



The Final Act

-Hiyaneijemmy Das, Debating Captain & Deputy Editor

After months of discussions and weeks of planning, the 17th East India Debates finally kicked off on the 8th of September. Through all the glitches, the hurdles of online debating, and the confusions, the spirit of debate remained. The excitement was reflected in everyone's performances, the conviction palpable through the screen, and the energy was electrifying.

I am even more convinced that when we get to meet in person for the next debates, these emotions will be much more pronounced- a real testament to how the students truly imbibe debating in everything they do.

Every debate had fiery speeches, dramatic conclusions, and commendable fights. Not only were the performances awe-inspiring, but the constructs, research, and logic behind it were equally, if not more, commendable. It really puts into perspective just how much talent is brewing throughout our schools all across the country. I am sure every participant has learnt immensely from the others and from the debates themselves, and I also hope that everyone had great enjoyment in the process.

I thank everyone who made this event work the way it did- through all the planning and hiccups. I particularly thank the schools who made this event what it was. Most of all, I thank the students, the stars of the show.



Illustration: Hana Ahmed, XI

Semi Finals

The Assam Valley
School, Team Blue
vs
The Sanskaar Valley
School, Bhopal

St James' School,
Kolkata
vs
The Lawrence School,
Sanawar

Grand Finale

The Sanskaar Valley
School, Bhopal
vs
The Lawrence School,
Sanawar

THIRD
DAY





SEMI FINALS



“This House Believes that data is the new oil”

“This House Advocates the right to be forgotten”



The Assam Valley School
(OPPOSITION)

vs

The Sanskaar Valley School
(PROPOSITION)



Judges-
Mrs. Manisha Dutta Roy
Ms. Swati Mishra
Dr. Shibani Tyagi

An out of the ordinary and striking debate unfolded with a highly argumentative topic. The lead Speaker of side Proposition sparked the debate with a fierce speech on the validity of the comparison of oil and data. She proceeded to hold her stance by citing statistical details of the growth and consumption of data and the reduction of the value of oil. The intense argument faced an equally challenging rebuttal from side Opposition. The lead Speaker of the Opposition began her argument by stating that data was a “behemoth” and proved her point by displaying the weighted difference in importance of both the resources and how the mere analogy oversimplified the importance of data. The Speaker mentioned the stark contrast between the two resources despite their similarities and pointed out the lack of logic in the analogy given by side Proposition. The debate comprised of powerful and extensive arguments with informative rebuttals and well-researched facts enthralling both the judges and audiences. The arguments outweighed the refutations and the motion was carried.

The motion was carried.

Winners: The Sanskaar Valley School, Bhopal
The Best Speaker: Anadya Verma (The Sanskaar Valley School, Bhopal)
The Most Promising Speaker: Shubh Jain (The Sanskaar Valley School, Bhopal)



The Lawrence School,
Sanawar (OPPOSITION)

vs

St James' School Kolkata
(PROPOSITION)



Judges-
Ms. Manisha Roy
Ms. Shivani Tyagi
Ms. Swati Mishra

A tense atmosphere surrounded this intense political debate with both sides having come well prepared. The lead Speaker from the side Proposition showed strong resolve, declaring that the right to be forgotten is not absolute and has regulations. The Speaker claimed that morally the right to be forgotten gives us the right to an imperfect past and if life can give us second chances, ‘why won’t the internet?’ The Opposition emphasized the keywords ‘private’ and ‘personal’, wherein private information is what happens within the walls of our own homes, whereas personal information refers to information that is already in the public domain. Since personal information is already in the public domain, it may not be removed from the public’s memory, thus rendering it useless. The Opposition firmly stated that any right which interfered with another would therefore supersede the initial right, thus violating it. The Speakers fiercely debated the topic keeping the audience engaged at the edge of their seats.

The motion was lost.

Winner: The Lawrence School, Sanawar
The Best Speaker: Dia Attal (The Lawrence School, Sanawar)
The Most Promising Speaker: Veer Devgan (The Lawrence School, Sanawar)

“This House Believes that military power has become redundant in global politics.”



The Lawrence School, Sanawar
(OPPOSITION)

vs

The Sanskaar Valley School
(PROPOSITION)



Judges-

Dr. Amna Mirza

Mr Arjya B. Majumdar

Dr. Rupam Kataki

As the curtain closes on the 17th East India debates 2022, hosted by The Assam Valley School, the last debate was fought over a complex and opiated topic. The judges for the event were Dr. Amna Mirza recipient of 'Godfray Philips Golden Ovary Award', St. Stephens College Centenary Medal for 'character combined with learning', Bharat Nirman Award for Women Entrepreneurship, Mook-Nayak National Award, Business Rankers Women Achievement Award, amongst others. She has 8 books to her credit and patents awarded from Government of Australia and India. Dr. Rupam Katoki is a Professor at the Department of Energy, Tezpur University. Prof. Arjya B. Majumdar is a lawyer by training and has 7 years of experience as a practicing attorney. He is presently a professor at the Jindal Global Law School where he has taught corporate law for over 8 years. He presently handles rankings and benchmarking for the OP Jindal Global University.

The lead speaker of side Proposition began her argument by first and foremost citing the meaning of the word “redundant” using trusted dictionaries. She pointed out that although the military influence is still prevalent but is no longer a deciding weapon of power as it once was in the developing world. She then fiercely posed the question to both the

audience and the judges whether persuasion or coercion stood stronger. The Opposition brought in their own compelling rebuttals and firmly stated that there were endless security challenges and the military was constantly involved in such threats. Hence due to the different forms of security threats, military influence was still essential and was far from being redundant. The side Opposition rebutted accusing side Proposition of dabbling in a game of words rather than posing arguments that were grounded on facts. Both the Proposition and side Opposition laid out their well-researched arguments and made the final debate an interesting and intense discussion with highly informative points. However, despite their strategic statements, The Proposition lost and the Opposition took home with them the Winners’ Cup with their strong and intellectual logic and indestructible stance.

The motion was lost.

Winners: The Lawrence School, Sanawar

The Best Speaker: Veer Devgan (The Lawrence School, Sanawar)

The Most Promising Speaker: Shubh Jain (The Sanskaar Valley School, Bhopal)

Behind the Scenes



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