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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS' DESKS

Dear Students and Faculty,

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed in gathering information about India's vibrant harvest festivals, like Nabanna and Chauang Kut, celebrated in November!



We're thankful to our students, parents, and editorial team for their efforts. These festivals teach us gratitude, community bonding, and the importance of tradition.

Sharing Exciting Information about Harvest Festivals

- **Nabanna (Odisha and West Bengal):** Celebrated in November to mark the new rice harvest, Nabanna is a festival of gratitude to the gods for the bountiful harvest.
- **Chauang Kut (Manipur):** Celebrated in November, Chauang Kut is a time for community bonding, traditional dances, and feasting, marking the harvest season.
- **Other Harvest Festival:** India is home to many harvest festivals, each unique to its region and culture, like Pongal (Tamil Nadu, January), Lohri (Punjab, January), and Bihu (Assam, January and November).

These festivals are a treasure trove of traditions, cultural values, and community spirit. Let's learn and appreciate our rich heritage!

Best regards,
Ms. Priyam Yadav
Mr. Rohit Azad

AN INTERVIEW OF PRINCIPAL

Students of Std 5 had recently interviewed our Principal on the current theme where Sir shared valuable thoughts during the interview. It was a first time experience of our young kiddos and it was a great kickstart. Here are few questions asked by the panel of interviewers and their respective answers



Interviewer 1 : What is the purpose of these harvest festivals in one's life as a student ?

Answer : Harvest festivals are celebrated not only in India but across the world. As students, we need to inculcate the habit of Thanksgiving. It's a day to remember those associated with providing us with various daily needs, such as food, water, and clothing. The food and clothing come from the farmers' end, so for a student and a school, it's a primary responsibility to provide platforms for students to understand the meaning of harvest and how it happens. In India, it begins with the celebration on 14th January as Makar Sankranti. Not only in India, the same harvest festival is also celebrated as Pongal or Onam in the south; we have other harvest festivals associated with Assam, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh too.

On this day, students organise certain camps, fairs, and activities to spread the message of harvest. Even in Europe, farmers offer the best products to God in the churches, but in India, we offer harvest to the God residing in temples, where we thank the Lord for such a prosperous harvest. Some even take a holy dip in the holy river with the belief that sins would be washed away with the holy water. That is why the harvest festival is very important. Many children take the opportunity to do artwork, craft work, and indulge in flying kites on this day. On the day of Makar Sankranti, a fair is held, prayers are recited, and we give offerings to the fire God. This festival is the time when we offer prayers to Lord Surya. After 12 years, Kumbh Mela is organised, where people believe that the Ganges unites with Yamuna at Prayagraj, and people look forward to taking a bath in this holy Sangam, so it keeps our traditions alive. No matter how modern education is, we should be deeply rooted in our culture and customs .



Interviewer 2: What importance do the culture hold in a human's life and how is it important for a student to be well acquainted with his / her culture ?

Answer : Every civilization, in order to progress, must be bound by the trends of culture. Culture is something that keeps the race alive. If we do not hold on to the culture, we will get lost, like entering the sea without knowing where you are because everything looks the same. Culture makes us stand out. It gives us pride and brings about unity. It brings about the same ideology and helps to develop and shape a nation in the right direction. It also gives us eternal values—everlasting values that help families to grow, healthy societies to grow, and something to be proud of. It is something that goes on and works to achieve greatness.

Interviewer 3 : What roles do students play in organising and participating in these celebrations?

Answer : At Litera Valley School, we have very pro-management and teachers want to inculcate those skills in students, so we give them great opportunities or platforms to organise such cultural festivals. They decide the script, the action, the plot, the characters, and display everything about our culture through art, one-act plays, and videos. We also try to tie up with other schools from other countries, where there is cultural exchange that helps in building strong bonding, understanding one another, and bringing about global peace and acceptance of humans as one common species .



TAPESTRY OF ANNUAL PRESENTATION 2025 : AN EXEMPLARY HARMONIOUS TRAIL OF SYMPHONY, ENERGY, ENTHUSIASM AND HARDWORK

We have recently witnessed the glorious power packed performances of the young dynamic performers who sweated a lot along with their mentors for past few months. This mega event tapestry of emotions, with each Ras presented through energetic and expressive dance performances by our little stars. The children looked adorable and confident as they lit up the stage with their vibrant costumes, bright smiles, and wholehearted participation. Their creativity, teamwork, and growing stage confidence made the event truly memorable for everyone.

FOUNDATIONAL STAGE WING : [THEME – MASUMIYAT]

This year's Annual Presentation-cum-Function was a heart-warming celebration of Masumiya—the pure innocence that defines our little learners of Grades 1 and 2. Through this presentation, our children beautifully showcased everything they learn and experienced throughout the year, both academic and co-curricular. From their confident narration, rhythmic movements, creative displays, and joyful expressions, each performance reflected their curiosity, simplicity, and natural charm.

What made this day even more special was the overwhelming support from our dear parents, who constantly encourage their children with love, patience, and pride. Their presence and applause filled the atmosphere with warmth and motivation. We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to the School Management, whose unwavering guidance, encouragement, and resources made this event possible. Their commitment to nurturing every child's holistic growth truly shines through such moments of celebration.

As teachers, watching our young stars blossom on stage filled us with deep emotion and pride. Their innocence, honesty, and enthusiasm remind us why we teach — to witness these little miracles unfold before our eyes. This Annual Presentation was not just a function; it was a beautiful journey of learning, teamwork, and togetherness, creating memories that will stay in our hearts forever.





UPPER PRIMARY WING : [THEME – PANCHTATVA]

THE STORY OF ONSTAGE MAGIC

The highly anticipated Annual Presentation (2025-26) of UPW commenced with an enchanting performance by the school choir, which established a graceful and vibrant atmosphere for the evening. The choir's harmonious vocals captivated the audience, signifying an elegant commencement to the festivities. Following this, the Junior School Band delivered an energetic and engaging performance, infusing the event with a lively dynamism through their rhythm and enthusiasm. This presentation highlighted the emerging musical abilities of the younger students of Grades 3 to 5 at LVS and received widespread commendation.

At the heart of the event was the Annual Presentation, centered on the theme of Panchatatva – The Five Elements. The presentation was creatively divided into four episodes, each presenting a distinct perspective on the significance and connections between the elements.

Episode 1: Birth of the Elements

This episode illustrated the genesis of the five essential elements – Earth, Water, Fire, Air, and Space. Through dynamic choreography and visual narrative, the students effectively represented the emergence of these elements and their role in establishing the foundation of life.

Episode 2: Power of the Elements

The second episode illustrated the unique attributes and strengths of each element. By means of dynamic expressions and movements, students effectively underscored both positive and negative significance and impact of these elements in moulding the natural environment.

Episode 3: Clash of the Elements

This striking segment exemplified the discord that occurs when equilibrium is disrupted. The vigorous performances, conveyed through dynamic choreography and visual storytelling, highlighted the chaos and dissonance on stage that emerge when various elements vie for supremacy, underscoring the significance of maintaining balance.

Episode 4: Unity of the Elements

The final episode beautifully conveyed the message of harmony. The elements, despite their differences, unite to restore peace and stability. The students delivered a powerful message on coexistence, balance, and the interconnectedness of all natural forces. The program culminated in a significant and patriotic manner with the choir's moving interpretation of Vande Mataram, marking the notable occasion of the 150th anniversary of this national song. This impactful performance instilled a sense of pride, joy, and reverence in the audience, reflecting the nation's rich historical legacy.



THE STORY OF BACKSTAGE STRUGGLE

The splendid presentation of this year's Annual Program stems from the significant commitment, collaborative efforts, and unwavering diligence exhibited by both educators and learners. Extensive periods of preparation, practice, and coordination were integral to crafting each performance that adorned the stage. The teachers were pivotal in providing direction to the students throughout the entire process. Their responsibilities encompassed the conceptualization of themes, the design of sequences, choreography of dance routines, training of the choir, and the oversight of props, costumes, and stage setups—demonstrating a commitment that extended well beyond traditional school hours. Through their patience, creativity, and dedication, the teachers ensured that every performance element exemplified excellence and conveyed a significant message. They fostered each child's individual talents, bolstered their self-assurance, and cultivated a nurturing environment that allowed students to develop and excel.

The students also exhibited exceptional enthusiasm and discipline throughout the preparation period. They engaged in diligent practice, effectively managing their academic responsibilities alongside numerous rehearsals. Their vitality during dance sessions, concentration during dialogue practice, and commitment to refining their performances vividly highlighted their dedication to creating a memorable event. Every student from Grades 3 to 5 contributed their utmost effort, thereby acquiring valuable skills in teamwork, time management, and personal responsibility.

Finally, the unwavering support, dedication, and guidance provided by our esteemed coordinators facilitated the seamless execution of the entire process for both educators and students.

The collaboration between teachers and students exemplified a unified effort, motivating one another while navigating difficulties with resilience. This collective endeavour was clearly reflected in the seamless implementation of the program and the enthusiasm it elicited from the audience.

The Annual Program served not merely as a showcase of performances, but also as a poignant illustration of the remarkable outcomes that can be attained through dedication, unity, and diligent effort.



CHILDRENS DAY : A CELEBRATION OF JOY, INNOCENCE AND POTENTIAL OF THE FUTURE OF THE NATION BY THEIR TORCH BEARERS

CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION AT PPW: 'A Day Filled with Smiles, Surprises, and Special Moments!'

This year's Children's Day was celebrated with great joy and excitement. The teachers prepared a variety of skits, songs, and dance performances especially for the children to make their day memorable. The little ones enjoyed every moment and were filled with laughter and happiness throughout the programme.

The celebration ended with warm wishes, smiles, and a sweet reminder that children truly make the world brighter.

CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION AT FSW

Children's Day was celebrated with great joy and excitement especially for our little learners of Grade 1 and 2. To make the day memorable, the teachers prepared special performances filled with fun, music, and enthusiasm. The children were delighted to see their teachers dancing, singing, and presenting short skits just for them.

Their laughter, wide smiles, and sparkling eyes made the celebration truly meaningful. The event beautifully highlighted the love, care, and dedication that teachers hold for their students. It was a wonderful reminder that children are the heart of our school, and their happiness is our greatest reward.



CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION AT UPW

"Children are the world's greatest treasure and the hope of our future", with this inspirational thought, teachers of UPW presented a series of events to help them feel important and special on this day. A delightful presentation was presented by the teachers through different performances including medley of songs , enthrilling dance performances, a valuable message driven act . The whole celebration brought a radiance of smile on their faces, forced them to dance on the different enthrilling tunes and beats. This also presented a platform to sway in their mood of happiness and love with their teachers on the day.



IMPORTANCE OF HARVEST FESTIVALS : 'CELEBRATING NATURE, NURTURING TRADITION!'

Our little learners explored the importance of harvest festivals in a fun and colorful way. Through vibrant drawings, creative paintings, and engaging stories, they discovered how these festivals celebrate the hard work of farmers, the joy of a good harvest, and the gratitude we show towards nature. Enjoying the colours, sounds, and stories that make harvest festivals so special.



BEST OUT OF WASTE ACTIVITY 'TURNING TRASH INTO TREASURE WITH TINY CREATIVE MINDS!'

Our Pre-Primary children turned everyday waste into wonderful creations using their imagination and little hands. They made plants using peanut shells, a greengrocer's cart with bangles, tiny huts using paper cups, and beautiful flowers made from pencil peels. This activity not only sparked creativity but also nurtured the habit of recycling and being responsible towards the environment.



LEARNING BY DOING ACTIVITY– HEALTHY AND UNHEALTHY FOOD

ACTIVITY : 'EAT SMART, STAY HEALTHY!'

The children enjoyed a fun learning by doing activity. They pasted pictures of processed food, coloured carrots, and also fingerprinted grapes. Through these hands-on tasks, they learned the difference between healthy and unhealthy food simply and joyfully.



HALLOWEEN ACTIVITY : 'TINY HANDS, SPOOKY CREATIONS!'

Our little ones enjoyed a fun and creative Halloween celebration. They made cute clay pumpkins, created pumpkin palm prints, and designed spooky ghosts using colour blowing. The activity was full of excitement, imagination, and festive Halloween fun!



SHORT STORIES

THE SONG OF THE FIELDS

Pehal Banka, 5-B

Meera lives in a village where every harvest is a festival. One year as the golden wheat ripened, she wanted to know why people celebrated it so joyfully. When she asked her grandmother about it, she smiled and said, "evergreen has a story, Meera. Festivals are how we thank the earth." That evening, Meera joined the villagers in threading wheat, singing folk songs, and dancing gidda. She stumbled, laughed and felt energy of generation around her. Soon she realised that harvest festivals weren't just about crops — they were about community gratitude and joy.

Visiting friends in other states she saw Pongal in Tamil Nadu and Onam in Kerala. Different rituals, different foods, same spirit: celebrating life with the land.

By the end of the season, Meera danced solo at her village festival, feeling connected to the whole India. Every harvest, she learned, carried a song of the fields — one that celebrated nature, culture and togetherness.

OUR CULTURE

Dikshant Kumar, 3-C

Leena lived in a small village where traditions shaped everyday life. She loved hearing her grandmother's stories about their ancestors, festivals and the values that kept the community United. These stories made her feel proud of who she was and where she came from. During the annual harvest festival, Leena gathered the courage to share a story of her own. The villagers listened with world smiles as she spoke about their land, their customs, and their shared spirit. In that moment, she realised that culture isn't just in festivals or tales — it lives in the people who carry it followed with love and togetherness.



THE MYSTERY OF SILVER HARVEST

Suryansh Vardhan, 3-C

The village of Anandpur was famous for its silver harvest festival because a magical silver grey glow, like moonlight, appeared every year. But for the last three years, the silver grey stopped growing.

One evening, curious Neel walked alone into the quiet fields. A soft silver light floated above the crops, and a gentle spirit appeared.

"I am Ananya, guardian of the harvest," she said. "The silver grain returns only when people celebrate with gratitude — not noise and show."

Neel hurried back and told everyone in the village. That year, the village celebrated, simply, singing old folk songs and thanking the earth.

As their voices filled the night, a cold breeze passed through the fields.... Suddenly the crops shimmered bright. The silver grain returned, shining brighter than ever.

From that day Neel became famous as the boy who brought back the silver harvest magic of Anandpur.

THE LITTLE HARVEST HELPER

Vaibhau, 4-E

In the village of Kiranpur, everyone was busy preparing for the harvest festival. 10-year-old Meera watched her parents to gather grains to offer in the Thanksgiving ceremony. On the way to the temple, Meera saw an old woman travelling with an empty basket. Without thinking, Meera filled the woman's basket with some of her own grains. The woman smiled warmly. "You have given me more than food. You've given me Joy."

That evening, as lanterns lead up the village, Meera realised the true meaning of harvest festival — sharing, kindness, and gratitude for what we have.



POEMS

OUR CULTURE AND HARVEST FESTIVAL

Aavya Rai, 3-F

The fields are gold, the work is done,
Beneath the generous autumn sun.
Our culture binds us, strong and true,
A harvest shared with me and you.

Which song and dance, we give our thanks,
For natures gifts in endless banks.
From Bihu's drum to Pongal's taste,
No time, no simple gift shall waste.

In every grain, a story's told
Of ancient ways worth more than gold.
The farmer's smiles, his heart is light,
We celebrate our culture with all our might.



Sajjad Ali Azad, 3-B



THE DANCE OF HARVEST

Golden feels beneath the sun
Songs of joy the work is done
Hands once weary, now they sing
Thanking the Earth for everything.

Drums are beating, hearts are light
Lanterns glowing through the night
Children laugh and dancers' twirl
Colours in the air unfurl

Gold and rice the farmers' Pride
Nature's gift so true and wide
We bow our heads, we share our grain
In love and hope, we meet again

From Punjabi fields to Tamil skies
From Kerala's boats to Assam's rice
Every land each heart, each song
Tell us where we all belong.

SHORT ESSAYS

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Devansh Shekhar, 4-E

Harvest festival is a joyful festival celebrated when crops are fully grown. Farmers work hard to grow crops. In every country the harvest festival is celebrated differently. Some of the Indian harvest festivals are — Pongal (Tamil Nadu), Makar Sankranti (celebrated across India), Baisakhi (West Bengal, Punjab), Onam (Kerala), Lohri (Punjab). During the harvest festival, people wear new clothes and prepare special dishes. Farmers pray to God for good harvesting for the next years too.

INDIAN CULTURE

Shashwat Anand, 4-E

Indian culture is diverse and comprises various customs, ideas, social attributes, and beliefs. India contains different cultures and communities that differ prominently in their traditions, food habits, languages and attire.

Indian culture is an amalgamation of different traditions and customs and how different communities present and organize themselves in terms of morality and etiquette.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Riya Kumari, 3-F

A harvest festival is celebrated at the end of the harvest season, marking the successful gathering of crops and thanking for a bountiful field.

Examples of Harvest Festivals are —

- **Pongal** - A four-day festival in Tamil Nadu honouring the Sun God for harvest of rice and sugar cane.
- **Onam** - The main harvest festival of Kerala which honours the legendary king Mahabali and features flower carpets also known as Pookalam and a grand feast aka Sadhya.
- **Lohri** - Celebrated in Punjab and other North Indian regions, this festival marks the end of winter with bonfires, dancing and singing.



THE CREATORS OF HARVEST FESTIVALS

Saba Jamal, 5-B

Harvest festival, we are all aware of. These harvest festivals are celebrated in each and every state of India in different ways and each festival has its own cultural name. But who created these festivals? Yes, you're right! Our hardworking, laborious farmers — the people who taught us to thank the universe for the crops that feed our hungry stomach. These farmers work hard, day and night, so we don't starve. They adorn our platter with colours and taste.

However, we are becoming ungrateful to our foods, nowadays. We don't respect what we get to eat, we waste it unnecessarily. By disrespecting our food on the platter, we are also disrespecting those farmers who take effort to grow crops for us and go through all the challenges in the process. We should be ashamed of ourselves for doing such things.

So, whenever we celebrate any harvest festival from now on, we should promise ourselves to accept whatever we have on our plate happily and gratefully. We should be thankful to the universe and the farmers for providing us with good meal for a healthy life. Believe me, it will bring a huge change in everyone's life.



AMAZING FACTS ABOUT HARVEST FESTIVALS

Aaraa Tandan 3-B, Mishika Manish 5-C

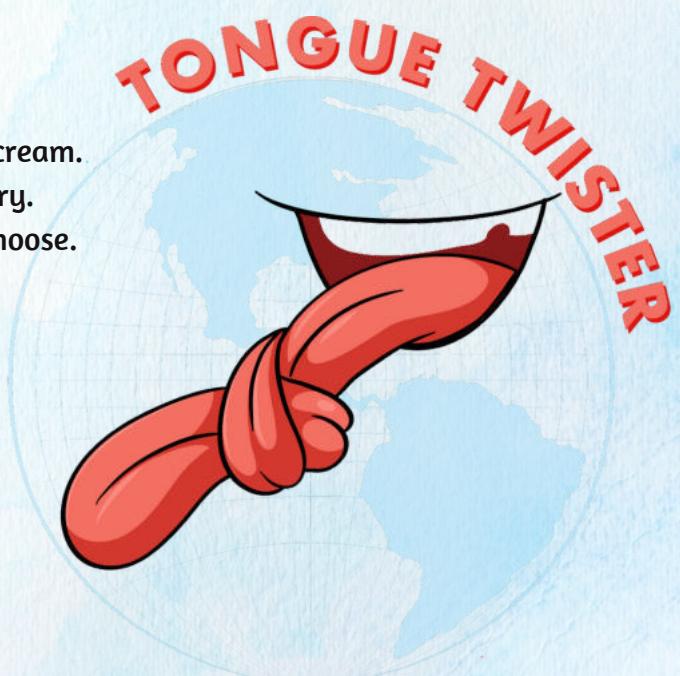
Harvest festivals are celebrated globally to express gratitude for the bounty of nature often marked for community gathering, feasting and symbolic rituals. Some are discussed below —

- Makar Sankranti is celebrated based on the solar calendar and coincides with the end of winter.
- Pongal is celebrated over multiple days in Tamil Nadu. This harvest festival is dedicated to the Sun God with a ritual of boiling rice and milk in a pot called a Pongal pot.
- Harvest comes from the Old English word HAERFEST, meaning Autumn.
- The most famous harvest Thanksgiving was held by the pilgrims in 1623.
- Corn Dollies - made up of straw the last harvested crop - practised in Euros.
- Crying the neck — it involves calling out a special cry when the last of the harvested corn is reaped in Cornwell and Devon.
- Many past cultures believed that spirits lived inside corn and made it grow. Egyptians would cry when they harvested the corn to show the spirit that they were sorry for cutting down the stalks.
- To the native American tribes, the green corn ceremony marked the beginning of a new year.
- In England, it was thought that the corn spirit hopped from one corn stalk to another corn stalk, and that the corn spirit was trapped in the last corn stalk. This last stalk was often made into a doll that was used in rituals to ensure a good harvest the next year.
- In some parts of India, flying kites is a popular tradition during harvest festivals like Makar Sankranti.



TONQUE TWISTERS

- a) I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice-cream.
- b) Red lorry, yellow lorry, red lorry, yellow lorry.
- c) If a dog chews shoes, whose shoes does he choose.
- d) A proper copper coffee pot.
- e) She sells seashells by seashore.
- f) Peter Piper picked a peck a pickled pepper.
- g) Silly sheep weep and sleep.
- h) Fresh fried fish, fish fresh fried.
- i) A black cat sat on a mat and ate a fat rat.
- j) I wish to wash my Irish wristwatch.



फसलों का उत्सव

श्रेयांश सिंह, 5-D

फसलों का त्योहार एक वार्षिक उत्सव है जो मुख्य फसल की कटाई के बाद मनाया जाता है और भरपूर फसल के लिए आभार व्यक्त करने का एक तरीका है। भारत में पोंगल, बिहू, मकर संक्रांति और लोहड़ी जैसे कई फसल उत्सव मनाए जाते हैं, जिनमें से प्रत्येक अपनी अनूठी परंपराओं के साथ होते हैं।

फसलों का त्योहार दुनिया भर में कई देशों में मनाया जाता है जैसे-अमेरिका और कनाडा में 'थैक्सगिविंग' के रूप में मनाया जाता है। यह 27 नवम्बर को मनाया जाता है।

मकर संक्रांति

मानस मोदी, 5-D

मकर संक्रांति हिन्दू धर्म का एक महत्वपूर्ण त्योहार है जो हर साल 14 या 15 जनवरी को मनाया जाता है। यह दिन सूर्य के मकर राष्ट्र में प्रवेश करने का प्रतीक है, जिससे दिन बढ़े और रातें छोटी होने लगती है। मकर संक्रांति का कृषि से गहरा संबंध है, क्योंकि यह फसल कटाई के मौसम की शुरूआत का प्रतीक है। इस दिन लोग तिल गुड़ और लड्डू बाँटते हैं और एक दूसरे को शुभकामनाएँ देते हैं। विभिन्न राज्यों में इसे अलग-अलग नामों से मनाया जाता है जैसे पोंगल तमिलनाडु में, लोहड़ी पंजाब में और तिलसंक्रांति बिहार में। लोग इस दिन गंगा स्नान करने और पतंग उड़ाने की परंपरा भी निभाते हैं। यह दिन खुशियों और नई उम्मीदों का प्रतीक है।

फसलों का त्यौहार : पोंगल

पार्थ राज, 5-D

पोंगल तमिलनाडु का एक प्रसिद्ध त्योहार है। यह त्योहार हर साल जनवरी माह में मनाया जाता है। इसे 'थाई पोंगल' भी कहा जाता है। यह त्योहार भगवान सूर्य को समर्पित है। यह चार दिनों तक मनाया जानेवाला त्योहार है। प्रत्येक दिन एक अलग त्योहार को दर्शाता है। पोंगल मुख्य रूप से किसानों का त्योहार है। यह त्योहार फसल काटने की खुशी में मनाया जाता है। इस त्योहार में लोग भगवान को धन्यवाद देते हैं। लोग भगवान से सुख-समृद्धि की कामना करते हैं। प्रत्येक दिन का एक अलग महत्व है।



ART GALLERY



Maan Kabra, 3-C



HAPPY

BAISAKHI



Abhya Laxmi, 3-E



Shivanand, 3-C

Appreciation for the valuable Contribution as a team for LITERATI LENS- Online Creative Magazine



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