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APRIL 2018 Vol 9, Issue 4

### Congratulations Shawkat Mohammed

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### 90% of work-permits given to H-1B visa-holders' spouses are Indians

30 Mar 2018: 90% of work-permits given to H-1B visa-holders' spouses are Indians

The United States has given work permits to over 71,000 spouses of H-1B visa holders, 90% of whom are Indians.

In 2015, the Obama government began issuing work authorization to spouses of H-1B visa holders.

Spouses of H-1B visa holders who had been living in the US for six years, and were in the process of applying for green cards, were eligible for this programme.

Details here: What is an H-4 Visa, whose largest beneficiaries are Indians?

An H-4 visa is issued to a dependent family member (spouse or children under 21 years) of H-1B visa holders.

The H-4 visa holders don't get a social security number, and hence cannot be employed. But they can get

were women, and the vast majority, 93%, were from India, while 4% were from China."



a driver's license, pursue education and open bank account.

In 2015, 80% of 1,25,000 people who were issued H-4 visas were Indians.

Fact: This is what the report said

The Migration Policy institute said, "As of June 2017, USCIS had granted 71,287 initial (versus renewal) employment authorization documents to H-4 spouses. Of those H-4 spouses with work authorization, 94%

Most likely yes: Will things change now that Donald Trump is POTUS?

Donald Trump in his campaign for the President had made it quite clear that he would come up with stricter migration policies in his bid to 'Make America Great Again'.

It is reported that he plans to change this policy of the Obama administration in June this year, and may propose a new regulation. NewBites

### MOVING TO TEXAS?



Azeem A. Quadeer, P.E.  
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### Nirav Modi withdrew huge sum from a bank in Belgium days after CBI filed FIR in PNB fraud case: Report

Moneycontrol News

Diamantiare Nirav Modi made a huge transaction from a government-owned bank in Antwerp, Belgium, just a week after the CBI filed the first FIR against him in the Punjab National Bank (PNB) fraud case,

according to a report in Firstpost.

Quoting top officials in the investigative agencies, the report said the transaction took place despite all overseas centres of Indian banks being alerted on January 31, the day the FIR

frozen days after Modi withdrew money. "We have also received reliable information that Nirav Modi was in the US when the transaction took place," officials told Firstpost.

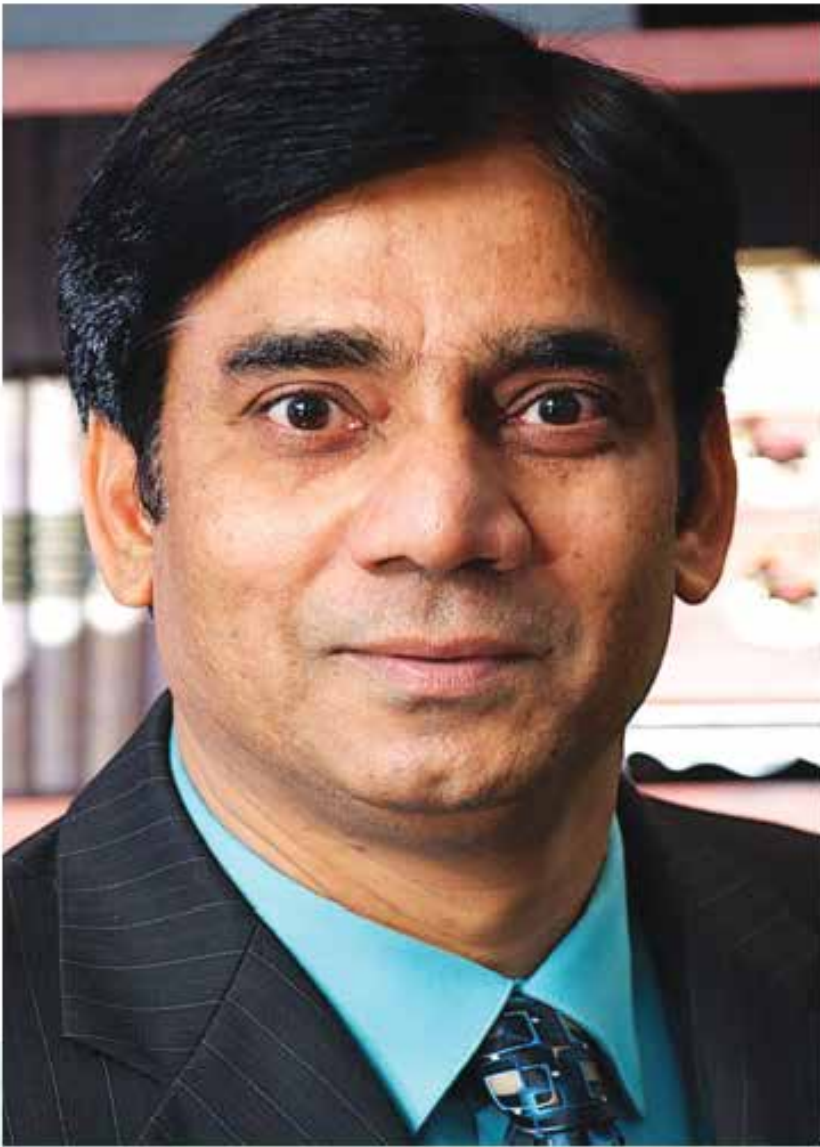
Officials Firstpost spoke to didn't reveal the name of the bank. After the PNB fraud, the investigative agencies had sought information on overseas centres of Indian banks that were doing business with the companies floated by Modi and his uncle Mehul Choksi.



was lodged against Modi, his brother Neeshal Modi, wife Ami Modi and uncle Mehul Choksi.

Several accounts were

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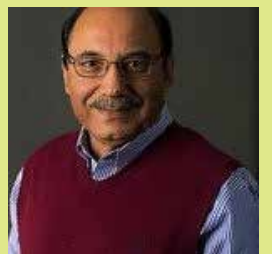
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A message from Dr. Abdul El-Sayed



Hi there. My name is Abdul. I became a doctor to help sick people get better, but I quickly realized I couldn't help people without digging up the roots of the problem. So I took a job as Detroit Health Commissioner. I used my position to fight for children being poisoned by toxic waste, and stand up to oil companies to reduce air pollution. I was able to introduce the first city-wide lead testing program for our public schools.

Now I'm running for governor. Why would a doctor run for governor? Well, it's simple. Too many of my friends and family in Michigan are unhealthy because our politics are hurting them. We have a system that puts corporate profits over people.

They can't see a doctor because we don't have universal healthcare. The big pharmaceutical companies and health insurance companies are raking in the dough, but our communities are suffering. Our air and water are poisoned by the oil industry. And few can afford fair housing in an economy that doesn't offer people a fair \$15 minimum wage.

I have spent a lot of time detailing where I stand on the issues on my website - I hope you'll take a look. As a doctor, I believe we need a Medicare for All-like system in Michigan. I'm running on an agenda to win equal pay for women, a massive investment in rebuilding our crumbling roads and bridges, and universal pre-K for all our kids. I'm for a \$15 minimum wage, an end to the corrupting influence of money in our politics, and bold action on climate change.

Today I'm asking for your support. We are running against millionaire candidates with big money behind their campaigns and politicians who are content doing the corporations' bidding. We don't take corporate money.

They may have their powerful political networks and their corporate donors, but we have you - the people. If everyone who sees this post backs our campaign, we will win. I hope you'll join us.





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Dr. Basheer Ahmed



Shawkat Mohammed



Dr. Shamsa Qureshi

**PAAT hosted the  
Pakistan Resolution  
Day event  
-Kashif Siraj**

Pakistani American Association of Texas (PAAT) hosted the Pakistan Resolution Day event on 23rd March at the local FunAsia banquet hall in Richardson, TX. This event was full of vibrant and colorful activities. Many small business owners also participated by setting up their booths from clothing, jewelry and traditional handicrafts. The event was started with the recitation of Holy Quran followed by the national anthem and the pledge of allegiance. There were some new board members whose oath taking ceremony was done by the Dallas Judge Nancy Kennedy. Dr Amer Sulaiman who is the founding member of the organization (PAAT) addressed the crowd and told more about the organization involvement in the community. PAAT has been involved in many charitable works thru out the Texas from setting up free medical clinics to welfare programs. There was an Award ceremony took place as well that was conducted by the newly elected President of PAAT Mr. Ashar Ahmad who presented awards to various community leaders and social workers. The most entertaining part of the event was the performance that was done by the students of UNT and UTD who performed on the national and folk songs. There was also the performance of the very famous local music band Kizmet who made everyone to dance on their feet's on their songs and entertained the crowd. The Vocalist Khalid Shoeb also sang national and folk songs to entertain the crowd. It was an overall very well family fun packed event that was well organized by the PAAT volunteers and specially Imrana Begg who was among the organizers and also the host of the event. Many national and international media personalities were presented there as well who done the coverage for the event.



Sarah DeMerchant Attending the India House 15th Anniversary Gala.



Pakistan Resolution Day Celebration Event organized by Pakistan American Association of Texas.



Urdu Ghar Richardson Chapter established. Dr. Suleiman, Ajaz Yunus, Owais Naseer, Shoeb Khan



# Parent Close To Austin Bomber's Family Lashes Out At Portrayal Of Killer's Bible Study Group

AUSTIN, Texas In the hours after Mark Anthony Conditt blew himself up, people in need of an immediate scapegoat for the bombings that terrorized this city for nearly three weeks found one in a group called RIOT.

We learned of Conditt's involvement with the group from BuzzFeed, which had interviewed a woman, Cassia Schultz, who "ran in the same conservative survivalist circles as Conditt in high school."

According to that article:

Schultz said they were both involved in a group called Righteous Invasion of Truth (RIOT), a Bible study and outdoors group for homeschooled kids, created and named by the kids and their families, that included monthly activities such as archery, gun skills, and water balloon fights. Conditt and his younger sister would usually attend the activities along with 15 to 20 other kids, according to Schultz.

"A lot of us were very into science; we would discuss chemicals and how to mix

them and which ones were dangerous," said Schultz. "We were into weapons and stuff. A lot of us did role-playing, and RPG [role-playing games]; we'd have foam weapons and act out a battle."

This seemed irresistibly sinister as it became clear Conditt, 23, was the bomber, and others quickly latched onto the detail. "Austin bomber Mark Anthony Conditt was part of Christian survivalist group that discussed 'dangerous' chemicals," read a headline on the Independent. Social media went further, with some users claiming that RIOT served as some sort of white supremacist breeding ground or an education center for aspiring chemical weapons experts.

"Austin bomber Mark Conditt was RADICALIZED by a neo-Nazi Christian group that teaches members about dangerous chemicals & guns," one woman wrote on Twitter, linking to the Independent story.

"The group is called RIOT - Righteous Invasion of Truth. No difference between

this & ISIS."

So what exactly goes down at these RIOT events?

"Water balloons, cream pies, frisbee, etc.," said Pamela Crouch, a parent in the homeschooling community in the Austin suburb of Pflugerville who knows the Conditt family well. "That's what it is."

And that "conservative survivalist circle" mentioned in the BuzzFeed article? It was a small group of children "into camping, tying knots in ropes and climbing," said Crouch, who also knows Schultz. "Very tame stuff."

"Mark is dead so everyone wants someone to blame, but I don't think they should blame the parents. ... They did not teach Mark hate."

Pamela Crouch, parent in the Pflugerville homeschool community.

Crouch was moved to speak out by what she felt were mischaracterizations of RIOT and of Conditt's family. She worried the sensational rhetoric surrounding either would "probably continue until the next disaster or the next outrageous" tweet from President Donald Trump.

"I cannot sit idly by while my friends and loved ones are being unjustly accused," Crouch told HuffPost.

Conditt and his family were part of a tight-knit homeschooling community in Pflugerville, which is home to a variety of Christian camps and other activities for homeschooled kids. If you're looking to find strains of violent extremism in Conditt's upbringing, you'll have a hard time finding any within RIOT, a standard-fare Bible study group.

A RIOT recruiting mailer sent out to parents in 2016 advertises such activities as swimming, potlucks, bowling and "boffer melee," a popular live-action role-play game in which kids simulate medieval warfare by bonking each other with padded pipes. The mailer, released to HuffPost in the form of a Facebook posting, reads in part:

Some fun RIOT events in the past included: Game Night, Murder Mystery party, Movie Night w/Pizza, Bowling, Swim Party, Games in



the Park, Fun at the Beach (Lake Pflugerville), Skating, Boffer Melee, etc. Food for these events is usually a shared effort - the teens can bring a few dollars each and you can buy it, or everyone can bring snacks/potluck to share. You can also plan an event at Jumpoline, Jumpstreet, Main Event, Spare Time, a movie (in a theatre) followed by dinner nearby, etc. If you can call ahead and get a group rate, that's best! Nonetheless, a community of parents in Pflugerville has been upended largely because of a single quote in a single story. The media glare was harsh enough that even the Texas Home School Coalition felt compelled to distance itself from Conditt via a press release.

"Raised by both parents in a Christian home, Conditt reportedly walked away from his faith several years ago," Tim Lambert, president of the association, said in a statement after Conditt's death. "Today's revelations about the Austin bombings provide a stark reminder that we live in a fallen world. Unfortunately, no form of education, public or private, can ensure a tragedy like this will never happen."

Crouch moved to the area in 1995 and began homeschooling her son in 2004. Her family attended church alongside the Conditts and even went to "home group" "which is like Bible study," she said at the Conditt household.

In Crouch's telling, those services, like other Christian events in the community, were as normal as they come, not to mention "racially and ethnically diverse," which she appreciated.

Austin "is actually one of the most tolerant cities in the South," she said. "That is one of the reasons I feel comfortable raising my children here."

Crouch, like several of her neighbors, was upset about questioning from reporters that seemed to blame Conditt's parents and the homeschooling community in general for his bombing spree that killed two and injured several others.

Homeschooling, she said, is "a good option for anyone who is not satisfied with the school system. We try to protect our kids from being hurt in the schools, with all the shootings and stabbings and rapes, but we are somehow the dangerous ones?" As for Conditt's father and mother, she called them "good folks."

"Mark is dead so everyone wants someone to blame, but I don't think they should blame the parents," she said. "They did not teach Mark hate."

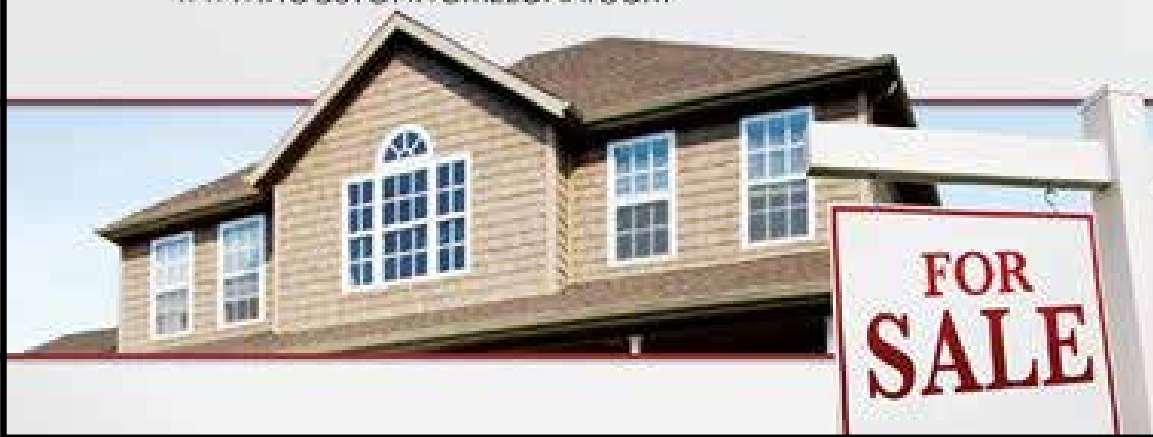
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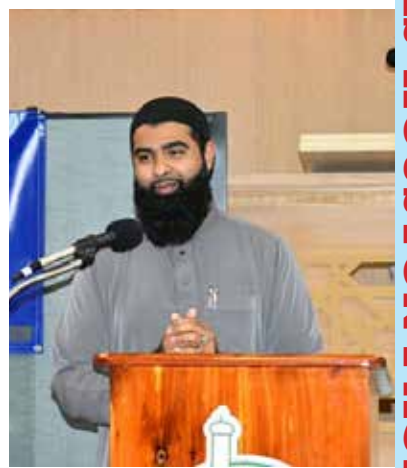


DALLAS-HOUSTON PAGES

## Open House Interfaith Retreat and carnival - Hosted by Watauga Masjid Al-Sahaabah



**INTERFAITH RETREAT  
MARCH 24, 2018  
2PM - 4PM**



Photography by Shoaib Khan

DALLAS-HOUSTON PAGES



Dallas literary organization, Qalam Asassa, under chairmanship of renowned poetess Dr. Shamsa Qureshi, organized its first event



Dallas literary organization, Qalam Asassa, under chairmanship of renowned poetess Dr. Shamsa Qureshi, organized its first event: An evening with famous senior poet Nadir Durrani. The event was held in Texas King Irving. Internationally known poet Khalid Irfan arranged and moderated the mushaira. The mushaira was presided by Nilofer Abbasi (Nilofer Aleem). Mr. Khalid Irfan introduced the guest of the evening, Mr Durrani, to the audience. After the introduction, Mr. Durrani recited his poetry which was well received. After this session the formal mushaira was started and Local poets, Aijaz Younus, Dr. Shamsa Qureshi, Noor Amrohvi, Iqbal Haider, Shah Alam, Masood Quazi Mr. Irfan Syed and several other poet presented their poems. The highlight of the mushaira was the impromptu shairs by Khalid Irfan. A large number of audience attended the mushaira. Notable attendees were Shawkat Mohammed of New York Life, Shahid Jaffrey, Khaja Mujeebuddin of Take-a Break, Azeem A. Quadeer, Publisher Asia Times, Mirza Pervaiz Baig, founder Charminar Connection, musician Ishrath Ali and poet Rizwan Hasnie. At the conclusion Dr. Shamsa Qureshi thanked the audience. The mushaira was followed by dinner.



DALLAS-HOUSTON PAGES



Congress must remember the critical role foreign medical graduates play in serving Americans

BY DR. RAO KAMRAN ALI, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR



medical graduates. These residents immediately begin treating patients in underserved areas after they have finished their residency training.

In some instances, a resident might match in an inner-city training program at an institution overwhelmed with patients lacking preventative care and basic health literacy. In other instances, these young doctors might go to rural America and join a small team of specialists serving multiple counties.

These doctors will go anywhere and serve. They are committed to the health and well-being of their patients.

Personally, I serve in rural Ohio as a pain specialist. While I was born and educated in Pakistan, America is my home and I am a proud naturalized citizen. I see patients of all ages, races and religions. While performing spinal cord stimulation, discectomies or vertebroplasty, I meet patients from across the political spectrum and every segment of our society.

These young physicians, just like I was and continue to be, are citizen ambassadors. In an increasingly complex world, our patients are exposed to the best and brightest minds from Pakistan, a nation where many Americans have never traveled. The proud families of these young physicians learn from the nightly phone calls they make back home just how diverse and welcoming America is.

Most importantly, these young physicians serve a critical need as our nation braces

for a major physician shortage. If current retirements continue and patient populations grow, our nation will need to find upward of 90,000 new physicians by 2025. In coming years, patients will be faced with either longer wait times or receiving care from doctors with a mediocre academic pedigree. Naturally, neither option is inviting. Foreign medical graduates – the best of their accredited foreign medical schools – are an important part of this future planning.

Roughly 25 percent of all physicians across our country were trained overseas. Each year, Pakistan is one of the top five countries supplying its best medical minds to fill this gap. These young physicians serve American patients in medically underserved areas. Today, across the United States, there are more than 12,000 licensed and practicing physicians who are graduates of Pakistani medical schools.

As these promising medical students are preparing for their final exams, they have traveled to American consulates across Pakistan for their visa interview. Sitting across from Consular Officers, they discuss their schooling, their dreams, their finances and their family tree. They present letters from American hospital administrators requesting that they start their residency programs the first week of July.

However, many of the current crop of medical students are now being denied visas at a rate we have never seen. This neither serves them nor the American

patients that need care.

When I immigrated to the United States to begin my residency in general surgery and physical medicine, I reflected nightly on the Hippocratic Oath. Living in the swing state of Ohio, I know that the campaign trail is dominated by talk of immigration reform and the future of the Affordable Care Act. With the midterm elections fast approaching, Congress must remember the basic principal of the Oath – do no harm. Congress should debate these important public policy topics, but not forget the critical role foreign medical graduates play in serving American patients.

Congress must, therefore, do all it can to ensure that visas for these doctors continue well into the future, for their sake and ours. This is the true essence of America, a country we are proud to both serve and call home.

Dr. Rao Kamran Ali has practiced medicine in the United States since 2000. He is an expert on treating spinal and skeletal pain. He is a member of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, North American Neuromodulation Society, International Neuromodulation Society, American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians and American Academy of Pain Medicine. He serves as the 2018 Advocacy Chair for the Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America, the oldest and largest Pakistani-American organization.

DALLAS-HOUSTON PAGES

This month, approximately 6,000 foreign medical students were matched with residency programs in congressional districts across our nation. Hospital administrators and program directors depend upon these young doctors to fill the residency spots not matched by American graduates.

In July, these newly minted physicians arrive on J1 or H1B visas. They begin residency program alongside American



## Gov. Greg Abbott courts Indian immigrants, a group gaining visibility, clout in North Texas

There is a rising demographic force in North Texas — Indians, as in people from South Asia's largest country. It soon will be the earth's most populous nation, home to one of about every six people.

In Dallas-Fort Worth as well as in the rest of Texas, political bloodhound Greg Abbott has the scent.

The Republican governor senses something big is happening and admits his nine-day jaunt to India that began Thursday is about far more than commerce.

The mostly well-educated, affluent Indians who have flocked in big numbers to upscale and in some cases downright ritzy suburbs of Dallas are breaking barriers, running for office and embracing assimilation into their adopted country.

Their participation in Texas communities is building a potential bloc of votes and political contributions that Abbott hopes to someday harvest.



Shaheen Salam has been a Plano resident for 20 years. She's also a member of the city's Multicultural Outreach Roundtable, which brings together different religious and ethnic groups for events and other activities.



"The Indian community in Texas is more Republican than the Republican Party in Texas," Abbott said as he flew into Mumbai on a nine-day trade mission Friday.

"They are genuine economic conservatives. They strongly believe in the free enterprise system and a governmental structure that supports that. And they are very strongly pro-family and pro-military. They're just very patriotic."

Southern Methodist University political scientist Cal Jillson said Abbott is eager to broaden his base of support. "Most Texans, including Gov. Abbott, know and follow the injunction to 'hunt where the ducks are,' " he said. "More and more of these ducks are South Asian, with professional educations and incomes, able to make politi-

cal contributions and increasingly willing to step out as voters and candidates."

Shopping for good schools

In North Texas, there are large populations of Indians in Highland Park, West Plano, Frisco, Richardson and Valley Ranch in Irving. Many are software engineers, scientists and physicians. A second generation of Dallas residents whose parents came from India have entered a much wider range of occupations, such as professions and business investments.

Nowhere, though, has the community become more visible than in Cypress Waters near D-FW International Airport.

Visitors frequently can see grandmothers decked out in saris walking down sidewalks.

"The (Indian) community's huge," said Lucy Crow Billingsley, who with husband Henry launched the planned community about six years ago.

At the LEED-certified building and campus that are home to a relocated Richard J. Lee Elementary, well more than half the children are from families of Indian heritage, said Sid Grant, associate superintendent of the Coppell school district.

As Lee ended classes on a recent weekday, the 800 students who dispersed to carpools and buses in very orderly fashion were hugely multiethnic. Seventy-nine percent are recorded as being of Asian ethnicity. "We believe [them] to be of South Asia or Far East origin," with many born in the U.S., said district spokeswoman Amanda Simpson.

"What I hear these Indian parents say over and over is, 'We picked the best school district in North Texas that we could afford,'" she said. "That emphasis on academic excellence is definitely a cultural trait that is shared."

Getting into politics

Enthusiastic embrace of America — and Texas — is another.

Two long-time Dallas-area residents who emigrated from India as young adults, Manish Sethi and Balkishore "Balki" Chamkura, are running against one another in the May Coppell school board election. The winner would be the first Indian-American to be a school trustee in Coppell.

Biju Mathew, who arrived in Texas more recently but has spent a longer time in the U.S., is a candidate for Coppell City Council. If he wins, that, too, would be a first.

All are computer professionals. Each has amassed a glittering résumé of civic involvement — clubs, school foundations, YMCA board, park board, neighborhood associations, Leadership Coppell.

"We're all legally here, and we're here to contribute," said Chamkura, who said Texas is a great place to start a family. "We have become a noticeable minority."

Sethi said he splits his socializing 50-50 between fellow Indians and North Texans of other racial and ethnic backgrounds.

"We come in with the right [academic] degrees, with the right knowledge, where we know we are positive contributors," he said. Mathew, who emigrated to Cambridge, Mass., when he was in high school, said he and his wife, a physician assistant, are eager

to help U.S. military veterans. It's a way of showing their pride in being U.S. citizens, and their growing sense of belonging, he explained.

All said they were pulled toward the Dallas area by Texans' Southern hospitality, their traditional views of family, the state's warm climate and good job opportunities.

Manish Sethi, 43, who grew up in Mumbai, India, is an IT consultant. He moved his family from Chicago to North Texas in 2001. "The value system matches ours," he said, referring to the American South.

"To be honest, I was tired of shoveling the snow,"

Mathew recalled.

Trump a turn off?

As Abbott and other Texas politicians court the Indians, though, they must overcome anxieties raised by President

Donald Trump and his hard-line immigration policies. Though India was not among the eight countries Trump singled out for his travel ban, the president's disparaging talk of immigrants has not gone unnoticed in the Dallas Indian community, said longtime resident Rajiv Shah. Shah, a management professor at the University of Texas at Dallas who has spent 43 of the past 45 years in academic, corporate and engineering management pursuits in Dallas and Houston, said there has been no panic.

"The anxiety is not about what has happened so far, but about what could happen if you extrapolate from things right now and the likes of [former Trump adviser and Breitbart.com executive] Stephen Bannon and Trump and what could happen," he said.

SMU's Jillson said Trump's approach could be a stumbling block for GOP outreach efforts.

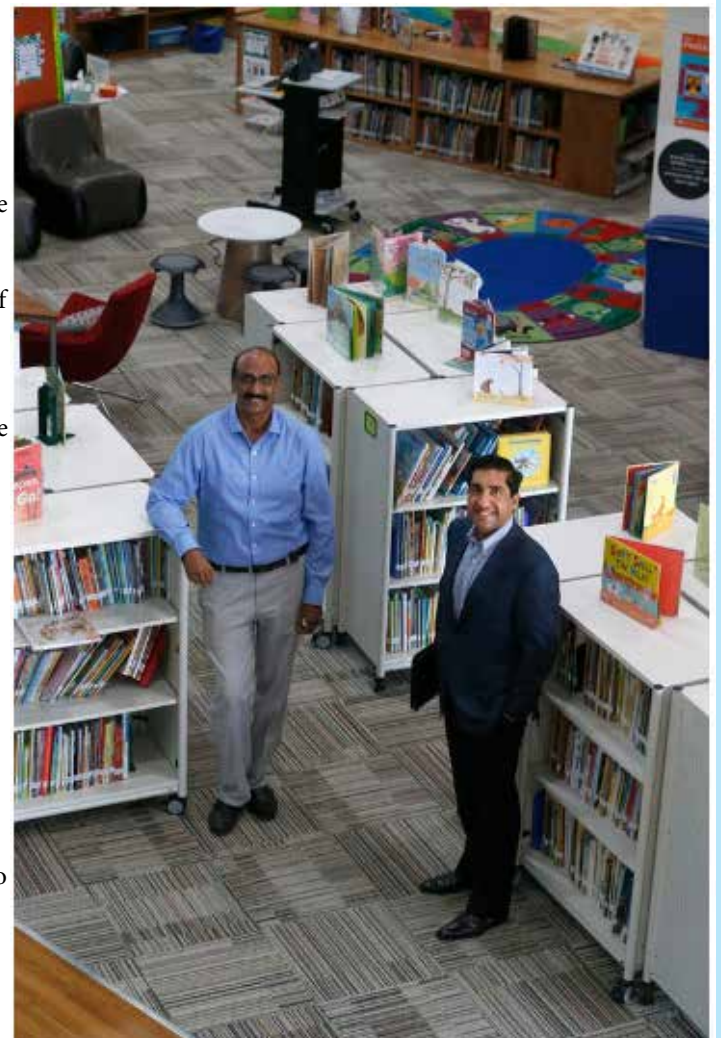
Balki Chamkura, 53, also an IT consultant, moved with his family from Pittsburgh, Pa., to the Dallas area in the late 1990s. "This is our new home," he said. "We want to be a part of the mainstream."

(Nathan Hunsinger/Staff Photographer)

"Abbott wants to build a relationship with this rising community, but the Republican Party's ambivalence about immigrants will always be a back-of-mind concern to them," he said.

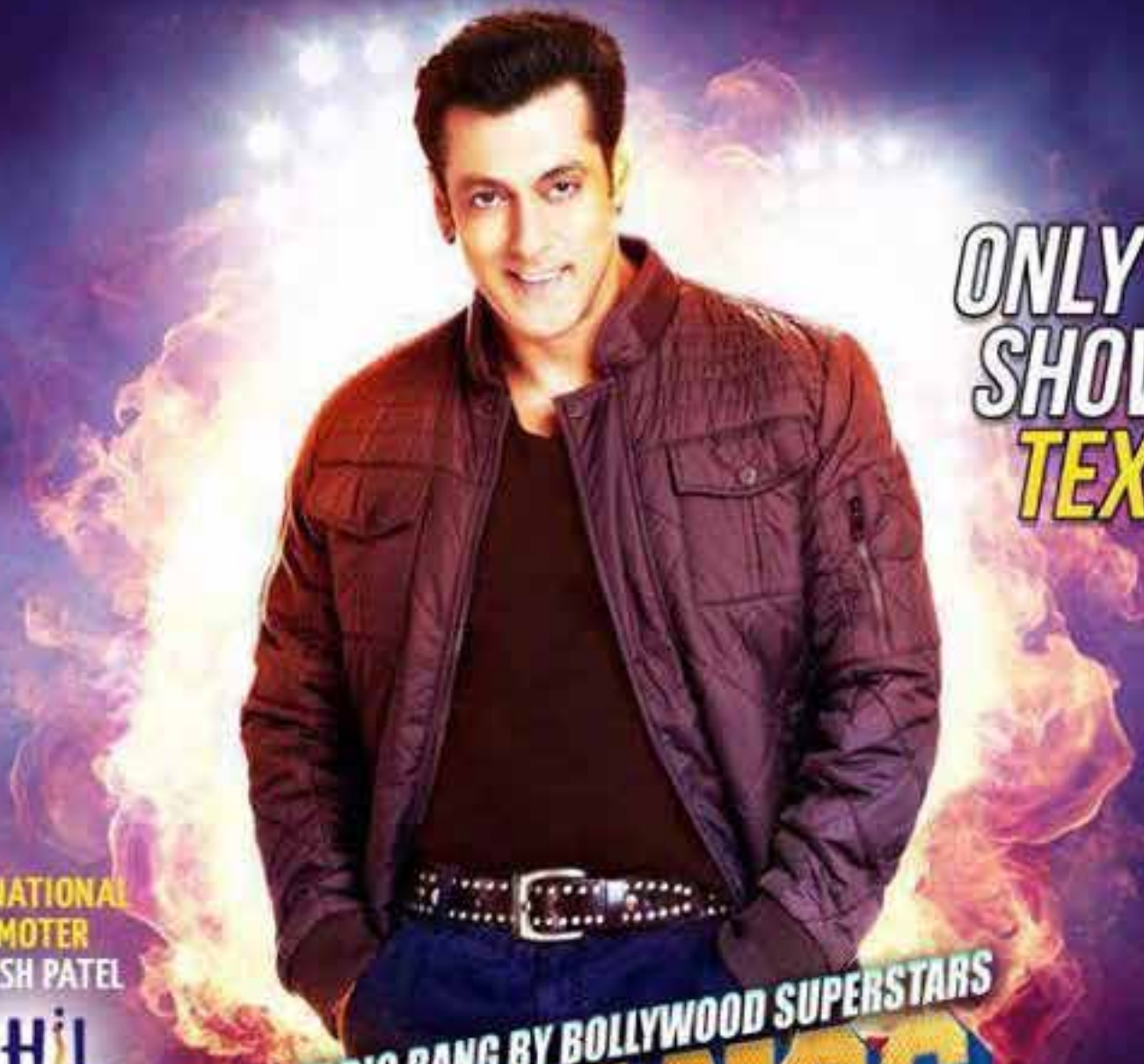
For now, though, Indians are pouring into North Texas, said Kamal Kaushal, a New York Life Insurance marketing executive who heads the India Association of North Texas.

First Published in Dallas News





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# My Story as a Muslim Immigrant in America

A Book Review by Zakiah Sayeed

I have just finished reading the book "My Story as a Muslim Immigrant in America", by Janab Basheer Ahmed.

Written in a simple format, with easy language, I found it to be a page turner. His humility and sincerity is reflected in almost every word here. His journey from the lap of love in Hyderabad, to being alone in Pakistan as a medical student, and then going abroad to England and Scotland, to further his studies, is not just challenging, but makes one sit up and take notice of a simple person overcoming the toils and tribulations of everyday life in different milieus of the world.

The determination and the way he was focusing on his education made him the cynosure of various universities and his colleagues. What an asset he is

to the Muslim community at large, and a blessing to the family and friends in particular. That he achieved his target (s) in various fields is well and good and laudable, and I am sure the generations of students and residents who studied under him still talk about him... but what impressed me most is his deep and reflective nature in the way he has attended to the Muslim community and Islam.

As I have said earlier, this book is written in a simple and beautiful language, and truly is a page turner. His take on the religion is profound and so articulate; his eloquence and fluidity in the explanation about the Sharia law, building a community center in Dallas and advancing it to such a great level as to be recognized by people in the highest office of this country, makes me humble to address him and to know that I once knew him and his family. His discussion about his own spiritual interest and spirituality in Medicine, shows how vast his knowledge is, and how dedicated he is to the religion and to the scientific knowledge that he has attained. Throughout the book, a vein of graciousness and generosity weaves in and out of his pen, and the reader is in awe of the caliber that he has displayed here.

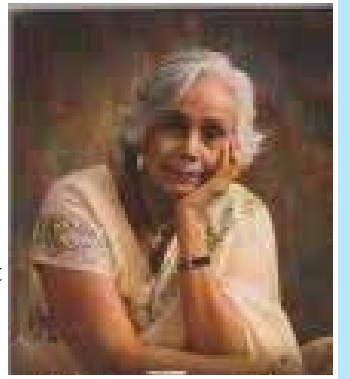
And now, I want to elaborate on something personal.

When Basheer and Shakila lived in St. Louis, I knew them personally. In 1969, my husband was sent to Princeton for three months by Western Electric where he worked. We lived in a small one or two

bed room apartment and I was reluctant to live alone there while he was gone. Basheer and Shakila heard about this, and with their graciousness invited me to stay with them in their beautiful home for that period. I would go to work during the day, and return to their home in the evening. Some evenings and weekends I spent in my apartment, just to be by myself. The hospitality, warmth and generosity of their love has been exemplary beyond all measure. Life came in our way, and they left town, and we lost touch. And now after so many decades, I have the honor of getting to know him again; read about him, and read his beautiful book. I would strongly recommend it to everyone who is thirsty to learn about his way of life and how he practiced his medical knowledge in accordance with Islamic principles.

Kudos to Janab Basheer Ahmed for being such a great influence in so many lives through the world. What a role model!!

Zakiah Sayeed  
Illinois



Author of "My Story as a Muslim Immigrant in America"  
Dr Basheer Ahmed with President Jimmy Carter

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## Challenges Youth face in U.S.

M. Basheer Ahmed M.D.

### Challenges during early period of schooling

Growing up in a land with multi-religious, multi-cultural, multi-racial and multi-lingual people is a difficult endeavor for the Muslim youth in America. Most of their parents (immigrants and refugees) who grew up in a relatively homogenized community seldom experienced these challenges. In addition to this, the anti-Muslim sentiments and discrimination against Muslims have increased over the past two decades and Muslim youth are not immune to this. Language and Cultural differences Young Muslim children face conflicts as soon as they start school. At home they speak a different language than in school. At home they learn and continue to speak Urdu, Hindi, Arabic or Punjabi, but as soon as they go to school they speak English. As soon as they come home, they change their western clothes and wear their desi or native clothes- Shilwar, Pajama or Jilbab. At school, the students talk about TV shows like DISNEY, MTV, CNN or Fox news and Muslim children talk about ARY, ZTV and Indian, Pakistani or Arabic shows. Children soon become aware that they are different. Fortunately they are intelligent, adapt well to these changes and adjust well in both environments.

Many youths have reported that their immigrant parents usually have culture clashes with the new society. Immigrant children struggle to assimilate into the society their parents chose for them. Many parents question if their kids have too many American friends and they are afraid that they will learn bad habits. The problem is not so much overcoming poverty and educational deficits, but adapting to a society whose value is sharply at odds with the Muslim religious heritage. (Therefore some parents choose to send their children to Islamic schools and some opted for home schooling). Challenges in educational institution Most of the Muslim youth were adjusting and coping well until the school environment changed drastically after 9/11 and more so now during the Trump presidential era. Anti-Muslim sentiment and discrimination targeting Muslims are on the rise and school communities are not immune. School systems strive to prepare students for responsible social and civic participation by promoting a respect for diversity. However, due to massive anti-Muslim propaganda and Trump administration policies, educators often struggle to determine whether Muslims' beliefs conflict with Western values. Nobody questions or debates the issue about "What are the major conflicts between Western and Islamic values". The books and curriculum used in schools often contain biased opinions and misinformation. Students are embarrassed to speak in their native language in public and they often feel marginalized. They are regarded as outsiders even if they are born in the US. Following my lecture on bullying in one of the local Islamic centers, a little 9 year girl old told me that after the massacre in Orlando night club in 2016, her best friend told her that her mother prohibited her to be a friend with Pakistani girls and that she should "go back home", even though she was born here and has not made any trips out of the country trip since she was born.

Muslim youth feel alienated and Muslim girls' experiences difficulty in blending with the rest of the community. Wearing of Hijab also became an invitation for curiosity, inquiries, and sometimes physical or verbal assaults from other students. Muslim youths are careful when talking about their religion due to the negative perception. There is a rise in bullying incidents affecting Muslim students all over the country. Many students also reported discrimination from the teachers.

Often Muslim youth are called extremist when they decline to eat pork, drink alcohol or participate in dancing and parties. Some are even labeled as uncivilized and rejected by their peers.

Young people are often confronted with questions about terrorism, ISIS, Sunni/ Shia Islam or what's happening in Iraq or Syria and why Muslim are killing Muslims. They often regard Muslim youths and Muslims in general as be-

ing violent and dangerous.

**PEER PRESSURE ON MUSLIM YOUTH.** During adolescence, peer pressure can make Muslims deviate from their values and beliefs. Alcohol, drug use and sexual promiscuity is increasing among Muslim youth. Some participate in school dances and dating to feel a sense of belonging and other students attempt to protect themselves by isolating themselves from the society. In social media networks, pornographic materials and nudity are frequently displayed.

**Intra and inter-faith marriages.** Young Muslims often question their parents' insistence that they marry within their cultural and ethnic group even though the Muslim faith allows one to marry a Muslim or Muslima of a different ethnic and cultural group. Men are allowed to marry non-Muslim women but women are prohibited from doing so. Many Muslim girls are now raising the question about this ruling and the rationale behind this.

**Changing attitude.** In the 70s and 80s "the evils of Western cultural elements" such as the celebration of birthdays, Halloween and prom night was voiced by Imams but are now being encouraged by youth in the mainstream Muslim organizations in America. Before 9/11, Muslim leaders explicitly urged their people to avoid assimilating into the American mainstream and to withdraw into Islamic community centers and Islamic schools and colleges. Since 9/11, Muslim leaders have shown a willingness to adapt to America. They have attempted to adapt to the realities of American life and have been reconstructing a version of Islam that conforms to the American values as long as is not too deviated.

Muslim-Americans are now reassured that it is permissible, even desirable, to have non-Muslim friends and it is okay to attend business lunches with non-Muslim colleagues where alcoholic drinks are served as long as Muslims do not drink.

Since the beginning of this century, all Muslim Scholars and Imams are not only permitting but encouraging Muslims to get involved in civic and political affairs. Now it is a common occurrence to see scores of political candidates in mosques during the election period and many Muslim candidates are running for political offices in local, state and national positions.

**Rituals vs. behavioral and civic responsibilities.** Islam is an active religion and Muslims believe that they are required to have strong faith and are accountable for their behavior and civic responsibilities. However many Imams focus only on strong beliefs and the importance of rituals while ignoring the behavioral responsibilities and the aspect of civic and political actions. A lack of authentic Islamic education still remains a great challenge to many Muslim youths. Radicalization. Theological differences between Shia, Sunni and other sects were exaggerated by religious leaders and power hungry politicians that resulted in severe fights and bloodshed. It is shame to say that Islam promotes the peace but the followers of Islam are behaving exactly the opposite of what Islam stands for. Today more Muslims are killed by Muslims in many Muslim majority countries. Muslim youth are vulnerable and easily influenced by parents and religious leaders. Sectarian division has become a source of subconscious beliefs that promote hatred and anger towards the "others" in the community and become a source of extremist ideologies. When young people see any type of violence that is being glorified rather than condemned by religious scholars or family members, they become prone to become radical. It is believed that sectarian violence is predominantly affecting the Muslim majority countries but in reality it is influencing the Muslim youth all over the world.

The number of Muslim youth joining ISIS from the UK, Australia and USA to fight Shias is a clear evidence of this spread of radicalization. Muslim leaders must unite and put an end to the sectarian violence which has been dividing us for centuries, and spreading terrorism all over the world.

**Role of parents.** It is the parents' job to ensure that their children are well-adjusted in the school and society. They

should discuss openly all questions that their children are confronted with and reach out to the scholars to provide good guidance when needed.

They can also volunteer at the schools and participate in school activities, make presentations to teachers and students on ISLAM and correct the misinformation. This will have a positive influence on Muslim children in school. Parents and family values, not media or peers, are still the strongest influence on your child. Teach your child that good sportsmanship starts with small gestures, like shaking hands with their opponent

**What it is Like to Be Young and Muslim in America.** For Muslim immigrants, adjusting to American society can be a huge challenge. There are misconceptions which are creating the links between Islam and terrorism that don't exist. Whenever a Muslim does something like that, it's all over the media, identifying the perpetrator as a Muslim terrorist. But if a Westerner does the same thing, they are not called a Christian terrorist, rather regarded as mentally ill.

The American Muslim Youth are courageous in facing constant challenges and adverse conditions. Fortunately Muslim Youth in US are strong, self-confident, perform well academically and are committed to keep the Muslim identity and survive in this country. They have to challenge the misperception about Muslims as terrorists, culturally backwards and anti-Western. Muslim women also need to change the misperception that they are oppressed, submissive, and uneducated. By showing positive attitude, behavior and self-confidence, they will overcome the negative perception and will be able to cope with the challenges. We are fortunate to live in a country that is culturally and religiously the most diverse on earth. We enjoy freedom of speech and have the freedom to practice our religion and cultural traditions without fear of persecution. We are also free to pursue our ambitions and dreams. In spite of its short comings this is a great country which gives our youth the opportunity to actualize their dreams.

### About Author

Dr Ahmed is the founding Chairman Emeritus of MCC for Human services. He can be reached at mbahmed05@yahoo.com



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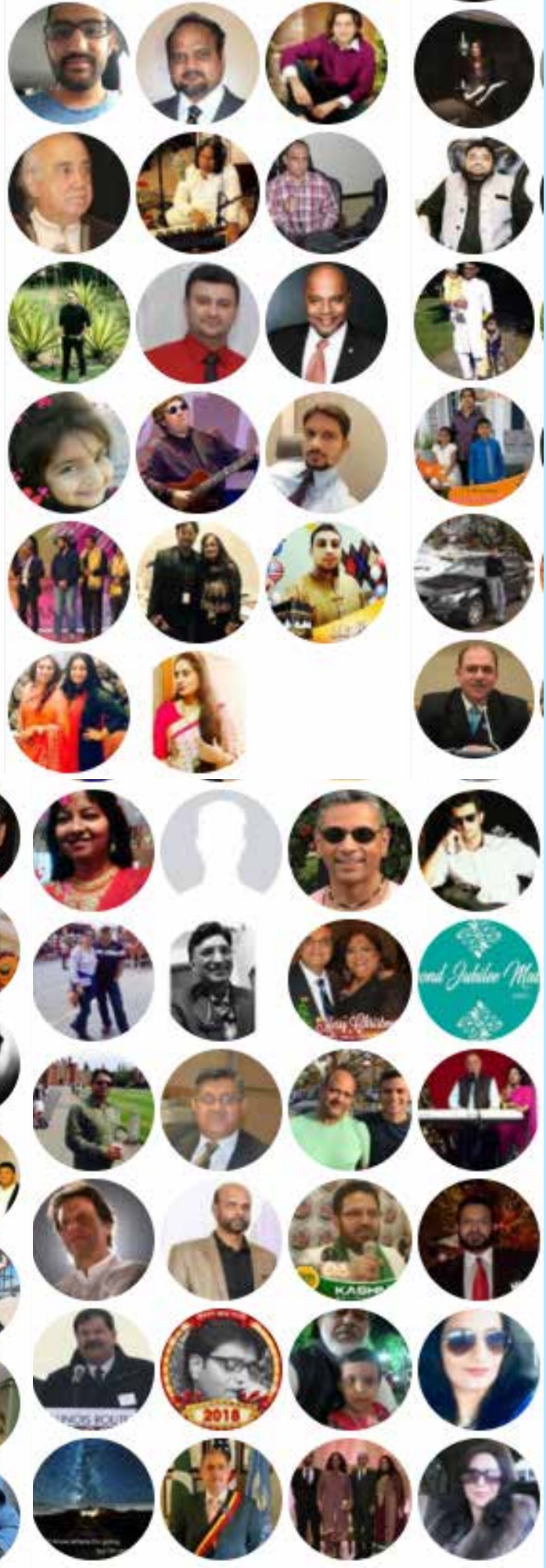
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BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL - CONGRATS



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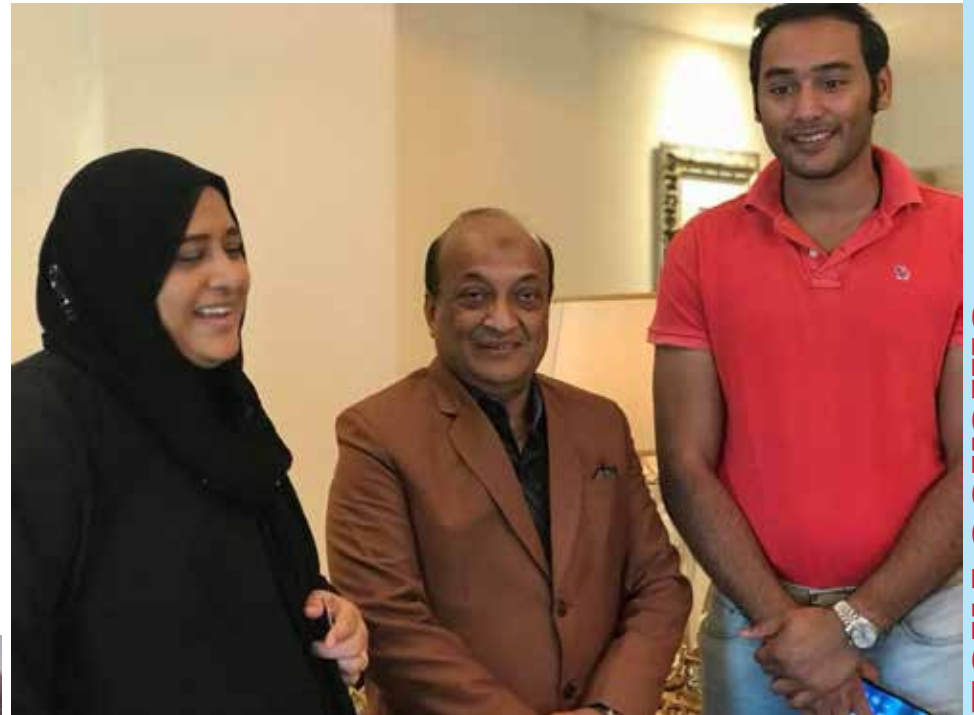
IFTEKHAR SHAREEF PAGE



Free medical camp at Shamshabad, thanks to Thumbai Hospital, Malakpet, Hyd and Mega Foundation, along Dr Prem Raj Yadav and Rachamalla Siddeshwar Sarpanch Shamshabad



Surprise visit to my residence at Shamshabad by our honourable Deputy Chief Minister of Telangana State Mehmood Ali Sahab with his grandson Furqan Ahmed . Thanks for spending his valuable time with me . Also seen is my friends Dr Prem Raj Yadav State BJP secretary, Mukesh Patel and Ali Alimisri Misri



Dinner meeting with the most dynamic lady and down to earth person , I ever met Dr .Nowhera Shaik from Tirupati , A.P , but stays in Bangalore. She is the founder and CEO of Hira Group of companies, founder of All India Women's Empowerment Party AIWEP , contesting all 240 Assemblies of Karnataka in May 2018 . Also present in meeting was Asad Mohammad cricketer son of Mohammed Azharuddin legendary India's most successful Cricket captain of India for ten successful years



URS e Shareef of Hazrat Syed Shah Raza Ali Rizvi Al Madini at Alija Kotla , Hyderabad. Very nicely arranged by Sajjade Nasheen of Durgah Syed Shah Asrar Hussain Rizvi Al Madini . Tasty dinner with Janab Pasha Quadri Sahab MLA Charminar and General Secretary of AIMIM . Thanks Faiyaz Ghazi for invitation



Bharati Janata Party BJP office at Hyderabad, seen in picture with me is Shri Ramachandra Rao MLC BJHaneef Ali Bjp Bjp State Minority Morcha president, Layeeq Ali All India BJP Minority Morcha Vice President and all other office Bearer of State BJP.



3rd Business meet 2018 of MCCI (Muslim Chamber of Commerce & Industry) held on Friday March 9 Th. At Taj Deccan, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad . Very well organized by the executive team of MCCI . Chief guest His Excellency Adnan Altay Altinors , Turkish Consul General at Hyderabad , Myself and Shri M.Venkateshwau, President Telangana Chamber of Commerce & Industry, presided by Mr. Nazimuddin Farooqi . Attended by bussiness man from Hyderabad. Thanks Imtiaz for Co-ordinating the event



Dinner at my residence in Shamshabad , with India's most successful Cricket captain of India and former Member of parliament Mohammed Azharuddin . Seen in picture is Mohtesham Ali , Etesham Quadri , Ashfaq Sharief , Ali Esa Misri , Ali Alimisri Misri , Ali Munwar , Mohsin Mohd Mohd and others



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Mir Zia Ali Khan's Daughter Sabrina Khan's marriage at Orrington in Glenn Ellyn , Illinois.. Iftexhar Shareef and others congratulated

## JB Pritzker for Governor

**Moon Khan**

AAAM Coalition wholeheartedly endorsed JB Pritzker for Governor in the presence of 300 community leaders. A large number of African American elected officials also attended the gala event, prominent among them were City of Chicago Alderman Rod Sawyer, Chairman, City of Chicago Black Caucus; City of Dolton Mayor Roger Riley, Chicago Alderman Howard Brookings, City of Chicago Education Committee, who introduced the next would be governor of Illinois. One of the Hosts, Tariq Siddiqui brought in these leaders. The event started with the recitation of the holy Quran by Salman Aftab of AmVote. Moin Haque, another host, welcomed the distinguished guests. Later, Moon Khan, another host,

presented a vote of thanks. Arshia Hasnain emceed the fabulous event. In his invigorating speech, Pritzker vowed to stand up and support the rights of the Muslims and fight against Trump's Islamophobic messages and policies. The audience gave JB a standing ovation.

The event was organized by AAAM Coalition. AAAM stands for Asian, African, Arab, and Muslim Coalition. AAAM means common people in Arabic, Bangla, Farsi, Hindi, and Urdu languages.

Photo credit: Shanu Khan



## Dr. Austin Prabhu Creates Records in District 1A

District 1A in Chicagoland, the Mother District of Lionism, held its 50th District Convention at the Westin Chicago Northwest, Itasca this weekend.

Events started on Thursday evening having dinner with International guests ID Nicolin Carol Moore and Rudy Moore from Trinidad, Tobago.

Friday evening had Parade of Banners presenting to Governor Pat Duda by clubs in the district and entertainment by My Blue Heaven, a musical group. This years theme for the convention was, "The Roaring Twenties, A Roaring Good Time."

There were 10 hospitality rooms organized by some clubs in the district with drinks, food and music. All participants enjoyed variety of food and danced to the music. District 1A is one of the most diversified districts in the US.

Saturday morning there was First Plenary Session followed by Bloody Mary Toast to celebrate clubs who have 5, 10, 15.....100 anniversaries. Governor Pat Duda raised the toast for these clubs' anniversaries.

At the Governor's Banquet in the evening Lions Clubs International Foundation recognitions were announced and they were honored. Dr. Austin Prabhu, received his 71st Progressive Melvin Jones Pin from State of Illinois LCIF chairperson past international director Bud Wahl. He is the first one to reach this level in the State of Illinois.

Governor Duda also gave away International President Dr. Naresh Aggarwal's Certifi-



Women Empowerment WE honored Top 20 women of excellence

Suni Shah with Bollywood most phenomenal singer Mika Singh at AAHOA Convention, Gaylord Resort,MD.



cates of Appreciation to outstanding lions who helped the governor to succeed in her mission. Dr. Austin Prabhu received one certificate for his untiring work to improve District 1A.

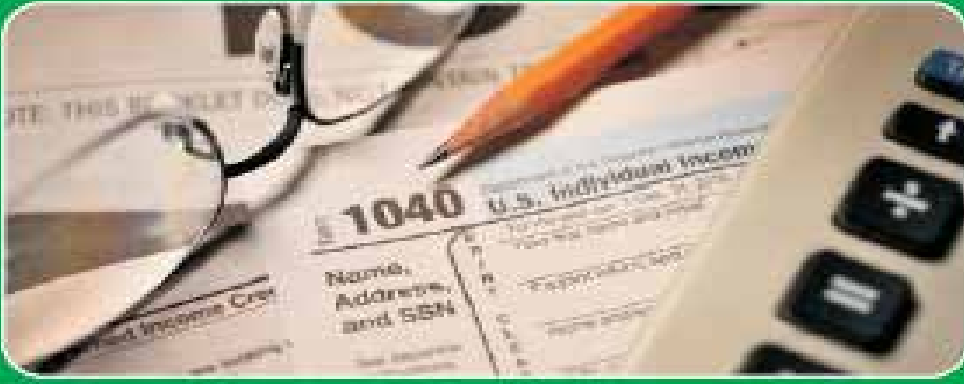
Sunday morning there were elections for governor, vice district governors, Lions of Illinois Foundation Trustee and endorsement to International Director from District 1A. Dr. Austin Prabhu was declared elected to the position of LIF Trustee from District 1A. District's prestigious awards for Citizen of the Year and Lion of the Year Awards. Once again Dr. Austin Prabhu was named for District 1A Citizen of the Year 2018 at Award. Past council chair Dennis McMillan read his bio and Governor Pat Duda presented the award.

Dr. Austin Prabhu thanked all the lions and citizens of Forest Park for giving him the opportunity to serve and he dedicated his award to all lions the district. He also thanked all the delegates who voted for him to be the District Trustee for Lions of Illinois Foundation for the years 2018-2020. Dr. Racoba was named as the Lion of the Year.

In 1996 Dr. Austin received District Lion of the Year Award. Naming the street in Forest Park as, "Honorable Dr. Austin Prabhu Way" will be held on Saturday, May 26, 2018 in Forest Park.



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**Celebrating International Women's Day In Chicago**

By: Farrah Ghiasuddin



Observed on March 8th, International Women's Day (IWD) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. It's a time to reflect on progress made, to call for change, and to celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women who have played an extraordinary role in the history of their countries and communities. The 2018 theme for International Women's Day is #PressforProgress. This theme is in response to the World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report which measured gender inequality and found that we are still 200 years away from achieving it. It's an important reminder despite all the progress we've seen over the years and exactly why we need to continue fighting for equal rights while also celebrating the many recent movements. The South Asian Cultural Society of Chicago (SACS); a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve heritage, language, and culture by promoting education; celebrated their 4th annual event by inviting a panel of speakers to discuss the hardships and struggles they or other women have overcome in their life or career. President and founder of the organization, Ghouisia Sultana, stated that the main reason for celebrating this day and why she continues to do so is to bring to light the achievements women have made in the South Asian community as a result of their efforts and struggles. "We need to discuss, we need to convey, and we need to encourage so that girls of our next generation have a desire and are motivated to accomplish more."

Alongside Ms. Ghouisia Sultana, fellow speakers included

Madhu Krishnamurthy, Anjum Rubina, Gwendolyn Brewer, Sharmin Shahjahan, Afshan Khan, and Syed Hussaini. Each of the women weighed in by discussing and sharing personal experiences and struggles that they faced before reaching the platform where they stand today. Ghouisia Sultana spearhead the panelists by discussing the hardships she overcame traveling overseas and the many struggles she had to overcome as a widow and single parent. She compared herself to Christopher Columbus; an explorer travelling to a foreign land; during a time when cell phones and internet were practically non-existent. Sharmin Shahjahan, a village trustee for Hanover Park, discussed the importance of civic engagement and how getting involved with local organizations helped her engage with the community and eventually lead her to the position she is at today. She encouraged members of the audience to get involved to help open channels for socializing and networking. Anjum Rubina talked about the value of women's resilience and stigma's endured within the South Asian community to create one's own identity. Gwendolyn Brewer identified with the theme by disclosing her experience of raising two children as a single parent and being homeless and how social services within the community really helped her. Madhu Krishnamurthy talked about how she came from a family of five girls all of whom are highly qualified professionals and how they broke the barriers for the unexpected with the support of their parents. Afshan Khan, a lawyer who specializes in immigration and citizenship, discussed the progresses her female clients have made who were victims of domestic abuse and human trafficking. With a panel of female



speakers, it was refreshing to get a male's perspective on women's progress. Syed Hussaini expressed his concerns regarding gender parity and equal pay stating women making .75 cents to the dollar is an injustice. Being a father of a teenage daughter himself, he felt that it shouldn't be just women celebrating and honoring IWD. IWD was born into existence in the early 1900's. More than a century later, the world has witnessed a significant change and attitudinal shift in both women's and society's thoughts about equality and emancipation. While younger generations may feel that the 'battle for women' has been won, feminists from the 1970's and 80's know only too well the longevity and ingrained complexity of patriarchy. However, great improvements have been made and 2017 has been quite the year. Women's political power is growing. We are seeing more ladies around the globe run for office and stronger female leaders emerging. Even powerful men are being held accountable in cases of harassment and assault.



Telangana Gulf NRIs Federation(TGNEF) With President Janab Ahmeduddin Owaisi Sahab Office Bearers: Dr. Syed Al Mehmood Sb, Aijaz Ahmed Khan Sb., Obaidur Rehman Sb. Shameem Kousar Sb. Yousf Amjad Sb. Mir Gazanfar Ali Zaki Sb. Syed Khaja Viqaruddin Sb. Mohammed Al Quresh Along With Chief Guest Qayum Anwar Sb. T News Members of BIM.





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the principles of service, compassion, and quality, Professor AliNiazee took early retirement after nearly 40 years of a successful career in academia to establish NWSC. Dr. AliNiazee and the NWSC team are dedicated to building a private, non-profit school of higher education that provides affordable and quality education dedicated to science, medicine, and the humanities.

A cultural hub with numerous advanced centers for healthcare and medicine, Chicago was selected as the city to establish NWSC. In 2008, President AliNiazee acquired the property in Rolling Meadows, IL that is now NWSC. After establishing the Corporate Board and the Board of Regents, M.A.Q. Khan (late), a retired professor of biology for the University of Illinois at Chicago joined NWSC as the Chairman of the Board of Regents, and was appointed as the college's Vice President. Dr. Khan was instrumental in this formative period at NWSC. Additional faculty and staff were hired by Dr. AliNiazee as the school started to grow.

Since its founding in 2008, NWSC has made great progress and continues to diligently work toward providing the very best educational environment. Currently, NWSC is an accredited institution offering accelerated degree seeking and healthcare certification programs. Since NWSC's first two students in 2009, nearly 500 students have graduated over the past six years. Recent highlights of NWSC's journey include attaining Title IV funding approval in May 2016 and initial institutional accreditation by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) in August 2014. If past performance is any indicator, NWSC has a bright future ahead.

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Illinois, 60008



# Jitendra Diganvker and Raja Krishnamoorthy to face each other in Nov

Krishnamoorthi, who is seeking re-election in the 8th Congressional District seat easily won during the primary. The freshman congressman ran unopposed for the Democratic nomination and advanced to the general election, where he will be challenged by Republican Jitendra Diganvker. This is perhaps the first time where two Indian American candidates from opposite political parties will be facing each other in an election. Vandana Jhingan had pursued the Republican nomination in the 8th Congressional District but was removed from the ballot after it was ruled she did not have enough valid signatures.



“This campaign was never about me. It has always been about working together to empower and raise the voices of the voters of the 8th State Senate District, one conversation at a time. Today, those voters spoke clearly: they’re ready for a new generation of effective progressive leadership.”

Villivalam, who lives in Chicago, where he was born, graduated from Lincoln Park High School in 2005 and went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in political science and government from The George Washington University in 2009.

Krishnamoorthi has been very active in his first term in Congress. The Indian American member of the House Oversight Committee on March 21, just a day after the election, continued his proactive work ethic, introducing the No Disrupting Accountability act to prevent President Donald Trump’s personal non-disclosure agreements from silencing White House whistleblowers.

He has been very outspoken about gun laws, several times issuing stern statements regarding gun control following the various shooting incidents throughout the country.

Krishnamoorthi is also a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee and is a member of 24 caucuses including the Diabetes, Rare Disease and Autism caucuses.

Other bills he has signed as a sponsor or co-sponsor include H.R. 356 to establish the National Commission on Foreign Interference in the 2016 election, and H.R. 357 to require the president to develop and release a comprehensive national strategy to prevent United States employers from overseas outsourcing and offshoring practices that impact the United States workforce.

Diganvker said that he is running for Congress to give a voice to the hard-working, middle-class Americans who are too often ignored by career politicians in Washington, D.C. .

The candidate lost his two daughters in a tragic house fire in 1999, which drove him to become a compassionate community activist. He said he has seen first-hand how burdensome government regulations and rising health care costs can discourage the entrepreneurial spirit.

“I am not a politician. While most politicians pass laws yet never feel the effects of their actions, I come from real America,” he said in a news release. “I have felt these struggles and know first-hand the consequences of Washington’s action, and inaction, on issues important to middle-class families. I will be the voice of everyday Americans in Washington.”

A graduate of Shah N.H. Commerce College, earning a bachelor’s in advance accounting and business, Diganvker currently serves as president of Rang Inc. He has also previously served as the chief executive of JDGO Rent A

Car, ticket auditor at United Airlines, and an inventory analyst at 3COM.

Ram Villivalam, who was running for the Democratic nomination in a de facto general election with no Republicans running for the state General Assembly seat in the 8th Legislative District, was a convincing winner over incumbent Ira Silverstein.

**Ram Villivalam**, a candidate endorsed by the Chicago Tribune, received 51.9 percent of the vote, nearly 20 points ahead of Silverstein, who tallied 29.1 percent and finished a distant second. Caroline McAteer-Fournier, with 13.8 percent, and David Zulkey, with 5.3 percent, finished well behind Villivalam in the race.

“I am incredibly proud of – and humbled by – the coalition we’ve brought together and the work we’ve done over the last four months,” Villivalam said at an election event in Lincolnwood, Ill., his campaign said in a news release.



Ram Villivalam with Ahmed Khan

He is a proud board member of the Gun Violence Prevention PAC and the Indo American Democratic Organization, his campaign noted.

He believes Illinois needs a new generation of diverse leaders who are progressive and effective; legislators who lead on the issues, and who listen to and truly represent their communities, it added.

The Indian American candidate boasts that he will work on creating tax fairness, safe communities, education and minimum wage. Additionally, he intends to work on healthcare, the environment, LGBTQ rights, women’s rights, college affordability and immigration.

“I’m ready to head down to Springfield to take on the issues that I’ve heard about again and again as I knock doors: reducing gun violence, ensuring equitable education funding, and lowering taxes for middle class families,” he said. “Now, let’s get to work.”

Villivalam’s career experience includes working as a consultant with SEIU Healthcare Illinois & Indiana, where he has served since February 2015.

Outside of the Impact Fund and Tribune, Villivalam was endorsed by U.S. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi; former gubernatorial candidate and Ald. Ameya Pawar; Congressmembers Jan Schakowsky, Brad Schneider, Mike Quigley and Danny K. Davis; the Indo-American Democratic Organization; National Nurses United; the Illinois AFL-CIO; and Local UFCW 881, among many others. “We were proud to endorse Ram Villivalam in our very first round of endorsements of the 2018 cycle,” said Deepak Raj, co-founder of Impact and chair of the Impact Fund, in a statement. “He represents exactly the kind of candidate that Impact Fund seeks to support: someone with bold new ideas, passion for public service, strong roots in his community, and a deep commitment to Indian American values.”

Other candidates who ran unsuccessfully in the Illinois primaries included Sameena Mustafa, Sapan Shah and Pakistani Neill Mohammad. INDIAWEST

## A message from Dilara Syeed

This race was historic! We ran a progressive, independent campaign with integrity, strategy, and passion. We pushed back on big money and ugly politics. We gave The Illinois Machine hell!

Thank you for your incredible support, my friends. You shared time, talent, and treasure with us- over 100 people volunteers, several policy experts, dozens who texted and called with positive vibes, and 650 funders who raised \$300,000!

Both the Chicago Tribune and Sun-Times endorsed us, as well as several legislators, progressive leaders, orgs, and faith/commu-



nity leaders.

It was empowering to be an education leader, a public servant, and an American Muslim woman-of-color, proudly wearing her hijab and championing our issues.

But make no mistake. Big money and identity politics won this race in Illinois. \$1 million was given to my opponent to beat us (that’s a compliment to us!). And for some, the problem was that I was not White and for others, I was not Black. We should all be “judged not by the color of our skin, but the content of

our character,” with leaders who unite us, not divide us. We have much work to do.

Many of you have texted and called and emailed - and said “Next Time!”. At this moment, I feel honored to have had the chance to run for elected office and proud to see a name like mine on an election ballot. I am grateful for God’s grace and each of you. And I need some sleep!

We end this race the way we started it—Not Bought. Not Bossed. And proud of our team and our work.

Final:  
Lamont Robinson 39%  
Dilara Alim Sayeed 27%  
Ken Dunkin 18%  
Felicia Bullock 13%



## Rameeza M Khalid - CEO Transparent Hands is honored with Tamgha-e-Imtiaz



Rameeza M Khalid - CEO Transparent Hands is honoured with Tamgha-e-Imtiaz (the fourth highest civilian award by the Government of Pakistan) for her impeccable services in healthcare sector of Pakistan.

Rameeza Mueen has developed a Crowdfunding platform "Transparent Hands" for the first time in healthcare sector of Pakistan through which she has saved the lives of more than 300 patients by providing them free of cost surgical treatment.

"My aim is to make Pakistan a country where no poor person dies because of lack of healthcare treatment. Only with your support, I can turn this dream into reality."

Rameeza worked as an educationist for 15 years. As a Section Head, her responsibilities encompassed entire management, marketing and training of the

staff members. She has attended various training sessions on the English Learning Needs based on demographic and cultural set up of the society. She has also conducted training sessions on Curriculum Teaching, School Development Plan and Classroom Management with effective AFL and AOL (Assessment for/of Learning) strategies. Rameeza was an active member of Pakistan Debating Society and has organized Parliamentary Debating Competitions for Under 17 and 19. In Feb 2014, she had the honor to organize Pakistan National MUN in which 42 international teams participated and presented their resolution on soaring political issues.

During her educational journey, many times she have had a chance to meet underprivileged people of Pakistan in different areas who suffer from serious ailments and can't afford any medical treatment or surgeries. To overcome this serious issue, Rameeza along with her brothers established Transparent Hands - A trust organization which conducts surgeries of poor patients through its global crowdfunding platform and builds a personal and trusted bond between patients and donors while ensuring complete transparency."

### Supreme Court gives govt 30 days to bring back Hussain Haqqani

The Supreme Court ordered government authorities to take steps to bring former ambassador to the United States (US) Hussain Haqqani back to Pakistan within 30 days.

The court was hearing a suo motu case regarding the 2011 Memogate scandal.

Director General of Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Bashir Ahmed Memon, who appeared before the court today, said that the judicial magistrate had provided the arrest warrants that were issued by the court earlier. He assured the court that the warrants would be sent to Haqqani's residence in Karachi and Washington.

Chief Justice (CJP) Mian Saqib Nisar warned that the SC will not accept any excuses after the deadline's expiration. Memon told the CJP that they had to follow a procedure in order to issue red warrants.

The FIA chief said that if Haqqani did not return to Pakistan to face the court, he would send a legal notice to the former ambassador through a lawyer in the US.

Justice Nisar also expressed anger over the criticism directed towards the SC for taking up the Memogate case again, saying that the court was not "bringing up a dead issue" (as portrayed by the media) but ensuring that justice is delivered.

"People who don't know anything [about the law], comment on it," he said adding that he was considering a ban on media discussions over ongoing cases.

Memogate scandal



On February 1, the SC had constituted a three-member bench to resume hearings of the controversial Memogate case involving the former ambassador to the US.

The case, first taken to the apex court in 2011 by the then opposition leader Nawaz Sharif, had forced Haqqani's resignation.

The 'memo' in question, delivered to a high-ranking American official allegedly at Haqqani's behest in May 2011, had exposed serious rifts between the PPP government and the army after a US-based businessman Mansoor Ijaz brought it to light.

It was delivered to a high-ranking official and asked for help for the civilian government against the military because of the domestic turmoil triggered by the US raid that killed Al Qaeda founder Osama bin Laden.

Haqqani, however, had denied having anything to do with the memo.

In 2012, a judicial commission headed by Justice Qazi Faez Isa was tasked with probing the matter had submitted its report to the apex court, holding Haqqani guilty of authoring the controversial memorandum and adding that the former US envoy "was not loyal to the country".

### Lahore court issues arrest warrant for Sarfraz Nawaz

A sessions court in Lahore on Wednesday issued an arrest warrant for former cricketer Sarfraz Nawaz after he repeatedly failed to appear before the court during the hearing of a defamation suit filed by Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman Najam Sethi.



Sessions judge Anjum Mumtaz Malik was hearing the case following Sethi's complaint in which he had alleged that Sarfraz "levelled false and baseless charges against him due to which his popularity suffered a decline".

According to Sethi, he had "not for a single day used his position for wrongful purposes".

The PCB chairman had requested the court to order the accused to pay damages worth Rs100 million.

Sarfraz was asked to appear before the court several times before but he failed to do so. Therefore, for not following the court's orders, an arrest warrant was issued against the accused.

The court ordered Sarfraz to appear before

it at all costs and adjourned the hearing for two weeks.

In February last year, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) had warned both print and electronic media not to give space to the former Test fast bowler, underlining any

move to do so maybe tantamount to a contempt of court.

"Regrettably, even after the injunctive order Sarfraz Nawaz is continuing with his vitriol campaign and is levelling false allegations for which contempt of court proceedings have also been initiated. It is astonishing that despite the injunctive order, TV channels are providing airtime to Sarfraz which is tantamount to contempt of court," a press release issued by the PCB had said.

"In a Suit No.32/ 5-6-15 Najam Aziz Sethi vs Sarfraz Nawaz for damages of 100 million under defamatory ordinance 2002 is pending before the District Court, Lahore for the slanderous, false, malicious, defamatory and concocted statements/allegations levelled by Sarfraz Nawaz against Mr Najam Sethi," the PCB had stated.



# US visa applicants to be asked for social media history

In a broad expansion of the information gathered from applicants for US visas, the federal government is proposing to collect social media identities from nearly everyone who seeks entry into the United States, according to a State Department filing on Friday.

The proposal, which must be approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), would require most immigrant and non-immigrant visa applicants to list on a federal application form all of the social media identities they have used in the past five years.

The information will be used to vet and identify them, according to the proposals, which would affect about 14.7 million people annually.

Previously, under rules instituted in May of 2017, consular officials were instructed to collect social media identifiers only when they determined "that such information is required to confirm identity or conduct more rigorous national security vetting," a State Department official said at the time.

The State Department said then that the tighter vetting would apply only to those "who have been determined

to warrant additional scrutiny in connection with terrorism or other national security-related visa ineligibilities."

The new proposal was published in the Federal Register on Friday. The public has 60 days to comment on the revised procedures before the OMB approves or rejects them.

The proposals support President Donald Trump's promise to institute "extreme vetting" of foreigners entering the United States in order to prevent terrorism.

If approved, the measures also will require applicants to submit five years of previously used telephone numbers, email addresses and their international travel history. They will be asked if they have been deported or removed from any country and whether family members have been involved in terrorist activities, the department said.

The department said it intends not to routinely ask most diplomatic and official visa applicants for the additional information.

# Google Doodle celebrates the birthday of India's first female doctor, Anandi Gopal Joshi

Google celebrated the 153rd birth anniversary of Anandi Gopal Joshee, India's first female doctor, on Saturday. Joshee was born on this day in Maharashtra in 1865. In the doodle, she is seen holding a degree and wearing a stethoscope around her neck. This comes around five months after the Google Doodle team honoured Rukhmabai Raut, hailed as one of the first female practising doctors in British India.

According to her bio, Joshee came back to India in 1886 with a doctor's degree at the inspiring young age of just 19 years. Joshee's life story — as short as it was — was one of courage and perseverance. Born as Yamuna in Maharashtra, she was married at the age of nine to a widower, Gopalrao Joshee, 20 years her senior, who named her Anandi. A progressive thinker, Gopalrao encouraged

his young wife to study. At the age of 14, Anandi Joshee gave birth to a boy, but he soon died because of lack of proper medical care. This was said to have been a turning point for the grieving mother, who developed an interest in medicine. Gopalrao encouraged her to pursue this study, and even sent her to America at 16. She earned her degree at the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania (now known as Drexel University College of Medicine) and returned to India with dreams of opening a medical college for women.

Unfortunately, young Joshee did not keep too well, and she died just short of 22 years due to tuberculosis on February 26, 1887. Though



Joshee could not execute her dream of opening a medical college for women, she did inspire subsequent generations of girls to fight for and follow their dreams.



Singer Mohammed Wakil was honored with Jaipur Music Award by Shubh Vichar Sanstha ki taraf



Jeff Beals, Decorated U.S. Diplomat running for Congress flanked by Megan Kaminski and M.A. Waheed at a fundraiser at Taj Mahal Restaurant.



"Making History" First Halal Meals on Wheels Program in NYC! 3-23-2018-Mohammad Razvi



Celebrating Pakistan resolution day 03/25/18 in New York - Amin Ghani

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# Mukesh Ambani

Mukesh Dhirubhai Ambani (born 19 April 1957) is an Indian business magnate who is the chairman, managing director and largest shareholder of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), a Fortune Global 500 company and India's most valuable company by market value. He holds a 44.7% stake in the company RIL deals mainly in refining, petrochemicals, and in the oil and gas sectors. Reliance Retail Ltd., another subsidiary, is the largest retailer in India. He is the elder son of the late Dhirubhai Ambani and Kokilaben Ambani and the brother of Anil Ambani. As of January 2018, Mukesh Ambani was ranked by Forbes as 18th-wealthiest person in the world, with a net worth of \$43.2 billion. In 2016, he was ranked 38, and is the only Indian businessman, on Forbes' list of the world's most powerful people. As of 2016, Ambani has consistently held the title of India's richest person on the magazine's list for ten years. Through Reliance, he also owns the Indian Premier League franchise Mumbai Indians. In 2012, Forbes named him one of the richest sports owners in the world. He resides at the Antilia Building, one of the world's most expensive private residences. Its value is close to \$1 billion. As of 2015, Ambani ranked fifth among India's philanthropists, according to China's

## Early life

Mukesh Dhirubhai Ambani was born on 19 April 1957 to Dhirubhai Ambani and Kokilaben Ambani. He has a younger

brother, Anil Ambani, and two sisters, Dipti Salgaonkar and Nina Kothari. The Ambani family lived in a modest two-bedroom apartment in Bhuleswar, Mumbai until the 1970s. Dhirubhai later purchased a 14-floor apartment block called 'Sea Wind' in Colaba, where, until recently, Mukesh and Anil lived with their families on different floors.

He attended the Hill Grange High School at Peddar Road, Mumbai, along with his brother and where Anand Jain, his close associate, was his classmate. He received his BE degree in Chemical Engineering from the Institute of Chemical Technology (UDCT), Matunga. Mukesh later enrolled for an MBA at Stanford University but withdrew to help his father build Reliance, which at the time was still a small but fast growing enterprise.

## Business career

In 1980, the Indian government under Indira Gandhi opened PFY (polyester filament yarn) manufacturing to the private sector. Dhirubhai Ambani applied for a license to set up a PFY manufacturing plant. In spite of stiff competition from Tatas, Birlas and 43 others, Dhirubhai was awarded the licence. To help him build the PFY plant, Dhirubhai pulled his eldest son Mukesh out of Stanford where he was studying for his MBA. Mukesh Ambani then continued to work for Reliance and did not return to his university program after that. He led Reliance's backward

integration from textiles into polyester fibres and further into petrochemicals, beginning in 1981.

Mukesh Ambani set up Reliance Infocomm Limited (now Reliance Communications Limited), which was focused on information and

communications technology initiatives.

Ambani directed and led the creation of the world's largest grassroots petrefinery at Jamnagar, India, which had the capacity to produce 660,000 barrels per day (33 million tonnes per year) in 2010, integrated with petrochemicals, power generation, port and related infrastructure. In December 2013 Ambani announced, at the Progressive Punjab Summit in Mohali, the possibility of a "collaborative venture" with Bharti Airtel in setting up digital infrastructure for the 4G network in India. In February 2014, a First Information Report (FIR) alleging criminal offences was filed against Mukesh Ambani for alleged irregularities in the pricing of natural gas from the KG basin. Arvind Kejriwal, who had a short stint as Delhi's chief minister and had ordered the FIR, has accused various political parties of being silent on the gas price issue. Kejriwal has asked both Rahul Gandhi and Narendra Modi to clear their stand on the gas pricing issue. Kejriwal has alleged that the Centre allowed the price of gas to be inflated to eight dollars a unit though Mukesh Ambani's company spends only one dollar to produce a unit, which meant a loss of Rs. 540 billion to the country annually.

On 18 June 2014, Mukesh Ambani, addressing the 40th AGM of Reliance Industries, said it will invest Rs 1.8 trillion (short scale) across businesses in the next three years and launch 4G broadband services in 2015.

In February 2016, Mukesh Ambani-led Jio launched its own 4G smartphone brand named LYF. In June 2016, it was India's third-largest-selling mobile phone brand. During the 40th annual general meeting



of RIL, he announced bonus shares in the ratio of 1:1 which is the country's largest bonus issue in India, and announced the Jio Phone at an effective price of As of February, 2018, Bloomberg's "Robin Hood Index" estimated that Ambani's personal wealth was enough to fund the operations of the Indian federal government for 20 day

## Board memberships

Member of Board of Governors Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai  
Chairman, managing director, Chairman of Finance Committee and Member of Employees Stock Compensation Committee, Reliance Industries Limited  
Former chairman, Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited

Former vice-chairman, Reliance Petroleum

Chairman of the board, Reliance Petroleum

Chairman and Chairman of Audit Committee, Reliance Retail Limited.

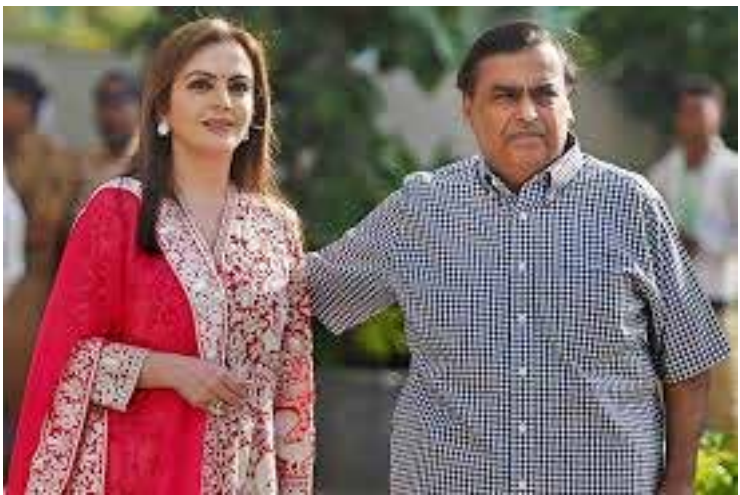
Chairman, Reliance Exploration and Production DMCC

Former Director, Member of Credit Committee and Member of Compensation & Benefits Committee, Bank of America Corporation[39]

President, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat

## Personal life

Mukesh is married to Nita Ambani and has two sons, Anant and Akash, and a daughter, Isha. They live in a private 27-storey building in Mumbai named Antilia valued at US\$1 billion and it is said to be one of the most expensive homes ever built. In an interview with Rajdeep Sardesai in March 2017, Mukesh said that his favourite food continued to be idli sambar and his favourite restaurant remains Mysore Café, a restaurant in Kings circle (Mumbai) where he used to eat as a student at UDCT from 1974 to 1979. During the fiscal year ending 31 March 2012, Mukesh reportedly, decided to forgo nearly 240 million from his annual pay as chief of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL). He elected to do this even as RIL's total remuneration packages to its top management personnel increased during that fiscal year. This move kept his salary capped at 150 million for the fourth year in a row. Mukesh Ambani is a strict vegetarian and teetotaler





## Outdoor safety tips for spring

It looks like winter is finally coming to an end in most parts of the country. If the warmer weather means you'll be directing workers to get outside, clear winter debris, and get your facility ready for spring, make sure they do it safely.

### Safety tips for outside hazards—machinery, insects, heat, and more

Wear safety goggles, sturdy shoes, and long pants when using lawn mowers and other machinery.

Protect your hearing when operating machinery. If you have to raise your voice to talk to someone who is an arm's length away, the noise can be potentially harmful to your hearing.

Make sure equipment is working properly. Wear gloves to protect from skin irritations, cuts, and contaminants.

Use insect repellent containing DEET.

Follow instructions and warning labels on chemical and lawn and garden equipment. (As a reminder, if workers will be using consumer chemical products in amounts and/or frequencies that exceed typical consumer use, employers must obtain a safety data sheet (SDS) for the product, ensure that it is properly labeled, and train workers in its hazards and safe work practices.)

Reduce the risk of sunburn and skin cancer by wearing long sleeves, a wide-brimmed hat, and sunshades. Use sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher.

Keep an eye on the thermometer and take precautions in the heat.

When working in hot weather, remind workers to drink plenty of liquids, but not those that contain alcohol or large amounts of sugar, as they can cause you to lose body fluid.

Pay attention to signs of heat-related illness, including high body temperature,



headache, dizziness, rapid pulse, nausea, confusion, or unconsciousness.

And remember—if you hire a contractor for landscaping or other outdoor maintenance, it's important to inquire about the company's safety record and make sure

they train and require employees to follow safe work practices. They may not be on your payroll, but if a contract worker is injured at your facility, OSHA can cite and fine not only the contractor, but the host employer as well.

## Top 10 Spring Cleaning Safety Tips

Spring cleaning safety is not normally on people's minds when they begin to haul out all those cleaning supplies and equipment, but it should be.

Everyday we need to be careful when going about our household chores, but when you really start tearing the house apart and moving things around during spring cleaning, especially with all those cleaning supplies and equipment out, it is doubly important to keep safety in mind.

Top 10 spring cleaning safety tips {on Household Management SpringCleaning #SafetyTips CleaningTips use this Pin it button to save to Pinterest-31Save

1. Do not rush because you are tired or in a hurry.

This is really the most basic spring cleaning safety tip, and all the other ones, at least to a certain degree, stem from this one.

Spring cleaning can be tiring work. Do not forget safety even if you have worked hard all day and want to get done.

The better thing to do when you are exhausted is to stop and take a break, drink a glass of water, sit under a nice cool fan, and rest instead of being unsafe.

2. Be careful moving large pieces of furniture and appliances.

Use proper lifting technique, keeping you back straight and lifting with your legs.

Also, wear shoes when moving heavy items so you don't hurt your toes.

Finally, if you feel it is just too heavy and you can't find someone else to do it for you, just don't move it. It won't be the end of the world to just clean around it.

Always have spring cleaning safety in mind.

3. Be safe while on ladders and step stools. When doing a task, such as washing windows, where you need to be on a ladder use extreme caution.

Do not lean too far to either side. A good rule of thumb is that your belly button should not go beyond the sides of the ladder.

Also, have someone available to hold the ladder steady for you if possible, and make sure before you step on them that the rungs are not wet, and you are wearing non skid shoes.

4. Be careful when walking on wet surfaces. This spring cleaning safety tip is really important every time you clean.

Everyone knows how easy it is to slip on a wet floor. Make sure you take the proper precautions to keep from falling.

Also, make sure others in your family, including children, are also warned of the wet floor to keep them safe.

You may need to block small children's access to wet floors because they just don't understand not to run and slide on them.

5. Keep stairs, landings, and walkways clear of boxes, bags and other clutter. Spring cleaning is a great time to declutter your home, but you need to make sure all the boxes and bags of stuff you are getting rid of don't cause a safety concern.

Make sure you place them outside walkways and especially away from steps and stairs where someone may trip on them.

6. Don't carry too much stuff at once, especially on stairs. During spring cleaning you will also probably go up and down your stairs a lot carrying things if you live in a home with stairs.

Make sure you keep a hand free to hold



onto the stair railing.

Also, whether you have stairs or not, always make sure you can see over the load you are carrying so you do not trip.

7. Always follow cleaning product label safety instructions and recommendations. Cleaning supplies can create nasty fumes, so make sure you get some fresh air by opening windows, turning on the exhaust fan, or placing a fan in the room.

In addition, do not mix ammonia and bleach together, both of which are common household cleaners, because they create toxic fumes when combined.

When it doubt don't mix, just use one product to get the job done.

You should also wear rubber gloves to keep your hands from getting dry and cracked from the hot water and chemicals.

8. Wear a mask when cleaning dusty areas. This may seem like overkill to some, but if you are at all allergic to dust this tip is very important.

9. Do not leave buckets filled with water around your home. Even if you need to take a quick break make sure you empty that cleaning bucket, or at least put it in an inaccessible area.

Even small amounts of water are a drowning hazard for small children.

10. Put away all your cleaning supplies when you are done. When you finally finish your spring cleaning tasks for the day it is easy to say to yourself, "I'll put these away later," or "I am just going to use these again tomorrow, so I'm keeping them out."

Cleaning supplies are an attractive nuisance for our children and pets, something inviting that they should definitely not be getting into.

Put the cleaning products away in a child-proof cabinet for your children's safety and well-being as soon as you are done with them.



# Fed Up With 'Fake News,' Saudi Prince Speaks Out About Royal Detention

In November 2017, Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman ordered the sudden arrest of 17 government officials and members of the Saudi royal family in what appeared to be an anti-corruption crackdown. The seized officials were placed at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Riyadh, dubbed by Newsweek as "the world's most expensive prison," for weeks, until some of the detainees reportedly settled with the Saudi government for billions of dollars in exchange for an exit. Most Western media interpreted the government purge as a scheme by Crown Prince Mohammed to rule out political enemies and consolidate power to pave way for his succession as the king of Saudi Arabia. The most closely watched enemy of the crown prince was Prince Alwaleed bin Talal, a reclusive member of the royal family and one of the richest men in the world whose net worth has been estimated at \$17 billion. His investment firm, Kingdom Holding Company, owns controlling shares in a number of U.S. companies and has tangled ties with Donald Trump, Rupert Murdoch and even Bill Gates. Little was known to the public about his confinement over the past few months except that he was released in late January after reportedly paying the Saudi government \$6 billion. Surprisingly, seven weeks after his release, Alwaleed volunteered to do a television interview to discuss what happened.

His primary motivation to speak up, he said, was the swirling "fake news" in Western media surrounding him and the entire government purge. "In the last week or 10 days, a lot of false articles were written in certain newspapers, like The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times and CNBC. They were false and wrong. They were based on innuendos, rumors and heresy. So I want to clarify my position and the position of Saudi Arabia, although I don't represent Saudi Arabia. But I'm a Saudi citizen," Alwaleed told Bloomberg Television. He also called out Forbes for not enlisting any Saudi names on its latest billionaires list. "Now I'm starting to understand what President Trump means by 'fake news.' I agree with Mr. Trump. There's a lot of fake news out there," he said. Alwaleed denied allegations reported by the Times that he had been tortured during the detention and by the Journal that he had agreed to pay \$6 billion to the Saudi government for his freedom, although he suggested that there might have been some physical controlling on those who had tried to escape or "do something crazy." As for his release negotiation, Alwaleed admitted that he had signed a settlement—or "a confirmed understanding" in his words—with the government, but refused to disclose whether monetary payments were involved. All in all, the interview didn't reveal as



much information about the arrest as people anticipated. Throughout the one-hour interview, Alwaleed declined to directly answer most of the questions regarding the confinement. He said "I cannot get into that" or "confidential" six times. He also refused to use words like "arrest" or "settlement" to describe what happened. However, Alwaleed's public appearance was much needed to calm the investors who have stakes in his funds. One week after his arrest, Alwaleed's net worth evaporated by \$2 billion due to the stock slump of Kingdom Holdings. The company has at least \$1 billion of debt maturing over the next three years, according to Bloomberg analysis, and Alwaleed is

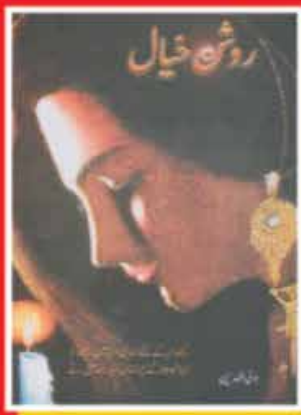
already negotiating with banks (both local and international) to get \$2 billion in new loans to fund future deals. "When you are detained, for sure some of the business community, some of the banking community will say they have doubts. That's my job right now, to interact, to meet with all of them individually or jointly and tell my story," he said. When asked whether everything he said during the interview was 100 percent true, Alwaleed said, "I have a confirmed understanding with the government, and it's ongoing. I'll elaborate on that: It's an ongoing process with the government."

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# Ram Gopal Varma

Ram Gopal Varma is an Indian film director, screenwriter and producer, known for his works in Telugu cinema, Bollywood, and television. Varma directed films across multiple genres, including parallel cinema and docudrama noted for their gritty realism, technical finesse, and craft. Regarded as one of the pioneers of new age Indian cinema, Varma garnered the National Film Award for scripting the political crime drama, *Shool* (1999). In 2004, he was featured in the BBC World series *Bollywood Bosses*. In 2006, Grady Hendrix of *Film Comment*, published by the Film Society of Lincoln Center, cited Varma as "Bombay's Most Successful Maverick" for his works on experimental films. Varma is known for presenting the Indian Political Trilogy, and the Indian Gangster Trilogy; film critic Rajeev Masand had labeled the series as one of the "most influential movies of Hindi cinema. The first installment of the trilogy, *Satya*, was also listed in CNN-IBN's 100 greatest Indian films of all time. Varma's recent avant-garde works include hits such as the dramatized re-enactment of "Rayalaseema factionism" in *Rakta Charitra* (2010), the "2008 Mumbai attacks" in *The Attacks of 26/11* (2013), the "Operation Cocoon" in *Killing Veerappan* (2016), and the "Vijayawada riots" in *Vangaveeti* (2016).

Starting his career as a civil engineer, he made an entry into Telugu cinema with the path-breaking crime thriller, *Siva* (1989) screened at the 13th International Film Festival of India, and has garnered Varma, the state Nandi Awards for Best direction, Best first film of a director, and the Filmfare Award for Best Film – Telugu. Subsequently, the film was included in CNN-IBN's list of 100 greatest Indian films of all time. Varma's next movie *Kshana Kshanam* (1991) was screened at the Ann Arbor Film Festival. The sleeper hit won him another Nandi Award for Best Direction, and the Nandi Award for Best Screenplay Writer. The 1993 political drama, *Gaayam* received six state Nandi Awards. In 1999, He directed *Prema Katha* for which he received his third Nandi Award for Best Director. Early years

In an interview to *Tehelka*, Varma talked about his relationship with his parents and the reasons behind his decision to become a filmmaker.

From my parents' perspective, I looked like a useless bum. It was the truth. I had no objective. I was just fascinated by people, so I used to study their behaviour. I was most fascinated by the bullies in my classroom. They were like gangsters for me. They had the guts to push around people, do things I couldn't—perhaps did not even want to do myself. But I'd want a friend like that (laughs). I used to

adulate them like heroes. That was my first touch with anti-socialism. Over a period of time, I developed a low-angle fascination for larger than life people. I was always a loner – not because I was unhappy, but because I live away from myself, not just others. I like to study myself – the way I am walking, talking, behaving. My constant obsession with studying myself and other people is perhaps the primary motivation for me to be a filmmaker.

Varma completed BE in Civil engineering from V.R. Siddhartha Engineering College, Vijayawada. Even during this period, Varma remained a film buff, through his uncle. Varma would skip classes often and watch films instead. He would watch the same film repeatedly "just to watch certain scenes which interested him." According to him, that is how he learned film direction.

After a brief stint as a site engineer for Krishna Oberoi hotel in Hyderabad, he put his dreams on the back burner and decided to go to Nigeria to make some money. It was at this moment that he visited a video rental library in Hyderabad. He loved the idea and decided to start one of his own at Ameerpet in Hyderabad, through which he slowly developed connections with the film world. Without being successful as a fourth assistant director in B. Gopal's film *Collector Gari Abbai*, Varma directly ventured into film direction, with the 1989 Telugu film, *Siva*.

International acclaim  
Rachel Dwyer, a reader in world cinema at the University of London-Department of South Asia, marked Varma's *Satya* as an experiment with a new genre, a variation of film noir that has been called *Mumbai Noir*, of which Varma is the acknowledged master. In 2010, Varma received critical acclaim at the Fribourg International Film Festival, Switzerland; a retrospective of his filmography, highlighting *Mumbai Noir* was staged by film critic Edouard Waintrop, a delegate in the Directors' Fortnight of the Cannes Film Festival. *Satya* and *Company*, in particular, were cited by British director Danny Boyle as influences on his Academy Award-winning film *Slumdog Millionaire* (2008), for their "slick, often mesmerizing portrayals of the Mumbai underworld", their display of "brutality and urban violence", and their gritty realism.

In 2005, Varma directed the Godfather-esque-Sarkar, another super-hit thriller inspired by the life of Bal Thackeray and North Indian politics, which was screened to special mention at the New York Asian Film Festival, along with its sequel *Sarkar Raj*, which premiered at the 2008 Cannes Film Festival and the 9th IIFA World Premiere-

Bangkok, and was archived at the Academy of Motion Pictures library. In 2013, he directed a docudrama, *The Attacks of 26/11*, showcased to critical acclaim at the

Berlin International Film Festival, in the Panorama as well as the Competition section, and was premiered at Films Division of India. The film received highly positive reviews, with critics praising Varma's narrative of assistant commissioner N. R. Mahale, and the discrepancies associated with Mahale's interaction with Ajmal Kasab on anti terrorism. Film craft and style

Varma's craft is influenced by Russian-American playwright Ayn Rand, and European authors Friedrich Nietzsche, James Hadley Chase and Frederick Forsyth, as well as by *Mad* magazine. Varma's first runaway hit in Hindi cinema was *Shiva* (1990), the remake of his 1989 film *Siva*. Varma introduced the steadicam to Indian cinema with *Siva*. Later, He garnered attention in Bollywood with the romantic comedy film, *Rangeela* (1995) starring Aamir Khan. The film won seven Filmfare Awards. *Rangeela* was later remade in Hollywood as *Win a Date with Tad Hamilton!*.

He then directed *Satya* (1998), which won six Filmfare Awards, including the Critics Award for Best Film. In 2005, *Indiatimes Movies* included *Satya* in its list of 25 Must See Bollywood Movies. *Satya* was showcased among the Indian Panorama section, at the 1998 International Film Festival of India. Varma received the Bimal Roy memorial award for best direction for this film. In the same year, he co-produced *Dil Se...*, directed by Mani Ratnam, screened at the 1999 Berlin Film Festival, and won the Netpac Award, as well as two National Film Awards and six Filmfare Awards. *Satya*, together with his 2002 film *Company* (which he directed, won three IIFA Awards, seven Filmfare Awards, and a Bollywood Movie Award for best direction, and was premiered at the 2004 Austin Film Festival) and the 2005 film *D* (which he produced), were also featured in the Fribourg International Film Festival, and the New York Asian Film Festival. Experimental films

In 1991, Varma experimented with the supernatural thriller, *Raat*, and the 1992 Neo-noir, crime film *Drohi*, and gained positive reviews from critics. During the years between his trilogy, from *Satya* in 1998 to *D* in 2005, Varma implemented different film genres in his craft. In 1999, he directed *Kaun*, a suspense thriller set entirely in one house and featuring only three actors, and *Mast*, a subversion of Hindi cinema's masala genre. In 2000, he directed *Jungle*, set entirely in a jungle, for which he was nominated for the Star Screen Award for Best Director. In 2003 he directed another supernatural thriller *Bhoot* on the lines of his earlier hit *Raat*. *Bhoot* became a major hit at the box office, [66] and Varma was nominated for the Filmfare Best Director Award for the film. *Bhoot* was followed by even more horror movies, including hit films such as *Darna Mana Hai* (2003), *Darna Zaroori Hai* (2006), and *Phoonk* (2008), gaining Varma the status of star of the Indian horror genre. Other experimental productions of Varma include *Ek Hasina Thi* (2003), a psychological thriller, and *Ab Tak Chhappan* (2004), a film about an inspector in the Mumbai Encounter Squad noted for having killed 56 people in encounters. In 2006, he re-made a new installment of *Shiva*, which was screened at the New York Asian Film Festival, where in a retrospective featuring Varma's experimental hits such as *Company*, *Ek Hasina Thi*, *Ab Tak Chhappan*, *Sarkar*, *Contract*, and *Shabri*



was staged. *Shabri* was also screened at Rome Film Festival 2010 film on media, *Rann* was screened at Toronto International Film Festival. A two-part bilingual Parallel cinema *Rakta Charitra* (2010), on the theme of South Indian politics, was based on the life of Paritala Ravindra, and *Maddela Cheruvu Suri*; the film received praise from critics.

Mainstream

Varma started his career in the Telugu film industry as an assistant director on the sets of films such as *Collector Gari Abbai* and *Rao Gari Illu*. His father Krishnam Raju Varma, was a sound recordist at the Annapurna Studios. Varma met Nagarjuna Akkineni at the studios, and narrated a scene to the actor which impressed him. The result of their collaboration was a film on the criminalisation of student politics – *Siva*. It was a commercially successful film that gave Varma an opportunity to demonstrate his technical expertise and story telling skills. *Kshana Kshanam* with Venkatesh, *Gaayam* with Jagapathi Babu and *Anaganaga Oka Roju* with J.D. Chakravarthy were successful. *Govinda Govinda* with Nagarjuna proved to be a moderate success at the box office. During this period, Varma produced films such as *Money and Money Money*. Other box office hits by Varma in Telugu include *Gulabi* (1995); *Madhyanam Hathya* (2004); *Rakta Charitra* (2010), *Dongala Mutha* (2011), *Rowdy* (2014), *Ice Cream* (2014). Varma introduced online auction based film distribution model for this venture, and tasted success.

Varma's notable mainstream works in Hindi cinema include *Daud* (1997), *Darna Zaroori Hai* (2006), *Nishabd* (2007), *Darling* (2007), and *Phoonk* (2008). Bollywood film makers such as Anurag Kashyap, Madhur Bhandarkar, Puri Jagannadh, E. Nivas, Prawaal Raman, Krishna Vamsi, Vishram Sawant, and Hansal Mehta assisted Varma, before venturing into direction. In 1993, he scripted the Tamil thriller *Thiruda Thiruda*, screened at Toronto International Film Festival. In 2015, Varma was fined for Rs 10 Lakhs, for an alleged copyright violation with the film *Aag* (2007). He made his directorial debut in Kannada cinema with the thriller *Killing Veerappan*.

Non-film work

Ram Gopal Varma with Suriya on the sets of *Rakta Charitra*

Television

Ram Gopal Varma made his debut in Television through a Talk Show titled *Ramuism*. The show is being aired on Tollywood channel since September 2014. The show is noted for its fresh and witty appeal. The show focuses on Varma's Point of View on social issues such as Education, Religion, Mythology, Children, Crime, Death, Anger, Godmen, Woman, Philosophy, Cinema etc. The show is hosted by Swapna, the managing director of Sakshi TV.





# Putin and Russian foreign policy goals

**-Dr. Abdul Ruff Colachal**

With his electoral win as President for the fourth term in modern Russia in a highly dramatic manner unheard in democratic poll history, President Putin would feel in total control of the country's system and opposition.

At the very outset it needs to be stressed that Putin does not believe in western ideas of democracy of ruling a nation for maximum of two terms and stand down from entertaining further political ambitions.

Unless the previous Presidency polls in Russia, the election this time around was fairly predictable as people longed to see Putin making Russian presidency stronger. Unlike the self-boast claims of highly inflammable and erratic US President Donald Trump about "USA first" – as if USA had never pursued that policy before him and advanced interests of the world, Putin never made such foolish statements but strictly pursued "Russia first" policy vehemently. One achievement is the recovering the Crimea region from Ukraine by ignoring all objections of USA and allies. Now Russia dictates terms to USA in Syria.

Putin could claim that he is fulfilling the demands of the people wanting a strong presidency that only he can provide. Like in Saudi Arabia the rulers just do not entrain extreme experiments to make a sea change in the system for the anti-royal fringes to remove the kingdom and establish their own dictatorship with US-Israeli backing in the name of so-called democracy, Russia also is keen their system is not dismantled as per the designs of anti-Islamic forces. Moreover, the West suspects President Putin might revert Russia back to Soviet era system that would upset entire agenda of the West that after having succeeded in a big way, into eventual jeopardy. They keep calculating the post-Putin Russia but Putin still remains in full control.

A lively debate is on in the West and elsewhere about Putin's new foreign policy if any. Obviously, President Putin would choose his course very carefully and he is quite capable of that.

Russia, like any other big nation, has its own fancies about its place in the world but the world turned out to be more unpredictable and complicated than many Russians thought.

True, Russian economy received a jolt in the form of economic terrorism from USA and EU known as "sanctions" on account of Crimea annexation.

Apparently, Russian leadership did not expect the West to introduce strong sanctions after Crimea and to stick with them for years though Russian action is final. However, China compensated the Kremlin for the huge economic loss in Western investments and trade deficits.

President Putin may have expected Hillary Clinton to win the US elections and become a tough anti-Russian president but the election of Donald Trump gave some hope so improvement in bilateral ties. Russia expected fanatic Donald Trump to become a soft Russia-friendly president. Russia did not expect the EU to sudden collapse under the weight of its own internal contradictions at the wake of Brexit.

Arguably Trump has an unshakeable belief that he is uniquely positioned to defuse a dangerous standoff with Moscow by courting Putin.

Trump congratulated Putin on his election victory, and spoke in an upbeat manner about talks he hoped to hold with him soon, billing their meeting rather like a Reagan-Gorbachev summit from the 1980s. This is the latest example of his unusual deference to Putin, following the 2016 election in which US intelligence agencies assessed the Russians intervened on his behalf. But the White House says that Russia assaulted American democracy, used a nerve agent in an attack on the soil of its close-

est ally, Britain, and just held an election that cannot be judged free and fair. Yet the President did not bring up any of those issues during a telephone chat with Putin, White House spokeswoman Sarah Sanders said.

An innocent looking Barack Obama did it in 2012 by greeting Putin, as he tried to keep his Russia "reset" strategy alive. But any interactions between Trump and Putin are closely watched given the special counsel investigation into Russian election meddling.



Putin meanwhile is one of the groups of autocrats and global strongmen that Trump seems to admire -- an odd quirk in an American President who often appears tougher on allies than US foes, except that he promotes aggressively the Zionist expansionist

agenda in Palestine against the UN demand to promote Palestine and International Law condemning all Zionist crimes against humanity. . .

Russia expects Ukraine to collapse under the weight of its unreformed economy, corruption and unruly political passions because US support for East European nation with communist background is not genuine.

Putin expects the settlement in Syria, where Russian military plays important role to help Assad stay alive and kicking while Syrians keep dying for him, to be a lot easier now.

Russian foreign policy predictions have occasioned a lively foreign policy debate in Moscow as well – on the meaning of Donald Trump, on the fate of the European Union, on what to expect from China, from Near Abroad, on what next in Syria and Donbas.

There has been a constant demand from liberals – both foreign policy thinkers and economic technocrats - to improve the relations with the West for purposefully advancing its national interest, starting possibly from stabilizing the situation in Donbas. They fail to recognize the fact the USA opposes any better ties with Russia and China. The processes of dismantling of mighty Soviet Union and Socialist system in the entire east Europe, braking down of Berlin Wall, etc were enacted by Michael Gorbachev in order to improve relationship with USA and Europe but alas only USA won the Cold war and Eastern Europe and made Russia feel for the loss of great nation status. Yet, former finance minister Alexei Kudrin succinctly argues, "if we want our economy to grow, and grow smartly, we need to improve the relations with the West." The West remains the best source for modernisation. The need for technocratic modernisation – the need to master the world of artificial intelligence, blockchains and other 21st century wonders – seems to be understood also by President Putin, at least intellectually, if not passionately.

Stabilization in Donbas, according to this camp, is the best place to start. Progress there would help to restart the relations with the European Union, and that might be of help at a time when the relations with the US are deadlocked because Russia has become a domestic issue in the US.

However, most of Russians see though the American-Israeli straggles to belittle Russia and simply oppose and even hate USA and Western civilization. Then this dovetails with a foreign policy argument that holds that Russian foreign policy is overstretched and would benefit from ending a few conflicts.

The other camp in Moscow, thus, remains skeptical. They

fear the West will view 'concessions' from Russia as a sign of weakness; or that rapprochement with the West would make Russia's non-Western allies – from Iran to China – fear Russian 'betrayal'.

Iran has already experienced such treatment in its relations with Russia in the 1990s and early 2000s, when Moscow used Tehran as a mere bargaining chip in its relationship with the USA. The same way USA used Pakistan a tool to improve relations with China after its success in misusing Islamabad to gain access to petrodollars in Arab world.

However, the sceptical camp is being advised by the West to agree on one crucial point: foreign policy indeed needs to change. Saudi Arabia is also following their footsteps without having any idea about the long term outcomes

Anti-Russia rhetoric and tactics continue to work in the west. They also work in the Middle East, where Russia now effectively owns the conflict in Syria and, to stay on top of the diplomatic process, it needs effective relations with all regional powers. They do not work in the West, because there, Donald Trump is now the disruptor-in-chief; and an unpredictable one at that. But USA is keen to see that the primitively anti-Western rhetoric and tactics that centre on disruption do not work anymore in Moscow. This requires predictable behavior. Surprise invasions have done their job, done it well in Moscow's eyes – but their time seems to be far from over.

Such was the state of the debate when, in the afternoon of March 4, a former GRU employee and British double agent Sergei Skripal was found unconscious on the bench in Salisbury, poisoned with the nerve agent Novichok, the only known earlier producer of which was USSR/Russia. But now any country could produce and sell. Israel is known for such mischievous endeavors and USA diplomatically supports all secret Zionist operations.

UK quickly blames on Russia and personally on Putin as their usual strategy. This crime remains puzzling. Murders of exchanged spies – as Skripal was – have not been part of Moscow's behavior so far. Was the only aim to kill a traitor? In that case, most other means would have been simpler than nerve agent.

UK might have expected a poor show by Putin in the presidency poll. The domestic political incentives are likely. Could it have been indeed ordered by President Putin - with full knowledge of international implications? Or was it the job of some powerful Russian agencies without Putin's knowledge, or maybe sanctioned only in very broad terms? In that case, will the Kremlin manage to distance itself from them, and do so with the level of publicity that would satisfy the West? Such questions are raised in the West. No one knows for sure who does what.

Of course the issue is just starting point for Putin to just ignore and move on further with prudent foreign policy goals to remobilize entire anti-West and anti-West world to fight colonialism capitalism, imperialism, fascism and US brand Zionism.

The inconsistency in the Trump regime's approach to Russia adds to uncertainty about how the West will respond to Putin's growing willingness to exercise power beyond his borders.

Western policy toward Russia is not going to change dramatically for years. .

By shuffling the team members, Trump looks for opportunities to advance the unilateral America to impose its military prowess on the world stage.

Russian voters are right: only President Putin can do that and assure peace prosperity for entire world. .





# Aziz Mian Qawwal

Aziz Mian Qawwal (17 April 1942 – 6 December 2000) was one of Pakistan's leading traditional qawwals and also famous for singing ghazals in his own unique style of qawwali. Aziz is still one of the most popular qawwals of South Asia, and he has given us many Qawwali hits. He holds the record for singing the longest commercially released qawwali, Hashr Ke Roz Yeh Poochhunga, which runs slightly over 115 minutes

## Early life and background

Aziz Mian was born as Abdul Aziz in Delhi, British India. The exclamation Mian, which he often used in his qawwalis, became part of his stage name. He began to introduce himself as Aziz Mian Meeruthi. The word Meerut refers to Meerut, a city in northern India, from which he migrated to Pakistan in 1947.

At the age of ten, he began learning the art of Qawwali under the tutelage of Ustad Abdul Wahid Khan of Lahore. He received sixteen years of training at the Data Ganj Baksh School of Lahore, and earned degrees in Urdu literature, Arabic and Persian from the University of Punjab, Lahore.

## Career

Aziz Mian was one of the non-traditional Pakistani Qawwals. His voice was raspy and powerful. Aziz Mian was the only prominent qawwal to write his own lyrics (though, like others, he also performed songs written by other poets). Aziz Mian was a contemporary, and often a competitor, of The Sabri Brothers.



His break-out performance was in 1966, when he performed before the Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. He won first prize and a gold medal from the Shah of Iran. In the early days of his career, he was nicknamed Fauji Qawwal (meaning "Military Qawwal") because most of his early stage-performances were in military barracks for the army personnel. He was known for a "more recitative, more dramatic diction" and was inclined toward qawwali's religious rather than entertainment qualities, though he also enjoyed success in more romantic qawwalis.

He was fond of discussing religious and Sufi paradoxes in his qawwalis. He directly

addressed Allah and complained about the misery of man (the greatest creation of the Almighty). In addition to his own poetry, Aziz Mian performed poetry by Allama Iqbal, and a number of contemporary Urdu poets, including Sadiq, Saifuddin Saif and Qateel Shifai. Awards an recognition

For his service in music, the Government of Pakistan awarded him the Pride of Performance medal in 1989.

## Death

Aziz Mian died from complications of hepatitis in Tehran, Iran on 6 December 2000 (10 Ramadan Mubarak). He was in Iran at the invitation of the Government of Iran, to perform on the occasion of

Imam Ali's death anniversary. He is buried in Multan, on the brink of Nau Bahar Nehar [Canal]. His death anniversary (Urs) is celebrated every year on the first Thursday of May, the Urs celebrations commence with the 'Ghusal' ceremony conducted by Mian Saheb's son Shibli Aziz and Rasm e Sandal of Baba Nadir Hussain famously known as 'Tootan Wali Sarkar' who is a murid of Aziz Mian. The Urs celebrations continue for three days, starting with 'Ghusal' followed by 'Chadar Poshi' and 'Mehfil e Samaa' (Urdu: Mehfil-e-Samaa of Qawwali ('samaa' means the listening audience in Urdu and Arabic). Around seven to eight qawal groups perform. The Celebration terminates after the last ritual of 'Qul'. The Urs (death anniversary) celebration are organized by Shibli Aziz Mian, who is more interested in mysticism and Sufi traditions. He is promoting and propagating these spiritual heritage of his father and have a quite a number of disciples [Mureed's] and followers.

## Family

Aziz Mian had four sons Junaid, Tabreiz, Imran and Faran who all followed in his footsteps. They are very similar in style to Aziz Mian himself and like other sons of famous qawwals (Amjad Sabri for example, or Waheed and Naveed Chishti), they perform many of their father's hits. Tabreiz is however considered to be the closest to his father's style. His looks and his style are a mirror image of his father. Tabreiz also toured North America for a tribute to Aziz Mian Qawwal.



Junaid Aziz Mian Qawwal, son of Aziz Mian Qawwal, performing live on stage in Lahore, Mar 2018



## A German Gentleman Klaus Wenger An Example of Honesty

By M.S. Zahed, Ex-CMD, HMT Ltd

In 1978, I bought an old two colour car Standard Ten from Professor of IIMB by availing car loan from the company. My wife went to work by car and I use to commute by Company's transport which avoided dependence of unreliable public transport. My wife, user of the car had left the maintenance and upkeep to me and I was as per my reputation was not up to the mark and often end up pushing the vehicle to petrol pump with my wife at the wheels. Once, it so happened that she was driving and due to brake failure, she drove straight into some body's house damaging car as well as the compound wall of the house and luckily, only car was damaged and with the help of friends in NIAC, the car was completely reconditioned with very little contribution of mine as it was comprehensively insured.

Saturday evenings, the family would drive up to Vidhana Soudha and sit and watch the beautifully lit granite sculpted building, perhaps one of the very few public buildings built after independence, and enjoy eating the south Indian savouries. Saturday evenings, the family would drive up to Vidhana Soudha and sit and watch the beautifully lit granite sculpted building, perhaps one of the very few public buildings built after independence, and enjoy eating the south Indian savouries. The idea of the Vidhana Soudha came along with a wave of nationalist sentiment that swept post-Independent India. The administrative offices were initially based out of Attara Kacheri (today's High Court building built by the British in 1868). A plan for our own structure to house the legislature was mooted during the tenure of Karnataka's first chief minister KC Reddy. Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru laid the foundation stone on July 13, 1951. However, it was Hanumanthiah (Reddy's successor) who set the wheels in motion. The Karnataka Legislative Assembly website records that almost all the 5000 unskilled labourers were convicts lodged in the central prison, who were given freedom after the completion of Vidhana Soudha. Then apart, 1500 chisellers, masons and wood carvers were also employed for the construction.

In 1982, I was posted as Export Manager, North Africa and the life at Algiers was all found materially and professionally. The local German Manager of Lufthansa was a good friend and encouraged me to fly Lufthansa transiting through Frankfurt during my travels abroad. Perhaps, in return, one day he brought me a yellow



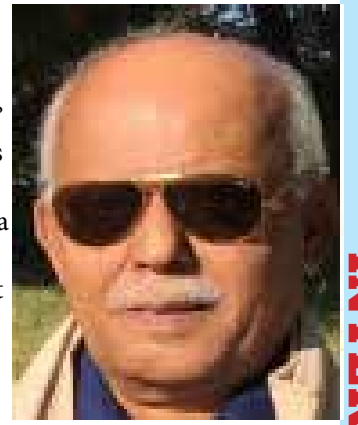
plastic card with my name printed on it and designated as "Frequent flyer" and convinced me that I have earned sufficient points to be part of program. The card apart from entitling me for free tickets allowed me to free use of Lufthansa lounges at all the German airports with free drinks and snacks, a great privilege those days. We use to get periodic flyers and points accrued and my wife was keenly following the account. As soon as sufficient points had accrued, that summer we planned and took the journey for a week to Frankfurt, Stuttgart-Hamburg-Frankfurt and back. The family was excited since it was a week's stay and their first tour to Europe. Hamburg was chosen because my batch mate was the Export Manager for HHEC based at Hamburg and he had made arrangements for our stay at his apartment itself as he was staying alone and there was enough room to accommodate us. Just before, leaving for Airport at Algiers, I telephonically enquired with Lufthansa whether the flight is on time. I can never forget the German airport officer who replied with pride "Sir we are always on time"

We had another ex-Air India friend settled near Stuttgart and we decided to visit him too. After a couple days stay at Hamburg, I called him from local telephone booth and he gave some directions to reach the suburb he was residing. As I was completing the call my little daughter was ceaselessly knocking the booth door, so I just got out and carried her, then we decided to have some coffee and then leave for friend's house. We sat in the nearby café, had coffee and some snacks and had almost spent an hour. The waiter brought the bill, suddenly I realised that my pouch which had all passports, nearly 3000 USDs and tickets was missing. I was shell shocked and explained the situation to the waiter who suggested to go and look for it, me and my wife took two different routes to reach the telephone booth which was nearly a km away. As I was approaching the booth, I saw a old German standing near the booth holding the pouch and waving at me as I was approaching the booth. He greeted me and introduced himself as Klaus Wenger and said handing

over the pouch, "I found the pouch inside the booth and I knew you would come searching for it, please open and check whether everything is in as you had left" I took the pouch opened and saw everything was intact, thanked him profusely and offered to compensate him in any way acceptable to him, he refused and said "You are from India and visiting Deutcheland as tourists and let me know if you need any further help". We spent some time with him in the café and left for our destination and we took the flight to Hamburg after meeting our friend from Air India. The Author with his batchmate from IIMB Mr. Ashwathanarayan at Hamburg in 1983.

Ashwath was at the Hamburg airport to receive us, took us to his place, we all cooked some Indian food that night and ate. Next few days, Ashwath, my host took us all to touristic spots including Dolphin Show, Lake, Market Platz, Zoo and many other places. Hamburg is a beautiful port city worth visiting.

In the evening, me and Ashwath had planned to take some adventurous tour to Reeperbahn and so bluffed my family that we have to meet another friend in nearby place and as such we would be late and not to bother about us. Ashwath had told me some background of the place which was frequented by sailors and tourists who are hungry and starved for sex. We both walked through a foot ball stadium sized ground where hundreds of young looking girls in white fluorescent dress, introducing themselves whenever a potential client passes by and indicating their nationality and price. The amusement was more to watch the whole place which was like a highly organized market without any middlemen. After passing through the place, we decided to have food which he offered to host with plenty of beer. He chose a table for two and I realised that it was a night club seeing a well lit stage, after some time the lights in the seating area were dimmed and strip tease by a belle started with music. I was surprised to see both men and women were dining and enjoying the show, the dancer would hover around some bald pates and even kiss on them making them excited. The show ended with last piece of lingere thrown at the public and to my horror, I found her to be she male. That has been my last into a night club pitied Ashwath for throwing away good amount of Deutche Marks to entertain his batch mate from IIMB





# The US pension system has gotten so bad that Congress is planning for its failure

Congress added a provision into the new budget deal that uses federal funds to bail out hundreds of pension plans.

The government is facing a \$7 trillion funding gap in its pensions.

One study found corporate pensions alone are struggling with a shortfall of more than \$500 billion.

The US pension system has gotten so bad, Congress is actually planning for its failure.

As the government was working on the recent, new budget deal and subsequent boost in government spending, Congress quietly snuck in a provision that forms a committee which would use federal funds to bail out as many as 200 "multi employer" pension plans - where employers and labor unions jointly provide retirement benefits to employees.

As is often the case, this rescue "plan" is too little too late. The US pension system is beyond repair. And if you're depending on pension income to carry you through retirement, it's time to consider a Plan B. Before explaining how dire the situation actually is, let's take a step back...

Pensions are simply giant pools of capital used to pay out retirement benefits to workers.

Typically, employers and employees contribute a percentage of the employees' salary to a pension throughout his or her career. Then, upon retirement, the pension is supposed to pay a fixed, monthly amount to the retiree.

There are both government and corporate pension plans.

Boston College estimates the nation's 1,400 multi employer plans (corporate) are facing a \$553 billion shortfall. And around one-quarter of those are in the "red zone," meaning they'll likely go broke in the next decade or so.

But Congress' committee, assuming it works, wouldn't even rescue the red zone plans, much less the remaining 1,200.

And it doesn't even begin to address the real problem - the \$7 trillion funding gap faced by the government's own pensions.

Congress is stepping in because the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) - the pension equivalent to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) - is completely insolvent.

Like the FDIC, the PBGC is an insurance program funded by premiums paid by its participating members (pensions). Its entire income is made up of premiums collected and the investment income it earns on those premiums.

So, as the markets crash, not only will the PBGC's portfolio get slaughtered... so will those of the pensions it guarantees (which will then require more funds). And as these pensions fail, the PBGC will collect less in premiums. It's a vicious circle.

But things are plenty bad already. The PBGC, which only covers corporate pensions, had a \$76 billion deficit in 2017. It has total assets of \$108 billion on its

books compared to potential loss exposure of more than \$250 billion.

By its own estimation, its fund to cover multiemployer pensions (which makes up \$65 billion of the deficit) will be insolvent by 2025.

Pensions are in such bad shape today for the simple reason that investment returns are too low. And pensions can't cover their future obligations.

Pension fund managers invest in assetlike stocks, bonds and real estate in hopes of generating a safe return.

Most funds require a 7%-8% return in order to meet their future liabilities. But with interest rates near record lows, these funds are having to take on more risk in order to meet their minimum return requirements. They've reduced their bond allocations and started buying more stocks, private equity and other riskier assets.

Some funds, like Hawaii's pension fund, went even further and dabbled in the incredibly risky strategy of selling put options. By selling a put, you collect a small premium if markets stay calm or rise. But you're exposed to unlimited losses if markets crash - like they did when the Dow fell 2,400 points in a week last month.

At the end of last year, equities made up nearly 54% of public pension fund port-



folios. The \$209 billion New York State Common Retirement Fund has over 58% of its assets in stocks. Kentucky's \$20 billion pension for teachers is 62% in stocks. These giant funds, which are supposed to pay for public and private employees in retirement, are piling into stocks at record high valuations. And when the volatility hits, it will be devastating. Consider that America's largest pension fund, The California Public Employees' Retirement System (Calipers), lost 5% of its assets (\$18.5 billion) in just 10 trading days leading up to February 9. Pension funds should never experience that kind of volatility. But the current macro environment is forcing them to make dumb decisions in hopes of generating a minimum return. Luckily, if you're a smaller investor, you still have plenty of solid investment options available - even if you're investing with tens of millions of dollars.

## Raj Shah

Raj Shah (born c. 1985) is a Republican political aide serving as the White House Principal Deputy Press Secretary and Deputy Assistant to the President. Prior to joining the Trump administration, Shah was in charge of opposition research at the Republican National Committee.

### Early life and education

A child of Indian immigrants, Raj Shah was born and raised in Connecticut, where his father worked as an engineer and his mother as a dentist.

Shah attended Brien McMahon High School, and was named an Ettinger Scholar in Norwalk, Connecticut. He studied government at Cornell University, and received his bachelor's degree in 2006.

### Career

Shah volunteered in Bridgeport for U.S. Congressman Chris Shays (R-CT) during high school and interned for U.S. Senator Joe Lieberman (D-CT) and others in Washington as his interest in politics developed. He found he wasn't agreeing with Democrats in his family and whom he met in internships, and cast his first vote for George W. Bush in 2004, and interned in the White House in 2005. While working as campaign spokesman for New Mexico Republican gubernatorial candidate Susana Martinez in 2010, Shah was arrested for DWI and careless driving, and was immediately terminated from his position with the campaign. By the 2012 presiden-

tial election cycle, Shah was deputy research director at the Republican National Committee and he said in that job "he learned what not to do in the 2016 election." He worked with campaign staff and manager of the Mitt Romney campaign and others to plan how, particularly, to try to defeat Hillary Clinton well before she announced she was running in 2016. Shah was also a co-founder of America Rising, "a right-leaning political action committee that produces opposition research on Democratic candidates". The playbook on the anti-Clinton campaign was

very deep, it's very broad. We had the time and resources to dig through it all and kind of pick and choose how we wanted to go about the general election. I think it played to our benefit. When the email issue broke, we knew what buttons to push. When issues surrounding the foundation came up we knew where to look. We filed over 550 FOI requests and we sued the government half a dozen times to release records. All these sorts of things were years in the making. It was a huge coordinated effort.

As head of opposition research in the Republican National Committee (RNC) in 2016, Shah "led a team of experts to carry out research against Hillary Clinton, the Democratic presidential candidate. Shah was behind all the anti-Clinton campaign during the presidential elections." Then-



incoming White House Chief of Staff and outgoing head of the RNC Reince Priebus, "said that Shah will be among the 'key leaders in helping to implement the President-elect's agenda and bring real change to Washington.' Prior to the election, Shah called Trump "a deplorable" and remarked that the release of the Donald Trump Access Hollywood tape was "some justice"; he also helped get embarrassing footage of Trump to use in a Jeb Bush commercial for the latter's campaign.

Shah was one of the early staffers on duty

in the White House on Inauguration Day, attending to reporters' inquiries and beginning establishment of the communications apparatus (emails of 'OCIO' distributions of the address and the first White House pool report were early to go out) in the West Wing and the Eisenhower Executive Office Building



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ANGEL  
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HOPE  
JESUS  
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CROWN OF THORNS  
SACRIFICE  
SUNDAY

RESURRECTION  
MARY  
MESSIAH  
RISEN  
SAVIOR  
LOVE

HOLIDAY  
SALVATION



# N. Chandrababu Naidu

**Nara Chandrababu Naidu** (born 20 April 1950) is an Indian politician who has been Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh since 2014. He is the first chief minister of the state since it was divided. Previously he served as Chief Minister of united Andhra Pradesh from 1994 to 2004, before the state was divided, and as the Leader of the opposition in the united Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 2004 to 2014. He is currently the National President of Telugu Desam Party. Naidu has won a number of awards, including IT Indian of the Millennium from India Today, Business Person of the Year by The Economic Times, South Asian of the Year from Time Asia and membership in the World Economic Forum's Dream Cabinet. Naidu chaired the National IT Panel under the NDA government and was described as one of the "hidden seven", working wonders around the world, by Profit (Oracle Corporation's monthly magazine)

## Early life and education

Naidu was born on 20 April 1950 at Naravari Palle, Chittoor district, Andhra Pradesh in an agricultural family. His father, N. Kharjura Naidu, worked in agriculture and his mother Amanamma was a housewife. Since his village had no school, Naidu attended primary school in Seshapuram until class five and the Chandragiri Government High School until class nine. He went to Tirupati for his higher education, studying there from class 10 until he received his master's degree. Naidu completed his BA degree in 1972 and before enrolling in an MA program in economics at SVU College of Arts. In 1974, he began work towards a PhD under D. L. Narayana (Andhra Pradesh Finance Commission chairman), researching the economic ideas of N. G. Ranga. Naidu did not complete his PhD, instead he involved in politics. Chandrababu Naidu was also offered honorary professorship by Kellogg School of Management in 2000.

## Early political career

Naidu was drawn to politics at an early age, and joined Youth Congress as a student leader in Chandragiri, near Tirupati. After emergency was imposed on the country in 1975, he became close supporter of Youth Congress president, Sanjay Gandhi.

### Legislative career, 1978–1983

Naidu became a Congress (I) member of the Andhra Pradesh legislative assembly (MLA) for Chandragiri constituency in 1978. The party's 20% quota for youth to run for the office was beneficial for Naidu on that occasion. Not long afterwards, he was appointed as technical education and cinematography minister in T. Anjaiah's government at the age of 28. He was the youngest minister in the Congress(I) cabinet. As the cinematography minister, Naidu came in contact with N. T. Rama Rao, popularly known as NTR, a popular film star in Telugu cinema. In 1980, he married Bhuvaneshwari, NTR's third daughter.

## Telugu Desam Party

See also: Telugu Desam Party  
In 1982, NTR formed the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and swept the assembly polls held in 1983. Naidu, who was then still in the INC, was defeated by a TDP candidate in Chandragiri. He joined the TDP soon after.

### Rise in the party

Naidu got the chance to show his political skills in August 1984, when Nadendla Bhaskara Rao staged a coup against NTR. He rallied the TDP MLAs together, and paraded them before the President of India. NTR was reinstated as the chief minister of Andhra Pradesh 31 days later. Impressed with his son-in-law's manoeuvres, NTR appointed Naidu general secretary of the party and he began playing an important role in the TDP after Rao's coup attempt. Later Naidu staged a coup against NTR to become Chief Minister which resulted in NTR's death. He

was publicly criticized by NTR in mainstream media before his final days. NTR regretted his decision in nurturing a turncoat like Naidu and appealed to the people of Andhra Pradesh not to support him. NTR accused Naidu of bribing his party M.L.A.s in-order to facilitate a coup against him. Naidu has been hailed by many as Chanakya for his extraordinary political skills.

## Legislative career, 1989–1994

In the 1989 assembly election, Chandrababu Naidu contested from Kuppam and won by 5,000 votes. INC however had regained power in the election so Naidu had to sit in the Opposition. He served as coordinator of the Telugu Desam Party, in which capacity he effectively handled the party's role of main opposition in the assembly which won him wide appreciation from both the party and the public. His role during this phase both inside the Legislative Assembly and outside was a critical factor for the subsequent success of the party at the hustings.

## As Chief Minister (1995–2004)

Dark-haired man giving gifts to grey-haired man

Naidu greets Bill Clinton in 2000

As chief minister, Naidu advocated short-term sacrifice to turn Andhra Pradesh into an Asian tiger over the next 20 years. He slashed food subsidies (among other things), and raised power tariffs. Both Bill Clinton (President of the United States at the time) and Tony Blair (Prime Minister of the United Kingdom at the time) visited Hyderabad and met with Naidu whilst he was chief minister.

Aparisim Ghosh of the American news magazine, Time commented, "In just five years, he has turned an impoverished, rural backwater place into India's new information-technology hub", and the magazine named him South Asian of the Year.

### Vision 2020

Naidu produced a vision statement, "Vision 2020", with US consultants McKinsey & Company which proposed:

Universal, low-cost education and healthcare

Rural employment

Replacement of small investors with large corporations

By Implementing Vision 2020, Naidu has privatised the health care and education of the state and has also indirectly did his best to drive out the small farmers from the farmlands so that the big corporations can do large scale farming similar to western countries. He literally said agriculture is not sustainable / profitable in current conditions and farmers have to find other options for living. This is one of the major reasons for losing elections in 2004.

Middle-aged man listening to two younger men  
Naidu in discussion with students as chief minister of Andhra Pradesh

### 1999 election victory

The Telugu Desam Party, led by Naidu, won a majority in the state legislature: 185 of 294 seats in the Assembly and 29 of 42 in the 1999 general election, making it the second-largest party in the BJP-led NDA coalition government. Hyderabad development

Naidu discussed his plan to develop the state of Andhra Pradesh by making the major cities showpieces for foreign investment especially in "key sectors such as information technology, biotechnology, healthcare and various outsourcing services". He coined the slogan "Bye-bye Bangalore, hello Hyderabad" to further this aim. Microsoft Corporation has established a software-development center in Hyderabad, the second such center outside Seattle. Naidu encouraged other global IT companies (IBM, Dell, Deloitte, Computer Associates and Oracle) to move to Hyderabad, making presentations to global CEOs convincing them to invest in Hyderabad. Large round building, with cross-hatched superstructure

Hi-Tech City, the crown jewel of Naidu, in Hyderabad

In his tenure by end of the financial year 2003–04 software exports from Hyderabad reached \$1 billion and it becomes a fourth largest exporting city in the country. By 2013–14 exports had grown by more than 10 times, employing about 320,000 people directly working in this IT & ITES fields in Hyderabad alone.

2003 assassination attempt  
On 1 October 2003 Naidu survived a land-mine blast, escaping with a fractured left collarbone and hairline fractures of two right ribs. The blast occurred about 16:00 IST when Naidu was traveling in a convoy to the Lord Venkateswara temple in the Tirumala hills for the annual Brahmotsavam festival. State Information Minister B. Gopalakrishna Reddy, Telugu Desam legislator and Ch. Krishnamurthy and driver Srinivasa Raju were also injured. Telugu Desam legislator Bojjala Gopala Krishan Reddy was seriously injured. Naidu tried to gain sympathy among voters by telecasting a series of advertisements related to the incident. He used a slogan "This new life is for the sake of People" to take it to the masses. However, people rejected him and voted in favor of Congress.

### 2004 election defeat

The Telugu Desam Party (led by Naidu) failed to retain power after two successive wins, winning 47 of 294 seats in the state assembly and five of 42 in the Lok Sabha. While many of his ministers lost, Naidu won decisively in Kuppam. Despite claiming to develop Hyderabad to the fullest during his tenure, Naidu failed to win a single seat in Hyderabad.

## Reasons

According to Naidu, the 2004 election loss was primarily due to a severe drought and anti-incumbency sentiment. Being a farmers son, He ignored the large rural population with his policies, failing to reach poor voters. His administrative policies on farmers, poor and middle-class resulted in a large number of suicides. 2014 Elections Victory  
The Telugu Desam Party (led by Naidu) alliance with Bharatiya Janata Party and Jana Sena Party returned to power, in the state of Andhra Pradesh winning 102 seats out of 175 seats. Naidu led TDP to an outright majority in the state of Andhra Pradesh, but lost to TRS in the region of Telangana which had earlier become the newest state of India on 2 June as per the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. Chandrababu Naidu took oath as the first Chief Minister of the residuary state of Andhra Pradesh at Mangalgi in the grounds of Acharya Nagarjuna University near Guntur.

### Heritage Foods

The Heritage Group was founded in 1992 by Chandra Babu Naidu. In the year 1994, HFL went to Public Issue to raise resources, which was oversubscribed 54 times and its shares are listed under B1 Category on BSE (Stock Code: 519552) and NSE (Stock Code: HERIT-GFOOD). The company was accused of doing money laundering and high profile corruption. After Naidu became Chief Minister of residual Andhra Pradesh, Heritage stocks rose steeply leaving no clue. Sunrise State  
After the division of Telangana from Andhra Pradesh. The state was forced to have a new capital and distribute it development unlike Hyderabad. With Amaravathi decided as a with having its ITSEZ - Special Economic Zone. As part of the developments he has started a program called AP Cloud Initiative



Poaching MLAs

Naidu was accused by the opposition parties for poaching 22 of YSRCP's M.L.A.s. Assembly speaker Kodela Sivaprasad, who is responsible to take action by disqualifying these M.L.A.s supported the move on Naidu's pressure. Naidu paid huge amounts of cash to each of these M.L.A.s for defecting into his party. A case has been petitioned by the opposition party on Naidu in High Court and is still under investigation.

## Demolishing Holy Temples

Naidu's officials demolished close to 30 Hindu temples, five of them fairly big in Vijayawada. Among the 30 temples, the Seethammavari Padalu, Saneeswara Swamy, and Dakshina Mukha Anjaneya Swamy temples are prominent places of worship in Vijayawada. The manner in which these temples were razed to the ground hurt the sentiments of the devotees and drew a very sharp reaction from the seers.

### Personal life

Chandrababu Naidu is married to N.T. Rama Rao's 3rd daughter, Bhuvaneshwari. The couple have a son, Lokesh, who is married to Brahmani (eldest daughter of Nandamuri Balakrishna, N.T. Rama Rao's son)

## Achievements

At 28, the state's youngest assembly member and minister. Longest serving Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh before the formation of the new Indian State Telangana. First Chief Minister of the newly formed state of Andhra Pradesh from 8 June 2014. Longest-serving leader of opposition in the Andhra Pradesh assembly. Voted IT Indian of the Millennium in a poll by India Today and 20:20 Media. He was named "SOUTH ASIAN OF THE YEAR" by the TIME Magazine, USA. He was described as one of the Hidden Seven working wonders around the world, by Profit, a monthly magazine published by Oracle Corporation, US. Business Person of the Year by Economic Times. He was called as "CEO of Andhra Pradesh". The Pune-based organisation, Bharatiya Chitra Sansad, in partnership with MIT School of Governance, has honoured him with "Aadarsh Mukhyamantri Puraskar" (Model CM Award) in its 6th annual session on 30 January 2016. Transformative Chief Minister Award' in May 2017





## Health & Wellness

### 5 ways to boost bone strength early

The best prevention for bone-thinning osteoporosis begins early — during the first two decades of life, when you can most influence your peak bone mass by getting enough calcium and vitamin D and doing bone-strengthening exercise. If you are over age 20, there's no need to be discouraged. It's never too late to adopt bone-preserving habits.

5 ways to boost bone strength early  
3 simple ways to get more restful sleep  
Image: © Katarzyna Bialasiewicz | Dreamstime.com

The best prevention for bone-thinning osteoporosis begins early — during the first two decades of life, when you can most influence your peak bone mass by getting enough calcium and vitamin D and doing bone-strengthening exercise. If you are over age 20, there's no need to be discouraged. It's never too late to adopt bone-preserving habits.

Get your copy of Osteoporosis: A guide to prevention and treatment

#### Stroke

Each year, osteoporosis contributes to more than 2 million bone fractures in the United States. This Special Health Report, Osteoporosis: A guide to prevention and treatment, can help you keep your bones strong and healthy, and avoid fractures. It describes how you can prevent and treat osteoporosis through diet, exercise, and medications. You'll also find advice on choosing a calcium supplement, tips on fall-proofing your home, and help

with putting together a personalized plan to preserve or boost your bone strength.

If you are a man younger than 65 or a premenopausal woman, these five strategies can help you shore up bone strength as a hedge against developing osteoporosis.

**Monitor your diet.** Get enough calcium and vitamin D, ideally through the foods you eat. Although dairy products may be the richest sources of calcium, a growing number of foods, such as orange juice, are calcium-fortified. Fruits, vegetables, and grains provide other minerals crucial to bone health, such as magnesium and phosphorus.

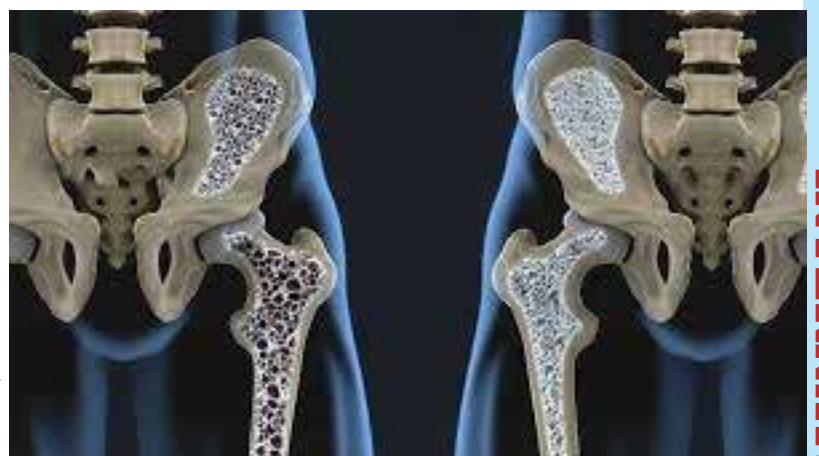
**Maintain a reasonable weight.** This is particularly important for women. Menstrual periods often stop in women who are underweight — due to a poor diet or excessive exercise — and that usually means that estrogen levels are too low to support bone growth.

**Don't smoke and limit alcohol intake.** Smoking and too much alcohol both decrease bone mass.

**Make sure your workouts include weight-bearing exercises.** Regular weight-bearing exercise like walking, dancing, or step aerobics can protect your bones. Also include strength training as part of your exercise routine.

Talk with your doctor about your risk factors. Certain medical conditions (like celiac disease) and some medications (steroids and others) can increase the chances that you will develop osteoporosis. It's important to talk with your doctor to develop a prevention strategy that accounts for these factors.

**What's your t-score?** Bone density scans for osteoporosis  
Several technologies can assess bone density, but the most common is known as dual energy x-ray absorptiometry (DEXA). For this procedure, a machine sends x-rays through bones in order to calculate bone density. The process is quick, taking only five minutes. And it's simple: you lie on a table while a scanner passes over your body. While this technology can measure bone density at any spot in the body, it is usually used to measure it at the lumbar spine (in the lower back), hip (a specific site in the hip near the hip joint), and femoral neck (the top of the thighbone, or femur). DEXA accomplishes this with only one-tenth of the radiation



exposure of a standard chest x-ray and is considered the gold standard for osteoporosis screening—though ultrasound, which uses sound waves to measure bone mineral density at the heel, shin, or finger, is also used at health fairs and in some medical offices.

The DEXA scan or ultrasound will give you a number called a T-score, which represents how close you are to average peak bone density. The World Health Organization has established the following classification system for bone density:

If your T-score is -1 or greater: your bone density is considered normal.

If your T-score is between -1 and -2.5: you have low bone density, known as osteopenia, but not osteoporosis.

If your T-score is -2.5 or less: you have osteoporosis, even if you haven't yet broken a bone.

### 4 tricks to rev up your memory

Stay ahead of age-related changes in thinking skills by making the most of your brain's memory process.

Published: July, 2017

We all have moments of forgetfulness about where we put the keys, why we walked into a room, or what an object is called. Most likely, this reflects age-related changes in thinking skills. "In terms of brain function, everyone has a decline over time in all areas, with the exception of vocabulary," says Dr. Joel Salinas, a neurologist specializing

#### How memory works

Memory involves three processes: encoding, recording, and retrieval. The brain receives and encodes (takes in) new information; the brain then records (stores) the information; finally, the brain retrieves information when you need it. Many brain regions are involved in this process. For example, the cerebral cortex — the large outer layer of the brain — acquires new information as input from our senses. The amygdala tags information as being worthy of storage. Nearby, the hippocampus stores memories. And the frontal lobes help us consciously retrieve information.

#### The aging memory

Many people notice a difference in memory starting in their 50s. That's when age-related chemical and structural changes

can begin in brain regions involved with memory processing, such as the hippocampus or the frontal lobes. These changes may slow processing speed, making it hard to recall familiar names or words. Other factors may be at play as well.

"Working memory — a mental scratch pad that allows us to use important information throughout the day — is susceptible to depression, anxiety, and stress," explains Dr. Salinas, "and a lack of sleep can affect the brain's retention and use of information."

A medication side effect may also affect memory. For example, if you use an anti-anxiety drug like clonazepam (Klonopin), its sedating side effects can make your brain less alert and more sluggish. This in turn makes it more challenging for your brain to carry out the essential encoding, recording, and retrieval steps of memory. Dr. Salinas says addressing these problems first often helps improve memory.

#### Memory tricks

Another way to boost memory is to make the most of the way it works. The following strategies may help.

1. Repeat what you hear out loud, such as someone's name, or an address, or a new idea. Repetition increases the likelihood you'll record the information and be able to retrieve it later. "With each repetition, your brain has another opportunity to

encode the information," explains Dr. Salinas. "The connections between brain cells are reinforced, much like blazing a trail in the woods. The more you walk the same trail, the easier it is to walk it the next time."

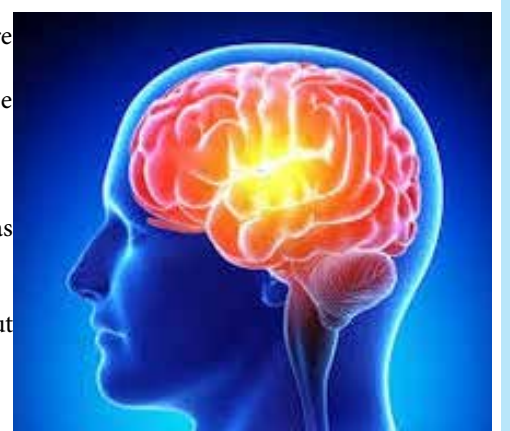
2. Make a note of people you need to call, errands to run, and appointments. "We are much better at recognition than recall," Dr. Salinas explains. "With recognition, such as reading a list, you have additional hooks or hints that help you find the information you're looking for."

3. Make associations between old and new information. Connect a person's first name to something familiar. For example, if the person's name is Sandy, imagine that person on a beach. Or create a story around a shopping list. "Our brain is good at sequences, and putting things into a story helps. The more ridiculous, the more memorable it is. For example, if your list is milk, eggs, and bread, the story could be that you are having milk with Elvis over an egg sandwich," Dr. Salinas suggests.

4. Divide information into chunks, such as taking a long number and remembering it more like a phone number. "It's hard to store a long number," says Dr. Salinas, "but easier to store little bits through working memory." If you're trying to memorize a speech for a wedding toast, focus on get-

ting only one sentence or idea down at a time, not the whole speech in one take. When tricks don't help

Forgetting something minor from time to time is probably normal. It's not normal when memory changes interfere with day-to-day functioning. Dr. Salinas recommends that you talk to your doctor if you're making more mistakes than usual at work; having difficulty paying the bills; or having trouble completing tasks, cooking, emailing, or doing chores. But don't panic. "More often than not, there's a temporary or reversible cause behind your memory slips. Once that's taken care of, you can get back to your more usual remembering self," says Dr. Salinas.





# Religion, Communalism or Liberalism: What suits India?

By Dr. Javed Jamil

During last few decades, unfortunately Congress has had no Gandhis or Azads, not even their downsized versions. There is hardly any Congress leader, Hindu or Muslim, who is known for his religious knowledge and piety. But there are hard-line versions of both Patel and Nehru.

The Indian polity seems to have the domination of two kinds of leaders. On the one hand there are people who have manifest communal leanings, some being soft and others hardliners. Casteism is also in the same mode, but is normally not as rabid in India as communalism. The communal elements are there in almost all political parties though certain parties are considered outright communal in nature. The parties like Shiv Sena and BJP are well-known political compensations with clear tilt towards Hindu communalism. There are certain Muslim parties also like Muslim League and Majlis Ittehad Muslimeen, which practice reactive communalism. Then there are liberalists which again are there in almost all political parties. Congress and Communist parties have had the dominance of liberal elements.

It will be worthwhile to discuss here in particular the nature of Congress. Congress has had, throughout the history, a mixture of religious, communal and liberal elements. Gandhi and Maulana Azaad represented the religious class without any communal bias. For them religion was of paramount importance but it was more a matter of principles rather than identity. Gandhi was a devout Hindu and Azad a devout Muslim. Both had deep knowledge of their religions, and still they cared for the humanity at large. Both were ready to understand the problems of all the religious communities in India and were ready to give them what they needed. They would take care not to antagonise other communities through their words and actions. Then there was Sardar Patel who had shades of soft Hindu communalism. He had a certain affinity for his community but still took care not to unduly antagonise Muslims. With Gandhi, Nehru and Azad around, he preferred to keep his preferences in check. It can be argued that perhaps he had no other option if he wanted to be a part of the ruling polity. Jawahar Lal Nehru was a soft liberalist, not fond of religion, but was again able to keep his anti-religion or non-religious views up to himself. He advocated total separation of religion and politics but did not let it become an open refutation of religion.

During last few decades, unfortunately Congress has had no Gandhis or Azads, not even their downsized versions. There is hardly any Congress leader, Hindu or Muslim, who is known for his religious knowledge and piety. But there are hard-line versions of both Patel and Nehru. Narsimha Rao was certainly more a BJP-man than a congressman. His role in the demolition of the Babri Mosque is now too well known to describe. I had an occasion to meet Shiv Raj Patil, former Home Minister in Narsimha Rao's government, and I found him a man with blatantly

biased views against Islam and Muslims. Gandhi-Nehru family has largely remained soft liberal on the footsteps of Jawahar. But there have been many in the Congress (Hindus as well as Muslims) who became liberal hardliners giving no importance to religion at all. They believe that religion has nothing to do with public life including politics, and often fail to differentiate between religious identity and religious values.

The country today – in fact the whole world—neither needs communalists nor liberalists. The country needs the followers of Gandhis and Azads. Soft liners like Nehru can be tolerated but not the hard-line liberalists who have no respect for religion as a social force nor the communalists who spread hatred against other communities. Liberalists argue that they are believers in scientific spirit, and in a world of science there can be no room for religion except as purely a private affair. The truth is that liberalism is a product of economic fundamentalism and has little to do with scientific spirit. Liberalists believe in absolute freedom of choice, which is the master plan of the forces of economics aimed at commercialisation of human susceptibilities. Science, particularly medical sciences clearly prove that the freedom of choice is a dangerous concept which leads to huge loss of lives throughout the world. Both mortality and morbidity related to the freedom in eating, drinking and sexual behaviour are huge, with more than 70 million people dying as a result of the problems created by these practices. Religion on the other hand is almost on the same plane as medical sciences with most religions effectively banning or restricting these dangerous practices. Medical sciences, as I have argued in my latest book, "Dynamic Paradigm of Health" are unequivocal in telling the mankind that the safest option for the survival of human species in a safe and healthy environment with equal benefit to men, women and children, is through a well-established marriage system between males and females. Liberalists of course have other ideas. In the name of distorted and unhealthy notions of freedom and equality, they are not only condoning the death of millions of humans and human-making but are also endangering the very survival of human species. Their argument in favour of theories of creation is also fallacious because theories of creation are less scientific and more economic theories promoted by the economic fundamentalists that do not tolerate God in sciences. Eager to prove that everything was created on its own without any guidance or planning from anywhere, they blame religion for being against the theory of evolution without realising that religions are not against evolution but against the concept that the evolution was not being planned and pushed by God. The universe did not come into existence in a single moment, and all the living beings did not originate within minutes. Of course, the evolution took place, but it is history; and history cannot be shown live. The theories of evolution are not final and will continue to change.

Thanks to both the enemies and friends of religion, religion has not remained what it should have been. Instead of religious values, godliness, piety and social values, religious people have become more concerned

about the identity and are often more interested in showing other religions in worst colours rather than showing their religion in the best. There is absolutely no harm in anyone thinking his religion or ideology as the best. If he does not believe this, why will he stay in that religion? The problem comes when he shows more interest in spreading myths and hatred against other religions and their followers. This has to be stopped at all costs if the religion has to play the role it must play. Communalism has nothing to do with religion; it is the product of politics rather than religion. Politics tries to misuse every possible sentiment for their ends, and in a country where religious sentiments are strong, politicians would not miss any opportunity to misuse religion.

India needs religion – in its pristine form. India cannot afford a polity without religion. Religion resides in every sphere of India's existence. The overwhelming majority of Indians believe in religion. They may have different methods of worship but they all believe in God. They all are firm believers in the family system and the devotion and loyalty that goes along with family. Unfortunately, religion has ceased to play the social role it must play. The polity is controlled by the forces for whom nothing matters but money and power. In order to further their interests, they are promoting a kind of liberalism, which hardly few Indians relish. Yet, anyone countering the liberalists is dismissed with contempt by the media controlled by the forces of economics.

But religion will not resurrect itself unless all the communities resurrect their faith in the social dimension of religion. They will have to abandon communalism. The devout of Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Sikhism, Jainism, and any other religion that exists here, will have to learn to live together, to abandon mistrust in one another, to care for the genuine demands of all and to give rights to all to live their lives in accordance with their culture. Above all, they have to learn that religion calls for service to the whole mankind, and not merely one's own community. The parties like BJP, Muslim League and Akali Dal can still function. They can continue to fight for the genuine demands of specific communities but they will have to abandon forever hatred for other communities.

By Dr. Javed Jamil, The Milli Gazette Online  
Published Online: Nov 15, 2014



## Baaghi 2

The trailer of Tiger Shroff and Disha Patani starrer 'Baaghi 2' has been loved by the audience to a great extent as it not only showcases the chemistry between the lead pair but the action flick also gives us 'Rambo' vibes. A sequel to the 2016 hit film 'Baaghi', this film revolves around the love story of a rebel. Here are few reasons as to why you should watch this film. Alleged lovebirds Disha Patani and Tiger Shroff, who were first seen together in the music video 'Befikra', are all set to team up for their first film together. Although the two barely had scenes together in the film's trailer, their chemistry shone through nonetheless. Although they maintain that they are 'just friends', the two have been together for quite a while now. Now, their chemistry is surely something all their fans would be eagerly waiting to watch on the silver screen. The trailer of the film was really loved by the audience and it even showed some glimpses of Disha-Tiger's chemistry,

while focussing more on the action. Tiger has trained very hard for the film and he even took martial arts training from action director Tonny Ching in Hong Kong before starting with the film. Tiger's act in the trailer of the film itself got compared to Hollywood star Sylvester Stallone's 'Rambo' and another matter of fact is that he is also



reported to be doing the Hindi remake of 'Rambo'. Apart from the lead actors, the film also stars maverick actors like Randeep Hooda and Manoj Bajpayee and to increase your curiosity both of them would be seen essaying the role of antagonists. Not only Randeep and Manoj but even chocolate boy Prateik Babbar will be a part of their gang who will surely pose a great threat to Tiger's motive of searching the little girl Riya. Tiger Shroff has kissed his long locks and boyish charms goodbye for his upcoming action flick 'Baaghi 2'. The actor, who was closely guarding his new look under beanies made headlines when the first poster came out. Sporting a much shorter hairdo and stubble, Tiger was almost unrecognisable when photographed in his bloodied and bruised avatar. Although the teaser poster of the film which featured Tiger in a buzz cut and buff new physique, made him look ruggedly handsome and bolder. 'Baaghi 2' will be Tiger's third film collaboration with producer Sajid Nadiadwala



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

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V143  
 Manufacturer : Keystone RV Company  
 Subject : Loose or Missing Refrigerator Gas Valve Screws

Make	Model	Model Years
CROSSROADS	ZINGER	2018
DUTCHMEN	ASPEN TRAIL	2018
DUTCHMEN	COLEMAN	2018
KEYSTONE	HIDEOUT	2018
KEYSTONE	PASSPORT	2018
KEYSTONE	SUMMERLAND	2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V144  
 Manufacturer : Newmar Corporation  
 Subject : Taillights May Detach from Vehicle

Make	Model	Model Years
NEWMAR	ESSEX	2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V145  
 Manufacturer : Morgan Truck Bodies LLC  
 Subject : Water Intrusion Affecting Turn Signals

Make	Model	Model Years
MORGAN	TRUCK BODIES	2013-2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V146  
 Manufacturer : Triple E Recreational Vehicles  
 Subject : Incorrect Cargo Capacity on the Decals

Make	Model	Model Years
TRIPLE E	SERENITY	2017-

2018	Make	Model	Model Years
TRIPLE E	UNITY		2017-2018
TRIPLE E RV	WONDER		2017-2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V147  
 Manufacturer : Chrysler (FCA US LLC)  
 Subject : Windshield Wipers Limited to Low Speed/FMVSS 104

Make	Model	Model Years
ALFA ROMEO	STELVIO	2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V148  
 Manufacturer : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.  
 Subject : Driver's Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

Make	Model	Model Years
VOLKSWAGEN	CC	2009-2014
VOLKSWAGEN	EOS	2010-2011
VOLKSWAGEN	GOLF	2010-2014
VOLKSWAGEN	PASSAT	2007-2010
VOLKSWAGEN	PASSAT WAGON	2007-2010

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V149  
 Manufacturer : Chrysler (FCA US LLC)  
 Subject : Steering Gears may Crack

Make	Model	Model Years
RAM	PROMASTER CITY	2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V150  
 Manufacturer : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.  
 Subject : Incorrect Welding of Backrest Rail and Fittings

Make	Model	Model Years
MERCEDES BENZ	C43 AMG	2018
MERCEDES BENZ	C63S AMG	2018
MERCEDES BENZ	E63S AMG	2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V152  
 Manufacturer : Mack Trucks, Inc.  
 Subject : Loss of Lighting and Windshield Wipers

Make	Model	Model Years
MACK	ANTHEM (AN)	2018
MACK	GRANITE (GU)	2018
MACK	PINNACLE (CXU)	2018
MACK	PINNACLE (PI)	2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V153  
 Manufacturer : Nissan North America, Inc.  
 Subject : Incorrectly Installed Air Bag/FMVSS 214/226

Make	Model	Model Years
NISSAN	370Z	2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V154  
 Manufacturer : BMW of North America, LLC  
 Subject : Rear Spoiler may Loosen and Detach

Make	Model	Model Years
BMW	X3	2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V156  
 Manufacturer : Nissan North America, Inc.  
 Subject : Fuel Pressure Sensor may Loosen and Leak

Make	Model	Model Years
NISSAN	JUKE	2011-2012

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V159  
 Manufacturer : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.  
 Subject : Improperly Torqued Engine Support Bolts

Make	Model	Model Years
VOLKSWAGEN	TIGUAN	2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V160  
 Manufacturer : Chrysler (FCA US LLC)  
 Subject : Front Fuel Tank Strap Bracket may Corrode

Make	Model	Model Years
RAM	1500	2009-2012

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V161  
 Manufacturer : Kia Motors America  
 Subject : Voltage Protection Device may Activate

Make	Model	Model Years
KIA	OPTIMA	2017-2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V167  
 Manufacturer : Ford Motor Company  
 Subject : Steering Wheel may Detach

Make	Model	Model Years
FORD	FUSION	2014-2018
LINCOLN	MKZ	2014-2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V151  
 Manufacturer : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.  
 Subject : Incorrect Adjustment of LED Headlights/FMVSS 108

Make	Model	Model Years
MERCEDES BENZ	E300	2017
MERCEDES BENZ	E43 AMG	2017

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V155  
 Manufacturer : New Flyer of America Inc.  
 Subject : Drive Shaft Failure Causing Loss of Drive Power

Make	Model	Model Years
NEW FLYER	XDE35	2017
NEW FLYER	XDE40	2016-2018
NEW FLYER	XDE60	2016-2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V157  
 Manufacturer : Daimler Trucks North America LLC  
 Subject : Wheelchair Lift Can be Operated While not in Park

Make	Model	Model Years
THOMAS BUILT BUSES	MINOTOUR	2007-2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V158  
 Manufacturer : Daimler Trucks North America LLC  
 Subject : Wheelchair Lift Can be Operated While not in Park

Make	Model	Model Years
THOMAS BUILT BUSES	MINOTOUR	2007-2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V162  
 Manufacturer : Forest River, Inc.  
 Subject : Incorrect Information on Label/FM-

VSS 110 Part 567	Make	Model	Model Years
FOREST RIVER	STEALTH EVO		2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V163  
 Manufacturer : Daimler Trucks North America LLC  
 Subject : Power Steering Fluid Leak with Electrical Arcing

Make	Model	Model Years
FCCC	XBR	2011-2017
FCCC	XCL	2011-2017
FCCC	XCM	2011-2017
FCCC	XCR	2011-2017

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V164  
 Manufacturer : Ferrari North America, Inc.  
 Subject : Brake Disc Wear Software

Make	Model	Model Years
FERRARI	488 GTB	2016
FERRARI	488 SPIDER	2016

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V165  
 Manufacturer : Autocar, LLC  
 Subject : Overheating of Wire Harness

Make	Model	Model Years
AUTOCAR	XPEDITOR	2014-2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V166  
 Manufacturer : Hyundai Motor America  
 Subject : Voltage Protection Device Improper Activation

Make	Model	Model Years
HYUNDAI	SONATA PLUG-IN HYBRID	2016-2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V168  
 Manufacturer : Supreme Corporation  
 Subject : Fire Extinguisher May Be Clogged or Inoperable

Make	Model	Model Years
SUPREME	INNER-CITY	2003-2018
SUPREME	KOLD KING	2003-2018
SUPREME	SERVICE BODY	2003-2018
SUPREME	SIGNATURE VAN	2003-2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V169  
 Manufacturer : Ford Motor Company  
 Subject : Transmission Clutch Slip and Fluid Leak

Make	Model	Model Years
FORD	FOCUS	2015-2016
FORD	FUSION	2013-2014

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V170  
 Manufacturer : Honda (American Honda Motor Co.)  
 Subject : Walk-In Seatbacks May Stay Unlatched

Make	Model	Model Years
HONDA	ODYSSEY	2014-2016

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V173  
 Manufacturer : Maserati North America, Inc.  
 Subject : Software error may cause Shift to Neutral or Stall

Make	Model	Model Years
MASERATI	GHIBLI	2017
MASERATI	QUATTROPORTE	2017

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V175  
 Manufacturer : Pagani Automobili SpA  
 Subject : Battery May Fail Causing Engine Stall or No Start

Make	Model	Model Years
PAGANI	HUAYRA	2017

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V176  
 Manufacturer : Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing  
 Subject : Missing Air Bag Label/FMVSS 208

Make	Model	Model Years
TOYOTA	PRIUS C	2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V177  
 Manufacturer : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.  
 Subject : Rear Seat Belt May be Unable to be Latched

Make	Model	Model Years
MERCEDES BENZ	GLC300	2016-2019
MERCEDES BENZ	GLC350E	2018-2019
MERCEDES BENZ	GLC43 AMG	2017-2019
MERCEDES BENZ	GLC63 AMG	2018

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 18V178  
 Manufacturer : Hino Motors Sales U.S.A., Inc.  
 Subject : Valve Train Adjustment Screw may Fall Off

Make	Model	Model Years
HINO	NE8J	2018-2019
HINO	NJ8J	2018-2019
HINO	NV8J	2018-2019



# HINDI MOVIE RELEASE DATES

Opening	Title	Director	Cast	Genre
6	<i>Blackmail</i>	Abhinay Deo	Irrfan Khan, Kirti Kulhari, Arunoday Singh, Divya Dutta, Omi Vaidya	Comedy
	<i>Missing</i>	Mukul Abhyankar	Tabu, Manoj Bajpai, Annu Kapoor	Psychological Thriller
13	<i>October</i>	Shoojit Sircar	Varun Dhawan, Banita Sandhu	Drama
	<i>Mercury</i>	Karthik Subbaraj	Prabhu Deva, Sananth Reddy, Remya Nambeesan	Thriller
20	<i>Omerta</i>	Hansal Mehta	Rajkumar Rao	Crime Drama
	<i>Beyond the Clouds</i>	Majid Majidi	Ishaan Khatter, Malavika Mohanan	Drama
	<i>Nanu Ki Jaanu</i>	Faraz Haider	Patralekhaa, Abhay Deol, Sapna Chaudhary	Comedy
	<i>Khido Khundi</i>	Rohit Jugraj	Ranjit Bawa, Mandy Takhar, Manav Vij, Guggu Gill, Elnaaz Norouzi	Drama
	<i>Daas Dev</i>	Sudhir Mishra	Richa Chaddha, Aditi Rao Hydari, Rahul Bhat, Saurabh Shukla, Vipin Sharma, Vineet Kumar Singh, Dalip Tahil, Anurag Kashyap	Romantic thriller
	<i>High Jack</i>	Akash Khurana	Sumeet Vyas, Sonnalli Seygall, Mantra, Taaruk Raina, Priyanshu Painyuli, Kumud Mishra, Natasha Rastogi	Comedy
27	<i>Bazaar</i>	Gauravv Chawla	Saif Ali Khan, Chitrangda Singh, Radhika Apte, Rohan Mehra	Drama
	<i>Kaala</i>	Pa. Ranjith	Rajnikanth, Huma Qureshi, Nana Patekar	Action
	<i>Love Sonia</i>	Tabrez Noorani	Richa Chaddha, Demi Moore, Freida Pinto, Mark Duplass, Mrunal Thakur	Drama

## ‘Beyond the Clouds’

Iranian filmmaker Majid Majidi is finally releasing his highly acclaimed film ‘Beyond the Clouds’ in India. The makers have also released a trailer for the Ishaan Khatter and Malavika Mohanan starrer. The trailer explores the story of a brother-sister duo from Mumbai who is struggling with poverty. Ishaan’s character is looking to make it big in the world and takes the illegal route that involves peddling drugs. However, the stakes reach a new height when his sister played by Malavika Mohanan is arrested for his crimes and suffers in prison. Overall, it promises to be an intense and emotional drama that explores the underbelly of Mumbai.

It is music to the ears of loathsome cultureless

Abrahams & Baptized confused desi as well as con media, artists and sadistic minded (halal practice ) Jiahdi minded. Mahender Goriganti Ishaan looks absolutely brilliant as he seems to do his character justice as does his co-star Malavika. A.R. Rahman’s beautiful background score also heightens the emotions throughout the trailer. To sum it up, it is clear from the trailer that the film is going to be something extraordinary.



## Kaala

Kaala (lit. Black), also called Kaala Kari-kaalan is an upcoming Indian Tamil-language political drama film written and directed by Pa. Ranjith and produced by Dhanush. Starring Rajinikanth in the lead role, the film was announced in 2016 and is expected to be released in 2018.

Following the commercial success of director Pa. Ranjith’s gangster drama Kabali (2016) starring Rajinikanth, actor-producer Dhanush announced that he had signed the duo to work on a new film for his production house, Wunderbar Films during late August 2016. Refuting reports that the film would be a sequel to Kabali, Dhanush announced that production would begin during mid-2017 following the completion of Rajinikanth’s work for Shankar’s science fiction film 2.0 (2018). In early May 2017, the producers received an open letter from Sundar Shekar Mishra, the foster son of gangster Haji Mastan, threatening that the makers should not depict his father in negative light and if they did, they would face consequences. In reply, Ranjith denied the film was a biopic of Haji Mastan and clarified that the film was based on fictional events, while revealing that Rajinikanth would play a man from Tirunelveli who escapes to Mumbai as a child and goes on

to become a powerful don living in Dharavi slums. The title of the film, Kaala was announced in late May 2017, with promotional posters carrying the film’s first look released in Tamil, English, Hindi and Telugu. Casting and crew Following the announcement of the film, Wunderbar Films sought to cast Vidya Balan in a leading role, but the actress turned down the offer. Actress Huma Qureshi was later added to the cast in early May 2017 to feature in a role opposite Rajinikanth. Marathi actress Anjali Patil also announced that she would be playing an important role in the film through a post on her official Twitter account. Several members of the technical crew of Kabali were retained for Kaala, with A. Sreekar



Prasad replacing Praveen K. L. as the film’s editor during its pre-production stage. Bollywood actor Nana Patekar has been signed to play a politician who is the antagonist. As said earlier, Huma Qureshi is not paired with Rajinikanth; Easwari Rao is doing that role. Dileepan of Vathikuchi fame is playing as one of the sons of Rajinikanth and Huma Qureshi is playing Zareena, Rajinikanth’s ex-girlfriend. Filming Shooting of this film started on the 28 May 2017 at Switzerland and the lead actor Rajinikanth participated in this first schedule. Due to heavy rains in Dubai, the

team had taken a break and erected a set at Paris with Nairobi as its backdrop. Trivia Anand Mahindra, chairman and managing director of Mahindra Group, was interested in the jeep which was used in the first look poster of this movie. He tweeted that he would love to acquire that jeep for his company’s auto museum. The name of the movie, ‘Kaala’, is a reference to Lord Yama, the god of death, according to the director.



# Hindi movie Pari review

The story of the film revolves around the concept of Ifrit, the son of Satan and Oladhchakra, a satanic cult in Bangladesh aiming to propagate and progress the bloodline of Ifrit. They seared the women impregnated by Ifrit with the symbol of a foetus on their skin. Rukhsana (Anushka Sharma), is the daughter of a woman who was a victim of a sex ritual by Oladhchakra. She is afraid of incense sticks and religious hymns and prayers, and hides her head in a bucket of water to cut out the Azaan playing in a nearby mosque. Professor Quasem Ali (Rajat Kapoor) used to head a group of vigilantes which sought out women impregnated by Ifrit, and killed their babies by chopping off their heads. This drew a lot of flak from villagers and the group was ultimately shut down due to its radical approach.

The film begins with Arnab (Parambrata) meeting Piyali (Ritabhari) on the roof of her house. Arnab has come to meet her for marriage arranged by his family. Piyali is a nurse, while Arnab runs a printing press. While returning from her house, in the heavy rain, with his father driving, they hit an old woman. Although the woman died by being run over, Arnab files the case with the local police inspector (Santilal). On visiting the accident spot, they discover the place where the old woman used to live, locally called kutta buriya, kutta meaning dogs, in a hut in the forest by the road. Rukhsana is found chained in a dark corner of the hut, pale and bruised. Arnab takes pity and after taking Rukhsana to visit her dead mother, he decides to take her in later in the film.

Meanwhile, a scavenger (Dibyendu) who made a living stealing golden teeth and the likes from corpses in the morgue, and who initially worked with the professor, discovers that the dead woman, Rukhsana's mother, has the mark of foetus on her skin. He decides to inform professor and they decide to seek out Rukhsana. They reach Rukhsana's hut in the forest, only to find that she had escaped. Later they track down Rukhsana to Arnab's house, where she was supposed to stay until he found a housing for her.

Rukhsana seemed to be abused since her childhood. Arnab observes that she doesn't have a soul to care for her, and hence takes care of her. Rukhsana inadvertently falls in love with him, but also has hallucinations of herself bleeding when she is alone. The professor meets another old woman, supposedly born of Ifrit, a kalapori (Mansi), who seemingly can communicate with others like her. She tells him where Rukhsana is, and that she is going to seduce the guy she is living with to pass on the bloodline.

On one night, Rukhsana gets the urge to drink blood and kills a dog near Arnab's house in the middle of the night. The professor ultimately approaches Arnab and tells him her story, but he refuses to believe him. One evening, the scavenger guy follows Arnab, and they end up in a scuffle, leaving Arnab bleeding. Rukhsana tends to him and tells him of her affection for him. She also kills the scavenger who had hit Arnab. She finally succeeds in



getting impregnated by him, but then her attitude changes. She forces him to stop meeting Piyali, whom she sees as competition. On further argument, she grabs him by his throat and lifts him clear off the ground. This brings him to contact professor and find out more about Ifrit.

The Ifrit cannot be seen but only heard by its breath. Ifrit babies can be born by latching on to human wombs. The babies are born over a month instead of nine months, and without an umbilical cord. So when Rukhsana tells Arnab that she is pregnant, he contacts professor to take care of it. Piyali had come by his house once, and finding Rukhsana in his room accidentally, breaks all contact with him. So, while the professor tortures Rukhsana so that her anger poisons her body, Arnab withdraws himself from his normal life and society, and stays at his parents' home.

After one month, Piyali comes over to tell Arnab that he must convince his parents that she isn't the reason for his voluntary loneliness, but instead gets to hear the truth about Rukhsana. She also con-

fesses about an earlier relationship and an aborted baby of her former boyfriend. But things soon take a turn for the worse.

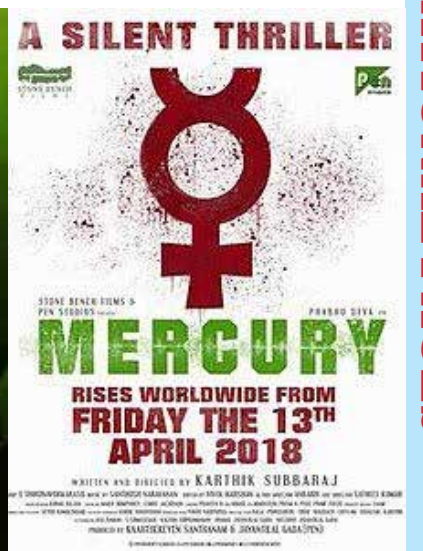
On the last day of the month, Rukhsana sets herself free. She is seen killing the professor before heading over to Piyali's house. Arnab heads over to his own house to find the others dead, and hurries over to Piyali's house. Rukhsana manages to injure Piyali, but is momentarily distracted by an accidental push on the TV remote, which turns on a cartoon show she used to watch at Arnab's house. Piyali frees herself and hides. But then, Rukhsana goes into labour, and Piyali, being a nurse couldn't bring herself to kill her. She eventually helps Rukhsana have her baby, which is shown having an umbilical cord. Rukhsana leaves the baby to Piyali, while Arnab rushes to the old hut where Rukhsana goes back, injured and near-death. In her last breath, she tells Arnab that the baby isn't like her and is human. The film ends with the narrator saying that Rukhsana's love made the baby human, rather than Ifrit's hatred.

## 'Mercury' A silent thriller

Filmmaker Karthik Subbaraj is back to the silver screen after two years. The much-awaited teaser of his latest film 'Mercury' is out and it looks like Subbaraj has finally returned to his forte.

Since it's a silent film, the leading stars of Southern industries comprising of Dhanush, Rana Daggubati, Nivin Pauly and Rakshit Shetty have taken to their Twitter accounts to unveil the teaser of 'Mercury'. Going by the teaser, the film revolves around a bunch of youngsters trapped somewhere in a remote place. One of the major highlights of the teaser is the music by Santhosh Narayanan. The teaser also gives us the impression of the Hollywood thriller 'Don't Breathe'

with actor-choreographer Prabhudheva playing the lead role. National Award-winning cinematographer Thirunavukkarasu has craned the camera. 'Mercury' is all set for a release on April 13, 2018. On the other hand, Karthik Subbaraj is teaming up with superstar Rajinikanth for a mammoth project. Subbaraj had also announced a project with Dhanush in the lead, which is likely to be produced by Shashikanth of Y NOT Studios.



Dan (Varun Dhawan) is living the life of any carefree 21 year old, revolving around a bunch of friends and fellow hotel interns who feed off each other's everyday moments, their ups and downs. Shiuli (Banita Sandhu) is one such intern at the same hotel, who at times is at a receiving end of Dan's audaciousness. Life goes on until a sudden turn of events smashes Dan and Shiuli's lives together, into a bond that's unlike any 21 year olds. The emotional connection between them goes through a metamorphoses that brings out a form of love that's unlike any other eventu-

## October

ally leading to an internal awakening. October is not a Love Story, but rather a story about love.







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## संपादकीय

मार्च का महीना इंटरनेशनल विमेंस डे के सन्दर्भ में पूरे विश्व में मनाया गया। शिकागो में भी महिलाओं को भिन्न भिन्न रूप में दर्शाया गया और अनेक उपलब्धियों से सम्मान एवं पुरस्कृत किया गया। यह सच है कि महिला की पहचान बहुमुखी प्रतिभा के रूप में देखी जाती है, जैसे माँ, बेटी,पत्नी जो घर और बहार दोनों भूमिकाएं बखूबी निभाती है। किन्तु मेरा तर्क ये है कि जब हम महिलाएं अपने हक लिए लड़ती हैं कि हमें भी पुरुषों सामान दर्जा चाहिए, पगार भी वही चाहिए, फिर क्यों हम महिला दिवस मना कर खुद को अलग साबित कर रहे हैं। पुरुष दिवस क्यों नहीं मनाया जाता? ये भी पिता हैं, बेटे हैं, घर गृहस्ती में बराबर के साझेदार हैं। तो पुरुष भी उतने ही सम्मान के हकदार है जितनी इस्त्रियों। दोनों एक दूसरे के बिना अधूरे हैं। इसी लिए मेरा सुझाव है हमें पुरुष दिवस या MEN'S DAY भी मनाना चाहिए। ये मेरी व्यक्तिगत मान्यता है। आप के सुझाव आमंत्रित हैं [info@hindiloversclub.com](mailto:info@hindiloversclub.com) में।

हिंदी लवर्स क्लब इस वर्ष से सालाना वसंत मेला का आयोजन कर रहा है। इसका फलावर भी आपको इस पत्र में मिलेगा। इसकी कोई टिकट नहीं है। बच्चों और बड़ों दोनों के लिए आकर्षक कार्यक्रम जैसे भिन्न भिन्न राज्यों के नृत्य, बच्चों के गीत, कविता पाठ इत्यादि कुछ चीजें हैं। खरीददारी के लिए पंडाल हैं। अधिक जानकारी के लिए [info@hindiloversclub.com](mailto:info@hindiloversclub.com) में ईमेल से संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

गुरबचन कौर नीलम

## VINNI SALON AND SPA

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किसी भी क्षेत्र में सफलता पाने के लिए उसका जनून होना अत्यंत आवश्यक है। मैं विनीता गुलाबानी भारत से M.A. B.ED ले कर आई थी लेकिन अमेरिका में अपनी दूसरी रुचि फैशन और सौंदर्य में कार्य शुरू किया। कुछ वर्ष एक सैलून में कार्य कर अब अपना सैलून वीनिंस सैलून एंड स्पा के नाम से आरंभ किया है। मुझे स्किन केयर में बहुत रुचि रही है इसलिए मैंने इंटरनेशनल डर्मा इंस्टिट्यूट से स्किन केयर में पोस्ट ग्रेजुएशन की है और लगातार क्लासेज ले कर इस क्षेत्र में खुद को आधुनिक रखती हूँ। इस वर्ष इस सैलून को WE ORGANIZATION ने BEST SALON घोषित किया है। मुझे और मेरे समस्त स्टाफ को पूरा विश्वास है कि आप यहाँ से एक बड़ी सी मुस्कान और पूरी तरह से संतुष्ट हो निकलेंगे।

व्यवसाय के साथ साथ मुझे हिंदी विषय में बहुत दिलचस्पी रही है। मैं हिंदी लवर्स क्लब ऑफ इलेनॉइस की पहली सदस्य हूँ और चार साल तक इसकी अध्यक्ष रह चुकी हूँ।

विश्व की रंगीनियत से लाख अपना दिल लगाये, अपनी जननी से जुड़े आशीष ले रिश्ता निभाये।

भारती के भाल पर हिमराज का मुकुट सुसज्जित, पावें में पायल की झनझन सी पयोधि हिन्द भी है। कर में दिनकर कैद कर उषा कराती सात बहने, सोचता हूँ सृष्टि में क्या हिन्द के मानिंद भी है। ताज क्या है लाज क्या है लोक क्या तन्त्र क्या है, अर्थ कर्म विधि विधाता ज्ञान मोक्ष मन्त्र क्या है। हित क्या है मीत क्या है, ऋत क्या है प्रीत क्या है, स्वाद क्या सौन्दर्य क्या शहद क्या संगीत क्या है।

नीर क्या है चीर क्या है हमने बतलाया जहा को, सभ्यता को सभ्य होना गर्व है हमने सिखाये। विश्व की रंगीनियत से - - - - -

हमन पहुचाया ह राकट सटलाइट या मसाइल, व्योम का माथा भी हिंदुस्तानी रंगो से रंगा है। जब कभी देखा फलक पर इंद्रधनुषी रंग जाना, आर्यावर्त का ले तिरंगा शायद ईश्वर भी फना है। हमने बतलाया जहाँ को जीरो की वैल्यू है कितनी, हमको पाई मान व दशमान लेने की कला है। स्वच्छ रहना स्वस्थ रहना ही सदा हमने सिखाये, योग के उपयोग का अवसर हमे पहले मिला है।

ये मनीषी चेतना चहुओर चमकी है जगत में, अपनी दुनिया छोड़कर गैरों की हम दुनिया बनाये। विश्व की रंगीनियत - - - - -

इस जमी ने जन्म देकर धर्म को ईश्वर बनाया, जाने कितने दर्शनों से इस धरा का कर सना है। भास्कर के ही भँवर से धर के अपना सर सरासर, विप्र के निलय में सुरपुर का कोई जुगनू तना है। सिंह के दांतों को गिनने का हुनर हम जानते है, उदधि के उदर को मथकर हम सुधा को छानते है। रत्नगर्भा गर्भ से हीरा नहीं कोहिनूर देती, इस चमन में ही सदा होती रही सोने की खेती।

धन्य है हम इस धरा पर जन्म पाकर गीत गाकर, कोख में इस मातृभूमि के हम सौ सौ बार आये। ऐसी बसुधा के लिए बैकुंठ को ठोकर लगाये। विश्व की रंगीनियत से - - - - -

## वह रेती की नदिया

वह रेती की नदिया  
वह यादों के झरने।

चली थी उन्हीं को मुट्टी में भरने।  
कुछ स्वप्नों के बादल,  
बरसने को तत्पर,  
चली थी उन्हीं को आँचल में भरने।  
स्वप्नों के सागर पर,  
नैया सी बह कर,  
चली थी उन्हीं को साकार करने।  
नीले गगन पर,  
पंछी सी उड़ कर,  
चली थी ऊंची उड़ान भरने।  
तूफान आया,  
धरा पर गिराया  
चली फिर वहीं पर सजने,सँवरने।  
धरा ने पुकारा,  
जतन से दुलारा,  
चली अब उसी पर नरम पाँव धरने।  
मुट्टी से छूटी,  
रेती की नदिया,  
आँचल से फिसले यादों के झरने।

संतोष बाला सकसेना  
१९८९ में लिखे कुछ शब्दों पर आधारित

हर मसावात भूल जाता हूँ।  
अपने हालात भूल जाता हूँ।  
सोचता हूँ तुझे भुला दूँ मैं  
रोज ये बात भूल जाता हूँ।  
याद करता हूँ मैं तुझे जब भी  
क्या है दिन रात भूल जाता हूँ।  
तुझसे इक रोज तो ये पूछूँगा  
क्यों सवालात भूल जाता हूँ।  
तुझसे मिलकर मैं खुश नहीं हो  
पर शिकायात भूल जाता हूँ।  
Suresh Sahani, कानपुर

अपनी तकदीर में तो कुछ  
ऐसे ही मिलसिले लिखे हैं,  
किसी ने वक्त गुजारने के लिए  
अपना बनाया,  
तो किसी ने अपना बनाकर  
'वक्त' गुजार लिया।



वो ही मन्जिल तक जाता है  
एक जुनू जिसे भटकाता है

सब जख्म देने वाले ही थे  
यहाँ मरहम कौन लगाता है,

वक्त की ठोकरें लौट गईं  
अब हमें संभलना आता है,

हवा पर उसका जोर भी है  
चिराग भी वही जलाता है,

हम भी रोज आसमाँ तकते है  
चादँ भी झील तक आता है,

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## .सुधा गोयल.

बेटी जब तुम....

बेटी जब तुम जन्मी  
ढेरों आकाश  
मेरी आंखों मे समा गया.  
चांद तारे और  
सूरज की प्रथम-  
किरण सी तुम  
मुस्करा पड़ी  
मैं निहाल हो गई.  
तभी, मेरे आकाश के  
चांद तारे कहीं

## गुम हो गये.

उर से तुम्हें  
छाती से चिपका लिया.  
उम्मीद से तुम्हारे  
पिता की ओर देखा  
बस एक सत्राटा  
उनकी आंखों मे पसरा था.  
तुम्हें दुलराते हाथ  
कांप उठे.  
औंठ थरथरा उठे.  
आंखों मे ढेरों  
समुद्र उमड़ आया.



**امین راحت چغتائی**  
**غزل**

زندگی ایک سزا ہو جیسے  
کسی گنہگار کی عدا ہو جیسے  
رات کے چھلکے پیر دھیان ترا  
کوئی سانس میں کھڑا ہو جیسے  
آم کے بیج پہ کون کی عدا  
تیرا اسلوب وفا ہو جیسے  
یوں بھڑک اٹھے ہیں شعلہ دل کے  
اپنے دامن کی ہوا ہو جیسے  
رو گئے ہونٹ لرز کر اپنے  
تیری ہر بات بجا ہو جیسے  
یوں ملا آج وہ راحت ہم سے  
ایک مدت سے تھا ہو جیسے

**غزل**

رشتہ، جسم و جاں روئی میں جہاں  
مختصر ہے سزا مختصر داستان  
اے مرے نام سزا تو کہاں کہاں  
چند نکلے لے بن گیا آشیان  
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حسن ہے چاندنی عشق برقی تپان  
رہبری عام تھی لٹ گیا کارواں  
قرب اس کا بنا راحت عاشقان  
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ہاں بھول گیا مجھ سے عرس کی شانیں  
انہوں نے طہ کی تھی صدیوں نے راہ پائی  
عادت کا اب میں ہوں نمونہ توحیدی  
برائی سے تڑپا ہے منہ کے لئے برائی  
تصور تصور ہی میں ایک سہارا ہے  
فرقت نے بنا دیا اس کی گھٹے سوئی  
جہاں تھے سب فرشتے بھی تو کہاں کہ  
ان ایک گل تری ہی جب یاد تھے تھی  
ہاں کے گہروں سے سرست ہے اسے وہیں  
پیلے تھوڑے جھمکنوں کی بڑی بھی جھانکی  
ہاں وہ جگہ تو گرا کر ان کا گھٹے سرست سے  
باقی نہ رہی میری جب فرقت کوہنی  
ہر جاہ رنگ جان ہے ہر مدت فزوں تھی  
دن کوئی ہے اب بھی ہاتھوں میں وہ شہنئی  
دردہ ہاں میں کون ہاں کا قائل تھی کی  
ان سبیل کی انہوں کی یاد تھی سے کہہنی  
دن سے کوئی دیکھ آئے سے وہ دل ہے  
کالے نہیں کتنی ہے برقی وہ شہنئی

**Ghazals compiled by  
Janab Hasan Chishti Sb  
Chicago**



**غزل**

جاں ستاں گرچہ ہے خلش میری  
کیوں بدلتی نہیں روش میری  
کیا عجب ہے کہ اس خرابے میں  
کھینچ لائے اُسے کشش میری

جا لکھتا ہوں اپنے ماضی میں  
ہے وہیں کی تو پرورش میری  
تھی وہ آنکھ آخری پہر کی اوس  
لے گئی جسم سے تپش میری

دل کہ ہے ایک یار غار اپنا  
اور اسی سے ہے چپقلش میری  
مجھ وہ جو رونما نہ ہوا  
رہ گیا بن کے اک خلش میری

کوئی شاہین آس پاس نہیں  
کون کرتا ہے سرزنش میری

**شاہین**

**Waliuddin**

**رہنما**

آج کل کے رہنماؤں کو کیا ہوا  
بجھاتے نہیں آشیان جلتا ہوا  
گناہ گار ہیں فرشتہ نہیں ہیں ہم  
ولی میں بھی ہے شیطان چھپا ہوا

☆☆☆

**رشوت**

عوام کی خدمت سے بھوک تو مٹی نہیں  
آپ ذرا اس بات پر کیا غور فرمائیں گے  
(Media) میڈیا والے تو یونہی بدنام کرتے ہیں  
لیڈر اگر رشوت نہ کھائیں تو کیا کھائیں گے

☆☆☆

**سزا**

عاشق کو محبت کی سزا کیوں نہیں دیتے  
جلدی سے اس کا بیاہ رچا کیوں نہیں دیتے  
گر وہ عقل سے ہے پیدل اور لکھتا پڑھتا نہیں آتا  
آپ اسے قوم کا لیڈر بنا کیوں نہیں دیتے

☆☆☆

**لیڈر**

ٹوکری وہی رہتی ہے کام بدل جاتے ہیں  
شراب وہی رہتی ہے جام بدل جاتے ہیں  
لیڈروں کو کسی ایکشن سے فرق نہیں پڑتا  
پارٹی وہی رہتی ہے نام بدل جاتے ہیں

☆☆☆

آج کا یہ لیڈر کسی کام کا نہیں  
درد اس کو پیسے کا ہے عوام کا نہیں

☆☆☆

**ایکشن اور عوام**

صبر کا پھل بیٹھا ہوتا ہے کہتے ہیں لوگ  
زیادہ صبر کرنے سے پھل سڑ جائے گا  
ایکشن سے عوام کو کیا ہوگا فائدہ  
ایک لیرے کو ہٹاؤ گے دوسرا آ جائے گا

**ڈاکٹر امجد علی برقی اعظمی، ایک تعارف**

حسن چشتی شیکو گلو  
ڈاکٹر امجد علی برقی اعظمی، برقی اعظمی تخلص، برقی تاریخ پیدائش: ۲۵ دسمبر ۱۹۵۳ء، مقام پیدائش: اعظم گڑھ  
امجد علی برقی نے اپنی تعلیم ابتدائی سے لے کر کراچی تک شیلی کالج اعظم گڑھ میں مکمل کی۔ وہاں سے اردو میں ایم اے ماہر س کرنے کے  
بعد ۱۹۷۷ء میں وہ وہاں ہی آئے اور وہاں جواہر لال نہرو یونیورسٹی سے فارسی میں ایم اے اور اپنی بی بی سی ڈگری حاصل کی۔ اور ۱۹۸۳  
میں آل انڈیا ریڈیو کے شعبہ فارسی سے منسلک ہوئے اور ۲۱ دسمبر ۲۰۱۳ء کو ملازمت سے سبکدوش ہو گئے۔ برقی اعظمی نے اپنے والد محترم  
جناب رحمت علی برقی اعظمی، جو پارٹنر کے ایک باکمال صاحب طرز استاد تھے، سے سب فیض اور شعری تربیت حاصل کی۔ جن کا  
رومانی تصرف برقی اعظمی کے مرصع کام کی صورت میں آج تک جاری و ساری ہے۔ برقی اعظمی کا اپنا ایک مخصوص لب و لہجہ ہے جو ان کے  
شعور و فکر کی نشاۃ ہے۔ برقی اعظمی نے اپنے فکر و فن سے غزل مسلسل کی صورت میں روایتی اردو شاعری کو ایک جدید رنگ و آہنگ سے  
روشیاں کیا جو ان کا طرز امتیاز ہے۔ برقی اعظمی نے اپنا شعری سفر و موضوعاتی شاعری سے شروع کیا اور ۲۰۰۳ء سے چھ سال تک ان کی  
موضوعاتی تخلیق سائنس، طب، حالات حاضرہ، واقعات، انسانی و سماوی جیسے گہولیں وارنگ، وہ نامی اور نرے وغیرہ سے متعلق دہلی سے شائع  
ہونے والے ماہنامہ سائنس میں مسلسل شائع ہوتی رہیں۔ بعد ازاں باقاعدہ اردو غزل کی طرف توجہ کی اور آج انٹرنٹ کے وسیلے سے  
ان کی غزلیں اور انھیں لوگوں کی لذت کام و وہ بن کا سامان فراہم کرتی ہیں۔ برقی اعظمی اردو کی مختلف ویب سائٹس اور ادبی فورم سے کسی نہ  
کسی حیثیت سے وابستہ ہیں اور ان کا کام اردو کی بیشتر ویب سائٹس پر دیکھا جا سکتا ہے۔ تقریباً ہر دو گول فریج انجین پر برقی اعظمی کوہن کران کی  
انٹرنٹ پر سرگرمیوں کے متعلق معلومات حاصل کر سکتے ہیں۔ برقی اعظمی آجکل فیس بک پر بہت فعال نظر آتے ہیں اور اس جہد و وسیلہ ترسیل  
اجازت سے جو اقوام عالم سے رابطہ کا ایک بہترین ذریعہ ہے جسے خوبی استفادہ کرتے ہیں۔ برقی اعظمی جدید اردو غزل میں غزل مسلسل  
کو فروغ دینے میں ایک نمایاں کردار ادا کرتے ہیں۔ بالفاظ دیگر یہ کہہ سکتے ہیں کہ برقی اعظمی کو غزل مسلسل نے عمومی مہارت حاصل  
ہے۔ ان کوئی الہدیر نہیں اور منظوم تراژڈی کے بھی قدرت حاصل ہے۔ اور وہ ہر قاعدہ کے ساتھ فیس بک پر موجود مختلف ادبی  
فورم کے مشاعروں میں شریک ہوتے رہتے ہیں۔ اور کوئی دن ایسا نہیں گزرتا کہ وہ کوئی نہ کوئی غزل فیس بک پر پوسٹ نہ کرتے ہوں۔  
ایک بار مرحوم عزم پڑھنے کے بعد ان کا کہنا تھا کہ اگر کسی دن برقی اعظمی کی غزلیں فیس بک پر نظر نہیں آئیں تو ہاتھ کے دوران شدہ تھکنی کا احساس ہوتا  
ہے۔ گویا ان کی شاعری زندگی کے روز انہیں معلوم کا ایک جزو یا نیک معلوم ہوتی ہے۔ میرے خیال میں ایک شاعر کیلئے اس سے بہتر فریج  
تھکن نہیں ہو سکتا۔

برقی اعظمی کے لوگوں کے کام پر منظوم تراژڈی بھی ان کی بہت بڑی گونئی اور زبان و بیان پر مکمل دسترس کے آئینہ دار ہیں۔ اگر ان کے ان فن  
الہدیر تراژڈی کو سمجھا کر لیا جائے تو وہ بڑی گونئی سے متعلق ایک شعری مجموعہ ترتیب دیا جاسکتا ہے۔ ان کو جیسے ہی مشاہیر اردو کے یوم پیدائش یا  
بری سے متعلق کوئی اطلاع ملتی ہے تو ان کا قلم خود بخود حرکت میں آجاتا ہے اور وہ اپنی درخشاں کلمات کے عنوان کے تحت اسے صفحہ قرعاس پر منتقل  
کر دیتے ہیں اس طرح اپنی درخشاں سے متعلق بھی ایک مجموعہ ترتیب دیا جاسکتا ہے۔ خلاصہ یہ کہ برقی اعظمی کا اسلوب قلم صنف سخن کے  
ہر میدان میں یکساں جولانیاں دکھاتا ہے۔ جو ان کی انفرادیت اور اردو شاعری میں جدید لب و لہجہ کا آئینہ دار ہے۔ کسی نامعلوم شاعر کا یہ  
شعریانہ دگر زمانہ ہیں ہم لوگ یاد رکھنا کہ ان میں ہم لوگ برقی اعظمی کی شخصیت پر پوری طرح صادق ہے۔ اتنا کچھ ہونے کے باوجود بھی برقی  
اعظمی مقامی سطح پر غیر معروف ہیں اور میری دلی میں گوشہ عزلت میں محصور ہیں۔ جو اس شعر سے ظاہر ہے۔

ویب سائٹوں پہ لوگ ہیں خوش گہمی کا شکار  
تا آشنائے حال ہیں ہمسائے بھی مرے  
ایک جگہ اور وہ لگتے ہیں کہ  
ہوتا زمانہ ساز تو سب جانتے مجھے  
کیا خوئے بے نیازی ہے دیوانہ پن مرا  
ویب سائٹوں پہ لوگ ہیں خوش گہمی کے شکار  
تا آشنا وطن میں ہے رنگ سخن مرا  
ان کا یہ ذہنی کرب اس شعر میں بھی ملاحظہ ہو  
فصیل شہر سے باہر نہیں کسی کو خبر  
بہت سے اہل ہنر یونہی مر گئے چپ چاپ

**غزل**

بتاؤں کیا میں کسی کو کہ کیا لگے ہے مجھے  
حیات درد کا اک سلسلہ لگے ہے مجھے  
قدم قدم پہ لٹا ہے یوں اعتبار نظر  
وقا بھی اب تو فریب و فغا لگے ہے مجھے  
پکاروں کس کو یہاں آج آدمی کہہ کر  
تمام شہر فرشتہ نما لگے ہے مجھے  
کہاں کہاں کروں جگہ کے کے پوجوں  
ہر ایک شخص زہم کا خدا لگے ہے مجھے  
یہ کس مقام پہ لایا ہے میرا حسن بقیں  
کہ بدعا بھی کسی کی دعا لگے ہے مجھے  
منکوں سے بیٹھی ہوں سہل میں جس کے سانسے میں  
اسی درخت کا سایہ گھٹا لگے ہے مجھے



طارق رشک فرشتے کرنے لگتے ہیں  
جب بھی ماں کے پیر دیا یا کرتا ہوں  
طارق جاوید



On the lighter side....

Seven-year-old John had finished his summer vacation and gone back to school. Two days later his teacher phone his mother to tell her that John was misbehaving.

"Wait a minute," said the mother. "I had John here for two months and I never called you once when he misbehaved."

I got fired from my job as a taxi driver...

It turns out my customers didn't like it when I tried to go the extra mile.

Two friends were chatting. "I've just bought a pig!" said the first.

"But where will you keep it?" asked the second. "Your yard's much too small for a pig!"

"I'm going to keep it under my bed," replied the first.

"But what about the smell?"

"He'll soon get used to that."

I went to a restaurant. It was full. There was no place to sit and the wait was over thirty minutes.

I took out my cell phone, placed it to my ear, and said loudly, "Hey, get over here! She's here with someone else!"

Six couples got up and quickly left.

What do you call a charitable person in Portland?

An Oregon donor!

An elderly woman decided to prepare her will and told her preacher she had two final requests.

First, she wanted to be cremated. Second, she wanted her ashes scattered over Walmart.

"Walmart?" the preacher exclaimed. "Why Walmart?"

"Then I'll be sure my daughters will visit me twice a week."



I asked my daughter if she'd seen my newspaper.

She told me that newspapers are old school.

She said that people use tablets nowadays and handed me her iPad.

The fly didn't stand a chance.

During the final exam, the professor noticed that Billy Walters kept looking at his hand before writing down an answer on his test. This went on throughout the entire exam, leaving the professor no other choice than to interrogate the student's test-taking habit.

"Mr. Walters," the professor began. "Is there something interesting written on your palm?"

"Not at all," Billy replied. "It's all pretty boring."

Tax collector: "It is your duty as a citizen to pay taxes, and we expect you to pay them with a smile."

Taxpayer (grinning widely): "Wonderful! I thought you expected me to pay them with cash!"

"The letter 'W' is the most dangerous alphabet in the world. Because all worries start with 'W'... Who, Why, What, When, Which, Whom, Where, War, Wine, Whisky, and Wealth."

"You're forgetting one."

"Really? Which one?"

"Wife!"

As I drove into a parking lot, I noticed that a pickup truck with a dog sitting behind the wheel was rolling toward a female pedestrian. She seemed oblivious, so I hit my horn to get her attention.

She looked up just in time to jump out of the way of the truck's path, and the vehicle bumped harmlessly into the curb and stopped. I rushed to the woman's side to see if she was all right.

"I'm fine," she assured me,"but I hate to think what could have happened to me if that dog hadn't honked!"

Why did the triangle refuse to be friends with the circle? It found the circle pointless.

Why didn't the frog sit on the toadstool? Because there wasn't mushroom.

"If you had one dollar and you asked your father for another, how many dollars would you have?"

"One dollar."

"You don't know your arithmetic."

"You don't know my father!"

The teacher asked her student to write on the chalkboard the number 55. The student asked, "How do I do that?" Teacher replied, "Write down the number 5, and beside it add another 5"

The student wrote one 5 and stopped. The teacher inquired, "What's wrong?"

"I don't know which side to write the other 5?"

Doctor: "I've found a great new drug that can help you with your sleeping problem."

Patient: "Great, how often do I have to take it?"

Doctor: "Every two hours."



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