

A Political Magazine | PG Edition

# UNCENSORED

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# PRESIDENTS' NOTE

This year we delved into the intricate dynamics of power, institutions, policies and the behaviour of individuals and groups in political settings.

It has been an absolute honor to be a part of the Political Science Society - a melting pot of diverse ideas and perspectives. Here, we explore the complexities of political systems, analyze critical issues and advocate positive change through talks, webinars, intra-school and inter-school events. This year we delved into the intricate dynamics of power, institutions, policies, and the behaviour of individuals and groups in political settings.

The discussions encompassed various sub-disciplines, including comparative politics, international relations, political theory, public administration, and public policy.

We would like to extend our appreciation to all those who have been working tirelessly to make our society flourish. We would also like to thank the Head of Department, Political Science, Mrs. Anita John for always being a pillar of support for us and for allowing us to explore different perspectives while extending the vision the Society aims to achieve.

In the upcoming years, the Society will continue to foster a stimulating environment for political discourse and intellectual growth. We're excited about what the future holds for the Political Science Society and we will remain committed to promoting a space of critical thinking.

We would like to conclude with a verse from the Bible - Isaiah 2:4-5, that reflects the true spirit of the Political Science Society -

“...they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.”

**ANANDI GUPTA  
PALAK VOHRA  
Presidents  
Political Science Society**

# HEADLINES

## *Tales from the Geopolitical World*

1

### **SUPREME COURT DEFERS QUEER MARRIAGE RECOGNITION**

On October 17, 2023, the Supreme Court of India deferred queer marriage recognition to the legislative branch, citing the absence of an inherent right to marry.

2

### **DIPLOMATIC TENSIONS: INDIA ASKS CANADA TO CUT STAFF**

India asked Canada to cut diplomatic staff amid strained ties after Canadian PM Trudeau suggested Indian involvement in a Sikh separatist leader's assassination.

3

### **PAKISTAN'S ECONOMIC PRIORITIES: GROWTH, DEBT, AND TRADE**

Pakistan must prioritize sustainable economic growth, reduce debt and foster trade with India to address its economic challenges and benefit its people.

4

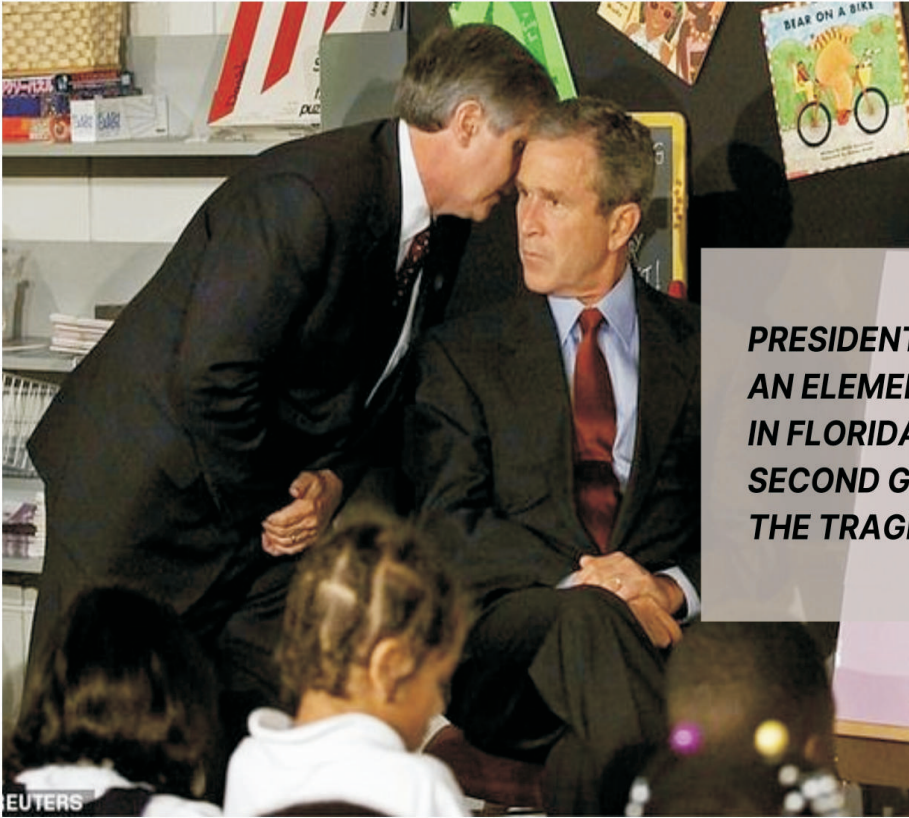
### **MODI'S SHIFT: INDIA EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL**

Modi's recent remarks on the Israel-Gaza conflict indicate a departure from India's traditional stance of supporting the Palestinians, as he openly expresses solidarity with Israel.

5

### **INDIA'S G20 TRIUMPH: AFRICA INCLUSION AND GLOBAL CORRIDOR**

Inclusion of Africa, the New Delhi Leaders Declaration promoting inclusive growth, and the approval of the India-Middle East-Europe-USA Corridor, alongside the creation of the Start-up 20 Engagement Group.



**PRESIDENT BUSH WAS AT AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN FLORIDA, READING TO SECOND GRADERS, WHEN THE TRAGEDY OCCURED**

## **CHRONICLES OF 9/11**

September 11, 2001. This event will forever be etched in people's memories. It was a day of sorrow and havoc as the world watched history take a turn.

That morning, terrorists took control of four airplanes. At the World Trade Center in New York City, both American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175 tragically crashed into the Twin Towers, bringing them down. Another plane, American Airlines Flight 77, slammed into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C, causing fire and loss of life. United Airlines Flight 93 crashed into a field in Pennsylvania after brave passengers tried to take control of the plane from the hijackers. The horrific events of September 11 claimed the lives of many people and left the entire world shocked and deeply saddened.

The immediate aftermath of the attacks was a time of heightened vulnerability. The United States declared a 'war on terrorism' directed at the organizations of terrorism and their foreign backers. Aviation security standards were tightened and cooperation among intelligence agencies increased, leading to changes in security procedures. The attacks left survivors emotionally wounded, while families and friends mourned the loss of their loved ones. Despite the tragedy, communities came together to support each other, fostering a new sense of cooperation and resilience.

It is undeniable that the events of September 11, 2001, changed the course of history. This reminds us that detestation and brutal force can have consequences. As we take a moment to reflect on the events of September 11, we mourn for those who lost their lives and strive for a future where understanding and peace prevail. The tragic events of this day teach us a lesson about the importance of compassion, cooperation, and our collective efforts to combat terrorism on a broad scale.

KULGAURVI CHOUHAN

PRE SC ARTS 'B'

# WOMEN OF WAR

## SOCIAL MEDIA STORIES, WORRIES OF SOME



*Palestinian woman demanding peace in front of Israeli troops.*

If you were to search about the Manipur riots a month back, the first headline you would see would be 'Rights of Manipur Women Violated' or if you search about Afghanistan, the first article you would come across would be about the violation of women's rights in the country.

According to UN experts, 20 years of women's rights has been erased since the Taliban takeover. Ukraine's borders are still lined with posters warning female refugees of the horrors and the dangers they could face. In Gaza, over 37,000 pregnant women are forced to give birth with no electricity or medical supplies. The reason these issues are relevant today is because these wars and conflicts destroy lives, livelihoods, the economy, families and much more.

The sad truth is that while mostly war is exclusively started by men, women are rarely at the negotiating table.

"Life quickly became an open-air prison after the war," a young woman from Aleppo told UNFPA. She lived in the constant fear of rape and kidnaps, worried that child marriage was the only true path to safety. Women in war torn areas are treated like second rate citizens; their value of life equated to that of an animal.

In countries like Afghanistan, Pakistan and Syria, women continue to face the horrors of war and fight for rights but will they ever reach their goal? Will Afghan women be able to gain their rights back from the Taliban? Can I, as a 16 year old, do anything more than voicing my thoughts through the means of platforms that are provided to me? The world leaders can do everything to help them overcome these situations. The question is - however, will they?

JAYANANDINI.K.SODHA  
PRE SC ARTS 'B'

**"THE SAD TRUTH IS THAT WHILE MOSTLY WAR IS EXCLUSIVELY STARTED BY MEN, WOMEN ARE RARELY AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. "**



# REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS IN INDIA

The Indian Supreme Court recently rejected a married woman's request for termination of her pregnancy, which had progressed above the 26-week mark, in a highly controversial ruling. Delivered on October 16, 2023, the verdict has raised serious debate about the reproductive rights in India.

The mother, requested the termination citing her depression and her wish to forgo having more children. The court's decision to dismiss her plea has sparked debate about how much freedom Indian women have when it comes to their reproductive rights.

The Court argued that the unborn child had a better chance of being adopted and that permitting an abortion at this point "militates against its conscience" in support of its ruling. The decision intensifies the continuing discussion about women's autonomy over their bodies by highlighting the role that authority figures play in determining a woman's right to make her own decisions.

This decision serves as a reminder of how complicated and divisive the topic of reproductive rights is in India. Women's rights activists contend that a woman's mental health, physical health, and autonomy over her body should come first in these decisions. The case has rekindled the debate over the need for precise regulations that uphold women's autonomy and handle the complicated legal and ethical issues related to abortion in India.

SIDDHI DESHMUKH  
SC ARTS 'B'



# THE FORGOTTEN VICTIMS

## THE ROMANI HOLOCAUST

**“Every country must take their responsibility for their own Romani inhabitants, nobody should have to flee to another country to ensure their human dignity. This “witch hunt” of Europe’s Roma must be stopped before it goes out of control”**

**-Nicolae Gheorghe, Romanian human rights activist**



*Sinti - a subgroup of the Romani - in the courtyard of Hohenasperg Prison prior to their deportation to camps in Poland.*

The Romani Holocaust, also known as "the forgotten Holocaust," stands out as a chilling reminder of human cruelty in our history. Among the horrors of the Holocaust is a lesser-known story that demands our attention. Our collective memory often fails to recognize the massive suffering imposed on millions of innocent lives. Aside from the six million Jewish victims, other persecuted groups included Romani people, the disabled, homosexuals, political dissidents, and Jehovah's Witnesses.

The crimes within concentration camps like Dachau, Buchenwald, and Auschwitz were unimaginable. Innocent people endured starvation, torture, medical experiments, and family separations.

The failure to address this Holocaust can be attributed to various reasons, including memory bias and political objectives. The Romani Holocaust, also known as the European Roma Genocide, had significant political implications. The Nazis targeted the Romani people as part of their vision of a racially pure Aryan society.

Leaders and governments played a crucial role in this genocide. They enforced discriminatory laws, aided in the collection and transport of Roma communities to concentration camps, and actively supported their persecution. Propaganda and discrimination were used to justify Roma persecution.

Efforts have been made to acknowledge and remember the Romani Holocaust. Several countries and international organizations have officially recognized this genocide and created memorials to honor the victims. Educational programs have been developed to raise awareness about this tragic chapter in history, but to no avail. The people belonging to this ethnicity are still referred to as gypsies in a derogatory manner, left behind by history and politics, dubbed as the 'forgotten victims', with barely a footnote to claim.

MAITRAYI SINGH  
PRE SC ARTS 'B'



# ISRAEL- HAMAS CONFLICT

## Unmasking the Conflict

**“If there is hell on earth, it is  
the lives of the children  
in Gaza.”**

**-António Guterres,  
Secretary-General of the  
United Nations**



*A dove flies over the debris of houses destroyed in Israeli strikes, in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip October 11, 2023.*

On the morning of October 7, 2023 the world was shocked by a full-scale attack launched by Hamas militants. They initiated a surprise assault from the air, sea, and ground, resulting in hundreds of casualties and significant damage to Israeli cities. Missiles rained down on indiscriminate targets, and armed militants breached the fences separating Gaza from Israel, launching attacks on civilians. Israel declared war on Gaza on October 8, marking the breakdown of a fragile peace that had its source in a long-standing conflict.

The roots of this conflict trace back to various historical events, including the establishment of modern Israel in 1948 and the subsequent resistance from Palestinians and neighboring Arab nations. The Nakba in 1948 saw the expulsion of around 700,000 Palestinians. The formation of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in 1964 aimed to establish an Arab state. The 1967 war led to Israel's control over the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Golan Heights, and East Jerusalem

Hamas, founded in 1987, originated from the Muslim Brotherhood of Egypt and gained influence through mosques, charities, and social organizations. In 2006, they won the Palestinian legislative election, which led to conflicts with Fatah and their eventual control of Gaza in 2007.

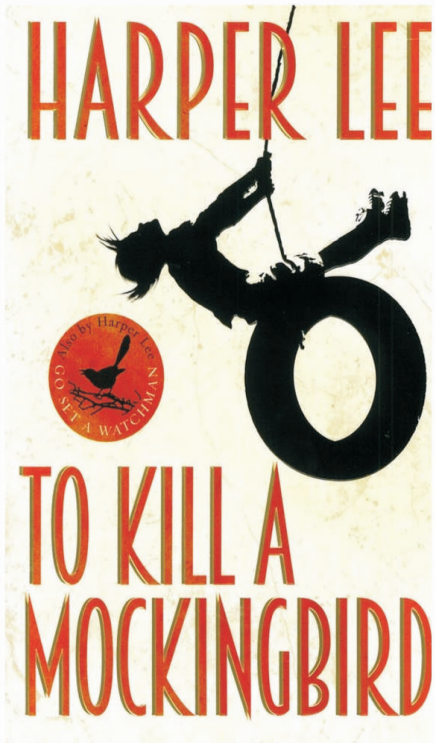
The war in 2023 erupted when Gaza militants launched a massive assault, infiltrating deep into Israeli territory. This attack resulted in significant casualties and the abduction of hostages. The operation, known as "Al-Aqsa Storm," was in response to perceived Israeli offenses.

The ongoing conflict reflects a complex history and political landscape, with stalled progress toward a two-state solution and concerns about the situation in the occupied territories. The recent violence has had devastating consequences, with long-term implications on global politics.

SHUBHI GATTANI  
PRE SC ARTS 'B'

# BEYOND THE BAN

BOOK BANNING, ROOTED IN CONCERNS OVER SENSITIVE CONTENT AND POLITICAL DISSENT, REMAINS A DIVISIVE PRACTICE. IT SPARKS DEBATES ON PRESERVING VALUES AND NURTURING DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES, EVEN AS BANNED WORKS GAIN NOTORIETY.



1

## To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

"To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee has been banned or challenged in specific American schools and libraries, including in Virginia, Mississippi, and Texas for its portrayal of racism and themes of rape.

2

## 1984 by George Orwell

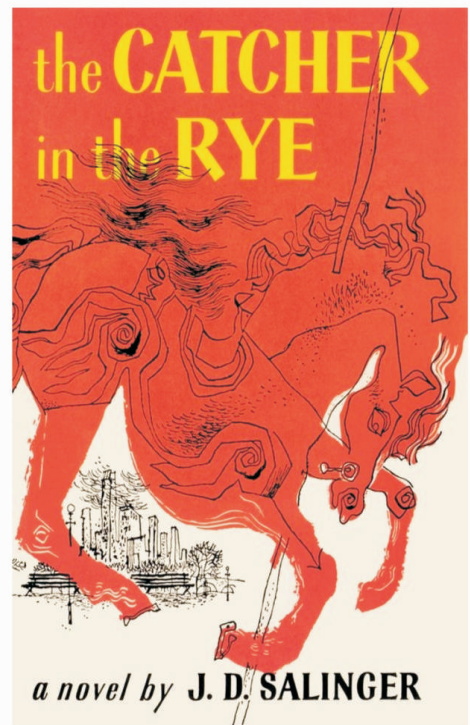
"1984" by George Orwell which offers critique of both totalitarian and democratic regimes, has been banned in the former Soviet Union and faced challenges in various American schools.



# 3

## The Catcher in the Rye by J.D Salinger

"The Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger has been accused of communism in specific American schools and libraries, such as in Ohio, Florida, and New Hampshire.



"Absolutely riveting!"

—JASON REYNOLDS, National Book Award Finalist and bestselling coauthor of *All American Boys*

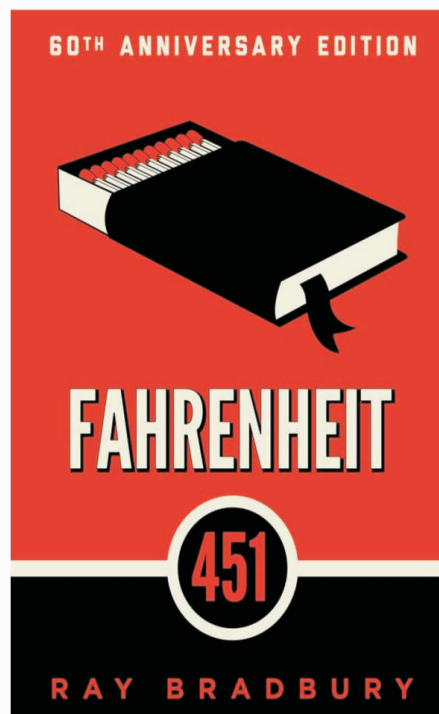


# 4

## The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

"The Hate U Give" by Angie Thomas has been banned or challenged in Texas, Louisiana, and other locations, often due to its themes and perspectives on racism and law enforcement.

**ANGIE THOMAS**



# 5

## Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

"Fahrenheit 451" by Ray Bradbury was banned in the Soviet Union and has ironically faced censorship in various places, including in the US during the McCarthy era.

# POLITICALLY INSPIRED ART

## 1

### Shepard Fairey's "HOPE" Poster (2008)

This poster became an iconic symbol of Obama's message of change and unity. Fairey's use of vibrant colors and powerful imagery made it an influential piece of political art.



## 2

### JR's "Face2Face" Project in Gaza (2007)

JR's Face2Face project involved photographing Israelis and Palestinians with the same job and posting their portraits side by side on the West Bank separation barrier. This artistic and humanistic endeavor aimed to challenge preconceived notions and bridge divides between these two communities.



## 3

### Max Ernst's "Europe After the Rain" (1940-42)

Ernst's painting is a surrealist work that captures the desolation and psychological impact of World War II in Europe.





## Banksy's Street Art

4

Banksy is an anonymous street artist. His politically and socially charged works depicts various aspects of contemporary society, including consumerism, politics, and war. His stenciled art pieces, often appearing in public spaces, have garnered global attention and appreciation for their satirical and thought-provoking context.



## Pablo Picasso's 'Guernica'

This monumental painting was created in response to the bombing of the town of Guernica during the Spanish Civil War. The painting is a powerful anti-war statement, conveying the horrors and suffering of war. Picasso's use of abstraction and symbolism makes "Guernica" one of the most famous and impactful works of 20th-century art, serving as a universal condemnation of violence and war.

5

# THE TEAM

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