Awesome repetition of number 3 in correction of Trimorphic Extreme Clubfoot Deformities by Triple Surgical Skin Expansion (An Evolutionary, Multifaceted, Scientific Perspective)

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Abstract

Author, a passionate researcher in Clubfoot, since over half a century, published an article on trimorphic extreme clubfoot deformities https://doi.org/10.1007/s00264-017-3741-6, in International Orthopaedics (SICOT) in 2018. This was original research in this grey area, prevalent in LMICs with more than 80 % global population. AIM: Continuing in similar vein, author was motivated to write this unique article with certain “believe-it-or-not” events, under three headings: FIRSTLY; many things are destined to happen in nature at a fixed time and place. This research, happening pointedly at Patiala, is another such event. HOW and WHY of this, are given in PREFACE and INTRODUCTION of author’s Clubfoot Book [57]. SECONDLY: unprecedented, 20 repetitions of number 3 in any research, besides five in personal life and THIRDLY, on Google search, number 3 in numerology, symbolic of planet Jupiter, has innumerable good attributes for the related people. This number has also been found to have, since ancient times, myriad unbelievable, evolutionary bonds, in every area of humanity, on planet earth and beyond; which are scientific, spiritual, socio- religious, political etc. MATERIAL has been derived from the contents of author’s clubfoot research and METHODS have been Google Search, daily living human activities and author’s experience. CONCLUSIONS: 1. Many events are completely scientific; 2. Others are unique coincidences with scientific explanation and 3. Still others are amazing truths, proving once again veracity of famous quote “Truth is Stranger than Fiction”. Because of its uniqueness, this article does need a loud awakening call, to spread its wings.

Keywords: Number 3 repetitions; Trimorphic clubfoot deformities; Triple surgical Skin expansion; Multifaceted perspective in trimorphic clubfeet; Clubfoot and numerology number 3; 3-in-1 surgical concept in clubfoot; Jupiter and number 3; Human psyche and number 3 in clubfoot
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Introduction
Considering the nature of subject, I will start, a little differently, with, 3 PARTS, Sanskrit Indian Vedic prayer. I hear its echo constantly, in this research:- असतो मा सद्गमय | तमसो मा ज्योतिर्गमय | मृत्योमार् अमृतं मगय | ॐ Translated to English, this means: "O" lord, lead me from falsehood to truth, darkness (of ignorance) to light (of knowledge), death (weaknesses of life) to immortality (strengths of life), AUM- peace.; peace, peace. Reciting this prayer purifies your mind, energises your body and gives peace for good work, because of intimate Body-Mind relationship.

Material and Methods
A comprehensive study of number 3 can be divided in to two distinct parts:-

1. Number 3 in General
2. As Related to Clubfoot Research

1. Number 3 in General

This is the most important number in numerology, with enormous material, pervading through every areas of human existence: all branches of science, medical and non-medical: physics, chemistry, biology, pharmaceuticals, trigonometry, cosmology, economics, mathematics, nanotechnology, environmental, psychology, sociology, yoga, spirituality, religions, politics/ governance and all daily living activities, from birth till death. An extensive search of Google and author’s own experience has unearthed enormous material in diverse fields [1-51]:

A: Scientific basis: [1-7]

1. Number 3 is the whole as shown in the three eras of time: Past, Present and Future.
2. Theory of relativity of Einstein is based on 3 things: Mass, Length and Time.
3. Newton’s three laws of MOTION: inertia, acceleration and reaction;
4. There are 3 forms of matter: solid, liquid and gas.
5. Three particles of atom: electron, proton and neutron.
6. Triangle is strongest basic shape and all others are its multiples. It has strong applications in trigonometry, physics, architecture, engineering and many others.
8. Three phases of life: Birth, sustenance & death.
10. Three Primary colours: blue, yellow, red, with 3 groups of colours: Primary, secondary and tertiary.
11. Three forms of verb: was, is and will (past, present and future).
12. Yoga is the connection of 3 elements: yourself, people and nature.
13. Human pregnancy is also divided in to 3 trimesters, first, second and third.
14. There are 3 kingdoms in nature: animal, mineral and vegetable kingdoms.
15. Three interlocked Borromean Rings as symbol of “strength in unity”, used for centuries. Divide any one ring; the other two will fall apart.
16. Borromean Rings principle is used in
nanotechnology, mathematics, chemistry, physics, biology, material science, engineering etc. It is the Logo of International Mathematics Union.

17. **Three pillars of sustainability** - environment, economics and social [31].
18. The Three M’s of Statistical science: Mode, Median, Mean - commonly used in Practice, making it more manageable.

**B: Spirituality and Religion**

1. Three attributes of God: omniscient, omnipresent and omnipotent;
2. Three is perfect number. Nature of all human beings is three-fold: body, mind, spirit.
3. Principal of trinity found in all world religions:
4. In ancient mankind history, number 3 has great importance in every religion [9].

**Buddhism** [8]a. Buddha’s Three jewels i.e.
  b. Trinetra (teacher), Dharma (teachings), Sangha (community).
  c. Three sticks of incense offered at shrines in Vietnam.
  d. Path to Enlightenment: morality, meditation and wisdom.

  b. Number 3 is repeated 467 times in Bible, meaning completeness.
  c. Biblical Magi; the three wise men.

  b. Three parts of vedic prayer “lead me from darkness to light, from ignorance to knowledge, from death to immortality.
  c. Mandukya Upanishad has 12 verses, adding up to 1+2= 3.
  d. Lord Shiva’s weapon is Trishul, HE is called Trinetra and trikaldarshi also. If number 3 is rotated right, it looks like Trishul. Bael patras (group of 3 leaves considered as singles), offered to Lord Shiva.
  e. Symbol AUM, consisting of 3 letters, its figure apparently looks as 3.
  f. Trilokas as Paatal, Prithvi and Akash.
  g. In Yogasanas, figure of 3 is commonly seen in so many asanas. h. Triveni: sangam of 3 rivers: Ganga, Yamuna and Sarswati at Prayagraj.
  h. Triphala is a common Ayurvedic combination of 3 herbs.
  i. Tribhuvan: Common Hindu name: having knowledge of 3 worlds.
  j. There are 108 beads (1+0+8= 9÷3= 3) in a prayer Rosary.
  k. Teej or Akshaya tritiya: important festival of northern and western India.

**Sikhism** [11]: a. 3 pillars of Sikhism of Guru Nanak Dev Ji: Naam Japo (meditate on God), kirat karo (earn honestly by hard work) and Wand Chhako (share and consume).
  b. Ek Omkar looks like number 3 extended upwards from left side, symbolizing one God.

**Islam** [12]: a. Wudu - practice of 3 times washing hands, face etc.
  b. Allah written in Arabic also looks like 3, facing upwards and Muslims pray with palms facing upwards. In Arabic, first plural number is 3, meaning plentiful.
  c. The number 3 repeats itself in the Islam [316x349] -does-the-number-3-repeats-itself-in-the-islam

**Zoroastrian** [7]: Three ethical principles: think good, speak good and act good.

**Judaism** [13]: Religion of Jews, number 3 denotes completeness [8]

**Political/ Governance:**

1. Three pillars of democracy: Government of the people, by the people, for the people.
2. Indian National flag is tricolor.
3. Three lions are the emblem of India, depicting power, courage and confidence.
4. Three wings of armed Forces are Army, Air Force, Navy.
5. India was declared a republic on 26-1-1950, celebrated since then as its Republic Day. Tricoulor is unfurled with a 21 GUN salute,
both totaling and making (2+6+1+1+9+4+5+0=24/8=3, and 2+1=3)

6. USA national flag also has 3 colours- white, blue, red, while it has 50 stars plus 15 stripes: 5+0+1+3= 6+3= 9/3= 3 [37].

7. Philippines National flag has 3 colours with one white triangular portion, having printed a sign of Sun and 3 stars around it at the hoist side [38].

8. Australian National Flag is also tricolored [41].

Social Cultural Age old traditions in daily life of humanity, all over the world.

1. Three monkeys? symbol: hear no evil, see no evil and speak no evil, in India.
2. To praise or encourage somebody, we say- three cheers and hip, hip hurray.
3. Baa baa black sheep had three bags full, a nursery rhyme.
4. Prizes in schools/colleges and sports are also three: Gold, Silver and Bronze.
5. Best of 3 chances in a draw game
6. Three parts of any event: beginning, interval and end.
7. International YOGA day, is celebrated every year on 21 June (2+1+6= 9/3=3), was proclaimed by United Nations on 11.12. 2014=30/10=3 [34]. Maharishi Patanjali, the Father of Yoga has 18 letters: 1+8= 9/3= 3.
8. Year of Swami Vivekananda?s historic lectures at world parliament of religions is 1893, adding up to 1+8+9+3= 21 (2+1)= 3.
9. Popular social movies, Taare Zameen Par and Three Idiots had 3 words.
10. Three parts of the day: morning, afternoon and evening.
11. Three usual meals: breakfast, lunch and dinner.
13. In cricket, there are 3 stumps to make a wicket.

15. 3D street art: (https://www.hongkiat.com/blog/absolutely-stunning-3d-street-art-paintings/)
16. Thousands of threesomes and trios of daily use in human society all over world [8].
17. The Three Musketeers - Wikipedia en.wikipedia.org › wiki ›
20. Famous fairy tales we grew with: three little pigs etc [14]
21. There are hundreds of triads in kaleidoscopic fields listed in Wikipedia [19].
22. Private Club 33 of Walt Dysney, at Disneyland, lounges at 3 locations [28].
23. The Seventh Avenue Express [2] is a rapid transit subway service in.New York [29].
25. World?s tallest "Statue of unity" (Sardar Patel?)s is 597 feet high (5+9+7=2+1) [35].
26. SUN has 3 letters only. Sun and 3 stars logos and stickers are very popular [36]
27. World Ocean Day was introduced in 1992 by United Nations (1+9+9+2), For 2020 Theme of this day on 8th June is the global movement to protect 30 % of Our blue planet by 2030, a critical need, named as 30x30 [39,40].
28. Indian Express News, 23.7.2020, 18 years (1+8=9/3=3), deaf and dumb Abdul Latif studying at a famous special School of Patiala, traces his family of Farrukhabad (U.P) after 10 years, through internet during lockdown, with a happy reunion [42].
29. Mahatma Gandhi?s Date of birth: 2.10.1869 also totals- 2+10+1+8+6+9= 27/9= 3.
30. Common 3 words expressions: do?s and don?ts, black and white, pros and cons,
Medical Systems:

1. **Ayurveda**: Tridosha: Vaat, Pitt, Kaff to be in balance for healthy body/mind complex.
2. **Homeopathy**: Hahnemann’s 3 miasms: Psora, syphilis and sycosis cause all Diseases.
4. Allopathy: This is a common concept to validate three consecutive batches in pharmaceuticals [10].
5. Unani system: 3 kinds of Faculties/Powers (Quwa), according to Unani medicine: psychic (natural) power, power of metabolism and power of reproduction [13].
6. TDS or TID i.e. three times a day is a common mode of prescription.
7. Orthopaedics: Trimalleolar fracture of ankle and others.

Author’s Personal life

1. Author’s name, Rattan Lal Mittal, has 15 letters, adding up to 1+5= 6/2 =3.
2. Lucky date of author’s marriage 26.2.1967 (2+6+2+1+9+4+6+7=33/11=3).
3. My wife, Dr Radha Rani Mittal, also having 15 letters in her name, a renowned Dermatologist, also Dr. B.C. Roy National Awardee, great motive force for the author.
4. I have three daughters, helping and motivating me in this great research venture.
5. Three grand-daughters, helping me with silent prayers.

The entire write up, as above, shows that number 3 is the most frequented number in every aspect of every human life, including the author, all over the world, from birth till death.

**Number 3 and Clubfoot Research Intimacy:**

It was unbelievable, when I discovered recently in a publication [58] that number 3 had an amazing 11 repetitions, nine times in author’s clubfoot research and twice in personal life. This motivated me for further research in this area and surprisingly, enormous material was discovered. I could discover 12 more in clubfoot research and 3 more in personal life, raising the tally to 26 times. Author researched in extreme congenital clubfoot deformities, which are highly prevalent in low and middle income countries (LMICs) with 80 % of global population and an unexplored, neglected area. Author invented, landmark, new surgical techniques, in need based 3 phases; which were cost effective, and highly satisfying in looks as well as long term functional results. Number 3 has been found to be a lucky number for the author, with innumerable periodic, National/International awards/ rewards, Global presentations/ publications, including a recent, world class, invited Clubfoot Book [52-59].

Twenty one times Repetition of number 3, in this research, some scientific and others amazing truths, has been in perfect sequence, as given below:-

1. Anatomical dissection of 15 clubfeet in stillborn foetuses (15/ 5 = 3).
2. Trimorphic (Three grades) clubfoot deformities.
3. Invented triple surgical skin expansion techniques.
4. In need based 3 phases, i.e. for Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 3 extreme deformities in distinct timeline, as more and more rigid deformities presented for correction.
5. First ever use of 3 plastic surgery procedures in an orthopaedic surgical procedure.
6. First ever, 3DX3 mega expansion of fasciocutaneous chamber i.e. 3 procedures
and each in 3D, obtaining maximum possible expansion. A small room with too many people with no leg space, made adequately roomier, giving comfort, stretched out legs and free all round movements.

7. Combining all three plastic surgery procedures in single incision by triple surgical skin expansion to obtain maximum fascio-cutaneous chamber expansion (Fusion 3-in-1, all inclusive, surgical concept).

8. Three U-TURNS for this research: An Alumni of Government Medical College Patiala, author moved to Delhi, India’s Capital, in January 1961 for greener pastures and had first U-turn to Patiala; in July 1961; second U-turn to Patiala from Rohtak (Haryana State) in 1966 after being out of Patiala for about 4 years, and third U-turn, recently in 2018, on being designated as Emeritus Professor at Government Medical College Patiala due to this passion, 23 years post retirement, to contribute to research, academics and free surgeries.

9. As a passionate researcher Indian Council of Medical Research National Award (for skeletal fluorosis) dated 09.03.1992: (9+3+1+9+9+2 = 33 (3+3 = 6/2= 3); which acted as motivation, post superannuation to pursue Clubfoot research in second and third phases.

10. Dr. B.C.Roy National Award on 11.07.1995 (1+1+0+7+1+9+9+5=3+3=6/2=3) and club foot research contributing, immensely, to this award and vice versa, i.e., this award also motivated to continue clubfoot research, bringing more awards/ rewards.

11. First ever, all THREE original research awards of Indian Orthopaedic Association: Silver jubilee in 1988, Golden in 2013 and Diamond in 2108, for a single research.

12. First ever Hat Trick (3 Awards in line by Indian Orthopaedic Association), as above.

13. Golden Jubilee Award on 06.12.2013 (6+1+2+2+0+1+3= 15 (1+5=6/2=3).

14. Written an invited book on clubfoot, titled “CLUBFOOT - A Comprehensive Approach (past, Present and Future) for Taylor & Francis, a premier Global Publisher, with final go ahead and intimating mail dated 19. 1. 2017 (1+9+1+2+0+1+7=21 and 2+1=3) for contract signing, as auspicious date, coinciding with Swami Vivekanandaa’s birthday Kundli TITHI as per Hindu Calendar (from publisher’s trail of mails). The Book has been dedicated to Swami Ji, my inspiration (How and Why given in book’s preface and introduction).

15. Three honours at Coimbatore (T.N INDIA) at 2018 IOACON: i. comprehensive lecture on this research; ii. Diamond Jubilee Research Award and iii. CLUBFOOT BOOK Release.

16. Date of BOOK release on 29th November 2018, at the Annual IOACON: 2+9+1+1+2+0+1+8=24/8 =6/2 =3.

17. CLUBFOOT Book’s name has three parts: “CUBFOOT – A Comprehensive Approach (PAST, Present and Future)”, and also having all three eras of time: past, present and Future, an amazing truth.

18. This name of the Book was finalised on 19. 1. 2017 i.e. 1+9+1+2+0+1+7= 2+1= 3, as recorded in the trail of mails with the publisher.

19. ISBN of Book 9781138083738: totals 3: 9+7+8+1+1+3+8+0+8+3+7+3+8=6+6=12/ 4 = 3

20. Octopus Clubfoot, world’s first, with this new Exotic name in literature, given by the author, has 15 letters, multiple of 3, with many firsts. The date of this surgery
incidentally also comes to, 2+1+9+2+0+1+9=24/8=3. There was media coverage of this case also (Figures 2,3). This is the most rigid deformity, first 4-in-1 incision (four plastic surgery procedures in one incision), with excellent correction. This surgical technique of Fusion 4-in-1, is now an All inclusive SURGICAL CONCEPT for every, rarest of rare, clubfoot deformity (Figure1) [58].

21. As Emeritus Professor at GOMCO Patiala to promote research and academics, performed poor free, surgery in 17 years female, twice relapsed, grade 3 clubfoot deformity by 3-in-1 single incision, on 21st September 2019, with pre-operative teaching class to the staff and students and live demonstration of unprecedented, extensive surgery. The date of this surgery incidentally also comes to, 2+1+9+2+0+1+9=24/8=3. There was media coverage of this case also (Figures 2,3).

Figure 1(a-d): Free teaching and research oriented surgery of right foot as Emeritus Professor in a 17 years old female, under-corrected and relapsed after 2 previous surgeries, Grade3 High extreme deformity right foot; print media, The Tribune coverage (b), incision marks at 3 weeks and correction seen at 3 weeks (c) and excellent correction by triple surgical mega-correction without any bony fusion at about 7 months follow up and patient happily walking about (d).

Figure 2(a-e): Octopus Clubfoot, World’s first most extreme deformity (a); An exotic Left foot print (b), Corrected by 3-in-1 single incision with added fillet flap for an excellent correction (triangle of vy-plasty seen (c), excellent correction without any bony fusion (d) and normal foot print (e). Acknowledgements- Reprinted/ adapted by kind courtesy Springer Nature and Copyright clearance centre of RightsLink. From author’s own published article; Mittal RL. Trimorphic extreme clubfoot deformities and their management by triple surgical skin expanders-DOLAR, OLARZ and DOLAR-E (evidence based mega-correction without arthrodesis). DOI 10.1007/s00264-017-3741-6. As well as kind Courtesy of Taylor & Francis group (CRS Press) adopted from author’s own book Clubfoot-A comprehensive approach past present & future: Ist edition, by Dr. R L Mittal. Dec.2018. ISBN 9781138083738.
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CJO: August-2020: Page No: 01-11

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**Figure 3(a-d):** AS 7MC high grade 3 extreme deformity with lateral callosity on sole (a) extending towards dorsum b), corrected by mega fasciocutaneous expansion by *triple surgical skin incision and 3 partial thickness grafts*, without any bony fusion (c). Excellent correction at 6 weeks, showing evidence of healing scars of *3 skin grafts* and a *K*-wire at great toe, on medial side of! Foot and (d and e) Foot seen from medial side with excellent correction, standing and walking about normally at 5 months follow up. Acknowledgments- Figure.3- Reprinted/ adapted by kind courtesy for author’s own publication Mittal RL. Each Clubfoot is Different, Mother of All Clubfoot Innovations (An Incredible Unity in Diversity, with Cure-All, Fusion 4-in-1 Surgical Concept) Ortho Res Online J. 7(1). OPROJ. 000655. 2020. DOI: 10.31031/OPROJ.2020.07.000655.

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**Discussion/Conclusion:**

If there is any number, worth mentioning a million times, it is number 3. This symbolizes Jupiter with goodness, sacrifice, purest love, and eternal giver to humanity, the most significant of all, the most beneficial planet, called the “Guru” or the Spiritual Master. Number 3 is the first plural number by adding the very first 2 numbers, 1 and 2 [33]. Incidentally, the starting introduction of this article has many threes: VEDIC prayer, has 3 portions and then AUM, a 3 lettered word and finishes with 3 times recitation of word peace, symbolizing peace. The sacred sound of AUM has 3 stages; it starts with A, from depth within, comes up and stops at the closure of lips at M. Planet JUPITER has numerous other good attributes: original, curious, creative, energetic, hardworking, social and many more [1]. Because of Jupiter connection and its auspicious nature, number 3 has been having enormous influence on human mind since ancient times, as has been witnessed from the vast material, searched from Google. There is even a book of all threes on every subject: art, science, mathematics, history, politics, sports, literature, idioms, music, quotations, entertainment, language, religion, nature, food, including a video demonstration [47].

There is unlimited more material on Google search engine. Traditions were laid down in human history, one after another, since ages, all over the Globe, linking every aspect of daily life with number 3. Repeating things countless times, turns into habit, which transforms in to nature of human beings, all over the Globe, thereby offering a scientific explanation of this behavior. To prove it further, the most prestigious and highest intellectual INTERNATIONAL AWARD, The NOBEL PRIZE, has a picture of 3 men depicting Fraternal Bond [25]. *First Miss Universe Pageant* was started on 28th June 1952, a multiple of number 3 [26] and the world cricket cup trophy has a Globe supported by 3 sliver pillars, symbolizing cricket (bowling, batting and fielding [27]. South Pole has warmed 3 times faster than the rest of the planet in the last 30 years [27,44]. In North Pole, Alaska’s winter in ice, *three great things to do* are: 1- Celebrating Christmas in ice; 2- Watching dancing (Aurora) lights in the sky and 3- Local eats, besides this Google search site is dated 06.01.2018, a multiple of 3 [45]. National *ocean day of Japan* is celebrated on 3rd Monday.
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in July every year [46]. National flags of India, USA and Philippines in the northern hemisphere are tricoloured and of Australia in the Southern hemisphere is also tricoloured. Therefore, number 3 dominantly pervades the Globe, from north to south, east to west and even far beyond, because this is in the very nature of human psyche, at every available opportunity. Considering it in medical sciences: Orthopaedics- there are some common examples: a) Trimalleolar fracture of ankle, wherein besides the fracture of 2 malleoli, the posterior part of the tibial plafond has been named as third malleolus, which it is not. It has been named so just to bring in number 3 and make it catchy; b) Bankart’s triad in recurrent dislocation shoulder, c) Unhappy triad knee injury. In human anatomy; there are 43 triangular images [32]. In Dermatology, there is a Triple response of Lewis, inflammatory in nature [43]. There must be many more in other branches of medical sciences Authors conviction in scientific quotes of various LUMINARIES: Swami Vivekananda, who inspired this research, are very relevant here.

"Human mind is a store house of infinite energy, Dis + Cover it", “you are the creator of your own destiny” and “Take up an idea, think it, dream it, live with it till realized” [21]. Therefore, persistent hard work on a single problem is the key to success. Thomas Edison said, “Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration” [22]. I feel, if that 1% inspiration, is added to 99% perspiration (persistent hard work), it will act as a catalyst and you go 100% full throttle. Stephen Hawking, the famous physicist said, “No one undertakes research with the intention of winning a prize. It is the joy of discovering something no one knew before” [20].

That is how the author was led to, single track clubfoot research more than 50 years ago, in January 1961 to be exact. Motivated by periodical awards/ rewards, it is still continuing. It started with number 3 (dissection of 15 stillborn infant’s clubfeet (1+5 = 6/2 = 3). Sixteen were the largest number of dissections reported in the world literature, till then [52]. Author could, at least, have equaled or exceeded the largest series of the world, if one or more were found. However, this had to be multiple of three because of its unique importance for the author.

The research remained dominated with unparalleled repetition of number 3, 21 times till now and 5 times in author’s personal life, with numerous national and International awards and rewards, proving the strength of number 3. Barring some incredible truths, repetitions of number 3 in clubfoot research are either truly scientific or have a scientific explanation due to tuning of human mind with number 3.

There is nothing unusual about amazing truths. Innumerable examples have been discovered from Google search and many more may still be there unsearched. These will go on happening; the latest is shown at D- Social/ cultural [28]. More amazing truths. with a tenacious base in all religions, social and cultural life of human society, from birth till end, have been discovered on extensive Google search.

To conclude

Number 3 pops up again and again, with three important conclusions:- It is purely scientific not only in clubfoot research, but in all branches of science, medical and non-medical. Secondly, there are myriad amazing truths having scientific basis. This article is only a tip of the iceberg, or a drop in the ocean; on Mother Earth Planet and beyond. There must be limitless more material and one can go on and on and on…. Thirdly, there are some, amazing/unprecedented truths also, proving once again “Truth is stranger than fiction”. It has to be, because truth happens of its own
and is not under our control; while fiction is the creation of human mind, so controlled by it. Let number 3 go on inspiring the world with its highly positive and invincible attributes.

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**Part-I**

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PART II: