



PICT MUN's Official Newsletter

The Inquisitor

Issue 1.0

FEATURED ARTICLE:

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INTRODUCTION

The PICT MUN Club consists of a group of students who are passionate about social and political aspects of events that have and are taking place throughout the world. Our main goal is to enhance the spread of such awareness and information, which has a direct and imperative relevance, among the general public.

Our organization abides by the motto- ‘Think. Discuss. Prosper.’.

Since the establishment of the PICT MUN Club in 2016, we have been conducting annual MUN events as well as various public speaking events at PICT. The size of our MUN has increased tremendously in terms of the number of people who have joined our organization as well as the number of participants who attend our events and we’ve simultaneously seen a steady growth in the club’s outreach in the community.

To further propagate our motto, and help people incorporate it in their lives, PICT MUN would like to introduce its very own newsletter: ‘The Inquisitor’.

The PICT MUN team has developed Issue 1.0 of ‘The Inquisitor’ from scratch. It consists of In-house articles that have been written by the club’s members after carrying out extensive research in order to serve reports to the readers with the maximum possible factual accuracy. We plan on expanding the outreach of this esteemed newsletter with each edition and would love to accept articles from individuals who would be interested to get their work published. Feel free to contact us regarding the same.

Our authors have ensured that the content is accurate up to the date on which the article was written. The views expressed in the articles reflect the author’s opinions and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the organisation publishing this document.

With this, we invite you to indulge in controversial propagandas, urgent and relevant coverage of events taking place over the globe, and fresh, new perspectives on raging, intriguing topics of today’s day and age.

The members of the club have poured their heart and soul into this newsletter and we hope that the readers realise and appreciate these emotions.

Happy Reading!

Regards,
The Secretariat
PICT MUN

Global response towards COVID 19 pandemic

Sufiya Sayyed



The COVID 19 pandemic has affected over 2 million and it continues to grow. The first cases of the virus were reported from Wuhan, China on December 31, 2019. Three levels of The World Health Organisation (China country office, regional office for the western pacific and headquarters) started investigating in order to respond to the outbreak.

A WHO situation report published on January 23, 2020 stated that people infected in China travelled to the US, Japan and Korea and propagated the virus further through community transmission. The report hence concluded that the virus was no longer contained in China. Many countries including US, UK and other officials claim that China has not been transparent in providing information to WHO. Recently China revised its total death toll by 50% addressing

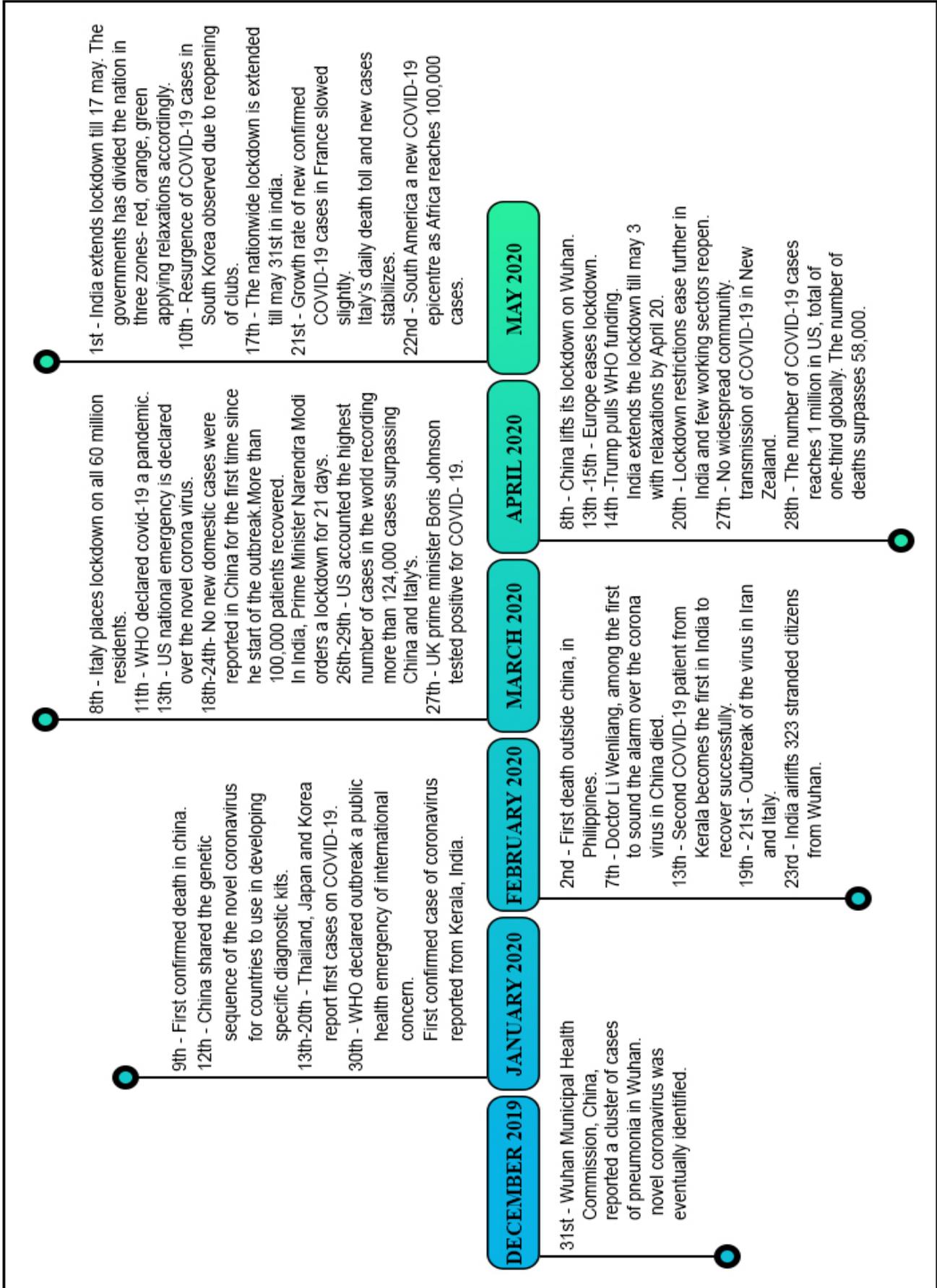
incorrect reporting, delays and omission of cases. According to them, the revision in cases was a result of statistical verification to ensure accuracy.

The virus is in different stages in various parts of the world. Many countries have come up with initiatives to contain the virus, buying more time for The Healthcare Sector to come up with a solution. China imposed strict travel restrictions and quarantined entire cities, Singapore provided financial support for those infected and imposed fines on those who failed to self-quarantine. Sweden, however, did not follow the conventional norm. Unlike its neighbouring countries, Sweden did not impose strict lockdown but instead planned to build a broad base of immunity while protecting at risk groups. Swedish government decided not to shut down the country but

they have observed the lowest mortality rate recorded by WHO. After a month of no new patients, South Korea observed a resurgence on May 10. The reason for the spike in the number of cases was due to the reopening of bars in Seoul. Being closer to the epicentre, Taiwan has controlled the disease tremendously with less than 500 active cases and 6 fatalities despite having a population of 23 million. They are also exporting millions of masks to help The European Union. The pandemic has hit the US worst. More than a million have been infected and the number continues to grow. Due to the lockdown in the US, more than 20 million citizens have applied for unemployment benefits. Economists believe that the US economy has contracted at the sharpest rate since World War II. India had taken early measures and imposed strict lockdown by the end of March. The cases so far are over 198,000 with majority in the state of Maharashtra. The lockdown had an adverse effect on the daily wage workers as they were left with no work.

Health care sector and WHO have been working vigorously in order to flatten the curve. Flattening the curve according to John Hopkins University involves reducing the number of new COVID 19 cases from one day to the next day. There has been progress since the outbreak but there is still a long way to go.

US based biotechnology company Novavax created the COVID 19 vaccine candidates using its proprietary recombinant protein nanoparticle technology platform to generate antigens derived from the coronavirus spike (S) protein. They have started phase I/II clinical trials on humans. Results are expected in July.



COVID 19 in South Korea & Japan

Yash Kale & Zeel Patel

South Korea's response to the COVID 19 outbreak has been exceptional. It was one of the first countries to realize the seriousness of the outbreak and hence managed to flatten the curve before any other major countries despite its close proximity to China- a major hotspot of the disease.

The first patient was a woman, later known as Patient 31. Before she got tested positive, she had claimed to have attended a mass gathering at the Shincheonji Church of Jesus. Normally, this would have possibly resulted in a sharp spike in cases but the Korean health officials used a method known as 'contact tracing' to identify and trace every person who attended the Church gathering. In turn every person they were in contact with was also tested.

The Korean Government decided to prioritize healthcare over privacy. Tracing the actions of every infected person and their data can be controversial but it helped to break the long-term transmission chain. Using security footage, they would determine if a patient took a particular subway home or if he/she had stopped at a local pharmacy. Korean citizens can check their smartphones to check where an infected person has been and avoid those locations. Korea has opened as many as 600 testing locations, almost free, which screen as many as 20k people per day.

This quick response by the Korean Government is no coincidence. South Korea failed to tackle the 2015 MERS outbreak in its initial stages. The virus infected about 186 people in South Korea and killed 36- the highest anywhere outside of the Middle East. This made the Government realize the importance of prevention measures and diagnostic testing, which it used in the latest Coronavirus outbreak.

The impacts of the pandemic on South Korea have been severe- loss of tourism revenue is expected to be 2.9 Trillion South Korean Won. Tourism is one of the most important industries in South Korea which has come to a standstill. The real GDP growth is expected to contract by 1.8%. President Moon Jae declared economic disaster relief payments to the citizens, except for the richest 30%. Small and medium-sized companies would be exempted from paying partial insurance and utility bills starting from April. Breaking the rules is punishable by a year in prison or a fine of up to 10 million Won (\$8,160).

KCDC has been successful in controlling the outbreak, but remains vigilant to prevent a second wave. The country has started opening up slowly after the lockdown. Some schools and workplaces did not even close in the first place. The South Korean government has made tactical decisions regarding schools, movements and has been able to move forward without imposing draconian measures. Extensive testing is difficult for countries with larger populations but can be adopted by other smaller countries. Countries all over the world can learn a lot from the discipline exercised by South Korea.





Japan faces a national crisis. If we just look at the plain numbers, we come across 780 cases as of the 15th of March and see it soaring at a high- from 10, to 700, to 3000 - of them in Tokyo by the 19th of April. That was a massive rise in cases in just a month where Tokyo, followed by other areas in Japan, entered into an explosive phase with regards to the Coronavirus Outbreak. Reports suggest that the medical system of the country might exhaust itself and collapse amid the new wave COVID 19 cases.

Japan had a rather slow response to the virus' outspread. With many nations' first response being a public lockdown, Japan focused on dealing with clusters of infections and selective testing for the virus. The continuous increase in positive cases clearly suggest that this strategy has failed to curb the virus spread.

While most would question the choices this nation has made, in its reticence in using punitive measures against citizens, the reasoning lies in the historical memories of rights abused by the authorities during the Second World War. One may ask the most basic question here- should decisions made nearly 7 decades ago be affecting the ones needed to be

made in this pandemic right now? As the rise of cases continue at a deadly rate, it is clear that more radical measures should've been taken as news break out about patients being turned away by numerous hospitals due to lack of facilities.

While the coronavirus has affected many, the traditional working population was the most hit with the nation's economy taking a mighty plunge. Japan's long- hours working culture has been remarked as over-extensive as remote working and going online has proven to create opportunities. As all countries have set up various economic stimulus packages, Japan has set \$2.2 billion to help its manufacturers shift production out of China. The natural reaction to the spread of the virus has slumped trading imports from China by almost half as of February. The lockdown initiated due to the virus have hit the manufacturing and supply chain of goods, heavily.

As we look into the future, unfortunately, we must face the consequences of the '2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games' with one-year postponement- both events were expected to provide a spark for the Japanese economy.

The number of fatalities is ris-

ing globally as we are gripped by the anxiety of not knowing when it will end but the subtle actions initiated by each individual playing their part in fighting the virus can be extremely effective. Remote working, social distancing, revamping economic strategies, revitalisation of the online economy, can serve as crucial points in envisioning the future course.

Historically speaking, epidemics have killed millions of people but have also had social impacts leading to cultural revolutions. Quite interestingly, Sir Isaac Newton sat under that tree when he was social distancing from his college during the Great Plague of London.

Can Japan along with the world prepare for the post-corona era? That is the important question each individual should think and act towards during this long-lasting fight against COVID 19.

Is the Japanese version of a lockdown an oxymoron?

Ctrl+Alt+Delete the Lies!

Dweeja Pathak



You cut off a bird's wings and then allow it to choose the heaven it desires to fly in. That's not how you offer freedom. That is, on the contrary, a sheer mockery of the very freedom you claim to offer.

The world has become a smaller place but the truth can still be hidden in a thousand lockers – physically and virtually. Although it is necessary to bury the truth sometimes in order to prevent it from falling into the wrong hands, people possess the right to have access to secrets that directly affect them.

Take an example of the COVID-19 situation all over the world. While scientists and medical practitioners risk their lives and toil hard in labs and hospitals, there is an entire party of individuals that ridicules the efforts of these brave souls by circulating fake news. Fake news, more often than not, is always politically motivated and almost every party that wishes to play the game of politics

hires a band of media persons who plays the tunes to which the entire world dances; but for every powerful organisation that makes us their puppets, there is an army of foot-soldiers - armed with pens, papers and video cameras- that exposes these organisations and influential individuals in front of society in order to offer people a choice to free themselves from the strings that bind them because freedom is a choice. Sadly, in the race to find a cure, there have been reports of several companies in the medical sector curbing the spread of complete and factually correct information in the fear of other commercial giants overtaking them and coming up with the recipe for a vaccine.

The media is a very important organ that ensures the smooth running of a democracy since it plays the role of the opposition as well as a supporter of the ruling party but what happens if journalists are not allowed to choose for themselves which side they wish to take? Their

very existence becomes questionable. For those whose screams cannot be heard by the common public because of the cacophony of irrelevant information, journalists try their best to move the world by their silent words that convey the angst, sorrow, fear and terror of these suppressed souls.

Throughout the course of history, there have always been instances where punctuations have been used as an excuse to misinterpret data. We need to realise that a united effort needs to be made in order to put a full stop to this practice. Living in a world where one is provided with factually correct information is a utopian dream but these investigative journalists, who put their lives and reputations on the line, work every day to make this dream a reality- one article at a time.

I salute these warriors of truth!

This article is an attempt to write an Op-Ed based on the subtheme- 'Independent and Professionalism Journalism free from Political and Commercial Influence'- of this year's theme released by UNESCO to mark the World Press Freedom Day.

UNESCO marks the World Press Freedom Day by conferring the UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize on a deserving individual, organisation or institution that has made an outstanding contribution to the defence and/or promotion of press freedom anywhere in the world, especially when this has been achieved in the face of danger.

The prize is named in honour of Guillermo Cano Isaza, a Columbian journalist who was assassinated in front of the offices of his newspaper-El Espectador on 17th December 1986.

Dollar preferred over Mankind by Trump

Akshit Madan

Being Late: Handling a natural calamity is the true test of leadership and nature is not partial with anyone. The year 2020 has set an example for the proverb, “Health is Wealth” and now let us analyse how the superpower of the century has tackled with this worldwide enemy

The first case of COVID 19 in The United States of America was observed on January 19, 2020 in Washington. A large portion of US cases were centred in New York City. Since March 20, New York state, Connecticut and New Jersey had accounted for around 50% of all US cases. Till March 21, the schools, colleges and theatres in the state were locked down; these were good measures but not enough. The numbers of the growing patients demanded a complete five week shut-down but the Trump government was not in favour to bring the country to a halt-like situation. The early response was slow, especially in regards to testing. Initially,

President Trump was optimistic, dismissing the threat posed by coronavirus and claimed the outbreak was under control. He was against shutting down the dollar attracting American industries. On March 16, the White House advised the state to avoid public gatherings and international flights. The gap between the first case of corona virus and this advice brought a prediction of 2.2 million deaths in the country.

The Socio- Economic Impact: Till March end, the virus had shown all its colors, it became mandatory for the government to shift their focus on providing proper health care to the victims of the virus rather than sticking themselves around the American Economic growth. As expected the economy of the state started going down as COVID 19 mostly shaped economic losses through supply chains, demand, financial markets, business investments, household consumption and international trade. Demand for oil also dried up

The Current Scenario and Future Plans: The corona virus has already stretched its arms across the state. The situation is grim and it’s being made even worse by the ridiculous antics of the government. Trump is gambling with millions of lives. The majors will have to consider dividend cuts. Enormous cuts in revenues and profits are imminent. At a glance, there are 1.42 million confirmed cases with 84,763 deaths and these figures are continuously gaining momentum. The right strategy is the only solution to escape from this corona black hole. The government needs to think for their people, not for their pockets. President Trump now struggles to restore the normal conditions in the State and claims Corona Virus as a bioweapon made by China in order to maintain a stronghold in the political world. It does not matter whether the time is of a physical war or mental war, the leadership qualities of the Head of the State matter the most. We have the example of South Korea who took the correct decision at the correct time and it proved to be beneficial for them as we can see it in the list of the least affected countries. On the other hand, in USA, the ruling party gave preference to the physical currency, they forgot that the people are their real wealth and failed to take timely decisions. The current scenario completely proves the statement “Dollar was preferred over Mankind by Trump”.



US China Trade War: For Economic Development or Political Dominance?

Anuja Patil

The United States of America and China have a long history of economic rivalry. Since 2017, the President of the United States, Donald Trump, has been challenging China's business activities and tariffs which has led to a full blown Trade War. As a result, the Chinese and American economies stand a chance of decoupling. The United States is one of the world's largest economies, with China being the world's largest exporter and US the largest importer (of goods).

It all started in 1984 when the United States had become China's third-largest trading partner and China became America's 14th largest. However China wasn't recognized as the MFN (Most Favoured Nation) due to some anti Chinese groups. So as to expand trade exchange in 1989, the Bush-I organization and Congress forced regulatory and legitimate requirements on speculation, exports, and other exchange relations with China. After that, The Clinton presidency from 1992 started with an executive order (128590) that linked renewal of China's MFN status. The United States–China Relations Act of 2000 later facilitated China's membership to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2001 as China was given the MFN status by the US. US President George Bush provided public support to China for the War on Terror in APEC China 2001. The US relied on China during the 2007-2008 financial crises by raising its debt and trade deficits.



Initially, according to the contract, China agreed to rapidly lower import tariffs and open its markets, although many trade officials doubted whether it would stand by those promises. China cut duties after it joined the WTO, yet regardless, it kept on taking that of US intellectual property (IP) and constrained American organizations to move innovation to get to the Chinese market, which was an infringement of WTO rules. When President Obama met with Chinese paramount leader Hu Jintao in 2011, officials proclaimed that China continued to restrict foreign investment, deny national treatment of foreign firms, failed to protect Intellectual Property Rights, and distort trade with its government subsidies. The US-China Business Council in 2014 claimed that China was restricting investment in more than 100 industrial sectors including agriculture, petrochemicals and health services, while the US was restricting investment in just five sectors.

According to a report proposed by Donald Trump in May 2018, China has consistently taken advantage of the American economy with practices that undermine fair and reciprocal trade. China's industrial policies, for example, its "Made in China 2025" plan, hurt organizations in the United States and around the globe. China imposes much higher tariffs on the United States exports than the United States imposes on China. The United States Trade Representative's (USTR) Section 301 investigation identified four of China's aggressive technology policies that put 44 million American technology jobs at risk by using forced technology transfer. China also leads and supports digital interruptions into United States PC systems to access significant business data so Chinese organizations can duplicate items.

In 2018, the Trump Government increased imposition of tariffs over the goods imported from China. Trump announced tariffs on solar panels and washing machines. This was the first use of Section 201 of the Trade Act of 1974 to impose tariffs in 16 years. These actions responded to injurious

trade practices by China and other countries, including attempts to avoid legally imposed antidumping and countervailing duties and this how the trade war started. The US imposed tariffs on \$250bn worth of Chinese products last year. Beijing has retaliated with duties on \$110bn worth of American products.

Hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of Chinese goods are now being tariffed at 25%, up from 10%. China is taking steps to impose tough countermeasures, which in a way threatens an out and out trade war. Trade experts have predicted that American companies that import goods from China will be paying unreasonably hefty taxes to their government by 2020, which could cripple their operations. This trade tension has precipitated many harsh and far-reaching consequences. Manufacturers and importers in the US are now cutting costs, postponing key business deals, and putting off investments in a bid to cushion the business-crippling impact of the trade wars. Moody's Analytics- an American economic research firm- estimated that this has already cost 300,000 Americans their jobs and if things don't change for the better, more than 450,000 job opportunities will have been quashed by the end of 2019. This impact is being felt across industries, although some industries have been affected more than others. President Trump has proposed an additional tax on aluminium and steel imports from China, which has already caused the country's energy production to hike significantly.

American automakers sell most of their products in the Chinese market. In 2018, as a countermeasure, the Chinese government raised tariffs from 15% to 40% for all automobiles entering its market from the US. This hasn't affected the Chinese as much, since the Asian nation has a thriving automobile sector that can satisfy its local market.

Digital technology has allowed many American firms to expand their products and services in China. The Asian market helps companies from the west to generate a consistent growth rate of 4-5% per annum, sometimes more. But then with the growing trade tension, lesser companies will be keen to move to China in the future, which will mean lesser need for translation services. The translation industry in China could really suffer going forward.

The Chinese government cut off imports of corn, soybeans, nuts, lobster, and other farm products from the US. The American farmers are now struggling to find a market for their produce, which has, in turn, affected their productivity. Tractor manufacturers and farm input sellers are also feeling the pinch. Processed food companies in the US might be forced to lay off workers and close some of their processing plants if things remain as they are. Most tech companies in the US have opened shops in China, some of them including NVIDIA Corp. (NVDA) and Intel Corp. (INTC). Chinese tech manufacturers, on the other hand, depend on American semiconductor suppliers to run their businesses. An escalation in the US-China trade war could really hurt tech traders in both countries.

Since the trade war has begun, the United States stock market has become more volatile, especially with new tariffs and policies related to the Trade War being announced. On December 13th, the United States and China solidified the first phase of a trade deal that aims to end the US-China Trade War. The agreement halted substantial tariffs from both nations that were set to begin on December 15th, implemented additional intellectual property regulations, and increased the purchase of American agricultural products. However, critics of the deal claim that the terms of the agreement remain unclear and unsubstantial.

While the Trump administration lauds the agreement as an important milestone, it also claims that it will use remaining tariffs, including \$250 billion in Chinese goods as leverage in subsequent negotiations.

As indicated by an overview by University of Pennsylvania; the future stays muddled and mistaking for private companies. Little organizations will endure as the expense of business keeps on growing and as mediators utilize American flexible chains that are intensely dependent on Chinese producers and providers as negotiating tools in future exchanges. Arbitrators in forthcoming talks between the US and China should remember how new arrangements will influence little organizations over the United States.

Grasping the Horseshoe Theory: An analysis of Left Wing & Right Wing Ideology

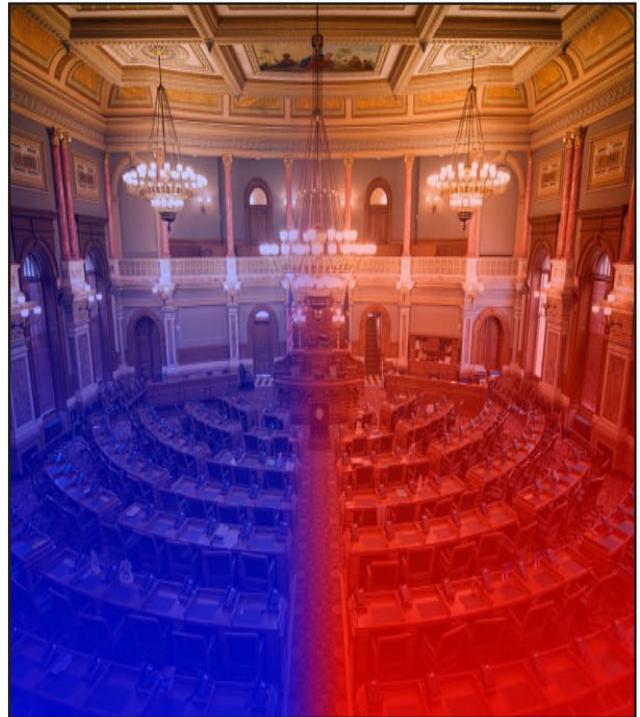
Karthik Panicker & Yugandhar Hujare

*“We, this people, on this small and drifting planet
Whose hands can strike with such abandon
That in a twinkling, life is sapped from the living
Yet those same hands can touch with such healing, irresistible tenderness
That the haughty neck is happy to bow
And the proud back is glad to bend
Out of such chaos, of such contradiction
We learn that we are neither devils nor divines”*

- Maya Angelou *“A Brave and Startling Truth”*

GENERAL IDEOLOGY

“Man was born free, and he is everywhere in chains. Those who think themselves the masters of others are indeed greater slaves than they. How did this transformation come about? I do not know. How can it be made legitimate that question I believe I can answer”, said Rousseau in his treatise ‘The Social Contract’ which captures the essence of the trials and tribulations of the Left-Wing Ideology.



Different political Ideologies such as Communism, Autonomism and Anarchism, etc. have come under the ambit of Left-Wing Ideologies and are sometimes considered wrongfully synonymous to the latter. They are nothing but one of the many ideologies that come under the vast definition of this school of thought. Although ideas in the Left-Wing Ideology are pretty different to each other in terms of extremism of the ideas and the methods to obtain it, explicitly speaking every ideology- past, present and future-supporting the principles of social equality, egalitarianism is considered as a part of the Left-Wing Ideology.

“National populists prioritize the culture and interests of the nation, and promise to give voice to a people who feel that they have been neglected, even held in contempt, by distant and often corrupt elites.” - according to Roger Eatwell and Matthew Goodwin, best describes the other relative under the umbrella of political ideologies -The Right. Most of us have at least once, if not repeatedly heard the Right Wing being discussed with a negative connotation which leads us ponder about what the Right actually stands for. The path of our curiosity, however, ends with explorations that leave us high and dry for the monster we intend to see at the end. At first glance into the soul of the Right Wing ideology, we perceive the gravity given to conservatism, meaning, it believes that the society is built upon a fragile network of relationships which need to be upheld through duty, traditional values and established institutions and maintaining the status quo concerning social issues such as family life, religious freedom and patriotism, as opposed to socio-economic radicalism reinforced by the Left which endorses the intent to transform the fundamental principles of society, often through social changes or radical reforms.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In politics, the term “Left” is derived from the French Revolution as the anti-monarchist Montagnard and Jacobin deputies from the Third Estate generally sat to the left of the presiding member’s chair in parliament- a habit which began in the French Estates General of 1789. Throughout the 19th century in France, the main

line dividing Left and Right was between supporters of the French Republic and those of the monarchy. In the mid-19th century, nationalism, socialism, democracy and anti-clericalism became features of the French Left. After Napoleon III's 1851 coup and the subsequent establishment of the Second Empire, Marxism began to rival radical republicanism and utopian socialism as a force within left-wing politics. The influential Communist Manifesto by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels was published in 1848. They predicted that a proletarian revolution would eventually overthrow bourgeois capitalism and create a classless, stateless, post-monetary communist society. It was in this period that the word "wing" was appended to both Left and Right

The history of the Right Wing is a rather complicated one, due to gradual progression of its ideology. Its start can be dated to the French Revolution (1789-1799), when the reactionary Right Wing sought a return to aristocracy and established religion; but as time progressed (i.e. from the 1830s to the 1880s) the Western world's social class structure and economy shifted from nobility and aristocracy towards capitalism. This general economic shift towards capitalism affected center-right movements such as the British Conservative Party, which responded by becoming supportive of capitalism. In the United States, the Right shifted to Fiscal Conservatism, which advocated for free trade, deregulation of the economy, lower taxes and privatization of public sector.

SOCIAL PERSPECTIVE

"The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggle." - quoted Karl Marx on the grave injustice of the existing social order at that time. A communist society is based on the principles of equality, liberty & collectivism. Marx believed that eventually advances in technology will automate means of production thereby altering the very fundamentals of life as we know it. Man will be set free from the bondages of income, daily work and can make their own life inclined more towards pursuing other interests. Marx referred to this as a transition from the 'realm of necessity' to the 'realm of freedom'. With the foreseeable future, it seems to be inclined to follow this very course of action where eventually machines will ease up lives for humans replacing their need to work. Karl Marx saw this in the light of the industrial revolution, observing many new changes it made to society, stipulating them based on the time as a guide to the foreseeable future. Many of the views of communism need to be seen in the light of changes brought by the Industrial revolution, the change in the nature of monotonous human life, with utter disregard for personal growth. Social progressivism is a characteristic of Left-Wing Ideologies. Left Wing is very liberal in its views on the rights of mankind. It has historically supported Civil Rights, Feminist Movements, LGBT+ Rights, Abortion Rights, etc. It believes social reform is the key to progress. It rejects all pre-existing notions of conservatism limiting the free expression of the oppressed. Marx believed: "Even an entire society, a nation, or all simultaneously existing societies taken together [...] are not owners of the earth. They are simply its possessors, its beneficiaries, and have to bequeath it in an improved state to succeeding generations". With climate change becoming a rather horrendous reality, it is the need of the hour to protect the environment. This was stated about 150 years ago in the light of the industrial revolution which had utter disregard for environment. Sadly, this is mirrored even today.

The Right, being the conservative side out of the counterparts, has an old-school vision of the world that the society's customs and traditions are a collection of entities that we have learned from the past and are useful and should be maintained as much as possible. It has always been an ardent supporter of anti-abortion, opposing sex outside marriage and same sex marriage. It has maintained its stance on being an adversary of illegal immigration and advocates for secure borders. The people associated with the Right, like any other commonsensical humans believe in equality for women but sidestep from being associated with recent third wave feminist movements realizing that movements which start with righteous values always have the risk of going astray, therefore espousing the moral over the movement.

ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE

"No society can surely be flourishing and happy, of which the far greater part of the members are poor and miserable", ironically said Adam Smith. Capitalism in its current form is nothing but a monstrous predator set free. The constant rises in global poverty with the exponential growth of economies all over the globe are not contradictory but the result of the exploitation of resources by private companies. In an ideal society, according to left wing ideology, to ensure equality amongst the citizens, it is the job of the government to control all the

resources which, in turn, are controlled indirectly by the people. When the resources will be collectively owned, no 'one' individual owns more resources than any other individual thereby ensuring equality. The rise of Left-Wing Ideology is the mark of an unjust social and economic system that is exploitive in nature. Historically speaking, after World War II, Britain's Conservative Party led by the heroic Winston Churchill lost the general elections. After the havoc raised by World War II, the world saw the rise of Left-Wing Politics. Today's situation is no different. Globalization and the Free Market have led to exploitation of industries in different countries. Global poverty and unemployment on the rise, combined with the increase in the wealth of billionaires are just some of the examples of the unfair system. Globalization has led to a fragile global economy and has led to a complex web of organizations co-owned by different corporations, implying the failure of a single industry will have a snowball effect on the rest of the industries, just like the mortgage crisis leading to the 2008 financial crisis which, in turn, led to recession in a lot of other countries as well! The wide support garnered by Socialist Democrats is an unexpected phenomenon very well pointing towards the loopholes and fragility of the capitalist American society! While calls for raising the taxes on the ultra-rich is gaining traction in United States with growing economic inequality, historically all the governments have burdened the middle Class with taxes while the ultra-rich have always evaded taxes. The middle class of every nation have always carried the burden of administration of the state. To summarize it in the words of George Bernard Shaw, "A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul".

Right wing politics involves the rejection of some egalitarian objectives of the Left wing, claiming that social or economic inequality is natural and inevitable. The social stratification done by the Right is best echoed by the words of British conservative scholar R. J. White, who rejected egalitarianism, wrote: "Men are equal before God and the laws, but unequal in all else", meaning- the push for collective or state-imposed equality undermines reward for personal merit, initiative and enterprise, which leads to social uniformity and mediocrity. This idea can be best explored in the scenario of market economy, where the Right advocates lowering taxes on businesses and limits income taxes so that people can hold on to more disposable income which they can then spend, save or invest. This is where stark differences between the Right and the Left can be observed, for the former believes in the concept of equity, that is, giving everyone what they need to be successful, irrespective of how they thrive in the economic market by regulating taxes for all whereas the latter believes in equality, meaning, considering everyone to be equal, ignoring the different natural variables that come into play by skyrocketing certain taxes on the rich to provide money for government spending which becomes an impediment in the effort to produce fairness.

RELIGIOUS PERSPECTIVE

An Ideal society, according to left wing ideology, is the one based on personal freedom. It proposes the separation of the church and the state, hence no one body will have authority over another thereby leading to a more secular state supporting anti-clericalism. Some Far-left wing ideologist believes that religions have historically exploited people and religion has become a tool for exploitation for political reasons. They propose that religion limits the free thinking of the man, inhibits the natural tendency of the human mind of questioning things and hence propose the abolishment of all religions.

The Right has always been a backer of religious freedom and believes that one's faith will and should determine their world view in line with historic and scientific facts. This brings about credence in a certain set of ideologies which align with most of the religious doctrines, namely, opposition to abortion, euthanasia, and teenage pregnancy. The Left, however, chooses to demonize the ones vocal about their religious beliefs as their world view is mainly based on Darwinian and evolutionary ideas.

EXTREMISM IN IDEOLOGIES

The Left wing has fringe elements, namely- the Far Left that comprises of Antifa or Anti-Far groups, a generally violent anti-fascist group which has been prevalent throughout the globe since the early 20th century. Their motive of opposing fascist and alt-right ideology through seeking disruption in alt-right events has been used lately to restrict the free speech of any affairs or gatherings that they deem Far right through their narrow definitions. This has consistently resulted in gross Freedom of Speech violations which is ironic as the

the protection of free speech is considered a core value of the liberal Left and the Antifa has been consistently used to suppress Right wing ideology in college campuses or any general public scenes across the public sphere.

In this regard, it is best to discuss the extreme sections of the right wing called the “Far right”. Now, in any institution which has a certain religious, political or social ideology, there exist sections of people within the institution which generally constitute the minority of the establishment. These sections do not represent the general principles of the institution but more so, amount to their own representations of the same. The Far-right accounts for the mostly despicable ideologies such as ultra-nationalism, chauvinism, xenophobia, theocratism, racism, homophobia, anti-communism, or reactionary views. These can lead to oppression, violence, forced assimilation, ethnic cleansing and even genocide against groups of people based on their supposed inferiority or their perceived threat to the native ethnic group, nation, state, national religion, dominant culture or ultraconservative traditional social institutions. This has thus led the majority of the people that associate with the Right-wing institutions to detach from them and condemn them.

CURRENT SCENARIO

Left Wing Ideology, especially Communism calls for a revolution to overthrow existing norms to create a classless and stateless society and this is where it goes wrong. The one thing that we have learnt from history is that all revolutions do is shift the load from one shoulder to another, like French revolution eventually led to Napoleonic rule, abolishment of slavery led to segregation and many others eventually result in nothing but a more evolved form of the same thing. The failure of the left-wing ideologies is also due to the egalitarianism and Utopian views and morals put forth before the society not yet ready for it. Left Wing Ideology believes in Utopia! The question is, ‘Does Utopia exist?’ Its answers are both yes and no. Utopia as a place does not exist, but each time we move one step in its direction we are closer to it than before. Finally, I would like to summarize the ambition of left-wing ideology for utopia in the words of Oscar Wilde, “A map of the World that does not include Utopia is not even worth glancing at, for it leaves out the one country at which Humanity is always landing. And when Humanity Lands there, it looks out, seeing a better country, sets sail. Progress is the realization of Utopias”.

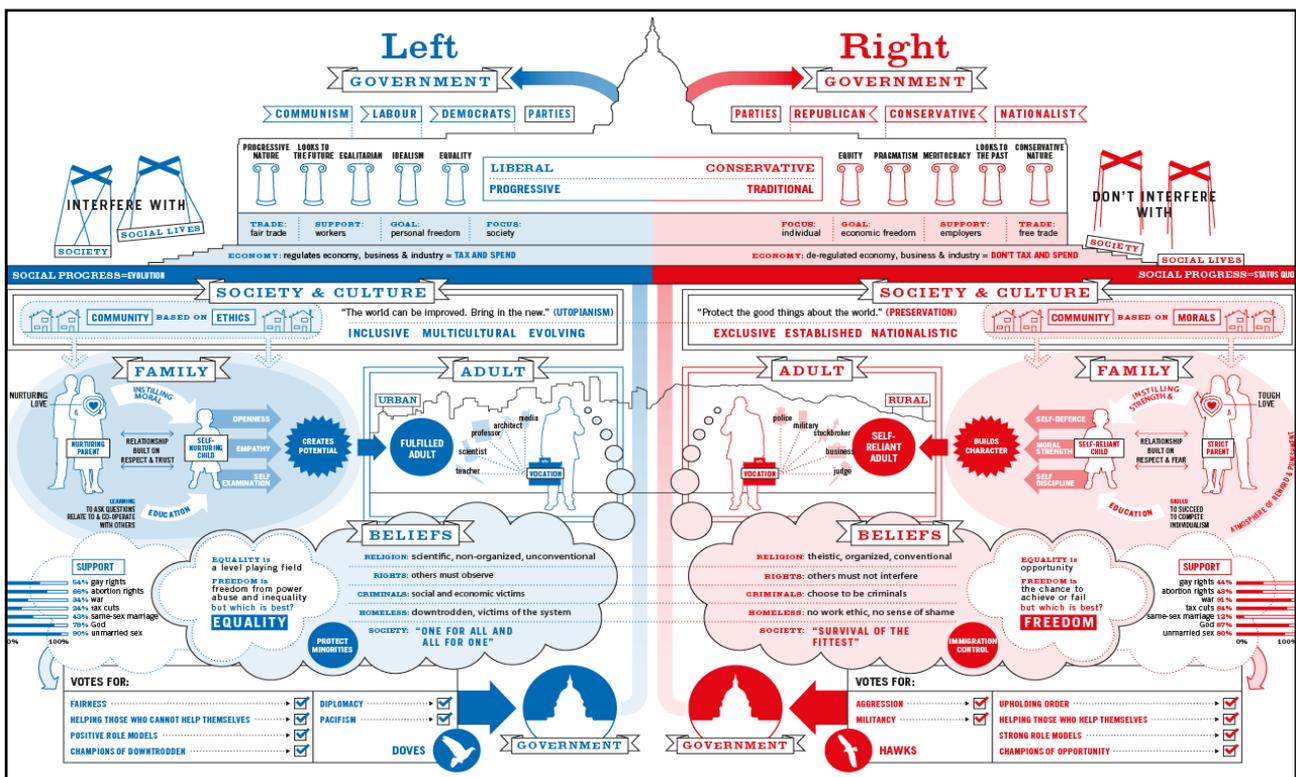
The political Right has seen a steady increase in the popular support during this decade can be attributed to a multitude of rationales. Around the world, conservative groups have been gaining influence, bolstering the power of right-wing leaders. It is a trend driven not only by older generations but also by the young. Often, right-wing populism is seen as being brought about by new political parties or charismatic leaders. This drives the point home particularly in the case of the rise of Right wing leaders such as the Prime minister of India, Narendra Modi and President of USA, Donald J Trump, after years of seeing the civil society tending to be liberal, constantly trying to bring about democratic reform and the pandering to minorities instead of focusing on the development agenda. The rapid rise of Brazil’s new far-right leader Jair Bolsonaro may have surprised some observers but it did not come out of thin air. His success follows years of support from powerful social movements. Such groups have increasingly found a voice in countries from Poland to Thailand with their influence coming from ordinary people rather than politicians. The all-powerful voting common class has with time come to the realization that the Left and liberalism as a philosophy has been captured by a technocratic-managerial-cosmopolitan elite, moving from making “a critique of the existing power structure” to becoming “one of the most powerful elites in history.” The recent past has been bemusing for the working lower and middle class looking for ways to hustle and make ends meet when they are constantly fed the ideas of caste and gender politics by the Left which are the farthest things from reality to them, instead of the development and welfare plans they seek. In response, we see a similar situation to “a revolt of the provinces against the city” wherein the common class seeks a change of governance from under the elitist Left of the yesteryears to the resurgent Right of the present willing to brace the blue-collar majority. Finally, the people have decided to put their faith in the Right Wing to bring about economic and overall development for the times to come. Adding to this, Jose Maria Aznar - former Prime minister of Spain said:

“Without economic development, any potential for political openness and freedom will be questionable.w”

SOME FINAL THOUGHTS

Both the ideologies have historically relied on use of force for change and share their disdain for democratic ideals and civil liberties. Both of them have hatred towards the other owing to difference in two ideologies. Both camps possess an inflexible psychological and political style characterized by the tendency to view social and political affairs in crude, unambiguous and stereotypical terms. They see political life as a conflict between 'us' and 'them', a struggle between good and evil played out on a battleground where compromise amounts to capitulation and the goal is total victory. The far left and the far right also resemble each other in the way they pursue their political goals. Both are disposed to censor their opponents, to deal harshly with enemies, to sacrifice the well-being even of the innocent in order to serve a 'higher purpose' and to use cruel tactics if necessary to 'persuade' society of the wisdom of their objectives. Both tend to support (or oppose) civil liberties in a highly partisan and self-serving fashion, supporting freedom for themselves and for the groups and causes they favor while seeking to withhold it from enemies and advocates of causes they dislike. To summarize the ideological conflict between both the ideologies in the words of Friedrich Nietzsche,

“Whoever fights monsters should see to it that in the process he does not become a monster. And if you gaze long enough into an abyss, the abyss will gaze back into you.”



GOOD NEWS:

Trials are underway as drugmakers Novavax and \$1.2 Billion US funded AstraZeneca pushing for a coronavirus vaccine by next year.

BAD NEWS:

Despite backlash from medical groups, Trump announces US to sever all ties with WHO and redirect funding.

GOOD NEWS:

EU introduces Legislative Road Map to make Europe world's first 'climate-neutral' continent by 2050.

BAD NEWS:

Hungary passes bill to end legal recognition of transgender and intersex people.

GOOD NEWS:

WHO adopts resolution on evaluation of its response to the pandemic and its origins, India to chair the executive board.

BAD NEWS:

China faces mounting international pressure over Hong Kong security Law, US threatens to strip special status.



GOOD NEWS:

Costa Rica becomes 8th country in Latin America and 1st in Central America to legalise same-sex marriage.

BAD NEWS:

Brazilian President denies seriousness of the coronavirus pandemic making Brazil 2nd worst-hit nation after the US.

GOOD NEWS:

Ex-politician Ntaganzwa jailed for role in the Rwandan Genocide.

BAD NEWS:

'Political Mission' replacing UN-AU peacekeeping troops in Sudan to threaten security civil activists fear.

GOOD NEWS:

Autonomous government to be established later this year as Bougainville marches towards becoming the world's newest country.

BAD NEWS:

Reserve bank predicts the largest fall in New Zealand's GDP in 160 years due to the pandemic.