



Community Development & Leadership Summit '15

22nd - 29th November, 2015



MODERN SCHOOL
BARAKHAMBA ROAD, NEW DELHI

It's All In Us - Integrated Intelligence



There comes a time when we heed a certain call
When the world must come together as one
There are people dying
And it's time to lend a hand to life
The greatest gift of all

We can't go on pretending day by day
That someone, somewhere will soon make a change
We all are a part of God's great big family
And the truth, you know,
Love is all we need

We are the world, we are the children
We are the ones who make a brighter day
So let's start giving
There's a choice we're making
We're saving our own lives
It's true we'll make a better day
Just you and me

Send them your heart so they'll know that someone cares
And their lives will be stronger and free
As God has shown us by turning stone to bread
So we all must lend a helping hand

When you're down and out, there seems no hope at all
But if you just believe there's no way we can fall
Well...well...well
Let's realize that a change can only come
When we stand together as one

CDLS ACT 10

STARRING



Pymble Ladies' College



Scholastica



Beijing New Oriental



Liaoning Province
Shiyan High School



Liebigshule Giessen



Modern School
Kundli & Vasant Vihar



Zolotoy Pesok



SMA Negeri 4
Denpasar



Liceo Lassico Foscari



Kiettisack
International School



St. George's
Girls' School



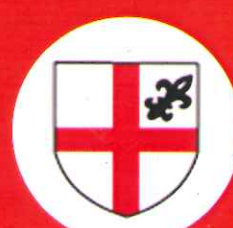
Colegio Carol Baur



Science High School



Mathematical
Grammar School



Clifton School



Kärrtorps Gymnasium



Matthayom Watnairong



Townley Grammar
School



Greensboro Day
School



Collegiate School

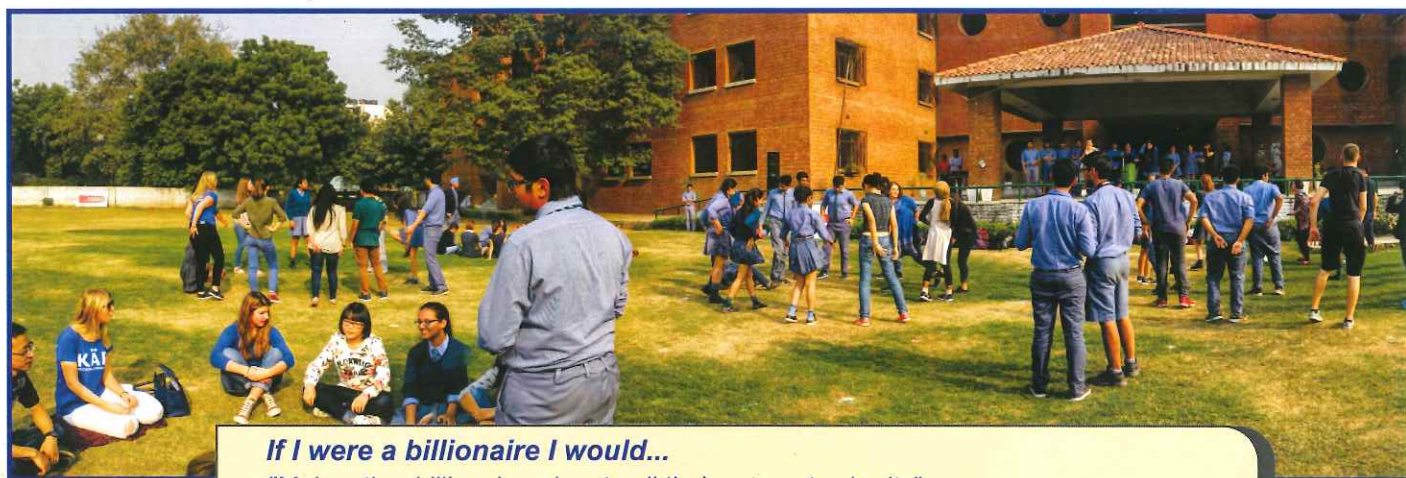
Meeting The Cast

Separated by unseen boundaries but united by shared aspirations and goals, the delegates gathered in the Lower Field of Modern School to form globe-spanning friendships that would transcend borders. Imaginary lines on a map were no obstacles for the visiting delegates, as they fraternised with merry abandon; with their hearts in their mouths and excitement evident on their faces, they eagerly looked forward to the proceedings of the day.

As the activities for the day began, shyness soon became a thing of the past; our guests opened up and were soon sharing their thoughts and experiences. Agnes from Sweden exclaimed that while breaking the ice through fun-filled activities was entertaining, breaking the rules of the games really added to the amusement factor. The Australian teacher, Ms. Sweetman, was surprised to learn that Modernites address their teachers as "Ma'am/Sir". She had thought that it would take away from the friendly relationship that should exist between teachers and students, but was pleasantly surprised to see that it was not the case. The students she was accompanying gladly agreed!

There were mixed reactions and first impressions by the delegates as they stepped out of the airport. "We have big traffic, but you have BIGGEST traffic" said Ms. Jelena; however, she also said that she was extremely impressed by the warmth and affability of the family hosting her, and loved their friendliness.

Looking forward to eating world famous spicy Indian food, Anna from Italy was heartbroken upon learning that Indian food is probably spicy beyond her wildest dreams. Some voiced their desire to visit the narrow alleyways of 'Shandani chowk' while others were waiting for the surprises their host families had in store for them. Xu Ke from China said that she really wanted to see Indian street haggling in action – a part of the "real Indian market experience". Our negotiating prowess seemingly precedes us! In sharp contrast was Ana Duran's bucket list, which included visiting Indian temples for an authentic meditation experience. In a similar vein to this temple mania was Ms. Ann Laura's fascination with the religious and spiritual beliefs of India; the diversity in faith and beliefs left her spellbound! She cited the largely Catholic population of her home country, Mexico, as the reason behind the same. She also stole the words out of our mouths when she said that CDLS was a celebration of diversity of cultures and languages; she astutely acknowledged the role English was playing at the Summit, recognizing how the world's 'most influential language' was breaking down barriers one conversation at a time.



If I were a billionaire I would...

"Make other billionaires donate all their money to charity"

"I would be a rockstar"

"Buy a dog and treat him like a king; I would build a palace for him"

"Do more than what billionaires do today in terms of helping society develop"

Prologue

The 10th edition of the Community Development &



Leadership Summit was formally inaugurated on the 22nd of November 2015 by our respected chief guest, **Mr Salman Khurshid, Politician and eminent lawyer,** and our guest of honour, **Major General G.D. Bakshi (Retd.).** The

HLL Auditorium became a rendezvous point for able young minds from 18 countries and the plethora of ideas and ideals they brought along with them. Featuring the participation of over 100 delegates from 21 schools across the globe, CDLS 2015 had drawn exactly the right kind of people for achieving its aim of cultural assimilation.

The delegates were welcomed with the traditional *teeka* followed by the lighting of the lamp and the Saraswati Vandana, an invocation to the goddess of knowledge. Principal **Dr Vijay Datta** welcomed the delegates and introduced the theme of the summit, *It's all in us – Integrated Intelligence*. "Today, in educational circles world over, there is a need for integrated intelligence – an intelligence that would not only bring transformation, but also address knowledge society and beyond." He went on to define the purpose of integrated intelligence: "For a human being, intelligence is used for a greater purpose. We must use this integrated intelligence for such a

purpose; as I said (this intelligence) is passed from generation to generation and over the years we accumulate it. So it is about who we are and what we will be. The summit is a journey and I welcome you all on board this journey, to participate and reach the ultimate purpose."

Major General G.D. Bakshi (Retd.) linked integrated intelligence to creativity and Arthur Koestler's Theory of Bissociation. Creativity, according to him, evolved from a simple conflict and collision of diverse mattresses of thoughts and opinions. Taking the cue from the Principal's address, **Maj Gen Bakshi** defined the distinction between a creative process and a logical one. "You'll find that emotion, reason and intelligence are connected and the greatest example of creativity was a combine of linear, sequential, logical thinking translated into action."

Mr Salman Khurshid speaking about the growing concern for the lack of a sense of security in the world said, "We cannot keep quiet at the horrific events that are taking place around the world. The issue is about reaching out and working solutions for humanity because we are all a part of it. This is an ideal forum, for all of you who are here and it's an opportunity for you as the generation that will take forward the torch of liberty, the torch of freedom, the torch of joy, the torch of knowledge, the torch which will bring light to the world and destroy the darkness that engulfs us today."



CDLS MEANS...

- Chaat Dosa Ladoo Samosa
- Collective Decisions Lead to Solutions
- Can't Deal with Life Solo
- Culture, Diversity and Leadership are Sacred
- Can Dance, Let's Sing
- Calculating Directions for Leaders Simply

Knights of the Round Table

The panel discussion that followed the Inauguration brought forth interesting comments from experts of various fields; the panel included **Mr Salman Khurshid**, an esteemed politician and erstwhile Minister, **Dr Sushil Choudhary**, an eminent opthamologist, **Mr Siddharth Luthra**, a reputed senior advocate and **Major General G D Bakshi (Retd.)** "It was a fascinating workshop and what I enjoyed about it was all the multiple perspectives because that is really important," said Zenab from the U.K.; her thoughts were echoed by Will from the U.S. "I feel that integrated intelligence helps people in coming together and working as a team, as one. The panel discussion was helpful because it made us understand the different views of others as well as different aspects."



Ms Navika Kumar, a renowned investigative journalist, moderated the panel discussion. With her sparkling wit and succinct commentary, she conducted the discussion effortlessly, not failing to offer her own views on leadership. "There is no given formula of leadership. How a leader becomes a leader, how much of him is a follower, how much of him is the idealist who has a vision, how he balances the two sides - that's an evolving concept of a leader, and so for each walk of life, these leadership qualities are generated in such a manner that they work in that specific field." She also talked about the different categories of leadership. "Persuasive leadership, consultative leadership, democratic or autocratic: those are the ways that you will move forward, and very often you have to have a competition of all four, in different situations in life."



Ms Navika Kumar



Mr Salman Khurshid

Mr Salman Khurshid commenced the panel discussion by describing his interpretation of the word 'leadership'. "A leader is one who shapes the opinion of the other and drives them towards a particular direction," he stated.

He asserted his position by exploring the nature of leadership. "Change happens in two ways - revolution and evolution. Changes can come gradually, slowly, assimilative and as evolution, but changes can also come suddenly and as revolution. Again, in evolution and revolution, you need special qualities of leadership."

He proceeded to expand his point of view from a politician's perspective, pondering the big questions of leadership in a democracy. "You can't be a great leader if you just listen to what the masses tell you. Then the masses are the leaders. And you can't be a great leader if you don't listen to the masses at all. So what is that magic meeting point at which a leader leads towards enlightenment, and yet is sensitive to the actual desires, aspirations and visions of his people? I think that's the big question in democracy, and I don't think that anyone has answered it," he said, ending on an ambiguous note, and leaving the audience full of questions to contemplate.

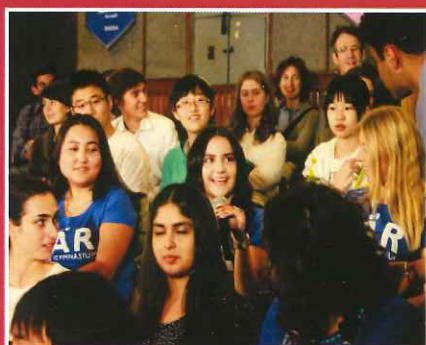




**Major General
G D Bakshi (Retd.)**

It came as no surprise when **Major General G. D. Bakshi (Retd.)** was asked to give the audience a glimpse into the concept of leadership in the armed forces. "In the armed forces, we don't talk of styles of leadership. You have to vary your style depending upon the situation. The group, the leader, the situation decide the next decision and in case of crisis there is only one – 'Follow Me.'"

While reminiscing about his experiences as a young soldier, General G D Bakshi shared some valuable tips on leadership. "Be sincere in all that you do. Sincerity is transparent and can't be faked. If you're sincere, people will follow you because of your conviction. You will have greater impact if your body, mind and soul are in harmony with what you say. He also emphasised on the importance of enthusiasm because enthusiasm is infectious." The timeless advice of one great leader to another was passed down to the keen delegates, vitalizing the main goal of CDLS in inspiring them to emulate these qualities.



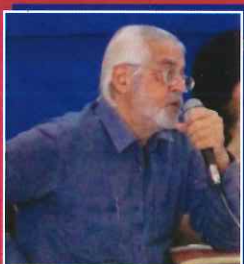
Mr Sidharth Luthra connected with the global audience by discussing the united role of all nations in the process of decision making, an integral part of any leadership undertaking. "There is definitely a need for greater cohesion in decision making and a definite need for more sharing of information and a broader appreciation."

In response to a thought-provoking question on the various shades of morality in leadership, Dr Luthra took an inspiring stance. "I believe that whether it be in

politics or in any other field what we need in leadership is a strong sense of ethics and a strong sense of grounding. Any leader must have a combination of both the factors. In law, in medicine you may be an expert in your field but without a strong sense of ethics, a strong sense of giving back to the society that has created you I think all such leadership is meaningless. I believe that this is a theme which runs across nations and is not just limited to any one person."



Mr Sidharth Luthra



Dr Sushil Choudhary

Dr Sushil Choudhary represented the field of medicine in the panel discussion. He spoke passionately about what makes one a leader. "To make a difference, you have to be passionate about it; you have to want to do it at any cost."

In response to a question posed by a delegate from the United Kingdom, he said, "In the medical field, I feel the one who becomes a leader is the one who chooses a path to give solace to the maximum number of people, to the best of his capability, with the kind of equipment he has. He puts in his day and night to do that good job, which can bring a smile to a person's face. That is what is important for leadership and that is what drives you. You see a smile on some patient's face and that means a lot to you."

- "The first thing we thought of when we stepped onto the roads was 'Oh my god, the traffic...' It's scary. It's almost like people communicate by honking! But the weather is just perfect."
- "A lawyer, a doctor, a politician and an army man walked into a bar... CDLS happened."

2050: A New World, Your Vision?

- "2050 a new world, a solo world in which India transitions from fossil fuels to solar."
- "A world in which we overcome all conflicts, all disadvantages and obstacles for millions of citizens of the world, all rampant diseases, hunger and frustration and we live as one happy family."
- "A world which is better – One of more tolerance and less fear."
- "More inclusive – a world with world leaders who have the qualities of the head and the heart."
- "One in which governance and development go hand in hand."
- "A world in which people carry each other together, be it somebody from the north, the south, the east or the west, irrespective of religion and community."
- "Technologically advanced, medically progressive and harmoniously interdependent."
- "2050 – a WAR zone or UTOPIA !!!
- "Less man more machines."
- "Back to square one – Planet of the Apes."

Integrated Intelligence and Education – The connect?

"The very environment is becoming so intelligent with computers and technology and connectivity has gone up by leaps and bounds. Hence the very concept of intelligence has to go to an integrated phase, in which you integrate all kinds of intelligence, harness them to a universal purpose and an evolutionary purpose."

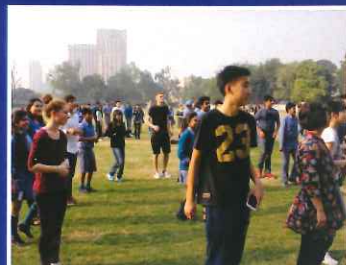
"Integrated intelligence combines value with competence and equity with excellence. To be a better human being, education formal or informal must not be segregated, it must be part of one large world"

"Today's students should have an open mind and should have the enthusiasm to learn from the experiences of life because more than books, life teaches you."

"You start out in one field but education gives you the opportunity to cross disciplines thus building you into wholesome individuals. An inter-disciplinary approach is the way forward and while we need leadership, we can't live in silence and therefore we need to live and grow together."

"Qualifications and accolades aren't really your achievements. Your achievements are the zeal and enthusiasm you sow for community service and how you employ your abilities, which may not necessarily be intellectual, in a manner that benefits society."

- "Work in progress"
- "A new definition – there is place for all of us."
- "More than one person working together – teamwork."
- "A universal theory – knowledge."
- "A combine of critical rationality and spiritual mysticism."



The Taj Mahal of my country is...

- *Petronas Towers, Rubbini (Malaysia)*
- *Reserve Monument, Mia (Philippines)*
- *St. Basil's Cathedral (Russia)*
- *There isn't one. Nothing compares. Arunima (UK)*

My Ideal Leader is...

- *John Green*
- *Shah Rukh Khan*
- *Mother Teresa*
- *Jim Morrison*

Mission Gratitude



The disadvantaged sections of society often find no voice to ask for the help they desperately need; it should be the prerogative of those who CAN help, TO help. The Community Development & Leadership Summit provided the delegates the chance to do their bit and take up this prospect for a better, more inclusive future.

The delegates, divided into groups, left for different destinations to engage with various disadvantaged sections of society: the *silvers* at the Ozanam old age home, the *visually impaired* at the Blind School, the *orphaned* at Palna, and the *mentally and physically challenged* at Cheshire Home.



The American delegates summed up the trip to Ozanam succinctly:

"We spoke to the residents, danced in front of them, sang with them, interacted with them, listened to their stories. It was heartening to see their serene faces... it inspired us and made happier."

The delegates who visited the Blind School were in awe of the confidence and



independence of the sightless students. "I really enjoyed interacting with the students there. It was incredible how they could live up to their full potential, despite multiple obstacles. I feel that we can be more accommodating and learn from them", said Sam from South Africa. Moved to tears, Johanna from Sweden expressed her happiness: "I was so sad, but at the same time so happy. I played a chess match with one of the students, and was so impressed by his skills."

The trip to Palna was a moving experience for the delegates. It stirred a gamut of emotions. Susanna from Germany said, "It was a bit sad to see all these children with no homes... but these children were really happy too; perhaps because they have somewhere where they can sleep. We can help by just going to them, talking, playing, and simply giving them a reason to be happy." Shaan from Bangladesh had only two words to describe the entire experience: "deeply moving".

"Even though Cheshire Home is a home for the mentally and physically challenged, the energy here is palpable", said Divyansh from Modern. The trip there was a revelation for the delegates and volunteers, who danced, sang and prayed with the residents of the Home.

Rubbini from Malaysia could feel a spark of youthful liveliness in the air, saying "there's something about this place that just makes me want to spread the love".



Though emotionally exhausted by these visits, the students enthusiastically sat down to reflect and share their personal moments of community service.

In an attempt to reverse the trend, they translated actions into words. According to Uwe Kraffert, a teacher from Germany, the afternoon activities were woven into a soul-searching interactive session that made them reflect on values of compassion, love and interdependence.



The chief guest for the occasion was Ms Sreedevi Pillai, District General Manager, PBU. She spoke about how corporations and organizations have a social responsibility that they must tirelessly adhere to, and how the SBI is leading by example. *"We have now moved over from plain vanilla banking to helping the community in various ways. We have set up separate subsidiary which is called SBI Foundation which does exactly what these children have done today, which is a part of giving back to society what we have gained from it. To honour our corporate social responsibility, we formed a subsidiary which concentrates on all these community service activities."*



The delegates at each table had to make a poster reflecting the community service they had rendered earlier in the day. The moving visuals comprehensively depicted the storm of emotions stirring in one's heart.

Another activity saw the delegates engrossed in discussion on assigned topics based on problems that afflict society across the globe. Some topics included, but were not limited to: 'Healthcare in Africa', 'Malnutrition in Tamil Nadu'. The delegates then deliberated upon these issues among themselves. Listening to the delegates was an eye-opener for many as it debunked the myth that developed

countries had better healthcare facilities and systems.

The day ended with an introspective survey on 'My mirror, my reflections'. The students shared their innermost feelings on their moments of happiness, blessing, pride, what pepped them up and which cause they would like to champion.



COMMUNITY SERVICE IS...

- Helping others realise their full potential
- Learning to be accommodating and sympathetic
- You don't get paid for community service, you get rewarded with love
- Giving people company, even if you can't give money

COMMUNITY SERVICE VALUES...

Hope Empathy
Generosity Dedication Enthusiasm
Integrity Strength

"When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace"

-Jimi Hendrix

The activities on SBI Day 2 were designed to link love to world peace, understand Integrated Intelligence and spread basic tenets of compassion, empathy and camaraderie amongst the gathered youth.



The day began with an interesting take on social media. The delegates were asked to design a Facebook page on the theme 'World Peace and Harmony'. The creations of the delegates included (but were not limited to) poetry, lyrical prose, illustrations and slogans, all integrated into a virtual (virtual) Facebook page. "We like the innovative idea behind the activity

because it also makes us think about our fascination with social media, but in a positive light", said two delegates from Table 7.



Working on the *Mind Map* the delegates designed a flowchart linking futuristic technological advancement to the central theme by visually depicting the positives, negatives and salient features of the same. "It was sort of confusing at first, but we got the hang of it eventually... we felt like computer engineers designing algorithms", said the members of Table 13.

The posters on the Healing Hospital represented things that the delegates found to be most comforting when they were in dire straits – music, pets, the Sun, dance and many more.

The Guest of Honour for the occasion was Ms Alka Nautiyal, AGM, SBI Delhi, who spoke about the need for collaboration and the importance of community service: "Modern School is a pioneer in education, SBI is the pioneer of banking in India; this great day marks a collaboration that will certainly lead to a brighter future for everyone present here today... and one where we can all learn to contribute to the betterment of society as a whole."





Today an Act, Tomorrow an Action



Day 2, as described by our chief guest, Mr Sanjay Singh, Principal Resident Representative, TATA Sons, New Delhi, was a day of collective imagination and unleashing of the creative spirit. The icebreaking activity 'WORD – 2050' set the stage for debate and discussion. The delegates at each table sought solutions to problems that plague the world today. The commonality of concerns was obvious as the students resolved the issue of Unemployment with solutions like 'integration, stabilization, development and opportunity.' At another table the issue of war was resolved through empathy, understanding, tolerance, education and humanity while the evil of female foeticide called for education, gender equality, awareness and equal opportunity to help eliminate it.



While, Rushed from Bangladesh said, *'It was a fun way of doing the activity, looking for letters and building crosswords'*, the delegates from Indonesia emphatically stated.

"Our governments should listen to us - we too have a voice" "It's been really fun, we had the topic conquer bullying –we put together a lot of words to explain that. We were confused in the beginning but then everyone started working"-Sam, South Africa "It was really fun doing the activity. It helped us to talk to people while addressing the problems faced by the world. Our word was road rage so we were trying to come up with solutions for that. I was surprised to see the leader unleashed in every delegate" - Rebecca, U.K.



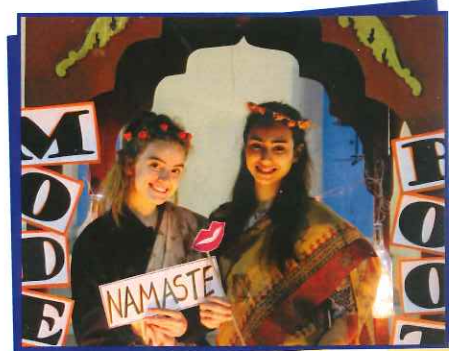
The CDLS 2015 Nobel Laureate brought out a personal moment of heroism for each delegate. The short inspirational video presentation on Malala Yousufzai triggered a surge of emotions. Shedding all reticence, the students shared their very personal moments of struggle. While Wan

Xuewen from China defined his moment of bravery as facing a harsh breakup, the delegate from USA defined it as when she helped the people of Nicaragua by giving them food and water. Jelena Novovic, a teacher from Serbia said, "Life is not like it used to be, we know it very well. My country was bombed and I was shocked and afraid. But then I pulled myself up and decided to teach my students that war does not yield anything – only love and courage can fight anything."

The delegate of Mexico wrote about how he rescued the dogs of his colony and Putu from Indonesia wrote about how she helped her autistic friend from getting bullied. Unanimously voted as the CDLS Nobel Laureate was Sarah Yu from the Philippines, whose moving story of her parents touched a chord in everyone's heart.

"I don't think there is just one moment of heroism that stands out, daily acts of kindness and supports are my idea of heroism". – Marco, Italy

"Not everyone can be a celebrated Nobel laureate but we all in our own way can try to make the world better around us". – Alexandra, Germany



The activity **From Word 2050 to 2050: A New World** saw the delegates doodling their ideas of the future on hand cutouts. The graphic representations brought out the creative talent as each delegate gave a visual depiction of what the world would be like vis a vis science, communication, tradition, peace and charity. For some delegates there would be space ships, flying cars, phones energized with solar energy and of course the much talked about apocalypse.

"I remember seeing a letter unscrambling saying war. I was against this particular value in the future but then I realized that war was actually

"TATA means to think and think again about any problem and you are bound to come out with a solution. I realize that that's the process that you have used today to produce what you have produced." Mr Sanjay Singh.

war against war, and if you launch a war against war you get peace-which is what the future should be made of."

Mr Sanjay Singh

Bridging the Digital Divide involved creating and conducting a survey questionnaire on issues like machines, power of science and technology, abhorrence of violence, be the life line of communication, and cultural nationalism. Collating the results the

delegates made bar graphs and pie charts to depict their findings. Principal Dr Datta summed up the activity as 'a brilliant cohesion of human and artificial intelligence'. He linked the displayed charts to the mime performance man vs machine and emphasized, "Though the mechanical world undermined human intelligence, it is only because of human intelligence that the mundane becomes miraculous."

Another interesting activity was writing scripts for muted animation clips. Interestingly, the delegates were serious about the task and bonded over addressing issues like-bullying, discrimination and disparity through their skit scripts.

A must do in Delhi is...

*Eat round spicy water balls (golgappas)
Be a shopaholic
Get a henna tattoo
Wear a bindi
Do the dandiya
Eat butter chicken
Bargain at the market*

"I had so much fun depicting Simba from the lion king. I've seen that movie at least a million times"
- Anna, Italy.

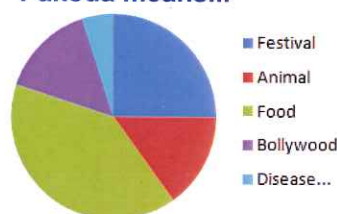
The grand finale was a mime production performed by volunteers from each school. The message was one of hope even though there was a

threat of absolute mechanization of humankind. The day ended on a positive note as each delegate chimed into the song: "We are the world....we can make a better place, just you and me."



Shrey, from Modern School Vasant Vihar (our sister school) complained, "I keep getting mistaken for an organiser from Modern Barakhamba... I'm not even getting the delegate perks." #justuniformthings

Pakoda means...



The stall set up by Laos PDR on Cultural Night was incredibly poignant. The stall featured the utilisation of bomb shrapnel to create spoons to feed the poor. Goes on to show that even tragedy can give rise to hope...



Old Brushes, Fresh Strokes



Toriquel Amin cried out that the heart that adorned his hand was "tarnishing the reputation I have back home".

This activity has helped us bond with the delegates by helping us get over our shyness through a shared activity.", "It was a life changing opportunity for me. I learned new things and want to go back home and try craftwork". Shrey, MSVV

"Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world."

-Albert Einstein

The creative session was an energiser. The cooking of kheer, the application of mehndi and the designing of ornate hardwood sculptures left the delegates enthralled. While some delegates worked at the Babylonian art of 'mosaicking' to make an Indian twist of the omkara symbol, some others were busy harnessing their culinary skills to create the classic Indian dessert Seviyan ki Kheer (which was chicly translated as 'vermicelli pudding'). Part of the excitement was the henna application activity, in which both boys and girls decorated their hands with beautiful patterns. Meanwhile in Fashion Tech, the delegates channeled their inner designers to create beautiful jewellery. The Fine Arts room was buzzing with twofold activity. Delegates on one side combined their own culture with the Madhubani style of painting, while delegates on the other side engaged in Graphical activity involving sculpting wooden slabs into beautifully adorned blocks.

"India has such wonderful talent...I need to find out my country's traditional crafts when I go back home."

Rubbini from Malaysia said "I am making this necklace and bracelet for my girlfriend back home."

Arunima from the UK and Ellie from the United States felt that their respective activities were unlike anything that they did at home, a feeling shared by all the delegates present.

The creative session at the Paper Tech room was in full swing as the delegates were engrossed in making paper flowers, which would soon be put together on the 'Tree of Life'. Their creativity was put to the test as they also partook in 'marbling' and 'papier mâché'. All in all, the creative session embodied the essence of the cross-cultural exchange.

Susanna from Germany summed up the session's feelings with her words:

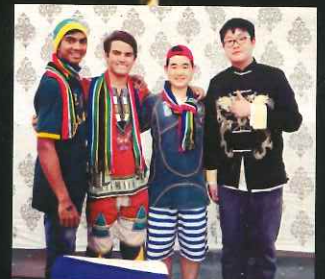
"It is astonishing, the number of possibilities."

While the students were engrossed with these activities, the visiting teachers discussed the theme of integrated intelligence with great fervour. In the diversity of opinions, there was a common aspiration of achieving greater bonhomie and peace between their nations. The importance of international summits in inculcating values of leadership was felt by each one present.

"Leadership doesn't just happen; it's like respect, you have to work on it and earn it", said Charmaine from South Africa with conviction as she described the importance of the quality of leadership in today's youth. While some felt that pressure on students to excel in various fields might hinder short term progress, others believed that such pressure was integral to the holistic development of the individual. Discussion on the issue of dependence on social media also gave rise to a myriad of contrasting views with it being described as 'a double edged sword'. Some described social media as an inevitable part of the learning process, while some suspected it to be a simple diversion which inevitably has more cons than pros.

If the purpose of CDLS can be described as bringing different cultures together, then the creative session was a giant leap in the right direction as the delegates fanned out into groups that produced multiple examples of fine artistry that clearly reflected their collaboration. This collaboration can be taken as the framework upon which Modern School hopes to create the leaders of tomorrow, the Ambassadors of Peace.

What is Bollywood for you?
Loud, colourful and filled with music, of course!





Busy @ Modern



Amidst the frenzied rollercoaster ride of activities, the delegates managed to steal some time to relax with their hosts on the school campus. The long walk began with the sports fields, the swimming pool and tennis courts to the Science Park and the various academic blocks. The delegates were in awe of the majestic *banyan tree* and posed against the sculptures. They narrated stories about the equivalent *cemented tree* in their schools and revealed popular hiding haunts, their secrets safe with us. It was evident that the student tour guides could not disguise their tone of pride as they took the visitors on a tour of their beloved school.



Marat from Russia expressed his fascination, "I was enthralled to see various scientific concepts and mechanisms being efficiently explained by the school's students". Knowledge was imparted and absorbed as the boundaries between fun and learning were erased.

The Modern School lawns took centre stage with the tree plantation activity. The eager delegates felt a sense of pride as they rooted their green time capsules into the ground. With each tree planted, the delegates left behind a piece of themselves, which would beautify the grounds of Modern School, Barakhamba Road for years to come.

Early Wednesday morning, clad in tracksuits the delegates twisted and turned in various yogic postures. The warm up yoga session was followed by a session on rural Indian sports. Divided into groups, they played *Kabaddi* and *Langri Tang*. Megan Mimms, an accompanying teacher from USA, who has done yoga before, defined it as a relaxing and healing sport. "The stretches were calming and my mind felt clear enough for me to start my day," she said. Elian from Indonesia happily proclaimed that his favourite sport was *Kabaddi*. "I realised that I'm very aggressive during this game," he said, "I would like to apologise to my three friends who I kicked but in my defense, you were in my way of victory."

The session of *Langri Taang* made for quite a few laughs. "The idea behind the rural nature in the game was to create a space where the delegates could bond," said Mr. Rajesh Arya. However, there were sports of Western origins such as tug-of-war, football and basketball which were also thrown into the mix creating a diverse platter.

Twelfth Night

A memorable afternoon was spent by the delegates watching William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* performed by the Filter Theatre in association with the Royal Shakespeare Company.

The British Council's creative version of *Twelfth Night*, brilliantly tailored for a global audience, was beautifully executed by the actors and the musicians. Putu from Indonesia commented, "The acting was remarkable, and the fact that the actors interacted with the audience made it worth watching".

"I have never seen a live Shakespearian performance, my friends will be jealous."

"Theatre is my passion and I have performed the role of Viola in my school. But this twist in the tale made Shakespeare more interesting."

Spic Macay

An integral part of the CDLS program for the visiting delegates is experiencing Indian culture first hand. The SPIC MACAY society of Modern School organized a classical performance by the celebrated Odissi dancer, Padma Shri Madhavi Mudgal.

Kamolchatr from Thailand compared the classical instruments to the *sueng*, the *khim*, and the *grajabpi*, which are prominent in the Thai culture, while Jelena from Serbia noted the marked differences in the dance styles of her country.

Xu Ke from China and Laura from Italy were amazed by the nuances that went into the performance. Captivated by the eye movements and hand motions, the audience was unable to put their cameras down.



A Streetcar Named *Desi*



The rich tradition and culture of India fascinates one and all. It allures everyone to be a part of and celebrate each occasion with great gusto.

The delegates were welcomed in a quintessential Indian style complete with tilak and fragrant marigold garlands inside the beautifully painted gates of Radhakrishnan School.



Having only heard about the traditional grand Indian gala, the delegates were delighted seeing the bright hues, the decked up camel and elephant, the cheerful smiles, the intriguing astrologer and the pottery activities. They were all fascinated with the intricate and traditional designs of henna. 'The elephant ride was hectic and I thought that I'll be thrown off the elephant, but it was very engaging and thrilling,' said Julia from Australia.

The host school students dressed in brightly colored dresses adding vibrancy to the atmosphere. They pulled the delegates into the circle of punjabi bhangra and gujarati dandiya as all danced with gay abandon.



"From the drum beats to the henna, to the delicious food, everything was just perfect," said Rebecca from UK. The long queue for the camel and elephant rides simulated a royal



experience. The icing on the cake was the melodious bhajan sung by the students and the lovely dances that they performed. The effort put in by the faculty of Radhakrishnan School was reflected through the mesmerizing authenticity of the *mela*.

They weaved the various textures of Indian culture into a beautiful tapestry.



India is...

Lively! OMG
Colourful Buzzing Loud!
Busy

I love that round round
thing that's really sweet
-jalebi -yes jalebi it's so
Mouthwatering-licious



The CDLS adventure, as well as the true Indian experience, would not be complete without the involvement of the host families who opened their doors to people from across the globe, forming bonds to last a lifetime. With their Indian friends, the delegates explored the streets of Delhi, tasted traditional Indian food and experienced, firsthand, uncensored Indian culture in all its glory. Whether it was listening to Bollywood songs on the ride to school, or eating chaat spicy enough to bring tears to their eyes, the little things made up a big part of the delegates' time in India. Adorned with bright bindis and intricate mehndi designs, jotting down Hindi phrases on their phones, the delegates went on a whirlwind journey to find a home away from home.

Tweets

Nutria Kongdan @nutria
Our host family is very kind to us. Recently they bought mixed fruit juice for me just because I love it so much. pic.twitter.com/6trvLx0



50+
RETWEETS
50+
FOLLOWERS
6:02 PM - 24 Aug 12 - Delhi

Reply to @nutria

Tweets

Grigori Shermuk @grigori
#cdls2015 #bestexperience
pic.twitter.com/6trvLx0



50+
RETWEETS
50+
FOLLOWERS
6:02 PM - 24 Aug 12 - Delhi

Reply to @grigori

Johanna Tabea Sten shared a link
55 minutes ago



Like - Comment - Share
79 people like this.
View all 15 comments
Niyati Mehra I love u guys!!!! <3
May 17 at 12:26pm . I like
Johanna Sten Niyati, you're so nice and friendly. Looking forward to having fun in the evening, I really enjoy it. And the food is great!
May 18 at 1:50pm . I like

Write a comment...

Instagram

Marco Pitteri



756 likes
Marco Pitteri #funnyincident Both of us not waking up this morning and realizing at about 5 o'clock that we supposed to be in school.

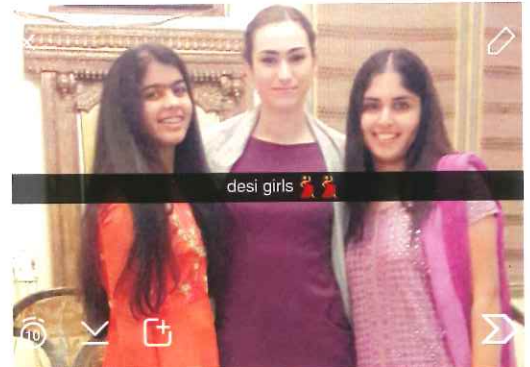


TOP POSTS
#CDLS2015

zakariyapanuk



67 likes



desi girls

Xu Ke shared a link
55 minutes ago



Like - Comment - Share
79 people like this.
View all 15 comments
Naniya Manglani Butter chicken for dinner 2day!! :)
May 17 at 12:26pm . I like
Xu Ke Looking forward to playing the piano in the morning before coming to school. And sitting and teaching my host family chinese at the dinner table.
May 18 at 1:50pm . I like

Write a comment...

hillman_yin
New Delhi, India



22 likes

hillman_yin #CDLS2015 #friendship #classmate

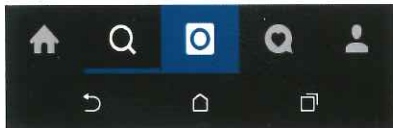




18 likes

lightblue163xx

#lightblue163xxnewadventureinIndia#CDLS2015



2754 likes

Hallie #indiagate My favorite song is DJ Waley Babu. I can't stop singing it and every time it comes on the radio, I'm always dancing to it with @jess.shannon.



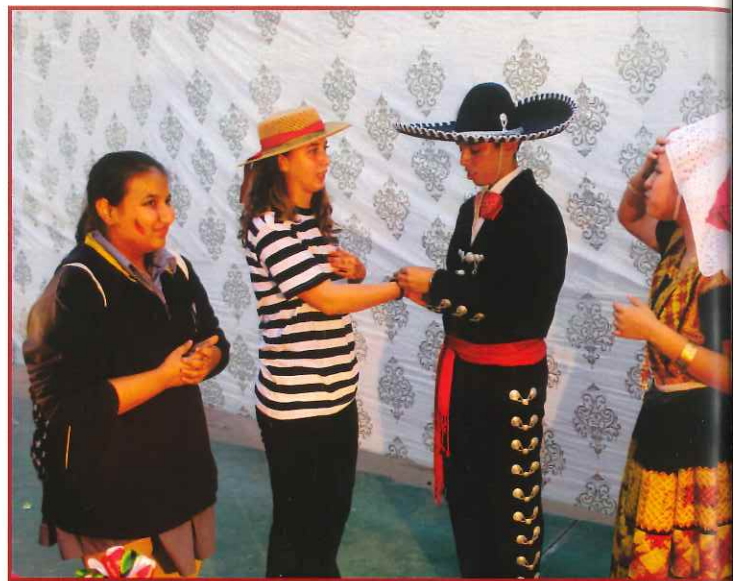
The Power of Words...

- *United as one - responsible for the past, owners of the future.*
- *Peace not in pieces - everyone for one and one for everyone.*
- *World hope and peace - in the darkness of violence, love is the only light.*
- *Heal the wold - hate is poison, love is remedy.*
- *We are one, it's all in us - the world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those watch evil being done.*

Centre Stage

The Cultural Evening is the most looked forward to event of CDLS. Clad in traditional attires of their respective countries the delegates of CDLS 2015, came together to spend an evening of fun and frolic. For the outsider it might appear as another fancy dress event but participants truly understood what the celebration was all about. It was an evening to rejoice in one another's differences with warm hugs, and lots of cookies! The aim of the evening was to surpass geographical boundaries conceived on paper as well as social boundaries fed into our brains, and understand the prospect of working as one. "To truly understand and appreciate the wide plethora of potential we hold as individuals and to yet work towards a common goal as a team" - These were the words said by our teacher, but it was only later that evening that everyone truly understood the meaning and the relevance of these lines.

From the cork hats of Australia to the intricate Suzhou embroideries of the Chinese the CDLS cultural evening started off with a bang. As the



evening set in, the basketball courts of Modern School lit up with stalls ranging from eighteen countries; while the Italians painted their gondola, the Indonesians assembled their hand painted "kabans". In the words of Sengpasaya from Laos, "bomb shrapnel has been converted into utensils to feed the poor, see even in the darkest of times its humanity that gives us hope. Make spoons not war."

As the evening turned into the night the Africans danced their way into everyone's hearts with their Zulu dance, while the Thai delegates mesmerized everyone with their melodious performance of the traditional song 'Boi Choi'. The Chinese students showcased their talent and dauntlessness as they performed the ancient martial art of 'Kung Fu'. Elian from Indonesia said, "the cultural performances, were enthralling and made everyone forget their differences for a night of togetherness and joy." The star of the evening was Tsaregorodtsev Daniil as he left the audience enthralled by his athletic dancing prowess. Indeed, it was a great learning experience, but make no mistake; we still have miles to go before we sleep. The sumptuous dinner that followed was sponsored by the Mr Ashok Pratap Singh, President Board of Trustees, Modern Schools. Enjoying the evening he summed it up by saying, "Have fun, because whenever you have fun you do things well."



LETTERS BACK HOME



亲爱的爸爸妈妈：

今天是十一月二十三号，这边上午活动突然让我们写信给家人，我也不知道它会被送到哪去，写英文你们也看不懂，我就随便写点课业的话啦，顺便练练字。

和大家用英文交流还是有些吃力，但是我在努力融入，发现音乐和体育是无国界的。

我这边上窜下跳，你们也吃好玩好，静候你家的国际化人才凯旋！

陈天一
2015.11.23



Dear mom and dad

How are you? I'm doing fine here even though the weather and air was kind of hard to bear. It's been great and ~~ext~~ exciting so far. I've made a lot of friends from different countries and learn a lot about their ~~one~~ culture. The food here was good, it wasn't that bad as I imagine it to be. I'm sharing the room with Tony and my host. The first day was kind of awkward but we have been getting along quite well and doing crazy stuff ~~as~~. But still I miss you guys so much. Now I know that life without you guys is so hard. When I return, I swear I'll be better to you guys. I'm sorry and I love you

From your naughty daughter
Phet



Dear family,

I am having a great time in India. ~~It is very different than what I was expecting.~~ It is very different than what I was expecting. I really like the family I am staying with. The food is very good, but dining places can get quite insane. I hope Greensboro is nice. See you guys soon.

Thanks,

(Sam Schulte USA)



I have really made many friends here, and this activity is really wonderful. We are the same, and the countries all over our world is the same in some ways. We can get happy, sad, angry at the same time. This is our world, our home, we are a family. The world is the same, and the only home of us. The world should be warm, ~~for~~ just like us when we were dancing together. Really wonderful, and I'll never forget this.

Guo Qianhan
China





Eloheena Joan Edwin Jayson
Malaysia

Hello everyone, mummy, Daddy, akka's. We are
I am having fun here in Delhi. It is cold here in
the morning and at night. I like the weather. I do miss
you all at home but I get to fill it up with the
various ~~activity~~ activities that I have to participate in.
I'm learning many new things. Thanks for ~~not~~ allowing me
to attend this summer. I'm having so much fun. My host
family are also very friendly, nice and helpful. The food is also
really good here. I think I'll gain weight during this time.
Take care at home. I'll be back home safely in your hands.
✽



Dear all of my family,
Everything is kinda different from Thailand,
I think I prefer weather in India, now is winter
and it's cool! Almost cold, everyone here is really
nice and friendly. Don't worry, I have many friends
now, and they are really nice and good. I found
many friends who are really be the same, it's awesome.
I love Indian food really much. My host family also.
They are really nice. It'll be the best memory in my
life.

Love,
Nattira Kongdan
[Ormsin]

Nattayommatrasang
School, Thailand



Dear father

Father I'm enjoying here. There is
lovely weather, foreigners are also
interacting with us. I also made
a friend who is from Russia. I am
enjoying here a lot. My friend classmate
are also enjoying

YASHANK

The Modern school Kondli



India, New Delhi:
23. 11. 15

Hello mum and dad! It's
Daniel. How are you? How are
your health? I'm OK! India
is wonderful country! I like
it. Every day I have conference
or games. India's Food are
very ~~spicy~~ ^{icey}, But very delicious.
I make a new friends. There
Friend From USA, India, UK

Best wishes,

Daniel

23. 11. 15

Indian Mosaic

Tombs of emperors stand beside traffic junctions, forgotten fortresses command suburbs, the titles of lost dynasties are woven into the vernacular, if only as street names.

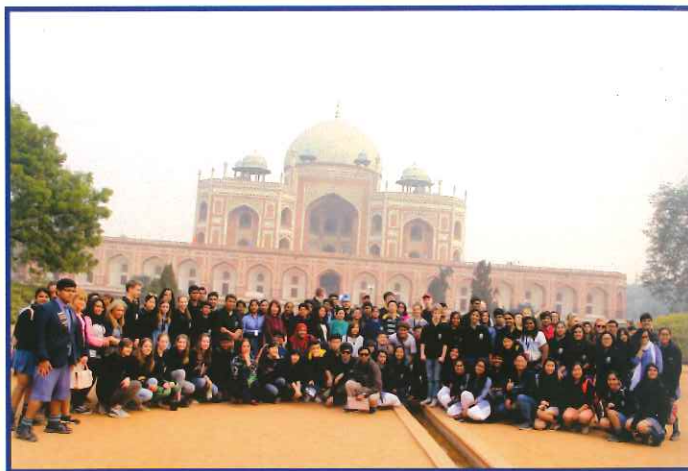
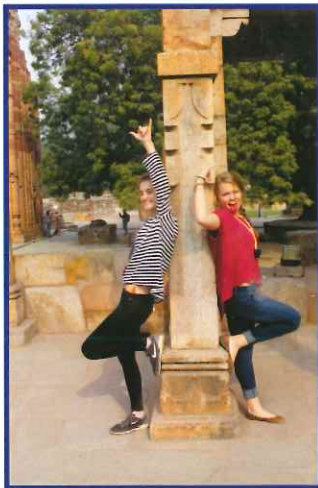
-Jan Morris



A visit to India is incomplete without exploring its architectural marvels and the grandeur it has to offer. Be it voyages through history, or a jaunt to the local market, the delegates were enthusiastic to experience whatever the city had to offer. The students were left awestruck by the majestic beauty of architectural sensations that they had only ever heard of or read about in travel logs or films. From the intricate carvings on the monuments, to the tall glass-paned buildings, to the narrowly woven roads of Old Delhi, brimming/interspersed with life- all brought out the rich past behind the traditional and cultural heritage of the country.

As an introduction to the rich architectural history of India, the delegates were shown a presentation about monuments found across the country, highlighting the diversity in architecture that can be found in every corner of the nation.

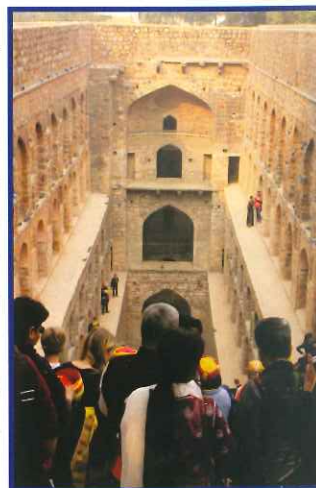
Raj Ghat, a memorial for the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, was the first stop for the delegates. "Every nation has a man or woman who leads the charge" a delegate said, to a general murmur of acceptance. The delegates prayed in silence for the man who not only served India, but also inspired the whole world.



Standing 73 meters high, the Qutub Minar was a source of amazement to the delegates. Perhaps it was the history, the beauty or the intricacy of the architecture that enamored them, but they certainly were left speechless by the sight before them. Gordon from South Africa had a lot to say about how Qutub Minar was treated. "I think Qutub Minar is very fascinating," he said, "but it's an absolute shame that it was in shambles. Such an interesting structure with such deep history is now in ruins. I would've loved to see the building 200 years ago in its fully glory rather than in ruins."

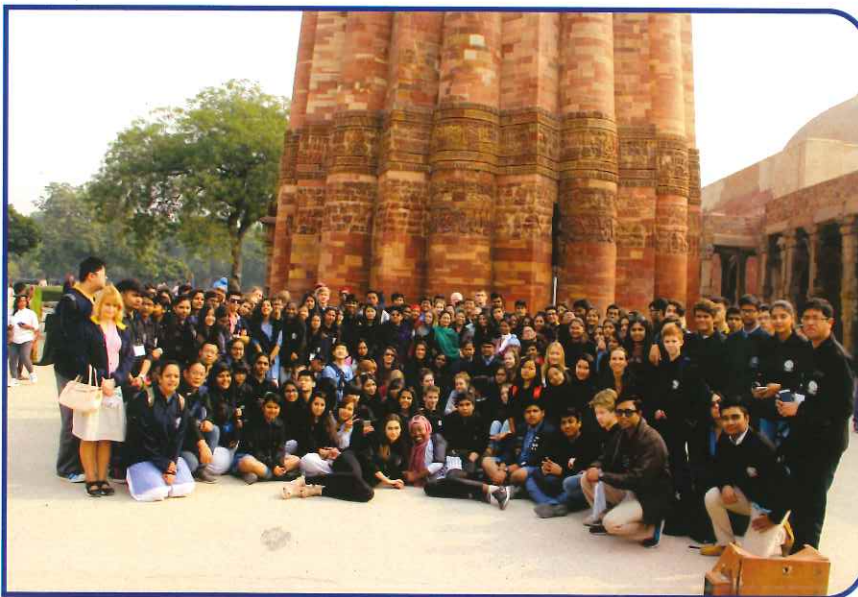
The architectural fascination with death has led to the prominence of many tombs and monuments around Delhi. Humayun's Tomb was a prime example of that. A variation of thoughts went through the delegates' minds. While Nattrra from Thailand pointed out the tomb's resemblance to the Taj Mahal, Matilde from Italy realised while climbing the steep stairs, that they all aren't as fit as they think. "This is so grand. And here I wonder, who will cry when I will die?" joked Kalyani, a student.

The daunting depths of the *Agrasen ki Baoli* became the backdrop for countless pictures that captured the memories that had already been etched in the minds of the delegates.



The delegates were welcomed to the site with bright yellow *pagdis* and red scarves. They were totally taken aback by the monument that has played such an integral role in Indian culture: both modern and ancient. (See PK)

The visit to Dilli Haat offered an aesthetic experience away from the mayhem of New Delhi. The delegates were captivated by the colorful ambience and radiant sight of blending cultures from all over India. The small thatch roofed stalls and kiosks with dangling fabric, artifacts and chunky jewellery were aptly described as 'Mini India.' It provided the perfect opportunity for them to experiment with their bargaining skills. The look of glee on Isadora's face as she managed to haggle was 'priceless.' Encouraged, the others remained firm in their intent to be 'true shoppers, Indian style.' A visit to Dilli Haat would be incomplete without a taste of Indian cuisine; While some delegates sat at the Punjab stall eating *chola bhatura*, others braved the spicy *golgappas* and *chaat*.



The delegates went on a day trip to Agra, to see the famed Taj Mahal, the universal symbol of love. In the words of our mentor, "It is not one of the wonders of the world; it is *the* wonder of the world". The delegates stood in awe as they completely immersed themselves in the magnificence and grandeur of the Taj. "I really enjoyed the experience. It was marvellous", said Vipahavanh from Laos. Alexandra from Germany commented, "I had heard a lot about the Taj. I finally got to see it in person. It's even more beautiful than I expected it to be. I was especially in awe of the intricate architecture".

The last stop in their sightseeing tour was Presidential House Rashtrapati Bhawan. The delegates were captivated by its sheer size. "It is so clean, and super huge," said a delighted Osasere from UK while Eleanor from USA found it breathtaking. A teacher delegate described it as a fusion of Greek, Roman, Buddhist, Mughal and English architecture that created a new style of architecture, simple and yet imposing.

A SYMBOL OF LOVE...

- Love is a feeling, it can't be expressed through a symbol, it can only be expressed through actions.
- A bridge so that people can connect to each other more easily and any gaps can be bridged
- Washington monument
- Blue Ridge mountain
- Ultimate charity foundation

ON MY NEXT VISIT, I'D LIKE TO SEE...

- The South of India
- Some rural areas, the villages perhaps
- Another Taj Mahal
- The Himalayan mountain range... I've heard so much about the beauty of the hill stations
- Entirety of India, from mountains to coast



"Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the world together."

– Woodrow T. Wilson



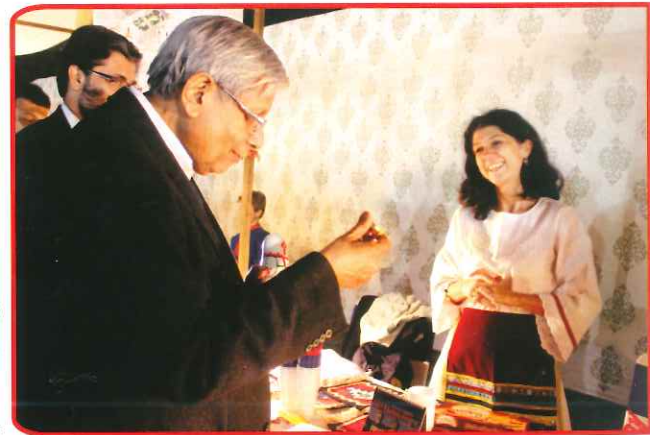
They say that every story has an end; but in life, every end is a new beginning. CDLS is one such platform where many stories are conceived, perceived, dramatised and happily concluded. CDLS has given a new dimension to the concept of fraternity, unity and diversity. It all started with breaking the ice and moved to permanent bonds being formed among delegates from different countries. The delegates were left with conflicting emotions, happiness for having been a part of CDLS and sadness for it having ended so quickly. Nevertheless, what matters is that we have savoured each and every moment in this beautiful journey filled with experiences and edification. It was time well spent, lessons well learnt and fun unlimited! CDLS 2015 changed many a life, reformed many a people, given many a new direction.

Different viewpoints were brought forth; individual opinions streamlined into single viewpoints. Diverse intelligence and facts blended together into collective global opinions. Young mindsets were challenged and their curiosity

was aroused.

The many soul-stirring and mind-wakening sessions, with eminent figures of Indian society, gave delegates the wonderful opportunity to not only develop their leadership skills but also harness a sense of communal well being.

There was not only a flow of creative and constructive energy, there was also unfettered bonding when diverse cultures and countries integrated under one roof to sing and dance together. These young men and women are going back with a changed vision; they will never look at the world the same way again. Future prospective leaders are already in the making who will bring forth diverse opinions and values and change the way humanity thinks. Individual intellectual force will now shape into integrated intelligence...



"If civilisation is to survive, we must cultivate the science of human relationships- the ability of all people, of all kinds, to live together, in the same world at peace."



The Show Must Go On

We do not remember days; we remember moments. - Cesare Pavese

No matter how exhilarating, every day must have a dusk just as it has a dawn. The last day saw a myriad of emotions, from joy for the wonderful journey, to faces streaked with tears as its end approached. Through days spent as part of a community - constantly interacting, participating in activities and discovering new ideas - everybody learnt something valuable, not just about different people around the world, but also about themselves. The aim was to inspire the young leaders to make a difference in the world, and there could not have been a better forum than CDLS to accomplish this task; it cuts across the borders of distance to help integrate ideas from around the world.

The experience was enriching for the delegates as they not only witnessed India first hand, but through the various activities, discussions, games and expeditions, also got a whole new sense of unity and fraternity. The spicy Indian food, the Chai Tea, the basketball matches, the long hours of brainstorming and a myriad of other experiences led to the creation of unforgettable memories which will remain embedded in the heart of each participant for years to come. In the end, it wasn't the different accents or the alien food preferences that everyone remembered, but the resemblance of themselves that they saw in people who lived thousands of miles away from them. Over the past few days, everybody explored the true meaning of oneness - combining their strengths to produce results that would have been unthinkable without collective initiative.

The summit had succeeded in its goals; it had vanquished barriers and provided the people involved with a unique opportunity to learn and grow as human beings. All participants were set to take back home with them fond memories, unparalleled learning experiences and a feeling of oneness. The event may have come to an end, but the knowledge gained was truly everlasting.

Our grateful acknowledgements to all our sponsors and parents without whose support this event would not have been possible.

For the success of CDLS '15 our grateful thanks are due to Mr Ashok Pratap Singh, President Board of Trustees, Modern Schools and our Principal, Dr Vijay Datta for their unending support and encouragement. Our thanks to all teachers, student volunteers, Col Menon and his team, Mr Balbir Sharma and his administrative team and the karamcharis who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make CDLS '15 a memorable experience.

Stop Press



The CDLS Valedictory Function was held on Sunday, 29th November 2015. Mr Ashok Pratap Singh, President Board of Trustees, Modern Schools was the Chief Guest on the occasion. The essence of the entire summit was captured in the CDLS Essay Book, the CDLS '15 Brochure and the CDLS digital album which were released by our eminent Chief Guest.





COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

During the visit -

COMMUNITY SERVICE

DELHI SIGHTSEEING

SCHELED THE SUMMIT

Flags of participating countries: Australia, Thailand, Singapore, Serbia, Mexico, UK, USA, India, South Africa, China, Germany, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Sweden.

Images of community service activities and sightseeing locations in Delhi, including the Taj Mahal.

