



Xavier's Daily

➔ Challenge yourself!

Which country is known as the playground of Europe?

Answer : Switzerland

➔ Spectrum's Corner

Thought of the Day

You don't have to do things differently, you have to do better than them.

Word of the Day

Pejorative : showing disapproval

Eg. Permissiveness is used almost universally as a pejorative term.



A GIANT HAND IN MIDDLE OF A DESERT!

Written by Riya Singh | Designed by Ariba Imroz [Students' Council]

Monument or mirage? Giant hand rises from the desert

You're in the middle of a desert. It's hot and dreamy. Sand is all you see till the world's end. The far horizon is glittering golden below a round yellow sun. The heat is making your vision blurry like it does. It's just you and nothingness cruising through the big expansive arid wild when suddenly you see a giant hand waving at you! A huge fantastical hand as if rising from the ground reaches out of sand to bid you farewell.

We're not just making you visualise a fantasy world. This is real! Chile's Atacama Desert has the most unusual monument. A concrete hand lays open for visitors an hour south of Antofagasta.

La Mano del Desierto or 'the Hand of the Desert' was sculpted in 1992. Port city Antofagasta is the regional capital of Chile's copper mining industry. They decided to wow viewers in the barren desert with a hand taller than an NFL goal post. It extends 36 feet into the air free without fences, open to everyone. It's like they're quite literally extending an open hand. The mastermind behind the Mano del Desierto is the Chilean artist Mario Irarrázabal, who has won numerous awards over the years for his unique expressions, this one being arguably his most notable.

The Santiago born artist attended university in the United States and also studied in Germany for years before returning in 1969 as a dedicated sculptor



DID YOU KNOW?

The Atacama has been used as a location for filming Mars scenes, most notably in the television series Space Odyssey: Voyage to the Planets