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[www.rotarychdmidtown.org](http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org)

Rotary  **The Four Way Test**

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



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## Club Assembly


Date: 5th April 2024

Venue: Hotel Shivalik View

Sector 17, Chandigarh

Rotary   CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

### CLUB ASSEMBLY



## "Vishnu Kumar Gupta Memorial Debate Competition"

### Vishnu Kumar Gupta Memorial Debate Competition

In our meeting on March 29, 2024, President Rtn Jeeten Bhambri welcomed Rotarians, R'Anns, Guests, Judges, and the young participants to the much-awaited Vishnu Kumar Gupta Memorial debate competition. This annual event, now in its 27th year, holds a special place in our hearts as it honours the memory of our esteemed club member Late Rtn. Vishnu Kumar Gupta, father of Rtn. Vijay Kumar Gupta, who has been instrumental in preserving this tradition.

The response from talented young debaters was remarkable, with thirteen teams participating from various colleges across the Chandigarh tricity. The preliminary round, centred on the topic "Artificial Intelligence: Helpful or Dangerous" saw insightful discussions under the watchful eyes of esteemed judges: Ms. Shashi Jain, Col. J. S. Chandoak, and Mr. Sanjay Bhatia.

Advancing from the preliminary round, seven teams entered the final round, where they engaged in spirited discussions on the topic "The Power of Media." The final round was graced by the presence of distinguished judges: Ms. Renuka Salwan, Ms. Deepti Gupta, and Mr. Sanjay Gupta.

The event was impeccably organized by Rtn Renu Chopra as the event chair and Rtn Bhavmit Chandoak as the host, who made the session even more exciting by playing speeches of powerful orators such as MLK, Winston Churchill, and Atal Bihari Vajpayee, challenging the audience to guess them, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. Additionally, he provided constructive feedback to participants, enhancing the learning experience. Out of 19 teams (38 Members), after amidst fervent arguments and eloquent speeches, participants from the University Institute of Legal Studies, Ms. Samiksha Hans and Ms. Vedica Tiwari emerged as the deserving recipients of the Running Trophy and the First Prize.

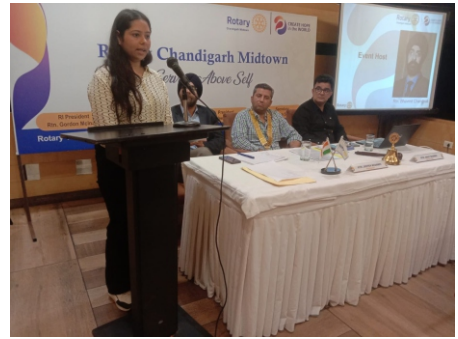
The event was attended by Rotarians who were delighted to witness the enthusiasm and talent displayed by the participants.

A special moment unfolded as Rtn Vijay Kumar Gupta, son of Late Vishnu Kumar Gupta, along with his family, graced the occasion and made a generous contribution of 1 Lakh towards the Club Projects, furthering our collective efforts towards making a positive impact in our community and beyond. The success of this event would not have been possible without the diligent efforts of Rtn. Aman Garg, who meticulously handled all arrangements, coordinated between teams and organizers, and worked tirelessly to ensure the smooth conduct of the competition. Special thanks are also extended to Rtn Nitin Kapur for his invaluable contributions in planning and executing the event with precision and dedication. As the evening drew to a close, President Rtn Jeeten Bhambri and the esteemed judges presented the well-deserved prizes to the winners, commending their exemplary efforts and insightful contributions to the debate. A heartfelt vote of thanks was extended by Rtn Salil Chopra, expressing gratitude to all participants, judges, organizers, and attendees for their unwavering support and commitment to the success of the event. The Vishnu Kumar Gupta Memorial debate competition is Rotary's Chandigarh Midtown enduring commitment to fostering leadership skills and promoting meaningful dialogue among young individuals. We extend our sincere congratulations to all the participants and winners, and we eagerly anticipate the continued success of this esteemed tradition in the years to come.





## Glimpses of Vishnu Kumar Gupta Memorial Debate Competition



## Glimpses of Vishnu Kumar Gupta Memorial Debate Competition





## Week Gone By

### Sushiksha Sessions by Rotary Uncle

Rotary Susiksha Pathshala Session was held at Government Primary School, Village Maheshpur, Panchkula, Haryana where Rtn. Salil Chopra and his Grandson Lavyaansh Chopra took up a session on personal hygiene, and also explained God's love towards people and Gayatri Mantra Uchcharan and its importance in our day to day life.

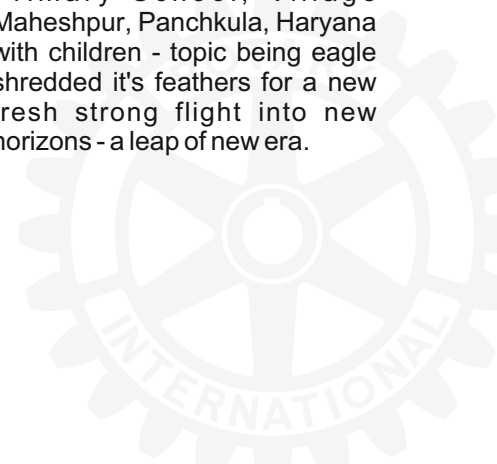


The after effect of Holi in Rotary Susiksha Pathshala Session was held at Government Primary School, Village Maheshpur, Panchkula, Haryana where 1/4 th of attendance in the class was there but loved the recitation of Gyatri mantra by Lavyaansh Chopra Grandson of Rtn. Salil Chopra and Two stories were narrated on change comes with time lapses.

Rotary Susiksha Pathshala Session was held at Government Primary School, Village Maheshpur, Panchkula, Haryana with children on Save Environment and Save water for a better tomorrow and for self and generations to come. The session was done by showing a video for better involvement of the students.



Rotary Susiksha Pathshala Session was held at Government Primary School, Village Maheshpur, Panchkula, Haryana with children - topic being eagle shredded it's feathers for a new fresh strong flight into new horizons - a leap of new era.



## Saving Water & Cleanliness Drive at Railway Station, Chandigarh

Under the guidance of Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown, Rotaract Club Chandigarh Midtown In collaboration with Rotaract Club Chandigarh Himalayan organized an awareness rally on water saving and cleanliness of surrounding at Railway station Chandigarh .In presence of Rtn. Salil Chopra as guest speaker along with his grandson, eight Rotractor's and incoming Rotract President Rashdeep was accompanied with his mother.



## Walkathon by RCCM on World TB Day



Walkathon by Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown on world TB day in collaboration with District TB cell Haryana to spread awareness on TB, Its Treatment and the support provided by ENGO's and Government for it's eradication. Rtn. Salil Chopra, Rtn. Dr Sanjay Kalra, DCS Rtn. Dr. Manjushri Sharma. Dr Rajiv Arya, Rotractors President Aman Garg, Prachi and Himanshi joined hands to spread awareness. RCCM striving for a "TB MukT Bharat"

## Nikshay Mitra - Distribution of TB Nutrients on World TB Day

High Protein Nutrients were distributed to the TB patients at Sector 16, Dispensary Panchkula in the presence of Rtn. B L Ramsisaria, Rtn. RK Luther, Rtn. Rakesh Gupta, Rtn. Suresh Dhawan, Rtn. Bhupindar Marwah, Rtn. Salil Chopra and Rtn. Renu chopra to 24 patients and 26 pkts were handed to neeraj Saini from civil hospital sector 6.



## The 3D Printing Workshop at Aashiana, Sector 16, Panchkula



### 3D Printing Workshop Lights Up Aashiana Sector 16, Panchkula

On the 27th of March, a wave of excitement and innovation swept through Aashiana Sector 16, Panchkula, as Rotary Chandigarh Midtown, in collaboration with Itinker Foundation and Carmel Convent School, hosted a dynamic 3D Printing Workshop. With around 30 eager students in attendance, the atmosphere was charged with anticipation for what lay ahead.

Led by the dynamic Mr. Aman from Itinker, the workshop unfolded for three exhilarating hours. Students were taken on a mesmerizing journey into 3D printing, discovering its endless possibilities and applications. Students were encouraged to explore their imaginations, push boundaries, and envision a future where innovation knows no limits. But the excitement didn't end there. Students were treated to a firsthand glimpse of a 3D printer courtesy of Carmel Convent School, marveling at its intricate parts and imagining the endless creations it could bring to life. Witnessing live printing of a small boat, alongside an array of toys crafted by Itinker, students were inspired by the tangible results of their newfound knowledge.

## *Exploring the Journey of Rotary: A Quest for Understanding*

Imagine this: a curious 11-year-old, filled with wonder, looks up and asks, "Who was Paul Harris?" That's how it all began — a quest for knowledge sparked by my daughter's thirst for understanding. Little did we know, that diving into the story of Paul Harris would reveal a world of inspiration and a global movement that would capture our hearts.

It all started when my daughter received the prestigious honor of Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) at one of our club meetings. Intrigued by this acknowledgment, she wanted to delve deeper into the legacy behind this name. And so, our journey into Rotary's history began.

Paul Harris, the visionary founder of Rotary International, had a life that laid the foundation for an extraordinary journey. Born on April 19, 1868, in Racine, Wisconsin, Paul's early years were marked by the values of community and connection. Growing up in the heart of the Midwest, he was influenced by the spirit of neighbourly cooperation and the importance of lending a helping hand. These values later became the cornerstone of Rotary's ethos.

As a young man, Paul pursued an education that would shape his path toward creating Rotary. He attended the University of Vermont and later transferred to Princeton University, where he developed a strong sense of ethics and social responsibility.

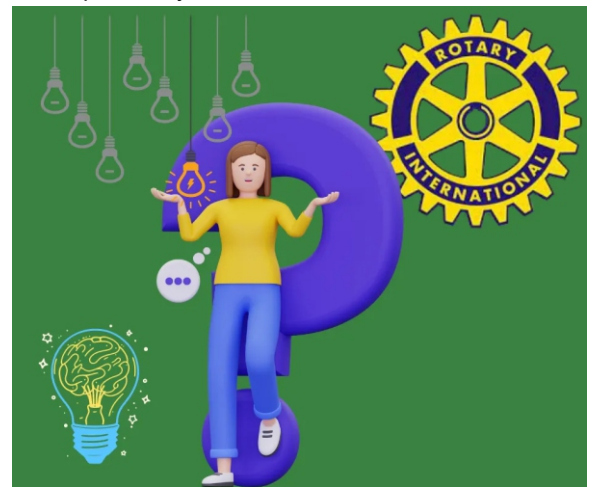
Upon completing his education, Paul started his career as a lawyer, setting up his practice in the city of Chicago. His experiences in Chicago, a vibrant melting pot of diverse backgrounds and professions, played a pivotal role in shaping his vision for Rotary.

The journey of Rotary, much like our own exploration, wasn't merely a story of numbers or geographical reach. It was a tale woven by countless individuals, each propelled by a shared commitment to making a meaningful difference in the world.

From that initial spark ignited by an inquisitive child's inquiry, we moved on a voyage — a journey that has connected us with a global community dedicated to service and ethical leadership.

But this journey isn't just about our story; it's about the moments that inspire and drive us all. Have you ever had a moment that set you on a path of discovery and inspiration? Share your experiences or thoughts below, and let's celebrate those transformative moments that lead us to new perspectives and opportunities!

In the simple act of exploring a question, we found ourselves immersed in a world of purpose, connection, and a shared commitment to making a difference. And that, in itself, has been a journey worth cherishing.



### From the Desk of PP Rtn. Dr. Balram Gupta

A very old true story and maybe a repeat for some

A British Collector named Rous Peter was appointed as Collector of Madurai from 1812 to 1828. Though a Christian by faith, he respected all faiths including Hinduism and also honoured local practices. Collector Peter was the temple administrator of the Meenakshi Amman Temple and conducted all his duties with sincerity and honesty and respected the religious sentiments of all people and treated people of all faiths equally. This noble trait earned him the popular nickname 'Peter Pandian'. Goddess Meenakshi Amman Temple was situated between Collector Peter's residence and office.

Everyday he used to go to the office by his horse and while crossing the temple, he got down from his horse, removed the hat and his shoes and crossed the whole path on his foot. Through this small gesture he expressed his reverence to the Goddess!

One day there was a heavy downpour in Madurai city and River Vaigai was in spate.

Collector was sleeping in his residence and was suddenly disturbed and woken up by the sound of anklets and he left his bed to find out from where the sound had come. He saw a small girl wearing pattuwastrams (silk garments) and precious ornaments and addressing him as 'Peter come this way'. And he came out to follow her and was running behind the little girl to find out who she was! As he came out of the house and was running, he was shocked as he turned to see behind him, his residence (whole bungalow) being washed away by the flood waters of River

Vaigai! He turned to follow the girl but she disappeared into thin air! He saw that the girl ran without any shoes and was wearing anklets. He believed that his devotion for Mother Goddess Meenakshi had saved his life. Later, he wished to give a gift to Lord Meenakshi Amman & consulted the priest of temple and ordered for a pair of golden shoes (Padukas) for Goddess Meenakshi Amman since he had seen the little girl bare feet. It is thus that the pair of Paadhukams consisting of 412 rubies, 72 emeralds and 80 diamonds were made and donated to the temple. His name Peter was sculpted on the padukas. Till this day the pair of Paadhukams are known as 'Peter Paadhukam'. When Rous Peter retired from service, he refused to go back to England and settled in Madurai. He also wished that when he died, he should be buried in a position such that his eyes face the temple. It is interesting to note that in that graveyard, Rous Peter's grave is positioned the way he wished whereas all the other graves face the other way. To this day, every year at the time of 'Chitrai (Chaitra) Festival', utsava moorthy of Goddess Meenakshi Amman is decorated with these Peter Padukas. This is the incidence that had happened more than 200 years back in 1818. Till this day, once every year one of the descendants of Rous Peter visits the temple.



## The "Pluses" of PolioPlus

by Terry Ziegler

When Rotarians first proposed the global Polio eradication effort, they could not have conceived of how much they would change the world. With the help of our partners (WHO, UNICEF, the CDC, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Gavi - the Vaccine Alliance, and over 200 governments of the world) we have vaccinated over three billion children against the dreaded Poliovirus, saved over twenty million children from paralysis, saved over two million from death, and have reduced Polio cases by over 99.9%. However, we are doing so much more than "just" eradicating Polio.

### Here are a few of the additional "Pluses" of the PolioPlus program:

We have helped to equip and staff 146 laboratories worldwide to quickly identify Polio cases and have also used them to support the identification and treatment of other diseases including Ebola, Yellow Fever, Rubella, Meningitis, COVID-19, and Influenza. These laboratories will leave a permanent legacy to Rotary's Polio eradication efforts.

We have perfected the mass immunization model including the use of cold chains to maintain the correct temperature for the Polio vaccine which has facilitated the immunization of billions of children.

We have completed thousands of clean water and sanitation projects worldwide to decrease the amount of Poliovirus in wastewater systems and to protect children from many waterborne diseases.

We have prevented over 1.25 million deaths by giving Vitamin A drops at the same time as the Polio vaccines.

We have built relationships and created trust among government, religious, and community leaders in countries around the world. These relationships will lead to many future humanitarian service projects.

We have expanded the Rotary brand which will lead to larger and more successful efforts with our Polio eradication effort partners (WHO, CDC, UNICEF, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and GAVI - the Vaccine Alliance) as well as other future partners.

We have improved surveillance systems which have been used to identify the Poliovirus as well as other communicable agents.

We have strengthened health systems worldwide which has increased routine healthcare and immunization of children.

The Polio eradication effort has been very cost effective. We have saved more than \$27 billion in health costs since 1988 and a recent study led to the conclusion that in some areas of the world, each dollar spent on the Polio eradication effort will yield 49 dollars in future economic savings. The public health savings of Polio eradication accrue forever!

We have supported Polio Survivors with mobility devices and health care in countries without those resources.

We have created thousands of jobs including temporary jobs for Polio vaccinators, permanent healthcare professional jobs, and jobs for polio survivors. In addition, many of over twenty million children who have been spared the paralysis of Polio are now better prepared to be more productive citizens.

The legacy of a polio-free world and the publicity the eradication of Polio will lead to a more committed and a larger global Rotary membership.

Finally, each of these "Pluses" of PolioPlus are each, in their own way, a small step toward a more peaceful world.

Terry Ziegler

Past President, Rotary Club of West U (Houston, TX)  
Polio Eradication Update Newsletter Editor  
Books for the World - Second Wind Foundation Trustee  
Rotary Region 36 **END POLIO NOW** Coordinator 2024-27

The Avenue mail March 30 PDF

### India completes a decade of being polio-free: A look at the journey



By Rachel V Thomas

India on Wednesday completed a decade of being polio-free, marking a significant milestone in healthcare in the country, while also helping the fight against other diseases.

India reported the last case of the wild poliovirus from West Bengal's Howrah district in January 2011. After three years of maintaining the polio-free status, the World Health Organisation (WHO) on March 27, 2014, officially certified India as polio-free.

"Today we are marking an extremely important 10-year milestone," Deepak Kapur, Chairman, Rotary International's India PolioPlus Committee (INPPC), told IANS.

"The main weapons in this fight comprised a two-pronged approach. First,

extensive vaccination campaigns ensured that almost every child under five received the polio vaccine. Second, a world-vigilant eye on any potential polio cases," he added.

Polio (poliovirus) is a highly infectious viral disease that largely affects children under five years of age. The highly transmissible virus invades the nervous system to cause paralysis. In 2014, the entire country was declared polio-free, a significant milestone considering the scepticism when the eradication programme started in India," said Dr. Ashish Chauhan, Immunisation specialist, UNICEF India, at a recent virtual discussion.

The expert noted that the strategy of National Immunisation Days (NIDs) and with community, national and local celebrities, as well as religious and local leaders.

"These efforts have helped India achieve and maintain its polio-free

status so far," Dr. Ashish said.

He noted that the lessons learned from "increased surveillance and micro-planning strategies" have also helped in the "progress in routine immunisation, where we provide vaccination against 12 diseases to children across the country and also to pregnant women."

Further, it was also helpful when planning for Covid-19 vaccination, and will continue to aid future public health interventions,

the expert said.

"Intensive vaccination efforts must be sustained to ensure strong immunity so that India's children can be protected against polio."

Deepak Kapur told IANS.

Moreover, till countries like Pakistan and Afghanistan remain polio-endemic, the fight against the disease "isn't over", he said.

"As we celebrate the 10th anniversary of India's polio-free certification, this remarkable journey serves as a beacon of hope in the ongoing global fight to eradicate polio," he said.

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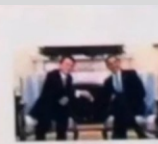
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Yoshiro Mori 2008



With Obama



Yoshiro Mori 2018

### English is a difficult language for some!

Prime Minister Mori was given some basic English conversation training before he visited Washington to meet president Barack Obama.

The instructor told Prime Minister Mori "When you shake hands with President Obama, please ask 'How are you?'. Then Mr. Obama should say, 'I am fine, and you? Now, you should say 'me too'. Afterwards we, translators, will do the work for you."

It looked quite simple, but the truth is when Mori met Obama, he mistakenly said "Who are you?", instead of "How are you?". Mr. Obama was a bit shocked but still managed to react with humor: "Well, I'm Michelle's husband, ha-ha." Then Mori replied 'me too, ha-ha.' Then there was a long silence in the meeting room.

## ANTIM ARDAS

Our beloved Mother,  
Sardarni Amajit Kaur Chhatwal w/o  
late S. Bhupinder Singh Chhatwal  
left for her heavenly abode on  
30th March 2024

## KIRTAN AND ANTIM ARDAS

will be held on

7TH APRIL 2024 (SUNDAY)

from

1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM

at

GURUDWARA SAHIB PATSHAHI DASVIN,

SECTOR 8-C CHANDIGARH

Followed by Guru ka Langar



## Celebrating Birthday's & Anniversary's

Birthday - Spouse	
March 31	Jyoti Rishi Jha
April 03	Sandhya Khandelia
Birthday - Rotarian	
April 03	Rtn. Rajarajan Ganesan



Heartfelt Condolences to Rtn. Kulwinder S Chatwal & Family on the sad demise of Mother Sardarni Amajit Kaur Chatwal May the departed soul rests in peace and may God give enough strength to the family to bear this irreparable loss.

PP Rtn Salil Chopra

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