



asia

**SURVEEP**

The Arun Veembur Memorial Quiz



# ASIASWEEP 2024

## The Arun Veembur Memorial Quiz

*Shout out to*

**QFI Chennai, K-Circle Hyderabad, Bombay Quiz Club, SEQC-Goa, Bengal Quiz Foundation, Delhi Quiz Club, Dhemaji Quiz Forum, Enquiry: Jadavpur Univ Quiz Forum, Gyanartha Quiz Club Thrissur, and the Potpourri, Literary and Quizzing Club–IIM Udaipur and to quizzing communities in Ahmedabad, Kochi Kozhikode, Manipal, Siliguri, Thiruvananthapuram, and Kuala Lumpur**



# **Edition X**

*Researched by*  
**Nagaratna 'Partikal' Patil**  
**Dibyendu Das**  
**Arul Mani**  
**Nikhita Thomas**

# ASIASWEEP 2024

## SECTION I

### RULES

40 questions

Stake +1 on a maximum of 20

No negatives

**Max. score: 60**

**Dancers perform during the second UNESCO Symposium titled Reflection of the Two Decades of X in November this year. If the Symposium was held in Banda Aceh, Indonesia, what was the subject?**



*Qn 1.*



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# **ANSWER**

The 2004 Indian Ocean  
Tsunami

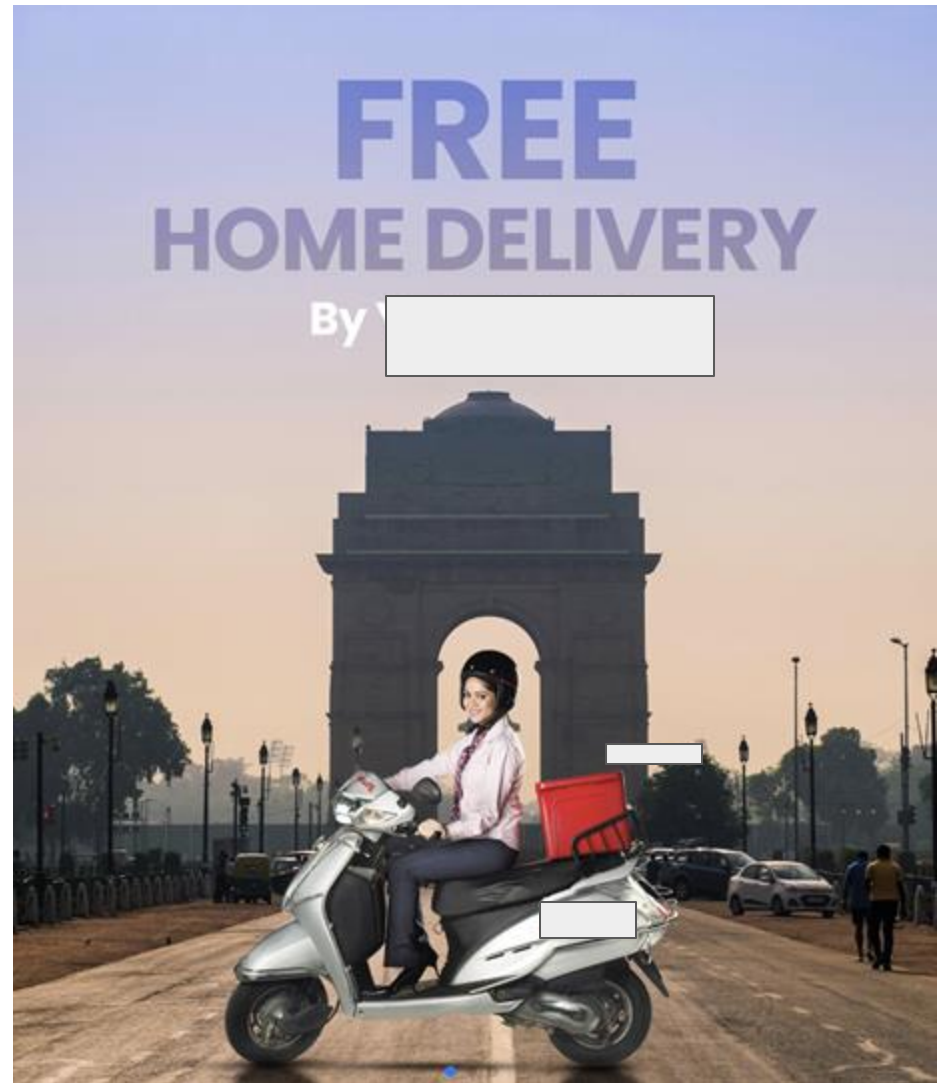




## Qn 2.

**This is a brand with a marketing strategy that was once described as “conquering the world with bacteria and beaming ladies”.**

**Just name the brand.**





**ANSWER**

Yakult



## Qn 3.

**This is an alliteratively named cocktail available in Japan-themed eateries in South Korea. It is served out of a teapot and is usually so solid that it has to be cut with scissors after being poured.**

**Either give us the alliterative name, or tell us what unusual ingredient from the world of the living goes into this cocktail?**







# **ANSWER**

Tuna's Tears  
OR  
Eyeball/lens of the tuna





## Qn 4.

**Batujaya in Indonesia contains the oldest known Hindu temples in the region. They were built using blocks containing an indigenous material that has up to 95 percent silica.**

**What is this material?**



# Qn 4.





# Qn 4.





# **ANSWER**

## Rice Husks





**On the left, we have the Emperor Babar. On the right, we have an excellent Russian citizen in traditional costume. What common six-letter word is used for these outfits from two different worlds ?**







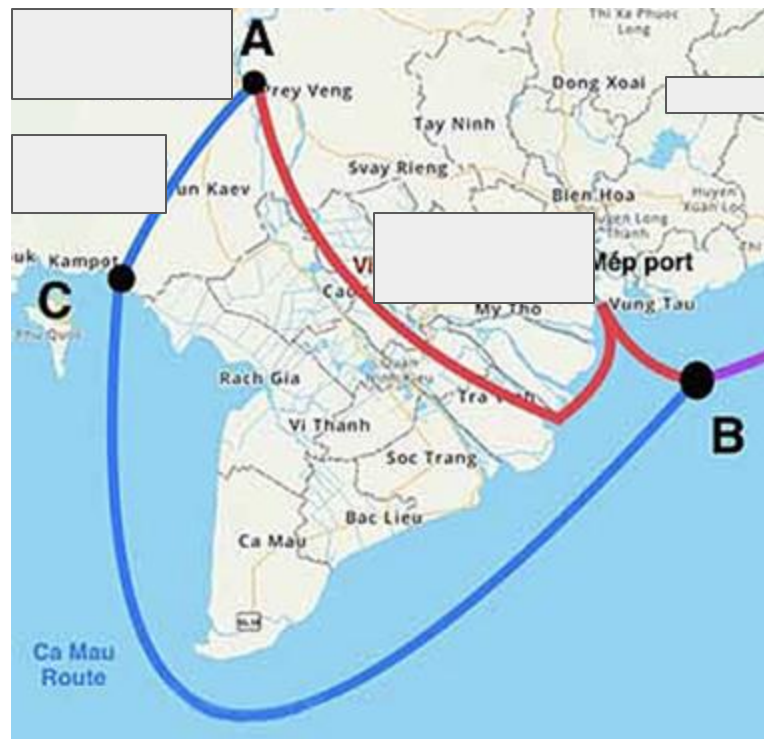
# **ANSWER**

## Kaftan



## Qn 6.

This controversial project has been a bone of contention between two countries. One sees advantage in minimising dependence on the other, while the other has been raising trade and environmental concerns. Either name the project or identify A in the map.







**ANSWER**  
Funan Techo  
OR  
Phnom Penh



## Qn 7.

**The sale of this villa bordering Inye lake via an open auction for around \$100-150 mn did not find a buyer in August 2024. The property was put up for sale according to the orders of the highest court of the country due to a dispute between its most famous occupant and a sibling. Name the famous occupant.**







# **ANSWER**

Aung Saan Suu Kyi

**After he peeled off the duct tape and enjoyed the \_\_\_ in a press conference held on November 29th in The Peninsula Hong Kong, one of the city's priciest hotels, in the popular shopping district of Tsim Sha Tsui he quipped: "It tastes much better than other \_\_\_\_\_. Indeed, quite good,". What are we talking about, though the object that was enjoyed was not the original ?**





# ANSWER

Crypto entrepreneur Justin Son eating the banana that was bought as part of the auction of the artwork called 'Comedian' for \$6.2 million



*Qn 9.*

**This city situated in Lebanon near River Litani, was known as Heliopolis. During Roman times, the temple of Jupiter (below) attracted thousands of pilgrims with its colossal structures. Currently a world heritage site near Beirut, name this city, which has been threatened by bombing of the Israeli Defence Forces.**







**ANSWER**

Baalbek

## *Qn 10.*

**In 1989, in Japan, it was referred to as the “1.57” shock, in response to which the Angel Plan was developed. South Korea recently registered the world’s lowest value at 0.72. What is being referred to ?**





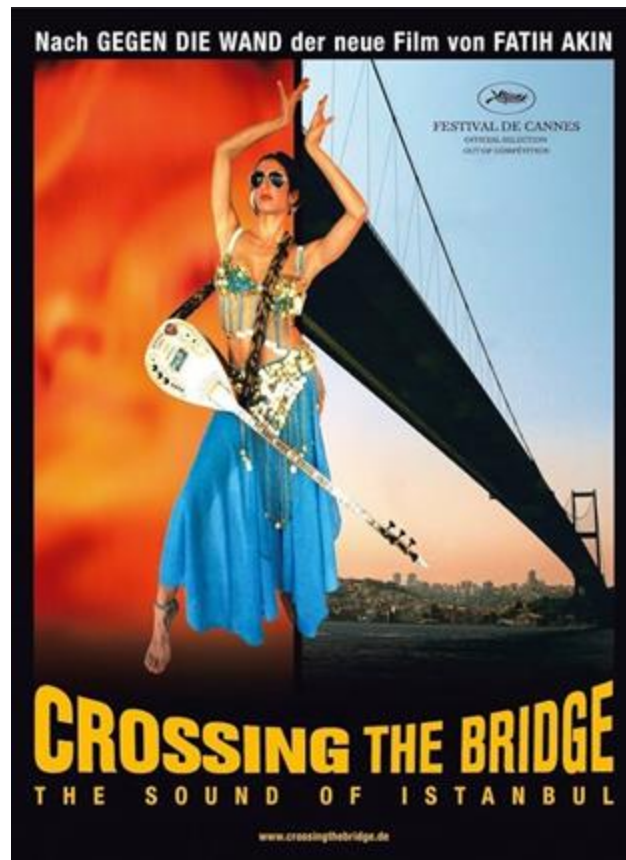


# **ANSWER**

National Birth Rate

*Qn 11.*

**Which musical instrument is featured on the cover of this 2005 film screened at Cannes ?**





**ANSWER**

**Oud**



**Jannik Sinner won the inaugural exhibition tournament by defeating Carlos Alcaraz in the final and claimed the biggest prize check in tennis history, surpassing Novak Djokovic's prize of \$4,740,300 at the 2022 ATP Finals. Novak Djokovic defeated Rafael Nadal for the third-place trophy. Which tournament named after the number of players and their status ? In which city was it hosted ? Name any one.**



# **ANSWER**

**Six Kings Slam held at Riyadh, the six players being Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal, Jannik Sinner, Carlos Alcaraz, Daniil Medvedev, and Holger Rune  
Either Six Kings or Riyadh**

**A biannual fair/festival is held at his shrine at Chheuria village at Kumarkhali, Kushtia celebrating this mystic, songwriter, singer, social reformer, and secular thinker. Name the person, also the subject of an Allen Ginsberg poem.**





# **ANSWER**

**Lalon Fakir (Lalon Shah). The Ginsberg poem is titled *After Lalon***

## Q.14.

**Hosoe Eikō, a rising photographer, published in 1963 under the title Barakei (*Ordeal by Roses*), one of the most original photo books featuring \_\_\_ in a variety of poses, proudly showing off his muscular physique. The photographs were taken mostly at the writer's home in the Magome district of Tokyo. Name the writer.**







# **ANSWER**

**Yukio Mishima**



**It is estimated that the Govt of this Asian country is the world's fourth largest holder of bitcoins having a value upwards of \$750 million. The country's move into cryptocurrency mining began in 2019, using its rich hydroelectric power to fuel green mining operations. One of the biggest facilities was built on the ruins of the former Education City project. Which country ?**



**ANSWER**

**Bhutan**



***The Road From \_\_\_\_\_* by Sri Lankan award-winning author Nihal de Silva is about the relationship between army officer Wasuntha, and a young female LTTE informant, Kamala and the story of their danger-filled journey from X to Colombo through the Wanni jungles and the Wilpattu wildlife sanctuary. The author, an avid bird watcher, ironically, was later killed in a mine blast in the same sanctuary (along with other tourists) in 2006, thought to be triggered by LTTE. Fill the blank with a strategic location. (X and the blanks refer to the same place)**



**ANSWER**

**Elephant Pass**

## Qn 17.

**This supernatural creature with a name roughly translating to lightning because of its speed, is usually depicted with wings, though originally never stated to have them. According to tradition, the creature is most famously associated with a travel to Al-Aqsa and an ascent from there. Name the creature.**







# **ANSWER**

**Buraq.**

**It carried Muhammad the Prophet on the Night of the Isra in 621 CE to Al-Aqsa mosque and then embarked to heavens.**

***Voice of Baceprot* is an Indonesian rock trio who play while wearing the hijab and made waves after appearing in Glastonbury Music Festival this year. The word 'Baceprot' comes from the Sundanese language spoken in West Java, meaning "\_\_\_". It was chosen to represent the type of music that they play. Fill up the blank.**









**ANSWER**

**Noisy**

## Qn 19.

**This double pancake with a sweet bean paste sandwiched in between is a favorite of the famous anime character Doraemon. The name of the confectionary supposedly derives from that of a 'gong' left behind by a Samurai, which a farmer then used to fry the pancakes. Name the sweet.**





**ANSWER**

**Dorayaki**



## Qn 20.

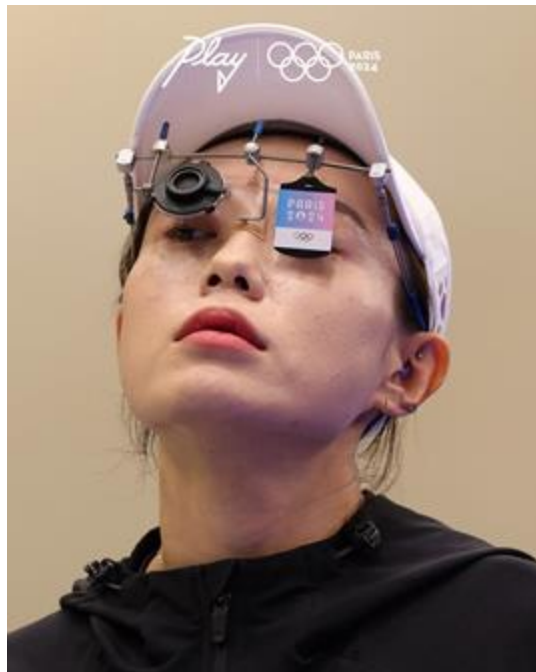
Images from an ebay listing for a “plush elephant cotton keyring towel.” **What is the significance of this particular towel?**





# ANSWER

It is the plush toy towel carried by South Korean sharpshooter Kim Yeji, whose image went viral during the 2024 Paris Olympics. It belongs to her daughter.





## Qn 21.

Japan's Ramune is among the few that still employ Londoner Hiram Codd's 1872 patented design (see image). **'Ramune' is a Japanese borrowing of which English word?**







# ANSWER

Lemonade



Modification made by internet trolls to the Türk Hava Yolları Anonim Ortaklığı or Turkish Airlines logo referring to a very specific and recent tourism trend. So common is this phenomenon that some workers at Istanbul airport now call themselves “The Turkish \_\_\_\_\_.” **What trend? OR Wordplay your way into filling in the blank.**









# ANSWER

Men leaving Turkey in hordes after their hair transplant/ hair tourism. OR

Turkish Airlines.



## *Qn 23.*

The variation in colour depends largely on the use of caramelised sugar. Two kinds by colour are commonly found in Singapore.

The green variety, nyonya \_\_\_\_ derives its colour from pandan leaves / extract. In the Hainanese \_\_\_\_, more brown, the green is masked by the use of caramelised sugar and sometimes honey as well.

**What am I talking about?**



# ANSWER

**Kaya / Coconut Jam**



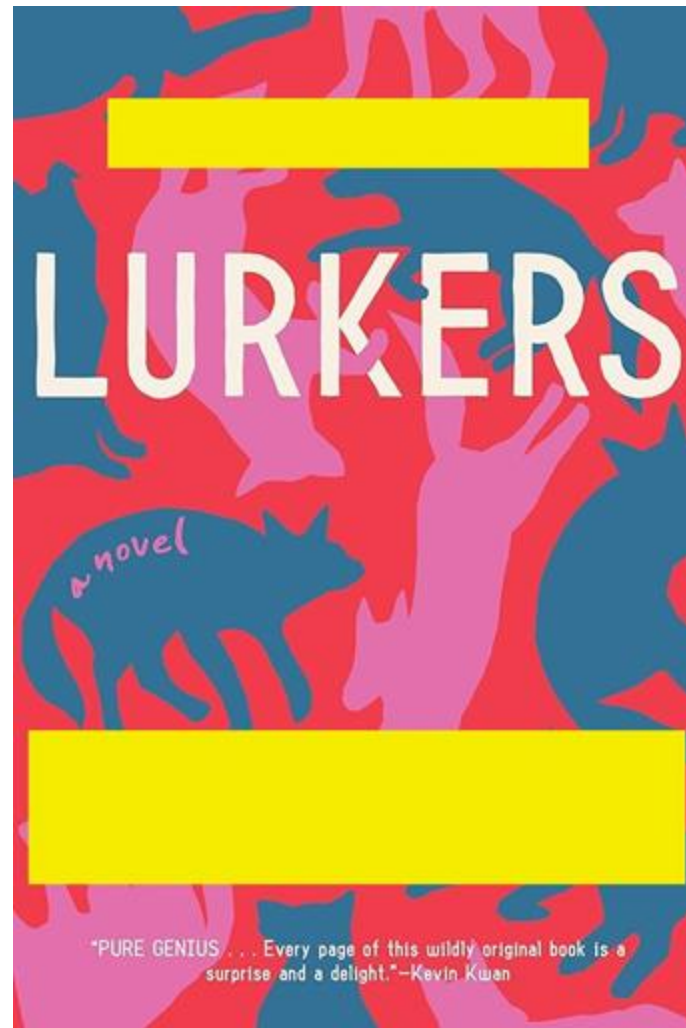


## Qn 24.

The title of her most recent project (image next slide) rhymes with the title of her 2018 project that recalled the events of a summer in 1992 and is sometimes described as a time capsule of Singapore.

In all golden afternoons  
there are movers,  
there are shakers,  
and then,  
there are \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (8)

**FITB for the name of the 2018 project. Also name the writer.**

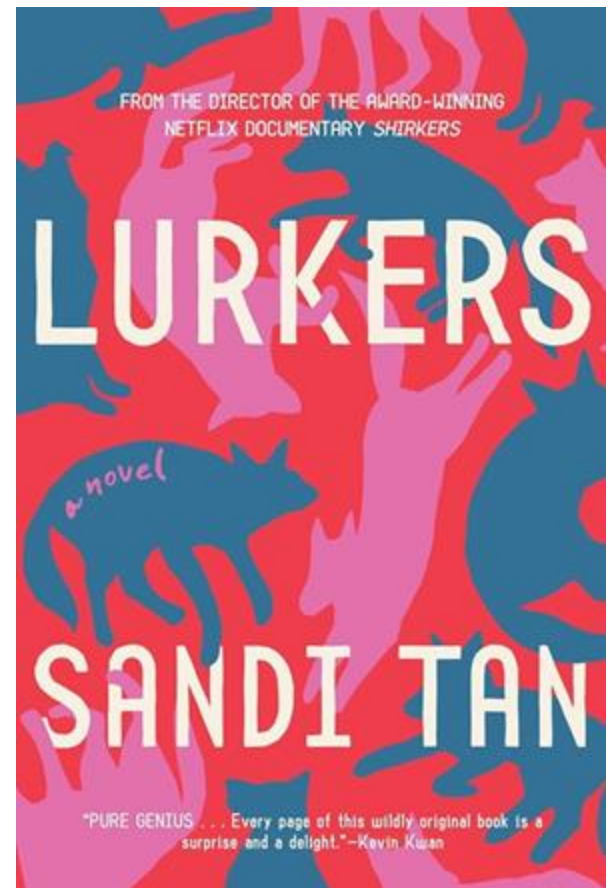






# ANSWER

Shirkers  
Sandi Tan





**Sung by popular vocalists like Issa Al-Laith and disseminated through various social media platforms including YouTube, Twitter and Telegram, zawamil is considered to be one of the most successful parts of propaganda carried out by which organization?**



**ANSWER**

*Houthis*

***Cà phê trứng* is a Vietnamese coffee based drink and *teh talur* is an Indonesian tea based drink. Which unique ingredient is used in the preparation of both?**





**ANSWER**

*Egg*

## Qn 27.

What “prediction” is celebrity pygmy hippo Moo Deng making in the pictures shown below?









# **ANSWER**

*Donald Trump winning the  
2024 US election*

***Qn 28.***

**Kyrgyzstan's main international airport, located in its capital city, is named after which epic hero?**



**ANSWER**

*Manas*



**Which city/ special capital region is set to replace Jakarta as the capital of Indonesia?**



**ANSWER**

*Nusantara*

**The four arts of the Chinese scholar, were the four main academic and artistic talents required of the aristocratic ancient Chinese scholar-gentleman. Calligraphy, painting and playing the guqin were three of them. What was the fourth?**





**ANSWER**

*Go (the game)*

*Qn 31.*

**Which West Asian religious group indirectly gets its name from the Persian word for 'tailor'?**







**ANSWER**

*Druze, from darzi*

**From which Sanskrit word does the 'pin', an arched harp from Cambodia, derive its name?**



**ANSWER**

*Veena*



**According to legend, Lam Drukpa Kunley was once giving a religious talk to a gathering. The people requested that he perform a miracle. He agreed, on the condition that he would be fed lunch – a whole cow and a whole goat. Doing as he commanded, the people offered him his massive lunch. The Tibetan saint devoured the flesh of both the animals and left out the bones. Then he fixed the head of the goat onto the body of the cow and with a snap of his fingers uttered a mantra. The animal instantly sprung to life and began grazing on the meadows. Which animal did he supposedly create?**



**ANSWER**

*Takin*

**Nicknamed "Father Hardstone" the only son of aristocrat Nawab Azeezuddin Khan, is a spy and a crime fighter with a fondness for domesticating dogs and snakes. Identify him or his creator.**





# **ANSWER**

*Ahmad Kamal Faridi/ Inspector  
Faridi/ Colonel Faridi*

**OR**

*Ibn-e-Safi/ Asrar Ahmad*

**One among four new species recently discovered in the limestone hills of Mueang district in Lopburi province, this herb grows up to 30 cm tall and has succulent stems that are reddish-purple in color throughout. It is called Yard Vanom Pak in Thai and *Microchirita* \_\_\_\_, with both names referring to what it resembles in appearance. What does it resemble?**

*Qn 35.*



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**ANSWER**

*Monkey*

**Native to central and eastern China, the Chinese gooseberry was given an alternate name by an exporter after being advised by a United States client that border officials might associate gooseberries with the risk of anthrax. What alternate name which caught on well enough to largely displace the original?**







**ANSWER**

*Kiwifruit*

**One was introduced by the Portuguese in Bandel, West Bengal, while the other was started in Kalimpong, West Bengal by Father Andre Butty, a Jesuit parish priest. Named after their respective cities, what are they?**



**ANSWER**

*Cheese*



**He was born Nguyễn Sinh Cung, but is believed to have used anywhere between 50 to 200 pseudonyms over his lifetime. The name that he is best known by means “bringer of light”. What is that name?**



**ANSWER**

*Ho Chi Minh*

**He had built himself a tomb in Kesh, but when he died the passes to Kesh were snowed in and he was ultimately interred in Samarkand alongside his grandson. Who?**





**ANSWER**

*Timur*

**“\_\_\_ is actually my favourite Korean drinking game that I play with my friends back home. It's so simple, puts a smile on your face, and breaks the ice at any party. One night in the studio, I taught my crew how to play the game. Everyone was fascinated, especially when I started the chant, so we played around with it, and I said we should make a song out of it... and after Bruno joined the track, the rest became history!”**

**What drinking game is Rosé talking about here?**







# ANSWER

*Apt (Apateu acceptable)*

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## SECTION II

### **RULES**

24 questions

Max. score:48

Two-pointers

Each part is worth one point

Please follow the suggested order for parts A and B

Qn 41.



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## Qn 41.

**This is a WWII B-29 Boeing Superfortress plane called the HH Arnold. You see nine markings on the nose. What distinction do they represent? Where is the sign of the distinction derived from?**







# **ANSWER**

To fly over the Himalayas was  
to cross the Hump.

The camels are thus a  
reference to having crossed  
the Himalayas nine times.

## Qn 42.

Often referred to as the Young Marshal, Zhang Xueliang (on the left) took over command when his father was assassinated by foreign agents. He did something out of concern on 12 December 1936 that changed history, and is today lauded as a patriotic act. His reward was living under house arrest for fifty years before being allowed to leave for Honolulu where he died in 2001.

**What happened on 12 December 1936? What changed as a result?**









## ANSWER

The Xi'An Incident—in which Zhang abducted Chiang Kai Shek for about 12 days in order to convince him that it was necessary to make peace with the Communists and take on the Japanese occupiers instead. Chiang did just that till WWII ended.

## Qn 43.

**A certain object was brought to this building which then took the name Kharqa Sharif in 1768. The man who brought it is buried alongside. The object is said to have been crucial in helping him become king and form a modern state. Mullah Omar took it out in 1998 and used it to cement his claims to power. Name the object and the man who brought it to this city.**









# **ANSWER**

The cloak of the Prophet  
Ahmed Shah Durrani/Abdali



**The City Palace Museum in Jaipur has a version with 160 full page illustrations. This text was laboured over by a committee of four who worked with explanations provided by those who knew the language of the original text. Faizi was brought in to spruce the text.**

**Known by a name meaning Book of Wars.  
Either name this text or tell us what it is an abridgement of. Who commissioned this 1582 effort?**





# **ANSWER**

Razm-Nama/Mahabharata  
Akbar





## Qn 45.

**This is the range of the species *Desmostachya bipinnata*. In ancient India, it had two names. One of these names was identical with one of a well-known pair, leading to a story in some traditions where the second person in the pair is created erroneously out of *Desmostachya* in fear that the first was dead or lost. Give the local name for *Desmostachya*, and identify the pair.**





# **ANSWER**

Darbha or Kusha grass  
Lava and Kusha



## Qn 46.

The lady in the picture achieved a certain Indian 'first' in the year 1952. This photograph by her husband from 1956 inspired a certain act of restoration much later.

Who is she? or What is her claim to distinction?  
Explain the restoration.





Qn 46.



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# **ANSWER**

Indrani Rahman, India's first Miss Universe participant

The MF Husain painting in the the photograph had disappeared and was presumed lost. He used this image to recreate the painting.



## Qn 47.

Hsu Chen Kueng, founder of Gold Apollo, is seen here making an official statement that BAC Consulting KFT, registered at the building right in Budapest has a license to use their product.

**What was he responding to? What did he say that the BAC products did not have as a part of his statement?**





**Qn 47.**



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# **ANSWER**

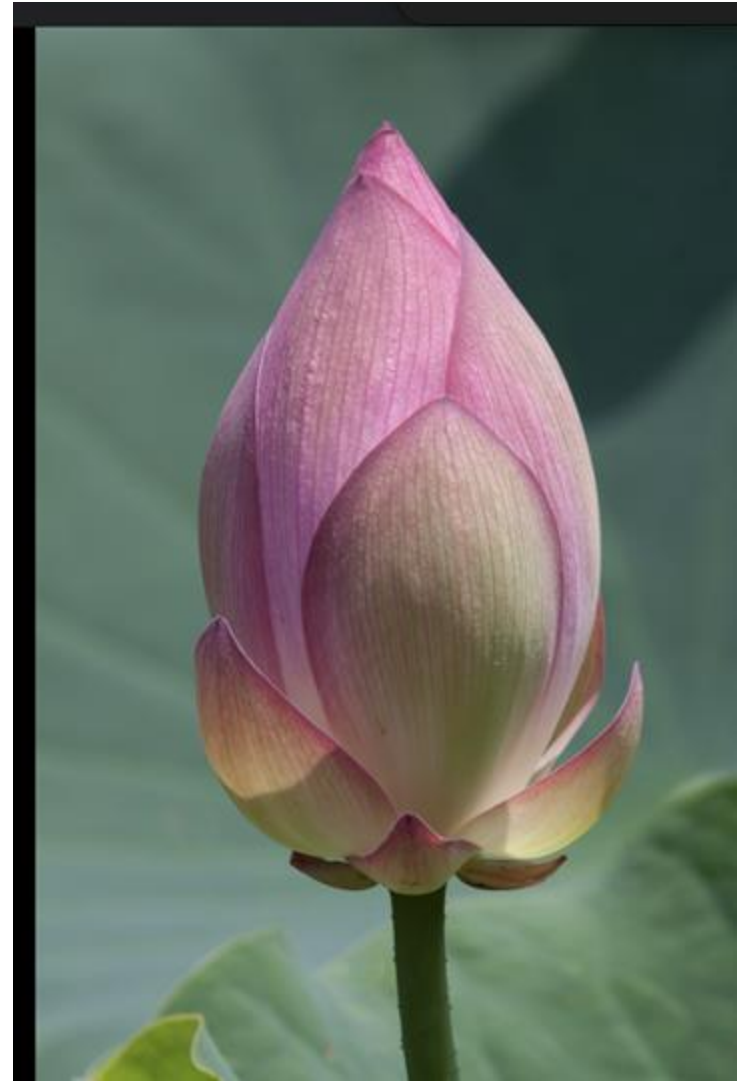
Pagers used in Lebanon and Syria were traced to his company. They didn't have a 'Made in Taiwan' mark.



The originals were named X after image right.

Centuries later, one part of a new power elite went in for imitation Xs called flowerpots. The flowerpots had a raised platform which allowed a practical purpose while also allowing something associated with X.

**What are X? Who used the flowerpots?**







## ANSWER

Lotus shoes, used by Chinese women with bound feet

Women of the Manchu elite did not bind feet, but wanted the mincing gait which was considered beautiful, and thus the flowerpot shoes were born.

They also allowed horse-riding.

## Qn 49.

**He started life as George, embraced Buddhism, studied at Santiniketan, and eventually took the name Ananda. In 1952, something he created inspired by looking out of a plane window was given elevated status. Ten years later, after hearing about a government decision, he complained to his nephews that his head had been removed and another fixed, and ended his life with sleeping pills in pique. Either identify him, or tell us what he created. What was the change that caused all this trouble?**









## ANSWER

Ananda Samarakoon who wrote the Sri Lankan National Anthem and set it to music.

His words were Namō Namō Matha, but the new version went Sri Lanka Matha—a change sparked by the sudden death of two PMs.

**In 1988, Rajiv Gandhi launched Operation Cactus in response to an urgent appeal for help made after a conspiracy launched by a businessman named Luthfi in cahoots with the PLOT (People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam) was put into action.**

**The attempted coup was crushed in no time.**

**In which country did this happen? Who was the long-serving dictator for whose benefit Operation Cactus was launched?**



**ANSWER**  
Maldives  
Maumoon Abdul Gayoom





**This war memorial from country X figures on a 2021 stamp issued in Y in honour of the 50 years of friendship between X and Y. If the monument is called Jatiyo Smriti Soudho, then name X and Y in the correct order**





# **ANSWER**

X: Bangladesh

Y: India



**Veddrig Leonardo became the first non-badminton gold medal winning athlete for his country in Paris Olympics 2024. Which country did he represent and in what sport ?**







# **ANSWER**

**Indonesia, Speed-Climbing**

**X is a protest slogan that originated in Kurdish women's movements that gained global recognition after the protests in Iran following the death of Mahsa Amini in 2022. The graphic novel which takes its name from X is a collaboration brought together by Y. Give X and Y.**





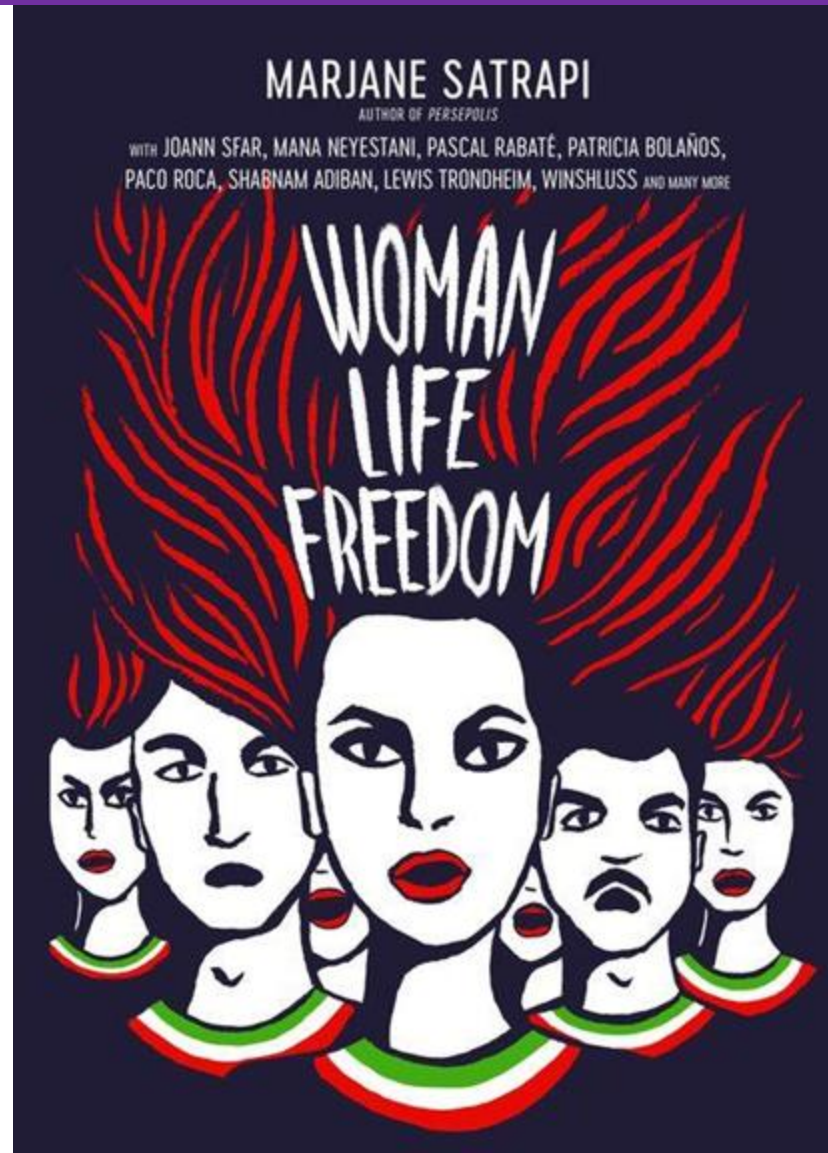




# ANSWER

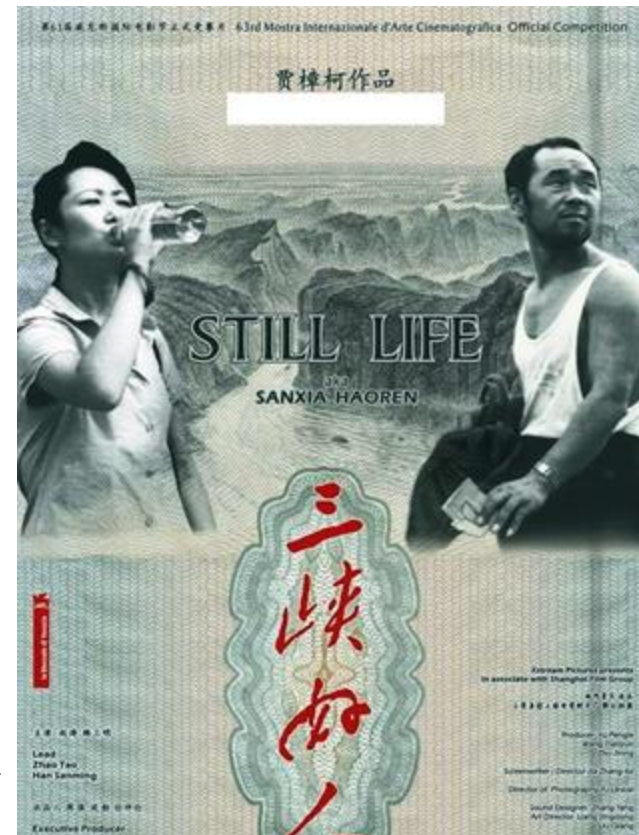
**X = Woman, Life,  
Freedom**

**Y = Marjane Satrapi**



## Qn 54.

This 2008 Golden Lion winner is set in the town of Fengjie, on Yangtze river, featuring two main protagonists, Han and Shen, searching for their spouses. It is also a drama-documentary about an entire city preparing to face the consequences of a prestigious project, envisioned by Sun Yat-Sen and Chiang Kaishek. Name the famous project. Also name the director whose long-term collaborator and wife, Zhao Tao, appears as Shen in the film.







# **ANSWER**

**Three Gorges Dam, Jia Zhangke**



## Qn 55.

**X travelled to a film festival in a remote island in 2006 to meet Y in person. Though the maestro was initially opposed to meeting X, he relented after seeing X's 1997 film Z - on the American suburbia in the 1960s. X on the other hand said that his 'life changed' when he saw Y's films as a 18-year old. Pic from the meeting. Give X, Y, Z. (any two)**





# **ANSWER**

**X → Ang Lee**

**Y → Ingmar Bergman**

**Z → The IceStorm**

**ANY TWO**



*Qn 56—two slides.*

**A. The Memories Aicha Luxury Camp consists of 55 tents, nestled in the heart of the \_\_\_ \_\_\_. Bordered by rugged mountains and the stunning Arabian desert, this camp lets you wake up in the wild outdoors without compromising an ounce of luxury according to its website. Fill the two blanks with a place name.**







**B. Which book, inspired by events of 1916-18 and published about a decade later, lends its title to this tourist attraction in the same region?**







# **ANSWER**

*A: Wadi Rum*

*B: Seven Pillars of Wisdom*





## Qn 57.

Book cover (image next slide) for *Aam Antir Bhepu* (The Mango Seed Whistle), the 1944 abridged version of a novel. It was illustrated and designed by X for \_\_\_\_\_ (6) Press, a publishing house founded by D.K.

The press takes its name from a diminutive of the Old French word meaning “gesture or motion of the hand,” which in turn borrows from a Latin term for, among other things, “a token, omen, or constellation.”

**Name the novel. ID X. And FITB. (ANY TWO)**

Qn 57.



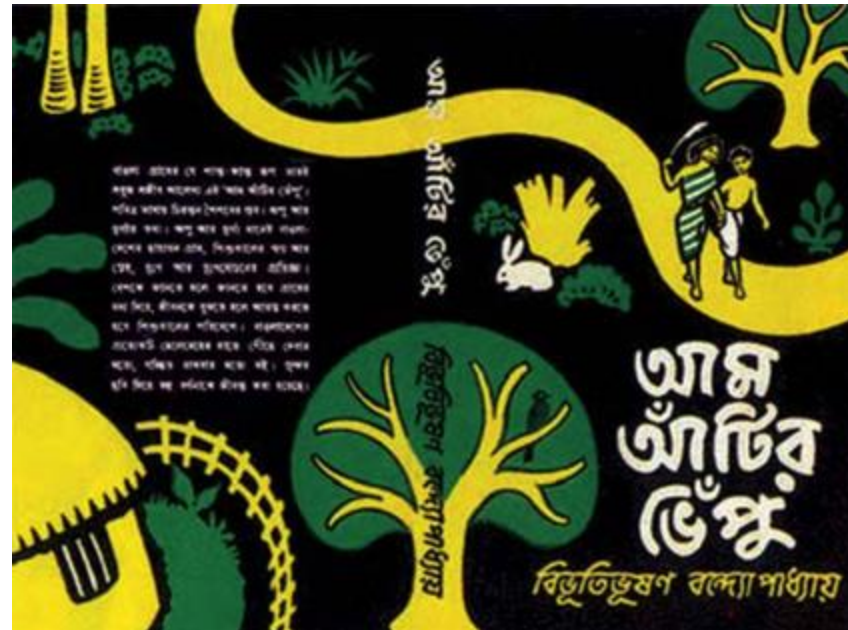
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# ANSWER

*Pather Panchali*  
Satyajit Ray  
Signet Press





## Qn 58.

Album art for the debut album X, which featured stenciled airplanes, guns, tanks and bombs, briefly landed the artist in the US Homeland Security Risk List. Among other things, this verse in the song *Sun Showers* might have had something to do with it—

Quit bending all my fingo  
Quit beating me like you're Ringo  
You wanna go?  
You wanna win a war?  
Like \_\_\_\_, I don't surrendo!



Fill in the blank with an initialism. Also ID X.





# ANSWER

PLO - Palestine Liberation Organization  
Arular by M.I.A./Accept M.I.A.'s debut album





## *Qn 59.*

Logo of an independent publisher founded by the translator Deborah Smith in 2015 (image next slide). The first book Smith translated was a 2007 novel; a project she says got by changing her Twitter bio to “Korean translator.”

In 2022, the publishing house had its first International Booker Prize recipient.

**Name the publishing house.**

**Also name the 2022 International Booker winner (novel/author).**

**Qn 59.**

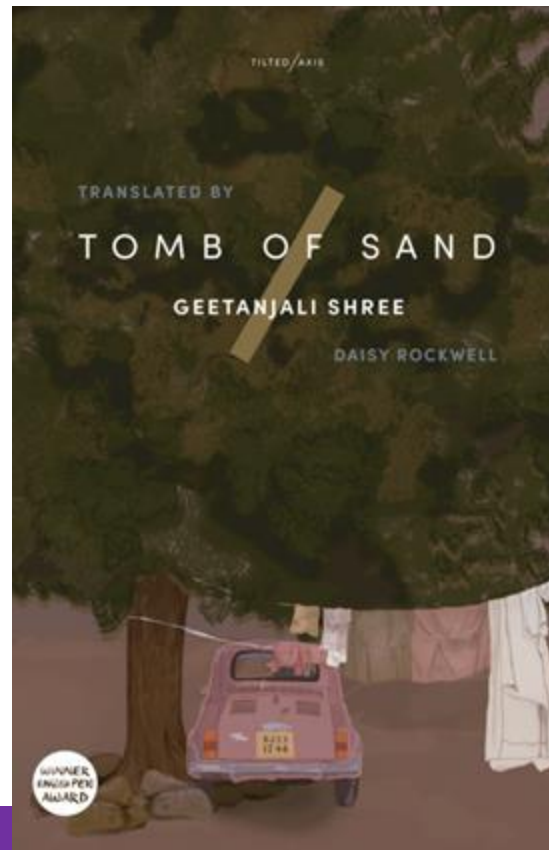


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# ANSWER

**Tilted Axis Press**  
***Tomb of Sand* by Geetanjali Shree**





Invented in the 1980s, \_\_\_X\_\_\_ (7) was distinct from the American \_\_\_Y\_\_\_ (8) movement in that it could be read without having to tilt one's head. For instance, where X used a circumflex, Y opted for a colon.

X later also used characters from the Kannada script like ಠ and ರೃ and ಠ for an emphasis often missing from the American depictions. **An emphasis on what? ID X and Y, both portmanteaus. Any two out of three for points.**



# ANSWER

An emphasis on the eyes

X - Kaomoji

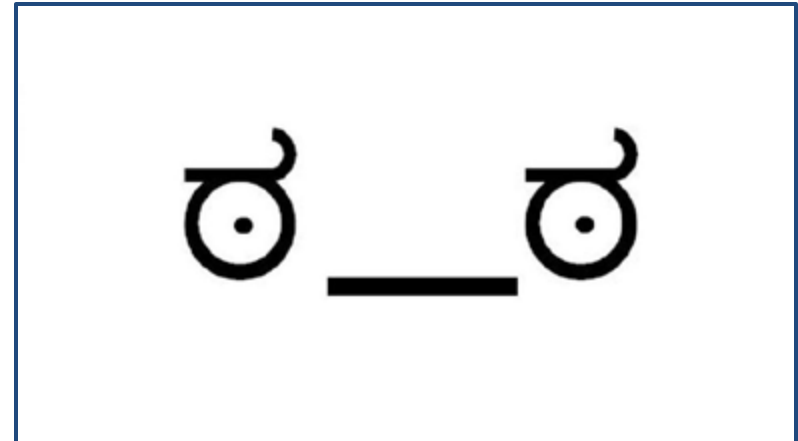
Y - emoticon

( ಡ \_ ಡ ) — ☆ ° . \* . °

ಠ \_ ಠ ( ಠ \_ ಠ )

:-)

:-(



## Qn 61.

The geographical feature below is often referenced in a phrase describing the economic growth of a country X. Give either the phrase or the country.

How does this connect to the tiny bookshop seen below a bookstore –10 square meters in size and named *Onul Books*?





**Qn 61.**



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# Qn 61.







# **ANSWER**

*Han river*

**Han Kang is named after the river,  
and runs Onul Books**



**An incident described by Herodotus is depicted in this 17th century piece by Mattia Preti. One was a renowned emperor, now beheaded. The other is an angry queen who defeated him on the banks of the Syr Darya in 530 BC.. In 2010, an Asian country decided to claim her, and issued a coin celebrating her. Name any two—emperor, queen, or modern nation.**









# **ANSWER**

*Tomiris OR Cyrus  
Kazakhstan  
(any two)*



**This year the Limasawa shrine near Barangay Magallanes marked the 503rd anniversary of an event on 31 March with formal worship followed by a cultural programme titled Sinugdan or Beginning. What were they celebrating? Who was responsible for the first occurrence?**









# **ANSWER**

The first Mass in the Philippines  
Celebrated at this location by  
Magellan's chaplain on Easter Sunday,  
1521—Magellan will do.



## Qn 64.

- A. In 2005, 44 celebrities ranging from Victoria Beckham to Christina Aguilera to Paris Hilton took off their clothes and posed in nothing but XYs for the photography book Four Inches. The title comes from a distinctive feature of the XY. This was done for the Elton John AIDS Foundation.
- B. The X in XY** was close to certain celebrities and once had this to say: “I visited Kensington Palace quite often in the late 80s, to the point where even the guards recognised me. One time I saw her young boy playing in the garden. When he saw me he shouted out “Jackie Chan!”

**Give us XY. Who was X visiting (name the adult)?**



**ANSWER**  
Jimmy Choo Spikes/Heels  
**Princess Diana**



# Thank you!

