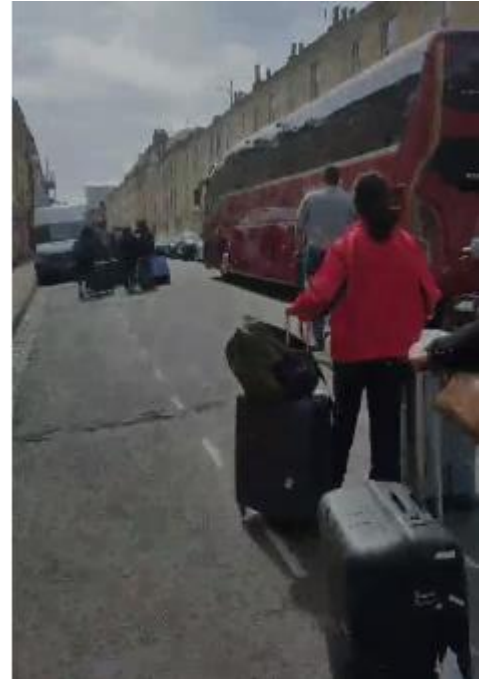


Round Square- Inspiring Voices-the Big Baraza

April 12-19

Attending Round Square Conference at Oxford was a long awaited moment for all of us after having many hassles in executing it. On 12th April, when we landed to Heathrow Airport, London, Ms Rajbir Sandhu Head of Round Square, South Asea and Gulf Region was waiting to receive the Indian Teams. There we boarded into the coach and transferred to Oxford. Then we had a tough walk all through the city with our luggage to reach the Queen's college which was our boarding place.

Oxford is a world education hub of the Literature, History and British culture. Almost 30 different colleges and libraries are situated in all corners of the city out of which we could got a chance to visit the few.



After the registrations at Queen's College, there was a mask making activity in which we have created the masks matching with our ball room dresses of the evening.



In evening we all proceeded to the Oxford Town Hall for a crazy Ball room Dance. There were various fun activities like getting our own cartoon sketches made by the sketchers, Photos with various props and meeting with Funny Characters.



On April 13, Opening ceremony of the event Inspiring voices-the big baraza happened in the Sheldonian Theatre where Ms Racheal, the Executive Head of Round Square addressed the gathering about the globally challenging issues. Six keynote speakers raised their voices on the 6 IDEALS of the Round square. It was awesome to see the cultural extravaganza which was an amalgamation of 50 different countries across 5 continents. There were nearly 400 delegates and a team of 20 Round Square organizers to make the event success. Prachi Siwach of our school was part of Indian Dance team along with Genesis Global School, Noida.



After the opening ceremony All delegation was divided into 18 different Baraza groups named after the great people of the world. Palak was in *Gandhi* Group , Prachi and the Teacher Seema Dhillon were in *Wilde* Group, Nainika was in *Eliot* Group and Karshna was one of the leaders in *Atkinson* Group. All groups lead by their Baraza Leaders and accompanied by the teachers in their groups, went on a scavenger hunt in which they were given some clues to reach on particular points of the Oxford city through various interior bumpy roads. Through this activity students explored the city in a fun way and earned chocolates and cookies for solving the puzzle.

On 14th, 15th and 16th April , before Lunch all the baraza discussion and preparation of the debates took place in the colleges itself where the teams were staying, in supervision of the teachers. In the

afternoon, the debate sessions were conducted, three each day in the Oxford Union in a very organized manner. The participants asked various challenging questions from the opposition and propositions. Our students Nainika Aneja spoke for the proposition on the topic ‘Social media is a threat to the integrity of democratic elections due to the proliferation of misinformation’ and Palak Beniwal spoke for the proposition on the topic ‘Vaccinations should be mandatory to stop the spread and threat of disease and to prevent the onset of a global epidemic or pandemic’.

On 14th and 16th April Keynote speakers also delivered their speeches in St Annes college on Environment and Democracy.



On 15th evening a Punting activity was organised in local water stream for the delegates. Which we enjoyed a lot.



On 16th Evening the closing ceremony was held in which all baraza groups gave their presentations and shared the experience of the conference. Out of 18 Baraza groups, 6 were announced to be awarded with commendation certificates for their excellent teamwork. Our two students-Nainika & Prachi and the teacher escort -Ms Seema Dhillon received this honour.



On 17th Morning we departed for London on a Post conference Tour. We visited Bourton-on Water village and Tussad Museum. We also witnessed the Guard Ceremony at Royal Buckingham Palace. Floating on Cruise in Thames river was very exciting and watching London from London Eye was a wonderful experience.



On 19th April we departed from London with lots learning and long lasting memories of the moments and interactions that we cherished there with a world teaching and learning community.



SEEMA DHILLON

APRIL 22,2025