

## *5 pieces worth reading*

June 22, 2023

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### **Juneteenth, the newest federal holiday, is gaining awareness**

Alana Wise argues in this NPR piece that Juneteenth, the nation's newest federal holiday commemorating the final end of slavery in the United States, is gaining acceptance across the country. When Congress first recognized the day in 2021, 37 percent of American adults were able to describe its meaning. But only a year later, that percentage had increased to 60 percent. Some corporations, including Walmart, have used the holiday to sell Juneteenth-themed products, a turn that could both help to popularize the day, but also possibly dilute its meaning. Wise contends that given its meaning, whether Juneteenth gains even broader popular acceptance and support constitutes a symbolic litmus test for the future of our country.

Wise, A. (2023, June 19). "Juneteenth, the newest federal holiday, is gaining awareness." *NPR*.

<https://www.npr.org/2023/06/19/1182921169/juneteenth-longtime-holiday>

### **What to expect from Narendra Modi's official U.S. visit**

In this *Time* piece, Ashta Rajvanshi discusses Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's official U.S. visit beginning June 22 and outlines the key current priorities of both nations. The Biden Administration hopes to persuade the Indian government to cooperate as an important ally to counter China's influence in the Indo-Pacific region. Meanwhile, Modi would like to make his nation a center for innovation and improve its hard power capabilities by obtaining agreements to manufacture semiconductor chips and purchase American military jets.

Rajvanshi, A. (2023, June 20). "What to expect from Narendra Modi's official U.S. visit." *Time*.

<https://time.com/6288278/modi-state-visit-biden-india-key-issues/>

### **Daniel Ellsberg, who leaked the Pentagon papers, is dead at 92**

This *New York Times* story describes the remarkable life and career of Daniel Ellsberg, who famously leaked the Pentagon papers, a set of files that outlined the U.S. government's lies and deceit concerning the Vietnam War. The 7,000 pages of government documents revealed that several presidents had exceeded their authority, bypassed Congress, and lied to the American people regarding the United States' prosecution of that war.

*Ut Prosim (That I may Serve)*

McFadden, R. (2023, June 16). *Daniel Ellsberg, who leaked the Pentagon papers, is dead at 92*. The New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/06/16/us/daniel-ellsberg-dead.html>

### **Himalayan glaciers on track to lose 75% of ice by 2100, report says**

This *Reuters* story addresses a recent International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development report that found that Asia's Hindu Kush Himalaya could lose 75% of its glacial ice by 2100, causing dangerous flooding and water shortages for the 240 million people who live in the watersheds of that mountainous region. Countries in the region, including China and Pakistan, are attempting to prepare for this major change. China is working to develop alternative water supply options while Pakistan is installing early warning systems for glacial melt-related flooding.

Dickie, G. (2023, June 20). "Himalayan glaciers on track to lose up to 75% of ice by 2100, report says." *Reuters*. <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/himalayan-glaciers-track-lose-up-75-ice-by-2100-report-2023-06-20/>

### **Europe, US urged to investigate the type of AI that powers systems like ChatGPT**

This *Associated Press* piece describes a movement among consumer protection groups to urge government regulators to investigate the artificial intelligence algorithms powering ChatGPT, as those could present risks that leave those using the tool vulnerable. The article notes that a recent Norwegian Consumer Council report outlined several dangers that AI chatbots pose, including providing erroneous medical information, allowing the manipulation of people, and creating news articles containing false content.

Associated Press. (2023, June 20). Europe, US urged to investigate the type of AI that powers systems like ChatGPT. AP NEWS. <https://apnews.com/article/artificial-intelligence-regulation-europe-e05a51e888ee24190f0d17fc41d13895>