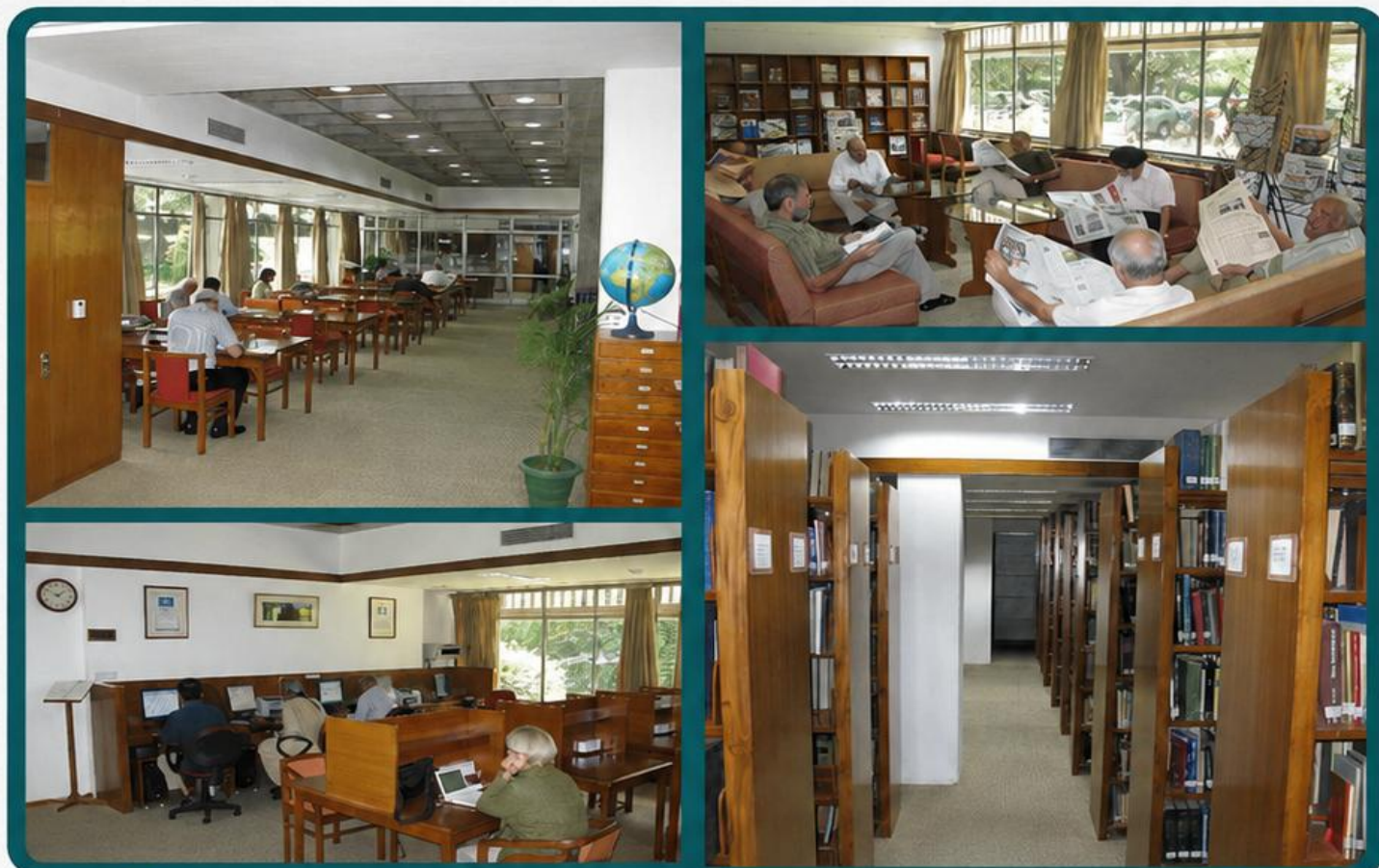


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ART

1. Title: Movie Review: Welcome to the Jungle

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/entertainment/movie-review-welcome-to-the-jungle>

What made the 2008 film *Tropic Thunder* funny was that it was willing to mock Hollywood and its star system using its biggest stars. Robert Downey Jr was brilliant, if flagrantly offensive as the method actor with Blackface, with Tom Cruise delivering the best cameo of his life as a megalomaniac producer.

2. Title: Wear and Declare: Designers are transforming jewellery into wearable art and bold self-expression

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/art-culture/wear-and-declare-designers-are-transforming-jewellery-into-wearable-art-and-bold-self-expression>

STARE IS A STATEMENT as well as an invitation. Fashion label NorBlack NorWhite's first collaboration with jewellery designer Bhavya Ramesh gets its name from the idea of "protecting the unwanted gaze with all our eyes" and offers a collection rife with protective motifs—chillies and lemons, the moon, *ghungroo*, snakes, horns and fangs from traditional guardian masks, and the eye. It is a collection representative of Ramesh's aesthetics, and marks NorBlack NorWhite's second outing with jewellery—following an earlier collection with Jaipur-based label Kichu. "We have always admired jewellery design, the craft of adornment and it's a huge part of our personal style," says Mriga Kapadiya, who helms the fashion label with co-founder Amrit Kumar. "This would be our second offering in this space and for this time around with Bhavya Ramesh, the entire process has been deeply informed by how we both tell stories and build worlds—an added layer to making this an exciting and inspiring process, apart from the actually jewellery design."

3. Title: Fit Check: Looks change, Style endures

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/art-culture/fit-check-looks-change-style-endures>

CONSIDER FASHION AS a mirror to the times and it feels hardly surprising that some of the most pressing First-World problems of modern living are already on the season's runway agenda—from Ozempic skinny to looksmaxxing. Some designers are now putting popular looksmaxxers like Clavicular and Bryan Johnson on the catwalk, *American Psycho*'s Patrick Bateman—the poster child for the community—inspires A-list designers, and there is an undercurrent mood and look to collections and shows that feels undeniably hyper-masculine. In the lexicon of looksmaxxing, fashion becomes more than just a pursuit of dressing well. It is a tool for optimisation—clothing choices driven by how they emphasise and elevate optimisation the body, and the social standing they signal for their wearers.

4. Title: Mother across Ages: Botticelli's Madonna Meets Harappan Maternal Icons

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/art-culture/mother-across-ages-botticellis-madonna-meets-harappan-maternal-icons>

IN A DIM, cool gallery at the Humayun's Tomb Museum, the only sounds are the cautious steps of visitors on marble, their hushed voices and the click of their cameras. They are busy snapping photographs of the displays, spanning two continents and thousands of years. The oldest exhibits are the terracotta sculptures, around 5,000 years old and excavated from Harappa. These European and Indian sculptures range from terracotta to marble, from life-size to miniature, and though in various forms of decay, are still in good condition. Several of the smaller ones are in glass cases. The only painting displayed in the exhibition is a relatively newer work— Sandro Botticelli's *Madonna and Child*, dating back to around 1490, on loan from Florence's Museo Stibber.

5. 6Title: The Future of Fairness: Being young and Indian means a lot today

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/columns/the-future-of-fairness-being-young-and-indian-means-a-lot-today>

THE LOCKDOWN TAUGHT many of us to count what mattered. We counted breath. We counted blessings. We counted the faces we missed. We also discovered, in that enforced stillness, who among us was willing to imagine a world rebuilt not merely as it had been, but as it ought to be. Somewhere in those uncertain months, amid anxiety and isolation, I also counted a new friendship.

6. Title: The Artistry of Tarot

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/culture/goings-on/the-artistry-of-tarot>

The first tarot cards, from fifteenth-century Italy, were, essentially, playing cards. Known as *carte de trionfi*, the cards formed the basis of a popular game played in Milanese courts: in addition to the fifty-two pip cards one might find in a standard set of playing cards, the tarot deck added twenty-one cards to the mix, the *trionfi*, or "triumphs," which featured mystical imagery combined with scenes of daily Renaissance life. Few of these original tarot cards remain—the scant number that are left are part of what are known as the Visconti-Sforza decks, none of which are complete—and they had more to do with passing the time than telling one's fortune. It was not until the eighteenth century that people began to use the cards for occult readings.

7. Title: The Natural Memory of Kabir Sehgal

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/07/06/the-natural-memory-of-kabir-sehgal>

If Spotify playlists have taught us anything, it's the utility of lo-fi beats. They're the perfect companion for studying, focussing, and chilling. But contemplating civics? Kabir Sehgal thinks so. Sehgal is a fourteen-time Grammy-winning producer and jazz musician, whose new album, "Stars and Static 2026," mixes noodly, restrained takes on patriotic staples with natural sounds recorded in American locales ("yankee newport doodlin'," "this is my little rock sunset"). "I call it 'geo-fi,'" Sehgal said the

other afternoon, at the East Coast Memorial, in Battery Park. “When you name a place, there’s a provenance. I wanted to see if lo-fi could be a place of natural memory, to have that conversation of what it means to be American.”

8. Title: Bruce Nauman Isn’t Bound by the Rules

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/07/06/bruce-nauman-isnt-bound-by-the-rules>

Bruce Nauman, the artist, was sitting at the front desk of Okey Dokey Konrad Fischer, a gallery in Tribeca, one recent Saturday morning. He was wearing a plaid shirt, jeans, and a cowboy hat; a cane was propped between his legs. Next to him was a friend of his, the painter Eric Fischl. Nauman’s short-run show “No Mistakes” had just opened, but the two weren’t discussing art. They were talking about hair loss.

9. Title: Postscript: Mark Singer

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/07/06/postscript-mark-singer>

Mark Singer, who contributed to this magazine as a staff writer for fifty-two years, died of cancer, at Memorial Sloan Kettering in Manhattan, not far from his apartment, on June 19th. He was seventy-five years and eight months old, to the day. He started out writing pieces for The Talk of the Town, then moved on to humor, personal essays, and long reported stories, some of which were collected in books or became whole books themselves. His 1985 book “Funny Money,” a deadpan nonfiction comedy about the collapse of a fraudster bank in Oklahoma during the savings-and-loan crisis, was a best-seller. My copy is inscribed “Dear Sandy—This is the only free copy of this book that you will be receiving. Love, Mark.”

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

10. Title: A marvel that’s also a menace

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link: <https://frontline.thehindu.com/society/ai-sovereignty-privacy-governance-global-challenge/article71140849.ece>

Seventy years ago, John McCarthy of Dartmouth College, Marvin Minsky of Harvard University, Nathaniel Rochester of IBM, and Claude Shannon of Bell Telephone Laboratories proposed to hold a two-month study on artificial intelligence. “A Proposal for the Dartmouth Summer Research Project on Artificial Intelligence” is where many believe the phrase “artificial intelligence” was first used in the way we know it today.

11. Title: How to build an Indie model

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link: <https://frontline.thehindu.com/society/india-ai-sovereignty-compute-data-and-governance/article71103889.ece>

Artificial intelligence now sits at the centre of a global argument that is at once technological, economic, political, and moral. Few technologies have produced such

simultaneous excitement and anxiety. To its champions, AI is a general-purpose capability that can transform productivity, accelerate scientific discovery, improve public service delivery, and open new forms of creativity. To its critics, it threatens privacy, jobs, and social trust, and even has the potential to destroy humanity. To governments, it is both an engine of growth and a strategic dependency. To companies, it is not only an unprecedented competitive lever but also a source of legal and reputational risk. And to citizens, it is an increasingly invisible infrastructure: not just a tool one chooses to use but a system quietly shaping information, decisions, and access.

12. Title: Is it the end of community?

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link:<https://frontline.thehindu.com/society/how-artificial-intelligence-undermines-empathy-solidarity-democratic-life/article71133097.ece>

For the better part of the last 20 years, I have been a judge for a fiction writing contest at a law school in India. They always invite me to preside, if you will, over a semifinal round of sorts. My job is to read around 30 or so entries and rank them all on a set of criteria, on a spreadsheet.

13. Title: Ethical AI needs conscience prompt

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link:<https://frontline.thehindu.com/society/ai-ethics-data-surveillance-power-inequality-crisis/article71121094.ece>

“Dude. Just move on. You did your hard work reporting the case, but your article is not your IP.”

This was a recent post on X, responding to a journalist who spoke about how his carefully researched and reported article had been used without permission by a video content provider. The content provider said they had acknowledged the journalist’s work in the video and that should be enough. But they had not asked for consent or even informed the journalist that they would be using his work.

14. Title: I labour, therefore I am

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link:<https://frontline.thehindu.com/science-and-technology/how-ai-is-changing-future-of-human-labour/article71104085.ece>

In a conventional office, there are several software engineers whose primary job is to build queries in SQL (Structured Query Language, the foundational code used to interact with databases) to generate reports and data points for decision-makers. The text-to-SQL tool cuts out that intermediate process entirely, allowing senior managers to type their requests in plain English and get their answers straight from the database. There is simply no reason to write computer code any more to get data. And therefore, soon, there will not be much reason to hire SQL developers for such positions.

15. Title: Creativity on steroids

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link:<https://frontline.thehindu.com/science-and-technology/cultureai-creativity-human-artists-future-india/article71112610.ece>

In March 2023, I wrote a cover story to understand the overnight popularity of ChatGPT. Since we were exploring a potentially heuristic tool, I tested it against the six layers of the Bloom's Taxonomy. While the tool was well on its way to master the "Understand", "Apply", "Analyse" and "Evaluate" levels of learning, I found it severely wanting in the topmost layer, "Create", the most advanced stage of intelligence. Back then, I had said that when asked to write a short story in the style of P.G. Wodehouse about a missing necklace, the tool threw up a few short paragraphs reminiscent of a second-standard student's essay.

16. Title: The creator is dead

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link:<https://frontline.thehindu.com/society/ai-authorship-copyright-future-personhood/article71109554.ece>

In March 2023, a Berlin-based artist named Boris Eldagsen was awarded the Sony World Photography Award for an image, "The Electrician". Hailed by viewers and critics alike, this was a haunting black-and-white image of two women that the press described as "reminiscent of the visual language of 1940s family portraits". Eldagsen turned the prize down and revealed that the photograph was not a photograph at all. He had generated it using DALL-E 2, an AI image generator. "I applied as a cheeky monkey," Eldagsen explained, "to find out if the competitions are prepared for AI images to enter. They are not."

17. Title: Machines shape the munitions

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link: <https://frontline.thehindu.com/society/how-ai-is-changing-modern-warfare/article71132529.ece>

In an earlier age of warfare, the most powerful machine on the battlefield was the aircraft, the missile, the tank, or the aircraft carrier. Today, the decisive machine may be something less visible: a software layer that absorbs satellite imagery, drone feeds, intercepted signals, battlefield reports, and cyber logs and turns them into decisions.

**18. Title: The governing vision of the class must rest with a human teacher:
Saikat Majumdar**

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link:<https://frontline.thehindu.com/society/ai-education-human-skills/article71112982.ece>

At a time when AI is reshaping not just how knowledge is produced but what it means to learn, questions about the purpose of education have acquired new urgency. In this interview, Saikat Majumdar, a novelist, critic, and teacher deeply engaged with the cultural and philosophical dimensions of education, explains what students of today should aspire to in an unpredictable, machine-led future. Moving from ethics and anxiety to inequality and the limits of the classroom, he argues why the central task of education today is not to compete with machines but to deepen what is distinctly human. Excerpts:

19. Title: Download some love

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link:<https://frontline.thehindu.com/science-and-technology/how-ai-companions-are-reshaping-modern-love-relationships/article71109471.ece>

It started as a tongue-in-cheek description of a typical date night between two consenting adults at the crowd-work segment of a live gig of the comedian Pranit More. As the audience hooted, cackled, and clapped, Himashu Jangra said that he had invested Rs.370 in a plate of chicken biryani for his date. Jangra joked that he had not got the return on his investment because the woman, who remained unnamed, wanted to simply go home after the meal instead of hooking up.

20. Title: Are Humanoid Robots Ready to Be Deployed?

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/07/06/are-humanoid-robots-ready-to-be-deployed>

On a recent sunny day in Silicon Valley, I visited the industrial headquarters of 1X Technologies. Security was tight, so I had to put a sticker over my cellphone's camera and talk my way out of signing an N.D.A. before I was brought into an enormous space to meet Neo, the company's home robot.

21. Title: America should not imprison frontier AI

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2026/07/02/america-should-not-imprison-frontier-ai>

New rules often come out of disasters. America's Federal Reserve was founded following the Panic of 1907, when stock prices fell by half. Pressure from muckrakers such as Upton Sinclair brought about the Food and Drug Administration. The Securities and Exchange Commission was founded during the Great Depression. Artificial intelligence has not yet caused a calamity, but it might. Models like Anthropic's Mythos and OpenAI's GPT-5.6 Sol are extraordinarily good hackers and could become capable advisers to bioterrorists.

BUSINESS

22. Title: Chinese carmakers aim to go upmarket in Britain

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.economist.com/britain/2026/07/02/chinese-carmakers-aim-to-go-upmarket-in-britain>

"The most annoying thing about owning a Chinese car has been people who don't own a Chinese car insisting I must secretly hate it," says Will from North Yorkshire, who switched from a Ford Fiesta to a BYD Dolphin last year. His new car, he says, "basically does everything well". Britain is one of the few rich countries to have resisted special tariffs on Chinese Electric Vehicles (EVs). Chinese-owned brands accounted for 18% of new cars sold in Britain in April, according to data from MarkLines—nearly double their market share in the EU, which added charges of up to 35% in 2024. Sales are nearly zero in America, which levies 100% import taxes.

CLIMATE CHANGE

23. Title: Is Climate Action Commensurate with Achieving 1.50C Target from an Equity Perspective?

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/commentary/climate-action-commensurate-achieving-150ctarget.html>

The growing disconnect between the optics and the reality of climate action is becoming increasingly stark. This gap is widening even as the climate crisis intensifies. Scientific assessments consistently warn that global temperatures are on course to exceed the Paris Agreement's 1.50C limit by 2030, a threshold that has already been temporarily crossed due to the combined impact of El Niño and human-induced warming. The year 2024 was the hottest ever recorded, with global average temperatures reaching around 1.550C above pre-industrial levels.

ECONOMICS

24. Title: Breezing into a Sugar Scare

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/india/breezing-into-a-sugar-scare>

THE BACARDI Breezer brand is caught in the vortex of a political storm in Kerala, where newly elected Chief Minister VD Satheesan, in his revised budget for 2026–27, introduced a lower sales tax for what the government considers low-alcohol drinks. Beverages with 0.5 per cent to 10 per cent alcohol will attract a sales tax of 120 per cent, while those in the 10 per cent to 20 per cent category will attract a tax of 175 per cent, as opposed to the 251 per cent per cent tax applicable to all beverages that come under the Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) umbrella term. Those with more than 20 per cent alcohol content will continue to be taxed at 251 per cent.

25. Title: CAG Report on State Finances

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/editorials/cag-report-state-finances.html>

The third report on state finances by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) offers a consolidated overview of the fiscal accounts of all 28 states of the Indian union. Titled “State Finances 2024–25: Decadal Analysis,” it examines interstate and inter-temporal trends over the decade from 2014–15 to 2024–25, allowing for a more holistic assessment of the fiscal position of the states.

26. Title: Uttar Pradesh Economy

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/commentary/uttar-pradesh-economy.html>

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government in Uttar Pradesh (UP) completed nine years in power in March 2026. While the government has been making tall claims about the economic performance of the state under the current regime, a closer

scrutiny shows otherwise. Newspaper advertisements of the government claim—without citing any source—that the per capita income of the state increased from ₹46,000 to ₹1,24,000 between 2017 and 2025, that is, by 270%—a highly exaggerated figure. The actual figures at current prices, according to official estimates, were ₹52,671 in 2016–17 and ₹93,514 in 2023–24, giving an increase of only 77.5% (Economics and Statistics Division 2025). At 2011–12 constant prices, the increase in per capita income was from ₹40,847 in 2016–17 to ₹50,875 in 2023–24, a growth of 24.5% in seven years, giving an annual growth of only 3.2%.

27. Title: We woz wrong about oil

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2026/07/02/we-woz-wrong-about-oil>

An editor of The Economist once said: “We are a paper of opinion and views. We stick our neck out and consequently risk having it chopped from time to time.” The oil price has delivered such a blow. At the end of April, almost two months after America and Israel attacked Iran, we said oil traders were in “la-la land” thinking that oil prices would fall to \$88 by the end of the year. Today Brent crude costs just over \$70 a barrel. Our prediction went about as well as the war.

28. Title: If you thought the global financial crisis was bad...

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.economist.com/by-invitation/2026/06/28/if-you-thought-the-global-financial-crisis-was-bad>

WITHIN A FEW years, artificial intelligence will displace a significant portion of the world’s highly paid knowledge workers. Aggregate demand will suffer, but flows into retirement investment accounts will turn net-negative: workers won’t just stop paying in, they will need to withdraw funds.

29. Title: Britain hopes drones will help it escape its defence-budget bind

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.economist.com/britain/2026/06/30/britain-hopes-drones-will-help-it-escape-its-defence-budget-bind>

IF Sir Keir Starmer is hoping that the long-awaited and bitterly contested defence investment plan (DIP) that finally broke cover on June 30th will be seen as a lasting legacy, he is likely to be disappointed. The document, which commits £15bn (\$20bn) of new funding to the armed forces over the next four years and sets out spending plans for the next decade, contains much that is sensible and even bold. But at a time when European allies are rapidly rearming and in the face of increased global threats, the goal of allocating 2.7% of GDP to defence by 2029, an increase of just 0.1 percentage points over next year’s level, looks paltry.

EDUCATION

30. Title: Can Jennifer Mnookin Heal Columbia?

Source: Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol. 72. No-21. 17th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.chronicle.com/article/can-jennifer-mnookin-heal-columbia>

Several years ago, Lynn Vavreck needed advice on how to deal with a professional dilemma. She turned to Jennifer L. Mnookin. As they meandered through a farmer's market in Los Angeles's Westside, Vavreck, a political scientist at the University of California at Los Angeles, described her predicament to Mnookin, who was a faculty member in the law school.

31. Title: The Shell University

Source: Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol. 72. No-21. 17th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/the-shell-university>

As I write this, my students are taking an in-person exam on Chinese politics. Three hours, closed book, no computers, pencil and paper. It's Saturday morning. I am sitting outside a lecture hall, and they are emerging, slowly, with cramped hands, glad to be done with the test and the semester.

32. Title: The Think Tank Fueling Trump's War on Higher Ed

Source: Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol. 72. No-21. 17th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/the-think-tank-fueling-trumps-war-on-higher-ed>

In the spring of 2023, The Wall Street Journal published an opinion essay by John Sailer, who was then a fellow at the National Association of Scholars. Based on documents obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request, Sailer detailed how a search committee from the Texas Tech biology department had vetted candidates for a faculty position. One was dinged for advocating a race-neutral approach to teaching, another was praised for reciting a "land acknowledgement" before their job interview. What Sailer found confirmed what he and other critics of DEI had long suspected, Sailer wrote: diversity statements function as ideological litmus tests.

33. Title: Rebecca Tuvel Was Canceled. It Was the Best Thing to Ever Happen to Her.

Source: Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol. 72. No-21. 17th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.chronicle.com/article/rebecca-tuvel-was-canceled-it-was-the-best-thing-to-ever-happen-to-her>

In the spring of 2017, the feminist philosophy journal Hypatia published an article by Rebecca Tuvel, an untenured philosopher at Rhodes College. "In Defense of Transracialism" was keyed to two events that had played out a few years earlier: The appearance of Caitlyn Jenner on the cover of

34. Title: Is This University Fixing Gen Ed — or Skewing It?

Source: Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol. 72. No-21. 17th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/is-this-university-fixing-gen-ed-or-skewing-it>

In the past, Utah State University students looking to satisfy their general-education requirement on American institutions could do so by taking courses like POLI 1100, "U.S. Government and Politics" or "HIST1700 - American History."

HEALTH

35. Title: Public Health System Effectiveness and COVID-19 Fatality Rates

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/commentary/public-health-system-effectiveness-and-covid-19.html>

The case fatality proportion (or case fatality rate) is widely used to compare health systems because it is easily available and understandable. However, differences in the age distribution of infected populations can bias such comparisons. This study estimates age-standardised COVID-19 infection fatality rates across Indian states and examines whether their relationship with reported case fatality proportions can indicate the effectiveness of public health measures in managing the pandemic.

36. Title: Health Vulnerabilities and Policy Invisibility of Older Adults in Rural India

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/perspectives/health-vulnerabilities-and-policy-invisibility.html>

India's rapidly ageing population faces an under-recognised crisis at the intersection of geriatric health vulnerabilities and the impacts of climate change. Although separate policies exist for elder care and climate adaptation, a significant policy vacuum persists where these two domains overlap. This empirical review examines how older adults in rural India are disproportionately affected by climate-induced events, such as heatwaves, floods, and droughts, and how systemic neglect has rendered them invisible in disaster preparedness and public health planning. Drawing upon national datasets, government, and recent peer-reviewed studies, this article analyses evidence on morbidity, access barriers, social support gaps, and policy responses.

37. Title: Death and dishonesty in British maternity hospitals

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.economist.com/britain/2026/07/02/death-and-dishonesty-in-british-maternity-hospitals>

Britons know too well that their National Health Service often provides poor care: in 2025 only 26% said they were satisfied with it, down from a high of 70% in 2010. Maternity care is a particularly bleak spot. A report by Baroness Valerie Amos, published on June 30th, concludes that mothers and babies are harmed across England in badly run hospitals incapable of learning from a litany of past investigations. But what still shocks are the lies.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

38. Title: India's bill for the Iran war

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link: <https://frontline.thehindu.com/economy/us-iran-war-india-impact/article71076699.ece>

A war began under an ill omen on February 28, triggering a tectonic shift in global affairs. A US Tomahawk missile killed scores of schoolchildren in Minab in southern Iran; Israeli strikes killed much of the country's leadership. Two days later, on March 2, the Iranians closed the Strait of Hormuz, the conduit for 20 per cent of the world's fossil energy flows, petrochemicals, and other industrial products: fertilizers, sulphur, aluminium, and helium. This was not an oil shock; it was a blow to the global industrial system. Making the shock harder to resolve, a new front opened up between Hezbollah in Lebanon and Israel.

39. Title: US-Iran memorandum and West Asia's new regional order

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link:<https://frontline.thehindu.com/world-affairs/us-iran-deal-recasts-west-asia-power-balance/article71117652.ece>

The rain had stopped just before dawn over Switzerland's Lake Lucerne. From the balconies of the Bürgenstock Resort, perched high above the water, diplomats could see the first light creeping across the Alps. Inside the glass-and-steel conference complex, however, there was little appreciation for the scenery. Coffee cups, draft texts, and marked-up briefing papers lay scattered across tables where negotiators had spent nearly 18 hours trying to prevent West Asia from sliding into a wider war.

40. Title: Pakistan's growing leverage in Washington

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link:<https://frontline.thehindu.com/news/pakistan-us-ties-india-influence/article71137534.ece>

US Vice President J.D. Vance's remarks during the Iran peace talks in Switzerland deserve far greater attention in New Delhi than they have received so far. Reflecting on the diplomacy of the past three months, Vance said that he had "probably talked to [Pakistani] Field Marshal [Asim] Munir more than I've talked to anybody else". He went further, declaring, "We would not be here without his statesmanship," describing Munir as "a great diplomat" and "an amazing friend of the United States".

41. Title: Whose Strait Is It Anyway?

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/world/whose-strait-is-it-anyway>

However all parties to the conflict sell the fate of the Strait of Hormuz after the June 17 MoU between Washington and Tehran, the undeniable fact is this: an international waterway carrying a fifth of the world's oil that was the busiest but freest chokepoint on the planet before February 28 looks set to become a tolled searoute, regardless of how fiercely the US insists on free passage and Iran circumvents the issue. The MoU, after all, seems to have only postponed the inevitable. Tehran agreed on safe, toll-free movement of commercial vessels but only for 60 days. Its stated objective of holding talks with Oman and other Gulf states over the future administration of the strait must be seen for what it is: securing legal cover for its extraction, which it was doing by force through the war. The Omani proposal of joint administration by Tehran and Muscat may seem akin to the system by which, say, the Malacca Strait is managed but the comparison falls through immediately.

42. Title: Europe Means Business

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/politics/europe-means-business>

The European Union (EU) ambassadors in New Delhi meet once a month over lunch and recently invited BJP President Nitin Nabin to join them. BJP functionaries, in turn, suggested the EU delegation visit the party headquarters, which it did on June 26, for what turned out to be a businesslike interaction. Missing were questions on minority rights, freedom of expression and similar subjects BJP leaders are accustomed to hearing during such interactions. Instead, the discussion was largely focused on the rollout of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA), with ambassadors highlighting specific issues concerning their countries as well as some broader matters relating to the trade deal.

43.Title: Iran–Lebanon–US Negotiations

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/strategic-affairs/iran-lebanon-us-negotiations.html>

The United States is appeasing Israel and the American neocons by supporting Israel's plan to occupy South Lebanon through the framework agreement between the Lebanese government and Israel. The Hezbollah and the Lebanese people reject this framework as it violates Lebanese sovereignty and territorial integrity. Iran rejects this framework since it violates the terms of the MoU.

44.Title: Turkey and Israel should trade energy, not insults

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.economist.com/leaders/2026/07/02/turkey-and-israel-should-trade-energy-not-insults>

A minister in Turkey has spoken of one day “ruling” Jerusalem. Israeli officials have warned darkly that Turkey is “the new Iran”. Listen to the volleys of invective flying in both directions, and you might think that two of the Middle East's pivotal powers are heading for conflict.

45.Title: Ukraine is trying to threaten Vladimir Putin into peace talks

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.economist.com/europe/2026/07/02/ukraine-is-trying-to-threaten-vladimir-putin-into-peace-talks>

TO A SLAVIC ear, 40 days is no accidental deadline. In Russia as in Ukraine, the 40th day after death is when the soul departs. So when Volodymyr Zelensky took to social media on June 25th to announce a new drone surge to “compel” Russia to negotiate for peace, he seemed to be telling Vladimir Putin he was already finished. With blunt messages like these, the Ukrainian president has lately been beating Mr Putin in the war of words.

46.Title: Is Germany's government finally getting its act together?

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.economist.com/europe/2026/07/02/is-germanys-government-finally-getting-its-act-together>

THEY HAD cleared their diaries for three days, but in the end it took just eight hours. Late on July 1st the leaders of Germany's ruling parties finalised a 34-point “programme for growth and employment” designed to lift the country's sagging spirits, covering everything from reforms to the ailing public-pension system to

liberalisation of Sunday-trading laws. The package alone is unlikely to zap life into a rapidly deindustrialising economy that has barely grown since 2019. In some respects it disappoints. But since Friedrich Merz, the chancellor, formed his centrist coalition just over a year ago, it has over-promised, underdelivered and squabbled endlessly. Some thought it might not survive. Now it has shown itself capable of comprehensive action. The sighs of relief were audible over Berlin.

LAW

47. Title: Faith, Privacy, and Abuse of Anti-conversion Laws

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/commentary/faith-privacy-and-abuse-anti-conversion-laws.html>

Several state governments in India, through their anti-conversion laws, have blurred the lines between a democratic state and a theocratic state. Disguised as an attempt to rescue people from being converted against their will, these laws challenge the very notion of individual liberty and privacy. As an epilogue to the recent Rajendra Bihari Lal judgment (2025), this article presents a critique of India's identity politics and contemporary conversion rhetoric that not only condemns religious conversions, but also creates the narrative of imaginary "love jihad." Drawing upon the individual autonomy argument, prevailing punitive policies under these laws necessitate a critical evaluation.

48. Title: America's Supreme Court was right to expand presidential power

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.economist.com/by-invitation/2026/06/29/americas-supreme-court-was-right-to-expand-presidential-power>

THE DECISION was as unforeseen as a hot and humid Washington summer. On June 29th the Supreme Court, in Trump v Slaughter, struck down the congressionally imposed for-cause removal protections for commissioners of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). Last September, the court had foreshadowed this when it granted the Trump administration's request for an emergency motion to bar an ousted commissioner from resuming her duties.

49. Title: What remains of the city upon the hill?

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.economist.com/by-invitation/2026/06/29/what-remains-of-the-city-upon-the-hill>

LAST MONTH I gave the main commencement speech at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where 250 years ago our founders signed the Declaration of Independence. They were a jubilant and friendly crowd, with one exception I was later told about: when I praised our country's rule of law a man sprang furiously to his feet, thrust a middle finger at me and stormed out of the arena.

LITERATURE

50. Mackin, Will

Title: Pig Lab

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/07/06/pig-lab-fiction-will-mackin>

Late as I was, I figured I'd be walking right into an active scenario. Crazy Omar, maybe. Or Outnumbered and Outgunned. I thought I'd hear the thud of stun grenades and hillbilly shouts of "Allahu akbar!" I expected to taste the bitter clouds of cordite drifting over the lawn and see the green muzzle flash of machine guns firing blanks on full auto. Above all, I assumed I'd find wounded pigs dying on the grass, and the boys elbow deep in their salvation.

51. Wagner, Jan

Title: requiem for a barber

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/07/06/requiem-for-a-barber-jan-wagner-poem>

52. McGrath, Campbell

Title: Campbell's Tomato Soup

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/07/06/campbells-tomato-soup-campbell-mcgrath-poem>

POLITICAL SCIENCE & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

53. Title: Is it the end of the road for regional parties in India?

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link: <https://frontline.thehindu.com/politics/indian-regional-parties-bjp-alliance-rise/article71125879.ece>

With the fall of Mamata Banerjee, the last of the major regional political warlords, the final chapter of an era has begun. The BJP's strategies—specifically deployed against regional parties—are largely responsible for the state of affairs. Fully aware that regional parties posed the primary challenge to its quest for dominance, the BJP adopted tactics designed to weaken them and fill the resulting void.

54. Title: Nehru, Guru Dutt, and the demise of a tender India

Source: Frontline. 15th July 2026

Link: <https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/guru-dutt-nehru-modern-india-melancholy/article71033007.ece>

There are some individuals in public life who cannot be understood simply through their biographies. Their lives spill beyond chronology and enter the realm of collective

memory and the shared feelings of people about them. They cease to remain only historical figures or cultural icons and instead become emotional landscapes through which generations attempt to understand themselves.

55. Title: Terror in Kashmir: The Return and the Reckoning

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/india/terror-in-kashmir-the-return-and-the-reckoning>

FOR MORE THAN three decades, the exodus of the minority Hindu community (Pandits) from Kashmir Valley has occupied an unusual place in Indian politics. It was invoked constantly, but the examination of why it happened was rarely done. Outside Kashmir, it became a tool for larger ideological battles over nationalism and secularism. Inside Kashmir, it received no acknowledgement, except in extremely cautious and measured voices. In the recent years, every discussion of 1990—the year over 3.50 lakh Hindus were driven out by Islamist extremists—only collapsed into a contest over competing victimhood.

56. Title: Utopia Is Here Again

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/columns/utopia-is-here-again>

IDEOLOGIES ARE EITHER unmade by the mercilessness of history or rearmed by generational impatience. The validation lies in the current trend of the endangered establishment: the Left is not good enough to be just Left any longer; the Right is very status quoist unless you add the adjective ‘ultra’ to it. The Left, in its most familiar self, is so elastic that it could include liberals, anti-capitalists, socialists and all of Marx’s orphans. Today may not be the Left’s best of times politically but, in the marketplace of arguments, it still retains considerable influence. The search for justice is a viable rhetorical vocation. The Right is a natural claimant to power now, and it is fast shedding all the accumulated shame of the past. Both the Left and the Right are fighting street-smart idealism.

57. Title: Wiser on Khalistan: Canada has finally understood domestic politics cannot be allowed to derail relations with India

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/world/wiser-on-khalistan-canada-has-finally-understood-domestic-politics-cannot-be-allowed-to-derail-relations-with-india>

IN THE LAST week of June, Canada’s Prime Minister Mark Carney issued a statement marking the National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism. The day marks the terrorist attack on Air India Flight 182 on June 23, 1985. Carney’s statement was explicit in condemning terrorism “in all its forms” and went on to say, “We stand with the survivors, families, and communities who carry this loss.”

58. Title: Chronicle of a Disaster Foretold

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/07/06/chronicle-of-a-disaster-foretold>

In 1996, Joan Didion unholstered the X-Acto knife that was her pen and went to work on Bob Woodward. In a register of pitiless irony, she quoted Woodward’s earnest

explanations of his journalistic methods—the difference between “background” and “deep background,” his “eight file drawers” of documents for a book on the Supreme Court. She was unimpressed. “These are books in which measurable cerebral activity is virtually absent,” Didion wrote. In the end, she determined that Woodward was engaged in the writing of “political pornography.”

59. Title: Drought Preparedness Is Well Underway

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/editorials/drought-preparedness-well-underway.html>

When a man knows he is to be hanged in a fortnight, it concentrates his mind wonderfully—so said Samuel Johnson. Failure to address an impending and visible mishap would erode popular confidence in the government of the day; and governments invariably take action to mitigate an anticipated crisis. This is an elementary reflex of democratic governance. This would explain the government’s action plan that has been rolled out for 300 districts expected to be the most affected by the shortfall in monsoon rains that has been forecast. Delayed rains have postponed summer sowing, and some kind of mobilisation of short-duration and drought-resistant crops has been attempted in several states.

60. Title: Abnormal Demography or Demography as a Tool of Othering?

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/editorials/abnormal-demography-or-demography-tool-othering.html>

The appointment of a committee to study “unnatural demographic changes” due to “illegal immigration and other abnormal reasons” would appear to pursue a political objective, rather than any sociological inquiry: the othering of Muslim minorities through the creation of cultural anxiety among Hindus about being outnumbered in India. Scaremongering over population replacement—a conspiracy to reduce native populations to insignificance through deliberately engineered immigration of outsiders—is a neurosis shared by the right wing, often White supremacist, politicians in Europe, and the United States under President Donald Trump. In his August 2025 speech, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced that a high-powered demography mission would deal with the “conspiracy” to challenge the country’s demography, with *ghuspaithiya* or intruders, snatching jobs, targeting women and grabbing land. The High-Level Committee on Demographic Change formalises this language in its terms of reference to identify factors behind illegal and orchestrated immigration, examine abnormal changes in religious or social communities, and recommend time-bound solutions. Interestingly, the committee has no demographer as a member.

61. Title: The ‘Hindutva’ Trajectory of Non-Brahmin Leadership

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/perspectives/hindutva-trajectory-non-brahmin-leadership.html>

Walchand Ramchand Kothari was a prominent non-Brahmin leader whose political trajectory spanned from backward-class mobilisation to advocacy of Hindutva. By foregrounding the contradictions in his political identity, the study links his transition

to broader socio-ideological currents while offering fresh insights into the history of non-Brahminism and Hindutva politics in India.

62.Title: Reimagining Mothering and Motherhood in India

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/review-gender-studies/reimagining-mothering-and-motherhood-india.html>

This year's Review of Gender Studies focuses on motherhood and mothering studies. This volume adds layered lived experiences of mothering from varied settings in India and broadens the body of work on motherhood and mothering in India. While one set of papers in the volume focuses on the embodied experiences that arise from women's maternity experiences and discourses, they also, along with others, situate mothering within local community contexts and concerns, underlining the social and political dynamics and life-cycle changes. The papers represent intersectional views, emphasising the diversity of moral reasoning among mothers and the ways that caste, religion, and modernity intersect to shape maternal practices and identities.

63.Title: Political Construction of Naga Mothers' Organisations and Problems of Feminist Framings

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/review-gender-studies/political-construction-naga-mothers-organisations.html>

Existing scholarship on political motherhood focuses on the role of mothers in resisting state oppression and violence in Nagaland. However, the Naga mothers' organisations are constitutive of conservative, traditional, progressive, religious and "moral mothers." Albeit constrained by multiple layers of patriarchy, it is argued here that the political activism of Naga mothers extends maternal politics in maintaining the moral order of society. The paper questions the assumptions that grassroots mothers always challenge patriarchy within the feminist framework, and critiques a straightforward reading of Naga mothers' organisation in the existing literature. Going beyond a strictly feminist lens, it examines how Naga mothers' organisations often subordinate the women's cause to protect tribal honour.

64.Title: America is anxious, and awesomely powerful

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2026/07/02/america-is-anxious-and-awesomely-powerful>

FROM THE start, 250 years ago, America's founders believed that their republic would shine out as an example to all humanity. But the republic was also an experiment, and they feared that it could soon collapse into disorder or tyranny. Such has been the dance throughout America's extraordinary history. Slavery and xenophobia, corruption and robber barons, civil war and world war have all jostled the republic even as America rose to become the beacon of the free world.

65.Title: Is Andy Burnham more than just a smart-casual Sir Keir Starmer?

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.economist.com/britain/2026/06/29/is-andy-burnham-more-than-just-a-smart-casual-sir-keir-starmer>

“IAM GOING to give Britain the circuit-breaker it needs,” Andy Burnham promised as he set out for the first time what he wants to do if—or rather, when—he becomes prime minister. In the opening speech of his campaign for the Labour Party leadership on June 29th, the former mayor of Greater Manchester acknowledged that more of the same would not be enough for him to succeed where Sir Keir Starmer had failed.

66.Title: Meeting Jordan Bardella, France’s possible president

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.economist.com/europe/2026/06/30/meeting-jordan-bardella-frances-possible-president>

The rue Gabriel Péri in Saint-Denis is typical of a northern Paris suburb. Skinned lambs’ heads are lined up in the butcher’s window; T-shirts in a wire basket go for €2 (\$2.30) at a discount shop; bootleggers flog contraband cigarettes on the pavement. Here, in an eight-storey housing estate in the capital’s most populous banlieue, Jordan Bardella grew up. The 30-year-old’s journey from shy, pale-faced teenager to head of the populist-right National Rally (RN) is remarkable. On July 7th it could take a further twist: Marine Le Pen, his mentor, will learn whether an appeals court upholds her ban on running for office over misuse of European funds. If so, next April Mr Bardella will be the RN’s candidate for the French presidency.

RELIGION

67.Title: Tearing Down Jefferson’s Wall

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/world/tearing-down-jeffersons-wall>

THE LOUDEST APPLAUSE SwamiVivekananda received in Chicago in September 1893 did not come from sceptics or freethinkers. It came from Unitarian ministers—the most theologically liberal Christians in America, men who had spent the better part of a century editing the wrath out of their own God—and who were primed, by the logic of their faith, to hear an Indian monk declare that every religion led to the same truth as confirmation rather than blasphemy. That a Hindu sanyasi should find his warmest welcome from a Christian denomination was not a paradox. It tells us what kind of country America was at its most intellectually serious moment: not devout in any single, settled sense; not secular either, but porous, self-doubting, and considerably more liberal—in the old, unfashionable sense—than either today’s progressive indictment of the founding of the United States or the Christian-nationalist nostalgia for it is prepared to admit on the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

SOCIOLOGY

68. Title: How masculinity is being redefined in India in the age of looksmaxxing

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link:<https://openthemagazine.com/magazine/the-great-indian-male-makeover>

IF YOU JUST KEEP YOUR TONGUE IN CONTACT with your upper palate, if you form that habit, it's a better posture for your face," says Sanchit Kalra, with the kind of seriousness a personal trainer might employ as he corrects your posture in the gym. As though sensing my confusion, he compares what he has been explaining with the common advice against slouching. "When you roll back your shoulders and keep your chest up, it's not changing anything biological in you. It's just a better posture," he says. "Mewing is the same—a better posture for your face."

69.Title: Theft in the Temple

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/india/theft-in-the-temple>

IT BEGAN WITH the detection of a bag filled with coins in a toilet in the Ram Mandir complex not far from where daily cash donations are counted. An examination of the bag revealed coins amounting to more than `2 lakh and alarmed temple trust officials urgently examined the CCTV record. The feed revealed a much more serious situation as people employed to count stacks of currency and coins were seen tucking notes in waistbands and socks, apparently with a sense of immunity. Purloining coins in bulk was a profitable option too, given the volumes dropped by devotees in collection boxes placed around the temple complex.

70.Title: How to Celebrate America's 250th Birthday

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link:<https://www.newyorker.com/culture/goings-on/how-to-celebrate-americas-250th-birthday>

In a letter to his wife, Abigail, from July 3, 1776, John Adams wrote of his idealized vision for future celebrations of American independence: "It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this continent to the other from this Time forward forever more." Now two hundred and fifty years deep into the American experiment, his wish has become a reality, as all the hallmarks of his proposed ritual ring forth for a monumental birthday bash in New York City.

71. Title: Herding the Fro-Yo Sheep

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/07/06/herding-the-fro-yo-sheep>

It was 5:55 p.m. on a Thursday, nearly time for supper, an hour when no one has any business getting themselves a sweet treat. Yet fifty-odd people were standing on line along an aesthetically grim stretch of Seventh Avenue, waiting to purchase cups of frozen yogurt from the new West Village location of Myka, a Madrid-based dessert chain.

72.Title: The Billionaires' Vagina Club

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/07/06/the-billionaires-vagina-club>

Sally Greenwald likes to say that she is the happiest gynecologist in America. She is certainly sought after, having attracted a following of high-powered Silicon Valley women of a certain age with her motto, "Sexual health is health." Recently, Greenwald was the guest of honor at a small luncheon hosted by one of her patients, the tech entrepreneur and philanthropist Gisel Kordestani, in Atherton, California, one of the wealthiest towns in the country. The event took place in the stately, pillared home Kordestani shares with her husband, Omid, the former chairman of Twitter.

73. Title: What Happened to Your Face?

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/07/06/the-human-face-a-cultural-history-fay-bound-albert-book-review>

Several months ago, my partner and I bought an apartment in South London. Our previous home was a rental in which, for reasons best known to the landlord, there were mirrors everywhere. The bathroom had two; there was one outside on the terrace; in the bedroom, mirrored panels stretched across a twenty-foot-long wall. On moving day, we realized that we had a problem: the new apartment was mirror-free, and because we'd been so spoiled we weren't bringing one of our own. We spent a few days filling our drafty rooms, decanting books, building furniture, and dressing every morning without seeing ourselves in profile. It was a couple of weeks before we bought a simple mirror, wooden and round, to hang above the bathroom sink. By then, I joked, we didn't recognize ourselves.

74. Title: At Pacha New York, an Infamous Night Club Is Reborn

Source: New Yorker. 6th -13th July 2026

Link: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/07/06/at-pacha-new-york-an-infamous-night-club-is-reborn>

Last month, a businessman named Kabir Mulchandani appeared in front of the New York State Liquor Authority (S.L.A.) seeking permission to sell alcohol at the open-air Brooklyn night club that his company had recently taken over. There was a lot to consider. Residents had written in with concerns about safety and noise, and the local community board had voted, twenty-two to fourteen, with one abstention, against approving the venue's application. In its previous incarnation, the night club—the biggest of a handful of venues situated in an industrial zone near the edge of East Williamsburg—was known as the Brooklyn Mirage, and its reputation was not uniformly good. Three people died of drug overdoses after attending events there, and in recent years a number of dead bodies were retrieved from the nearby Newtown Creek. In 2025, the Mirage announced a grand renovation, but it failed to get approval from the city's Department of Buildings and was demolished earlier this year. A private-equity firm took control of the site and made an agreement with Mulchandani, the head of a Dubai-based company that owns Pacha, a venerable and glamorous night club on the Mediterranean resort island of Ibiza. With Mulchandani's company as the operator, the Brooklyn club was being reinvented as Pacha New York.

75. Title: Menopause and Transformations in Maternal Identities

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link: <https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/review-gender-studies/menopause-and-transformations-maternal-identities.html>

Menopause is an important transition in a woman's life, transforming maternal identity beyond reproductive and domestic functions. Based on ethnographic fieldwork in central Keralam, it explores how post-menopausal women recalibrate maternal care, authority, and kinship through sensory, affective, and moral practices. Using sensory anthropology, care theory, and feminist life-course scholarship, it conceptualises how post-menopausal women establish covert modes of maternal presence, including taste, smell, ritual, and silence, as forms of authority and intimacy. These recalibrations coexist with refusals, as some women retreat or detach from maternal labour. Tracing these everyday negotiations, the paper contributes to an expanded sociology of motherhood.

76. Title: Dalit Motherhood

Source: Economic & Political Weekly. Vol.61. No-26-27. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/26-27/review-gender-studies/dalit-motherhood.html>

Despite the recognition of their economic and social contributions to the community amid poverty and deprivation and being symbolised as flagbearers of gender autonomy, Dalit women endure patriarchal domination both within and outside their communities. Scholarly attention to the multiple and interconnected identities of Dalit women, with respect to conjugal relationships, mothering practices, care work, and children's education, remains limited. The paper explores how Balmiki women navigate caste and patriarchal structures, marital disappointments, and care responsibilities through maternal logics within the conjugal relationship.

77. Title: Venezuela's earthquakes are partly America's problem

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2026/07/02/venezuelas-earthquakes-are-partly-americas-problem>

THE earthquakes that struck Venezuela on June 24th killed more than 2,000 people, by the official count. Many more are listed as missing, and the UN has ordered 10,000 body bags. But the true toll will probably never be known. After decades of brutal kleptocracy, Venezuela is no longer the kind of country where bodies are properly counted.

78. Title: Why Cambridge and Cambridge need each other

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.economist.com/britain/2026/07/01/why-cambridge-and-cambridge-need-each-other>

CAMBRIDGE, A medieval city 80km (50 miles) north of London, is steeped in innovation. Its university shaped John Milton, Charles Darwin and Stephen Hawking. A plaque outside the Eagle pub marks where Francis Crick and James Watson announced the discovery of the double-helix structure of DNA. It is the birthplace of in vitro fertilisation, the designs that sit in most phones and tablets, and the first humanised monoclonal antibody, a technology used to develop three of the world's five top-selling drugs. Today it is a global hub for life sciences, semiconductors and artificial intelligence.

79. Title: Europe's airport queues are extremely long—and getting longer

Source: Economist. 4th July 2026.

Link:<https://www.economist.com/europe/2026/07/01/europes-airport-queues-are-extremely-long-and-getting-longer>

THE EUROPEAN UNION frets a lot about whether it is competitive, but in one sector it leads the world: acronyms that infuriate foreigners. In recent months the EU's Entry-Exit Scheme (EES) has caused conniptions at the continent's airports. Exasperated visitors (mostly Americans and Britons, for whom travel to Europe is supposed to be a visa-free breeze) have posted videos on Instagram and TikTok of spaghetti-like queues at passport control.

SPORTS

80. Title: Kylian Mbappé: French toast

Source: Open Magazine. Vol-5. No-27. 3rd July 2026

Link: <https://openthemagazine.com/sports/kylian-mbapp%C3%A9-french-toast>

TWO SCORCHING GOALS against Sweden, six in this FIFA World Cup and counting— Kylian Mbappé has once again become the irresistible force around which the quadrennial seems to orbit. The French striker now shares the lead for the Golden Boot with Lionel Messi, but another race with the Argentine appears just as inevitable. It took six World Cups for Messi to eclipse Miroslav Klose's all-time record of 16 goals and move to 19. Mbappé, meanwhile, is just one behind at 18 despite playing only his third tournament. Surpassing Messi's World Cup mark now feels less a question of if than when.

Annexure I- List of Journals and Magazines covered in this Issue.

S.No.	Title	Periodicity	Place of Publication
1.	Economist (A.M.)	W	London
2.	Economic & Political Weekly	W	Mumbai
3.	Chronicle of Higher Education	M	US
4.	Frontline	F	India
5.	New Yorker	W	New York
6.	Open Magazine	W	India