"A Blast From Our Past"

BATCHMATES OF HSSC 1975

HADAS HIGH SCHOOL, NAGPUR



MEET AT

THE PENCH NATIONAL PARK



About the Venue : The Pench National Park Which Inspired Rudyard Kipling's Jungle Book

Truth is stranger than fiction – Well, this turned out to be more than a maxim in Pench National Park when in 1831 Lieutenant Moor witnessed a human child nurtured by the wolves in the forests. The tale of this incident by Sleeman in a booklet titled 'An Account of Wolves Nurturing Children in Their Dens' together with Strendale's story in Seonee inspired the fictional genius Sir Rudyard Kipling to pen down 'The Jungle Book' and the wolf child was commemorated as Mowgli.

For a lot of us city folks, a man-cub named Mowgli delivered our first interaction with the wild. In The Jungle Book, Rudyard Kipling's realistic characters walk free in the jungles of Seonee—an imaginary forest displayed on the jungle adjoining the Seoni district; a forest we now hear as Pench National Park.

These jungles are a part of Pench in MP and were acknowledged as a national park in 1983 and then tiger reserve in 1993. One just has to stare at the serene Wainganga river, the breathtaking Seoni Hills and gasp in wonder at the striking gorge where Mowgli killed Sher Khan – the villain character tiger of Jungle Book – to be convinced of the mixture of reality and fiction.

Kipling had functioned in old Madhya Pradesh. It is rather likely that he went to the Seoni forest, experienced the natural beauty and saw the wildlife of that area. The jungles of Seoni so fascinated Rudyard Kipling that Pench Tiger Reserve replaced Rajasthan as the muse for the location of story 'The Jungle Book'.

It is not hard to see how Rudyard Kipling couldn't help being captivated by the Satpura ranges, the numerous streams and rivulets – most of them leaping from the Pench river, massive tracts enclosed by teak and assorted forests. The wildlife, most well-known of which is the Royal Tiger, also comprises Indian leopard, Sloth bear, numerous kinds of deer and certainly Rudyard's adoptive family for Mowgli – the wolves.

Pench National Park is also home to more than 250 species of birds that comprises a number of migratory birds – the crimson breasted barbet, red vented bulbul, magpie robin, teal and blue kingfisher are some of the prime attractions. Sitaghat on the banks of the river Pench delivers a peaceful spot for bird watching.

Nature indeed meets fantasy – and all of it in reality – right here in the land of Mowgli. Do we hear Sher Khan roar in consent?

Source : Pench National Park website.

Click here to know more about Pench - https://pench-national-park-booking.com/how-pench-national-park-inspired-rudyard-kiplings-jungle-book/





प्रार्थना

दया कर दान विद्या का

दया कर दान विद्या का, हमें परमात्मा देना,
दया करना हमारी आत्मा में, शुद्धता देना।

हमारे ध्यान में आओ, प्रभु आँखों में बस जाओ,
अँधेरे दिल में आकर के, प्रभु ज्योति जगा देना।

बहा दो प्रेम की गंगा, दिलों में प्रेम का सागर,
हमें आपस में मिल-जुल के, प्रभु रहना सीखा देना।

हमारा धर्म हो सेवा, हमारा कर्म हो सेवा,
सदा ईमान हो सेवा, व सेवक जन बना देना।

वतन के वास्ते जीना, वतन के वास्ते मरना,
वतन पर जाँ फिदा करना, प्रभु हमको सीखा देना।

दया कर दान विद्या का, हमें परमात्मा देना,
दया करना हमारी आत्मा में, शुद्धता देना।

दया कर दान विद्या का, हमें परमात्मा देना.....



GOLDEN JUBILEE OF
HSC 1975 BATCH
OF HADAS HIGH SCHOOL, NAGPUR
GET TO GETHER OF CLASSMATES
HELD AT PENCH TIGER RESERVE
ON 26TH AND 27TH SEPTEMBER 2024

- Through a Layman's Lense



The Golden Jubilee Reunion of the **1975 HSC batch of Hadas High School, Nagpur**, was more than just a gathering; it was a nostalgic journey back to the golden days. Held on the 26th and 27th of September 2024, at the breathtaking Pench Tiger Reserve near Nagpur, the event brought together old friends and classmates in a setting that was as adventurous as it was serene.

The prelude to the reunion began a few days earlier, starting on the 22nd of September with classmates arriving in Nagpur from Thane, Mumbai, Pune, Jaipur, New Delhi. Some were accompanied by their spouses, while others made the trip alone, all eager to reconnect with old friends and reminisce about their shared past.

On the morning of the 26th of September, as planned, all the batchmates gathered near Gorakshan in Dhantoli, Nagpur, at 8:00 o'clock in the morning. The excitement was evident as they formed a convoy of ten cars and began their journey to Pench, with the breakfast packets handed over to everyone, which they had at a restaurant just outside the city limits.

Meanwhile, a dedicated group of organisers comprising Ashutosh and Sucheta Chitaley, Sanjay and Sangita Girdhar, and Hitendra and Medha Pande had already set off earlier to ensure that all arrangements were perfectly in place at **the Riverwood Resort in Pench**.

As the convoy made its way through the dense forest flanking the Nagpur-Jabalpur highway, the lush greenery provided a scenic backdrop. However, near Totladoh, they encountered a spell of heavy rain that delayed their arrival at Pench until around noon.

Upon their arrival at the picturesque Riverwood Resort, every participant was welcomed warmly by the organizers with rose buds and beaming smiles. The resort, with its expansive campus and abundant natural beauty, offered spacious and comfortable accommodation, exuding a cozy, nature-immersed charm. Positioned along a relentlessly flowing river and surrounded by a variety of trees teeming with monkeys and birds, the resort was truly **a paradise**.

After a brief rest to recover from the three-hour journey, the classmates gathered for lunch at the resort's canteen hall. The hall, decorated with wooden planks and with an open space overlooking the river, provided a picturesque setting. The aroma of wild flora and fauna further enhanced the ambiance, making the meal an experience in itself. Over an **eight-course lunch**, laughter and conversations flowed as everyone shared stories and memories from their school days.

The air was thick with joy and nostalgia as time seemed to stand still. The classmates, some meeting after 25 years and others after a staggering 50, felt rejuvenated, almost as if they were back in their old classrooms.



Post-lunch, an introduction session was held where each participant, along with their spouse, briefly shared their **life's journey** since leaving the school. This session was followed by high tea and a short break, allowing everyone to freshen up.

The spouses of the batchmates were deeply moved to witness the emotions and affection s hared among the classmates. Though meeting for the first time, they quickly developed cl ose ties with each other, participating actively in all the events, they immensely enjoyed th e programmes.



The evening brought with it an engaging session of **Antakshari** steered by Hitendra Pande, Rajiv Parkhi, and Smita Vidwans. The participants, divided into groups, showed spirited involvement, rekindling the playful competitiveness of their school years.

The sun had started dipping below the horizon, casting a golden hue over the picturesque Pench Tiger Reserve. The HSC 1975 batch gathered around the resort's canteen area which was dimly lit. The moonlit open space added a touch of romance to the evening, overlaying a day filled with camaraderie and joy. It was as if, **a candlelight dinner** was on the house which everyone enjoyed.

With an announcement of **a forest safari** next morning, everyone dispersed for a good night's sleep in their respective rooms.

Early next morning, at the crack of the dawn, the group reunited, their excitement profound and visible. Six safari jeeps awaited them, and as planned, they hopped onto their allotted jeeps. At the forest's entrance, a short halt at the check post allowed forest guides to join each vehicle. The morning was damp and misty with the rain adding a touch of enchantment to the dense forest.



The scent of the wet earth, the lush green meadows, and the melodious sounds of raindrops created an eerie atmosphere. The drivers, with deft hands and keen eyes, navigated the winding forest roads, sharing intriguing stories of spotting tigers and of other animals as they navigated through the curving roads, **making the safari as thrilling as the destination**.

Despite continuous rain, which dimmed the chances of spotting wildlife, the sheer beauty of the forest captivated everyone. Streams gushed alongside the paths, birds chirped harmoniously and every twist and turn revealed a new marvel.



At another check post, they decided to halt for breakfast. The guides and drivers laid out a feast of alu parathas, sandwiches, boiled eggs, apples, and bananas on the jeep's bonnet. Photos were clicked, and memories were captured. However, the elusive wildlife remained hidden due to rains pouring down.

Some felt a tinge of disappointment, but reports from other groups about sightings of some animals reignited their hopes. As the rain ceased, the forest revealed its wonders. Animals such as chitals, Barasingas, a lone Peacock, a herd of wild Boars, Parakeets, and a couple of Neelgais graced their presence, sparking joy and excitement among the group. Although the king of the jungle remained unseen, the safari experience was nothing short of magical.

Throughout the safari, sighting a tiger was every one’s priority. Though the big cat eluded the batchmates, it seemingly conveyed a touching message from the wilderness -



*"Though you didn't see me, I am here, as **a silent guardian of the wild**.*

*You folks had a great reunion and I was truly moved to see you enjoy spending time together at the Riverwood, Pench. I could not believe that you all met after 25 years and some of you after 50 long years. **Truly an incredible gathering!***

*I feel that you are **getting younger and younger**. Your upcoming congregation is going to be a roaring success!!*

*Please remember a small message from me - **"Respect the forest, cherish its beauty, and protect its secrets. Remember, the true essence of the wilderness lies not in what you see, but in what you feel and preserve."***

Eagerly waiting to see you again during your next adventure." 🐆

After the exhilarating safari, the group returned to the resort, freshened up, and gathered for lunch. The delicious spread was accompanied by animated conversations, recounting the morning's forest adventures. With hearts full and spirits high, they celebrated their reunion amidst the enchanting surroundings of Pench Tiger Reserve.



As the sun began to dip below the horizon, casting a golden glow over the picturesque Pench Tiger Reserve, the HSC 1975 batch gathered in the **Resort's cozy Conference Hall**. The energy in the air was intense as they kicked off their post-lunch session of fun games. Rajiv Parkhi, Hitendra Pande, and Vishwas Vidwans led a lively game of the **Housie**, filling the room with laughter and excitement. Cadbury chocolates were awarded to the winners, adding a sweet touch to the friendly competition. Sucheta Chetaley and Dinesh Bhrushundi recited some poems composed by them which were appreciated by one and all.

The atmosphere soon turned musical as Rajiv Parkhi started the Marathi song, **"Jayostute, jayostute,"** with everyone joining **in chorus**. The joy of singing together brought back a flood of cherished memories. Rajiv and Sandhya Parande then mesmerized the audience with their duet, **"Kuhu, kuhu bole koyaliya,"** complemented by Sandhya's excellent harmonium accompaniment. She followed it up with the beautiful Marathi song **"Chafa bolena,"** which left everyone in awe.

The musical extravaganza continued with performances by Hitendra Pande, Megha Pande, Alka Bhrushundi, Mukund Ghate, Sangita Girdhar, Jayendra Motghare, Kumar Ghate and Dhananjay Parande, who entertained everyone with Bollywood melodies.

Adding to the joy, **Overseas classmates** Narendra Deshpande from the UK and Girish Salpekar from the USA keenly interacted with everyone over a video call, promising to join the next reunion in person.



On this occasion, attractive gifts were given to each participant by Shrikant Sagdeo and Ashutosh Chitaley (**colourful mugs and Diwali Diyas** made out of clay) to all batchmates. Jayendra Motghare presented specially designed **Gold Medal** to every classmate (with his / her name inscribed on it). These gifts were given to all the classmates including those who could not attend the reunion at Pench.

The cultural program concluded with a **parting song** by Rajiv Parkhi, leaving everyone in high spirits. As the evening progressed, most classmates mingled, sharing moments of joy and reliving the innocence of their school days. Some quietly slipped back to their rooms for a pre-dinner drink, while others continued to rejoice the friendship.

Dinner was a gala event, filled with delicious food and lively conversations. By now, the classmates were fully immersed in the nostalgia and renewed bonds of childhood alliance.

The two days at Riverwood Resort seemed to have **flown by in a flash, but the memories created were timeless**. The golden jubilee reunion was more than a nostalgic retreat, it was a **celebration of enduring friendships and cherished memories**, set against the enchanting backdrop of the Pench Tiger Reserve. After breakfast on the third day, they checked out and headed back to Nagpur, each carrying a treasure trove of happy memories. With **a promise to reunite next year** at yet another attractive destination, they parted ways, hearts full and spirits high.

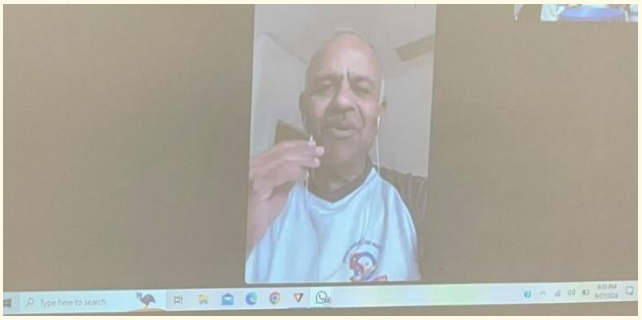
In retrospect, the idea of organizing and celebrating the golden jubilee reunion emerged during one of **the monthly meetings of batchmates from Nagpur at the Hotel Shruti**. After a few rounds of discussions and having contacted outstation friends, a suitable date and venue (Pench Tiger Reserve) were finalized. The events for the reunion were organized by Ashutosh Chitaley, Avinash Dani, Sanjay Girdhar, Shrinivas Parkhi and friends. Every minute detail of travel, stay, food, forest safari etc. were considered for ensuring that the event was smooth and successful and every participant was taken care of satisfactorily. The cultural programme was conceived by Vishwas Vidwans, Hitendra Pande, Rajiv Parkhi and Shrikant Sagdeo. All the events were conducted by them in a professional manner. The Jungle Safari was well arranged by Sanjay Girdhar. Indeed, because of immaculate planning and efficient organisation, **the Golden Jubilee Reunion** was thoroughly enjoyed by one and all at the **Pench Tiger Reserve**.



"The Golden Jubilee Reunion at the Pench Tiger Reserve was indeed a celebration of cherished friendships and unforgettable moments!"



- *Dhananjay Parande*



Hello Everyone,

Hope you will soon be enjoying the company of each other and **the tigers and of course tigresses**. It is hard to believe that we left the school 49 years ago and here we are entering **vanaprastashram**. When we met for 25th anniversary, many of us were seeing each other for the first time since leaving school. But the next 25 years we stayed more connected and almost on a daily basis for the past 5 years.

Hadas laid the foundation for our lives but each one of us built a different structure on it. So the way we spent the past half a century looks very different and yet when we reminisce on school days the school kid in us takes over. Many "forwards" on Whatsapp have described how things were in "our time". So I do not need to repeat yet I feel one thing does stand out – we respected our teachers enormously despite being beaten for good and bad reasons. Looking back the memories of school are intimately linked to personalities of teachers and classmates. I am sure many of us will have trouble recalling what we learnt in Set Theory. But Pendharkar sir we will remember forever. Similarly, I will have trouble recalling the textbooks we studied for Marathi, Hindi, English but the respective and respected teacher will remain in our memories.

Technology has revitalized the loose connections and we have started enjoying each other's company again in Whatsapp. I try to read it regularly but am mostly able to actively participate on Saturday or Sunday. Response or not, I appreciate the ability to connect virtually. I enjoy Dhanya's postings in Oxford English as well as Sushya's postings in Hindi/English, Chaturyakathas from Vishwas and Bhakadkathas from the "Forward kings" not to mention some of the Freudian Slips due to the use of Roman script for Hindi, remembering which I still break into laughter.

Nothing replaces face to face interaction, of course. So I hope you enjoy the golden moments and interactions. It is hard to believe that many of us have now become grandparent and yet when we meet, **potteshahi** kicks in. Hope you guys do lots masti and maskari over two days***. And please leave behind nothing but garbage and bring along nothing but fond memories and photographs***.

Yours Truly,

Narendra Deshpande





"मर्मबंधातली ठेव"

२६ सप्टेंबरला मध्यान्हापूर्वी पेंचला पोहोचलो, रिसॉर्टच्या आत शिरलो, गाडीतुन खाली उतरलो आणि खरं सांगतो 'नयनरम्य' कशाला म्हणतात याचा प्रत्यय आला । छोटीशी, दुमदार वळणं घेणारी नदी आणि तीच्या काठावर आपलं नाव सार्थक करणारं रिसॉर्ट "रिव्हरवुड"!!! आणि त्यातही 'सोने पे सुहागा' म्हणजे आम्हाला (मला आणि प्रमोदला) देण्यात आलेली खोली 'Tree House"!! हिरवाईने बाहुपाशांत घेतलेली आणि तिन्ही बाजुंनी 'काचेरी भिंत' असलेली ती खोली खऱ्या अर्थाने "Tree House" होती. आशुतोष आणि सूचेताला त्यासाठी विशेष धन्यवाद !!

एकुणच या दोन दिवसांच्या 'स्नेह मिलनाचं' (गेट टुगेदर) आयोजन अतिशय उत्तम केलं होतं ! अगदी आगमनाच्या 'गुलाबी' स्वागतापासून ते बिदाईच्या नाश्त्यापर्यंत !! यासाठी अर्थातच श्रीकांत, आशुतोष, संजय, अविनाश, श्रीनिवास आणि राजीव यांनी जी धावपळ केली त्यासाठी त्या सर्वांना 'सलाम' !! वंदन !!

या स्नेहमिलनाच्या निमित्त्याने काही शाळु सोबती मला तब्बल साडेचार दशकानंतर भेटले ! शाळेतल्या अनेक कडुगोड आठवणींना उजाळा मिळाला!! आणि मला सहजच कवि चंद्रशेखर गोखले यांची एक चारोळी आठवली -

"आठवणींचे ऋतु

दरवेळी नवे असतात

म्हणुनच माझ्या मनाला

ते पुनःपुन्हा हवे असतात"

दुसऱ्या दिवशीच्या सकाळच्या जंगल सफारीमध्ये "व्याघ्रदर्शन" झाले नाही याची मलातरी अजिबात खंत नाही, कारण मी मुळातच आलो होतो ते 'आठवणींच्या हिंदोळ्यावर झुलायला आणि हिरव्यागार वनश्रीत भ्रमंती करायला' ! आणि म्हणुनच रिमझिम पावसांत झालेलं 'जंगलदर्शन' विशेष आनंद देवून गेलं !!

दोन दिवसाच्या या स्नेहभेटीचा आनंद, श्रीकांत आणि आशुतोष सुचेताच्या स्नेहभेटीने 'द्वि'गुणित केला तर जयेंद्रच्या पदकाने (मेडल) त्यावर सुवर्णसाज चढविला !!! एकुणच या दोन दिवसाच्या आठवणी माझ्या मनातील कप्प्यात नेहमीकरता राहणार आहेत! "मर्मबंधातली ठेव" म्हणुन !!!

रवींद्र सावजी

अनुभवांकूर



अविस्मरणीय पुनर्मिलनाच्या आनंदोत्सवातून तृप्त होऊन परत आपल्या दैनंदिन वाटचालीमधे रमलो.....त्या दोन दिवसांचा नशा उतरायला नाव च घेत नव्हता.....झिंग म्हणतात ना.... झिंग... ह्या आनंदोत्सवाचे काय वर्णन/अनुभव कथन करावे हे काही सुचत नव्हते..... शब्द सुद्धा स्तब्ध झाले.....पण जूनं ते सोनं..... आणि मुरलेली मैत्री....हे मुरलेल्या लिंबाच्या लोणचे/ आवळ्याच्या मुरब्बा सारखं गुणकारी असत.... तसेच ही ५० वर्षानंतरची भेट..... मनाला आरोग्यदायक ठरली..... नवीन प्रेरणा/स्नेह/भावना/तारुण्य निर्माण करणारी ठरली.

प्रमोद नी१९७५ ची रत्ने एकत्रित करून स्नेहाच्या/मैत्रीच्या धाग्यात ओवून एकसंघ असा अतूट मैत्रीचा हार गुंफला.....हा हार सदैव टवटवीत ठेवण्याची उर्वरित महत्वाची कामगिरी हारामधील सौंदर्य खूलविणार्या गुलाबांनी..... म्हणजे *आशुतोष, संजय, अविनाश, मिलिंद, राजीव व सुशीलनी अत्यंत स्नेहपूर्वक केली आहे. त्यांना सर्वांनी मौलिक साथ दिली. त्यामुळे ही ५० वर्षांची मैत्री/दोस्ती अजून ही सजीव राहिली.....या हारातील माझ्या सारख्या एका फुलामधे अभिमानास्पद भावना निर्माण झाली..... भाग्यवान मी की ह्या मैत्रीचा भाग झालो..... कृत कृत्य झालो..... धन्यवाद.....

मित्रांमध्ये/मैत्रीमध्ये धन्यवाद व्यक्त करीत नसतात....हे जरी खरे असले तरी, दैनंदिन जीवनातील वाटचाल जर सुखद मैत्री मुळे होत असेल तर फक्त जाणीव असलेल्या भगवंताचे आभार मानन्या आधी प्रत्यक्षात अनुभव देणारे मित्रांचे आभार मानणे कधीही गुणकारी असते..... हि भावना खरोखर सुखद ठरते.....

तुम्ही सर्व ५ वी ते ११ वी पर्यंत अशी जवळपास ६ वर्ष एकत्रित मैत्री पूर्ण राहिलात..... त्यामुळे सहाजिकच तुमच्यामध्ये एक दृढ नातं आणि एकमेकांची कौटुंबिक संबंध निर्माण करणारे नातं तयार झालं.....मी आपल्या वाटचालीत १० वी मधे पदार्पण केले.....पण मला कधीच वाटलं नाही की मी तुम्हा सगळ्यांमध्ये खूप उशिरा आलो..... आपल्या सर्वांच्या प्रेमळ आणि मैत्रीपूर्ण स्वभावानी..... मी लवकरच एकरूप झालो.....**हाच माझ्या**

जीवनाच्या वाटचालीमधील मैत्रीचा अविस्मरणीय अनुभव.....२००१ ला पण अनुभवला....व आता २०२४ ला तर पूर्ण तृप्त झालो.

या कौटुंबिक आनंदोत्सवाला सहचारिणी पण होती....आपण दोन दिवस काय करणार.....माझी तर ओळख सुद्धा नाही.... फक्त सुचेता वहिनीनांच् ओळखते.....असे अनेक प्रश्न माझ्या समोर उपस्थित केले होते.....पण प्रत्यक्षात ह्या आनंदोत्सवाचा आस्वाद घेतल्यानंतर..... अजून एक दिवस असता तर छान झाले असते..... फक्त शब्दात व्यक्त होण्यापेक्षा अंतर्मनानी व्यक्त केलेल्या या तिच्या भावना.....!

अतिशय सुंदर असे नियोजन..... निसर्गरम्य असे कार्यक्रमाचे स्थळ..... त्यामुळे प्रामुख्याने आयोजन समितीचे मनपूर्वक अभिनंदन.....आशुतोष,संजय, अविनाश, राजीव..... आणि प्रेरणादायी सुचेता..... तृप्त होऊन ढेकर देणारे रूचकर भोजन..... उल्लेखनीय म्हणजे सगळ्याच गोष्टींची निवड अगदी उत्तम आणि तृप्त करणारी .....श्रीपाद, संजय,.....सौ.संगिता वहिनी.....सौ.सूप्रिया वहिनी..... फक्त दोन दिवसांत मनोमिलन/सुसंवाद/मनोरंजन मनोरंजकाचे बहारदार नियोजन केले. सर्वांचे हार्दिक अभिनंदन. मी म्हणेन कि हा एक आगळा वेगळा आणि खरोखर मन मोहून घेणारा उपक्रम होता.....आयोजक राजीव, हितेंद्र, धनंजय, दिनेश यांचे मौलिक योगदान विसरता येत नाही..... आणि हा उत्सव त्यांच्या सहचारिणी सोबत असल्यामुळे जास्त यशस्वी झाला हे विसरणे शक्य नाही.....नाव घेतले नाही म्हणून त्यांचे योगदान विसरता येत नाही..... अश्या सर्व आदरणीय वहिनी साहेबांचे आभार.....

आणि म्हणूनच कि काय ..... ह्या अविस्मरणीय आनंदोत्सवातील सर्व मित्रांना ..... आकर्षक असे सुवर्ण पदक बहाल केले ते सर्वांचा आवडता टिल्या/जयेंद्रनी.....जी आणि जणू कि काय टी-शर्ट व टोपीला बहारदार झालरच प्राप्त झाली.....टी-शर्ट/टोपी ची संकल्पना.... निर्मिती करीता.....विश्वास व श्रीनिवासची मेहनत खरोखर वाखाणण्याजोगी म्हणावी लागेल.....

पण ह्या आनंदोत्सवाला आवर्जून उपस्थित झालेले सर्व मित्र..... सहचारिणी यांनी खरोखर रंगत आणली..... त्यांच्या उपस्थिती मुळेच् आनंदोत्सवाला प्रफुल्लित वातावरणाची निर्मिती झाली.....

म्हणतात ना.....जर तुमच्या आयुष्यात असे दुर्मिळ स्नेही शामिल आहेत.....जे तुमच्या आनंदामधे..... तुमच्या पेक्षाही जास्त आनंदी असतात.....तर खरोखर नशीबवान आहात तुम्ही.....

हा सर्व अनुभव जपून ठेवणं महत्त्वाचं.....!....मग ते सुगंधी फुलं असो किंवा आयुष्य सुगंधित करणारी माणसं.....

पुनश्च सर्व मित्र परिवारांचे मनःपूर्वक आभार..... धन्यवाद..... भेटूया हिरक महोत्सवी सुगंधित आनंदोत्सवात.....



अनिल इंगोले

A "bunch of good looking guys having fun"!

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I want to personally thank everyone and the organizing team for adding another memory in my little album of life. But what makes this memory special is that it was a blend of moments with people I have known for almost 6 decades and the time we spent in the lap of the very nature which happens to be another thing that I equally am passionate about, as I am with my bond to all of you. This whole setup left me enraptured.

As many of you know, we have tried to do our best in this walk of life, but for many of us, life looks a lot different at 65. The happiness in little things is the key. Who would have thought that a class full of kids from HHS in the 1970's would be meeting here under some grey clouds matching with the grey in the hair as well. Talking about grey hair, I must say that the whole event was very comfortable and refreshing as far as convenience for us is considered. Easy on the pocket, too, just like the snacks we ate after school.

Very delectable culinary delights. I got a chance to speak with everyone, and the pictures came out really good, too. For all of you wondering if we still look good in group photos, I can assure you we do as my son's friends overseas complimented us calling us a "bunch of good looking guys having fun" when he showed them the pictures.



Overall, this meetup was really memorable, and I look forward to many such events as the time and schedule permits. Stay young and stay blessed, my friends.

Milind Soman

KUDOS TO ORGANISERS

FOR THEIR PAINSTAKING EFFORTS



“It is very difficult to find common interests among all the participants. I think organizers had an Herculean task before them. I respect their efforts in minutely planning the whole thing. Kudos to all of them. Managing and executing a full-time program.

I had only one suggestion. Please consider our age and diverse interests and keep lots of time in between events to relax and pursue more one to one interactions.”

Pramod Sahastrabuddhe



“Those two days full of joy beyond imagination!”



My submission is as follows,

Very good venue, nice resort, not much crowd other than us, excellent weather, wonderful company has put the get-to-gather on top of my outings.

Too much of formal community programmes to an extent curtailed one of main reason of get-to-gather i.e. informal chats, one to one shares or in groups except to a small extent, it happened inside the rooms. This could have been allotted more time for cherishing memories and understand some people better when meeting after 50 years. Rest all was excellent right from planning to arrangements starting from meeting point on day one till departure. Food was especially good.

Safari also has been a vantage point, though not more sightings but in company of nature and people. Rains too were enjoyable during safari. Chocolates from Vishwas were too small compared to his announcements.

Thanks to Tillya for making arrangements to lift the mood of many. Lastly, my heartiest thanks to proposers, organisers, various committee members, singers, etc. for making those two days full of joy beyond imagination!

Thanks

Sushil W. Deshmukh

Feedback on GTG
Congratulations to The organising team

Mohan Kundley

I appreciate a short, sweet and affordable program.

★★★

Short travel time from Nagpur.

★★★

Appropriate outdoor stay time.

★★★

Long gathering time.

★★★

Not hectic but leisurely schedule to suit our age.

★★★

Rest hours after lunch and next session after evening tea would be desirable.

★★★

Affordable and reasonable cost.

★★★

Good food and stay.

★★★

Finally, an opportunity to meet most of our classmates after a long time

was a delightful experience.

★★★

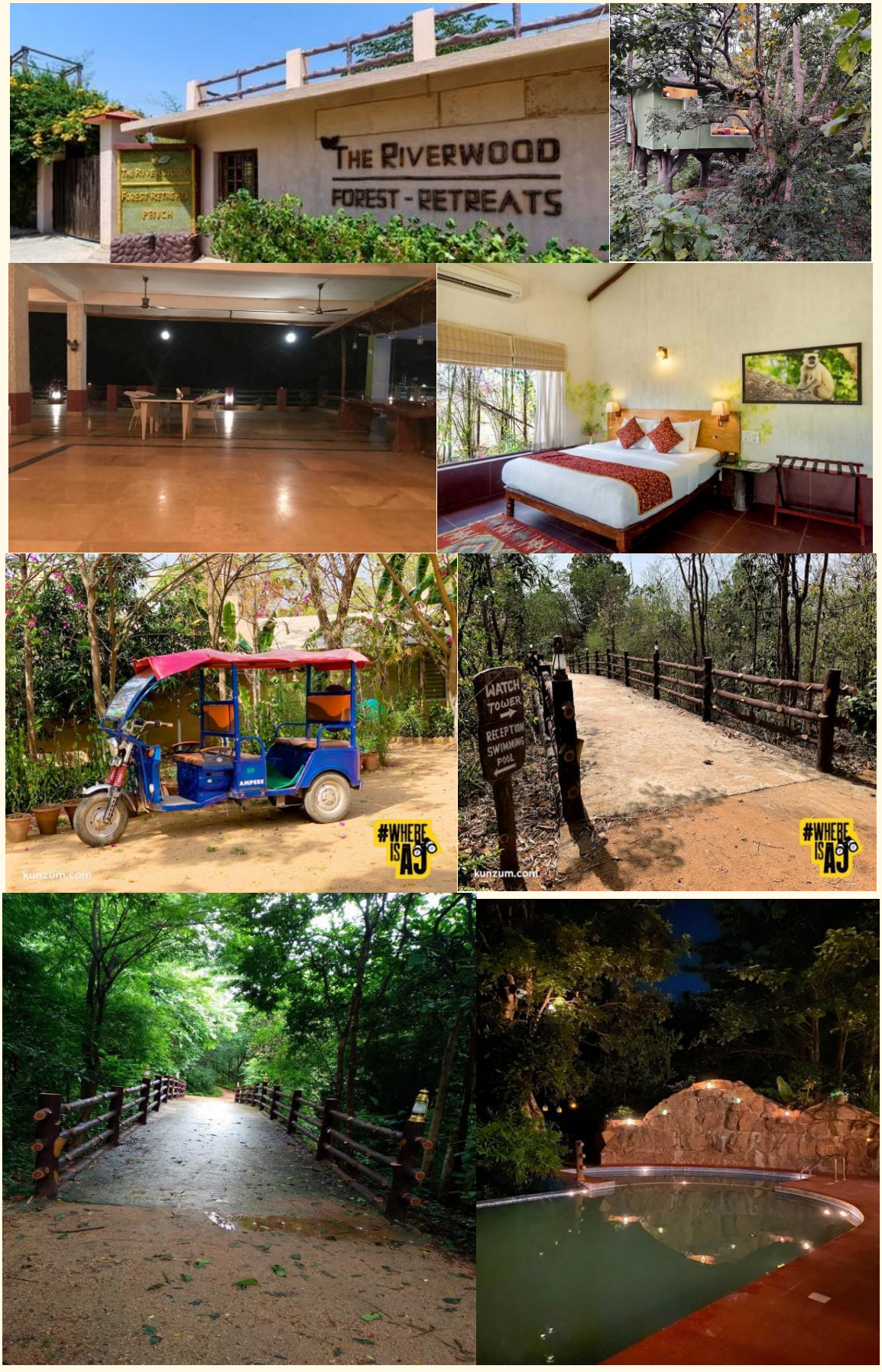


Back to Where It All Began

"Reunited After Half a Century"

The photographs in the pages to follow capture the pure joy of schoolmates coming together after five long decades - warm smiles and spontaneous laughter filling the air as old friends reconnect. Hands that once passed notes in class now hold each other tightly, eyes light up at half-forgotten stories, and groups lean in close rediscovering the shared childhood that bound them in the classroom.

In every frame, the passage of time is visible yet gently set aside, replaced by the simple, powerful happiness of being together again.



The Venue : The Riverwood Resort, Pench

Moments of Togetherness!















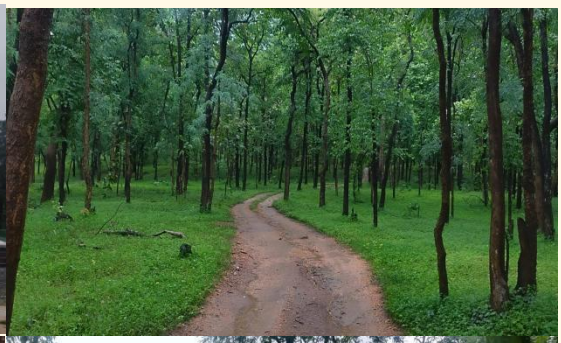



09.27.2024
















TRAIL
ACCESS

Vishwas' Galaxy A52
27 September 2024 12:36






Vishnu's Galaxy F62
27 September 2024 12:22







REUNITED
and it feels
SO GOOD!
REUNITED
and it feels
SO GOOD!


तेलिया ट्रेल
Telia trail