President-elect Donald Trump picked the founder and CEO of a health policy consulting firm, Seema Verma, to serve as Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

"I am pleased to nominate Seema Verma to serve as Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services," said President-elect Trump in a statement. "She has decades of experience advising on Medicare and Medicaid policy and helping states navigate our complicated systems. Together, Chairman Price and Seema Verma are the dream team that will transform our healthcare system for the benefit of all Americans."

"I am honored to be nominated by President-elect Trump today," said Ms. Verma. "I look forward to helping him tackle our nation's daunting healthcare problems in a responsible and sustainable way."

Verma, an Indiana resident, is best known for her work on Medicaid issues and her close ties to Vice President-elect Mike Pence. She designed his Obamacare Medicaid expansion model -- known as Healthy Indiana Plan 2.0 -- and has advised several Republican states on how to add conservative elements such as health savings accounts and employment requirements to their programs.

Through her consulting firm SVC Inc., Verma has worked on other high-profile Medicaid expansion proposals for Republican governors. That includes Kentucky, where Republican Gov. Matt Bevin has threatened to pull the plug unless the Obama administration approves his pending request. Bevin's plan includes a work requirement as a condition of receiving benefits and lockout periods for failure to pay, and is modeled off of Indiana's Medicaid expansion model.

Prior to consulting, Verma worked for the Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County, Indiana and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials in Washington, D.C.
From Left to right:
Ram Reddy 12/1
Sheena Dwivedi 12/3
Farid A Nizami 12/3
Nitin Narkhede 12/3
Ram M Komanduri 12/4
Bharat Patel 12/4
Michael Noland 12/5
Shailina Momin 12/5
Asim Saleem 12/5
Waqas S Jani 12/5
Ziauddin Saber 12/6
Murali Talluri 12/6
Bhairavi T Thakkar 12/7
Sameer Jaffer 12/7
Parthiv Thakkar 12/8
Shahed Adeeli 12/9
Sundip S Damria 12/9
Nitin Narkhede 12/9
Aaleem Butt 12/10
Atiq Ur Rehman 12/10
V.K. Taneja 12/11
Jagadish Mankal 12/11
Siraj Sholapuri 12/11
Dipak Shah 12/12
Qusro Patel 12/13
Shaik Ameenpasha 12/14
Babar Qamar 12/15
Javed Jamil 12/15
Sam Krishna 12/16
Mohammed Hyder 12/16
Puranal Vyas 12/17
Ashvani Rampal 12/17
Rizwan W M Tabani 12/17
Sachin Mehrotra 12/17
Dean Obeidallah 12/17
Sama Thakkar 12/17
Christie Sanam 12/18
Mohd Muneeruddin 12/18
Samina Mangi 12/18
Huma Farooqui 12/19
Nawab MirOsman AK 12/19
Shravyasri Reddy 12/19
Anis Lalani 12/20
Sundari Sun 12/20
Jabeen Ilyas 12/21
Aric Diamani 12/21
Minnie Sethi 12/22
Abdul Rahman Shaikh 12/22
Syed Saifullah Quadri 12/23
Om Prakash Sehgal 12/23
Priavanda Chouhan 12/23
Rehmat Raza 12/23
Sunila Sharma 12/23
Niranjan Nathwani 12/24
Ravi Reddy Kunda 12/24
Uroosa Rahim 12/25
Aftab Siddiqui 12/25
Asghar Ali Khan 12/25
Dharmesh Parik 12/25
Meera Singh 12/25
Zahoor Abbas 12/25
Karingula Pranay 12/26
Aijaz Quraish 12/27
Shahid Shafi 12/27
Kumar Vinod 12/27
Mumtaz Hussaini 12/28
Parvez Malik 12/28
Raj Malhotra 12/28
Srivatsa Kondapally 12/28
Hittu Deepak 12/29
Azmina Rashid 12/29
Syed Aqeel Ahmed 12/30
Nimisha Patel 12/30
Salim Kassam 12/30
Shiraz Ameena Khan 12/31
Srikanth Reddy 12/31
Deepthi Ashok 12/31
Ramesh Thumu 12/31

Please send your and your loved ones pictures to be included on this page at no cost
Editor@AsiaTimes.US
India signed the $737 million (almost Rs 5,000 crore) contract for the acquisition of 145 M-777 ultra-light howitzers from the US in a government-to-government deal.

TOI was the first to report on November 17 that PM Narendra Modi-led Cabinet Committee on Security had cleared the deal for the acquisition of the first modern 155mm howitzers for the Army in over 30 years to break the Bofors jinx.

The contract, of course, will also further consolidate the position of the US as one of the largest arms suppliers to India, having bagged deals worth over $15 billion since 2007.

Of the 145 M-777 howitzers to be delivered from mid-2017 onwards, 120 will be "assembled, integrated and tested" in India with artillery-manufacturer BAE Systems selecting Mahindra as its business partner here. The 1.3-million strong Army has been demanding such 155mm/39-calibre ultra-light howitzers, with a strike range of over 25-km, for well over a decade now since they can be airlifted swiftly to "threatened high-altitude areas" in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh along the 4,057-km Line of Actual Control with China. The howitzer, which weighs just over 4-tonne due to the use of titanium, can be moved to altitudes up to 16,000-feet.

The M-777 howitzers are meant to equip the new 17 Mountain Strike Corps being raised for effective conventional deterrence and "quick reaction capabilities" against China. The Army is being forced to cannibalize from its existing reserves to raise the 17 Corps, which will be fully in place with 90,274 troops by 2021.

A series of scandals beginning with the Bofors one, and followed by the ones around South African firm Denel and finally Singapore Technology Kinetic's (STK), has meant that the Army has failed to induct even a single 155mm gun for three decades.

The overall artillery modernisation plan for 155mm/52-calibre guns, worth around Rs 1 lakh crore, incidentally, envisages the induction of 814 mounted, 1,580 towed, 180 wheeled and 100 tracked guns, among others.
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- Provide Medical aid to needy (2016 target 35,000 patients)

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Jashne Noor celebrated to honor
Noor Amrohvi in Hyderabad

In every city, in every era and in every country a high bright star becomes the center of attention of everybody. Yet very few people know this fact that in order to reach that glitter and height, one has to pass through hardships besides waging practical struggle. One of such gifted people equipped with practical and professional traits is Noor Amrohvi, who is a young poet, one of the best Mushairas compare and an excellent speaker. He was born in 1973 in Amroh, (the land known for literary figures) in a literary, religious and business family. Side by side religious education (learning Quran by heart and recitation) he also got worldly education. He has the honor of being a student of Alligarh Muslim University. He secured first division in class XII and attained distinctive position in Aadeeb-e-Fazil examination. Besides, from Bombay University he did his Masters in Economics and Urdu along with obtaining the garment designing diploma as part of the professional education. Since his upbringing was done in a literary and educated family, he had a natural liking for Urdu literature. Since his childhood he has been composing and reciting Urdu verses but because of his educational responsibilities, he did not encourage himself in this regard. When he was a grown up person then he headed towards Bombay to discharge his domestic responsibilities. After getting into new world besides fulfilling his professional responsibilities, he decided to quench his thirst for his poetic and literary taste. When he was able to shoulder further responsibilities then his dream to spend his days and nights of youth in Bombay was left half way and he had to travel to Dubai where a very bright future was waiting for him and where an opportunity to serve Urdu were also available. It is said that when he was in Dubai, besides his professional responsibilities he would take part in literary and poetic activities with great zeal. Despite his appointment in an American garment factory on the post of a supervisor, his interest for education and studies continued unabated. But finding him unfit in this frame he became a teacher in a famous English school in Bombay. Noor Amrohvi has seen such difficult times and harrowing hardships in life that most of the people get discouraged and lose their heart in the way. But out of these sufferings and hardships, he gained enormous experience and vision and came out like gold. Amazingly despite all these difficult circumstances he could not disassociate himself from literary activities and social work. He is such a poet of high talent that distinguished personalities like Professor Pirzada Qasim, Professor Nisar Farooqui and John Elia appreciated and praised his unmatched skills and his brilliant achievements. In Dubai he left his foot print wherever he presented his ‘kalam’, yet in America wherever he went he left his endearing remembrance. Who would have known that this young man who came to Bombay in search of a bright future and them move on to Dubai, would finally land in United States of America and become the glittering tower for literary activities and Urdu culture. In North American city of Dallas in the state of Texas where Noor Amrohvi came to stay, he has to face very strong opposition from various circles. After making arrangement for his living, he started displaying his poetry; the oratorical talent, writing ability and administrative potential. He became the target of criticism from unknown jealous quarters. But due to true passion hard work, diligence, honesty he befriended the opponent currents and his critics started walking along with him. The literary organization and personalities opine that Noor Amrohvi’s compereing is unique and full of logic. As far as his poetry is concerned, it is just like showing lamp to the sun and his humanity and gentleness is superb. He is soft spoken, articulate, embodiment of sincerity and love, humility, and is a model of politeness. Being a businessman and with a poetic temperament, simplicity and mercurial disposition, his friends and partners took advantage and sidelined him. In Radio programs he opts for novelty, innovation and the psychology of the listeners in writing and presenting radio scripts. He presented new and unique programs and therefore a large circle of the desi community is still his admirer. He is distinguished for starting the tradition of Naitia Mushairas in Dallas city, being regularly conducted for the last eight years. In these Mushairas besides poets from North America many eminent poets from Indo Pak have already participated. Also under the aegis of the International Noor Academy, he has been organizing for eight years, international Urdu Mushairas and Kavi sammelans! Every celebrated poet from Indo Pak has participated in these Mushairas. Now a situation has arrived that the people aspire that Noor Amrohvi should invite them to their Mushairas. His sincere and close friends also help him in organizing the Naitia international Mushairas which Noor Amrohvi conducts every year. TIP News

Samuels family hosted a get together filled with Ghazals in Dallas

Mrs. Shahnna Siraj, Mrs. Malika Durani, Mrs. Fozia Pervaz, Mrs. Eram Samuels, Mrs. Elshba Hafeez, Mrs. Marcela Almas, Mrs. Amira Desai, Mrs. Firoz; Mrs. Khan, Mrs. Azeem, Mrs. Saaman Ali, Suman Samuels, Shayan Siraj, and Siraj Junior

Mrs. Shahmina Siraj, Mrs. Malika Durani, Mrs. Fozia Pervaz, Mrs. Eram Samuels, Mrs. Elshba Hafeez, Mrs. Marcela Almas, Mrs. Amira Desai, Mrs. Firoz; Mrs. Khan, Mrs. Azeem, Mrs. Saaman Ali, Suman Samuels, Shayan Siraj, and Siraj Junior

From left: Azeem A. Quadeer, Publisher Asia Times US, Mr Aqueel, Shahid Firozvi, Showbhit, Yousaif Desai on guitar, Javed Samuel, Eram Samuel, Bakhtaver Samuel and Suman Samuel

From left: Arshad Almas, Younis Fiaz, Irfan Ali, Mr Khan, Nadir Duranv, Siraj Butt, OS Mod Gill, Javed Almas On the floor from the left: Showbhit, Javed Samuel, Azhar Gill, Pervaz Ahmed, Bakhtaver Samuel
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Hyderabad Society of North Texas Celebrated their Annual Event “Shaam-e-Hyderabad” on Saturday Nov 12. The event well organised and took place at Curtis Culwell Center in Garland, TX.

The evening started with welcoming the guests by Rahat and Salman followed by Quran recitation by Hafiz Saqib Vikaruddin and translation by Arsalaan Arifuddin. Dr Aasia Ali, President HSNT addressed the audience. Lifetime achievement Award was given to Mulik Sayeedi from Houston, TX. Excellent Qawwals presentation by Fareed Ayaz & Abu Mohammed and Humnawa lead into a memorable evening. Fareed Ayaz & Abu Muhammad Qawwals are popular for their Sufi performances. They have performed in various countries.

Fareed and his relatives are the flag-bearers of that school of music (gharana), which is also known by the name of the city as the Dilli Gharana. They perform various genres of Hindustani classical music such as dhrupad, khayal, tarana, thumri and dadra.

HSNT was established in 1992 by a well-known community leader and physician, Dr. Basheer Ahmed and has been a non-profit organization since 2006. The purpose of HSNT is to help the local DFW Hyderabadis get together to have fun and to keep our Hyderabadi culture alive.

HSNT has two main get-together or events. The first one is a picnic during the spring season which is held at a local DFW park. This is an informal event which usually attracts 250 to 300 people. We enjoy kite flying, games for children of all ages, delicious food and music.

The second event of the year is a formal evening dinner which usually takes place in October or November with numerous forms of entertainment such as music, songs, comedy in our Hyderabadi lingo and of course, Hyderabadi cuisine. Last year we had qawwals which were enjoyed by many. We also get to enjoy wearing some of our traditional clothes such as sherwanis, etc.
EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

- ICC Karzai (Lah): There are 120 students and 6 teachers at ICC Karzai providing education and intensive coaching for Medical and engineering Entrance Examinations. This Center needs yearly expenses of $20,000.
- Gaya Muslim Orphanage, Gaya, Bihar needs your support. Girls and Boys divisions are operating in separate buildings and accommodate about 400 orphans. The orphanage is managed by a group of teachers. They have been looking for about $50,000 yearly. Please help Rahbar Foundation to support these orphan students in Bihar. As you know Bihar is one of the poorest state in India and living standards are below poverty line.
- Birla Field Children School Shirdidon (MP): There are 125 poor students and 6 teachers providing education under the shadow of trees as there are no rooms available in Birla Fields. This school needs about $20,000 to be built and also needs expenses towards salaries, books, uniforms and school furniture. The total budget required is $30,000.

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How did Plano vote? Post-election results show
Plano’s changing political taste

If Plano decided the presidential election, the outcome would have been the same. But what’s surprising is the rising number of blue pockets in Plano. In the 2016 presidential election, Collin County had record-setting turnout: Out of 62 voting precincts, 37 percent went to Clinton/Kaine. With Collin County’s continued growth, the demographic and political palate of the area could change as well. These changing demographics are something to which both Collin County Republican and Democratic parties are paying attention.

Neal Katz, executive director for the Collin County Republican Party, said, “This could be one election where a lot of people voted against a candidate rather than for a candidate.” From Katz perspective, people either liked president-elect Donald Trump because he spoke his mind or didn’t like Trump because he spoke his mind.

“We’re very much aware of the changing demographics. And it’s the case of getting messages across,” he said. “Republicans need to do a much better job getting the message across of what we stand for. We stand for education, family values, small business.” He said 2017 would be an off-year, with no seat up for re-election, but come 2018’s general election, there will be another election cycle underway.

Katz said for the next 15 months, they’ll be working to spread their message, educate the community and help residents learn more about their council members and local representatives.

“The one thing you don’t want a political party to do is go into hiding for the next 15 months until the next primary,” Katz said, so the team will spend considerable time educating the community on the political process and how to “get off the couch and get involved.”

Every Friday, about 3,000 residents can read the Republican Party newsletter that shows readers all the club meetings, fundraisers and guest speeches coming up. For readers looking to learn more and get involved, Katz said the newsletter was a great place to start.

“Knowledge is power and more people need to be given that knowledge to know what’s going on in their community,” he said. “Local elections affect more of the laws that affect you on a day-to-day basis.” Residents can usually name their president and vice-president, but few can name one or two of the council members on Plano City Council, “and that’s got to change,” Katz said.

Mike Rawlins, county chair for the Collin County Democratic Party, said, “Even though we didn’t have any victories in the county this cycle, we made increment progress in just about every race, from the top of the ticket to the bottom of the ticket,” Rawlins said. Plano’s noticeable shift could be attributed to new residents from FedEx, Liberty Mutual and Toyota bringing their business as well as their political views with them. But for sure, Rawlins said, “We had one of the biggest slates of candidates in the past 15 to 20 years in every Texas House district.” About 50 voting prescient in Collin County voted majority Democratic, an improvement from past years, Rawlins said, which they hope to improve upon in years to come.

He said he’s also anticipating a political shift in the area if the president-elect Trump’s presidency lives up to expectations.

“A lot of people are extremely concerned about Trump as president and a reactionary Republican agenda coming in from Congress. We’re anticipating Trump and the Republicans to be as bad as a lot of people think they’ll be, that there will be a Democratic wave election in 2018,” Rawlins said.

It’s a wave the party hopes will result in more Democratic representation on local, state and national levels.

“That is if Trump messes up as bad as we think he will,” Rawlins said. However, Rawlins said, he hopes Trump and his constituents do govern in a bipartisan, modest fashion for the sake of the country as a whole.

“But from what he’s showing so far, with putting Bannon as his chief strategist from Breitbart, we’re taking that as an indication of where he’s headed,” Rawlins said.

Now that the election cycle is wrapping up, he said his team will take time off then hit the ground running in January. For the next 15 months, Democrats want to become more visible in the community.

“You can expect to see us a lot more visible than a lot of different kinds of outreach,” he said.

Family from Plano in a Fatal Crash

DALLAS-HOUSTON PAGES

Ratnakar Sattipalli and his family were driving down I-44 West bound when they were hit head on by a car coming in the wrong and opposite direction. His dear wife and 4 year old son were pronounced dead on the spot.

Ratnakar has had a surgery for a punctured artery and he is recovering in the ICU. His daughter, Keerthana Sattipalli 5, escaped with minor injuries.

As his entire family is in India, we need to send Sushma Sattipalli and Mahidhar Sattipalli’s bodies to India.

Ratnakar has to be in the hospital for a few weeks.
World Champion boxer Amir Khan coming to Chicago on December 10th 2016

Where: Shalimar Banquets, in Addison, IL
When: Saturday December 10th 2016 from 7 -11pm
Why: To raise awareness for the Amir Khan Foundation

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Also attending: Faryal Makhdoom

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At the wedding of Ms. Vijaya Laksmi only daughter of Shri Bandaru Dattarey, Union Minister of Labor and Employment at Gachhi Bowli Stadium, over 50,000 people attended the event. He is known to me for over 20 years.

After long time met my good friends today at Fateh Maidan Club, seen from left Dr Divaker Reddy co-owner Sunshine Hospital, Satish Muddamale, Prem RAJ Yadav sports authority, Srinivas Gopspagani executive member FMC, Myself and Dr Venkat Prasad Reddy chairman Fateh Maidan Club.

In Vijayawada with Zulfiqar Ali former Mayor of Hyderabad who was also my school mate where special invite of Montfort brothers Group of All Saints High Schools, Little Flower High Schools, St. Paul’s High Schools, and many such missionary schools run by this group all over India, where honored for their 50 years and 25 years of services. We the students of such missionaries School salute you all.


Iftekhar Shareef was honored to attend Du-Ba-Du a unique Mass Matrimonial alliance program Organised by Siasat daily and Minority development forum at YS Convention attapur in Hyderabad, thousands of parents gathered to seek alliance for their sons and daughters free from any dowry system, ZAheeruddin Ali Baig, V. Hanumtha Rao, Dy CM Mahmood Ali, Iftekhar Shareef, Syed Sadiq, Osman Sadi, Mohammad Azharuddin, Esa Misri and Uroosa Rahim.

Indo-Arab league 2nd Anniversary event at Taj Deccan Hyderabad headed by Jaber Patel and Ateeq Siddiqui attended by Union Minister Shri Bandaru Dhattareya Ji, Home Minister Nayeni Narsimha Reddy, Mohammad Shabbir Ali Bhai and many M.P’s and ex M.P’s.

TV news for the detail interview on Rubaru program.

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Hina Trivedi is the president of Indo US Lions Club, a bridge between India and the USA. She is multilingual speaking seven different languages and has served more than thirty years for various communities, such as a translator for citizenship, Green Card holders, interview and register people to vote, assisting seniors in applying for Medicare or Medicaid, and housing until they get back on their feet.

She tutors children tutoring in order for them to be busy and off the streets at CEDA and LIFHITE. She says, “We must care for kids because they are our future, so we must guide them to the right direction and do whatever we can to help them to become proud Americans.”

Miss Trivedi is a cancer survivor, who believes that God gave her a second chance in life, for a reason. Because of this, she is dedicating her life to serving the needy. A smile on the face on a person she helps means a lot to her. Her family and friends are a part of her helping hands. There are approximately 7000 people in the Chicago land area that she and her team support. She believes that the blessings she has recived have to be given back to the community.

She is also the president of the Federation of Indian Associations, founding member of Go-pio Chicago, Executive Board Member of AIA MAFS, the organization composed of various communities. The main objective of the organization is to help the elderly with health issues, disabilities and language problems. She has attended many public awareness and social conferences across the globe, and has received many honors and awards from President Barack Obama, Mayor Richard M. Daley, IL Secretary of State Jesse White, Congressman Danny Davis, Representative Jan Schakowsky, and other locally and in India.

Hina Trivedi is a single mom with two kids and a strong lady of our community. She is a person of strong faith whose role models are her mother, Mother Teresa, and Jhansi Ki Rani. Her hero is her dad who used to tell her, “Beta, we came to the USA with only $600, but when we die, we will leave everything here, so always give value to people not to things.”

She says, “We cannot change the world, but we can change ourselves to make the world a better place. We are all humans and are on earth for a reason.”

Congressman Elect “Raja with Praja”

I love men!!! Yes...I do!!! I pity them too...the most discriminated gender is Male of the two...Their voices are muted...their pain rebuked...Even a trace of weakness puts their manhood up for trial...juried and judged at the first drop of tear...Hated for the bad deeds of Humans...their only crime being a Man...I am worried about today’s little boys who will grow up to be men one day...in a world that’s all about girls...are we leaving the lil men behind?? Hoping when my son becomes a man...he will have a choice to be weak!!! A choice to be scared!!! A choice to be afraid!!! Happy Men’s Day dear Men!!! Enjoy it!!! -Shyla Talluri
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By Nasim Yousaf (Allama Mashriqi’s Grandson)

Inayatullah Khan (famously known as Allama Mashriqi) and Mustafa Kemal Atatürk were contemporaries who are regarded as two of the great leaders of the 20th century. Throughout his lifetime, Mashriqi expressed a fondness for Turkey and Atatürk. On Atatürk’s 78th death anniversary, it is worth remembering how these two leaders were connected.

Both Atatürk and Mashriqi were born in the 1880s. Mashriqi in Amritsar (British India) and Atatürk in Thessaloniki, Greece. Mashriqi’s fondness for Turkey and Atatürk stemmed from Mashriqi’s father, Khan Ata Mohammad Khan (who was also a recipient of the Turkish medal “Mejidie”). Khan Ata owned a well-known and highly regarded newspaper called Vakil (started in 1895 from Amritsar), which included reports on the Turkish Ottomans (among other subjects). According to the book entitled Indian Muslims and Partition of India, “...enthusiasm for Turkey had been created by...the Vakil...” Vakil also had a Book Depot, which issued publications related to developments in Ottoman Turkey. Mashriqi’s father’s affinity for Turkey also influenced his own views.

Mashriqi’s affection for Turkey and Atatürk was evident from the early years of his life. As a student at the University of Cambridge, Mashriqi used to wear a Turkish Fez (hat). Then, in July of 1924, Mashriqi gifted his famous book, Tazkirah, to Atatürk. Later, in 1930, when Mashriqi launched the Khaksar Tehrik, his party’s flag was similar to the Turkish flag. Also, Mashriqi’s weekly journal Al-Islah (1934-1947) used to include information on Turkish political, military, and other activities. Atatürk is also mentioned in Mashriqi and the Khaksar Tehrik’s materials (e.g. Isharat and Tazkirah). In the 1930s, Atatürk’s photos also appeared in the Khaksar Tehrik’s historic photo album, along with photos of Turkish soldiers. And on December 30, 1935, the Khaksars, in the presence of Mashriqi and other leaders, honored Atatürk with a salute at a grand Khaksar Camp in Delhi (Source: Al-Islah, January 10, 1936).

As Mashriqi and Atatürk gained increasing prominence in their respective countries, the parallels between the two leaders became more apparent. Both made significant contributions in politics: Mashriqi created South Asia’s most disciplined (and largest) private army and led the freedom movement of the Indian sub-continent (now Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan). Meanwhile, Atatürk is recognized to have saved his country from complete disintegration to emerge as the founder of modern Turkey. Both leaders were bestowed with prestigious titles: Inayatullah Khan was given the title “Allama Mashriqi” (Wise Man of the East) by the famous Al-Azhar University (Islamic seat of learning) in Egypt, whereas Mustafa Kemal was given the title of “Atatürk” by the Grand National Assembly of Turkey. Along with their political activities, the two men also shared similarities in their general philosophies. Both fought for freedom and equality for all and believed in women’s active participation in nation building. Both advocated for developments in science and industrialization. And both believed in freedom of religion, regardless of one’s faith. Additionally, both did not support the Khilafat Movement. Mashriqi, while sympathetic to Turkey, considered the said movement to be highly disorganized (he predicted its failure). Atatürk’s lack of support for the movement is also evident from the fact that he refused to meet with its leaders.

Despite their similarities, Mashriqi and Atatürk certainly did not agree on everything. Differences in their approaches and thought process can be better understood by reading Mashriqi’s speech to the International Caliphate Conference in Cairo in May of 1926 and his letter (with proposals) to Atatürk dated October 18, 1925.

When Atatürk died on November 10, 1938, the Khaksar Tehrik flag at its headquarters (Idara-i-Aliya) was lowered to half-mast (from November 10 to November 20, 1938). And on November 20, 1938, the flag remained at half-mast for six hours at Khaksar offices all over India. The front page of Al-Islah (November 18, 1938) was also dedicated to Atatürk, with condolence messages on behalf of Mashriqi and the Khaksar Tehrik for the fallen Turkish leader.

A Facebook page named “Allama Mashriqi and Kemal Atatürk” has been dedicated to the two leaders.

Nasim Yousaf, grandson of Mashriqi, is a researcher based in the USA. He has been featured in various American publications, including Who’s Who in the World. He has written 15 books and digitized files of rare documents related to South Asian history. His articles have been published in many countries around the world and in peer-reviewed publications in the US (Harvard Asia Quarterly, Pakistaniaat, World History Encyclopedia, and Education About Asia).
Mr. Roger Claar, a long time serving Mayor of Bolingbrook with the population of about 78,000 is very proud on his choice despite a very strong criticism from the community but he but he stood firm. Mayor who once supported Mr. Jeb Bush changed his affiliation towards Mr. Donald Trump which resulted in a good way for Mayor Claar. We are sure that his is proud of his choice.

Mr. Talat Rashid a member of Donald Trump's leadership team in Illinois and well know member of Pakistani community also stood with Trump from the day one despite oppositions from his own community. Mr. Rashid said, “I am very excited and humble to see that the candidate I supported from day one when he announced his candidacy for President Mr. Donald Trump won the election with sizeable electoral votes”. “I was very firm and determined in supporting him despite opposition from my own friends who were directly and indirectly criticizing me”. His victory dismisses the predictions of all of the so called analysts and media pundits who wrote him off several times during his campaign.

His success is the result of his pragmatic approach to the issues faced by an average American who were looking for a mes-
siah to fix the issues since none of the politicians ever discussed those issues. Mr. Trump stood firm on his commit-
ment and his clear message resonated with average American who is working hard to make ends meet. Americans lost so many manufacturing jobs that are being shifted to over seas and no one is paying attention except Mr. Trump. "We were making other countries rich on the cost of our economy and jobs” Mr. Trump said repeatedly in his speeches. Obama care was a disaster and Clinton foundation was filling pockets of Mrs. Clinton family and not for the average American. Hillary who was unfit for President (Barack Obama 2008) could not convenience an average American what she will do for them. Trump woke Americans and promised them that he will work for them and will make this country strong. That was his slogan “Make America Great Again” which resonated with the working class Americans.

He has a lot of work ahead of him fixing this broken system, immigration reforms and foreign policy. Tax reforms, term limits and several other issues.

"I am glad that I was able to extend my support towards Trump and his ideas", Mr. Talat Rashid a staunch supporter of Mr. Trump and a member of Bolingbrook Plan commission said. As you recall Mr. Talat Rashid recited verses from Holy Quran in the form of invocation before Donald Trump's Speech in Bolingbrook. “I would have never imagined that I would even get close to Mr. Trump our next President” acknowledged Mr. Rashid who admired Mayor Claar's for inviting him to meet Mr. Trump during fund raiser in Bolingbrook.

Our 45th President Donald Trump will work with everyone and will treat everyone equal. He will bring reforms that no one wanted to even discuss from both par-
ties. He will also be good for Muslims who are interested in being part of this American fabric. Muslims in particular are afraid that Mr. Trump will have very hostile approach towards them. We all know as a President he will have to take all the communities and cultures in his confidence and will do whatever is the best for this country. Mr. Rashid was very disappointed that most Muslims were favoring Hillary Clinton. We put all our eggs in one basket he said. Yes, immigrations rules and regulations will be tough for immigrants who are here illegally but again this is right thing to do. There are thousands of illegals, refugees and asylum seekers enter this country every year. It is about time that the process must be vetted and revisited. At the same time it is unfair for those who entered legally in this country.

Mayor Claar sides with Donald Trump on several issues which are good for this country and will be positive steps to bring back the America’s dignity back as a world leader. For sure it is impossible for Presi-
dent elect Donald Trump to make every-
one happy but time will tell when country will go back to its traditional values which we are all proud of.

The lesson we all should learn that never underestimate anyone's power. God re-
wards people in mysterious ways.

God bless America.

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FIA elects new officers, announces Indian heritage event with Windy City Bulls

Elmhurst, IL: Federation of Indian Associations, Chicago, (http://www.fia-il.com/), elected Mukesh Shah as its new president at Waterford Banquet in Elmhurst, Illinois. “I feel honored and humbled to step forward to lead this organization, which has taken several initiatives in promot-
ing our Indian culture,” said Shah, who is also a former president of the Gujarati Samaj.

Other members of the executive board for 2017 are Founder President: Sunil Shah, Founder & Past President: Onkar Singh Sangha, Founding Committee Member & Past Presi-
dent: Rita Singh, Outgoing President: Dhitu Bhagwakar, Executive Vice President: Neil Khot and Moon Khan, Vice Presidents: Hitesh Gandhi, Shital Daftari, Ali Khan, Man-

As its first project for 2017, FIA wants to organize an Indian heritage event on Friday, January 6th, in partnership with Windy City Bulls, the official NBA D-League Affiliate of the Chicago Bulls. The basketball sport event will take place at Sears Center Arena, from 7 PM.

“We are going to mainstream platform to project Indian heritage,” said Sunil Shah, Founder President.

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A clever person turns great troubles into little ones and little ones into none at all.”
Gandhi Samaj of Chicago celebrate Diwali traditional way by lighting Diya

Asian Media USA ©

Chicago IL: While the festival of Diwali is observed by people of different faiths for different reasons, they all acknowledge its underlying theme: the victory of good over evil and the triumph of light over darkness.

Gandhi Samaj of Chicago (GSC) (www.gandhisamajchicago.com) hosted its 32nd Annual Diwali Program on November 5, 2016 at Hanuman Temple in Glenview, IL and was led by Hitesh Gandhi and Keyur Ghayal. Gandhi Samaj of Chicago includes over 120 "Gandhi" families, native of South Gujarat part of India (Surat to Vapi), from Chicago and its close vicinity. The event started with social hour accompanied by Traditional Gujarati (Indian) Cuisine dinner, which was followed by a cultural program. This is a tradition observed by GSC for last 32 years, where families come together as a big united family to socialize and attend cultural program by young and adults.

Mr. Dipak Shah, owner and president of Direct Floors in Woodridge, was invited as Chief Guest and Consul General Mr. O.P. Meena bestowed his presence as Guest of Honor. President's Award was given to Mr. Nitin C. Gandhi for his leadership and excellent contribution as a Vice President of Gandhi Samaj of Chicago 2012-15 term. Community Service Award was presented to Mrs. Sushila N. Gandhi in honor of her active part in the community. Educational Achievement Awards were awarded to the youth, who completed their education from the college.

We are prepared and ready to tackle the big crowd with a solid executive plan. "It was a very smooth execution even though we completely "Sold out" night," "Thanks to all the sponsors of the grand event without their support it would not be possible to have such a wonderful event also thanks to audience of Chicago and well-wishers who attended the event to make this magnificent event successful” said by Mr Hitesh Gandhi, Exec Vice President of Gandhi Samaj.

Cultural program touched everyone’s hearts as imaginations of performers (from age 5 to 60) showcased their talents. Program started by a small Prayer followed with American & Indian National Anthems. The Bharat Natyam performance of Ganesh Vandana by Krishna Gandhi, Misha Gandhi, Freya Gandhi and Freya Viren Gandhi added a soft touch. The children and adults of Gandhi Community performed Classical and Bollywood Dance performances, songs and other talents. Couple Dance performance on “Char Kadam” song became the highlight when Couples pair performed with glorious energy.

Special Guest performers added the charm to the event. Mrs. Mona Bhalla, who owns album “Kudi-Bindaas” performed live with her 3 beautiful daughters. Dance performance reached to an extreme thrill when Ms. Madhura Sane danced on revival of old and new classic. Mr. Elizar from Arya Dance Academy performed Bollywood Fusion dance. Also, Mrs. Shital Dhanani, founder of Tarana Kathak academy added the Classical touch with her trained Kathak students and Mr. Paul Chopra grabbed audience attention by performing a Mimicry Bollywood act.

How do you know where you are going if you don’t know where you come from?
“And We Have Not Sent You, [O Muhammad ﷺ], Except as a mercy to the worlds” [21:107]

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Out of town, people may contact Wali Uddin at (630) 803-7321 for any book orders.

Note: The proceeds from the sale of these books will go to the Welfare organizations.

Dedicated Healthcare Professional, Author and Emcee
Author of Books
Adha Memon Adha Hyderabadi, Roshan Khayal, Musurahaton Ka Safar
From Nasir Jahangir:

Thank you to our non Muslim neighbors from near and far who came in the hundreds to attend an Open Mosque day at Midwest Islamic Center. I know and was told crowd was overflowing at the entrance too. There was real concern displayed by those attending. Most notable of friends attending were US Congressional Elect Raja Krishnamoorthi, State Rep reelect Michelle Mussman and Hanover Park Mayor Rodney Craig, Hanover Park Trustee Sharmin Shahjahan, along with a number of Church clergy. It was a well-organised and very informative event. special thanks to Masjid Alhuda, its Board, AMAN, Brussels Omer Haqqani and countless volunteers!

InshaAllah may there be many more informative events like this
December 2016

Sunil Shah Birthday Bash

Gladson Varghese and Dr. Marina Gladson at Sobin and Preenu's Wedding Reception in Downtown Chicago.

Bharti Desai performing Dayro with Gujarati Film Playback Singer Padma Shri Bhikhudan Gadhvi in Alabama.

Ismail Musa Azam of Indiana and Azeem A. Quadeer at an event in Dallas

Vibha Dave with Raja Krishnamoorthi and Uma Aramandla Katiki.

Happy Anniversary to Mr. and Mrs Raju Chinthala

Parth Ravani (Future Star) with Armaan Malik

Congratulations to Ali Saad and Sadia Saad on their marriage

Rafee Kidwai, Mohammed Waseem, Zaki Basalath, Gurmeet Singh, Abdul Gafoor, Azeem ul Haq and others at a Karaoke party

Mushaira at Glendale Heights Library: Mr. Waliuddin and others

Anil Shah, President at World's Money Exchange, Inc congratulating Ms. Payal Shah on her Birthday

World Brahmin Federation Canada
Donald Trump won the presidency of United States of America, but he failed to win many hearts and mind across the country. Now, those hearts and minds are protesting against him all over the country. In a reaction to those protesters first Mr. Trump called them "Professional Protesters" in a tweet and then in another tweet he called them "Passionate Americans."

I think Mr. Trump should be given opportunity to lead the country for next four years. He has won the election by fellow Americans and their vote should be respected. That's how democracy works and that's how it should work. When two candidates contest election against one another one has to lose when the other wins. Of course, we deserve the right to disagree with his agenda. The protesters should protest against agenda items but not to hide the right to swear in as next President of the United States.

I did not vote for Mr. Trump, as a matter of fact a large majority of Americans did not participate in elections, but when I see the signs in protesting youngsters hands that "Trump is not my President" I get little dismayed. It is the resentment arrogance of big business, which poisons the water we drink, pollutes the air we breath, contaminates the soil we live on, and refuses to change their ways, because they have the money to buy our politicians and purchase their votes. For people of color, for Gays and Lesbians, for Muslims there is the added fear of violence in the streets, the hostility on campuses, bullying in schools, even banishment from their homes.

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So why the sadness and anger? Why the disappointments and demonstrations? Why not give the man a chance? How much can he falter? How much chaos can he create? How many of his promises can he keep? The days of locker room talk are over. Now the serious task of governing begins. Now he owns our problems, our anger and our future. As a people with hope, we must wish him success, for in his success we all may yet succeed to a better life.

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Fidel Castro, who defied US for 50 years, dies at 90 in Cuba

MIAMI (AP) — Fidel Castro, who led a rebel army to improbable victory, embraced Soviet-style communism and defied the power of 10 U.S. presidents during his half-century rule of Cuba, has died at age 90.

With a shaking voice, President Raul Castro said on state television that his older brother died at 10:29 a.m. Friday. He ended the announcement by shouting the revolutionary slogan: "Toward victory, always!"

Castro's reign over the island-nation 90 miles (145 kilometers) from Florida was marked by the U.S.-backed Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961 and the Cuban Missile Crisis a year later that brought the world to the brink of nuclear war. The bearded revolutionary, who survived a crippling U.S. trade embargo as well as dozens, possibly hundreds, of assassination plots, died 10 years after ill health forced him to hand power over to his younger brother.

Castro overcame imprisonment at the hands of dictator Fulgencio Batista, exile in Mexico and a disastrous start to his rebellion before triumphantly riding into Havana in January 1959 to become, at age 32, the youngest leader in Latin America. For decades, he served as an inspiration and source of support to revolutionaries from Latin America to Africa.

His commitment to socialism was unwavering, though his power finally began to fade in mid-2006 when a gastrointestinal ailment forced him to hand over the presidency to Raul in 2008, provisionally at first and then permanently. His defiant image lingered long after he gave up his trademark Cohiba cigars for health reasons and his tall frame grew stooped.

"Socialism or death" remained Castro's rallying cry even as Western-style democracy swept the globe and other communist regimes in China and Vietnam embraced capitalism, leaving this island of 11 million people an economically crippled Marxist curiosity.

He survived long enough to see Raul Castro negotiate an opening with U.S. President Barack Obama on Dec. 17, 2014, when Washington and Havana announced they would move to restore diplomatic ties for the first time since they were severed in 1961. He confidently guessed the historic deal with his lifelong enemy in a letter published after the historic deal with his lifelong

In Havana's Miramar neighborhood when he heard that Fidel Castro had died. "Fidel? Fidel?" he said, slapping his head in shock. "That's not what I was expecting. One always thought that he would last forever. It doesn't seem true." "It's a tragedy," said 22-year-old nurse Dayan Montalvo. "We all grew up with him. I feel really hurt by the news that we just heard."

But the news cheered the community of Cuban exiles in Florida who had fled Castro's government. Thousands gathered in the streets in Miami's Little Havana to cheer and wave Cuban flags. Fidel Castro Ruz was born Aug. 13, 1926, in eastern Cuba's sugar country, where his Spanish immigrant father worked first recruiting labor for U.S. sugar companies and later built up a prosperous plantation of his own. Castro attended Jesuit schools, then the University of Havana, where he received law and social science degrees. His life as a rebel began in 1953 with a reckless attack on the Moncada military barracks in the eastern city of Santiago. Most of his comrades were killed and Fidel and his brother Raul went to prison. Fidel turned his trial defense into a manifesto that he smuggled out of jail, famously declaring, "History will absolve me."

Freed under a pardon, Castro fled to Mexico and organized a rebel band that returned in 1956, sailing across the Gulf of Mexico to Cuba on a yacht named Granma. After losing most of his group in a bungled landing, he rallied support in Cuba's eastern Sierra Maestra mountains.

Three years later, tens of thousands spilled into the streets of Havana to celebrate Batista's downfall and catch a glimpse of Castro as his rebel caravan arrived in the capital on Jan. 8, 1959. The U.S. was among the first to formally recognize his government, cautiously trusting Castro's early assurances he merely wanted to restore democracy, not install socialists. Within months, Castro was imposing radical economic reforms. Members of the old government went before summary courts, and at least 582 were shot by firing squads over two years. Independent newspapers were closed and in the early years, homosexuals were herded into camps for "re-education."

In 1964, Castro acknowledged holding 15,000 political prisoners. Hundreds of thousands of Cubans lied, including Castro's daughter Alina Fernandez Revuelt and his younger sister Juana.

Stil, the revolution thrilled millions in Cuba and across Latin America who saw it as an example of how the seemingly arrogant Yankees could be defeated. And many on the island were happy to see the seizure of property of the landed class, the expulsion of American gansters and the closure of their casinos. Castro's speeches, lasting up to six hours, became the soundtrack of Cuban life and his 269-minute speech to the U.N. General Assembly in 1960 set the world body's record for length that still stood more than five decades later.

As Castro moved into the Soviet bloc, Washington began working to oust him, cutting U.S. purchases of sugar, the island's economic mainstay. Castro, in turn, confiscated $1 billion in U.S. assets. The American government imposed a trade embargo, banning virtually all U.S. exports to the island except for food and medicine, and it severed diplomatic ties on Jan. 3, 1961.

On April 16 of that year, Castro declared his revolution to be socialist, and the next day, about 1,400 Cuban exiles stormed the beach at the Bay of Pigs on Cuba's south coast. But the CIA-backed invasion failed. The debacle forced the U.S. to give up on the idea of invading Cuba, but that didn't stop Washington and Castro's exiled enemies from trying to do him in. By Cuban count, he was the target of more than 630 assassination plots by militant Cuban exiles or the U.S. government.

The biggest crisis of the Cold War between Washington and Moscow exploded on Oct. 22, 1962, when President John F. Kennedy announced there were Soviet nuclear missiles in Cuba and imposed a naval blockade of the island. Humankind held its breath, and after a tense week of diplomacy, Soviet leader Nikita Krushchev removed them. Never had the world felt so close to nuclear war. Castro cobbled revolutionary groups together into the new Cuban Communist Party, with him as first secretary. Labor unions lost the strike. The Catholic Church and other religious institutions were harassed. Neighborhood "revelutionary defense committees" kept an eye on everyone.

Castro exported revolution to Latin American countries in the 1960s, and dispatched Cuban troops to Africa to fight Western-backed regimes in the 1970s. Over the decades, he sent Cuban doctors abroad to tend to the poor, and gave sanctuary to fugitive Black Panther leaders from the U.S. But the collapse of the Soviet bloc ended billions in preferential trade and subsidies for Cuba, sending its economy into a tailspin. Castro briefly experimented with an opening to foreign capitalists and limited private enterprise.

As the end of the Cold War eased global tensions, many Latin American and European countries re-established relations with Cuba. In January 1998, Pope John Paul II visited a nation that had been officially atheist until the early 1990s. Aided by a tourism boom, the economy slowly recovered and Castro steadily reasserted government control, stifling much of the limited free enterprise tolerated during harder times. As flamboyant as he was in public, Castro tried to lead a discreet private life. He and his first wife, Mirta Diaz Balart, had one son before divorcing in 1956. Then, for more than four decades, Castro had a relationship with Dalia Soto del Valle. They had five sons together and were said to have married quietly in 1980.

By the time Castro resigned 49 years after his triumphant arrival in Havana, he was the world's longest-ruling head of government, aside from monarchs. In retirement, Castro voiced unwavering support as Raul slowly but deliberately enacted sweeping changes to the Marxist system he had built. His longevity allowed the younger brother to consolidate control, perhaps lengthening the revolution well past both men's lives. In February 2013, Raul announced that he would retire as president in 2018 and named newly minted Vice President Miguel Diaz-Canel as his successor.

"I'll be 90 years old soon," Castro said at an April 2016 Communist Party congress where he made his most extensive public appearance in years. "Soon I'll be like all the others. The time will come for all of us, but the ideas of the Cuban Communists will remain as proof that on this planet, if one works with fervor and dignity, they can produce the material and cultural goods that human beings need and that need to be fought for without ever giving up."

Cuban government announced that Castro's ashes would be interred on Dec. 4 in the eastern city of Santiago that was a birthplace of his revolution. That will follow more than a week of honors, including a nearly nationwide caravan retracing, in reverse, his tour from Santiago to Havana with the triumph of the revolution in 1959.
After weeks of intense speculation and rumours, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has finalised the selection of two senior army officers as Chief of Army Staff (COAS) and Chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee (CJCSC), reported DawnNews.

A career infantry officer belonging to the Baloch Regiment, Lt Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa has been appointed as the new COAS, while Lt Gen Zubair Hayat has been appointed the CJCSC.

Lt Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa and Lt Gen Zubair Hayat will be promoted to the rank of four-star generals. Both generals would take up their new posts from Tuesday, the day the current army chief Raheel Sharif retires.

Others in contention for the post of army chief were Bahawalpur Corps Commander Lt Gen Javed Iqbal Ramday and Multan Corps Commander Lt Gen Ishfaq Nadeem.

All four generals are from the PMAs 62nd long course, but have had different career trajectories.

Read: Challenges for the new army chief. The formal process for nomination starts with the General Headquarters sending a list of the senior-most generals to the prime minister via the defence ministry, but without making any formal recommendations.

The PM then holds informal consultations with the outgoing army chief before announcing his decision.

Lt Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa was something of a dark horse in this race for the post of COAS.

He is currently serving at the GHQ as Inspector General of Training and Evaluation — the position Gen Sharif held before becoming army chief — he has commanded the 10 Corps, the army’s largest, which is responsible for the area along the Line of Control (LoC).

Lt Gen Bajwa has extensive experience of handling affairs in Kashmir and the northern areas of the country. As a major general, he led the Force Command Northern Areas. He also served in the 10 Corps as a lieutenant colonel, where he was GSO.

Despite his extensive involvement with Kashmir and northern areas he is said to consider extremism a bigger threat for the country than India. Lt Gen Bajwa has served with a UN mission in Congo as a brigade commander alongside former Indian army chief Gen Bikram Singh, who was also there as a division commander.

He has previously also remained the commandant of the Infantry School in Quetta. His military colleagues say he is not attention-seeking and remains well-connected with his troops.

“He is extremely professional, but very easy-going and full of compassion,” an officer who had served under him said, adding that he was not protocol-minded either. Gen Bajwa is also said to be an apolitical person without any biases.

He is from the infantry’s Baloch Regiment, which has given three officers to the post of army chief — Gen Yahya Khan, Gen Aslam Beg and Gen Kayani.

and the serving Chief of General Staff (CGS).

NEW DELHI -- Kanubhai Ramdas Gan- dhi was the grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, the man revered as the “Father of the Na- tion” by many in India, but he died quietly on Monday in a small hospital in a small town where he couldn’t even afford to pay his medical bills.

It was an inglorious ending for a man who, in addition to carrying the most famous name in India, also lived richly for 25 years as a top scientist for NASA.

Kanubhai Gandhi was the son of Mahatma Gandhi’s third son Ramdas. The only en-
during image of Kanubhai for most Indi-
ans is one taken of him as a child, leading his grandfather and holding onto his walk-
ning stick for him during the historic Salt Satyagraha in Mumbai in 1930. The Salt Satyagraha was Gandhi’s hugely popular, non-violent civil disobedience movement against the British colonial government’s tax on salt production.

But in the U.S., where he spent four de-
cades, he is more known as a scientist. In 1961, the then-U.S. Ambassador to India John Kenneth Galbraith recommended him for studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). After his studies, he worked for NASA and the U.S. Defence Department, honing the structure of wings for fighter jets.

His wife Shivalaxmi, who he is survived by, was a professor at the Boston Biomi-
crology Research Institute.

“We have had fun,” she told Indian news-
paper The Hindu earlier this year. “We were invited to so many parties... We were living a luxurious life until recently. And now we are here.” Why the childless couple decided to up and leave the U.S. after 40 years and return to India to spend their lives hopping between old-age homes re-
 mains a mystery, but Shivalaxmi alluded to it in the same interview with The Hindu.

“We destroyed everything we had and we came here. It’s a long story,” she told the newspaper.

Whatever the long story is, they returned in 2014, lived in various ashrams (Indian spiritual institutes or monasteries) in the Indian state of Gujarat before moving into an old-age home in New Delhi in May this year.

The home, called Guru Vishram Vridh Ashram, has around 125 residents, all of whom sleep on the floor. The Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the home, however, was equipped with a bed and an air condi-
tioning unit for the couple when they moved in.

An old Gandhi family friend, Dhimant Badhia, had to raise money for Kanubhai’s treatment for paralysis after a recent heart attack. After the news of his illness broke, several politicians visited him, offering money and getting photo-ops.

He only survived about a week in the facility. Mahatma Gandhi is led down a road by his grandson, Kanubhai Gandhi, during the former’s iconic Salt Satyagrha protest against British colonial taxation in Mumbai, in 1930.

After weeks of intense speculation and rumours, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has finalised the selection of two senior army officers as Chief of Army Staff (COAS) and Chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee (CJCSC), reported DawnNews.

A career infantry officer belonging to the Baloch Regiment, Lt Gen Qamar Javed Ba-

www.AsiaTimes.US

December 2016

Lt Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa chosen as new army chief

India should ask Israel and USA to recognize State of Palestine as command of UN

"Israeli President, Mr. Rivlin has been re-
ceived by Modi Govt. as a hero in spite of the fact that Israel has not recognized State of Palestine as was recommended and directed by the United Nations and the Security Council repeatedly," Prof. Bhim Singh, Founder & Chief Patron of National Panthers Party and an expert on the affairs of the State of Palestine said in a state-
ment from New Delhi this afternoon.

The Panthers Party patron who has had close association with Palestinian Hero, Yasar Arafat for several years expressed surprise on the reception and ovation given to the Israeli President by the Indian Govt.

during his visit to India without speaking a word on the affairs of the great people of Palestine who have been living under siege since 1948 when Palestine was disestablished in 1948 by the United Nations under Resolu-
tion 21.

The Israeli Prime Minister boldly stated, “We recognize that terrorism is a global challenge, knows no boundaries and has extensive links with other forms of orga-
nized crime. We stand together defending our people.” Prof. Bhim Singh reminded President of Israel of the past massacre of the Palestinians inside the old State of Palestine and urged the Prime Minister of India to read the history of the massacre, killings and murders of the Palestinians by Zionist activists inside Palestine.

Prof. Bhim Singh who is also Chairman of Indo-Palestine Friendship Society and expert on the affairs of Palestine expressed surprise that the President of Israel was given a heroic reception at Rashtrapati Bhawan and Hyderabad House without mentioning a word on the suppression and oppression of the people of Palestine in Israel as well as in Palestine which is still under the siege of the Israeli Army. Prof. Bhim Singh expressed surprise that Indian Prime Minister failed to remind Israel about its longest subjugation of the people of Israel even after United Nations had de-
declared Israel as a sovereign country which got split from Palestine in 1948. Prof. Bhim Singh reminded Shri Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India that he can forgo or even disagree with the policies and phi-
losophies of the Congress Prime Ministers and leaders but he cannot slice out India from the history of the world. The Prime Minister of India should have recognized Palestine as a state, which at present, stands recognized as a sovereign nation by India. India has been pleading inside and outside the United Nations that Palestine and Israel should be given equal footing on the platform of international diplomacy and the world’s political scenario.

Sd/-Sudesh Dogra, Political Secretory
Is your Vehicle in a Re-Call
Check here

Your vehicle MAY be involved in a safety recall and MAY create a safety risk for you or your passengers. It left unrepaird, a potential safety defect could lead to injury or even death. Safety defects must be repaired by a dealer at no cost to you.

The following may apply to one or more of your vehicles if your vehicle is listed below. Click on the NHTSA Campaign ID number below to read more about the safety issue and the reason for the recall.

To find out if your specific vehicle is included in the recall, use our VIN Look-up Tool.

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V780
Manufacturer: Forest River, Inc.
Make / Model Years: FOREST RIVER / 2016
Subject: Stowage of Ramp may cause Engine Stall

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V782
Manufacturer: Forest River, Inc.
Make / Model Years: FOREST RIVER / 2017
Subject: Touching Stove may cause Shock

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V785
Manufacturer: Jayco, Inc.
Make / Model Years: JAYCO / 2017
Subject: Incorrect Information on Federal Placard/FMVSS 110

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V787
Manufacturer: Forest River, Inc.
Make / Model Years: FOREST RIVER / 2017
Subject: Incorrect Axle Information on Placard/Part 567

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V789
Manufacturer: Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC
Make / Model Years: JAGUAR / 2017
Subject: Rear Lower Control Arm Connecting Bolt may Fail

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V793
Manufacturer: Mazda North American Operations
Make / Model Years: MAZDA / 2004-2008
Subject: Fuel Pump Sealing Rings may Leak Fuel

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V794
Manufacturer: Winnebago Industries, Inc.
Make / Model Years: ITASCAC / 2017
WINNERAGO / 2017
Subject: Loose Driver and Passenger Seat Mounting Bolts

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V795
Manufacturer: Spartan Motors USA
Make / Model Years: SPARTAN MOTORS / 2011-2017
Subject: Exhaust Tube Can Separate Causing Fire

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V796
Manufacturer: Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC
Make / Model Years: JAGUAR / 2013-2015
Subject: Fuel Line Clearance may be Insufficient

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V800
Manufacturer: Yamaha Motor Corporation, USA
Make / Model Years: YAMAHA / 2014-2016
Subject: Clutch Lever Seal may Crack and cause Oil Leak

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V801
Manufacturer: E-One Incorporated
Make / Model Years: E-ONE / 2014-2016
Subject: Filter for Aerial Ladder may leak

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V802
Manufacturer: General Motors LLC
Make / Model Years: CADILLAC / 2017
GMC / 2017
Subject: Front Brake Calipers may Leak Brake Fluid

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V803
Manufacturer: PACCAR Incorporated
Make / Model Years: KENWORTH / 2017
PETERBILT / 2017
Subject: Incomplete Tread Adhesion Causing Tire Separation

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V805
Manufacturer: Terex South Dakota, Inc.
Make / Model Years: TEREX / 2009-2014
Subject: Improper Wiring may allow Unintended Boom Movement

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V806
Manufacturer: Terex Advance Mixer, Inc.
Make / Model Years: TEREX ADVANCE / 2016-2017
Subject: King Pin Fracture may cause Wheel End Separation

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V808
Manufacturer: Suzuki Motor of America, Inc.
Make / Model Years: SUZUKI / 2013, 2015, 2017
Subject: Brake Light Switch Corrosion Causing Short Circuit

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V809
Manufacturer: Daimler Trucks North America LLC
Make / Model Years: FCCC / 2016-2017
Subject: Power Steering Fluid Leak or Electrical Arcing

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V810
Manufacturer: Newmar Corporation
Make / Model Years: NEWMAR / 2017
Subject: Throttle Circuit Electrical Interference

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V811
Manufacturer: Forest River, Inc.
Make / Model Years: FOREST RIVER / 2016-2017
Subject: Spare Tire Rim Incompatible with Brake Hubs

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V812
Manufacturer: Hyundai Translead
Make / Model Years: HYUNDAI TRANSLEAD / 2012-2013
Subject: I-Beam Cracks causing Bogie to Detach

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V813
Manufacturer: Chrysler (FCA US LLC)
Make / Model Years: DODGE / 2016
Subject: Windshield Wiper Circuit Failure

NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 16V814
Manufacturer: Chrysler (FCA US LLC)
Make / Model Years: DODGE / 2016
Subject: Damaged Fuel Rail Tube may cause Fuel Leak

What is a recall?
When a manufacturer or the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) determines that a car or item of motor vehicle equipment creates an unreasonable risk to safety or fails to meet minimum safety standards, the manufacturer is required to fix that car or equipment at no cost to the consumer. That can be done by repairing it, replacing it, offering a refund (for equipment) or, in rare cases, repurchasing the car.

What should I do if my vehicle is included in this recall?
If your vehicle is included in this recall, it is very important that you get it fixed as soon as possible given the potential danger to you and your passengers if it is not addressed. You should receive a separate letter in the mail from the vehicle manufacturer, notifying you of the recall and explaining when the remedy will be available, whom to contact to repair your vehicle or equipment, and to remind you that the repair will be done at no charge to you. If you believe your vehicle is included in the recall, but you do not receive a letter in the mail from the manufacturer, please call NHTSA’s Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236, or contact your vehicle manufacturer or dealership.
Safety Hazards to Watch Out for Around the House

Make sure you're doing everything you can to keep your family safe. Consult this guide of nine common safety hazards in the home for quick, simple solutions to keep you and your loved ones out of harm's way.

1. Falls
Injuries due to falls are one of the most common household hazards. In fact, one out of five older adults who falls incurs a broken bone or a head injury. Wet floors, slippery stairs, and scattered toys all create the potential for falls.

Ways to minimize risks:
- Stabilize Staircases
- Make sure all staircases have solid handrails, securely affixed flooring, adequate lighting, and safety gates if there are small children in the home. The Regalo Easy Step Walk Thru Gate is adjustable to most spaces and easy to use, even with a baby in your arms.
- Clear Outdoor Steps
- Keep all outside stairs clear of debris and hazards like ice and snow. Add secured mats or grip tape to make surfaces less slippery.
- Secure Bathrooms
- Secure rugs to avoid slipping and water pooling on slick surfaces. Non-slip slippers are another good way to keep everyone in your home from slipping in the shower.
- Corral Toys
- Provide an easy space for kids to stow toys and make sure every playdate ends without injury. Secure skateboards, bikes, and other mobile toys in a safe area where family members and visitors won’t trip on them.

Install Supports
Install safety rails like the Medline Bathtub Bar to help family members old and young safely get in and out of the shower. Use these Balance Assist Bars, which are small enough to fit in any shower, the more than one can be added to provide extra support to older family members and others who need additional help.

2. Fires
In 2015, there were more than 265,000 fires in US homes, causing everything from mild smoke damage to total devastation, including loss of life. Even candles or an unattended iron could lead to an accidental fire in your home, but there is a lot you can do to prevent a fire from getting out of hand.

A smoke detector installed at a ceiling with smoke. Small depth of field.

Ways to minimize risks:
- Install Fire Alarms
- Install fixed alarms on all levels of your home, and check and change the batteries at least annually. Consider investing in a smart smoke detector like Nest Protect. This alarm uses Wi-Fi to provide real-time alerts to ward off CO-related injuries.

Ways to minimize risks:
- Install a CO Detector
- You can help keep your family safe by installing a carbon monoxide detector that alerts you if CO reaches dangerous levels in your home. A detector that plugs into an electrical outlet, like the Kiddie Night-hawk Alarm, provides extra reassurance and gives you from needing to change batteries.

Keep Up Home Maintenance
Prevent carbon monoxide leaks by having your HVAC system, water heater, and other appliances that use gas, oil, or coal serviced by a professional every year. When buying a home, have these systems inspected before purchase.

4. Choking
Choking is the country's fourth-largest cause of accidental death, claiming nearly 5,000 victims in 2014. From a bit of dinner going down the wrong way to a young-

Ways to minimize risks:
- Inspect Toys
- Regularly inspect toys for any loose parts. Scour floors for small toys or items where little hands might easily find them.

Keep Dangers Out of Reach
Be sure to keep small, hard foods like nuts or candies out of reach of children. Pay special attention at adult gatherings where children can more easily sneak something unnoticed.

Monitor Playtime
Even if your child is no longer an infant, a baby monitor can still come in handy. Use this gadget to listen in to signs of choking if another child is playing in another room.

5. Cuts
This one seems like a no-brainer, but unfortunately there are a number of common items with sharp edges that are used inside and outside your home. Everything from an opened can to a garden hoe can present danger.

Ways to minimize risks:
- Close the Trash
- Use a locking garbage can to protect small fingers and pets from finding sharp edges on opened cans and lids. The Sterilite Locking StepOn Wastebasket is an attractive solution that adds an extra layer of safety to your kitchen.

Store Kitchen Supplies
Knives, graters, and peelers are common items that can lead to nasty cuts. Properly store all sharp kitchen tools and lock them up if you have small children in the home.

Put Away Yard Tools
Lawn tools, including rakes, saws, and lawn mowers, can cause harm if not used and stored properly. Stay alert when using power tools and never rush while mowing the lawn or using the weed whacker. Never leave tools lying around and always keep them locked in a shed or garage where kids can’t access them.

Lock Your Bathroom
If you use a razor, keep it on a high shelf or locked in a cabinet. Store extra blades in drawers with safety guards and keep other grooming tools like cuticle scissors safely stowed away. Child safety locks are easy to install and keep little fingers away from dangerous implements.

Point Knives and Forks Down
Keep little ones safe from sharp points by pointing knives and forks downward in the utensil basket of the dishwasher, or the basket away from the front of the dish-washer as well, to make sharp objects even less accessible.

6. Poisoning
There were over two million poisoning in-

Ways to minimize risks:
- Store Medications Properly
- Both over-the-counter and prescription medications need to be kept away from children and teens. Dispose of all unused medications and never leave them out on a counter. Solutions like the locking EVERY- TOP Medicine Cabinet are a convenient way to keep medications handy without making them vulnerable to accidental discovery.

Keep Paint Out of Reach
Even paint that isn’t lead based needs to be properly stored and kept out of reach of children. Never put paint in a container other than the one it came in, otherwise your child may mistake it for a drink or other item.

Make Sure Chemicals Are Secure
Protect both children and pets from ac-

Ways to minimize risks:
- Lock Up Detergent
- As with all household cleaners, keep detergent locked out of reach of pets and kids. Don’t use cloth or plastic pots, make sure children don't mistake them for candy. Never fill the soap dispenser until you're ready to start a load and always check your dishwasher for leftover residue after each cycle.

7. Strangling
Cords on window dressings like blinds or curtains present a common strangling hazard to small children and infants. Here are a few ways you can help make your home safer for little ones.

Ways to minimize risks:
- Put Cords Away
- Keep window and electrical cords out of reach of little ones. Never place a crib or bed under a window with dangling cords. Trim or Remove Window Cords
- To keep children from getting tangled up, trim cords to a length that is only accessible to the adults in the home. Better yet, trade out window treatments for designs without cords. If you like the look of blinds, make your windows attractive and safe with Achim Home Furnishings Cord-less Pleated Shades.

Wrap Them Up
If you’re not ready to redecorate, you can make your home safer by installing blind cord wraps to your current window coverings. Dreamsbaby Blind Cord Wraps are affordable, easy to install, and transparent, so they won’t clash with your decor.

8. Drowning
Drowning isn’t only a risk outdoors dur-

Ways to minimize risks:
- Put Away Buckets
- If you use buckets for cleaning, keep them empty and away from water sources. Attend to Bathing Children
- It only takes a few inches of water for a child or infant to drown, so never leave a child unattended in the bathtub, and always close the toilet lid.

9. Burns
Burns may not seem like a common household hazard, but they can be caused by both dishwashers and stoves. These convenient appliances pose risks, especially to small children. Thankfully, there are a few ways you can help ensure the safest in your family is burned.

Ways to minimize risks:
- Latch the Dishwasher
- Make sure your dishwasher is securely latched at all times and can’t be opened by curious fingers, particularly at the end of a cycle when burns from steam are most likely to occur. Add the Safety 1st Appli-
- ance Lock as an extra measure to keep the dishwasher from accidentally being opened.
When a cough just won’t go away

Who has never had a cough? I bet no one can raise their hand. We see this in clinic all the time. But chronic cough—one that lasts at least eight weeks — can be hard for patients to deal with and difficult for doctors to figure out. In the October 20, 2016 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, lung experts describe a step-by-step approach doctors can use to help treat patients with chronic cough. Most often a prolonged cough is due to one of the “usual suspects.” But when it’s not, we have a long list of increasingly rarer conditions that we should run through and rule out. If it isn’t due to any of those, experts now recognize that the culprit may be overactive nerves that cause an exaggerated cough response to certain triggers. The “usual suspects” that may be behind a chronic cough

The authors describe a typical patient with chronic cough, and she is very similar to many of my patients. She’s a middle-aged lady with a cough lasting many months. Of course, first we want to ask a whole lot of questions. Has she had chronic allergy symptoms such as itchy, watery eyes and nose, stuffy nose, and postnasal drip? If so, it’s worth trying antihistamines and nasal steroids. Undertreated allergies can lead to chronic sinus infection, which causes cough by postnasal drip, so we may want to treat for this as well. Could she have “cough variant” asthma that causes a cough but no wheezing? Many of my patients would rather not wait for an appointment with a lung specialist and undergo fancy tests. So, if we suspect cough-variant asthma, we simply begin inhalers. A few weeks of inhaled albuterol to help open the airways and a steroid inhaler to quell inflammation may both make the diagnosis and treat the problem.

Is she suffering from heartburn symptoms? Acid reflux can also trigger cough, and if someone describes heartburn symptoms, or even if we are not sure what is causing the cough, we often prescribe eight weeks of an acid-lowering medication. Is she taking a medication for which coughing is a side effect? Lisinopril or another blood pressure medication from the class called ACE inhibitors can cause cough in 20% of patients. A trial period off this medication may be warranted.

Is she among the 17% of Americans who smoke cigarettes? If so, her cough may be due to chronic bronchitis, where cumulative lung damage prevents the body’s normal ability to clear particles, the airways swell and make excessive mucus, and eventually areas die off and leave “dead space.” In a smoker, other symptoms with the cough may raise concern about a lung infection or even cancer. Does she have other health risks or conditions? If she has been incarcerated or in a shelter, or perhaps is from a resource-poor country, we consider tuberculosis (TB). If she has a weakened immune system as well, due to HIV or long-term use of corticosteroids, TB and a host of other unusual organisms are on the list.

Are we stumped? Rare conditions to consider include pulmonary fibrosis, sarcoidosis, autoimmune diseases, and anatomical abnormalities. Additional workup should include pulmonary and ENT evaluations. Beyond the usual — and even the “unusual” — suspects But what do we do for patients who either do not respond to treatments for their common conditions, or for whom extensive evaluation rules out the less common causes of a chronic cough? Well, researchers are now describing a new family of breathing and cough conditions caused by nerve dysfunction.

New evidence suggests that postnasal drip, acid reflux, or even forceful coughing in and of itself can aggravate nerve endings in the “cough centers” of the airways. These aggravated nerve endings then overreact to many other triggers, such as smoke, perfume, or temperature changes, causing an overwhelming urge to cough. They label this condition “neuronal hyper-responsiveness syndrome” and outline several approaches to treatment. But wait, there’s more. Other researchers describe a similar concept at the level of the larynx, a family of disorders under “laryngeal dysfunction syndrome” that can include “laryngeal hyper-responsiveness.” Many of the treatments they describe are similar to the treatments for “neuronal hyper-responsiveness,” and the most promising include the anticonvulsants gabapentin and pregabalin, the antidepressant amitriptyline, speech therapy, or a combination of these. Basically, medical experts are describing a new cause of chronic cough based on aggravated nerves and airway dysfunction, and more research will result in better treatments.

4 ways to boost your energy naturally with breakfast

Heathful protein, slowly digested carbohydrates, fruit or vegetables serve up best morning mix

As you sleep, your body is hard at work digesting yesterday’s dinner. By the time you wake up, your body and brain are demanding fresh fuel. “Breaking the fast” is a key way to power up in the morning. Do it right and the benefits can last all day.

If you miss the day’s first meal, notes Dr. David S. Ludwig, a nutrition expert at Harvard-affiliated Children’s Hospital Boston, you may start off with an energy deficit and have to tap into your energy reserves.

What’s a good breakfast? One that delivers some healthful protein, some slowly digested carbohydrates, and some fruit or vegetables. A vegetable omelet with a slice of whole-grain toast qualifies, as does a bowl of high-fiber cereal topped with fresh fruit and reduced-fat or soy milk, along with a handful of almonds or walnuts.

Try these 4 tips for creating your own energy-boosting breakfast:

Choose whole grains. High-fiber, whole-grain cereals and breads can help keep your blood sugar on an even keel and avoid a midmorning energy crash. With the hundreds of types of cereal on the market, bran cereal, bran flakes, and steel-cut oatmeal are typically the healthiest bets. To choose the healthiest breakfast cereal, read the label and look for:

- 5 grams or more of fiber per serving
- less than 300 milligrams of sodium per serving
- less than 5 grams of sugar per serving

Whole grain as the first item on the ingredient list

Include protein. Yogurt is a good choice; Greek yogurt has more protein than regular yogurt. Eggs (up to one a day) are okay for healthy people. Although yolks are high in cholesterol, eggs have proteins, vitamins, and other nutrients and don’t appear to increase the risk for developing heart disease. You might also include foods that have healthful fats such as those in nuts or salmon. Limit processed meats to the occasional treat as these foods are associated with a higher risk of colorectal cancer, heart disease, and type 2 diabetes.

Eat in, not out. You can enjoy a healthful breakfast out if you stick to oatmeal. But much of the traditional fare will start your day with loads of refined carbohydrates and saturated fat. Like most processed food, the breakfast offerings from fast-food chains tend to be high-sodium, low-fiber disasters.

Blend up a breakfast smoothie. Combine fruit, juice, yogurt, wheat germ, tofu, and other ingredients. Toss them in your blender with a bit of ice and you have a refreshing, high energy breakfast.

How stretching keeps your joints moving

Your range of motion — how far you can move a joint in various directions — is determined by many things, starting with the inner workings of the joints involved. Also important is the amount of tension in the muscles surrounding the joint, which can be affected by scarring or your habitual posture (passive factors), or by involuntary muscle spasms or purposeful muscle contractions (active factors).

Stretching exercises can help extend your range of motion. To understand how, it helps to know what joints, tendons, and ligaments do:

- Joints are the junctions that link bones together. The architecture of each joint — that is, whether its structure is a hinge, pivot, or ball-in-socket — determines how the bones can move.

- Tendons are flexible cords of strong tissue that connect muscles to bones.

- Ligaments are tough, fibrous bands of tissue that bind bone to bone, or bone to cartilage, at a joint. An example is the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), one of five ligaments that together control the movements of the knee. Among other things, the ACL keeps the knee joint from rotating too far.

When you stretch, you’re working muscles and tendons rather than ligaments. Ligaments are not supposed to be elastic. An overly stretchy ligament wouldn’t provide the stability and support needed for a safe range of movement.
In the new world we live in, we are seeing a steady increase of hate crimes against Muslims in the United States. Even more troubling, I have seen an increasing number of people justify these crimes by claiming that “Muslims hate America for its values” and that we are simply getting a retribution that is long overdue. This mindset appears to be very much shared by members of the President Elect’s inner circle, including incoming National Security Advisor General Michael Flynn, who has called Islam “a cancer.”

As a Muslim who loves the United States, who has been an American since I was three years old, and who believes the US remains the best place to live on Earth, let me say a few things.

First, most Muslims love America and Americans. We find the United States to be a place that provides freedom and opportunities that are remarkable, and sadly often lacking in much of the so-called Muslim world today. And Americans are generally seen by Muslims worldwide as kindhearted people who have strong faith, work hard and accept newcomers into their communities with welcoming arms. It is American values that make Muslims love Americans.

But American values have rarely been shown by American foreign policy toward the Muslim world. “There are indeed some Muslims who are angry at the United States, and not because of its ideals, but because it has historically rejected its own ideals when dealing with Muslim countries through its foreign policy.

For anyone who asks “Yeah right, what has America ever done to you?” I would respond with just a few examples that have made perhaps a few Muslims unhappy:

1. The overthrow of the democratic government of Iran by the CIA and the imposition of the Shah and his brutal secret police;
2. Supporting Israel unconditionally while millions of poor and powerless Palestinians have languished in refugee camps, defying the enduring military rule for over 68 years;
3. The overthrow of Iraq, which killed 2 million civilians and destabilized the entire Middle East, leading to the rise of ISIS;
4. The US support for extremists among rebel groups in Syria who added further misery to the Syrian people by beheading children and murdering religious minorities;
5. Supporting the overthrow of Libya and leaving the country to devolve into a bleak, Mad Max landscape of chaos;
6. Supporting the Saudi regime, whose twisted fundamentalist ideology has spread chaos through the Muslim world, corrupting Islam from within and giving birth to groups such as ISIS and Al-Qaeda.

In my experience, Americans are good people who are largely unaware of the horrors that have been done to the Muslim community in their name, and if they were aware would not support such actions.

In my novel on the Crusades, “Shadow of the Swords,” I show how the Crusaders were shocked when they actually encountered Muslims in the Holy Land and found them to be people that were not barbarians, but a highly advanced, ethical culture. And that their leader, Saladin, was not a tyrant, but a humble and moral man whose sense of honor exceeded the Crusaders own ideals. That even as the Crusaders massacred “infidel” civilians under Richard the Lionheart, Saladin treated Jews and Christians as welcome brothers in the Holy Land. The encounter with the truth of their enemies’ values, and the realization that they were being lied to and manipulated by their own leaders, demoralized many Crusaders and helped unravel their military ambitions.

Just as the Crusaders were lied into a clash of civilizations by their leaders, so have many Americans been lied to by their politicians on both the right and the left. The powers that truly control both Republican and Democratic administrations (the military-industrial complex and Wall Street) have worked very hard to keep Americans unaware of the true cost of aggressive military polices in the Middle East. Both parties have destabilized the Muslim world to keep their backers happy, and each presents an excuse for the same actions under the veil of one of two opposing ideologies. Neo-Conservatism for the Republicans (“We must attack and destabilize the Muslim world to promote American hegemony and security”) or Neo-Liberalism for the Democrats (“We must attack and destabilize the Muslim world to promote democracy and human rights”). To the millions whose lives have been destroyed by America’s aggressive stance toward the Muslim world, neither of these worldviews reflect American values, nor the heart of the American people.

Yet they are the ideologies that guide our ruling class into a war of civilizations that nobody wants, except for those who profit from it.

And now, with the most recent election, we are being introduced to a new ideology that is being offered to the American people to further undermine their values — Neo-Chauvinism. If the Trump Administration implements its rhetoric of banning Muslims from the country or creating a “registry” of innocent people based on their religious faith, Islam will nonetheless survive and continue to grow. But it will be America that will not survive, the America that Muslims and people all over the world love. A day will come when Americans themselves will no longer speak of “American values” without shame and embarrassment. And when the average American loses faith in what makes the United States so great, the experiment that our Founders started will come to a tragic end.

I do not believe that will ultimately happen. Because I love America and have faith in the inherent goodness of the American people. But it is a faith that I know will be tested in the years to come. And I, like my fellow Muslims and all people of goodwill, have no choice but to step forward and trust what the Qur’an promises - that God will guide the faithful from darkness into light.

**Turkey’s president slams those who call Trump ‘dictator’**

**Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan** asserted on Wednesday that many in the U.S. and Europe are branding U.S. President-elect Donald Trump a “dictator” because he wasn’t their favored candidate. Erdogan called on them to respect democracy.

Addressing a meeting of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation in Istanbul, Erdogan also accused Western nations of calling Trump a dictator. In

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Defying strong pressure from regional and international players, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas is poised to hold the seventh congress in Ramallah of the movement that he, along with Yasser Arafat and other now-aging leaders, launched more than 50 years ago.

Seven years after the sixth Fatah congress was held in Bethlehem in 2009, an improvement on the 20-year delay between the fifth and sixth congress, the new congress will include nearly three quarters of its delegates from inside the occupied territories and a little more than one quarter from the diaspora.

This, along with the absence of Mohammad Dahlan and his supporters, is perhaps the most prominent feature of the congress due to take place Tuesday. The date for the congress, to be held in Abbas’ Al-Muqata headquarters, November 29, is the international day for solidarity with the Palestinian people. Abu Mazen (Abbas) was under tremendous pressure to reconcile with the renegade Gaza leader Mohammad Dahlan by countries like Egypt and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). But, Abbas stuck to his guns.

After some delay and speculations over the list of delegates, last week invitations to some 1400 people were sent out. Many of the new delegates were chosen over the past two years in local primaries throughout the West Bank and Gaza strip, while others were chosen to represent various unions, institutions, women activists and other membership type organisations that normally have internal elections.

Concerted to be addressed

During the congress, Fatah will need to define its relationship with what has been called recently the Arab quartet: UAE, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan. Recent reports in Israeli media have suggested that the Arab quartet were pushing for Arafat’s nephew and former PLO representative to Ziad Khalil Abu Zayyad, the young Fatah spokesman, the congress will discuss “Palestinian relations with Israel, the role of the youth in the movement, the relation with some Arab countries, the assignment of a deputy for Abu Mazen (Abbas) within Fatah and will evaluate how to convene the Palestine National Council with the participation of Hamas, thus revitalising the PLO as the leader of the Palestinian liberation struggle.

Politically, it is not clear if the congress will make any major breakthroughs in formulating its manifesto. According to Ziad Khalil Abu Zayyad, the young Fatah spokesperson, the congress will discuss “Palestinian relations with Israel, the role of the youth in the movement, the relation with some Arab countries, the assignment of a deputy for Abu Mazen (Abbas) within Fatah and will evaluate how to convene the Palestine National Council with the participation of Hamas, thus revitalising the PLO as the leader of the Palestinian liberation struggle.

Fatah activists have introduced the term “smart popular resistance” possibly alluding to the idea of creating a mass movement that doesn’t use any violence and is able to survive the constant Israeli repression of any kind of Palestinian opposition to its occupation and settlement activities.

The issue of succession

The list of Fatah congress delegates makes it clear that the Abbas has regained total control over Fatah and has succeeded in purging Dahlan and his supporters. The movement might be slightly weaker as a result, but its unity and independence will now enable it to move forward.

It is not clear, however, how the congress will handle the issue of succession of Abbas. There is a decision to name a deputy to the leader of the movement, but it is unclear at this time whether there is consensus, or even a majority for this move, unless Abbas is willing to spend his political capital on one individual, and he has not shown that willingness until now.

Depending on who among the top Fatah leaders emerges as the strongest, it is possible that a collective leadership will be formed that can eventually take up the three major positions Abbas holds: head of Fatah, president of Palestine and chairman of the PLO’s Executive Committee. Convening the seventh congress and successfully concluding it will go a long way in sealing Abbas’ singular rule over the movement and will allow him to chart the short-term goals of the movement. But all delegates understand that this will be Abbas’ last congress, and therefore support him to ensure the success of an honourable succession process.

Daoud Kuttab, an award-winning Palestinian journalist, is a former Ferris professor of journalism at Princeton University. The views expressed in this article are the author’s own and do not necessarily reflect Al Jazeera’s editorial policy.
By: Engr. Madiha Noman

Every organization is built by the capability of its people to get itself recognized in all parts of the world. Pakistan Writers Club (aka: PWC) is one such organization which is not only recognized in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia but it’s talented people have also made their mark in other parts of the World. PWC which evolved almost 25 years back not only shares the glorious memories but also has a feather in its cap by founding it’s Ladies Chapter aka: PWC-LC.

Down the memory lane three years back Faiz Al Najdi – the then President of PWC - came up with the idea of and laid foundations of a Ladies Chapter in PWC on 15th November-2013. There were seven founding mothers namely, Dr. Wardah ( Convener), Dr. Erum (Deputy Convener), Farah (Finance Secretary), Qandeel as Public Relations Officer – aka: PRO, Asma Tariq, Ambreen Faiz and Shaheen Javed.

Ever since its founding, PWC-LC has served as a voice and platform for talented ladies of the Pakistani community in Riyadh. PWC-LC has come of age and has not looked back ever since.

This past weekend members of PWC-LC celebrated the 3rd anniversary of its founding. The members expressed their joy and here is what they have to say about their journey in PWC-LC.

Almas Mumtaz – a senior member and currently PRO of PWC-LC - termed her experience as a member to be that of honor and privilege. “I enjoyed each and every moment with PWC-LC, learnt a lot and made new friends”, Almas mentioned. Almas described Ladies chapter as a tribe of successful women who empower each other.

Ambreen Faiz – a founding member - appreciated all ladies for doing wonderful work to bring about good name of ladies. “PWC-LC has provided me an opportunity to hone my skills of public speaking and I remain very hopeful that PWC-LC shall grow in future”, Ambreen opined.

Asma Tariq – currently advisor to Convener – said it was an honor and privilege for her to be a founding member of PWC-LC. “I have enjoyed each and every event in the past 3 years of beautiful journey and I wish all success for PWC-LC”, Asma added.

Engr. Madiha Noman the current Event Coordinator described her three years with PWC-LC as very rewarding “Women are the building blocks of any society. PWC-LC has not only acknowledged that but has provided a wonderful platform to the Pakistani women of Riyadh to transform their dreams into reality. I feel honored to be associated with PWC-LC”, Madiha mentioned.

Farah Elhan the incumbent Convener expressed happiness on the third anniversary of PWC-LC. “I remember that memorable day – 15 November-2013 – when the then President of PWC Faiz Al Najdi had founded a Ladies Chapter of PWC”, Farah mentioned. She also added today PWC-LC was like a bouquet of several beautiful flowers, as the team comprises of a host of talented ladies from all fields of expertise. “I thank all male members who nurtured PWC-LC in a very conducive manner”, Qundeel added.

Shahseen Javed one of the founding members of PWC-LC said that PWC-LC was in fact a group of lovely, beautiful, talented, successful, passionate and adorable ladies. “I find myself to be very lucky among this group of lovely ladies”, Shaheen opined.

Shumaila Malik – incumbent Finance Secretary – said her journey of one year with Pakistan PWC-LC has been a unique experience. “I believe when women with their collective wisdom set out to do anything then they can do wonders”, Shumaila opined. She also expressed her hope for a better and stronger PWC-LC in future.

By-Mir Mohsin Ali

Riyadh- Non Resident Indians (NRI’s) in Riyadh have demanded the Indian government to recognize the contribution and services of blue collar employees and dedicated social workers by conducting Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) in Gulf countries. So far only rich businessmen and entrepreneurs awarded by the Indian government for all the Indian works in the gulf countries, but unfortu- nately it was stopped this year.

He said PBD should be conducted every year one of the city in gulf countries and Indian workers and organizations should be recognized by the Indian authorities. Mohammed Rafeeq, Chairman, Mun�at group welcoming the audience said that the common workers are the backbone of the community they remit- tance make an important role in Indian economy they should be recognized and we initiated this to get them there long time due recognize.

Kaunain Shahidi conducts the proceedings and recite the verses of holy Quran a large number of Indians attend this meeting.
Mohammed Mohsin won Gold Medal in Osmania University games

Mohd Mohsin won the gold medal in Osmania University games and is selected for All India university games which is going to held at Punjab Lovely University Mohsin is son of Mohd Khaja from Old city Hyderabad. He is a very hard worker and spends lot of time practicing boxing.

For the last four year he is in training under his boxing coach Mr. Omkar bath Yadav.

At Lal Bahadur Stadium he is the unbeated Boxing champion of Telangana state and south India junior national silver medal. And in school national he is the recepient of two times bronze medal in under 17 and 19. He won the gold medal in Senior state level Boxing championship by defending 4 Senior boxers of Telangana and got selected for Senior national boxing championship which is going to be held in Assam this December. Great acheivement Mohsin, way to go.

Villagers want Khanapur named after Kavitha

Out of affection for their MP, the villagers of Khanapur in Armoor of Nizamabad want to rename their village as Kavithapur but there is one hitch. The name cannot be changed just because the villagers have taken a decision to do it. It will have to be approved by the Union ministry of home affairs. From December 4, the villagers decided they would call it Kavithapur.

Chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao's daughter Kalva Kuntla Kavitha who represents Nizamabad parliamentary constituency heard their grievances and reportedly assured them that two-bedroom houses would be constructed for them. To show their gratitude for her, they decided to name their village after her.

While villagers are gungho about their decision, district officials say they have no knowledge about this directly from the villagers. Asked if the villagers could rename a village by themselves, district collector Yogita Rana said she had to find out the procedure involved in renaming a village.

"This is the first time that I have learnt about villagers wanting to to rename their village," the 2003-batch IAS officer said.

A district-level official said unless the name change is given in the gazette, it cannot be deemed to have been changed. According to procedures laid down by the union ministry of home affairs, a proposal to rename a city, town, village or even railway stations has to be sent to the ministry. The state government will have to submit the proposal. The villagers cannot do it directly.

It is only after the centre accords approval, that the state government can give a gazette notification about the name change. Every year, they receive proposals from different state governments giving the old name and the proposed new name. However, the approval is not granted in all cases.

Congratulations to Sameer Uddin Sabiri on the birth of his son Saquib uddin Sabiri
Kaira (Alia) is an astute cinematographer who is bohemian in her approach to life. Enter Dr Jehangir Khan (Shah Rukh), a top-notch therapist, who helps her lay her innermost demons to rest.

DEAR ZINDAGI REVIEW: In a scene from the film, Alia who is heartbroken, bites into a green chilli. As her eyes cloud over, she looks at her best buddy Fatima (Ira Dubey) and says -- "the chilli is pungent." Tears, silly fears and frailties all part of the life process. So brave it we must. This kind of sums up the life lesson writer-director Gauri Shinde's second directorial film imparts.

But unlike her first film English Vinglish that hit the bullseye subtly, here the message is hammered. Of course some of the writing has merit. There are funny and clever one-liners. There are numerous analogies drawn to explain the innumerable relationships one encounters in today's fast-fleeting urban life. Some of this makes you chuckle, some of it makes you cry. So far so good. However, the first half of the film meanders, making you restless. Frankly, things actually begin to look up just before intermission when SRK, without his trademark outstretched arms, makes an appearance.

To analyse why she is the way she is, Alia makes an appointment with SRK a DD (dimaag ka doctor) in Goa. It is on his couch that she is able to voice her fears. As he meticulously picks up the pieces of her past and ‘pieces’ her together, the film allows the viewer to confront some of their own anxieties. So it isn’t all in vain.

Feisty Alia, one of the better actors of the current generation, turns in a nicely nuanced performance. And SRK in his sober-avatar possessing infinite gyaan tempts you to seek out a therapist. If you’re in the mood to do some soul-searching this weekend, this film could do it for you.
Search Mountain Names

Mount Everest  Manaslu  Nanga Parbat  Annapurna  Gasherbrum  Broad Peak  Shishapangma
Kangchenjunga  Lhotse  Makalu  Cho Oyu  Dhaulagiri
On the lighter side....

At a meeting, the corporate manager told a joke. Everyone on the team laughed except one guy.

The manager asked him, "Didn't you understand my joke?"
We have enough people who tell it like it is. Now we could use a few who can tell it like it can be." The guy replied, "Oh I understood it, but I resigned yesterday."

There are three kinds of men in this world...
Some remain single and make wonders happen.
Some have girlfriends and see wonders happen.
The rest get married and wonder what happened!!!

My husband was trying to embarrass me at a party by carrying on about all the stuff women carry in their purses.

Instead of blushing I said, "You're right. There IS too much stuff in my purse." So, I removed his wallet, cigarettes, lighter, and car keys and handed them to him.

When he asked what he was supposed to do with them, I smiled and said, "Get your own purse!"

I went to see my doctor this morning. "Some one decided to graffiti my house last night!" I raged.

So why are you telling me?" the doctor asked.

"I can't understand the writing," I replied. "Was it you?"
At a party of professionals, a doctor was having difficulty socializing. Everyone wanted to describe their symptoms and get an opinion about diagnosis. The doctor turned to a lawyer acquaintance and asked, "How do you handle people who want advice outside of the office?"

"Simple," answered the lawyer, "I send them a bill. That stops it."

The next day, the doctor, still feeling a bit reserved about what he had just finished doing, opened his mailbox to send out the bills. Much to his surprise, there sat a bill from the lawyer.

Carlos told his wife he wanted a guitar to play while sitting in the Jacuzzi.

The next day she bought him an electric guitar.

Having lost most of his hearing a number of years ago, this elderly man goes to the doctor to be fitted with hearing aids which promise to allow him to hear 100%.

A month later, he returns to the doctor for a check up on his progress. The doctor tells him that his hearing is perfect and asks if his family is pleased.

The man says, "Oh, I haven't told them about the hearing aids yet. I just sit around and listen to them talk. I've changed my will three times!"

If you come home like I do and find your cat had his tail removed from fighting, just take your cat to Walmart...

They're the best re-tailer!

When I went back to the medical lab to have some blood drawn, I was greeted with a battery of questions from the technician.

"Has your address changed?" she asked.

"No," I answered.

"Your phone number?"

"No."

"What about your birthday?"

My three-year-old daughter stuck out her hand and said, "Look at the fly I killed, Mommy."

Since she was eating a juicy pickle at the time, I thrust her contaminated hands under the faucet and washed them with antibacterial soap. After sitting her down to finish her pickle, I asked, with a touch of awe, "How did you kill that fly all by yourself?"

Between bites, she said, "I hit it with my pickle."

Growing up, I was really jealous of my best friend. His grandmother lived in a two story house which he went over to visit quite often.

My grandmother lived in a one story house.

The only story I ever heard was "The Little Engine That Could", OVER AND OVER AGAIN!

Why did the germ cross the microscope?

To get to the other slide.