



THE SYDENHAMITE

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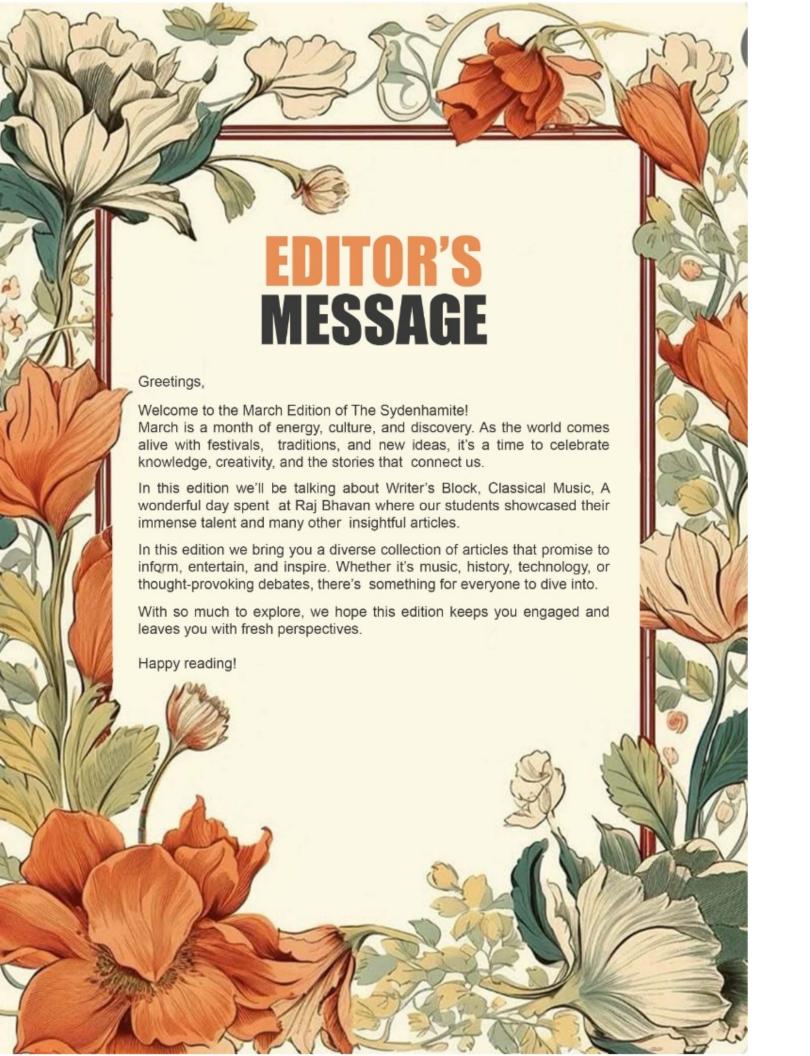




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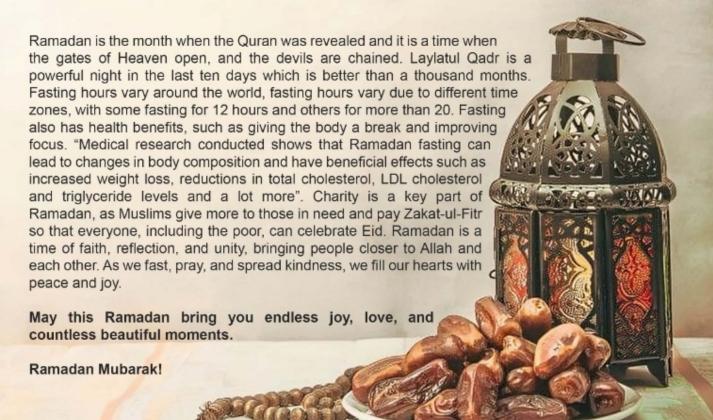
Pomodour **Kaifi Khan**

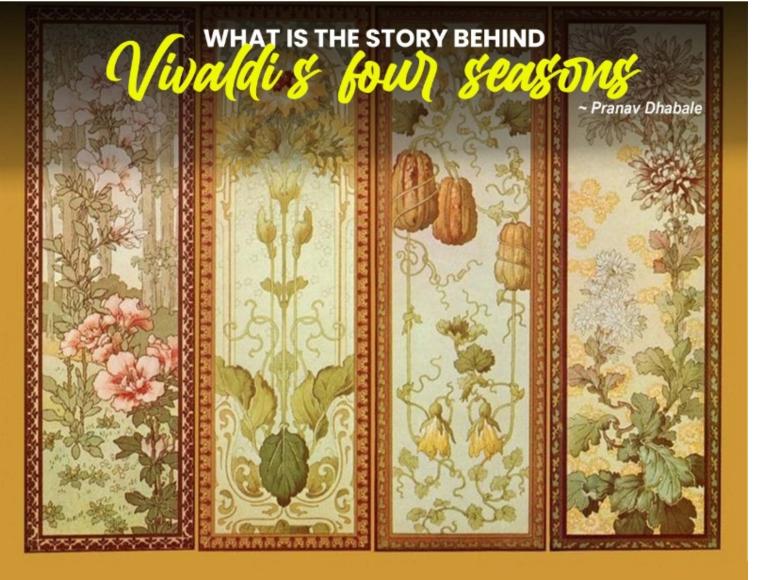
NO WATER?! NO FOOD?!, A question that's often asked during the holy month of Ramadan. Yes, that's right! But Ramadan is much more than just staying away from food and water. It's a time of spiritual growth, where we step away from worldly pleasures and rely entirely on our faith.

If I were to explain what Ramadan is as if explaining to a child it would be like, Ramadan is a very special and happy month for Muslims all around the world. It is a time when we wake up early before the sun rises to eat a meal called Suhoor, and then we don't eat or drink anything all day until the sun sets. This is called fasting.

But Ramadan is not just about staying hungry, it's about becoming kinder, more patient, and closer to Allah. We read the Quran, pray more, help people, and try to be our best selves.

When the sun sets, we break our fast with dates and water, just like Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) did. This meal is called Iftar. Then, at night, we pray a special prayer called Taraweeh at the mosque. At the end of Ramadan, we celebrate a big, happy day called Eid-ul-Fitr. We wear new clothes, eat delicious food, give gifts, and say "Eid Mubarak" to everyone. Ramadan is like a beautiful gift from Allah that helps us become better and feel closer to Him.





Have you ever listened to a piece of music and felt like it was speaking directly to your soul? Like it understood the subtle shifts in your mood, the joys and sorrows that make up the human experience? That's precisely what Vivaldi managed to achieve with his "Four Seasons." And honestly, isn't that what we all crave? That connection?

It's easy to get lost in the technical brilliance of his compositions, the intricate melodies, and the masterful orchestration. But peel back those layers, and you'll find something profoundly human. Vivaldi wasn't just writing notes on a page; he was telling stories. Stories of birds welcoming spring, of summer storms, of the crispness of autumn, and the biting chill of winter. And he didn't leave it to our imaginations. He gave us poems, little narratives that perfectly synchronized with his music. He wanted us to feel it.

Now, let's delve into the heart of "The Four Seasons." Each concerto is a vivid depiction of its respective season, a sonic painting that captures the essence of nature's cycle "Spring" bursts forth with joyous melodies, the violin trilling like birdsong, and the rhythmic pulse mimicking the awakening of life. You can almost feel the warm sun and see the flowers blooming. Then, "Summer" arrives, a sweltering heat captured in languid melodies and sudden, dramatic bursts of energy that represent thunderstorms. The music builds, mimicking the tension of an approaching storm, followed by the release of a powerful downpour. "Autumn" brings a sense of harvest and celebration, the music filled with rustic dances and a feeling of abundance. Yet, there's also a hint of melancholy, a recognition of the fading light. Finally, "Winter" descends, a stark and chilling experience. The shivering strings and biting rhythms paint a picture of icy winds and frozen landscapes. It's a testament to Vivaldi's skill that he can evoke such vivid imagery with just instruments. And truly, the way he uses the violin to create the sounds of each season, is something to behold.

He was a showman, in a way. He understood the value of performance, of creating an experience. He'd feature himself, or the talented young musicians from the Pia, in his concerts. He knew how to draw a crowd, how to keep them engaged. He knew the value of a good show.

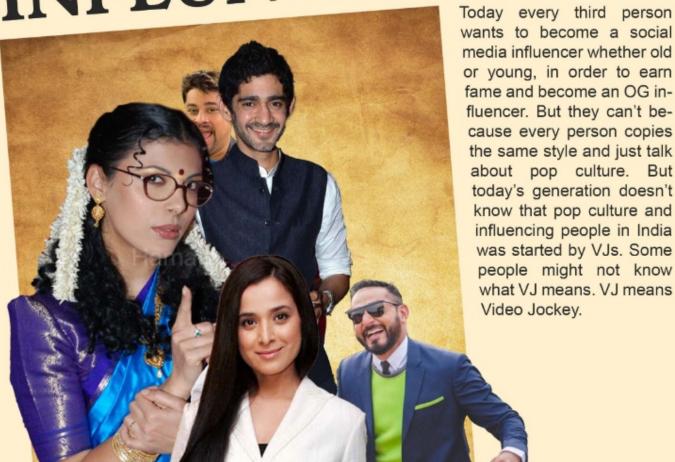
And that's what makes his music so timeless. It's not just about the notes; it's about the feeling. It's about the human connection. 300 years later, we're still listening to Vivaldi, still feeling the emotions he poured into his music. Maybe, just maybe, he understood us better than we understand ourselves. He understood the human need for stories, for emotions, for connection. And he gave us all of that, in the form of music. And really, isn't that the most human thing of all?

Think about it: long before the age of film scores and immersive soundtracks, Vivaldi was creating musical landscapes that painted vivid pictures in the listener's mind. He understood the power of music to evoke emotions, to transport us to another place and time. And, let's be real, doesn't that make him feel incredibly modern?

What truly sets Vivaldi apart, though, is his understanding of his audience. He wasn't composing for the elite few; he was creating entertainment for everyone. He wanted his music to be accessible, to be enjoyed by all. He wasn't afraid to use catchy melodies, to repeat themes, to make his music memorable. He knew that peopleresponded to familiarity, to a sense of comfort. And, and this is important, he knew that people loved to be entertained.



"VJ's THE OG INFLUNCERS ~ Sai Thorat



Video jockeys, the real OG influencers used to hold a different vibe. Video jockeying has played a very significant role in introducing and shaping the pop culture of India, especially in the 90s. The introduction of the VJ culture in India was closely tied with the music television channels such as MTV and Channel V. VJs on these channels became the most popular name in India. They used to host many music shows and interacted with many fans, they also used to do many live shows which became a new scene in Indian television and created a buzz in those times. People in Bollywood at that time would go to these video jockey shows to promote their movies and songs. Every VJ had their unique presentation style to promote those things. The stature of video jockeys of that time used to be as high as Bollywood celebrities. These video jockeys helped to bridge the gap between Western music and Indian youth by introducing to new genre of music. They didn't only bring international music they also brought fashion and trends in India but were also producing many iconic shows which helped a lot of Indian youth to come in front and showcase their talent on Indian television along with shows that made India burst into laughter.

The most notable VJs of that time were, Gaurav Kapur, Nikhil Chinapa, Anuradha Menon, Simone Singh, Danny McGill, Cyrus Broacha, and many more. These people hosted many fun shows, let's reminisce about a few of them! "MTV Bakra" one of the most iconic prank shows, was hosted by Cyrus Broacha; "MTV Most Wanted" was one of the longest-running music countdown shows on Indian television hosted by Danny McGill; Nikhil Chinapa used to host the show "MTV Select" which was a popular request based music where viewers could call and request their favorite songs; Anuradha Menon's alter ego "Lola Kutty" on channel V became one of the most famous characters due to its nerdy and traditional look challenging stereotypes of beauty and style in entertainment. Channel V's "Bajaate Raho", a fun and interactive show known for its prank calls and humor was hosted by Gaurav Kapur. Besides, there were many shows on channel V that aired late at night featuring music videos, interviews and engaging segments for viewers.

It's been many years since the era of video jockeys has come to an end but they are still the OG influencers!



RAJ BHAVAN

CELEBRATING ARUNACHAL PRADESH AND MIZORAM FOUNDATION DAY ~ Kaifi Khan

Recently, our college had the privilege of organising a grand celebration at Raj Bhavan in honor of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram Foundation Day along with the Governor of Maharashtra Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, Vice Chancellor Prof. Rajnish Kamant and Our Principal Dr. Shriniwas Dhure. The event was a vibrant showcase of the rich cultural heritage of both states, bringing together students, dignitaries, and cultural enthusiasts.







One of the highlights of the celebration was the state anthem of Arunachal Pradesh, "Hamara Arunachal" sung by our very own alumna Ms. Sanjeevani Bhelande. The mesmerizing performance of the students of sydenham who sang the traditional songs like as Ja Jin Ja. Aw Nang Mizoram, the Mizoram Folk Song sung by our alumna Ms. Dhanashri which resonated with deep pride and unity. The rhythmic beats and melodious tunes created an atmosphere of cultural harmony, reflecting the spirit of both states.

The event featured live painting which turned out amazing and also traditional dance performances that captivated the audience. Dancers adorned in colorful ethnic attire gracefully showcased the unique dance forms of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram, celebrating their rich traditions. The energy and enthusiasm of the performers were contagious, leaving the spectators in awe. All the participants received a certificate and a photo with the Governor and other dignitaries present.

The event at Raj Bhavan was not just a celebration but also an opportunity for students to immerse themselves in the diverse cultural landscape of India. It was a reminder of the beauty of unity in diversity and the importance of preserving and appreciating our nation's cultural heritage.





A PROCESS OF CREATING YOUR VERY OWN WORLD - FILMMAKING

~ Abhishek Karankale

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Making a film is just like creating a world frame by frame. It is an art form that justifies one's vision, imagination, creativity, and persistence.

To bring a writer's work to the screen takes multiple phases and immense effort, as this industry depends on the concept of coexistence. The making of a film starts with inspiration. As per the generic rule of energy—where it can neither be created nor destroyed in this sense, everything is a copy of a copy of a copy. A writer is simply someone who modifies real-life experiences or thoughts to another level of the spectrum. This flow of energy is then passed on to the directors and producers, and at that very moment, the process of pre-production begins.



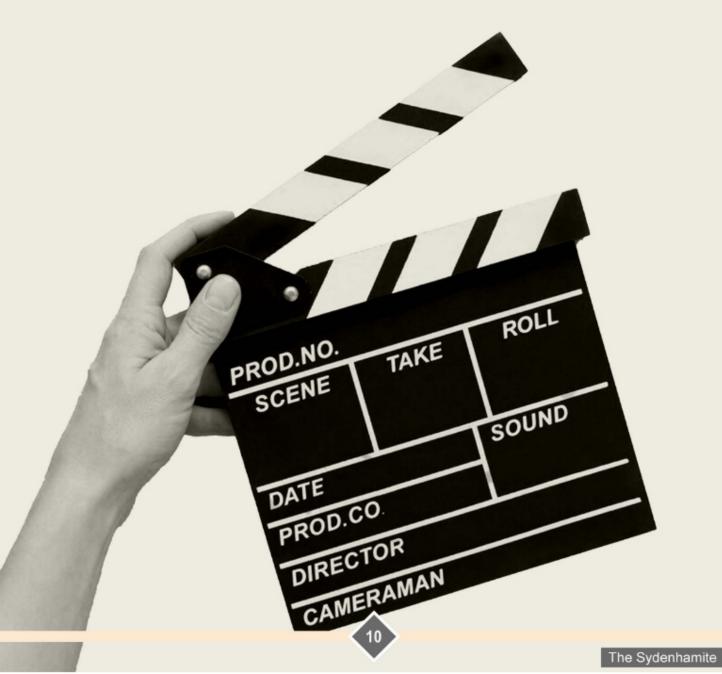
Shoot

After workshops, the actual shoot takes place, where a filmmaker finds peace within the chaos. During pre-production, a film's shooting schedule is planned. In most cases, this schedule is respected, but sometimes it gets extended. After all, making a movie is like creating a world, and a world with errors is not a perfect thing to experience.

Post-Production

After shooting, the most challenging part begins—post-production—where the film gets edited and dubbed. This is when a love-hate relationship develops between the filmmaker and the film. The creator sees the movie so many times that they start feeling detached from their own artwork. But after all, a film is a baby for its director, and one cannot abandon their own child. The filmmaker watches it repeatedly until that love-hate relationship begins.

After all the efforts, the day finally arrives when the film no longer belongs to its makers. Once published, it is owned by the audience. Each viewer interprets and justifies it in their own way. Every person sees it through a different vision, finds different metaphors, and experiences it through their unique perspective. And that is what makes this art so beautiful one film, numerous perspectives.





~ Praneet Kodkani

I feel like ending this article right here. But commitments must be respected after all. And I think commitments and deadlines are one of the greatest motivators to make you write or do any other work. I feel like I have been going through a writer's block again for a while now. So, I thought why not try to unblock it by learning and writing about it.

There are many definitions of writer's block. Some call it a myth while some suggest ways to overcome it. But the thing that has worked for me to unblock the so-called writer's block is to JUST WRITE. Yes, just write. Sometimes we encage our creativity by focusing too much on what people would say reading our work, or, what we are writing is right or not in the eye of the masses. Famous American writer James Thurber has so aptly articulated this as, "Don't get it right, just get it written". One shouldn't be so obsessed with writing right, rather be obsessed with writing, right?

Adept screenwriter and lyricist, Javed Akhtar once said in a talk show that he knows so many veteran writers who sometimes write a page and feel like they have written crap and feel so disgusted that they throw that paper away and write again and again and again till they feel satisfied. He said that you need to go through this process and then only you will gradually know, 'what not to write'. He said he believes that there are many people who can become a good writer but get demoralized and capitulate themselves in this process.

You trusting your craft is more important than anyone else, but sometimes we get so confined by self-doubt, that it becomes important to get some assurance, writing and asking for an honest review from someone you trust can be a great help.

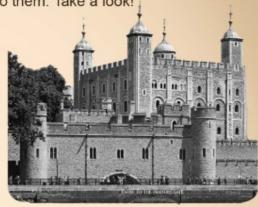
Like doctors have the ability to save lives, writers are capable of giving life to things. Consider it a privilege to be one. It's completely fine to suffer a writer's block, don't fight, just write.

HAUNTS OF THE FORGOTTEN

~ Sai Thorat

In the previous editions of "The Sydenhamite" you have seen us covering topics related to religious places, in the spectrum of "Spiritual Cities of India", and "Unparalleled Architecture of Ancient India", but the places that we are going to discover in this article can be considered to be poles apart from those places. In this edition, let's check out some of the most haunted places from all over the world, which have chilling stories and supernatural stories attached to them. Take a look!

The Tower of London [England] – The Tower of London which was built in the 11th century was a royal mansion, prison and execution site, the tower is haunted by many of the spirits of the prisoners including the famous public Anne Boleyn. Some of the visitors had reported that they heard many footsteps and felt someone's presence in the dark chambers.





Aokigahara Forest [Japan] – Aokigahara forest is also known as the "Suicide Forest". The forest is said to be haunted by the angry spirits of dead people, It is located at the base of Mount Fuji. The place is infamous for numerous suicides. People who visited the place said that they had seen some images and heard whispers in the tree.

Bhangarh Fort [Rajasthan] – Bhangarh Fort which is located in the Alwar district and often said to be India's one of the most haunted sites. Bhangarh Fort was built in the 26th century by Raja Madho Singh. It is said that the fort is the center of numerous paranormal tales. People living nearby said that the fort is haunted by the spirit of a wizard who fell in love with the princess of Bhangarh. Visitors have reported hearing unexplained noises and witnessing apparitions, especially after sunset.







Guna Caves [Tamil Nadu] – The Guna cave situated in Kodaikanal, formerly known as has Devil's Kitchen, has a very sinister reputation due to its numerous unexplained disappearances of people. In the late 1980s, several people who entered these caves vanished without a trace. The authorities were unable to recover any bodies. In 2016 police records indicate at least 16 such disappearances. The caves are now closed for the safety purpose of public.

Château de Brissac [France] – This French castle was built around the 11th century it is famous for most of the famous murder of Charlotte de Brissac who was killed by her husband after discovering the infidelity. The ghost of Charlotte is known as The Green Lady and it is said that it is often seen floating through castle. Visitors often hear cries and some visitors have also reported feeling cold and her presence in the old chambers.

Studying Abroad More Convenient than Studying in India - Kaifi Khan

In recent years, studying abroad has become a preferred choice for many Indian students due to various challenges in the IIndian Education System. Competitive entrance exams like NEET (for medical) and JEE (for engineering) have made it difficult for students to secure seats in top institutions, leading many to explore better opportunities overseas.

The NEET Challenge in India

The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) is the only gateway for students aspiring to become doctors in India. With limited government seats and skyrocketing fees in private medical colleges, the competition is fierce. Every year, lakhs of students spend years preparing, yet only a small percentage secure admission. This has resulted in immense stress, wasted years, and financial burdens for families. In contrast, countries like Russia offer MBBS programs without entrance exams, making it easier for students to fulfill their dream of becoming doctors. Additionally, medical universities in Russia provide world- class infrastructure, experienced faculty, and globally recognized degrees at a much lower cost than private medical colleges in India.

Declining Interest in Engineering Due to JEE

Engineering, once a popular career choice, has seen a decline in interest due to the highly competitive Joint Entrance Examination (JEE). With limited seats in IITs and NITs, many students fail admissions despite years of preparation. Moreover, oversaturation of engineers in India has led to fewer job opportunities and lower salaries. As a result, students now prefer alternative career paths such as management, finance, and digital marketing.

Why Studying Abroad is a Better Option

Studying abroad offers multiple advantages, including a flexible education system, exposure to global job markets, better research opportunities, and a stress-free admission process. Countries like Russia, Germany, Canada, and the UK provide quality education, better job prospects, and international exposure, making them a preferred destination for Indian students. Thus, for students struggling with entrance exams and limited opportunities in India, studying abroad is often the smarter and more practical choice.

While some believe studying in India provides strong academic foundations and cultural familiarity, others argue that international education offers better career opportunities and personal growth. Every choice comes with its own pros and cons, and the decision ultimately depends on individual goals and circumstances. Sometimes, taking a risk and exploring new opportunities abroad can lead to a brighter future, even if it means stepping out of one's comfort zone.



THE QUANTUM RACE:

WHO WILL BUILD THE FUTURE OF COMPUTING? ~ Pranav Dhabale

Are we on the cusp of a computing revolution? The buzz around quantum computing is no longer a distant hum; it's a growing roar. Microsoft, with its intriguing "Majorana 1" chip, is making waves, while Google and Amazon are pushing their own boundaries. It feels like we're watching a high-stakes race, a battle for the future of computation. But what does it all mean, and who's leading the charge?

Microsoft's recent reveal of its palm-sized quantum chip, which is also called the "God chip", the "Majorana 1," has ignited a firestorm of speculation. The company's approach, focusing on topological qubits, is a departure from the superconducting qubits favored by many others. This "Majorana 1" concept, if successful, promises unparalleled stability and error correction – crucial hurdles in building practical quantum computers. Now, what could be the possible impact of stable, error-corrected qubits? Imagine complex simulations for drug discovery, material science, or even breaking currently unbreakable encryption. The potential is staggering.

But Microsoft isn't alone. Google, a long-time player in the quantum game, has unveiled its latest chip, "Willow," pushing the boundaries of superconducting qubit technology. They're focused on increasing qubit count and improving coherence times, essentially making their qubits more stable and less prone to errors. So how to find a balance between increasing qubit count and maintaining coherence? Google's "Willow" is about scaling up and refining existing technology, aiming for practical quantum advantage in the near term.





Amazon, too, is throwing its hat into the ring with its own quantum hardware initiatives, including their "Ocelot" chip. Their approach, while less publicized, is focused on building a comprehensive quantum ecosystem, including cloud-based quantum services and developing their own hardware. They are investing heavily in photonic quantum computing, which uses light to perform calculations. Now if there are benefits, there are challenges to it as well. Thinking about quantum states can be very confusing. It is like the famous thought experiment of Schrodinger's cat. Where a cat in a box is both alive and dead, until the box is opened, and the state is observed. In much the same way, the state of quantum bits is very fragile, and difficult to observe. Photonic systems, like those found in "Ocelot," have the potential for high speeds and scalability, but they also face challenges in building complex quantum circuits, and maintaining those fragile states.

The Architecture Divide: A Battle of Approaches

The fundamental difference lies in their architectural choices. Microsoft's "Majorana 1" uses topological qubits, which are theorized to be inherently more robust against errors, making them potentially more scalable in the long run. However, they are also more challenging to build and control. Google's "Willow" uses superconducting qubits, while more prone to errors, are more mature and have shown promising results in recent experiments. Amazon's "Ocelot" and its photonic approach, meanwhile, offers a different set of trade-offs, prioritizing speed and scalability over qubit stability.

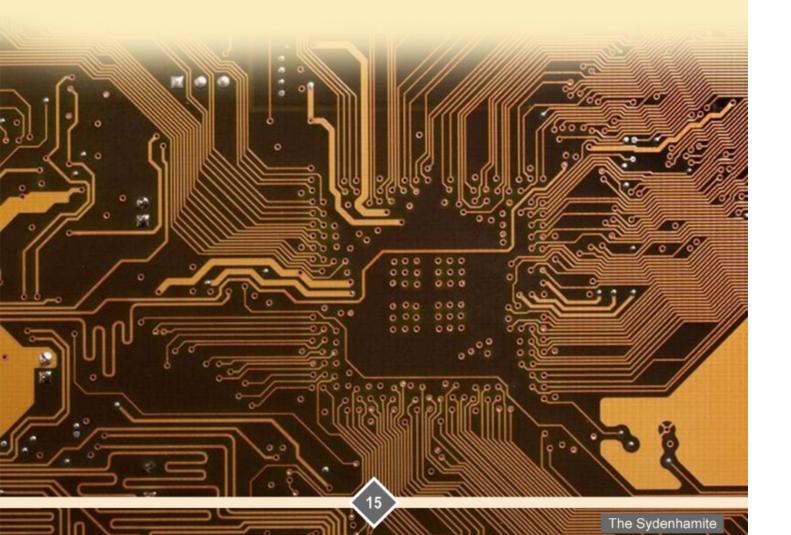
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- Microsoft's "Majorana 1" Topological Qubits: Think of it like weaving a complex knot. The information is encoded in the "braiding" of these knots, making it resilient to small disturbances. This is a long-term play, aiming for fault-tolerant quantum computers.
- Google's "Willow" Superconducting Qubits: Imagine tiny circuits that can exist in multiple states simultaneously. Google is focusing on perfecting these circuits, increasing their number, and improving their coherence. This is a more immediate approach, aiming for near-term applications.
- Amazon's "Ocelot" Photonic Qubits: Envision light pulses carrying information. Amazon's focus is on using light to perform quantum computations, offering potential for high speeds and scalability.

Beyond the Hype: What's Next?

The reality is, we're still in the early stages of quantum computing. The "Majorana 1," "Willow," and "Ocelot" advancements are exciting, but there's a long road ahead. Error correction, scalability, and developing practical algorithms are all significant challenges. But the progress is undeniable.

The race between Microsoft, Google, and Amazon is pushing the boundaries of what's possible. It's a testament to human ingenuity and our relentless pursuit of innovation. Whether it's Microsoft's quest for topological stability, Google's focus on scaling, or Amazon's photonic vision, the future of computing is being shaped right now.



Sydenham Scoops Yountré '25

On 22nd February, Sydenham College buzzed with entrepreneurial spirit as Yountré '25 unfolded; a day of innovation, ambition, and learning. The event kicked off with an inspiring inauguration led by Dr. Sangeeta Pandit, Jain Sir, and our esteemed mentors recognizing the relentless efforts of the BMS Society.

Abhijeet Anand, Founder & CEO Ab Coffee, emphasized value creation over mere business, Sana Sultan shared her leadership journey, and Mayuresh Kore revealed the strategic vision behind Imagicaa. The Investor Panel with Mohammed Virani Sir and seasoned investors provided unfiltered insights into startup realities.

The highlight was the Live Pitching Competition, a Shark Tank-style showdown where young founders from across India pitched bold ideas, facing real-time feedback. With dynamic contests like ArtBazaar and Jeopardy, Yountré wasn't just about ideas—it celebrated execution, adaptability, and passion.















Students Corner The Devil's Smile

"Devil" originating from the Greek word "Diabolos" which roughly means "With Bad Intentions"

Ever Wondered why things go wrong and everyone is against everyone at times?

Let's understand it with a story.

Once there was a village, where 2 neighbours lived, a donkey and horse owner and a farmer. In the land of the Cattle owner, The donkey was tied to a tree. And then the Devil came, smiled and untied the donkey. The donkey was grazing and went inside the land of farmer. The wife of the farmer saw that some crops were damaged and in rage, she came with a gun and shot the donkey dead. Upon the return of the owner, he realised that the donkey was dead.

The donkey's owner came to know that the farmer's wife had killed the donkey and in anger, he killed her. Upon knowing the death of his wife, the farmer ordered both of his sons to kill the man. And at night, they set fire to his house killing his family in it. As revenge the man killed the farmer and his sons when they were asleep.

After getting control of his senses. The person saw the devil smiling and said, "What was the need for all this?, Why did you do this?"

The devil replied "I didn't do it all, it was you people who did all of this. I just untied the donkey. It was by the anger, rage and hate to thrive that harms each other."

So, you see, every once in a while, the devil will come untying the ropes every here and there in our lives.

Submitted by : Shivam Jha FYBMS, Div A

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