



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S
EDITION**

➤ How to send a recap of 2020 to friends and family? We tell you...

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➤ Students and teachers share their views on various issues engulfing the nation and the world

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➤ Analysed: Team India's dismal show in the Adelaide Test

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STUDENT EDITION

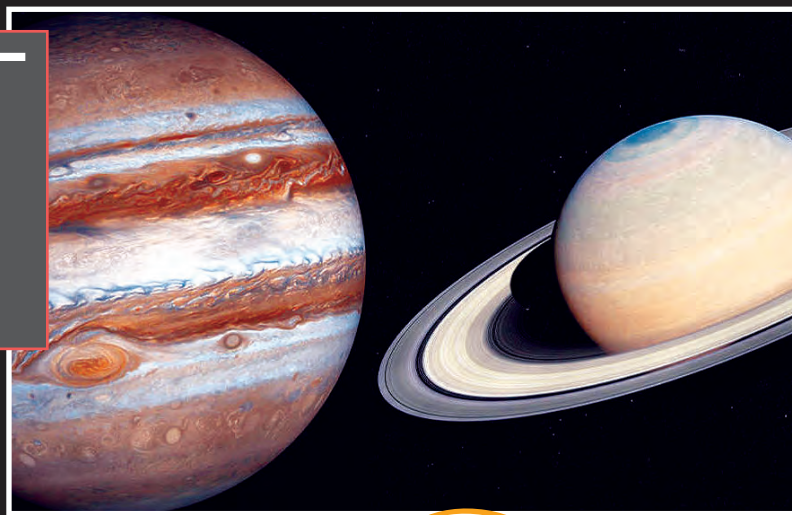
MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020


WEB EDITION
CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

JUPITER AND SATURN HEAD FOR CLOSEST VISIBLE ALIGNMENT IN 800 YEARS

THE GREAT CONJUNCTION!

In a rare celestial event, Jupiter and Saturn will look like a double planet, just after the sunset on the evening of December 21—the beginning of the winter solstice. This is the first time that the two gas giants will appear this close to each other in nearly 800 years. Although Jupiter and Saturn have been approaching one another in the Earth's sky since the summer, the two were separated by less than the diameter of a Full Moon on December 16, which will continue till December 25.



HOW TO WATCH

The spectacle, which will be visible from all over the world, can be enjoyed without any special equipment—just look southwest as soon as the sky gets dark. Those with access to a telescope are in for an additional rare treat: With a typical amateur instrument set to low power, the two giant planets will fit within a single field-of-view. Jupiter, with its four bright moons, and Saturn with its distinctive rings, will be visible



The last great conjunction was in May 2000, but its position in the sky meant it was difficult to see. However, Jupiter and Saturn last lined up as closely as this, was in 1623, roughly a dozen years after Galileo discovered Jupiter's four largest moons. In fact, according to astronomers, the Star of Bethlehem that guided the three wise men to the place of Jesus Christ's birth may have been a great conjunction, too!

SOCIAL DISTANCING IS DUTCH WORD OF THE YEAR

One-and-a-half-metre-social distancing has been voted as the Dutch word of the year. **Anderhalvemetersamenleving**, a compound noun describing life under the Dutch government's 1.5-metre-social distancing requirement, was the runaway winner of a vote held by the Van Dale dictionary company. The lengthy new word, which was added to the dictionary in April during the first spike in Dutch coronavirus infections, garnered just under 30% of some 12,000 votes in the annual competition.



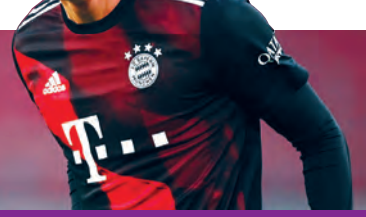
In second place, with 11% was 'fabel-tjes-fuik' a noun, which Van Dale defines as the "phenomenon that users of social media, who are interested in conspiracies, are offered more and more messages about conspiracies due to the operation of social media, which gradually leads them to believe in them"

Spotlight

LEWANDOWSKI PIPS RONALDO, MESSI TO WIN FIFA BEST MEN'S PLAYER AWARD

Robert Lewandowski has been named the FIFA Best Men's Player for 2020, after his 55-goal season lifted Bayern Munich to a sweep of international and domestic trophies. Lewandowski topped a three-player shortlist that included Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo.

Lewandowski is also the first men's winner from a club outside Spain since Ronaldo won the 2008 award as a Manchester United player.



➤ Lucy Bronze was voted the Best Women's Player to give England its first individual victory at the FIFA awards. A Champions League winner with Lyon, she has since joined Manchester City
➤ Bronze won the vote ahead of her former Lyon teammate Wendie Renard and Pernille Harder

RECOGNITION

INDIAN ENTREPRENEUR NAMED AMONG 'YOUNG CHAMPIONS OF THE EARTH' WINNERS BY UNEP

A 29-year-old Indian entrepreneur is among the seven winners of the prestigious 'Young Champions of the Earth' 2020 prize given by the UN environment agency to global change-makers, using innovative ideas and ambitious action to help solve some of the world's most pressing environmental challenges. **Vidyut Mohan**, an engineer, is the co-founder of 'Takachar', a social enterprise, enabling farmers to prevent open burning of their waste farm residues and earn extra income by converting them into value-added chemicals like activated carbon on-site, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) said.



➤ Since Takachar was launched in 2018, Mohan and its co-founder Kevin Kung have worked with about 4,500 farmers and processed 3,000 tons of crops
➤ Each will receive \$10,000 for seed funding and tailored-training to help scale up their ideas

DID YOU KNOW? The Young Champions of the Earth prize is awarded every year to seven entrepreneurs under the age of 30 with bold ideas for sustainable environmental change

GREATER VALUES MAKE A HERO, NOT STRENGTH: PATTY JENKINS

What does it mean to be a true hero? That's the question 'Wonder Woman 1984' aims to explore, says director Patty Jenkins, who believes **being a superhero is more about values than physical prowess**. Diana Prince, the Amazonian warrior whose superhero identity is Wonder Woman, represents "kindness and intelligence", which makes her a contemporary hero for women and men alike, the filmmaker said.



➤ 'Wonder Woman 1984' is the follow-up to 'Wonder Woman', the 2017 DC blockbuster, which was hailed as a much-needed presence in the male-dominated superhero space of Hollywood movies

➤ While the first film was the origin story of Wonder Woman (Gadot) and her discovery of humanity towards the end of World War I, the sequel explores how she lives with humanity after having lost all her friends

CELEB TALK

What does it mean to be a true hero? Anybody can be selfish. The question is: what are the qualities of a hero in this world? We need love, bravery, kindness and intelligence now, more than ever. We don't just need someone, who can beat or thrash the bad guy. That's why I feel Wonder Woman is the hero for today and for everybody
— Patty Jenkins

'STAR WARS' ACTRESS NAOMI ACKIE TO PLAY WHITNEY HOUSTON IN BIOPIC

Actress Naomi Ackie is set to portray as Whitney Houston in an upcoming musical biopic on the late singer. Titled, 'I Wanna Dance With Somebody', the film is directed by Stella Meghie. While the casting of Ackie, who gained popularity playing Jannah in the 2019 release 'Star Wars: The Rise Of Skywalker', has been confirmed, the rest of the cast is yet to be announced.

➤ 'I Wanna Dance With Somebody' follows the life of Houston, popular for hit songs like 'I will always love you' and 'How will I know'

➤ Houston, who died in 2012, also acted in the 1992 romantic thriller, 'The Bodyguard'

➤ The movie is slated to release in 2022


ENTERTAINMENT

RUSSIA BANNED FROM USING ITS NAME, FLAG AT NEXT TWO OLYMPICS


SPORTS

Russia will not be able to use its name, flag and anthem at the next two Olympics or at any other world championships for the next two years after a ruling by the Court of Arbitration for Sport. The Lausanne-based court halved the four-year ban proposed last year by the World Anti-Doping Agency in a landmark case that accused Russia of state-ordered tampering of a testing laboratory database in Moscow. The ruling also blocked Russia from bidding to host major sporting events for two years.

➤ Russian athletes and teams will, however, be allowed as individual players to compete at next year's Tokyo Olympics and the 2022 Winter Games in Beijing, as well as world championships, including the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, if they are not banned or suspected of doping
➤ The name 'Russia' can also be retained on uniforms, if the words 'Neutral Athlete' or equivalents like 'Neutral Team' are written with equal prominence, the court said

MODI SEEKS PEOPLE'S VIEWS ON 2020, NEXT YEAR, FOR HIS 'MANN KI BAAT' ADDRESS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sought people's views on the year 2020—seen as one of the most-disruptive in recent history due to the Covid-19 outbreak, and also on what they look forward to in the next year, ahead of his 'Mann ki Baat' broadcast on December 27. This will his last broadcast for this year.



In his monthly radio address, the Prime Minister touches on a variety of issues, and at times, shares views of other people
➤ The platform also found out that food influencers enjoy the highest quality engagement at 88%, while education, finance, and career influencers cumulatively receive 85%

2020 INSTAGRAM ROUND-UP: VIRAT, DEEPIKA EMERGE AS TOP INFLUENCERS

Power couple Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma are currently enjoying the royalty status as influencers on social media platform Instagram, according to the latest research report by ClanConnect.ai. While team India captain Kohli has the highest number of followers at 81 million, his Bollywood diva wife boasts of the greatest engagement rate in the country, surpassing even PM Narendra Modi.

1 According to the data mapped by ClanConnect, Shraddha Kapoor, Deepika Padukone, Alia Bhatt, Neha Kakkar, Jaqueline Fernandez, PM Modi, Akshay Kumar, and Katrina Kaif are also among the top 10 Insta-influencers

2 Among the female Insta-stars of 2020, **Shraddha Kapoor** is the most-popular female Instagram Influencer with 56 million followers, **Deepika**

Padukone followed close with 52 million In the male influencer category, Kohli is much ahead of his counterparts on the top 10 list, however, he was thwarted in terms of engagement by MS Dhoni, who boasts an engagement rate of 10.98%, as opposed to Kohli's 1.84% With 50 million followers, PM Modi is the second most-popular Instagram-influencer in India, with Akshay Kumar, Salman Khan, Ranveer Singh, Varun Dhawan, Hrithik Roshan, Dhoni, Shahid Kapoor, and Kapil Sharma also topping the charts



Here's how DIY can help you with your mental health



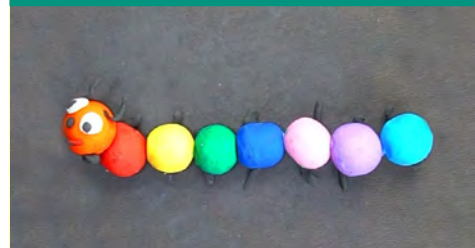
According to a recently conducted research by a psychology department of a college in the US, **DIYing is a mood lifter and offers a range of mental health benefits that are associated with crafting up something special.**

DIY HAS MORE TO OFFER



Mental health expert Dr Shalini Verma suggests, "Crafting and engaging in creative activities may help decrease anxiety, stress, and mood disturbances, as well as improve well-being and quality of life. One who engaged in arts and crafts, such as music, painting, drawing etc experienced lower levels of mental distress. They also experienced higher levels of mental functioning and life satisfaction."

DOODLING REDUCES STRESS



Doodling, has a range of mental health benefits too, including relaxation and reducing stress, mood regulation, memory recall, and creativity. Art therapist Raveena Singhania says, "Alternatively, you can doodle on a plain tote bag for an artsy aunt or uncle. You can even turn your regular greeting cards into doodling masterpieces. All you need is plain card stock and some markers to make beautiful designs."

BAKING IS FUN AND HEALTHY



Baking not only makes the whole house smell festive and inviting, but it also provides mental health benefits. Homebaker Avantika Deo says, "Culinary therapy is amazing. Baking also makes for a versatile gift that's good for just about anyone. Make a plate of gingerbread cookies for the office, some sugar cookies for little ones in the family, or some peppermint fudge for dad. You can even make gluten-free and sugar-free variations to suit different health needs."

DIY CLAY SESSION HAS A ZENTASTIC FEEL TO IT



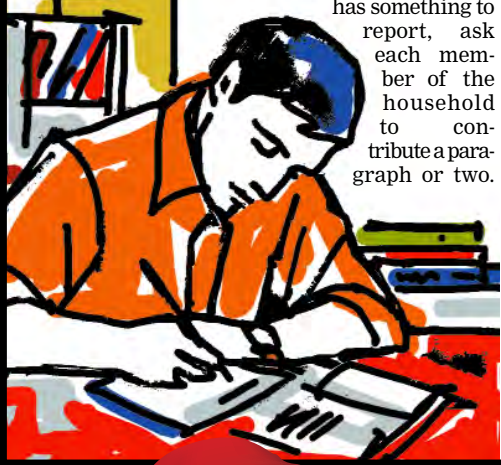
Clay work has long been incorporated into art therapy as a means of creative expression. Research suggests it has therapeutic qualities, like increasing self-expression and reflection. A 2012 study on creative clay work suggests that clay handling may greatly reduce negative moods and enhance positive ones.

How to send a recap of 2020 to Friends and Family

For many people, 2020 has been a disruptive, frustrating, heartbreaking and disorienting year. But as December winds down, it is also an opportunity to take stock of the things that happened and to let your friends and family know how you have been doing through it all. Creating a recap of 2020 in your own words and pictures also serves as your personal historical record of a very challenging year. Free software can guide the way. You can even make the whole thing on a smartphone or tablet. Here's how.

STEP 1 Tell your story

If tales from elaborate vacations or group outings are in short supply this year, think of the more local adventures you experienced — like adopting a cat, exploring the city on foot, learning how to cook or taking up the mandolin. If the whole family has something to report, ask each member of the household to contribute a paragraph or two.



As for the physical writing, jot your thoughts down in your notes app or a word processing program, like Apple's Pages or Google Docs. Both of these are free, probably already on your device and run on smartphones, on tablets and in computer web browsers. (You can also jump to Step 3 and start writing in a template.)

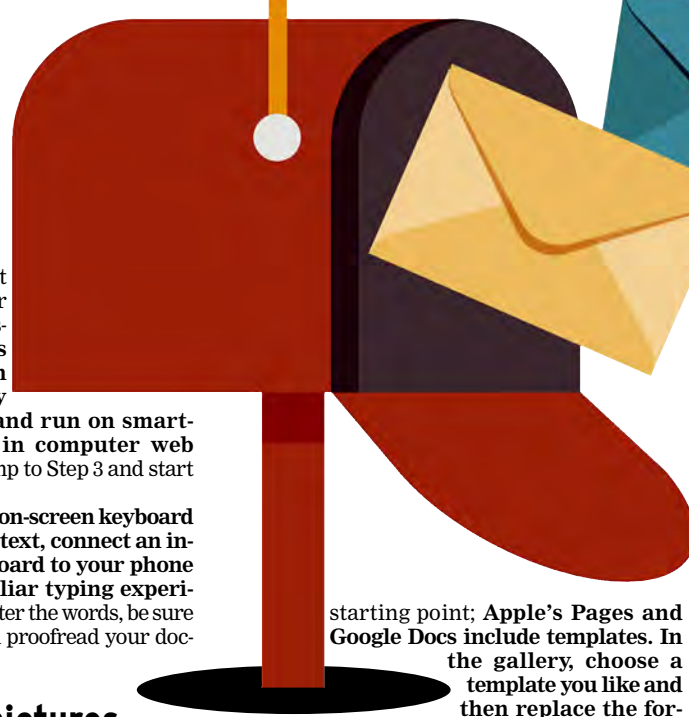
If you dislike using an on-screen keyboard to enter large amounts of text, connect an inexpensive Bluetooth keyboard to your phone or tablet for a more familiar typing experience. (No matter how you enter the words, be sure to run the spell-checker and proofread your document.)

STEP 2 Add pictures

Even if travel snaps are in short supply and the 2020 school pictures are Zoom screenshots, browse your photo library for other images to visually document your year. For a year-end family portrait that includes everyone, set the camera timer so the photographer has a few seconds to jump into the frame. Snapshots from your walks around town, outdoor dining with friends, close-ups of the garden flowers and pet photos can capture life as you lived it in 2020, even in a lockdown or quarantine.

STEP 3 Design your newsletter

Now it's time to combine your words and pictures into an eye-catching document. If you've never created a layout before, most word processing programs include a template gallery you can use as a



starting point; Apple's Pages and Google Docs include templates. In the gallery, choose a template you like and then replace the formatted sample text by highlighting it and writing (or pasting in) your own words. Tap or click in sample images to replace them with photos from your own photo library, or

look for a menu option to insert new images. If you don't like the template options, design your own document from scratch in your word processing app. Just keep in mind a few basic visual tips: Don't use a dozen different fonts that might clash and distract the reader from your words. Use type sizes big enough for comfortable reading. And, despite the season, be mindful of recipients who may have red/green colour blindness when you choose type colors and page backgrounds.



STEP 4 Print and mail

If you have a printer, paper, envelopes and a good supply of ink, you have what you need to produce your newsletter right at home. However, it's a good idea to print one first and proofread the document again before sending 50 copies through the printer. If you don't have a printer or a local print shop to handle the job, consider the online services of an office-supply store, where you can upload your newsletter document for output and pickup (or delivery). Staples

prints custom documents and holiday cards. These custom-printing sites also have templates and design guidance if you'd like to create your newsletter right there.

STEP 5 Or just email it

Want to save time, money, ink and paper? Start by exporting a copy of your newsletter document as a PDF file, an option most word processing programs offer. Creating a PDF makes a copy that looks just like your original document but can be opened on most devices. Check your app's menu for share, export or "save as PDF" option. After you have saved your newsletter as a PDF, attach the new file to a message and send it out to everyone on your mailing list.

Sure, the notion of a year-end newsletter may seem quaint. But if there is any wisdom that 2020 has imparted, it is that staying connected to each other is important.



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN

SNACKS LEFT FOR SANTA UNDER THE TREE BY KIDS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

From rice pudding to beverages, keep reading to find out what children leave out around Christmas...

US

In the United States, children believe Santa Claus comes on Christmas night to deliver presents, while in Iceland they believe there are 13 'Yule Lads' who visit all December-long. In the US, many children leave a glass of milk and a plate of cookies for Santa.

Christmas is filled with traditions that are passed down. But some of these traditions are unique to certain cultures. Here is what people leave for Santa's snacks!

AUSTRALIA

Although Australians also leave cookies for Santa to snack on, they replace the glass of milk with a cold glass of a drink!

BRITAIN

In Britain, families believe Santa needs some sherry to warm up. It's also tradition to pair the sherry with a mince pie.

ARGENTINA

Children in Argentina leave out hay and water as Christmas there continues until January 6, which is Three Kings Day. The night before Three Kings Day, children leave their shoes outside so they can be filled with gifts. They also leave hay and water for the kings' horses.

Watch out for more Christmas stories under this slug

NETHERLANDS

In the Netherlands, children often leave carrots and hay to help energise Santa's horses — yes, horses — on their trip around the world.

IRELAND

Some Irish families leave a pint of Guinness for Santa on the eve of Christmas.

SANTA'S PLATTER

➤ In Denmark, Belgium, and the Netherlands — children don't believe Santa's sleigh is pulled by reindeer. They think he is being pulled by horses, so they leave food for them on Christmas Eve. Denmark doesn't leave anything for Julemanden (Santa) but they do leave out rice pudding for elves. ➤ Children leave elves — who are named 'nisser' and who live in the attic — a bowl of rice pudding called 'risengrød'. They believe that if the rice pudding isn't left out, then the nisser will taunt them. ➤ In Iceland, children leave out laufabrauð (leaf bread) and tastes like a crispy wafer. ➤ In France, children leave out carrots and cookies in their shoes. ➤ German children leave out handwritten letters before going to bed.

Germans have more of a Christmas angel, the 'Christkind,' than a Santa, and they don't leave any snacks. Instead, they leave the angel handwritten letters that are decorated with sparkles and markers. In the morning, the letters are gone and in their place are gifts.



DID YOU KNOW?

(Source: Insider)

QUIZ TIME (INDIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE)

Q.1) Who is the author of the Mahabharata?
A. Kalidasa B. Kautilya
C. Veda Vyasa
D. Vishnu Sharma



well known as exponents of which form of Indian music?
A. Carnatic music
B. Western classical
C. Hindustani music
D. Folk music



Q.2) The following Indian singers: Bade Gulam Ali Khan, Gangubai Hangal, Parveen Sultana are

Q.3) The lettering 'Satyameva Jayate' inscribed at the base of the emblem of India is taken from which book?
A. Yajur Veda B. Rig Veda
C. Mahabharata D. Mundaka Upanishad

Q.4) Where is the gigantic monolithic statue of Gomateswara, a Jain monk, located?
A. Hampi
B. Yedyur
C. Badami
D. Shravanbelagola



ANSWERS

1. C) Veda Vyasa 2. C) Hindustani music 3. D) Mundaka Upanishad 4. D) Shravanbelagola

KNOWLEDGE BANK (BIRDS)

Greater bird of paradise



Botanist Carl Linnaeus named the species Paradisaea and apoda or "legless bird of paradise", because early trade skins that reached Europe were prepared without wings or feet by natives. This led to the misconception that these birds were kept aloft by their plumes and never touched Earth until death. These birds are native to New Guinea and Indonesia. Their diet mainly consists of fruits, seeds and small insects.

EXPLORE YOUR CREATIVITY

Develop a story based on the pictures in around 250 words. Send your entry along with your name, class, school and picture at tolnie175@gmail.com



CHECK YOUR APTITUDE			
9	10	8	7
What is the maximum distance running the lowest data rate for 802.11b?	322 feet C. About 100 feet D. About 450 feet	What is the maximum distance with maximum data rate for 802.11a?	322 feet C. About 100 feet D. About 450 feet
A. About 350 feet B. About	A. About 65-75 feet B. About 90-100 feet C. About 150 feet D. Over 200 feet	ANSWER: 1. About 350 feet 2. About 65-75 feet	