



**SOMAIYA**  
**VIDYAVIHAR**

K J Somaia College of Science & Commerce

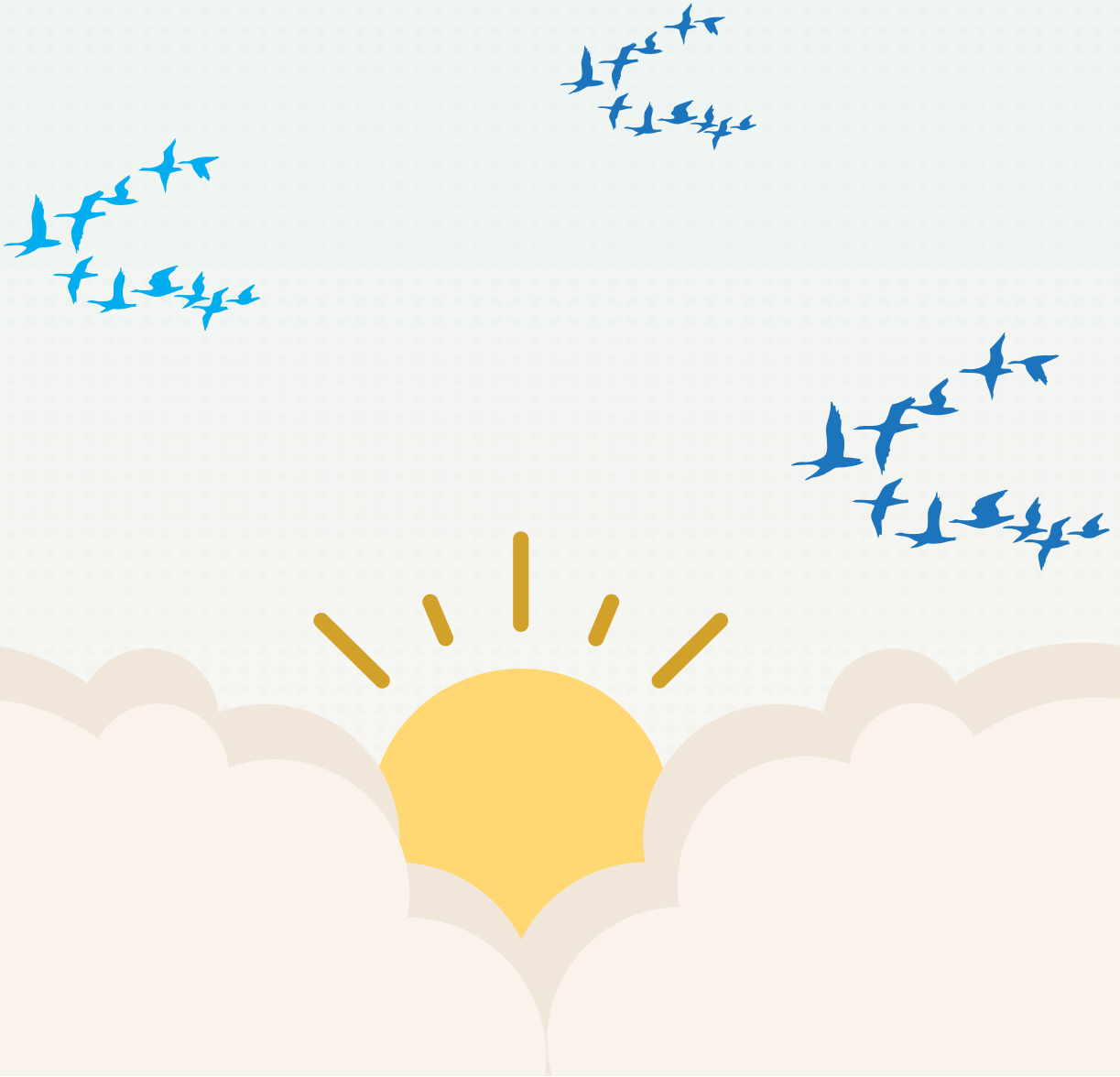
# Campus Calling

KJSSC Alumni Newsletter

VOL. 1 ISSUE NO. 3, MAY 2022

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# FROM EDITOR'S DESK

Something nice has happened in this edition of your Newsletter.

For starters we have received an article penned by one of our readers. It is indeed a pleasure when our Alumnus start contributing to the Newsletter. (See article on Languages and Sounds)

Several noteworthy events took place in recent weeks which have been captured in the Photo Montage. Which makes this issue more pictorial than previous ones.

Thanks to Chitra Trehan ma'am, Chitra Kamath ma'am and Mr. Amit Agare for their help in compiling the database of the recent graduates and the past students of the science and commerce stream. This has vastly increased our database. and helped in updating our records. **With this issue we hope to quadruple our outreach.**

**If you are receiving the newsletter for the first time and would like to receive the earlier two issues, please let us know. We will be happy to oblige.**

In the Alumnus Illuminatus section, we have attempted to highlight the success of students who have graduated in the last two decades or so. If you would like to be featured in this section, please let us know. You do not have to be a super-achiever.

Two of our members who won awards are featured in the Awards and Accolades section.

Sadly, nobody has turned in the Clues Maze word puzzle entries. This is somewhat disheartening and we hope that it is a temporary setback. Please remember that you just have to mail in the answers to each clue. You do not have to trace the word in the maze.

As always, we urge you to send in your contributions. Articles, photos from college days, artwork by you or your family, anecdotes in your life, photos clicked by you etc etc.

Please do remember our perennial exhortation. Forward this Newsletter to your batch mates. Each One Reach One.

Dr. G. S. Rao  
Editor  
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# ACCOLADES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

## AWARD TO MR. AMIT MORE



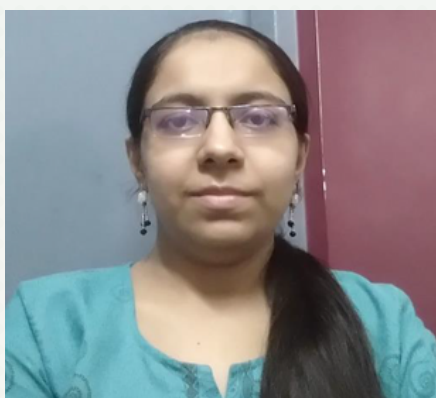
Mr Amit More, Asst Professor in Physics and NSS Co-ordinator of our college received Bamboo Sevak Sanman award at the hands of Hon. Governor of Maharashtra. Under his leadership, the NSS unit of our college promoted the sale of bamboo articles made by tribal women from Palghar District. This award, under the aegis of the government's Vocal for Local programme, helped the women generate revenue during the pandemic.

## AWARD TO MS. VAISHNAVI RANE

Ms Vaishnavi Rane , MSc Zoology won the consolation prize at Avishkar Research Convention, in PG pure science category under the mentorship of Ms Sadaf Zakaria , Asst Prof in Zoology. There were 2500 entries this year.



Vaishnavi Rane



Sadaf Zakariya

Avishkar Research Convention, an Intercollegiate event organized by Department of Student's Development, University of Mumbai, is a platform for development of research culture and scientific temper among the students, scholars and teachers from Under-graduate to the Doctoral level. It is conducted across various streams such as Humanities, Languages & Arts, Pure Sciences, Commerce Management & Law, Engineering & Technology etc. This year, at the 16th Avishkar Research Convention, Ms. Vaishnavi Rane (Msc Part I Zoology student) under the mentorship of

Ms. Sadaf Zakariya ( Assistant Professor in Zoology) won the Consolation Prize at the Final Round conducted on 2nd May, 2022 under Post Graduate Level Pure Sciences category. The competition was conducted online in two phases, the selection round and the final round. This year, overall across the different categories at Avishkar, there were more than 2500 participants.

# LANGUAGES AND SOUNDS

BY YASHASWI NAGAR

The majority of languages depend entirely on the sounds our vocal cords produce, except for the deaf community. There are over six thousand languages in the world and each language is unique and distinctive in its way. But what makes them different other than the script is how they sound. Even if they are the most spoken languages, viz, English, Mandarin, Hindi, or Spanish, they all have different sounds. There are phoneticians who study phonetics and sounds to understand how the sounds are produced. This article explores more about how the sounds of language are produced.

Every single human has been given a unique voice box or set of vocal cords - no two people can have the same voice. Learning about the articulatory organs will help us better understand how the sounds are produced by them. From the nasal cavity to the larynx, these articulatory organs function in a very specific way for each and every language that is spoken. Their working is very much like bagpipes, pushing air through the series of pipes. In our case, it is the trachea, the oral cavity, and the nasal cavity. We control the airflow by manoeuvring our tongue and lips.

Spelling sounds are quite tricky in English, having 'silent' letters such as the 'p' in psychology or the 'k' and 'gh' in knight. How the spelling is written and how it is pronounced can be very different. IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) is used by linguists to transcribe the languages of the world, including English. By using IPA in square brackets and English spelling we can understand the sounds in language comfortably. There are two main types of sounds, Consonants, and Vowels. What differs between them is how they sound to an observer or listener. Vowels have a minimal obstruction in airflow as opposed to consonants when we speak.

There are two types of Consonants, voiced or voiceless. Voiced Consonants involve the vibration of vocal cords while voiceless does not. Every letter in the alphabet has a different sound and according to that our articulatory organs operate. There are dental consonants that require the tongue to touch the back of teeth. Some words require the tongue to touch the hard palate or some to touch the velum or soft palate.



Some are pharyngeal consonants that involve the movement of the back of the tongue. Glottal consonants don't involve movement of the tongue at all. There are different sets of sounds like trills and tap or flap. Each and every consonant is different, and the sound produced by our organs is extraordinary.

Vowels are far more complicated than consonants and difficult to discuss, however, can be discussed in terms of vowel height, vowel place, and lip rounding. High and low vowels, front and back vowels, and mid and central vowels are all very specific assertions. There are many other types of sounds, for example, affricates, clicks, and implosive consonants. Apart from consonants, there are different types of accents as well. These accents also rely on how our articulatory organs operate. Sound waves are unique and interesting, how our brain perceives sounds can also have a huge impact on us. The science of sounds is amazing as we learn more and more about it.

In the next article, I will write about how learning new languages can help in improving our cognitive functions.

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Editor's Note: The author of this contribution completed his Master's in Geology in 2019, and is currently working as a freelance content writer.

# SOLITUDE

BY SOLICITOR VISHWANATH MANNADIAR

The other day a pupil sent me a document, "INTERNS' STARTER KIT", compiled by an esteemed Judge who tempers wisdom with wit, poses as one of the Questions in the Questionnaire, to be answered by those intending to intern with him, "Does solitude scare you? Do you take time off to be alone?"

In recent times, when we are closeted in the confines of our homes, this question set me thinking about the need for and the merit of "Solitude". Sharing a few thoughts.

There is a world of difference between Solitude and Loneliness, I will discuss loneliness, some other time. Solitude is the state of being alone or remote from society, it is a time to reflect on the self. as Anthony Starr has famously stated, it is a 'return to the self'. The lockdown induced by the novel corona virus, is an ideal time to withdraw into the self and celebrate time alone.

Though there is no time or period for meditating on the self, the forced lockdown is the ideal time, to reflect on the life we have led, to look at our habits, particularly those, if found in others, irritate us and we should work on ways and means to rid ourselves of them.

Solitude is the time to look back, draw up a balance sheet of our interactions, beg forgiveness from those we may have knowingly or unknowingly hurt, give abundant praise to all those (even those who we dislike) who have done good for the community and generally clean our minds of all viruses, and, to use a popular expression, 'unclutter' ourselves and clean the soul.

Solitude is being at peace with oneself. Often, we are afraid to be on our own, because we have not trained our mind to reflect. We are all creatures of habit - we are tuned to react, respond to stimuli like lab mice. When left alone we are terrified because there is no stimulus to respond to, nothing to do, this drives the uninitiated crazy. We need to stop reacting to stimulus, we need to look inwards, reflect on ourselves. This is possible only in solitude. Once trained our mind begins to follow us rather than what we are generally used to. If we can achieve this stage even sporadically and for the briefest of moments, we would have elevated ourselves and become better as humans, better contributors to the world.

# FINANCIAL WELLNESS: WAY TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM (PART 3)

BY DR. PRUTHVIRAJ DESAI

Real estate/Property has given decent returns in long term & exceptionally in short term also. Real estate can be broadly classified as Residential premises & Commercial premises. Real estate can be in the form of flat, row houses, bungalows, villas, office space, warehouse/godown, factory shade, agricultural & non agricultural land/plot etc.

Ideally real estate is bought for self occupancy. It appreciates decently in the long term. Buying an own house is everyone's dream, especially in urban areas. At times property is bought for investment purpose. It appreciates in the long term and also generates regular income if rented out. Both self occupied & rented premises are subject to recurring cost/expenses.

Recurring cost/expenses are in the form of society maintenance, property/wealth tax, general maintenance (color, plaster, plumbing, electrical, carpentry work etc.), brokerage etc.

Moreover while buying property one should be careful regarding documentation, proper agreement & registration of it is very necessary. It is safe to buy property with clear title and free from litigation/family disputes/mortgage etc. To be on a safer side investor/buyer should contact committee members of the cooperative housing society in which the property is located. Also checkout government clearances/permission as & where required. Real estate has to be protected from encroachment.

## **Financial Wellness Tip:**

**Observe caution & due diligence while investing your hard money/lifetime savings in real estate/property.**

Hope you like my article, please give your feedback to make it better.

**Dr. Pruthviraj D. Desai (Dr. Pruthvi)**

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| Academician | Financial Advisor | Trainer | Life Coach |

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## ALUMNUS ILLUMINATUS - KANIZA YUSUF GARARI (NEE KANIZA LOKHANDWALA)



Kaniza Lokhandwala during her college days

Kaniza is B.Com graduate (1995 batch) from K J Somaiya College of Science and Commerce and is “proud to connect back to my roots” through this newsletter.

She has had a chequered journalism journey. Upon graduation she started working with Asian Age in Mumbai and then moved on to Bombay Times and transferred to Hyderabad Times in Hyderabad.

On April 5th, 2022 she was awarded by Govt. of Telangana and Hybiz TV for the Hybiz Journalism Award in print media.

In Januray 2022, she bagged the Best Reporter for Covid 19 coverage 2021 Award in Telangana conferred by Indian Medical Association, Telangana Banjara Hills Branch.

This is for her exhaustivereportage of the pandemic for Deccan Chronicle Newspaper - the presence of the virus in China, its spread to India, the lockdown, Covid 19 disease pattern and its impact on people and their livelihoods - have been widely appreciated.

During her tenure with Deccan Chronicle from 2013 to 2020 she reported on health, wellness, pharmaceuticals and minority issues for the newspaper. Her focus has been on providing accurate information to the readers which will guide them towards managing their health issues.





Best Reporter Award for 2021 from Telangana Indian Medical Association, Banjara Hills, Branch

Kaniza has fond memories of Professor Nitin Bhat who taught Advertising; the sprawling green campus and abounding flora and fauna; and “Maggie Corner which was my big time favourite, especially in Mumbai Rains.”

She believes that her current passion of gardening and “creating an eco-system for birds, worms, butterflies and other species to survive” is a direct

outcome of her formative years in the lush green campus.

She thanks her batchmate Chirag Sanghavi, for helping her reconnect with the college. She is also grateful to the KJSSCAA Newsletter “to reach out to us and make us again associate with our College and colleagues.”

She now resides in Secunderabad, AP, “with my family and am a mother of two teenage sons Burhanuddin and Hussain Garari.”



Kaniza Garari with her husband Yusuf and sons Burhanuddin and Hussain



Receiving the Govt of TS and Hy Biz Award of Journalism in Print Media from Honorable Minister K T Rama Rao

**Editor’s Note:** Thank you to Chirag Sanghavi for embodying the true spirit of the Alumni Association – each one reach one

A special word of gratitude to Kanazi’s parents: at our request they managed to locate from their family album a photograph of Kanazi during her college days.



# K J SOMAIYA COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND COMMERCE CONVOCATION ON 09 APR 2022.



Chief Guest – Dr. D. K. Aswal, Director, HS and EG, BARC





# GLIMPSES FROM JAPANESE ART FESTIVAL HELD AT SOMAIYA CAMPUS ON 27 FEB 2022

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DR. G. S. RAO



Miniature Japanese Sculptures



Japanese Official tries his hand at carroms



Visitors try out traditional Japanese costumes





Young visitors learn traditional Japanese crafts



Proudly displaying their Ikebana creations



Japanese Calligraphy workshop



# SOMAIYA CRICKET TOURNAMENT (23 FEB 2022)

## PHOTOGRAPHS BY DR. G. S. RAO



Naresh Medatiya, an alumnus of KJSSC, is a member of the Mumbai Indians Team



Coin Toss by Samir Somaiya



Shri Samir Somaiya receives a miniature cricket bat as a memento



Shri Samir Somaiya with one of the participating teams



Shri Samir Somaiya and Naresh Medatiya with tournament officials

# CLUES MAZE VOL 1, NO. 3

Solve the following clues using words shown in the maze below.

**Remember that you have to send in the answers only. You do not need to trace the answer in the maze.**

One clue has been solved for you.

Send in your entries to: [campuscalling@somaiya.edu](mailto:campuscalling@somaiya.edu)

1. Comeback action (7)
2. Attempts to win (8)
3. Something suspicious (5)
4. Rendered homeless (7)
5. Small role in a movie (5)
6. A hundred-year-old Roman soldier? (9)
7. Advertisement song (5)
8. Solid statues (5)
9. Throw away plastic cash? (7)
10. Evil (4)
11. Don't lie under it (4)
12. Pizza portion (5)
13. Glitters like gold. Or is it diamonds?
14. Keeps records of timber (4)

S	P	A	R	K	L	E	S	C	O	L	B
O	F	F	E	V	I	C	T	E	D	A	E
C	A	F	B	E	V	A	L	L	E	Y	S
I	M	A	O	R	I	S	L	E	S	E	T
A	E	I	U	B	L	O	G	S	I	R	S
L	D	R	N	O	E	B	M	U	L	S	E
A	R	I	D	E	A	N	P	E	T	L	T
Y	A	I	R	M	A	T	I	N	G	L	E
H	C	L	E	A	N	T	H	N	L	A	P
S	S	L	I	C	E	C	I	S	E	R	M
I	I	E	P	R	N	J	U	P	A	R	O
F	D	A	N	O	I	R	U	T	N	E	C



## SOLUTIONS TO CLUES MAZE NO 2

1. Makers of silken strand traps (7) SPIDERS
2. Place to earn a degree (7) COLLEGE
3. Things used to fill up things (5) STUFF
4. There is strength in a small quantity? (4) MITE
5. Illuminating thought (4) IDEA
6. On second thought ask for a second thought (7) OPINION
7. Motherly boss of nursing staff (6) MATRON
8. Pathway for trains (not for cars?) (8) RAILROAD
9. Supports a motion on the clock (7) SECONDS
10. Sceptics have these (6) DOUBTS
11. Just the rural amusement park (4) FAIR
12. No daydreaming at this time (5) NIGHT
13. PPE (6) ARMOUR
14. Emphasize the chandelier (9) HIGHLIGHT

M	E	R	I	T	F	G	E	L	L	O	C
S	A		T	H	G	I	L	H	G	I	H
C	R	A	I	L	R	O	A	D	A	M	P
A	M	E	I	B	C	F	G	N	B	I	Q
L	O	N	D	O	U	B	T	S	F	A	M
M	U	S	E	I	O	B	L	U	B	I	N
N	R	L	A	M	P	Q	T	M	A	R	G
O	P	E	R	B	I	S	H	R	I	N	K
R	S	E	C	O	N	D	S	K	I	I	L
T	Q	V	H	L	I	M	T	L	E	G	S
A	N	B	N	D	O	N	A	M	Q	H	B
M	I	T	E	S	N	P	R	N	P	T	Z

# UPPER BERTH

BY DR. G. S. RAO

This is a story of the Upper Berth.

Which is not related to the caste system so prevalent in our country. Rather it has to do with the Upper Berth in a train coach.

I came into existence in a Railway Coach Factory about 60 years ago. Over the years I have undergone periodic maintenance. My rexine covering has been replaced about a dozen times. The latest was a few years ago. Which makes me feel good. I look as pristine as I did all those years ago. I guess you could say it is the equivalent of going under a plastic surgeon's knife.

Children are extremely fond of me. They would anxiously scan the Reservation Chart posted at the entrance to the coach fervently wishing that at least one of the berths allotted to them was an Upper Berth. And would promptly lay claim to it as "their" territory. Elders, in the party, did not have the agility, much less the desire, to climb up to their territory. Which gave them absolute dominion over the upper berth. Getting to the Upper Berth was decidedly not a simple climb. It was an expedition fraught with dangers posed by slavering monsters (slain with a single swipe of their broadsword), icy slippery crags (surmounted by ensuring a firm footing on the metallic rungs), deceptive crevasses (which one crawled over with bated breath).

They would also scan the reservation chart looking for other kids of their age in the same coach. Who could then be invited as "visiting royalty" to partake of games. That often ended with loud protests and accusations of cheating. The ensuing cacophony would attract the attention of the elders who would indulgently chide them to maintain decorum.

From the Upper Berth I had a "ring side" view of all the activities. Like the well-dressed, middle-aged gentleman who occupied the window seat and had his nose buried in the newspaper. And the elderly man next to him reading the newspaper over his shoulder. After a while, the reader irritably handed over the newspaper to him. Which he graciously accepted and reverentially folded back to its original form and placed it beside him on the seat.



The reader pierced him with raised eyebrows and quizzical “What do you want?” look. With much head-bobbing the old man pointed out that reading a newspaper is a colossal waste of a window seat. And that his grand-daughter is devastated at not getting a window seat. And would he kindly yield his window seat to her. The seat swapping was immediately done. The little girl beaming with gratitude occupied the window seat and the reader went back to his newspaper. Having accomplished his mission, the old man folded his hands across his enormous girth and dozed off in the sitting position.

The two ladies of the travelling party sit cross-legged across each other reciting their ancestral lineage. Evidently trying to establish if there was a boy or girl of marriageable age on either side. There were short digressions about who had brought what for dinner. And how certain foods are best suited for train journeys. The two husbands engaged in a spirited recounting of their career paths and the idiotic good-for-nothing bosses they had to contend with.

The brother and sister duo, engrossed in their Enid Blyton novels, make time to note down the names of railway stations that the train passes. This requires a partnership that the Wimbledon doubles pair would envy. The brother yells “Station! Station!”. The girl drops the book and grabs the notepad. When the station zooms past too fast and they are not able to read the name a sense of gloom descends on them.

Come nightfall, the Lower Berths were unfolded and served as a banquet table worthy of a royal feast. Food items were exchanged and each lady vied at getting the most compliments.

At sunrise the next morning, as we neared the destination, hurried preparations were made. Luggage was repacked, repeatedly counted and neatly stacked. Telephone numbers and addresses were exchanged with assurances of keeping in touch.

Fast forward to 2022.

The Reservation Charts no longer exist. It's on the cell phone. Children still hope for an Upper Berth. So that they can retreat to the lair and lose themselves in a cell phone dreamworld. The businessman traveller is striking a deal on his cell phone. Yelling loudly as the network becomes weaker. The corporate executive is pleading with his subordinate to send him the Excel sheet which he needs for an early morning client meeting. The 12-year-old boy is tracking the progress of the train on his cell phone. "4 kms to the next station" he announces. His parents approve the idea of ordering pizza online, which will be delivered right to their seat at the next station.

Come nightfall, everyone is glued to their cell phones. No sign of the camaraderie of yore. The guy in the Upper Berth across from me carefully sets the morning alarm on his cell phone. Gently glides it into the pouch attached to his trouser belt and drops off to sleep.

At 5:00 AM the alarm starts ringing. It is on full volume. Slowly people in the coach start stirring at the sound. But the guy is blissfully oblivious. After a while someone from way down the coach yells: Whose alarm is ringing? Another voice pipes in: Shut it off Yaar. Finally, an old woman in one of the lower berths flings off her covering and rises to her feet. I can tell that she is upset. She has the air of a school principal. And a strict disciplinarian at that. She starts prowling the coach, trying to identify the errant phone. She reaches the guy on the Upper Berth across from mine. She is all of five foot nothing. Cranes her neck and cocks an ear in the direction of the phone. Like a predator homing in on the prey. A series of quick nods. Yes! Found it. Two rigid fingers reach up and jab the guy in the waist. He jerks awake. Looks down at her and recoils. "Your alarm has been ringing", she admonishes sternly. "Has been ringing for quite a while", listing another offence. "Everybody is now awake" adding one more felony. "Sorry! Sorry!" he mumbles sleepily. Fumbles for the phone and switches off the alarm. People all over the coach start going back to sleep.

"What Sorry Sorry you are telling? What use now after waking up the whole coach. My station is not due for another three hours. I won't be able to get back to sleep. Ruined my whole day.

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