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The ACADEMY

Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration

Vol. 7

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Jan., Feb., Mar., 2016



Visit to PM during BPST, IAS Phase-I

Jottings from the Editor

*"Great minds discuss IDEAS average minds discuss EVENTS
small minds discuss PEOPLE"*

- Eleanor Roosevelt

A new beginning embarks with the New Year 2016, cold January with a warm heart. As usual the quietest month of the year occasionally broken by the on-going road-repair upto the main gate at LBSNAA. This month offers an opportunity for the faculty-counsellors to visit and counsel officers under training in the districts. Also, Phase I, officer-trainees went for 'Bharat Darshan' i.e., the Winter Study Tour, scouting different parts of India. Overall January is a slow month with the pace of a snail.

The Republic Day was celebrated at LBSNAA with great fervor and gaiety, Director, Shri.Rajeev Kapoor, unfurled the tricolor admist the faculty and staff along with their families.

A case study and writing workshop was organized for the faculty members in the month of January, to hone up the skills.

National Gender Centre, LBSNAA organized a Policy

Conclave on "Gender Equality and Child Rights: Sharing Knowledge & Developing an Agenda for Action", on 28-30 January 2016 with the support of UN Women Office for India, Bhutan, Maldives & Sri Lanka and UNICEF India Country Office.

In February, during the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST) New Delhi, Phase-I officer-trainees got an opportunity to visit President of India, Prime Minister of India, parliamentarians and various other dignitaries.

Infrastructure upgradation continued through the cold months of January, February and March.

March witnessed the resumption of Phase-I training programme, week-2-with the land administration and district management module.

Looking forward to the much awaited literary contributions from our patrons, especially the accounts of travelogue from officer-trainees of Phase-I.

Hope you will enjoy reading!

News Sparks

Phase I: The start of Phase I professional course of IAS training had a festive feel to it as Christmas was just approaching with New Year in tow. The classes started with a course briefing by new course team lead by Sh. C. Sridhar. Moving over officer trainees were more tied up in preparing for upcoming 2 month long Winter Study Tour (informally called BHARAT DARSHAN) which started on 26th December. There were total of ten groups who embarked on journey in almost all directions possible, on a tour of India. When finally all the groups met again in Delhi, the experience sharing told a story like no other. People have lived, experienced, and breathed another India which they have not felt before. So people had experiences of forward posts in Kashmir where soldiers are guarding our frontiers to LWE affected areas like Gadhchiroli, where development has another story to tell.

Apart from it the attachments with National Security Guards, National Disaster Response Force and National Museum provided a complete holistic overview to officer trainees of IAS 2015 batch. The week in Delhi was the apt culmination of this winter study tour. Officer trainees

experienced first hand how our temple of democracy i.e. Indian Parliament works. The attachment with Bureau of Parliamentary Studies was inaugurated by Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, Speaker, Lok Sabha. The officer trainees had a call on with The President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee at Rashtrapati Bhawan, the Vice President of India Shri Hamid Ansari at his residence and the Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi. The batch also had an interaction with Cabinet Secretary of India Sh. Pradeep Kumar Sinha. The Bureau of Parliamentary Studies attachment had inspiring sessions by MPs like Shri Murli Manohar Joshi, Sh. Rajiv Pratap Rudy and Sh. Satyapal Singh among others.

After coming back from Block leave on 8 March 2016, the officer trainees had a module on Land Administration and district management with eminent speakers like Dr. K P Krishnan, (Additional Secretary, Govt. of India) Shri O.P. Choudhary (winner of PM award for excellence in public administration), Sh. Raj Shekhar (DM, Lucknow), Sh. K. Nanthakumar, who shared their experiences and gave advices to officer trainees for upcoming challenging future.



Officer Trainees dancing in the tunes of songs, celebrating Holi festival

[Based on the report submitted by House Journal Society]

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News Sparks

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Holi celebrations at the Academy

On the occasion of Holi – the festival of colors, a celebration of the same was organized by the Officer's Club in association with the other societies and the members of Staff at the Academy. All sorts of colors were provided at the venue which was the Happy Valley Ground which was never seen covered in possible ranges of a rainbow. Along with the colors, wonderful music perfectly complimenting the occasion was being played in the background. The

celebration witnessed large number of Officers Trainees of the 2015 batch joining in full throttle as they had stayed back for the holidays. They were joined by the Faculty members and other staff members and their families in what turned out to be a wonderful and colorful get together. Happy valley was perhaps exhibiting to all why it is called so. The music and colors were also supplemented with delicious food organized by the Mess.

We travel, initially, to lose ourselves; and we travel, next, to find ourselves

*Fouzia Taranum**

"Ever since I had decided that I wanted to be an IAS officer and pursue a career in the government, I have found the Bharat Darshan and the related photos and stories to be a motivating factor. Especially through the preparation days, seeing photos or reading a blog on Bharat Darshan was a great source of encouragement and I could pull on my socks and jump right back into studying with renewed energy. Luckily I did fulfill the dream and took off for the

Bharat Darshan on 26th December 2015 as part of Group 10. Very soon I realised that the stories I had heard from seniors and others in service about the Bharat Darshan being the time of their lives is truly a reality!

The Journey

The journey began with **Bihar** where we visited Patna, Nalanda and Gaya following the Buddhist Tourist Circuit



Flag Off! December 26, 2015

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We travel, initially, to lose ourselves; and we travel, next, to find ourselves

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and were awed and amazed by the Bodh Gaya Temple, the Nalanda ruins, Shanti Stupa, Ghora Katora and the very international RICC – which had an amazing auditorium that could accommodate 20,000 people. Dancing on the stage made me feel like a prima donna! We even had a chance to meet the Chief Minister Shri. Nitish Kumar who was very knowledgeable spoke to us for almost an hour. We also had a very good interaction with the Cobra Battalion where we had various demonstration including firearms, IED, camouflage and Nethra UAV. Bihar was more than what most of us who hadn't visited had ever imagined. The SHGs especially Jeevika was a wonderful interaction. The pleasant surprise of the good roads and development made us feel hopeful for the future of our nation.

We then proceeded to **Jharkhand** where we visited Latehar, Netarhaat and Ranchi where we stayed in remote LWE affected areas. The travelling was intense and we

realised how difficult life is for the locals there.

Kolkata was the next stop before we transited to **Dibrugarh**, Assam for our Army attachment with 2nd Mtn Div. Our drive into **Arunachal Pradesh** and stay at various Army battalions like 11 Grenadiers/1st Battalion Ajmer Regiment, Jat Regiment, 10th Battalion Sikh Light and stops like Chokum, Kamlangnagar, Salangam, Hayuliang, Walong, Kibithu, 90OP were all good. We even fired the Incas 5.56 mm rifle, understood the remoteness of the state of Arunachal, the tribal culture, the security issues and the difficulties that the army jawans and officers by doing night patrols and long treks. We could feel their craving for home, especially during the Lohri celebrations, when all they had rations for was kheer! Many incidents made us feel more patriotic and made us resolve to do well for the nation, while at the same time appreciate small things like phone network connectivity and hot water!



Army Attachment – Lovely sights, great experience and fabulous company.

We bid farewell to the Army jawans and moved to **Tinsukhia** and **Guwahati** where we visited the famous Bell Temple, Margherita Coal Fields, and the Dibru-

Saikhoun national park where we had the best boat ride of our lives, surrounded by silence and the sounds of various exotic birds! We bought the traditional *Mekhla chadar* and

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gamosas and moved to **Meghalaya** to see the beautiful city of Shillong, Mawlynnong - the cleanest village in Asia and the magnificent Living Roots Bridge. While our experience with the Meghalaya Administration was bad, we had a wonderful nature experience here especially the Bangladesh border area trek and Immui Lake. We had a very good traditional, simple Meghalese meal of chicken, vegetable, rice and fresh pineapples near Living roots bridge which will be remembered for years to come!

Next was **Tripura** in Agartala which soon became my favourite city – people were very cordial and well mannered and the city itself was clean, planned and had very good vibes. It was the city of beautiful bengali sarees, sweets and fish. The trend continued with **Kolkata** which we explored thoroughly on foot, even walking 14 kms one day, and night! It was my third visit to Kolkata and the city was just as charming as before with the beautiful view of

the Howrah Bridge and New Bridge, the quaint markets of Park Street and New Market, street food like *safed jamun*, *mixed chat*, *puchkas* and *nizam's rolls*. We rode the tram, the metro, the famous yellow taxis and took a ferry too! The Republic Day Parade with the Chief Minister Ms. Mamta Bannerjee present was the cherry on the cake.

The Bharat Darshan felt like it couldn't get better and then **Andamans** happened! With the Navy and Coast Guard attachments; and **Port Blair** and **Havelock island** we went crazy! The island were the most fun we all had on the beach hopping, motorbike riding, water sports, scuba diving, yoga on the beach, very elaborate photography sessions, dancing, live music, good food and good company! The official attachments were good and so were the unofficial outings. We were onboard the INS LCU-36 for nearly 7 hours and understood many nuances of life in the Navy/Coast Guard.



Industrial Attachments: Always ready to pose for a photo after the walk-around-the-facility. (Tinsukhia District, Assam)

Chennai was the next stop where we had private sector attachments, visited the Besant Nagar Beach, took giant wheel rides after many years, saw the broken bridge

featured in movies, and ate at the famous eateries like Boharis and Thalappakatti Restaurant. We then went to **Mahabalipuram** to be awed by the beautiful architecture

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of the Rath Temple and Shore Temple, and stopped at Dakshina Chitra on the way to **Pondicherry**. In the cities we visited many of our Group mate's homes and felt wonderful since families make us feel warm and like home.

Next was **Bangalore** which IS home! We had NGO attachments like Akshaya Patra kitchens and Janagraha which provided good platforms of dialogue with people working in Education and other sectors in interaction with government. We all also gathered at home for some mom-cooked food and had a good time.

We then proceeded to **Hyderabad** for our Airforce attachment and **Nagpur** for MIHAN attachment. We had a good time in these cities and we got to meet our FC friends and other service people, but somehow were missing the smaller towns and unexplored areas of the north east and the islands.

Chindwada was a good experience too especially the **Pench** National Park safari where a few groups spotted a tiger, after a very beautiful safari through the wilderness.

Bhopal was our last city before going to **Delhi** for our Parliamentary attachment and helped end the Bharat Darshan on a high note, quite literally! It was a city of many firsts for me – parasailing, paramotoring, reverse bungeeing and dirt motorbiking, thanks to the Bhopal administration's Jal Utsav which was on at the Bhopal Bara Lake. We had an excellent time and were feeling terrible that this period of fun, no responsibility and exploring new places was to get over!

The experience

If I were to sum up the experience of the Bharat Darshan in one word, I would say I am "**grateful**". It was an experience to reckon with. There has never been another time in my life when I have been so at peace with myself and with everything surrounding me, been so much in awe and amazement of the country we call home. I feel conscious of life, the purpose of life and understand the insignificance of our being in the whole scheme of this universe. There is so much to see, so much to explore, so much to do and be! This realisation and the urge to live life to the fullest while helping as many people as I can, is my main take home from the Bharat Darshan.

We are never the same again after having traversed so many different lands and hills, and I think I am better today thanks to the Bharat Darshan. I felt loss at the end of a journey that I measured in both kilometers and friends. I loved living like nomads and acquired a taste for such a life, caught the travel bug and wanderlust. Had the pleasure of experiencing many firsts – like paramotoring and reverse bungee, Tripura, Meghalaya, exploring cities and towns by night on foot! Even the convoy and security arrangements along with the media attention were a first for me, but I didn't really enjoy it though there is something to learn from every such interaction.

There were many places and events which really touched me during the course of the Bharat Darshan. One such instance was the sunset at Radhanagar Beach where I felt totally at peace inspite of being totally wet in the ocean water and walking solo down the length of the beach. Another was the interaction with the school children in a government school in the outskirts of Bangalore where a Kannada medium student did Mathematics problems atleast 5 academic years ahead of her age with a lot of ease and confidence. My eyes watered up thinking of the lack of exposure such children have and the kind of lives they could lead once such potential is recognised and encouraged.

Another memorable moment was when a waiter serving us food in the Tripura State Guesthouse served us with a lot of love and care, like a family member. Even when we declined to partake of some dish, he would insist like my mom would. It felt very special that he was doing that out of pure love for his work and with a service orientation. There is so much we could learn from such people – to just love what we do and do it well would make our lives so much better!

I also realised how privileged we are, the eliteness of the service we are in and the need to be grateful about this all our lives given that just a simple exam has elevated us to such a position. I realised that the purpose of such visits is really not a paid holiday, but sensitizing us to the needs of development of people in remote corners and to be a constant reminder to us to work relentlessly to justify us being here in the service.

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This should be our service credo too!

While we started the journey, we tired easily and many of us expressed a wish that the Bharat Darshan get over quickly – but by the end, we were addicted and didn't want the Bharat Darshan to end. New places, new seasons,

new hills to climb, new people to meet! Thank you LBSNAA for such a delightful journey!

(*IAS Phase I, 2015 Batch)

Winter StudyTour Travelogue

Ankita Anand*

A journey, 63 days long, across the length and breadth of the country, has been one of the most memorable days of my life. The learning experience was made all the more interesting by the geographical constructs across the Indian Subcontinent. The Bharat Darshan started off with a set of 18 fellow IAS officer Trainees from Mathura and ended with BPST, Parliament attachment, in Delhi. Now, group 8 has become like a mini family for me. The attachments – public sector, private sector, NGO, Army, Navy and Air force, etc. gave us an exposure to the different aspects of administration.

We saw all that about which we have read as a part of our preparation for civil services. For e.g. History, Public Administration, Geography, Environment, etc. All the train journeys, road adventures, flight travels are super fun to recall. The Motor Tonga ride in the Sundarban Islands was no less amusing. The innumerable species of flora and fauna were one the best sightings. Thanks to the

bird watching enthusiasts in my group, I have started enjoying spotting birds – sandpiper, common kingfisher, etc. I was totally astonished to hear so many different dialects. I am glad that this made me learn a few words in many languages – e.g. in Kannada, Oriya, etc. and further increased my respect towards them. The language guide provided by the academy was helpful in this manner to connect with local. The cultural heritage of each and every location was so different yet beautiful. The happiest moment for me was when I addressed about 400 tribal children from 10-12th standard in Rayagada district of Odisha. At the end of the interaction, I was glad to meet a girl who wanted be an IPS Officer. The Island attachment was so much appealing to eyes that I can't express my happiness to be in this cadre- AGMUT. The beaches, the ponds, the hills, the swamps- all would be deeply missed.

For the first time we saw the lives of defense forces from so close. We all could actually feel the determination our

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Army people have in guarding our country. The visit to 2nd Mountain Division was truly a life changing experience. The trek to hill 90 OP near LAC in Arunachal Pradesh made us realize the difficulties faced during the battle of Walong. Their strenuous training schedule was quite a motivator. The walk through the Foot Suspension bridge over river Lohit was quite an experience. Also, the shot fired by INSAS rifle after loading the magazines ourselves was another memory for life. Sitting inside and “flying” the simulator of MIRAGE 2000 was one high point of Air Force attachment. The shiplift facility shown to us in Karwar Naval base was extraordinary. The decorum in all the three forces is surely worth a salute. It was the right timing of our visit that we got an opportunity to see “International Fleet Review” final practice in INS Sunaina in Vizag.

Attachment with District Administration to study “Lado Abhiyan” for eradication of child marriage in Madhya Pradesh was very informative. The visit to the religious places like Varanasi’s Kashivishwanath Temple, Guwahati’s Kamakhya Devi Temple, Tirupati’s TTD Temple, Mysore’s Saint Philomena Catholic Church and many more. The architectural beauties of the forts, temples, palaces, etc were worth the visit. The administration of these places needs special mention. The beautiful North Eastern states were had such breath taking views. The twists and turns across the valleys, small and large rivulets, the bounding spurs and the gushing streams, made our long strenuous road trips so memorable. The view was terrific as far as the scenic beauty is concerned. The Changlang District attachment in Arunachal Pradesh made us more aware about the tribes, their practices, problems and issues. The green patches of land were a treat to the eyes.

The visit to the Eastern part of India was my first one. It was incredible experience – be it NGO attachment in Rangbelia, Sundarban with the Tagore society for Rural Development, Tribal attachment at Rayagada, Odisha or Private Sector attachment with Tata Steel in Jamshedpur, Jharkhand. In fact, thanks to Tata steel we got to interact

with inspirational persons like Bachendri Pal, Deepika Kumari and Dona Bannerji. They are doing an excellent job for the Tribal welfare and development via their initiatives. The public sector attachment at RINL, Vizag steel in Andhra Pradesh made us aware about their waste disposal techniques, CSR activities in the field of sanitation, environment, etc. We saw the crowd and queue management procedure in the TTD (Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam).

Karnataka had much more in store for us. The attachment with the Bruhan Bangaluru Mahanagar Palika (BBMP) gave us an insight into the Integrated Financial Management System. The Vishan Soudha (with an imprint on its entrance – “Government work is god’s work”) was another momentous building. In the attachment with the DC office in Mysore we were briefed about E-governance projects like Bhoomi, Attara Kacheri and SAKALA. The Mysore Zoo and Palace were two places worth remembering. Finally, in Karwar we were taken on INS Koswari, a fast attack Craft (FAC) as a part of our naval attachment. The SCUBA Training Centre provided us a chance to experience the deep sea naval diver’s job. We even visited Kaiga Nuclear power plant, which we just used to mark on Indian Map in schools.

The NSG attachment in Manesar, Haryana and NDRF attachment in Ghaziabad were very illustrative and helpful. The demonstrations like Bomb Disposal squads job, “Kill Hut” Operation were very elaborate. The demonstration of Disaster management cycle via simulated earthquake and gas leaks were the highlights. The still display was of so much educative value. The attachment with the National Museum was a nostalgic moment for me, being from Delhi itself. I enjoyed the Indus Valley section the most.

So, with BPST (Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training) came an end to the Bharat Darshan. The thought provoking lectures by MPs and other dignitary, the interaction with speaker of Lok Sabha, Cabinet Secretary, Prime Minister, etc. will always be remembers. The call on

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Winter Study Tour Travelogue

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with President and Vice-President was a matter of pride for us. I always interleaved my journey with numerous poems on my visit. The block leave has been a much needed family break. Now I would like to express my thoughts via the following Self written Poem:-

The Journey through the flowers and wild,
the lessons learnt though rough and mild,
made me more aware and connected,
though the route selected.
The plains thrilled us all,
the amazing waves were nor small.
Seeing the cultural diversity we are amazed
and with these experiences, memories would chase.
The Defense forces made an Impact,
On our lives which is so intact,
That I would respect them in-fact,
For their well-balanced tact.
The Public, Private and NGOs
gave us an amazing field experience.
We could understand problems better,
things made much more sense.
The tribal and naxal attachment was the best

where we could put our interpersonal skill to test.

We tried to solve their queries
and talked about their miseries.

I was a bit different person
two months back it seems,

Thanks to this enterprising journey
that has added more greens.

B'day Celebration with my group
Gwalior Fort, Madhya Pradesh

Cellular Jail, Port Blair, Andamans and Nicobar Island
Lohit River, Arunachal Pradesh

Kamakhya Devi Temple, Guwahati, Assam
Indo-Myanmar Border

Meeting Bachendri Pal Madam (First woman to reach the
Everest), Prem Lata Agarwal (First Indian woman to climb
all 7 summits) at Tata Steel, Jamshedpur

Ganga Aarti at Dashwamedha Ghat, Varanasi, Uttar
Pradesh

Attachment with NDRF, Ghaziabad

(*IAS Phase I, 2015 Batch)

Faculty News

Saurabh Jain, IAS (KL:2002), Deputy Director relinquished his charge on 4 January, 2016 to take up his new assignment in the Ministry of Urban Development, New Delhi.

Roli Singh, IAS (RJ: 1994), Deputy Director has relinquished the charge of the office of the Deputy Director (Sr) LBSNAA, on the afternoon of 10 January, 2016.

Dushyant Nariala, IAS (WB: 1993), Joint Director has relinquished the charge of the office of Joint Director, on 13 January, 2016 to join his parent cadre, West Bengal.

Dr. Dwarika Prasad Uniyal, Prof. of Management, on

completion of his tenure of deputation got relived on 29 February, 2016 to join his parent department IIM Kashipur, Uttarakhand.

Academy parivaar wishes them Luck for their future endeavour.

Azad Singh, Scientist “C” and NICTU Faculty attended the training on “Train the Trainer – A certificate course on Recognized Trainer in e-Governance - TTT: RTeG” at Hyderabad from 18-30 January 2016 in batch 2.

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Winter StudyTour Travelogue

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Staff News

Raj Kumar (Vaid), an employee of LBSNAA represented Uttarakhand State and secured third place in 5000 MTS event in 45+ Men event (Performance 19:34.12)in 37th National Masters Athletics Championship 2016 organised by Masters Athletics Federation of India in Mysore, Karnataka. He also represented Uttarakhand State and

secured Second place in 1500 MTS event in 45+ Men event (Performance 5:06. 4 Sec) in 37th National Masters Athletics Championship 2016 organised by Masters Athletics Federation of India in Mysore, Karnataka. He has been selected for participation for the next event to be held from 4-8 May, 2016 in Singapore.

Workshop, Training and Capacity Building

ToT Workshop:

A Case study and writing workshop was organized from 4 January, 2016 to 8 January, 2016 for the faculty members at,

LBSNAA, with inputs from Prof. Robert Kent Weaver of Georgetown University, USA.



A group photograph of workshop on case study and case writing

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Workshop, Training and Capacity Building

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Centers in Action

National Gender Centre (NGC):



A group photograph during policy conclave on "Gender Equality and Child Rights"

Policy Conclave on Gender Equality & Child Rights; Sharing knowledge and developing an agenda for action (28 -30, January, 2016):- A Policy Conclave on "Gender Equality and Child Rights: Sharing Knowledge & Developing an Agenda for Action", was held on 28-30 January 2016 at LBSNAA. Organized by the National Gender Centre, LBSNAA with the support of UN Women Office for India, Bhutan, Maldives & Sri Lanka and UNICEF India Country Office, the Conclave was attended by more than 120 participants, including representatives from Government of India representatives from 18 state governments members of State Commissions for Women and State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights; academics; NGO representatives; development practitioners and retired IAS officers.

The broad objective of the Conclave was to impact on, and feed into gender and child-sensitive policies at the national

and state level. The Keynote Address for the Conclave was delivered by Dr. Gita Sen, Distinguished Professor & Director, Ramalingaswami Centre on Equity & Social Determinants of Health, Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) on "Economic Growth, Development and Gender Equality". The programme included plenary sessions on (i) Policy Approaches & Challenges in Realising Gender Equality and Child Rights (ii) Patriarchy, Masculinity and Intersecting Identities (iii) Learning from Good Practices and (iv) Delivering Gender and Child Sensitive Outcomes: A Governance Perspective. Specific thematic issues were also focused on in parallel sessions: Violence Against Women & Children and Trafficking of Women & Children; Health & Nutrition; Gender and Employment; and Gender, Children and Social Protection.

*"Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak,
courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen"*

-Sir. Winston Churchill