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PANACHE INK

WHERE IDEAS FIND EXPRESSION

INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE

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JULY 2026

YOUNG CHANGEMAKERS: SHAPING TOMORROW

IDEAS TODAY.
A BETTER WORLD
TOMORROW.

INSIDE



POETRY

Voices of a
New Generation



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Preface

"Panache Ink" is not just a name. It is a basic value of our "Aadhya Publishing House" as we believe talent should never die. Rather it should always stand out like the feathered plume on a helmet to attract the world and that is what Panache means. We, as the Publisher, believe in encouraging new talent in the field of literature. We want each and every poet to get the opportunity to express themselves and get the proper acknowledge that they deserve. They should be known by the world for their views and we hope very soon we shall be able to achieve this.

Panache Ink is a monthly international magazine in the English Language, that is released on digital platforms for literature lovers.

However, our work does not end here. I, Akanksha Shrivastava, Publisher and Chief Editor of Aadhya Publishing house, am trying to put a smile on the faces of poor children by providing them with food on behalf of our publishing house. By taking this small initiative, it is our wish to fulfill this basic need of food so that we help the children to survive in a better way.



AADHYA PUBLISHING HOUSE

PRESENTS

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July 2026

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legacy that history tried to
silence.

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THE PAST IS NOT GONE.
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A cinematic journey into the mysterious,
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ancient India.



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EPISODE 2

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WHEN HISTORY
RECORDED IT

A NEW EPISODE.
A NEW REVELATION.
EVERY CHAPTER UNCOVERS
WHAT WAS HIDDEN FOR CENTURIES.

BECAUSE EVERY STONE HAS A STORY.
EVERY STORY HAS A SOUL.



Dear Readers,

Every generation inherits a world shaped by those before it, but it is the courage to imagine, innovate, and act that creates a better tomorrow. This edition of **Panache Ink International Magazine**, Young Changemakers: Shaping Tomorrow, is a celebration of those individuals who are transforming ideas into meaningful impact.

From sustainability and social entrepreneurship to technology, leadership, and cultural preservation, every article in this issue highlights how young minds are redefining progress with purpose and responsibility. Our exclusive interview with **Mr. Abhay Tiwary** reminds us that true success is measured not only by personal achievements but by the lives we inspire and the values we preserve.

At **Panache Ink**, we believe that literature and knowledge have the power to spark conversations, inspire action, and connect people across borders. We are grateful to our contributors, editorial team, and readers for being an integral part of this journey.

As you turn these pages, we hope you find ideas that inspire, stories that resonate, and perspectives that encourage you to become a changemaker in your own way.

The future is not something we wait for—it is something we create.
Happy Reading!

Dr. Akanksha Shrivastava
Chief Editor
Panache Ink International Magazine





Mr. Abhay Tiwari

From the Editors:

Some individuals perform music; others dedicate their lives to preserving its soul. Mr. Abhay Tiwari belongs to the latter. With over two decades of unwavering commitment to Indian music, more than 6,000 performances, and the mentorship of over 17,000 students, he has emerged as a distinguished musician, educator, and cultural ambassador.

In this exclusive conversation with Panache Ink International Magazine, Mr. Tiwari reflects on his musical journey, the values that have shaped his career, the evolving landscape of Indian classical music, and his vision for inspiring future generations. His insights remind us that true artistry is measured not only by technical excellence but by the lives it touches and the legacy it leaves behind.

INTERVIEW



1. You have dedicated more than 24 years to Indian music. Looking back, what has been the most defining moment of your musical journey?

The most defining moment of my musical journey has not been a single performance, but the privilege of touching lives through music for over 24 years. Representing India on international stages across Europe has been both an honor and a testament to the universal language of music.

2. Indian classical music demands years of discipline and patience. What kept you motivated through every stage of your journey?

For me, Indian classical music is not just an art form—it is a lifelong sadhana. My passion for music, the blessings of my Gurus, and the belief that every riyaz brings growth have kept me motivated. Every challenge became a lesson, every performance a responsibility, and every student an inspiration. While international recognition and awards are meaningful milestones, my greatest motivation has always been the joy of learning, sharing, and serving music.

3. As a performer, composer, pianist, and mentor, which of these roles do you find the most fulfilling, and why?

Each role has enriched my journey in a unique way, but being a mentor is the most fulfilling. Performing connects me with audiences, composing allows creative expression, and the piano speaks to my soul. Mentoring, however, gives me the opportunity to shape lives. Watching students discover their potential, grow in confidence, and achieve their dreams is more rewarding than any applause. Creating musicians who inspire others is the legacy I value most.

4. Having performed over 6,000 concerts, is there one performance that remains closest to your heart? What made it so memorable?

Among thousands of performances, representing India in Europe in 2016 remains the closest to my heart. It was more than a concert—it was an opportunity to carry India's rich musical heritage to an international audience. Witnessing people from different cultures connect with Indian music reaffirmed my belief that music transcends language and borders. Awards and applause fade with time, but touching hearts through music is a memory that lasts forever.

5. Music has the power to heal, inspire, and unite people. How do you believe music influences society in today's fast-paced digital world?

Music is far more than entertainment—it is a universal language that heals, inspires, and brings people together. In today's fast-paced digital world, where stress and distractions are constant, music offers comfort, balance, and emotional connection. Technology has expanded its reach, but its true purpose remains unchanged: to preserve culture, spread positivity, and unite people. As a musician and mentor, I believe our responsibility is to use music to inspire, uplift, and create a more compassionate world.

6. You have trained more than 17,000 students. What qualities do you believe distinguish a good musician from a truly great artist?

Training over 17,000 students has taught me one profound lesson: a good musician performs the right notes, but a truly great artist touches the hearts of people.

Technical skill is undoubtedly important, but it is only the beginning. What elevates an artist is humility, discipline, consistency, and the ability to convey genuine emotion through every performance. Great artists remain lifelong learners. They continue to practise with dedication, respect their craft, and constantly strive to grow.

I always tell my students that while people may admire your talent, they will remember how your music made them feel. When your performance inspires, creates an emotional connection, and leaves a lasting impression, you transcend being merely a musician—you become a true artist.

7. Through your initiative, Vividha Baithak, you are nurturing emerging talent. What inspired you to establish this platform, and what vision do you have for its future?

Vividha Baithak was founded on a simple yet meaningful belief—that every deserving artist should have a platform where talent is recognised, nurtured, and celebrated.

Throughout my journey as a performer, mentor, and representative of Indian music on international stages, I encountered many exceptionally talented artists who possessed immense potential but lacked opportunities to showcase their abilities. This inspired me to create Vividha Baithak as more than just a performance platform. It is a cultural movement where musicians, singers, dancers, and artists of all ages can learn, collaborate, perform, and evolve together.

My vision is to establish Vividha Baithak as one of India's most respected cultural institutions, connecting emerging talent with accomplished mentors, creating meaningful performance opportunities, preserving our rich artistic heritage, and inspiring future generations to pursue excellence in the arts. By empowering artists, we strengthen society and ensure that the spirit of Indian culture continues to flourish.

8. How can young musicians balance tradition with innovation without losing authenticity?

Innovation should always be built on a strong foundation. When young musicians master Indian classical music, they can confidently explore new styles without losing their identity. Trends may change, but discipline, values, and emotional expression remain timeless.

9. How has the global audience responded to Indian classical and fusion music?

Representing India internationally has shown me that music truly has no boundaries. Even when audiences don't understand the language, they connect with the emotion and spirituality of Indian music. Fusion music has further helped introduce our traditions to global audiences while preserving their authenticity.



10. What role will technology and AI play in the future of music?

Technology and AI will make music education more accessible through personalised learning and practice support. However, they can never replace the soul of music. Human emotions, discipline, and life experiences are what give music its true meaning. AI should enhance creativity, not replace it.

11. What advice would you give aspiring musicians struggling with consistency and confidence?

Confidence comes from consistent practice, not the other way around. My advice is simple: practise every day, stay humble, keep learning, and never compare your journey with others. Success in music is built through patience, discipline, and perseverance.

12. Which achievement has given you the greatest personal satisfaction?

Among many honours, being recognised as Best Musician at the International Level during the GIBF India–North America–Caribbean Business Summit is especially meaningful. More than the award itself, it reminds me that Indian music can inspire audiences worldwide and encourages young artists to dream bigger.



13. How do you envision the future of Indian classical music?

I believe Indian classical music has a bright future. Technology will make learning more accessible, while the Guru-Shishya tradition will continue to preserve its essence. Our responsibility is to present this timeless art in ways that inspire the younger generation across the world.

14. What life lessons has your artistic journey taught you?

Music has taught me that discipline, humility, patience, and lifelong learning are the foundations of success. These values apply to every profession. True achievement is not only about personal success but also about making a positive difference in the lives of others.

15. What message would you like to share with the readers of Panache Ink International Magazine?

Never underestimate the power of your passion. Talent opens doors, but discipline, consistency, and purpose create a lasting legacy. Whatever your field, focus on creating value, keep learning, and never stop believing in yourself. The world needs your authentic voice. Keep creating, keep inspiring, and keep making a difference.

Proud Collaboration



By Dr. Mohit Bansal



EMPOWERING YOUNG MINDS. SHAPING BRIGHTER FUTURES.

Panache Ink International Magazine is honored to collaborate with Career Jano, the trusted career guidance venture by Dr. Mohit Bansal.

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Stronger Future.



Dr. Mohit Bansal

Founder, Career Jano

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- ✓ Preparation Strategies
- ✓ Certifications That Matter
- ✓ Interview Expectations
- ✓ Fresher-Level Job Profiles
- ✓ Career Growth Opportunities

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“

The right guidance
at the right time can
change your path
and your future.

– Dr. Mohit Bansal

”

Together, Panache Ink International Magazine and Career Jano are committed to inspiring, guiding, and empowering the youth to build successful careers and a meaningful future.

Dream. Prepare. Achieve.

WE ARE PROUD TO JOURNEY TOGETHER FOR A BETTER TOMORROW.



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inspire & empower



STRONG COLLABORATIONS

Partnering with visionaries
for greater impact



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Guiding the next generation
towards excellence

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COLUMN

By: Mr. Piyush Goel

Dear Readers,

Every story has the power to entertain, but some stories have the ability to awaken faith and inspire reflection. In this month's column, we bring you a heartfelt spiritual narrative that reminds us how destiny, compassion, and selfless service often unfold in the most unexpected ways.

Penned by our esteemed columnist, Mr. Piyush Goel, this inspiring piece is more than a story—it is an invitation to pause, reflect, and rediscover the timeless values of kindness, humility, and unwavering faith. Whether you read it as a tale of divine intervention or as a lesson in humanity, we hope it leaves you with a renewed sense of hope and purpose.



The Mysterious Note: A Journey Guided by Divine Grace

A story of faith, repentance and the transforming power of Khatu Shyam Baba.

A middle-class businessman was on his way to his shop when he noticed a piece of paper lying on the road. Curious, he picked it up and read:

“Go to Khatu Shyam immediately. As you walk toward the temple, an elderly man will bump into you. He will hold your hand and ask you to accompany him. Do not refuse. Go with him, and everything will unfold as it is meant to.”

Stunned, he returned home, told only his wife, and set out for Khatu Shyam.

A DESTINY UNFOLDS

At the temple, everything happened exactly as written. An elderly man bumped into him, held his hand and led him to a small, dilapidated hut. Living there with his wife, the old man shared his heartbreaking story.

“I earned my wealth through dishonest means. That sinful money destroyed everything I had. These two suitcases of money are all that remain. I want to give them to you, because I wish to repent before I leave this world.”

The businessman was shaken. Every word on that mysterious note had come true.

A CHOICE OF INTEGRITY

He shared the incident only with his wife and elder son and brought them to Khatu Shyam. Choosing honesty over personal gain, he decided to use the money for the greater good.

SERVICE BECOMES HIS PRAYER

With the money, he built a beautiful dharamshala and invited the elderly couple to live there with dignity. He and his wife also chose to stay there in service.

The remaining funds were used for noble causes—drinking water facilities, a gaushala, and a primary school were established.

“Awards and applause
fade with time,
but touching hearts
through music is a
memory that lasts
forever.”

A QUESTION THAT REVEALED A MIRACLE

One day, the old man asked, “I met so many people before you, but none came with me. Why did you trust me and follow me to my hut?”

With tears in his eyes, the businessman revealed the truth about the note he had found on the road.

The elderly couple embraced him and wept. Everyone present was moved to tears.

Go to Khatu Shyam immediately. As you walk toward the temple, an elderly man will bump into you. He will hold your hand and ask you to accompany him. Do not refuse. Go with him, and everything will unfold as it is meant to.

A FINAL REQUEST

Before long, the old couple made one last request:

“Son, promise us that every year you will help arrange the marriages of five underprivileged daughters.”

The businessman agreed without hesitation.

THE ESSENCE

Such is the unfathomable grace of Khatu Shyam Baba. No one can comprehend how or when His divine will unfolds. An unknown elderly man, an ordinary businessman, and a forgotten piece of paper became the instruments of transforming many lives.



**JAI
KHATU SHYAM
BABA!**

The refuge of the helpless,
our beloved Khatu Shyam
Baba. His divine glory is
truly beyond measure.

*Hare ka Sahara,
Baba Khatu Shyam Hamara.*



Leading the Change: Young Indians Shaping a Sustainable Tomorrow

By:
Mr. Shashidhar Kumar
Editor

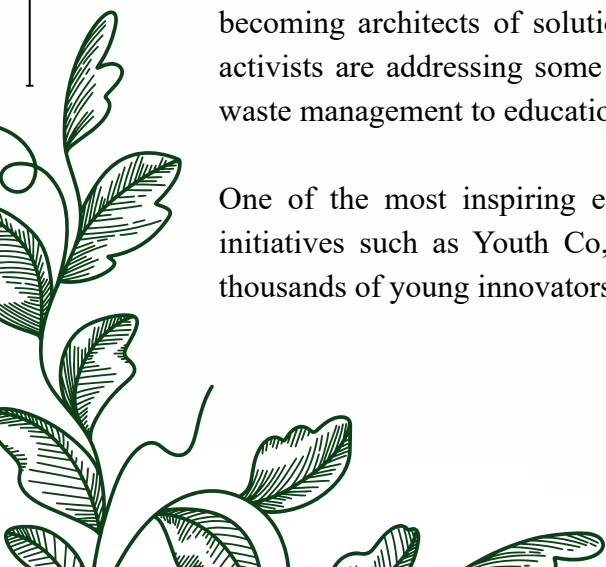
As the world races toward achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, one demographic stands out as the most powerful catalyst for change—youth. Across continents, young people are leading climate movements, developing social innovations, promoting gender equality, and building sustainable enterprises. In India, where one of the world's largest youth populations resides, the role of young people in driving sustainable development has become not only significant but indispensable.

The United Nations recognizes youth as key agents of change in achieving the SDGs. Globally, there are approximately 1.8 billion young people between the ages of 10 and 24, the largest youth generation in history. Most of them live in developing countries and possess the potential to shape a more equitable, inclusive, and sustainable world.

India presents an extraordinary case. According to UNDP India, youth aged 15–29 constitute approximately 27.5 percent of the country's population and contribute around 34 percent of India's Gross National Income. This demographic advantage, often called the "demographic dividend," offers immense opportunities for sustainable economic and social transformation.

However, youth are no longer merely beneficiaries of development policies; they are increasingly becoming architects of solutions. Across India, young innovators, entrepreneurs, volunteers, and activists are addressing some of the nation's most pressing challenges—from climate change and waste management to education, healthcare, renewable energy, and livelihood generation.

One of the most inspiring examples is the rise of youth-led social entrepreneurship. Through initiatives such as Youth Co, jointly supported by UNDP and India's Atal Innovation Mission, thousands of young innovators have been encouraged to develop solutions aligned with the SDGs.



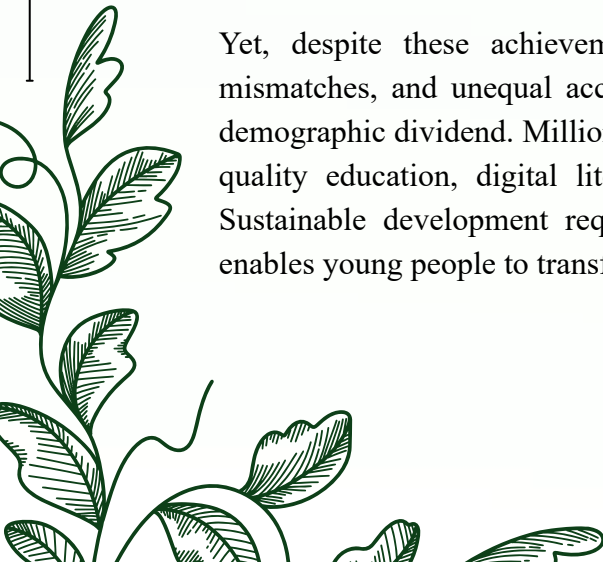
Since its launch in India, the program has nurtured young entrepreneurs working on clean energy, sustainable consumption, circular economy models, waste management, climate resilience, and inclusive economic growth. Hundreds of youth-led startups have emerged from these initiatives, demonstrating how innovation can generate both social impact and economic opportunity.

Climate action is another area where Indian youth are making a remarkable difference. Young environmental leaders are mobilizing communities to reduce plastic waste, promote sustainable lifestyles, conserve water resources, and encourage renewable energy adoption. Across cities and villages alike, youth groups are organizing plantation drives, waste segregation campaigns, and awareness programs that align directly with SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 15 (Life on Land).

Volunteerism has also emerged as a powerful tool for sustainable development. Through partnerships involving Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), the National Service Scheme (NSS), and United Nations agencies, millions of young Indians have participated in community development initiatives. More than 25,000 youth clubs have been formed or revitalized, mobilizing millions of young people for education, health awareness, women's empowerment, environmental conservation, and local governance activities. Such initiatives demonstrate how youth participation can strengthen social cohesion while accelerating development outcomes.

The digital revolution has further amplified youth impact. India's young population is among the most technologically connected in the world. Leveraging digital tools, artificial intelligence, data analytics, and social media platforms, young innovators are creating solutions that address local challenges at scale. From agricultural technology helping farmers improve productivity to ed-tech platforms expanding educational access in rural areas, youth-led innovation is transforming the development landscape.

Moreover, young people are increasingly influencing public discourse and policymaking. Programs such as the UN India–YuWaah Advocates initiative have empowered sustainability champions to engage communities, advocate for the SDGs, and inspire youth participation in nation-building. These young leaders serve as bridges between grassroots realities and national development priorities, ensuring that youth perspectives are represented in decision-making processes.



Yet, despite these achievements, significant challenges remain. Youth unemployment, skill mismatches, and unequal access to opportunities continue to limit the full realization of India's demographic dividend. Millions of young people enter the market every year, making investment in quality education, digital literacy, entrepreneurship, and green skills more critical than ever. Sustainable development requires not only youth participation but also systemic support that enables young people to transform ideas into scalable solutions.

Governments, businesses, educational institutions, and civil society organizations must therefore collaborate to create an enabling ecosystem. Investments in green jobs, startup incubation, vocational training, climate education, and social innovation can unlock the immense potential of India's youth. Equally important is ensuring that young women, rural youth, and marginalized communities have equal access to opportunities and resources.

The story of sustainable development in the twenty-first century will largely be the story of youth leadership. India, with its vast reservoir of young talent, has a unique opportunity to become a global model of youth-driven development. The energy, creativity, and determination of young Indians are already transforming communities and industries. If adequately empowered, this generation can help build a future that is economically prosperous, socially inclusive, and environmentally sustainable.

The path to achieving the SDGs by 2030 is undoubtedly challenging. Yet, one fact remains clear: when young people are equipped with the right skills, opportunities, and platforms, they do not merely participate in development—they lead it. India's youth are proving that sustainable development is not a distant aspiration but a movement being shaped today by the innovators, volunteers, entrepreneurs, and changemakers of a new generation.





Rural Transformation Through Technology

By: Pragma Tripathi

For generations, the chronicle of the global countryside was written in a predictable, often melancholic rhythm. It was a narrative dictated by the unpredictable whims of seasonal monsoons, bound by the crushing physical limitations of distant brick-and-mortar marketplaces, and deeply shadowed by a persistent economic divide that left rural populations steps behind their urban counterparts. To be born into a rural community historically meant being isolated from the rapid currents of global advancement, scientific breakthrough, and financial mobility. For decades, traditional development models viewed these spaces through a lens of charity as passive, stagnant recipients of external aid.

However, as we step into the mid-2020s, a quiet yet profound revolution is sweeping across the world's agrarian and rural landscapes. This modern transformation is not being driven by massive, impersonal industrial conglomerates or top-down bureaucratic mandates. Instead, it is fueled by the glowing screens of handheld smartphones, localized software applications, and the visionary grit of young grassroots changemakers.

Today, technology is acting as the ultimate societal equalizer. It is actively transforming rural communities from isolated outposts into vibrant, self-reliant hubs of digital innovation. At the heart of this tectonic shift lies a deeply human element: young minds who refuse to look at a remote village as a place left behind. Instead, they view it as a vast canvas of untapped human potential waiting to be seamlessly integrated into the global grid.

The Power of Grassroots Localized Innovation

The contemporary narrative of rural transformation is fundamentally rooted in the democratization of access. According to tracking data from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), global internet connectivity has expanded at an exponential rate over the last decade.

Yet, the true magic of this expansion does not lie in the mere existence of fiber-optic cables or cellular towers; it lies in how this raw connectivity is being creatively harnessed at the grassroots level. It is no longer just about giving an isolated farmer an internet connection to browse the web. It is about co-creating a localized digital ecosystem specifically tailored for their economic survival, environmental adaptation, and long-term growth.

Consider the revolutionary impact of precision agriculture platforms developed by youth-led agritech startups. For centuries, smallholder farmers relied entirely on ancestral wisdom to predict shifting weather patterns and assess soil health. While invaluable, this traditional knowledge has been rendered increasingly unreliable by the volatile, harsh realities of global climate change. To combat this vulnerability, young innovators are building localized mobile applications that utilize sophisticated satellite data, Internet of Things (IoT) field sensors, and machine learning algorithms to offer real-time, actionable insights.

When a young tech pioneer designs a simple, highly intuitive, multilingual user interface that allows a farmer to scan a pest-damaged crop leaf with a basic smartphone camera and instantly receive a localized, low-cost organic remedy, they are doing something far more profound than just saving an individual harvest. They are actively restoring agency, dignity, and confidence to the cultivator. This deeply humanistic approach to technology shifts the daily dynamic from helpless despair to informed empowerment. It proves that high-tech tools do not require an advanced academic degree to deliver life-altering, wealth-generating results on the ground.

Dismantling Exploitation: Market Access and Financial Inclusion

Historically, one of the greatest economic structural tragedies of rural life across developing nations has been the systemic exploitation of rural producers by complex, multi-layered networks of predatory middlemen. By the time a single crop, hand-woven textile, or artisanal handicraft travelled from a remote village to a bustling urban market or an export terminal, the financial margins for the actual creator were squeezed down to mere pennies. The urban consumer paid a premium, while the rural maker remained trapped in a vicious cycle of generational poverty and debt.

Digital marketplaces are systematically and permanently dismantling these exploitative supply chains. Young social entrepreneurs are leveraging the power of decentralized e-commerce platforms to connect rural artisans, weavers, and smallholder farmers directly with domestic and international consumers. By utilizing smartphone photography, basic digital cataloging, and automated logistics tracking, these youth-led platforms ensure a direct-to-consumer model. This structural shift guarantees that fair, living wages flow right back into the household where the physical labour was actually performed.

Parallel to direct market access is the revolutionary wave of financial technology, or fintech. For decades, hundreds of millions of rural citizens remained entirely "unbanked" locked completely out of formal financial systems due to a total lack of physical brick-and-mortar bank branches in their regions, combined with stringent, exclusionary documentation requirements. Today, micro-transaction platforms, mobile wallets, and secure biometric identification systems have fundamentally rewritten this bleak script.

A rural woman entrepreneur running a small dairy cooperative or a tailoring unit can now secure a micro-loan through a mobile application, accept instant digital payments from global patrons, and securely manage her household savings without ever having to step foot outside her village boundary. This newfound financial independence does not stay confined to an individual; it ripples powerfully outward, directly translating into improved family nutrition, better local healthcare access, and higher educational enrollment for daughters and sons alike.

Classrooms Without Walls: EdTech in Remote Communities

The structural transformation extends far beyond the agricultural fields and commercial markets; it is radically reshaping the minds and aspirations of the next generation of rural youth. For an incredibly long time, rural schooling suffered from a severe, chronic deficit of resources: chronically understaffed schools, crumbling physical infrastructure, outdated textbooks that hadn't been updated in decades, and a total lack of specialized career guidance or vocational training. Digital education technology (EdTech) is rapidly dissolving these historical geographic barriers, creating classrooms without physical boundaries.

Young educational changemakers are creatively leveraging solar-powered digital projectors, open-source educational repositories, and offline-compatible learning software to bring world-class pedagogy to the most remote corners of the world. In areas where geographical isolation or regional crises threaten to halt formal schooling, these targeted digital interventions have proven to be vital, non-negotiable lifelines.

When a young child living in a remote tribal village can learn the basics of computer coding, practice global language skills through interactive gamified software, or view an advanced science experiment via a shared community tablet, the traditional concept of the "digital divide" begins to evaporate. This tech-driven educational access fosters a psychological environment where rural students no longer internalize a sense of inadequacy compared to their highly privileged urban peers. Instead, they are systematically equipped with the exact same cognitive toolkits, logic skills, and information access required to compete on the global stage. This effectively transforms the rural educational landscape from a rigid system of rote memorization into a launchpad for critical thinking, lifelong curiosity, and localized problem-solving.

Telemedicine: Transforming Healthcare Beyond Geographic Boundaries

Perhaps the most deeply moving, humanistic impact of technology within the rural space is found in the critical realm of healthcare infrastructure. Rural areas worldwide face a chronic, severe shortage of trained medical professionals, with specialized doctors, diagnostic clinics, and hospitals overwhelmingly concentrated in major urban centers. For a rural resident, a sudden medical emergency or the management of a chronic illness has historically meant embarking on a long, agonizing, and incredibly expensive physical journey to the nearest city—a journey that frequently results in financial ruin or catastrophic health outcomes.

Young medical and tech innovators are bridging this life-or-death gap through the deployment of telemedicine networks and highly portable, low-cost diagnostic IoT devices. Trained local healthcare workers frequently youth volunteers from the community itself who are equipped with basic digital toolkits can now conduct vital health screenings right at a villager's doorstep. They can record real-time electrocardiograms (ECGs), analyze blood glucose levels, and perform basic prenatal checkups.

This critical diagnostic data is instantly transmitted via cloud computing networks to urban medical specialists located hundreds of miles away, who then provide accurate diagnoses and treatment regimens via real-time video consultations. This immediate, localized access saves lives on a daily basis, prevents minor treatable ailments from escalating into terminal conditions, and significantly alleviates the crushing financial burden of medical migration on vulnerable families.

The Road Ahead: Overcoming Challenges and the Changemaker's Mandate

While the documented achievements of digital rural transformation are deeply inspiring, it is vital to acknowledge that the journey towards true equity is far from complete. Serious structural hurdles remain: erratic electrical grids, regional internet blackouts, high costs of hardware, and a profound gender gap in digital literacy, wherein women in rural communities are statistically far less likely to own or have unrestricted access to digital devices than men.

This precise gap is where the unique role of the young changemaker becomes absolutely non-negotiable. Shaping tomorrow requires looking at technology not merely as a commercial commodity to be sold for profit, but as a fundamental human right and a public good. The next phase of rural development relies entirely on young leaders who possess the empathy and cultural intellect to design inclusive, sustainable, and highly accessible tech solutions. Solutions that deeply respect local traditions while decisively upgrading local human capabilities.

Ultimately, rural transformation through technology is not a sterile story about microchips, satellites, or lines of software code; it is a profound story about human beings. It is about the young village girl who looks into a laptop screen and sees a portal to infinite knowledge. It is about the independent smallholder farmer who regains his dignity and self-reliance through predictable financial returns. By putting the powerful tools of the digital age directly into the hands of rural communities, young changemakers are ensuring that the future of our world is not just technologically smart, but profoundly, beautifully equitable.



Innovations That Are Changing Lives

By: Karthik Srivastava

Innovation can be understood as a process of creating new ideas, products, or methods that make our daily lives better and easier. Throughout history, innovations have helped people solve problems, save time, improve health, and connect with one another. Today, technological and scientific innovations are changing lives faster than ever before. From healthcare and education to transportation and communication, innovations are improving the quality of life for millions of people around the world.

One of the most important innovations of modern times is the smartphone. A smartphone is much more than a device for making calls. It allows people to access information, communicate instantly, learn new skills, shop online, and even manage their finances. In many developing countries, smartphones have helped people connect to educational resources and employment opportunities that were previously unavailable. Farmers can check weather forecasts, students can attend online classes, and patients can consult doctors through mobile applications. More or less, smartphones have their roles in everything we do daily, from commuting to our workplaces to learning new dishes, from accessing education to communicating with healthcare experts and whatnot.

Healthcare has also seen remarkable innovations in recent years. Medical technology has made it possible to diagnose diseases more accurately and treat them more effectively. Telemedicine, for example, allows patients to consult healthcare professionals through video calls without visiting a hospital. This is especially helpful for people living in remote areas where medical facilities may be limited. Wearable devices such as fitness trackers and smartwatches can monitor heart rate, sleep patterns, and physical activity, helping people maintain healthier lifestyles.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is another innovation that is transforming lives. AI systems can analyze large amounts of data and perform tasks that once required human effort. In healthcare, AI helps doctors to detect diseases earlier and develop personalized treatment plans. In education, AI-powered learning platforms adapt lessons to suit individual students' needs. Businesses use AI to improve customer service and increase efficiency. Although AI presents some challenges, its potential to improve lives is enormous.

The field of education too, has benefited greatly from digital innovations. Online learning platforms have made education accessible to people regardless of their location. Students can now attend lectures, watch educational videos, and access study materials from anywhere with an internet connection. During the COVID-19 pandemic, online education became essential for maintaining learning continuity. Today, digital classrooms continue to provide flexible and affordable learning opportunities for millions of students.

Renewable energy innovations are helping address environmental challenges while improving lives. Solar panels and wind turbines generate clean energy without producing harmful emissions. As these technologies become more affordable, more households and communities can access reliable electricity. In rural areas, solar-powered systems provide lighting, charging facilities, and energy for essential services. Renewable energy not only protects the environment but also supports economic development and improves living standards. Also, bioenergy and biofuels are something that are being worked upon as greener and safer alternatives.

Transportation innovations have made travel safer, faster, and more efficient. Electric vehicles (EVs) are becoming increasingly popular because they reduce air pollution and dependence on fossil fuels. Modern navigation systems help drivers find the quickest routes and avoid traffic congestion. High-speed trains and improved public transportation systems enable people to travel comfortably while reducing environmental impact. These advancements contribute to better mobility and economic growth.

Innovations in agriculture are helping farmers increase productivity and ensure food security. Modern farming techniques, improved irrigation systems, and advanced machinery enable farmers to produce more food using fewer resources. Drones can monitor crop health, while sensors provide information about soil conditions and water requirements. These technologies help farmers make informed decisions, reduce waste, and improve crop yields. As the global population continues to grow, agricultural innovations will play a vital role in feeding the world.

Financial technology, commonly known as fintech, is another area where innovation is changing lives. Mobile banking and digital payment systems allow people to conduct financial transactions quickly and securely. Individuals who previously lacked access to traditional banking services can now save money, transfer funds, and make payments using their smartphones. Digital financial services promote financial inclusion and support economic participation.

Assistive technologies have significantly improved the lives of people with disabilities. Innovations such as advanced prosthetic limbs, screen readers, hearing aids, and speech recognition software enable individuals to overcome barriers and participate more fully in society. These technologies promote independence, inclusion, and equal opportunities.

Communication technologies continue to bring people closer together. Social media platforms, messaging applications, and video conferencing tools allow families, friends, and colleagues to stay connected regardless of distance. During emergencies and natural disasters, communication technologies help share important information quickly and coordinate relief efforts. They also facilitate cultural exchange and global collaboration.

Environmental innovations are helping communities manage waste and conserve natural resources. Recycling technologies, water purification systems, and sustainable building materials contribute to environmental protection. Smart cities use sensors and data analysis to improve energy efficiency, traffic management, and public services. These innovations create cleaner and more sustainable living environments.

The impact of innovation extends beyond technology. Social innovations, such as community-based programs and newer approaches to education and healthcare, also improve lives. For example, microfinance initiatives provide small loans to entrepreneurs who lack access to traditional banking services. These programs empower individuals to start businesses, generate income, and improve their living conditions.

While innovations offer many benefits, they also present challenges. Issues such as data privacy, cybersecurity, and unequal access to technology must be addressed. Governments, businesses, and communities must work together to ensure that innovations are used responsibly and benefit everyone. Education and digital literacy are essential for helping people adapt to changing technologies and make informed decisions.

Looking ahead, future innovations may bring even greater changes. Advances in biotechnology, renewable energy, robotics, and space exploration have the potential to solve some of humanity's most pressing challenges. Researchers and innovators around the world continue to develop solutions that improve health, protect the environment, and enhance quality of life.

In a whole, innovations are transforming lives in countless ways. They improve healthcare, education, transportation, communication, agriculture, and many other aspects of daily life. By solving problems and creating new opportunities, innovations contribute to social and economic progress. As technology continues to evolve, it is important to ensure that its benefits are accessible to all. When used responsibly, innovation has the power to create a brighter, healthier, and more sustainable future for everyone.



Digital Activism in the Age of Social Media

By: Karthik Srivastava

Digital activism refers to the use of digital technologies and online platforms to promote social, political, environmental, and humanitarian causes. In the age of social media, activism has expanded beyond traditional methods such as public meetings, rallies, and printed campaigns. Today, individuals and organizations can raise awareness, mobilize support, and influence public opinion through social media platforms, websites, blogs, and online petitions. Digital activism has become a powerful force for social change in the modern world.

Social media platforms have transformed the way people communicate and share information. Platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, X, YouTube, and LinkedIn allow users to reach larger audiences instantly. A single post, video, or hashtag can spread across the world within hours. This speed and accessibility have made social media an important tool for activists seeking to highlight issues and inspire action.

One of the greatest strengths of digital activism is its ability to raise awareness. Many social issues that once received little attention can now gain visibility through online campaigns. Activists use social media to share stories, facts, images, and videos that educate the public about important issues. Whether the topic is climate change, gender equality, human rights, public health, or education, digital platforms provide opportunities for people to learn and engage.

Hashtag campaigns have become a popular form of digital activism. A hashtag helps organize discussions around a specific issue and makes related content easier to find. Successful hashtag movements can attract millions of participants and generate widespread media coverage. These campaigns allow people from different countries and backgrounds to unite around a common cause. By sharing posts and personal experiences, participants contribute to a larger conversation and increase public awareness.

Online petitions are another important tool of digital activism. Websites that host petitions allow people to support causes by adding their signatures. These petitions can influence decision-makers, encourage policy changes, and demonstrate public support for specific issues. Although signing a petition requires only a small effort, large numbers of signatures can send a strong message to governments, organizations, and businesses.

Digital activism also enables rapid mobilization. In the past, organizing a campaign often required significant time and resources. Today, social media allows activists to coordinate events, share updates, and communicate with supporters in real time. Information about meetings, protests, fundraising efforts, and volunteer opportunities can reach thousands of people instantly. This ability to mobilize quickly has increased the effectiveness of many social movements.

Young people play a particularly important role in digital activism. Since many young individuals use social media regularly, they are often at the forefront of online campaigns. Through creative content such as videos, graphics, and podcasts, young activists engage audiences and encourage participation. Digital platforms give youth a voice and provide opportunities to contribute to social change regardless of their location or background.

Digital activism has been especially valuable during times of crisis. During natural disasters, public health emergencies, and humanitarian crises, social media helps share accurate information and coordinate relief efforts. Online fundraising campaigns can generate financial support for affected communities. Activists and organizations use digital tools to connect donors, volunteers, and beneficiaries efficiently.

Environmental activism has benefited greatly from digital platforms. Climate change campaigns often rely on social media to educate the public, share scientific information, and encourage sustainable practices. Environmental organizations use digital content to highlight issues such as pollution, deforestation, biodiversity loss, and renewable energy. Online campaigns inspire individuals to adopt environmentally responsible behaviors and support conservation efforts.

Despite its advantages, digital activism faces several challenges. One major concern is the spread of misinformation. False or misleading information can spread quickly on social media, creating confusion and undermining legitimate causes. Activists must ensure that the information they share is accurate and supported by reliable sources. Critical thinking and media literacy are essential skills for both activists and audiences.

Another challenge is online harassment. Activists may face criticism, threats, or abusive comments from individuals who disagree with their views. Such experiences can discourage participation and affect mental well-being. Social media platforms and users must work together to promote respectful communication and create safer online environments.

The issue of digital inequality also affects activism. Not everyone has access to reliable internet connections, smartphones, or digital skills. As a result, some communities may be excluded from online discussions and campaigns. Efforts to improve digital access and literacy are necessary to ensure that digital activism remains inclusive and representative.

Some critics argue that digital activism can sometimes lead to "slacktivism," a term used to describe minimal online actions that do not result in meaningful change. Simply liking a post or sharing a hashtag may not always address complex social problems. Effective activism often requires a combination of online engagement and real-world action. Digital tools are most powerful when they support broader efforts such as community organizing, education, advocacy, and policy reform.

Governments, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, and businesses increasingly recognize the influence of digital activism. Many organizations use social media to engage with communities, gather feedback, and address public concerns. Policymakers often monitor online discussions to understand public opinion and identify emerging issues. This interaction demonstrates how digital activism can contribute to democratic participation and accountability.

The future of digital activism will likely be shaped by emerging technologies. Artificial Intelligence, virtual reality, and advanced communication tools may create new opportunities for engagement and awareness. Activists may use these technologies to develop interactive educational experiences, analyze social trends, and reach wider audiences. At the same time, ethical considerations related to privacy, surveillance, and data security will remain important.

Education plays a crucial role in promoting responsible digital activism. Schools and universities can teach students how to evaluate information, communicate effectively online, and participate constructively in digital communities. By developing digital literacy skills, individuals can become informed citizens who contribute positively to public discussions and social change.

Digital activism demonstrates the power of technology to connect people and amplify voices. It allows individuals to participate in important conversations, support causes they care about, and influence society in meaningful ways. While challenges such as misinformation and digital inequality must be addressed, the potential benefits of digital activism are significant.

In a whole, digital activism has become an essential feature of the social media age. It enables people to raise awareness, organize campaigns, mobilize support, and advocate for change on a global scale. Through hashtags, online petitions, educational content, and digital communities, activists can reach audiences that were once difficult to access. As technology continues to evolve, digital activism will remain a powerful tool for promoting social justice, environmental protection, human rights, and community development. When used responsibly and effectively, it can help create a more informed, connected, and engaged society.



Social Entrepreneurship: Business with Purpose

By:Rahul Chaurase

Behind every societal difficulty lies a human dimension waiting to be addressed. Society's biggest problems are, in essence, human problems waiting for a solution. Acknowledging this shift, our perspective shifts from external issues to internal human realities.

No one who observes the world closely can deny the multitude of problems that surround us. Poverty, inequality, inadequate healthcare, poor education, environmental degradation, and social exclusion are not isolated issues; they are symptoms of deeper structural realities. While no individual possesses all the answers, every individual possesses a fragment of insight. Everyone knows something. Everyone has observed something. Everyone has witnessed a gap between what is and what ought to be.

This is where social entrepreneurship emerges.

Social entrepreneurship is not a fashionable phrase designed to impress. It is not a badge worn for admiration. It is a disposition—a way of seeing the world. The social entrepreneur does not merely identify opportunities to sell products; he identifies opportunities to solve human problems.

Where others see inconvenience, he sees a challenge worthy of examination. Where others see suffering, he sees the possibility of intervention. He refuses to remain a passive observer. He seeks to bring ideas from abstraction into reality and transform insight into action.

This is a form of entrepreneurship, but it is also a form of warfare—a war against problems that have become so normalized that society no longer questions them.

Running a business is challenging. Running a mission-driven enterprise is even more demanding. The entrepreneur pursues value; the social entrepreneur pursues impact. Revenue may sustain the mission, but it is not the mission itself.

The objective is not merely profit. The objective is transformation.

A social entrepreneur works to improve lives, strengthen communities, and create conditions in which human beings can flourish. He seeks not quarterly victories but enduring change. His success is measured not only by financial returns but by the number of lives touched, opportunities created, and barriers removed.

What Is Social Entrepreneurship?

Social entrepreneurship is the pursuit of sustainable solutions to society's most persistent problems.

It is a commitment to those who lack access to the necessities of a dignified life. It is a mission directed toward reducing poverty, expanding healthcare, improving education, empowering marginalized communities, and bridging the divide between urban and rural realities.

At its highest expression, social entrepreneurship becomes a journey that never leaves the bedside of examination, observation, questioning, and insight. It asks difficult questions about why problems exist and seeks practical ways to address their root causes rather than merely treating their symptoms.

The social entrepreneur understands a simple truth:

Every problem is a human problem.

And every meaningful solution begins with a human being willing to act.

Social Entrepreneurship doesn't improve; it transforms

Improvement is incremental. Transformation is fundamental.

Social entrepreneurship is not about identifying a single problem, improving it slightly, and moving on. It is about identifying the core problems that silently shape the lives of millions. The social entrepreneur refuses to remain at the surface. He examines, observes, questions, and ventures into the depth of the problem until its root cause reveals itself.

Only then does transformation begin.

A social entrepreneur does not seek temporary relief; he seeks enduring solutions. He does not measure success by the number of projects completed but by the number of lives transformed. His mission is not merely to improve society—it is to reshape it.

India stands at a remarkable crossroads. It possesses two extraordinary resources in abundance: an immense youth population and an immense number of societal challenges. One represents boundless potential; the other presents an equally boundless opportunity to create impact.

Today, social entrepreneurship in India is gaining well-deserved recognition and support. More young minds are choosing purpose over convention, impact over comfort, and transformation over incremental change. If this momentum continues, today's problems may become tomorrow's greatest opportunities for innovation and nation-building.

How to Start a Social Enterprise

Starting a social enterprise means creating a solution that generates both profit and purpose. It is about building a sustainable business whose success is measured not only by financial returns but also by the positive impact it creates in society.

Here are the fundamental steps to begin your journey:

1. Observe the Problem Before Seeking the Solution:

Every meaningful solution begins with a profound understanding of the problem.

A social entrepreneur does not rush toward answers. He first examines, observes, and questions until he understands the problem viscerally—at its grass roots. Whether it is the lack of quality education for children in rural communities, inadequate healthcare, unemployment, or the absence of basic opportunities, the problem must be understood before it can be transformed.

The most enduring social enterprises are often born from problems that are deeply personal. When a problem resonates with your own experience or values, your commitment to solving it becomes unwavering. Purpose is not manufactured; it emerges when a problem refuses to leave your mind.

2. Build a Business Model That Creates Both Efficiency and Impact:

A traditional business primarily seeks to maximize profit by creating value for customers.

A social enterprise must do both: generate sustainable revenue while solving a meaningful societal problem. Profit is not the destination—it is the fuel that sustains the mission.

Whether your organization operates as a nonprofit, a for-profit enterprise, or a hybrid model, its business structure should ensure long-term financial sustainability while remaining faithful to its social purpose.

3. Create a Sustainable Business Plan:

A compelling mission alone is not enough. Every social enterprise requires a well-defined plan.

Identify the resources you need, develop a realistic financial strategy, and create measurable goals that address the core problem you have chosen to solve. Your business plan should be capable of sustaining itself over time, allowing your impact to grow rather than diminish.

Transformation is rarely achieved through short-term efforts. It demands patience, resilience, and a strategy that can endure.

4. Secure the Right Funding:

Every meaningful idea requires resources to become a reality.

Whether your mission begins on a small scale or seeks to solve a problem affecting millions, adequate funding is essential to bring your solution to fruition. Fortunately, today's ecosystem offers numerous opportunities through impact investors, philanthropic organizations, government initiatives, grants, and crowdfunding platforms that believe in businesses driven by purpose.

Funding should never be viewed as the mission itself. It is simply the instrument that enables the mission to create lasting change.

Indian Social Entrepreneurs Who Chose Transformation

Social entrepreneurship is not merely a concept. It is a journey undertaken by individuals who refuse to remain spectators of society's problems. They observe, question, and dedicate themselves to transforming realities that millions have accepted as normal. India has produced remarkable individuals whose work demonstrates that meaningful change begins when someone decides that a problem is worth dedicating a lifetime to.

Shaheen Mistry – Transforming Education

Shaheen Mistry recognized that the greatest barrier facing countless children was not a lack of intelligence but a lack of opportunity. Through the Akanksha Foundation and Teach for India, she has worked relentlessly to make quality education accessible to children from disadvantaged communities.

She understood a profound truth: education is not simply about classrooms or examinations. It is about empowering individuals to break the cycle of poverty and reshape their future. Her work reminds us that when education reaches those who have been forgotten, transformation follows.

Sushmita Ghosh – Creating Changemakers

After years as a journalist, Sushmita Ghosh chose a different path. Rather than merely reporting the world's problems, she became committed to cultivating people capable of solving them.

Through her work with Ashoka and the Changemaker program, she has inspired individuals across the globe to believe that meaningful change begins with courageous action. Her work demonstrates that societies progress when ordinary people recognize their capacity to become extraordinary agents of change.

Harish Hande – Powering Lives Through Sustainable Energy

Harish Hande understood that access to energy is far more than a technological issue—it is a human issue. Through SELCO, he has brought renewable energy solutions to underserved communities, proving that innovation and sustainability can coexist.

His mission is not simply about solar technology. It is about dignity, opportunity, and ensuring that even the most marginalized communities can build a better future through clean and reliable energy.

Dinabandhu Sahoo – Innovation Rooted in Nature

Dinabandhu Sahoo saw possibility where others saw limitation. By introducing sustainable seaweed cultivation in coastal communities, he demonstrated that local ecosystems could become engines of economic empowerment.

Rather than imposing solutions from outside, his work embraces the wisdom of the local environment. It creates livelihoods while protecting nature, illustrating that social entrepreneurship succeeds when it works with communities rather than around them.

Suhani D – Choosing Passion Over Convention

Perhaps the most inspiring stories are those that begin with a single question:

"Why must creativity always remain a hobby?"

Like millions of students in India, Suhani was encouraged to think differently while she was in school. Yet, upon entering the real world, she encountered a different narrative. Society celebrated only a handful of careers while dismissing countless others as uncertain or impractical.

She refused to accept that narrative.

Choosing uncertainty over convention, she transformed her passion for art and creativity into Sangam—a platform where artists, artisans, designers, poets, performers, and entrepreneurs could discover opportunities that previously did not exist.

Sangam began as a small initiative but has grown into a nationwide creative community connecting thousands of artists. More importantly, it challenges a deeply rooted societal belief: that creativity cannot become a meaningful livelihood.

Suhani did not simply create a platform. She questioned an assumption that generations had accepted without examination. In doing so, she created opportunities for countless young people to pursue their passion with dignity and purpose.

Her journey reminds us that social entrepreneurship is not always about solving material problems. Sometimes it is about transforming the way society thinks.

India faces many challenges, but it also harbours limitless potential for change. Social entrepreneurship stands as a powerful force—turning societal problems into pathways for growth, dignity, and empowerment. By daring to address root causes with purpose and perseverance, change makers are shaping a more inclusive and resilient future.

The stories of change makers like Shaheen Mistry, Sushmita Ghosh, Harish Hande, and others serve as powerful reminders that meaningful impact begins with a single idea, a brave step, and unwavering dedication.

As more young leaders embrace this mission-driven approach, the future holds promise: a nation where every problem becomes an opportunity for meaningful impact. In the journey of social entrepreneurship, every step taken today paves the way for a more inclusive, equitable, and resilient India tomorrow.



From Grassroots to Global Boards: The Rise of Women Leaders

By: ShashiDhar Kumar

Women are not merely participating in global development today—they are shaping its direction. From boardrooms and parliaments to laboratories and grassroots movements, women leaders are redefining governance, innovation, sustainability, and social justice. As the world confronts complex challenges such as climate change, economic inequality, technological disruption, and public health crises, women's leadership has emerged as one of the most powerful drivers of transformative change.

The 21st century has witnessed a remarkable shift in global leadership. Women are increasingly occupying spaces once considered inaccessible, challenging traditional power structures and contributing fresh perspectives to decision-making. Yet, despite significant progress, gender parity in leadership remains far from achieved. According to recent data from UN Women and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, women hold only about 27.5 percent of parliamentary seats globally and approximately 22 percent of cabinet-level positions, underscoring the continuing barriers to equal representation.

However, statistics alone do not tell the complete story. Across continents, women leaders are demonstrating that inclusive leadership can drive economic growth, social cohesion, and sustainable development.

Around the world, women have led transformative initiatives in politics, business, science, and civil society. Leaders such as Jacinda Ardern, Ursula von der Leyen, and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Draupadi Murmu have demonstrated that empathetic and inclusive leadership can coexist with effective governance.

In the corporate world, women are increasingly shaping business strategies and innovation agendas. The United Kingdom, for example, has seen women occupy nearly 45 percent of board positions in major listed companies, reflecting growing recognition of the value of diverse leadership.

Women are also playing a crucial role in science and technology. Despite persistent underrepresentation in STEM leadership, female scientists, engineers, and innovators are contributing significantly to advancements in artificial intelligence, healthcare, climate science, and digital transformation. Experts continue to emphasize that increasing women's participation in STEM leadership is essential for creating more inclusive and impactful innovation ecosystems.

Among emerging economies, India presents one of the most compelling narratives of women's leadership. Over the past two decades, Indian women have made substantial gains in education, entrepreneurship, politics, sports, and technology. Increased access to education, digital connectivity, and financial inclusion has empowered millions of women to pursue careers and leadership roles previously beyond reach.

India has produced globally influential women leaders across diverse fields. In business, Indra Nooyi became a symbol of strategic leadership and corporate excellence. In finance, Nirmala Sitharaman plays a pivotal role in shaping one of the world's fastest-growing economies. In science and technology, women have contributed significantly to India's space and innovation sectors, including leadership roles within ISRO.

At the grassroots level, the transformation is equally inspiring. Women-led self-help groups have strengthened rural economies, promoted financial literacy, and enhanced community resilience. Across states such as Bihar, Rajasthan, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, women are leading local governance institutions, improving healthcare delivery, expanding educational access, and driving sustainable livelihood initiatives.

The passage of the Women's Reservation Bill has further reinforced India's commitment to expanding female political representation, potentially creating a new generation of women leaders in public life.

Women's leadership today extends far beyond formal institutions. Climate activists, social entrepreneurs, educators, healthcare professionals, and community organizers are influencing global conversations and local outcomes alike.

Women-led organizations have been at the forefront of disaster response, environmental conservation, and social innovation. Their leadership often emphasizes collaboration, long-term sustainability, and community engagement—qualities increasingly recognized as essential in addressing global challenges.

Research consistently shows that organizations with diverse leadership teams tend to make better decisions, foster innovation, and achieve stronger long-term performance. Inclusive leadership is no longer merely a social objective; it has become an economic and developmental imperative.

Despite progress, significant challenges remain. Women continue to face unequal access to leadership opportunities, gender-based discrimination, unpaid care burdens, and workplace biases. Globally, women remain underrepresented in top political and executive positions, and progress has slowed in several regions.

Achieving meaningful change requires investment in girls' education, mentorship programs, workplace flexibility, financial inclusion, and leadership development initiatives. Governments, corporations, educational institutions, and civil society must work together to remove systemic barriers that limit women's advancement.

The future of global development depends on harnessing the full potential of humanity. When women lead, societies become more inclusive, economies become more resilient, and institutions become more representative of the people they serve.

As India and the world move toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, empowering women leaders is not simply a matter of equality—it is a prerequisite for sustainable progress. The story of the coming decades will not merely be about women entering leadership. It will be about women redefining leadership itself.



Future Leaders and Leadership Skills

By- Pragya Tripathi, Editor

The contemporary world is currently moving at a historical velocity that defies all past precedents and human benchmarks. We are collectively living through an epoch defined by a dizzying, complex intersection of rapid technological acceleration, drastically shifting geopolitical configurations, profound socioeconomic reshuffling, and pressing, undeniable ecological imperatives. In this volatile and highly unpredictable landscape, the traditional, centuries-old blueprints of institutional leadership have proved themselves to be fundamentally, dangerously inadequate.

For generations, leadership was universally characterized by rigid, top-down hierarchies, intense bureaucratic control, information hoarding, and a singular, short-sighted focus on immediate quarterly financial metrics or political cycles. These legacy frameworks operated on the flawed assumption that the future would be a linear, predictable extension of the past.

As we look toward the complex horizon of the late 2020s, a critical, defining question emerges for our global civilization: What does it truly mean to lead in a world that is constantly, ruthlessly rewriting its own foundational rules? The answer does not lie in frantically trying to patch up or maintain an obsolete status quo. Instead, the answer is being actively forged in the actions, philosophies, and mindsets of a new generation of young changemakers. Future leadership is no longer a matter of chronological seniority, corporate titles, or inherited authority; it is defined by a distinct set of highly adaptive skills, an empathetic worldview, and the psychological courage to navigate deep, systemic uncertainty.

Radical Empathy as a Core Strategic Imperative

For decades, both corporate boardrooms and political spheres have frequently sidelined the concept of "empathy" as a soft skill, a well-meaning, polite, but ultimately non-essential trait to be cast aside during high-stakes crises or competitive maneuvers. Today, that outdated narrative has completely and irrevocably inverted. In a hyper-connected, deeply interdependent, and highly diverse global ecosystem, empathy has emerged as an absolute core strategic capability.

True empathy in a leadership context involves the sophisticated capacity to deeply understand, respect, and seamlessly integrate highly diverse human experiences into systemic organizational solutions. When young leaders approach complex global challenges, whether that means managing a cross-cultural, fully remote digital team or addressing historic systemic inequities within a community, they do so by prioritizing the human element over sterile metrics.

Data from leading global organizational research institutions consistently demonstrates that empathetic leadership directly correlates with high levels of psychological safety, dramatically increased rates of innovative thinking, and robust retention among the younger global workforce. Future leaders recognize a fundamental truth: sustainable, long-term progress can never be achieved by treating human beings as mere economic inputs or cogs in an industrial wheel. Instead, it requires the intentional cultivation of spaces where every individual feels deeply seen, genuinely heard, and authentically valued.

Digital Fluency Married with Ethical Stewardship

The future leader must, by definition, be an astute, sophisticated navigator of the digital realm. With the explosive rise of advanced generative artificial intelligence, autonomous automation systems, quantum computing, and decentralized blockchain networks, a massive portion of modern leadership involves managing the complex interface between human creative talent and digital machine capability. However, future leadership skills extend far, far beyond basic technical proficiency, coding literacy, or digital familiarity.

The young changemakers of tomorrow possess a rare combination of digital fluency and deep ethical stewardship. It is no longer enough for a leader to simply understand how a complex machine learning algorithm works or how to deploy it to maximize corporate profit. A future leader must possess the critical capacity to thoroughly evaluate their broader societal impact, uncover underlying algorithmic biases, and project its long-term implications on human dignity, privacy, and employment equity.

They view advanced technology not merely as an unregulated tool for maximizing physical output, but as a powerful mechanism for driving inclusive, equitable societal growth. Whether utilizing big data analytics to optimize the distribution of scarce water resources in a drought-prone community or leveraging global digital platforms for grassroots social advocacy, these emerging leaders consistently balance aggressive technical innovation with a deep, non-negotiable moral and ethical responsibility to humanity.

Adaptive Resilience and the Embracing of Cognitive Flexibility

If the massive global disruptions of the 2020s have taught the international community anything, it is that absolute predictability is a dangerous illusion. The modern leader must be highly comfortable operating in states of absolute ambiguity. This radical shift requires moving away from the traditional, arrogant "know-it-all" leadership mindset and firmly adopting a humble, agile "learn-it-all" philosophy a concept pioneered by contemporary organizational psychologists and embraced by youth movements worldwide.

Cognitive flexibility is the vital intellectual ability to rapidly unlearn outdated, defunct paradigms and instantly pivot one's entire strategy when presented with new, verified empirical data. This internal cognitive trait is intimately linked with adaptive resilience: the psychological and operational capacity to steadily guide a community, startup, or large-scale institution through severe systemic shocks without ever losing sight of the core foundational mission.

Future leaders do not view failure as a terminal, shameful setback; instead, they treat it as an invaluable, iterative data point in a continuous learning loop. They deliberately cultivate organizational environments where experimental curiosity is highly encouraged and calculated risk-taking is openly celebrated. By actively destigmatizing the act of failure, they unlock the raw, uninhibited creative potential of their teams, effectively transforming collective vulnerability into a profound, enduring source of organizational strength and agility.

Systems Thinking: Mastering the Art of Connecting the Dots

The defining challenges of our immediate future phenomena such as global climate change, widening socioeconomic divides, supply chain vulnerabilities, and public health infrastructure deficits are fundamentally systemic in nature. They do not exist within neat, isolated silos, nor can they ever be solved with superficial, isolated, linear approaches. Therefore, future leadership demands a robust mastery of systems thinking.

Systems thinking is the advanced cognitive ability to perceive the world not as a collection of linear, isolated cause-and-effect events, but as a highly complex, interconnected web of dynamic feedback loops and relationships. A young changemaker designing a localized urban sustainability initiative, for example, instinctively understands that environmental policies cannot be separated from local economic realities, historical gender roles, urban transit infrastructure, and public psychological health.

By mapping out these intricate, overlapping feedback loops, future leaders are able to design holistic, multi-dimensional interventions that strike directly at the structural root causes of a problem, rather than merely treating its superficial, visible symptoms. This macro-perspective prevents the unintended, harmful negative consequences that so often arise from short-sighted, one-dimensional decision-making.

Inclusive Collaboration and the Radical Decentralization of Power

The historical archetype of the solitary, heroic, infallible leader who dictates commands from an isolated ivory tower is officially dead. The sheer scale and complexity of tomorrow's challenges require the mobilization of collective intelligence. Future leaders understand that they do not need to possess all the answers within themselves; instead, their primary role is to act as facilitators, curators of diverse talent, and empathetic bridge-builders across fractures.

This profound paradigm shift is characterized by a fierce, uncompromising commitment to radically inclusive collaboration. Future leadership actively and systematically seeks out historically marginalized, overlooked, or unconventional perspectives, recognizing that the most resilient, innovative solutions invariably emerge from a rich tapestry of varied human viewpoints.

Furthermore, young changemakers are increasingly practicing the intentional decentralization of power within their organizations and movements. By distributing decision-making authority and empowering frontline team members to act autonomously, they construct highly agile, responsive, and organically adaptive organizational networks. This deeply democratic approach to leadership fosters a shared, intense sense of mutual ownership, effectively transforming passive followers into proactive, passionate co-creators of a shared destiny.

The Unwavering Anchor of Purpose

Ultimately, the single most defining, non-negotiable attribute of a future leader is a steadfast, immovable anchoring in clear moral purpose. In a hyper-connected world saturated with overwhelming digital noise, conflicting metrics, and intense short-term pressures, it is incredibly easy for an organization to lose its ethical bearings. Purpose serves as the ultimate internal compass that reliably guides a leader through complex ethical dilemmas, systemic temptations, and high-pressure crises.

Young leaders today are increasingly and unapologetically driven by a "triple bottom line" mentality a philosophical framework that prioritizes people, planet, and ethical profit in equal, non-negotiable measure. This purpose-driven focus is highly infectious; it inspires deep trust, organically galvanizes local and global communities, and mobilizes diverse resources far more effectively than traditional financial incentives or coercive power dynamics ever could. When a leader's daily, concrete actions align authentically and transparently with their stated moral values, they build an enduring, unshakeable legacy of credibility and social capital.

As the July 2026 edition of Panache Ink International Magazine proudly celebrates the diverse array of young changemakers who are actively shaping tomorrow, we are all powerfully reminded that leadership is never a final destination or a static title. It is an ongoing, continuous practice of service. The future does not belong to those who command the loudest or rule with the heaviest hand, but to those who possess the capacity to listen most deeply, adapt most fluidly, and lead with an unwavering, eternal commitment to human dignity.



Young Climate Leaders Transforming the Planet

By- Rahul Chaurase, Editor

If Not Nature, Then What Is Left?

Everything we possess, every civilization we have built, every innovation we celebrate, ultimately depends upon one thing—nature. We do not exist apart from it. We exist because of it. The air we breathe, the water we drink, the forests that sustain biodiversity, and the climate that makes life possible are not luxuries; they are the very conditions that allow humanity to exist. Yet, in our pursuit of comfort, convenience, and endless consumption, we have begun to exploit the very system that sustains us.

Climate change, rising global temperatures, deforestation, polluted rivers, disappearing ecosystems, and the loss of biodiversity are not isolated crises. They are symptoms of a deeper reality: humanity has forgotten that it is a part of nature, not separate from it.

For centuries, human progress has transformed the world in remarkable ways. Yet progress without responsibility carries consequences. Over the past century, industrialization, excessive resource extraction, and unsustainable patterns of consumption have placed unprecedented pressure on the planet's ecosystems.

The Earth has always demonstrated extraordinary resilience. But resilience should never be mistaken for invincibility. This is not merely an environmental challenge. It is a human challenge. Every climate problem is, ultimately, a human problem. The decisions we make today will determine the quality of life for generations that follow. Fortunately, a new generation is refusing to remain passive observers.

Across India and around the world, young climate leaders are examining problems at their root, questioning unsustainable systems, and creating practical solutions that restore rather than exploit. They understand that protecting nature is not an obstacle to progress—it is the foundation of every meaningful future. They are not simply responding to a crisis. They are transforming the future.

Climate Change Begins with Human Decisions

Climate change did not emerge overnight. It is the accumulation of countless human decisions made over decades. Every polluted river, every disappearing forest, every mountain of plastic waste, and every rising degree of global temperature is the consequence of choices we have made.

If every problem is a human problem, then every solution must also begin with human action. Before transforming the planet, we must first identify the challenges that demand our attention.

1. Deforestation and Loss of Biodiversity

Climate change did not emerge overnight. It is the accumulation of countless human decisions made over decades. Every polluted river, every disappearing forest, every mountain of plastic waste, and every rising degree of global temperature is the consequence of choices we have made.

If every problem is a human problem, then every solution must also begin with human action. Before transforming the planet, we must first identify the challenges that demand our attention.

What can be done?

- Restore degraded forests through large-scale tree plantation.
- Protect existing forests through stronger conservation efforts.
- Encourage sustainable agriculture and responsible land use.
- Support communities that depend upon forests while preserving biodiversity.

2. Plastic Pollution

Plastic has become one of humanity's greatest conveniences—and one of nature's greatest burdens. Rivers, oceans, and landscapes continue to accumulate waste that takes centuries to decompose.

What can be done?

- Reduce single-use plastics.
- Promote recycling and waste segregation.
- Encourage biodegradable alternatives.
- Support innovations that create circular economies rather than disposable ones.

3. Air Pollution

The air that sustains life is becoming increasingly polluted through industrial emissions, fossil fuels, and rapid urbanization. Clean air should never be considered a privilege; it is a fundamental necessity.

What can be done?

- Expand renewable energy.
- Promote public transportation and electric mobility.
- Increase urban green spaces.
- Strengthen environmental regulations and public awareness.

4. Water Scarcity and Pollution

Water is life's most essential resource, yet rivers, lakes, and groundwater continue to face pollution and depletion.

What can be done?

- Conserve freshwater through responsible consumption.
- Restore rivers and wetlands.
- Harvest rainwater.
- Prevent industrial and domestic waste from entering natural water bodies.

5. Climate Change and Global Warming

Rising temperatures, unpredictable weather, floods, droughts, and extreme climate events are becoming increasingly common. These are not distant possibilities—they are realities affecting communities across the world.

What can be done?

- Transition toward clean and renewable energy.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Invest in climate-resilient infrastructure.
- Encourage innovation that balances economic development with environmental sustainability.

Observation Must Precede Transformation

Every solution begins with observation.

A person who cannot identify the problem cannot create the solution. The greatest climate leaders are not extraordinary because they possess extraordinary resources. They are extraordinary because they refuse to ignore what others have normalized.

They observe.

They question.

They act.

The young climate leaders you are about to read about embody this philosophy. They did not wait for someone else to protect the planet. They chose to become part of the solution.

Young Climate Leaders Transforming India

Climate change is often described as a global crisis, but every meaningful solution begins with an individual who chooses to act. Across India, a new generation of climate leaders is proving that age is never a barrier to creating impact. They have observed the challenges facing the environment, questioned the systems that allow them to persist, and transformed their concern into action.

Ridhima Pandey – A Voice for Climate Justice

At an age when most children are learning about the environment in classrooms, Ridhima Pandey chose to defend it in the courtroom. She filed a legal petition urging stronger climate action and has continued to raise awareness about environmental protection and climate justice. Her journey reminds us that meaningful change often begins with a single person willing to question the status quo.

Licypriya Kangujam – Inspiring a Generation

Licypriya Kangujam has become one of India's most recognized young climate advocates. Through her campaigns for clean air and climate education, she has inspired young people to recognize that environmental responsibility is not confined to scientists or policymakers—it belongs to every citizen. Her work demonstrates that awareness is the first step toward transformation.

Vinisha Umashankar – Innovation with Purpose

Vinisha Umashankar represents the power of innovation driven by purpose. Her development of a solar-powered ironing cart illustrates how technology can solve everyday problems while reducing environmental impact. Rather than accepting pollution as inevitable, she questioned conventional methods and created a practical, sustainable alternative.

Soumya Ranjan Biswal – Restoring Nature from the Ground Up

True transformation often begins within local communities. Soumya Ranjan Biswal has dedicated his efforts to restoring mangrove ecosystems in Odisha while educating villagers and students about their ecological importance. His work reminds us that protecting nature is not only about policy—it is about changing the way communities understand and value their environment.

Sneha Shahi – Protecting India's Water Resources

Freshwater is among our most precious natural resources, yet it is increasingly threatened by pollution and neglect. Through her initiatives focused on cleaning and conserving rivers and other freshwater bodies, Sneha Shahi demonstrates that environmental stewardship begins with protecting the resources upon which every community depends.

Kerala's Young Climate Leaders: Protecting Nature at Its Roots

Kerala has long been celebrated for its rich biodiversity, wetlands, forests, rivers, and coastline. Yet these natural treasures face growing challenges from climate change, pollution, and unsustainable development. Fortunately, a new generation of young climate leaders has refused to remain passive observers. They have examined these challenges, questioned existing practices, and dedicated themselves to protecting the ecosystems that sustain both nature and humanity.

Sanju Soman – Restoring Wetlands, Restoring Life

Sanju Soman recognized that wetlands are far more than bodies of water; they are living ecosystems that protect biodiversity, regulate floods, and support entire communities. His work in developing Kerala's first model wetland village in Alappuzha earned recognition from the United Nations and demonstrated that environmental conservation begins by understanding the value of nature before it disappears.

Abhina Jose – Understanding the Human Face of Climate Change

Climate change is not only an environmental crisis; it is also a human crisis. Abhina Jose's research explores the socio-psychological impact of climate change on the tribal communities of Wayanad. Her work reminds us that behind every environmental statistic lies a human story, and meaningful solutions must consider both people and the planet.

Abu Abraham Mathew – Empowering Communities for a Resilient Future

Environmental resilience begins with empowered communities. As the State Lead of the Young India Climate Community (YICC), Abu Abraham Mathew works to engage young people in climate action while strengthening grassroots disaster preparedness across Kerala. His work illustrates that lasting environmental transformation is achieved when communities themselves become active participants in protecting their future.

A Generation That Refuses to Remain Silent

These young climate leaders come from different backgrounds, work in different landscapes, and confront different environmental challenges. Some restore wetlands and forests, others protect rivers and coastlines, while many educate communities, influence policy, and create innovative solutions. Yet they are united by one conviction: nature cannot speak for itself.

They have chosen to become its voice.

They refused to remain passive observers of a changing planet. They understood that climate change is not someone else's responsibility—it is our collective responsibility. Their journeys remind us that climate leadership is not determined by age, influence, or position. It is determined by the willingness to observe deeply, question relentlessly, and act courageously.

Every tree restored, every wetland protected, every river conserved, every community empowered, and every innovative solution created is a step toward a future where humanity learns not to exploit nature, but to coexist with it.

The planet does not need more spectators.

It needs more changemakers.

For if there is no nature, there is no future.

As we face the urgent challenge of climate change, let us remember that, passive acceptance is not enough. We must choose active change.

As Amanda Gorman, an American poet and activist, in her poem *earth Rise* powerfully reminds us:

'We choose to do more than cope with climate change.

We choose to end it—

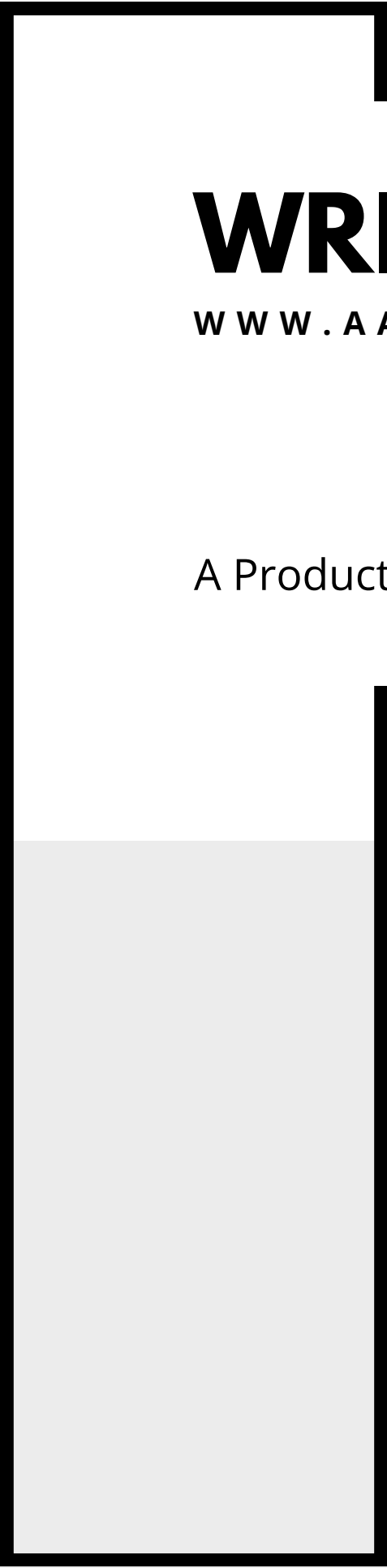
We refuse to lose.

Together we do this and more.

Not because it's very easy or nice,

But because it is necessary.'

The future depends on the choices we make today. Let us choose action, hope, and resilience—because the Earth needs us now more than ever."



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We Pass the Blame

We curse the cities, loud and wide,
And fault the hands that rule and guide.
We speak of laws that fell the trees,
While feeding still our endless needs.

We ask for more, yet dare complain
When forests fall to serve our gain.
We shift the weight, we close our eyes,
And cloak our guilt in borrowed lies.

No throne alone decides the land;
It bends beneath the people's hand.
The blame we cast, so quick and free,
Is but the truth we refuse to see.



**Mr. Abhinaw
Mishra
Student
Prayagraj
Uttar Pradesh**

The Passing of Time

I found my childhood photograph today, A faded smile, a world so far away. The years have gone like footsteps in the rain, Leaving behind both laughter and the pain.

The house is changed, the streets are not the same, The old tree whispers still, but speaks my name In rustling leaves that gently choose to fall, Reminding me that time will have its call.

My dreams have grown, my fears have walked beside, Through seasons of both ebb and rising tide. I lost, I learned, I loved, I let go too-

Yet somewhere, the child in me stays true.

Time takes away, yet leaves what matters most-

The memories no passing can exhaust.

I close the photo, kiss the face within,

And thank the years for all they've written in.



**Ms. Chawa
Nandini Meghana
(Apparna)
Student and Poet
Bargarh
Odisha**

Representathieves

The ballot box had a heartbeat that day.
Hope walked barefoot through the streets,
Waving at every passing promise,
Believing each one like a sacred oath.

They arrived dressed in fine Agbada and polished
smiles,
Their smiles loud enough to silence doubt.
Their words stretched so wide
That even the wind paused to listen.

Ballot papers passed through our hands with quiet
hope.
We marked our trust in ink, thinking it would travel
With them. Democracy wept in silent shame
As our voices grew distant to them.

Meanwhile, the roads began to groan.
The schools coughed out broken dreams.
Hospitals whispered apologies to the dying.
They never remembered the streets that raised them.

The people became ghosts in their own story.
They spoke, but their voices fell to the ground.
Democracy sat in a corner, old and weary,
Carrying the weight of a thousand broken nations.



Mr. Jubril Adesoga
Writer
Lagos
Nigeria

The Dangling Weight

This time Wanga was not looking for love, neither was she looking for adventure. She was looking for a way to survive. But the opportunity to get leverage seemed elusive and her wish, illusive.

"I just hope that he will take me on board, since he has advertised a vacant post for a domestic worker," Wanga heard herself say.

Her husband had once worked for Chegomo's father as a gardener. It was her time to try her own turn, but she wished it was that simple. But the fact that she had no choice made it worse. She was dangling on a thread with a mass of turbulent water waiting for her plunging fall. A new job, no matter how degrading was her only possible escape from the mess she had created for herself.

For a fee of \$10 she had hired an expert to compose a CV for her and she posted it via WhatsApp to the number given in the advert.

Back home, the atmosphere remained tense. Rukudzo was as cold as polar ice and as quiet as death. Their separate heartbeats echoed ominously through the grimy walls of the house. Their separate heartaches needed anything to find comfort except each other's presence. The warmth that once radiated from the same walls had evaporated, leaving behind a dreary chilliness that stabbed the lungs like flaming arrowheads.

Husband and wife still slept in the same room, in the same bed but under the same bedsheets, they were like corpses, victims of gas poisoning or some other malignant cause.

A suspenseful three days passed before Wanga received a message from Chegomo. "I wish I could find someone else to buy your services. For the sake of playing safe, I think we should stick to our separate orbits," read the message.



**Mr. Nhamo
Muchagumisa
Teacher
Mutare
Zimbabwe**

Wanga knew Chegomo was right, but that did not make her situation any better. Time was running out. Rukudzo's zero action in response to her second betrayal of trust made her want to act first. But what action would she take without plunging into a deeper mess?

Her intention had been to inflict irreparable emotional pain on Rukudzo, and she had been successful, but after searching her heart for any sense of gratification, she had found none. She actually realised with a sense of loss that she was not in love with the man she had cheated on her husband with. She regretted the ploys she had used to make her husband find out that she was giving another man his conjugal rights. She had undone all privacy settings on her smart phone so that he could have access to her sensitive chats and media. She would leave her phone on the table when she went to the market or when she went in to take her bath.

She had begun to suspect her husband of having an amoral relationship, though his mistress was a figment of her imagination. His workday had become longer, he cited the retrenchment of some critical staff for the increase in his workload. Because Wanga had once enjoyed the love of another man behind his back, she thought Rukudzo had mastered the game she had once played as a victim of circumstances, as she defined it that way, hoping never to seek the pleasure of playing it again.

This time she had acted dirty with a boiler maker whom Rukudzo had hired to install a boiler in his house. She had stalked the boiler maker into the little space where he was fixing the cystem, just to tell him that his meal was ready. The space was hardly enough to accommodate two adults and allow them to breathe. "You nearly made me scream with terror," the boiler maker said, right into her smiling face.

"I did it for fun; it reminds me of a game we used to play called hide and seek," Wanga said as she stood facing him.

"Of course, this corner would be a suitable hiding place for a clever child," said the boiler maker, not knowing what to say next.

This and other ruses found the two having long sessions of intimacy, in the house and later in some affluent lodges in the city. Wanga felt good about her shenanigans until the day she noticed that Rukudzo had forwarded the videos of herself and the boiler maker to his own phone. Her trick had finally yielded the desired result. She had expected him to erupt with jealous anger, but he had allowed the pain to eat him quietly. And as the pain sifted him to an emotional wreck Wanga realised that he was the only man she had truly loved, and telling him that was too late.

Wanga did not expect Rukudzo to hold back his decisive reaction forever. He was delaying it for effect, to kill her with a more violent sword like asking her to sign divorce papers and surrender her to the freedoms her behaviour had craved.

Wanga had not allowed the guilt feeling of an earlier fidgeting to rebuke her. Rukudzo, despite holding a degree in crop science, had once worked for Chegomo's parents as a gardener. Chegomo, who was Rukudzo's agemate had been so kind to Rukudzo that he treated him as a brother. So when Wanga skipped her first period, her body had been shaken by a feverish condition that had led to her brief hospitalisation and several visits to the city medical centre after her discharge. Chegomo drove Wanga several times to and from the medical centre, until one day they decided to pass through Chegomo's friend's house where they rested briefly before being intimate with each other in the comfort and privacy of a room Chegomo's friend had made available. Wanga had hoped to enjoy more of him, but her husband had got a job with an agro produce company, leading him into leaving employment with Chegomo's parents. Decidedly, Wanga made a vow to herself that she would not allow a repeat of her depraved act to ruin her marriage.

Now she needed Chegomo to rescue her from the mud she had fallen into by just giving her a menial job. At least a job would provide her with somewhere to go. Wanga hoped she would beg Chegomo to help her find somewhere to work if he was reluctant to bring her back into his life, even in her harmless status as a domestic worker. Delay is the prelude of regrets, Wanga thought to herself. She

decided to visit Chegomo in order to hear his rejection from his mouth.

Entering Chegomo's yard, Wanga felt a sense of relief coursing through her veins. Something told her that she had found the solution to her predicament. Chegomo would not let her suffer, if he had been so kind to her in the early months of her marriage. She just needed to make her position clear to him. She was not looking for love, she was looking for a job.

Slowly she walked towards the main door of the mansion that carried with it memories of better days. It was sunrise and the dew dripping from the ornamental shrubs that grew along the perimeter fence reminded her of the freshness of life when she had nothing except Rukudzo. The fragrance of the flowers that surrounded the mansion reminded her of her husband's former job. Was this going to be her emotional sanctuary, where she was going to pick up the pieces of her broken self and start to live again?

Just as she clenched the fingers of her right hand to knock at the door, the door opened in front of her. Chegomo emerged from the house dressed for work. "Good morning Wanga, I never knew you were going to make a follow up," Chegomo said astonished.

"And now that I am here..." Wanga said.

"You have to give me time to think," Chegomo interrupted her.

Why would he give her hope? He was going to take her. A sudden dizziness struck Wanga. Her legs became very light. All her weight had shifted to the trunk of her body. Her vision became blurry. There was a buzzing sound in her ears. She involuntarily folded her legs and collapsed. She knew she would never rise again. A fire started to burn in her chest and there was a numbness in the deeper quarters of her skull that started spreading slowly until the whole of her head was struck with the same numbness. When the numbness reached her chest, she could not feel anything anymore.

By Nhamo Muchagumisa

Wishing Star

Lights lights everywhere,
People laughing and giggling...
My heart pounding ...
at every beat of the sound.
A mask of smile, I wore, I swear..
I walk down the street,
I walk with my barefeet,
Up I look at the bright night sky,
My eyes blurred with tears.
On my cheeks they roll by....
I wish if I could run away far.
Once again I looked up
at the dark sky.
I looked and smiled,
And found some hope...
As there passed a
Wishing Star...



Mrs. Priyanka
Author
Kolkata
West Bengal

Kitchen professional and Home worker

A kitchen professional by name Jayanthi was appointed a month before COVID breakdown in the year 2019. Though she came from a humble background She carried herself with dignity and always arrived neatly dressed.

Her dedication to her work, cleanliness and warm nature made her an invaluable part of the household.

She comes by 8.30 AM and prepares breakfast , lunch and dinner . Jayanthi has a hunch back During the COVID times She used to walk about four km all the way from her home from aynavaram to egmore to cook in our house. Tears would roll down her eyes due to suffering from leg and back ache. Our family was fully dependent on her. Our family consists of three members my wife Saraswati , daughter Priya and myself Ramesh. My wife Saraswati is suffering from rhumetoid arthritis She cannot stand more than ten minutes in the kitchen. Ramesh is a physically handicapped handicapped person who is retired from service in August 2023. Priya has completed her degree Biotech. She has achieved an excellent academic milestone by securing high marks in Biotechnology. Her accomplishment is a matter of pride and serves as an inspiration to her fellow students. She has written exams for pursuing higher studies .

She is preparing diligently for her Mtech in Biotechnology demonstrating remarkable dedication, discipline and enthusiasm for her chosen field.

Jayanthi family consists of her husband John and three daughters Prasanna , christina and Sophia.

John works as a sweeper in the corporation of Chennai. His income was not sufficient to run the family. Both Jayanthi and John got separated due to lot of misunderstandings in June 2025.

Jayanthi's first daughter Prasanna is married who has a daughter by name pritika is studying in kindergarten. Jayanthi used to bring her granddaughter pritika to our house during weekends. she used to play at our home with small toys . She is a bright and intelligent young girl whose hard work, curiosity and enthusiasm for learning are



**Mr. Vijayakumar
Thulasisingam
Retired official
Chennai
Tamil Nadu**

truly admirable.

Jayanthi's second daughter Christina is studying first year degree course in computer science at the Women's Christian College at College Road. A first year student with a keen mind and a gentle spirit, she approaches learning with dedication and hope. Her enthusiasm, perseverance and willingness to explore new horizons make her a promising scholar and an inspiration to her peers. By securing high marks in her examination she has demonstrated not only academic excellence but also unwavering dedication, discipline and perseverance. Her accomplishment is a source of pride for her mother and an encouraging example for her fellow students.

The third daughter Sophia is going for tailoring class. She has studied up to Std 10. She has excelled in her tailoring class through her dedication, creativity and perseverance. Now recently about a month ago Jayanthi has started a canteen at Women's Christian College.

She used to get up early morning at 4 AM and prepare vegetables soup, chicken soup, horse gram soup and takes it to the canteen.

She used to take her daughter Christina along with her. After reaching the college Christina would go assist her mother upto 10AM and leave for her class.

Jayanthi's first daughter Prasanna

Would come at 10AM and assist Jayanthi in her canteen. Jayanthi would come to our house to cook after leaving Prasanna to look after the canteen. Her cooking whether vegetarian or non vegetarian is very delicious. After reaching the canteen she prepares idli, sambar chutney, dosa, bread omlette.

She also prepares vegetables biryani, chicken fried rice.

Jayanthi's culinary skill, dedication and commitment to quality make her an invaluable part of her canteen. Her delicious food and tireless service are greatly appreciated by all.

With quiet efficiency and a keen sense of responsibility, Jayanthi helped procure the household ration. She moved through the bustling shop with purpose, ensuring that every essential item

found its way home. Her thoughtful assistance was a small yet significant act of service,

contributing to the smooth rhythm of daily life and the well being of the household.

Our homemaker by name sheeba comes in the morning at 7.30 AM in a cotton saree ,it's folds arranged with quiet precision ..Her appearance carried a sense of dignity that neither wealth not status could bestow.

She cleans the vessels, puts the washed clothes to dry from the washing machine, sweeps and cleans the floor with almost devotion and dedication.A hardworking and resilient women .

She performs her duty with sincerity, dignity and dedication.
Her strength of character and unwavering commitment are truly admirable and deserving of heartfelt appreciation.

Sheebas is a widow. Her family consists of a daughter by name Anitha , son in law praveen and two grandchildren presita and Alexander. Sheeba picks up her grandchildren from school . The children would stay at her home .
Sheeba used to prepare dinner .

Her daughter Anitha and her husband Praveen would come from office to sheebas house and have dinner with their children and leave for their house who stay separately in a nearby locality.

Sheeba used to take her grandchildren after they come back from school to tuition and bring them back nearby her house.

Every Sunday sheebas family will attend the morning prayers at a nearby Erudhi Andavar Church seeking peace and strength for the day ahead.After the morning mass she would come for work at our house. One day sheeba took my daughter Priya to a nearby gynaecologist when she was not well.

Sheeba also assisted with packing dresses efficiently for Saraswati whenever she goes out of station. She also thoughtfully applied ointment when Saraswati had pain demonstrating genuine care and concern. Her helpful attitude and compassionate service is highly appreciated.

In addition she takes the wheat and red chillies purchased by us and grinds them in a nearby flour.

with hearts filled with gratitude and joy she invited us to share in a sacred milestone for a Holy communion ceremony of their grandchildren Presita and alexander at Erudhi Andavar Church in egmore . Saraswati, Priya and myself Ramesh attended the function. Jayanthi along with her two daughters christina and Sophia also attended the function we presented dress for presita and alexander. Jayanthi gave a small present. The holy communion ceremony was a solemn and uplifting celebration of faith marked by reverence, devotion and spiritual joy. It brought the community together in gratitude and strengthened the bonds of faith and fellowship . After the ceremony lunch was served at nearby community hall. " What a delightful lunch! The flavours blended perfectly and everything was cooked to perfection."

Our cook Jayanthi helps us in purchasing vegetables, fruits and flowers from the market near her home. She also buys Rhumetoid medicines from the clinic close to her home for Saraswati . She also takes cloths for alteration which is done by her daughter Sophia.

Whenever Jayanthi goes on leave sheeba helps us for cooking the food. Whenever sheeba goes on leave Jayanthi washes the utensils, puts cloth to dry from the washing machine , sweeps and mops the floor. Sheeba also helps Saraswati in packing things when we go out of station. Both have an excellent understanding of each other. The kitchen professional and homemaker are sincerely appreciated for their understanding , responsibility and courteous communication when taking leave. Their professionalism and commitment to their work are highly commendable. As pongal drew near the cook devoted herself to preparing the house for the cherished harvest festival. Before the first rays of the festival dawn appeared, she moved gracefully through the rooms , dusting every shelf, window and piece of furniture with meticulous care.

Even on rainy days , where dark clouds covered the sky and the street glistened with puddles , the cook arrived faithfully at the house. Shielding herself from the relentless rain , she made her way through the wet roads with determination and commitment.

Her clothes carried the freshness of the rain but her spirit remained undiminished. Upon entering the home , she quickly settled into her duties , filling the kitchen with warmth and Comforting aroma of freshly prepared food. Her punctuality and dedication despite the challenges of the weather, reflected a remarkable sense of responsibility.

Once when Ramesh had a major fracture of both his hands in February 2023 he underwent a major surgery. He was admitted at Prashant hospital Velachery for three weeks. With both hands severe fractured every movement became a lesson in endurance and every day a step towards healing. Jayanthi along with her children christina and Sophia came and saw Ramesh at the hospital. Her gentle words, thoughtful actions and unwavering attention reflected a compassion that went far beyond her daily duties.

Stricken by the pain of a kidney stone Saraswati was admitted to Apollo first med hospital Kilpauk in February 2025.

With quiet fortitude, she endured the challenge, trusting in skilled medical care and hoping for a swift recovery. At Apollo first med hospital the kitchen professional stood beside Saraswati after her kidney stone surgery, her eyes reflecting deep concern and affection. She spoke softly, offered encouragement and prayed for Saraswati's swift return to normal health. In that moment her kindness shown brighter than any medicine, bringing comfort to a recovering heart.

As Christmas brought its message of peace and goodwill Saraswati presented the gifts with warm wishes sharing in the spirit of generosity that marks the celebration of Christ's birth.

The cook and the home worker received them with gratitude touched by her thoughts and kindness.

As both the kitchen professional and home worker are very cooperative we are able to survive.

We are grateful for their dedication, honesty and hard work

We thank them for their excellent service and commitment.

Thus a household flourishes through the dedication of its kitchen professional and homemaker, whose sincere efforts bring nourishment, cleanliness, comfort and harmony to everyday life.

By Vijayakumar Thulasisingam



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Until We Meet Again...

Every page you have turned is more than ink on paper—it is a collection of ideas, voices, and dreams that have the power to inspire change.

Thank you for being a part of the Panache Ink family and for celebrating literature, creativity, and meaningful conversations with us. Every reader, writer, and contributor adds a new chapter to our journey of connecting minds across the world.

As you close this edition, we hope you carry forward not just the stories you have read, but the inspiration to create your own.

Keep reading. Keep writing. Keep questioning. Keep creating.

Because every great change begins with a single thought—and every thought deserves a voice.

We look forward to meeting you again in our next edition.

Until then, stay inspired.

– Team Panache Ink

