

# MANASA GANGOTRI



Practice Journal of Journalism Students of University of Mysore

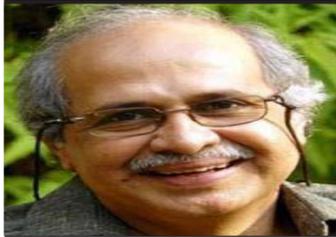
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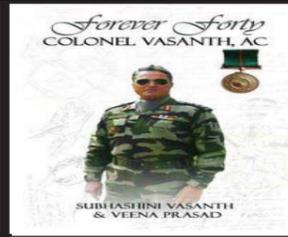
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In brief

## Society is equally responsible for corruption :Justice Santosh Hegde

### MEDIA ACADEMY AWARDS ANNOUNCED

K.M. Shivaraj, R.T. Vittala Murthy, Amshi Prasanna, Ravindra Bhat and K.M. Shivaraj are among the 42 journalists who are chosen for the prestigious Karnataka Media Academy awards for the year 2010-11.

The Academy Chairman D.P. Parameshwar, released the list of awardees. The Special Awards were won by G.N. Ranganath Rao, former Executive Editor of Prajavani and Arakere Jayaram. The Person of the Year awards were won by N.R. Ramaswamy and Hunaswadi Rajan.

**Mysore, Oct:** "The people of India should boycott those who are indulging in corruption, which has reached its peak in the country" said former Lokayukta Justice Santosh Hegde. He was speaking on 'Corruption in India' after releasing a book 'Brashtrachara vemba Navu' written by R. Balasubramaniam at a function organized by the Forum for Planning, Department of Studies in Economics and Co-operation at Senate Bhavan, Manasagangotri, University of Mysore recently.

Justice Hegde blamed the society for failing to recognize a rich person with honest background and those who



Justice Hegde releasing the book 'Brashtrachara vemba navu' on the occasion. Also seen are V.C. Prof V G Talwar, Halathi Somashekar, Dr. Balasubramanyam and Namita Thimmaiah.

made money through illegal means. Referring to the scams like 2G and CWG, Hegde said that the Krishna-Godavari basin oil scam will cross the magnitude of these scams and even one

percent of government schemes is not reaching beneficiary-ies. On referring to the utilization of government funds, Justice Hegde said, "By the time the fund reaches its destination or goal, it might have reduced

dramatically thanks to the copious misuse of funds and corruption.

The masses continue to reel under perennial woes cursing the leaders whose ambition and craving for power surpasses basic ethics and humanity. Justice Hegde took part in an interaction with the students on various issues regarding corruption. Addressing the gathering, Dr. R. Balasubramanyam bemoaned that protesting against corruption had become just a fashion where the statue of Gandhi is garlanded, slogans shouted and a memorandum submitted. Prof V. G. Talwar, Vice-Chancellor of University of Mysore presided over the function.

-Dileep kumar M Narasaiah

## Games jumbos played in Dubare

**Mysore, Oct-** To mark the 57<sup>th</sup> Wildlife Week, the District Forest Department and Wildlife division organized an Elephant Utsav on Monday, October 31, 2011. The event was held at the Dubare elephant camp at Kushalnagar.

Three calves participated, along with twelve male and five female elephants. The event was chaired by M. C. Nanaiah and Basavaraj Horatti, along with other dignitaries. A large number of tourists watched the event. The elephants were decorated and decked up for the event. They were fed food in the form of balls, made of ragi, jaggery and other delicacies. They were later taken to the field cordoned



Elephants displaying their soccer skills at dubare forest

by bamboo fences. After a brief speech by the dignitaries, the elephants were garlanded. The lead elephant Vikrama graciously took the flag of Karnataka and went around the field, followed in tandem by other elephants.

The crowd was given a gracious shower of water by the elephants, which the children greatly enjoyed. Later, a football match was played by the

elephants. The crowd was amazed by the skills of the elephants.

The normally silent forests echoed with their applauses. After the match, prizes were distributed to the mahouts and elephants. The crowd had a lifetime worth of experience posing with the elephants of all sizes, in all possible postures. The smiles of the faces of a large number of children proved that the event was truly a success.

-Murgesh P.K.

## Journalists are creative artistes-Dr. Javeed Nayeem

**Mysore, Oct-** Journalists require proper professional orientation in order to do justice to their role. Journalists are also creative artistes who shape the destiny of the society, observed Dr. Javeed, a wellknown Doctor and columnist.

He called upon the students of journalism to inculcate human and professional values and work as change agents of society. The chief guest inaugurated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the AAINA Journalistic meet organized by the Department of Journalism, St. Philomena's College, Mysore recently. Dr. Javeed also emphasized the need for inculcating

professional skills and competence in order to enhance the quality of journalism. Rev. Fr. Leslie Moras presided over the inaugural function.

He expressed satisfaction over the availability of adequate employment opportunities to the students of journalism in modern society. M.S. Sukanya, Head, Department of Journalism, organized various competitions during this event. Shruthi R. and Murgesh P.K., post graduate students of Communication and Journalism, Manasagangotri won prizes at the AAINA festival. Students of journalism from different colleges actively participated in the festival.

-Murgesh P.K.



**MANASA GANGOTRI**

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*Editorial*

**THE NEED FOR CHANGE**

The global recession has chewed up the quality of education and spat out the unadaptive ones. India and China have emerged the hotspots of the education sector, which sees a booming business in the nations' young and aspiring population. The high fees are no longer a restriction to the financially empowered sections of society. More universities from abroad are making inroads into India, as more and more students prefer to cross the seven oceans for their education. This brings into question the need of faculty to handle the new shift in tides of knowledge gathering. No longer is the teacher the provider of knowledge, he/she is rather the facilitator of knowledge. Universities have to cater to an ever increasing and undying hunger for ideas, innovation and creativity. The presence of well oriented faculty meets and supplements the demand of the future. And that future is not far away.

A recent project funded by the Ford Foundation and the World Bank on the making of world class research universities has found talent, funding and internal governance, among many, as the essential requirements. China's Hong Kong University of Science and Technology has found a prominent place for its rise to success in a very short span of time. The issue is not China's dominance; rather it's the will power of the government and a working class to establish a need for world class education using local resources. We do not lack resources India. IITs and IIMs show that we do have the political will. What we lack is the intellectual will and foresight to cater to the demands of a new generation of knowledge seekers. Students of tomorrow will look up to the professor as a mentor, a friend, a guide and as an accessory to information gathering, in that order.

Information is being generated at a rapid rate. In fact, the rate of generation is higher than the rate of consumption. Knowing which ones are relevant and beneficial is crucial to the generation, retention, development and spread of knowledge. This is where teachers play a crucial role as communicators. Our universities are stuck in the independence era of status quoism, hierarchy and traditional dogma. They rest on the laurels of past successes. Innovation has taken a backseat. No longer are they the powerhouse of revolutionary ideas they once used to be. Our chance to act is now. The universities making inroads into India will cater to the demands of a middle class not afraid to break boundaries, monetary or otherwise. Yes, without doubt they will usher the change needed for a nation poised to become the next superpower. But, those universities which carry the tag of Made in India are facing the threat of extinction. They will be the last graveyards of grey cells, old and lazy.

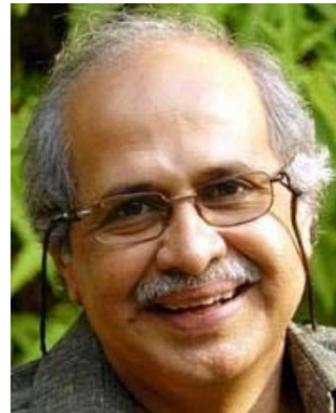
**Shree Padre :A Success Story**

Sree Padre is the Executive Editor of Adike Patrike. He is well known for Krishikara Kaige Lekahni, a system of writing which revolutionized farm journalism in Karnataka.

Sree Padre was born in 1955 into a family of farmers. His village is located amidst the lower Western Ghats. His family's land holdings had diminished when Kasargod was split between Karnataka and Kerala. He did his studies at Puttur, where he did his graduation in Botany and completed his Masters in History. He began work as a freelancer in Kannada and English. Soon, his human interest stories gained wide recognition and began to be published in a wide number of magazines.

In the 1980s' the prices of areca nuts saw a steep rise. Idkidu, a tiny village, was among the many that profited from the increased prices. Unfortunately, a steep decline was observed in the mid-1980s', followed by a crash in the prices. The areca nut farmers were devastated. AIAGA- All India Areca Growers Association, decided to bring a bulletin for Areca farmers. Padre wrote an elaborate proposal to the association suggesting that that only queries and solutions to the farmers' problems should be printed. Advertisements should be printed only if they will not have any influence over the editorial content. The Association did have its apprehensions but decided to give it try. Adike Patrike was born, in 1988. Adike

Patrike was the platform where Padre shaped and strengthened his concept of self help journalism. The magazine is written by farmers, for farmers. Padre was disgusted at the writings of scientists who advocated practices which were not feasible or practical. Also, he



found the mention of certain brand names as solutions to the problems as an unethical practice. He once remarked, "Those who grow never write; those who write don't grow."

The farmers were assured that their writings would be cleaned up of any grammatical error before publication. He also boosted their confidence by conducting workshops to the farmers in writing articles in journalistic style. Padre emphasized on Krishakara Kaige Lekhani-a pen in the hands of farmers. He stressed that farmers pose their problems and give solutions to the problems of other farmers. Padre knew that many farmers were illiterate.

Even those farmers who knew the basics of language would not write. To solve this problem,

Padre started an organisation Samruddhi, meaning prosperity. It is monthly forum of farmers held at Puttur. Members arrive with their solutions, along with seeds and saplings. The entire session is conducted by visual communication. Padre turned his focus in 1995 to the process of conserving water. To his dismay, Padre found that the government bodies had no idea of how and where rainwater harvesting methods were followed. But he did get a lot of ideas from the private sector. By then, Adike Patrike was well established and could afford the services of a paid editor. Hence, he left the magazine and gave his full attention to the topic of Rain Water Harvesting. He travelled to various places to gather more information on the techniques of rainwater harvesting. These techniques were published in Adike Patrike. Reader awareness began to increase, especially among the farmers. Nela Jala Ulisi was the culmination of his work, which later became a handbook on the topic of rain water conservation.

Padre even travelled to various villages to propagate rain water harvesting. His workshops became very famous among the farming community. He was even more pleased that the villagers had come up with their own unique solution in rain water harvesting. "If water scarcity splits people, rain harvesting brings them together", says Padre.

-Murgesh P.K.

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**Namma metro- better late than never?**

Five years back it was exciting to see the beginning of construction of Namma Metro in Bengaluru. But today, with the whole plan going awry and the traffic exploding beyond control, it has become more of a liability. It makes us wonder, is this project really worth the quote 'better late than never'?

The idea of a metro train was not new when the work began in 2006. It was proposed to the Karnataka government nearly 20 years ago. It was when the traffic was tolerable and funds available. But, the government had to wait for the roads to get over-crowded to realize that Bengaluru needs a metro. It takes a disaster for

them to find a solution for it. In today's situation, when roads get blocked for hours together, the construction work is only making it worse for the commuters. The number of roads that changed from peaceful to nightmarish is not few. The green and yellow boards 'Namma Metro' are concealing the beauty of the city. The commuters can do is pray for a miracle that will make this project work out in Bengaluru.

-Shruthi R.

**Congrats Mysore**

Mysore is one of the fast growing cities in India. Recently, Mysore bagged the Environmentally Sustainable

City Award (ESCA 2011), at the Euro-India Summit at Leaven, Belgium. The Mysore Municipal Corporation has implemented a pilot project on zero waste management at Kumbarkopal, Mysore.

The inorganic waste is brought to the zero waste management facility by self help groups and subjected to aerobic treatment and vermicomposting. The project has enhanced community participation and has provided employment to many low income families. As Indians we should be proud of Mysore for getting this award. We should also strive to win this award every year.

-Dileep kumar M Narasaiah

# Standards of education across the globe should be uniform: *Prof. Nagabhushan*

*Prof. Nagabhushan is a life member of the Indian Society for Technical Education, Computer Society of India. He is also a Fellow of IETE (Institute of Technical Education) and Institution of Engineers. He is one of the senior faculty of the Computer Science department. Prof. Nagabhushan is a life member of the Indian Society for Technical Education, Computer Society of India. He is also a Fellow of IETE (Institute of Technical Education) and Institution of Engineers. He is one of the senior faculty of the Computer Science department. The introduction of the CBCS scheme in Mysore University was Prof. Nagabhushan's brainchild. Prof P Nagabhushan, Director, CBCS. Student reporters of MGM interviewed Prof. Nagabhushan. Excerpts of the interview:*

## Why did Mysore University introduce the CBCS scheme?

Mysore University has always been in the forefront of education amongst all the universities. The vision statement of the founding fathers of the University was Nahi Jnyanena Sadrusham, meaning there is nothing parallel to knowledge. The other statement is I always uphold the truth. We will become knowledgeable only when we will uphold the truth. Each time we speak the truth, we become more knowledgeable. Also, if we are knowledgeable we cannot say anything other than the truth. These processes are always continuous and cyclic. CBCS scheme is an adoption of what is happening at our primary level. The way tests and homework are given, assessment is continuous. It was Prof SN Hegde, former Vice-Chancellor of Mysore University who insisted that there must be radical changes in the system of practicing education. The CBCS scheme was first experimented with the Computer Science department. Hence, the decision of introducing CBCS was not sudden or radical. Partly it is also because of the compulsion by MHRD. Also, because the university is elevated as a Centre of Excellence and is competing for the status as a university with a potential for excellence, it became a necessity. Also, the University of Mysore has been shortlisted for the status of Innovative University. CBCS method of education is one of the parameters for getting these statuses. Standards of education across the globe should be uniform. All students are global commodities.

**What are the salient features of the CBCS scheme?**  
Two things are important over

here. One, Credit. It is a measure of whatever you learn. Two, the assessment being continuous throughout the course. During duration of the course, the learning ability of the students is assessed. The emphasis is not on what the student has by hearted. Proper feedback should be given to students at every instant and correcting him from the wrong method of learning. Students should develop the inquisitiveness to search for the right answer and thinking about the right answer. It also challenges the teacher in giving creative assignments which are up to date with the current trends in their respective fields.

## What do you mean by credit and grade?

Just as in any business transaction, a credit is what a student earns when he has completed an educational transaction. For e.g. If a student completes a course



having four credits, he earns those four credits. He/she cannot earn a part of four credits. However, gradually the system will become flexible and enable a student to earn a part of those credits, say 2 or 3 credits. Credit is a measure of what the student has learnt. It is quantitative. Grade is with what quality he has acquired that credit. This grade is arrived at by continuous assessment rather than a one time assessment of the student. It is qualitative.

## What kind of continuous assessment is taking place in the university?

Workshops for eleven batches were arranged. Through this, the University had a one-to-one interaction with the teachers. By

conducting these periodic review meetings, feedback is collected. Before the first batch moves out, we would like to have a workshop with the students. Feedback forms would be given to the students before the fourth semester. This would go a long way in refabricating and redesigning the credit based education for the coming batches.

## What progress has Mysore University achieved after introduction of this program?



*Prof. Nagabhushan, Director, CBCS (UoM).*

Students are generally happy because they no longer have to cram subjects. The teachers are compelled to work. The use of library, especially the computer lab for internet has gone up. Group based assignments have increased respect for peers. Also, people have developed a fascinating liking for open electives.

## Where do we stand now?

The reaction has been very positive. In fact, the progress has been far better than what anybody would have estimated. The teachers have put their best efforts and their best imagination to understand the basics of continuous assessment. Since no other institution has started the credit based system with us, we definitely cannot tell as to where we stand in the race. There is a long way to catch up with esteemed institutions such as IITs, IISC, JNU, and Birla Institutes which are far ahead.

## What are the limitations of CBCS?

There could be some setbacks. The setbacks are because of communication gap. Or perhaps in non-clarity in comprehending certain points. Naturally in the beginning, these pitfalls will be

there. That is where these interactions sessions and feedback sessions would help us. If the system is a major failure, it would be known only after two or three years because we are in the learning process only.

## Aren't we aping the West by implementing their system of education?

We should retain our values in our education system. In fact, our standards should be so high that should like to have a training program with us. We should emulate their work

not arise now, since the student has registered himself at the beginning of the semester. So, the rules, regulations and the practices should accordingly change. So, in simple terms, they should be co-operative and proactive.

## Should the CBCS system be introduced at the undergraduate level?

The Government of Karnataka has already constituted a committee for this, for which Prof. V G Talwar himself is the chairman of the committee. There are certain radical changes that are to happen at the undergraduate level. There are mono-subject courses such as BCA and BCom; contrary to that, there are courses which have three major subjects. The three years undergraduate degree is not of International acceptance. An undergraduate program should be of four years, followed by two years of Masters program. The government should address these issues. The University of Mysore has indirectly addressed these issues by giving a Honors degree to all those people who would like to exit after the first year of their Masters course. This would emulate an International level of four years of college education.

## What are your suggestions for the improvement of CBCS?

Inertia and Inhibition is the basic property of any human. It is the basic property of animals also. A sparrow does not like to change its place; it always comes back to the same place. . Every one of us likes to be recognized, and for this, we try to be different and do things differently than what is normally practiced. Trying to remain in a cocoon and also get recognized for our excellent individuality cannot go together.

One has got to overcome the practice of opposing something for the sake of opposing it for the first time. We would always fall in love with the same thing that we oppose initially. That would certainly happen; it is only a question of time. When a person critically opposes something, one can understand the demerits of it and set it right. Any progressive thing does not come without opposition.

-Shreedevi S  
-Murgesh PK

Play review

Innovative  
*'Meravanige'*

Meravanige is a street play about social issues affecting the youth and the common masses. Nirantara is the group behind this play. It conducts a workshop for students and then puts them in plays. The seating arrangements for the play were entirely different.

The play began by the artistes asking the audience to switch off their cell phones. The play has elements of satire in it by making fun of God men and the media. The artistes themselves took on the role of trains, buses and the daily grind of people travelling in them. It was accompanied by matching background music. Among the various facets of life showcased, even tele-callers were shown. It was ironically portrayed by the tele-caller offering honeymoon packages to Iran, Iraq and Bangladesh. Tensions between various religions, the importance of peace and unity were aptly shown.

The artistes were interacting with the audience at every stage of the play, making it lively and interactive. The time-to-

time appearance of a God man and people showing subservience to him portrayed the influence of religion in Indian society. Social evils such as drinking were also shown aesthetically. The reach of corruption to all levels of life was the highlight of the play. Theories such as Communism and Marxism which have shaped nations and the conflicts between their followers were highlighted. The increasing threats to life by accidents involving planes and trains were not forgotten.

As the drama approached its end, candles were distributed to the audience and they were encouraged to light it and join the procession, giving meaning to the title of the play, Meravanige. Hum honge kaamyab playing in the background created the perfect setting for the play. The play showcased the ugly face of humanity. It also portrayed our collective will power to overcome these evils and win over them.

-Murgesh P.K.

Value of Tomatoes

Here are 10 reasons why you should have tomatoes in your kitchen and pantry: Tomatoes contains all four major



carotenoids: alpha- and beta-carotene, lutein, and lycopene. These carotenoids may have individual benefits, but also have synergy as a group (that is, they interact to provide health benefits). In particular, tomatoes contain awesome amounts of lycopene, thought to have the highest antioxidant activity of all the carotenoids. Tomatoes and broccoli have synergy that may help reduce the risk of prostate cancer. One study showed that prostate tumors grew much more slowly in rats that were fed both tomato and broccoli powder than in rats given lycopene as a supplement or fed just the

broccoli or tomato powder alone. A diet rich in tomato-based products may help reduce the risk of pancreatic cancer, according to a study from the University of Montreal. The researchers found that lycopene (provided mainly by tomatoes) was linked to a 31% reduction in pancreatic cancer risk between men with the highest and lowest intakes of this carotenoid. Tomatoes contain all three high-powered antioxidants: beta-carotene (which has vitamin A activity in the body), vitamin E, and vitamin C. A U.S. Department of Agriculture report, What we eat in America, noted that a third of us get too little vitamin C and almost half get too little vitamin A. Tomatoes are rich in potassium, a mineral most of us don't get enough of. A cup of tomato juice contains 534 milligrams of potassium, and 1/2 cup of tomato sauce has 454 milligrams. When tomatoes are eaten along with healthier fats, like avocado or olive oil, the body's absorption of the carotenoid phytochemicals in tomatoes can increase by two to 15 times.

-Sanaz.M

Forty years of spring-time

Written by Subhashini Vasanth, wife of Colonel Vasanth, Forever Forty is a heart rendering tale of an extraordinary soldier, in the

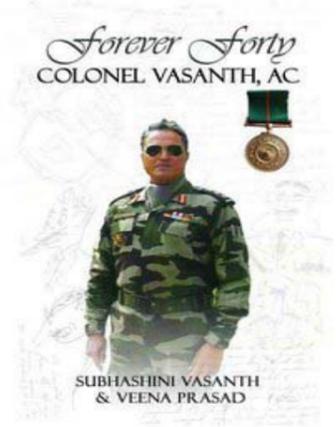
cherished jokes are quoted while they all recollect the best incidents from the past that was brighter with Vasanth around. This makes it a most enjoyable

to publish these personal letters. But she later realized that Colonel Vasanth did not belong to her only, and so more than 400 letters became the soul of this book. These letters give an insight to the sacrifices made by a soldier, not just in martyrdom, but every single day, so that his country can sleep in peace.

The author says that the title was suggested by Vasanth himself. Soon after his brother's death (at 38), Vasanth had remarked that his brother will now be forever 38. Recalling this statement, his daughter suggested that since Vasanth was 40, Forever Forty would be appropriate. The story brings out many proud smiles for the life well-lived; and a few tears in the end too, for a sacrifice that leaves a mark on us, the protected people. Colonel Vasanth spent his life spreading joy like the spring. Forever forty is a must read for all Indians.

-Shruthi R

**Book: Forever Forty**  
**Author: Subhashini Vasanth and Veena Prasad**  
**Published date: July 2011**  
**Publishers: Peak publishers**  
**Cost: Rs. 295**



eyes of all the lucky ones who got to know him. Colonel Vasanth was not only an excellent Colonel but also a good son, a wonderful husband, a doting father to his two daughters and an amazing friend. He laid down his life while fighting militants in Kashmir in 2007.

His wife Subhashini, a dancer, with her co-author Veena Prasad writes this book out of the best memories of him narrated by his mother, his close friends at school, college and in the army. All their best

read. Also the highlight in this book is the bunch of letters that Vasanth has written home when he was posted in the remotest corners of the country, away from his family almost every New Year, festival and birthday. During the time when long distance calling was thought impossible, their youthful love survived solely on these letters. The author says that she was at first reluctant

The right path in life

"Hurry! Hurry! Do a move and turn your clock to your opponent! Move! Time! Move! Time!" I had only 1-1.5 minutes, she-Zeykine had left 5 minutes. This game was going to decide the whole tournament of 'country chess championship' among women players. A crowd of people surrounded our table. I was in a hurry, so I did not have time to just look up the people who were there. My face was burning in a fire from inside. My heart seemed like was jumping and beating the chest in order to go out. My eyes saw only black-white figures

cried out again and again." Be careful with the clock! Do not beat on it!" But, what to do, everyone was thinking about his/her own duty and goal. At least the game was over. Zeykine wasted her 5 minutes before my 1-1.5 minutes. I shook her hand symbolizing the sportsmanship. Days, months passed.

One day I met the senior chess player. She requested me to participate in the group chess championship in the Olympic games. I told her that due to my University classes my dean won't allow me to go. And I her suggested to take

yesterday I was playing chess with her. She was so dear to me! She was so intelligent! She was from an educated, wealthy family.

She herself had everything; beauty, fame and health. She was an 8 time champion in chess in the whole country. She had taken part in international tournaments too. Plus, that year one of 16 Universities of our country opened a new faculty of Chess exclusively for her. And accepted her as the only student in the whole faculty. They even provided her with scholarship. I became full of regret to lose my friend, sister and a respected chess opponent. But what was lacking in your life, sister? How temporary and easily destructible this body is. Having everything yet to feel nothing.

She neither wanted fame nor wealth. Her heart longed for something more, something for her innerworld. But unfortunately she chose the wrong way, suicide. In other ways, I was upset with myself that I didn't introduce her with the divine knowledge of Bhagavad Gita. This could have answered all the questions of her life. This would have quenched her thirst for knowledge.

-Maral



on the black-white chess board. My mouth cried out to the arbiter, requesting him to be closer to our table in the final moments of the game.

I tried to predict my opponent's move. Poor arbiter

Zeykine instead. Then her face became serious and she asked me if I hadn't heard the news. She told that Zeykine had committed suicide nearly 1-2 weeks ago. What! I was really shocked! It seemed like just