



AMHS CONNECT

DECEMBER '20

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Modernites,

It is safe to say that 2020 almost universally has been an unprecedented year. Not one of us could have ever imagined the way the year would pan out when it started on a most 'normal' note. And even before we knew it, the pandemic had struck us with a nationwide lockdown – terms such as these and several others that we had only encountered academically, suddenly turned every day, real and even vicious.

The initial phases of the lockdown, being somewhat of a novelty were tackled by most with a good spirit. People went about their household chores gaily, resumed lost hobbies – from cooking and gardening to art and music. We gazed at the azure blue sky and took in air that was better overnight. While we happily posted pictures of all these on social media, we held on to a belief that this pandemic was an interruption and life as we knew it, would soon begin to normalize.

How wrong we were! Over the next few months, we braved all kinds of unfamiliar obstacles as we took in the news and reports of people contracting the virus, families unable to visit their loved ones in hospitals and even darker, more terrifying stories. But complain, we simply could not! Because though we were battling our own difficulties, we saw the plight of migrant workers, the daily wage earners and all those who were only striving just to survive. Suddenly, our perspectives were given a rude jolt – could we really be complaining of a cancelled holiday or rue the lack of a social life, when millions were struggling for basic survival, health, hygiene, sanitation and education?

Suddenly every conversation became about being grateful, about living each day, about taking life as it comes, about knowing who and what mattered, about immunity and health, about de-cluttering, about being happy....

Over the last couple of months, it seems that the paranoia has reduced. More and more people equipped with masks and sanitizers are now stepping out into the world. Flights have resumed. Egged on by the hopes of vaccines and a little more informed about how to stay safe, people are limping back to some sort of a normalcy.

We never do know what the future holds. But 2021, is likely to go down as a year when the brilliance of science and research with the dedication of our medical fraternity, helps us bid adieu to this era of uncertainty. Until then, let each one of us remember our own precious lessons of this strange year not only into the next but for all time to come.

Wishing every Modernite a brighter, sunnier New Year!

- Supriya Newar
Batch of 1994



LESSONS LEARNT IN 2020



The challenges, changes, adjustments to the post pandemic world have been enormous, but so have the lessons. Personally, it has forced me to re-learn the importance of patience. In the hustle and bustle of life, I was always expecting the impossible - quick results from quick actions. Now I 'wait' till I can hug my loved ones after a two-hour flight journey, 'wait' till I can open a parcel I was so excited about, 'wait' till I can go out again mask-free for a walk on a breezy evening. During this apparently endless 'wait', I have learnt to be grateful for all I have and appreciate the smallest of life's experiences - to enjoy the music on my phone and also the one within.

- Devina Gupta
Batch of 2006

As the world copes with the most serious crisis of our lifetime, most problems that we face in India are due to lack of quality education and the digital divide which has widened the gap between mainstream and marginalized children.

We need to equip every child with digital literacy tools and 21st century skills for them to come out of this tremendous set back. We have to provide equal hopes and opportunities, help girls break generations of illiteracy, poverty and challenge oppressive ideas of patriarchy. There are endless possibilities and we need to work as a team to build a New India.

- Vinita Saraf
Batch of 1982



In the initial stages of the lockdown, anxiety of social isolation, concern for the health of loved ones and professional upheavals were alarming. A serious contemplation arose: Have I ever been grateful for the free way of life? An overpowering sense of compassion developed when I saw the hardships encountered by the health and sanitation professionals, daily wage earners, stranded migrant workers, and people separated from their families. I learned to master new skills utilising the boon of the virtual platform while leading a fuss free life closer to our traditional values.

- Dr. Smita Ray
Batch of 2000

LESSONS LEARNT IN 2020



There's fear all around
Covid keeps us homebound
Un-socialising does hound
But family ties turn profound.

Our love for cooking is newfound;
2020 seems a difficult year,
But I've learnt to live it with cheer.

Not a single child seen in the park,
All schools remain empty and dark,
Learning brings a new spark,
Let's pledge to embark,
And set a new benchmark.

2020 seems a difficult year,
But I've learnt to live it with cheer!

- Swati Kheria
Batch of 2002



Corona came like a storm. Cleaned up the environment and swept all existence indoors. Compelling us to live with ourselves. Identities, masks moved online. Re-negotiating the normal. The new normal forces us to hang out with family instead of friends. Be healthy and eat home instead of binging on junk.

Kids have learnt to live without pubs or partying all night long. Learning is veering towards becoming self-paced with lesser burdens and literally the weight of books. Curriculum is being streamlined and for me as an educator things can't get better.

We learn to examine life and death. Surreal yet real. Reality and truth. Simpler lives. Basic needs. Coming to terms with ourselves. Our karma. Introspecting.

The normal buried in layers of social subterfuge. Over time. Breaks free.

Liberating. Learning to be and let be.

- Vibha Mitra
Batch of 1979



Modernite '20

Memories & More

Celebrate memories

while building new ones

SATURDAY, 26TH DEC 2020 | 5PM ONWARDS
VIRTUAL PLATFORM

In keeping with our challenging times, Modernite 2020 will be presented to you in a new avtaar. We'll come to you virtually, but promise it'll be fun and full of spirit. After all, the show as they say, must go on.

See you on Saturday 26th December on this link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/Alumni-AMHS-632453007399626>

Sushma Nevatia
(Batch of '89)
Secy AMHS

ALUMNI OF MHS MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

Fee: Rs 4500 (for life membership)

Website: <https://mhsalumni.in>

For queries, contact:

Ritu Singhania: +91 98302 49817

Urmi Basu: +91 98310 90103



Modernite 2017



Modernite 2017



Modernite 2018



Modernite 2018



Modernite 2019



Modernite 2019

FEEDBACK CORNER

Enjoying the Alumni monthly newsletter? Share your feedback and comments and we'll publish the best ones in our next edition. Write to us at amhsconnect@gmail.com

