

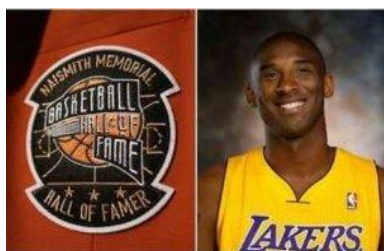
Current Affairs: 18/19.05.2021

Iran Develops Its Most Powerful Supercomputer “Simorgh”

Iran has unveiled a new **supercomputer** named ‘**Simorgh**’, which is 100 times more powerful than previous supercomputer of the country till date. The supercomputer has been developed indigenously by **Tehran’s Amirkabir University of Technology (AUT)**. It has been named after a mythical Phoenix-like bird ‘Simurgh’. Currently, Simorgh has a performance capacity of **0.56 petaflops**, However the country claims this capacity to reach one petaflops in two months. The supercomputer will be used for artificial intelligence workloads, traffic and weather data, and image processing.

Kobe Bryant Posthumously Inducted Into Basketball Hall Of Fame Class 2020

NBA and Los Angeles Lakers legend, Kobe Bryant, has been posthumously inducted into the **Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in the Class of 2020**. The **five-time NBA champion** died in 2020 at the age of 41 in a helicopter crash along with his 13-year-old daughter and seven others. The Class of 2020 includes total **9 inductees**. They are:



1. Kobe Bryant (Posthumously)
2. Tim Duncan
3. Kevin Garnett
4. Tamika Catchings

5. Rudy Tomjanovich
6. Eddie Sutton
7. Kim Mulkey
8. Barbara Stevens
9. Patrick Baumann

Mexico’s Andrea Meza Crowned Miss Universe 2020; India’s Castelino Adline Third Runner-up

Andrea Meza of Mexico has won the **Miss Universe 2020 beauty pageant**. The **69th edition** of the Miss Universe competition was held on May 16, 2021 in Florida, United States. 2019 Miss Universe winner **Zozibini Tunzi of South Africa** crowned Andrea Meza at the end of the event. The 26-year-old Andrea Meza is a software engineer by profession. From India, the 22-year-old **Karnataka-based Castelino Adline** made the country proud by making it at the fourth spot in the beauty pageant.



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List of Runner-Ups

- 1st Runner-Up** – Julia Gama (Brazil)
- 2nd Runner-Up** – Janick Maceta (Peru)
- 3rd Runner-Up** – Adline Castelino (India)
- 4th Runner-Up** – Kimberly Jiménez (Dominican Republic)

Nuklu Phom of Nagaland Wins 2021 Whitley Awards

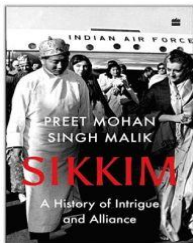


Nagaland-based conservationist, **Y. Nuklu Phom** has won **Whitley Awards 2021**, also known as the Green Oscar.

He is one among the **six winners** chosen for the prestigious “Whitley Awards 2021” and also the first Indian to win the honor. The **£40,000 award** is presented annually by **UK-based** charity, the **Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN)**, to provide funding, training and support to grassroots conservation leaders in the Global South and put an international spotlight on winners’ work. Phom hails from remote Longleng district of Nagaland. He has been chosen for the award for

his efforts to create a network of community-owned forests in the state and protect the rare Amur falcons species, which come to roost in Nagaland each year.

Book Titled “Sikkim: A History of Intrigue and Alliance” Written by Preet Mohan Singh Malik



A book titled “**Sikkim: A History of Intrigue and Alliance**”, written by former diplomat **Preet Mohan Singh Malik**, released on May 16, 2021. May 16 is celebrated as Sikkim Day. The book has been published by **HarperCollins India**. In the book, Malik has narrated the unique history of the erstwhile kingdom of Sikkim with the intriguing story of how it became India’s 22nd state in his new book.

Rafael Nadal and Iga Swiatek win Italian Open 2021 (tennis)



The Italian Open 2021 (tennis) has been completed now. The winners of the tournament are as under:

- Men’s singles- **Rafael Nadal** (Spain)
- Women’s singles- **Iga Swiatek** (Poland)
- Men’s doubles- **Nikola Mektić** (Croatia) and **Mate Pavić** (Croatia)
- Women’s doubles- **Sharon Fichman** (Canada) and **Giuliana Olmos** (Mexico)

UN Global Road Safety Week 2021: 17-23 May

The **6th UN Global Road Safety Week** has been organised from **17-23 May 2021**. The theme for UN Global Road Safety Week 2021 is “**Streets for Life #Love30**”.

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The 2021 theme calls on policymakers to limit the speed to **30 km/h (20 mph)** on streets, because along with motorised traffic, pedestrians, cyclists and others people too walk, live and play on streets..



The UN Global Road Safety Week is a biennial global road safety campaign organised by the **World Health Organisation (WHO)**.

The campaign brings together individuals, governments, NGOs, corporations, and other organisations from around the world to raise awareness of road safety and implement actions that will reduce the number of global road deaths

International Museum Day: 18 May

The **International Museum Day** is celebrated on **18 May**, since 1977, to raise awareness about the fact that “Museums are an important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples.” Theme of International Museum Day 2021: “**The Future of Museums: Recover and Reimagine**”. It is coordinated by the International Council of Museums (ICOM).



World AIDS Vaccine Day: 18 May



World AIDS Vaccine Day, (also known as HIV Vaccine Awareness Day), is observed annually on **May 18** to promote the continued urgent need for a vaccine to prevent HIV infection and AIDS. The concept of World AIDS Vaccine Day was proposed on May 18, 1997, during commencement speech at Morgan State University made by then-President Bill Clinton, which

underlined the need of a vaccine to curb the spread of HIV. The first World AIDS Vaccine Day was thus observed on May 18, 1998 to commemorate the anniversary of Clinton’s speech.