



THE NORTH POINT WEEKLY

13.04.2020
Innaugural Edition
Vol. 1 Issue 1



RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Fr K. L. George, SJ

*"I am a part of all that I have met;
Yet all experience is an arch where thro'
Gleams that untravell'd world whose margin fades
For ever and for ever when I move.
How dull it is to pause, to make an end,
To rust unburnish'd, not to shine in use!"*
Ulysses by Alfred Tennyson

Dear Staff and students,

The above lines, I think, summarises what we all have been experiencing during the past few weeks. Life is an exciting journey if we have eyes to see the excitement on our way. It is at times very harsh too, as it is at present. We have seen, heard and experienced much about the challenges we face now. Yet all these experiences are but windows opening before us that give us a vision of paths we need to travel in future. What we have learnt is that our life is a journey of endless self-discovery, whose horizon moves away from us the more we try to reach it. That is why it is so dull to pause and make an end to our journey of self-discovery. We discover ourselves at the individual, societal and global levels. We have much to learn about our place and position on earth, in relation to one another, and our common destiny. This has been a humbling experiencing for all of us.

Together we are doing an excellent job by not pausing or making an end to our human efforts to learn anew in creative ways to shine in use. You are showing an indomitable spirit to defy all stumbling blocks that come our way and journey forward with our hearts and spirits held high. I wish and pray for God's grace for every one of our school fraternity. Sursum Corda.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Fr Leo Alphonse Raj, SJ

I hope this short message finds everyone in Good Health! After a long winter-vacation, we returned to the NP family to resume our studies. And it is hard to believe, that we are once again on a long break not knowing when we will return to the Twin Towers. May be, God has other plans! Yet, it is consoling to see everyone at NP leaving no stone unturned in order to impart and share their knowledge to everyone so that the joy of sharing, teaching and learning may create a wonderful human person in all of us. Thanks to all teachers and students for keeping yourself busy because - education is a life-long learning process to develop critical thinking and to develop key personal and social values, to set goals to reach their own unique potential. I also thank the teachers and students who have involved in this new initiative of bringing out this newsletter, an initiative to break the monotony of regular studies.

I pray and wish EVERYONE that ALL MAY BE WELL AND WE MAY SOON BE BACK TO SCHOOL.

HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL!

COVID-19.....The Aftermath



Mr Andre LeFevre
*Primary Division
Headmaster*

We emerged from the tomb of lockdown,
Humbled resurrected humanity.
Torn by grief, divested of hospital-gown,
Recalled by the virus to sanity.

We know science, weapons, technology
Could not defend our vulnerability.
Arm ourselves, we shall, with humanity
Share aid, compassion, loving dignity.

By compulsion, we found sanctuary
In homes that housed more valued family.
The global village -one community
Blind to religion, race, dough disparity.

Equalised by the leveller, Death, we prayed
Yes, God was rediscovered...all else failed.
We clung to Hope in this night of the soul,
'Lead kindly Light, toward a "Healed World" goal.

Breathing unpolluted air, we revelled,
Greenery and birdsong coloured the Spring.
Season of Hope pregnant with Life's yield.
Flowers, fruits, bunnies, eggs this Time brings.

Two thousand years since, Death was defeated,
Jesus rose from the tomb - resurrected.
'Death, where is thy sting?' Mankind is redeemed.
Easter eggs, choco-bunnies, Hope undimmed!

Wishing the North Point family the Light, Peace, Hope and Life that Easter signifies,

HAPPY EASTER!
SURSUM CORDA!

RELIEF WORK



Covid-19 has created havoc such as never known to us in our life time. Quite literally the virus has brought much of the world to its knees on every aspect of human life. It has taught us that “The fault ... lies not within the stars, but in ourselves, that we are underlings.” While it has brought about unforeseen consequences on our daily life, it has also taught human race many valuable lessons. The new pandemic has enabled at least some sections of people to bring out the best in them.

St. Joseph’s School, North Point rose to the occasion, true to its motto – Sursum Corda – to extend “a hand to a faltering brother” to lift “the lame and the slow”. The School in collaboration with St. Joseph’s College, North Point served the suffering people of about 500 families in its neighbourhood tea gardens of Soam,

Lepcha Busty and Singla with dry food items, soaps, hand sanitizers and awareness literature to protect themselves from the Covid-19 infection. On 7th April a group of volunteers from St. Teresa’s School, Darjeeling came forward to assist the NP School management in packing the dry food and the other items. On 7th and 8th these packets were distributed among those affected families by the Fathers with the help of the local police. Our country needs an ocean of help and measures to set things right. What we contributed was only a drop in that ocean. But we are happy to contribute that drop.

Fr. K. L. George, SJ
Rector

MESSAGE FROM THE BEADLES

“Like all the students in the school, knowing that this is my last year in these corridors of this sacred institution, I do miss my home in the mountains, a lot more than these words can explain, I miss my dear brothers and all those happy moments we share among ourselves daily. I miss the pleasant mornings. Not that it isn’t pleasant here but it is due to the lockdown here and it’s not the pure morning that one can get from the dorms that fill our lungs with satisfaction but the microbes that currently terrorize us. I miss almost every little aspect of our day at school. The school as we all know is the height of social gathering where one can make friends and mistakes, creating a better version of ourselves. It is to my great delight that the school in such troubling times continues to thrive and work to even greater heights to achieve their goals and help the society at the same time. I expect the same devotion which the teachers have shown to be seen in the students as well. The teachers have never failed to guide and support us even during this time of crisis and one should never forget their dedication. Success is a different story. First defeat what’s in front of you and you’ll have better days, is my message to the students. We together can overcome any crisis. Stay safe, stay indoors, stay fit and take care.
Sursum Corda”

Spandan Jung Pandey (School Captain)

The COVID -19 virus has caused havoc around the globe. And as students, we are facing a lot of difficulties in our studies. But thanks to all our beloved teachers, Headmasters, Fr. Prefect and our Fr. Principal, because they are the ones who, with the same energy and interest, are helping us to overcome our current difficulties by giving us the timely help. I like to tell all that this virus does not see our wealth, money, power, religion etc. So lets us all leave behind our pride and let us together fight against this virus. Only together will we rise above all our challenges. For now all we really have is each other. So let us stay at home, stay safe, and don’t panic.

Sangay Wangzer Gurung (School Vice Captain)

Irony has its way with life - from being happy to leave the school and then to missing it dearly. Words cannot express how much I miss my home in the mountains, the city built on a hill. I miss my friends, my brothers, my teachers and all those perfect moments. And I can say it with certitude that every north pointer feels the same. This virus has brought momentous change in our lives but as any other obstacle we must tackle it and stay strong. We must follow the sentiment of nurturing and helping our loved ones in these times of hardship. Do not squander your time, use it in a productive manner. Take up a hobby or set some new goals. I’m proud to see the school, even in such difficult times providing help and assistance to the community. The teachers are doing their best and working from home, guiding us along the way, and we must do the same by cooperating with them and doing our bit. “Being challenged in life is inevitable. Being defeated is optional”. To everyone out there, Stay Safe and Take Care.

Paramveer Singh (Laenen House Beadle)

Since this outbreak of the COVID-19 Virus, a lot of things in our daily lifestyle have changed. We all have been missing those school days that only lasted for a few weeks. The students of classes 10 and 12 have missed a lot of their classes which will most likely affect their boards next year. A lot of school activities have been cancelled. Most importantly our good times with our classmates and out friends, these are the things that I have been missing. I wanted to contribute to the school in a lot of ways but because of this COVID-19 pandemic I am not being able to. I hope a cure for this disease is found soon and I hope that we can enjoy the sun from our school grounds soon.

Wilson Lepcha (Laenen House Beadle)

When teachers are more like friends, and friends are but brothers, it is tough to be away from our HOME, locked up in our homes. I realized, in a profound contemplation that, although ironic, academics isn’t what we miss! Those beautiful memories that we create out of time - some of which test our NP Spirit to the very limits - are the things that we miss. Covid-19, a reminder of the indomitable mother Nature, is just another test and we can defeat it, together; by staying apart! These are the tests that makes our school what it is today. I would be wrong to say that nothing has been lost; but very little

has been lost compared to what we have gained, on a personal level. Here is a quote that sums up the situation, “*Sometimes life hits you on the head with a brick, don’t lose Faith.*” - Steve Jobs.

Nikhil Shanker (Fallon House Beadle)

During this difficult period of time our first and foremost priority should be our health and safety. We must stay indoors not only for the sake of our own wellbeing but for that of others as well. Being a student in grade twelve, I know that my batch mates and I have only had a few months of our school life remaining and to miss all these days is terrible. I really hope that this pandemic will be taken care of soon so that life can get back to normal as it was. Remember to be grateful to those people whose services have made this difficult time a bit easier for us and I hope everyone is using this time to bond with our families. Stay safe, stay healthy, stay positive and definitely make sure to stay indoors.

Rinchen Dontatsang (Fallon House Beadle)

It is with experience I can say that this school will stand through this pandemic and survive a hundred more before it even shows agedness as it has for the last hundred and thirty-two years without fail. In the nine years that I spent in this school it has shown unwavering spirit and surprising leadership in its administration upholding its image even in the darkest of times and yet it does so again. When we are kept apart by the universe we can’t help but think of its cruelty to keep friends away from each other, but the friendship built within the twin towers are not to be joked about and I hope to reunite with them.

Sonam Palden Wangchuk (O’Neil House Beadle)

Just a month ago we were briefed about how the population of China, Iran and Italy were affected by the COVID-19. Little did we know that our lives would be affected just as much due to the pandemic. Although I am a beadle, I consider myself a student of the senior most class. Till the 13th of March, we were setting our goals and planning out how we would achieve our targets during our final year as students of the school. But it might be a sad reality for the senior most class of every school in the country because we could be missing out some major events that we wanted to be a part of for the final time. The entire school will have a rough academic year, but for a senior North Pointer, the virus has taken away precious moments of my school life that are irreplaceable. The COVID-19 virus has separated families and taken the lives of people all around the globe, but the one thing it should not take away from us is hope. As North Pointer, we must do our best to be a part of the solution by social distancing and we should “lift up our hearts” till the day we overcome this pandemic

Apshan Limbu (O’Neil House Beadle)

The corona virus pandemic has sent shock waves throughout the world causing the world leaders to take severe steps in the prevention of the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Lockdown has been initiated causing many countries around the world to come to a standstill, severely affecting the lives of both young and old. The students, no longer able to go to schools, now have online assignments with the initiative of the school. The teachers are giving their best by providing us notes in various subjects. It is a difficult time but with the encouragement of the teachers and the school, the students have been able to give their best and continue with their academics.

Anuj Xalxo (Depelchin House Beadle)

As a beadle of the school, in the midst of this chaos, where the world has stopped, including schools and colleges, it is very hard to realize our love for the school, when we are in our classes. But it is so rightfully said that we learn the value of things in their absence. I miss every aspect of the school and every corner coloured with joy and bliss. Now, after this pandemic I have come to a realization that it is tougher to stay idle than to struggle for life. All I would love to say is that this virus may not have a cure now, but we sure have a method of prevention. Appealing everyone to stay home and stay strong I end it here by saying we shall all overcome.

Rajeev Gurung (Depelchin House Beadle)

THE HEART OF THE EARTH

FOR AS LONG THE EARTH REMAINED IN THE HEART OF DARKNESS, IT FELT LONELY IN THE PLACE OF WONDERS, SO MANY PLACES IN THE GALAXY WAS SO STRANGE THINGS AND THE HUMANS WANTED A BETTER LIFE THEY STARTED TO KILL THE LIFE OF THE WORLD, THEY WANTED TO CAPTURE THE FOOOOOOOODDDDDDD CHAIN SO THAT THE GALAXY, COULD THINK THAT THEY ARE SUPERIOR TO THE WORLD. THE WORLD WAS A BEAUTIFUL PLACE SO THAT WE COULD LIVE IN PEACE AND JOY AND WORLD WILL LIVE ON TOGETHER AND WORLD, IS THE BEST PLACE ON TO LIVE IN MORE WONDERS, AND WE HAVE A BETTER FUTURE TO SEE.

THE END

Poem by **VASIST PRADHAN**
Class 6 D

A Sonnet about my School "The Blue Spirit"

The sweetest home one can get
The place where our maestros
Mould us to be the finest,
Where we are not just taught the topics
But also the values and their logic,
A haven for a faltering brother.
Where the word family can be heard in the
The pool that reflects our dream
And the twin towers that stand still so strong
The mystical aura of this place
Will never be gone,
As the words Sursum Corda
Has stuck to our hearts, I can say
This place is a golly piece of art.

Poem by **RIDHOOM RAG RAI**
Class 8 B

Staying At Home

Staying at home is not to Room.

By staying at home you can go to
Google or Chrome.

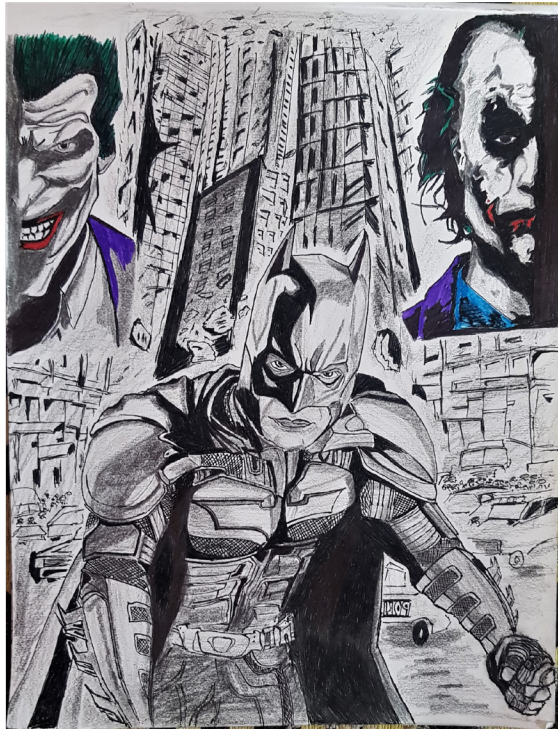
And enjoy the things which you can
do at home.

Stay with your family, play with
your family as much as you can.

Because it is one of the best thing
to do while staying at home.

Poem by **MRINAL JEREMY CHHETRI**
Class 4 A

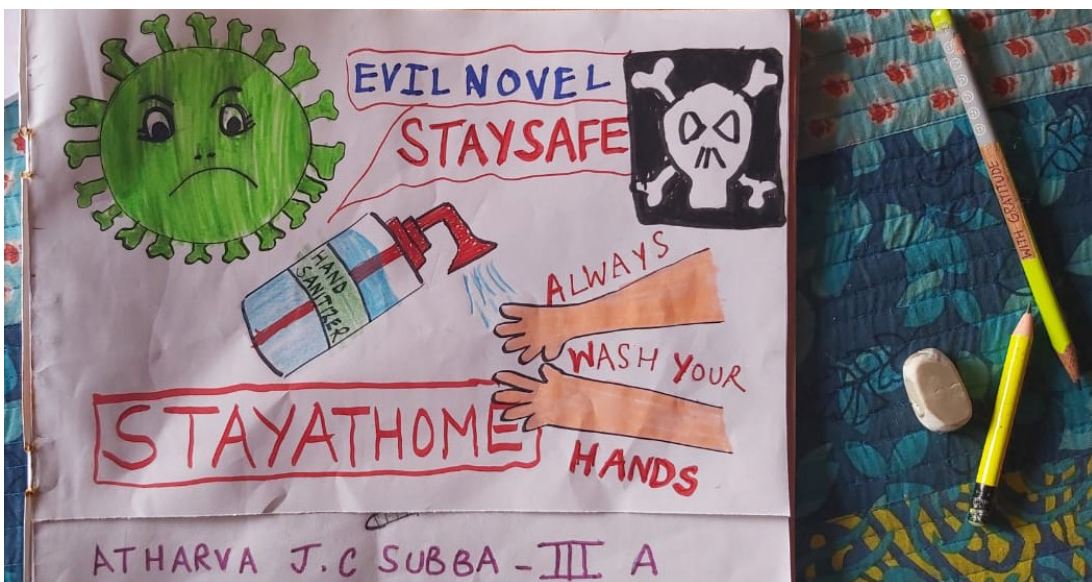
Creative
APP



Art by **SUMIT GUPTA**
Class 10 A



Art by **SUDIANGSHU RAI**
Class 9 A



Art by **ATHARVA J. C. SUBBA**
Class 3 A



Art by **GAURAV THAKUR**
Class 12 'Arts'

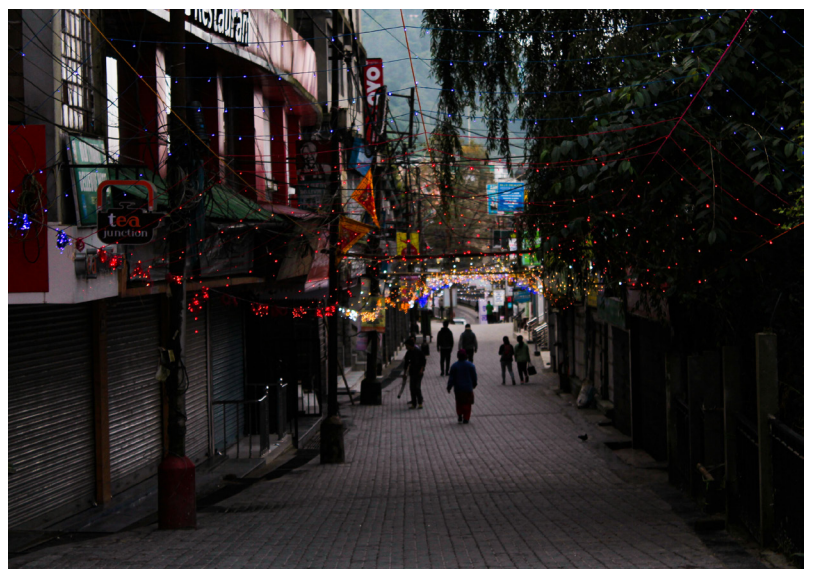
INTRUDER

Last night, sleep at the verge.
An unknown visitor showed up at my door.
Invaded with an immediate surge.
Clearly someone who wanted to strike to the core.

His austere abrupt manners vexed me,
Leaving me in a tumultuous conundrum.
A malicious little man was all I could see,
But I had no idea where he had come from.

He treaded through the alleys of my mind,
Stalking Conscience with a dagger in his hand.
Tore him apart, nothing had been left behind,
As everything Chaos did, was perfectly planned.

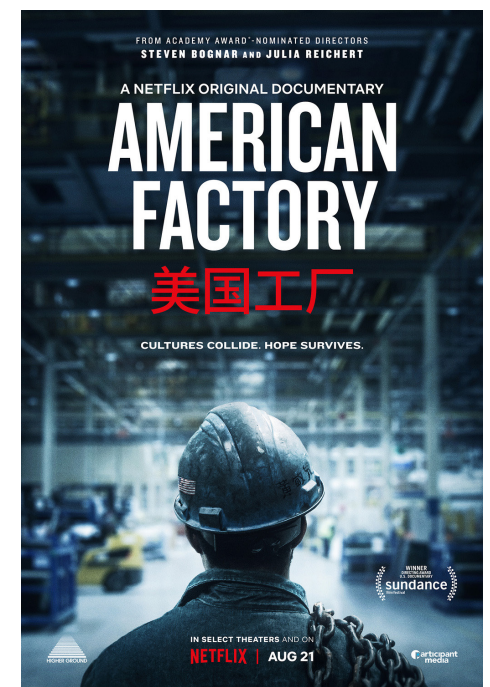
Poem by
PRATHAM SHARSAR
I.S.C. 2020



Photograph by **KESILAB GHIMIRAY**
Class 10 A

LOCKDOWN WATCHLIST

compiled by Mr Sajid Ahmed



Here is a suggested list of movies and documentaries to watch during the lockdown (under parental guidance). You may use the online streaming services available.

MOVIES

- 1. BLADE RUNNER (1982)** – Dir. Ridley Scott. Sequel in 2017. A futuristic sci fiction where a policeman is sent to exterminate a group of violent androids. The line begins to blur between humans and androids. Considered a cult classic.
- 2. OKJA (2017)** – Dir. Bong Joon-ho. Before the world discovered the Korean genius in PARASITE, he was already making great movies. This movie explores the relationship between man and his domesticated animals. Thought-provoking, especially for animal lovers.
- 3. FORREST GUMP (1994)** – Dir. Robert Zemeckis. A Tom Hanks movie which shows the world about the beauty of a human life and the achievements that we cherish, no matter how small or big. A lesson in humanity. Being officially remade in Hindi as LAL SINGH CHADDA by Amir Khan.
- 4. DUNKIRK (2017)** – Dir. Christopher Nolan. A World War Two saga which captures the horrors of war but also the spirit of bravery.
- 5. SEVEN YEARS IN TIBET (1997)** – Dir. Jean-Jacques Annaud. An account of an Austrian climber, portrayed by Brad Pitt, who escapes prison and travels to the holy city of Lhasa. He soon becomes a close confidante to HH the 14th Dalai Lama. Adapted from the book of the same name.
- 6. THE HARRY POTTER SERIES (2001 – 2011)** - Eight films in total. If you have read the books, the screen adaptations are a delight. The school of magic, Hogwarts, student life, teachers, magic, dragons, evil wizard and witches. Don't miss it. Adapted from the books by J.W. Rowling.
- 7. CONTAGION (2011)** - Dir. Steven Soderbergh. A movie about a worldwide pandemic. Sounds familiar? Do watch and let us know your thoughts.
- 8. THE GODFATHER (1972)** - Dir. Francis Ford Coppola. Adapted from the bestselling book by Mario Puzo. It is a classic movie about the Sicilian origin mafia and the battle for power. Do watch the sequels if you like this.
- 9. ALPHA (2018)** - Dir. Albert Hughes. Heart-warming tale of a boy and his wolf – set 20,000 years ago. Spectacular cinematography. A must family viewing.
- 10. LION (2016)** - Dir. Garth Davis. Based on the true story of a five-year boy from India who is adopted by an Australian couple. After 25 years, he is haunted by the images of his childhood and real mother. The search begins... brilliant performance by Dev Patel (Slumdog Millionaire).

DOCUMENTARIES

- 1. HURRAH FOR THE HOME IN THE MOUNTAINS (early 2000).** Dir. Daya Gupta (batch of 1994). A documentary about North Point. It's on YouTube. Interviews with North Pointers around the world – quite inspirational.
- 2. AMERICAN FACTORY (2019).** Oscar winner. Dir. Julia Reichert, Steven Bognar. In post-industrial Ohio, a Chinese billionaire opens a glass factory. High-tech China vs working class America leads to unexpected situations.
- 3. ICARUS (2017).** Dir. Bryan Fogel. Oscar winner. The quest to uncover the truth about doping in sports leads the director with a chance encounter with a Russian scientist. The story then transforms into a geo-political thriller.
- 4. THE GREAT HACK (2019).** Dir. Karim Amer, Jehane Noujaim. Exploring how a data company came to symbolise the dark side of social media in the wake of the US Presidential elections. Make you think about what you put up on the internet.
- 5. THE DAWN WALL (2017).** Dir. Josh Lowell, Peter Mortimer. Legendary free climber tries to conquer the Dawn Wall in Yosemite National Park. Beautiful locale. Also don't miss a similar documentary: FREE SOLO (Oscar winner).
- 6. INSIDE BILL'S BRAIN – DECODING BILL GATES. (2019).** Three episodes. Dir. Davis Guggenheim. It explores the mind and motivations of the celebrated tech visionary, business leader and philanthropist.
- 7. SEARCHING FOR SUGARMAN (2012).** Oscar winner. Dir. Malik Bendjelloul. Ever wondered whatever happened to your favourite singer. This documentary explores the search for such a lost celebrity. Amazing.
- 8. AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH (2006).** Dir. Davis Guggenheim. Long before global warming become an alarming media issue, this Oscar Award winning feature explains how humans have messed up the planet. Former US Presidential candidate Al Gore warns on what must be done to save the Earth.
- 9. MARCH OF THE PENGUINS (2005).** Dir. Luc Jacquet. Wildlife enthusiasts must watch this journey of the Emperor Penguin in the South Pole. A family saga. The Hindi narration is by Amitabh Bachchan.
- 10. FOOD INC (2008).** Dir. Robert Kenner. It explores how mammoth corporations control the food supply to American home and restaurants. Unsettling. Winner of the Oscar in 2009.

DO SEND US YOUR FAVOURITES!



Art by ALISH RAI

“ ”

*We ourselves feel that what we
are doing is just a drop in the
ocean. But the ocean would be less
because of that missing drop*

-

ST. (MOTHER) TERESA

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