years. Temperature of 6C to 28C is ideal for majority humanity and for prop

er human health and food production. But this temperature is shifting and shrinking as a result of manmade global heating, which is leading to "near unlivable" extreme.

Humanity particularly concentrates on land, which is warming faster than the oceans. Most future population growth will be in hot regions of Africa and Asia. About 30% of the world's population would live in ex-

treme heat, defined as an average temperature of 29C. These conditions are extremely rare outside the most scorched parts of the Sahara. With global heating increasing 3C, they are projected to envelop 1.2 billion people in India, 485 million in Nigeria and more than 100 million in each of Pakistan, Indonesia and Sudan. Mother nature is giving back her part to the mankind, indeed.

Tagore's 159th Birth Anniversary



Tathagata Choudhury

"A teacher can never truly teach unless he is still learning himself. A lamp can never light another lamp unless it continues to burn its own flame. The teacher who has come to the end of his subject, who has no living traffic with his knowledge but merely repeats his lesson to his students, can only load their minds, he cannot quicken them."
- Rabindranath Tagore.

Salute COVID-19 warriors

Vikash Kumar

Armed Forces salute COVID-19 warriors in thanksgiving events across India. The Indian Armed Forces including all its three wings - the Indian Army, Indian Navy, and Indian Air Force - paid tributes to the COVID-19 warriors. All three wings shows different activities. The Indian Navy



too, played its part by lighting up the ships and sounded ship siren. The Indian Air Force conducted flypasts over hospitals showering flower petals. Doctors and nurses clapped for these tributes.

Corona update

Confirmed	Recovered	Deceased
59662	17847	1981
↑3320	↑1307	↑95

Source- Arogya setu app by Govt. of India, till 9th May 2020