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Globally Recognized

Editor-in-Chief: Azeem A. Quadeer, M.S., P.E.

February 2017 Vol 8, Issue 2

## Honorable Sally Yates



A woman with guts

## Richer than 'ultra rich'



Bill Gates, Microsoft founder

\$75 billion

Amancio Ortega, Spanish founder of fashion house Inditex

\$67 billion



Warren Buffett, American business magnate and investor

\$60.8 billion



Carlos Slim Helu, Mexican business magnate

\$50 billion



Jeff Bezos, founder, chairman, and chief executive officer of Amazon.com

\$45.2 billion



Mark Zuckerberg, chairman, chief executive officer, and co-founder of Facebook

\$44.6 billion



Larry Ellison, co-founder of Oracle Corporation

\$43.6 billion



Michael Bloomberg, former mayor of New York

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Source: Oxfam



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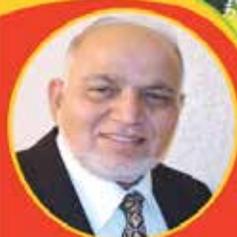
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## NATURAL CURE . NO SIDE EFFECT



NATURAL CURE BY HOMEOPATHY OF MOST OF THE DISEASE AND SYMPTOMS

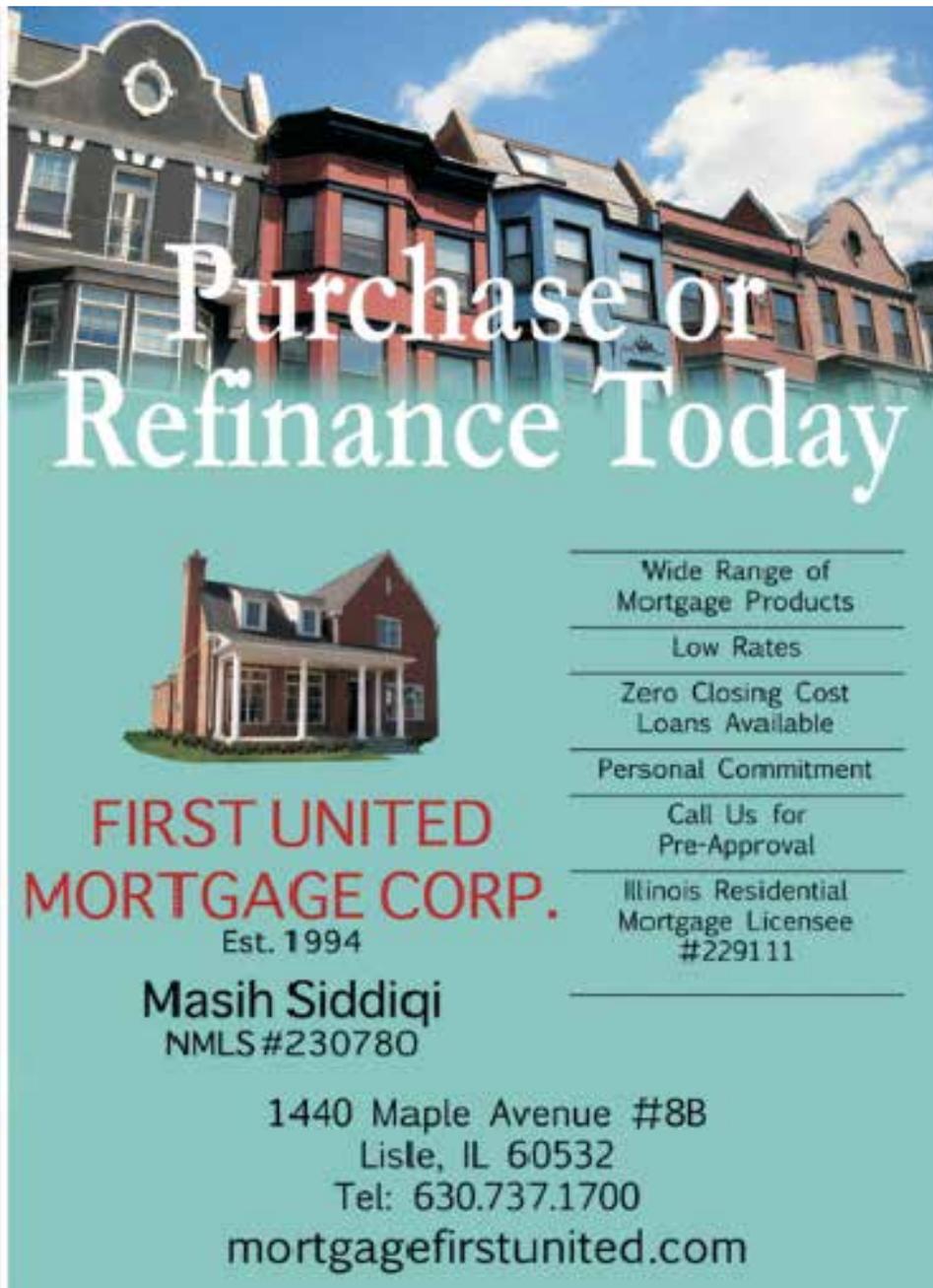
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**A Syrian family who voted Trump**, living in Allentown, Pennsylvania just watched their relatives get deported right in front of them by the administration they voted for.

Dr. Ghassan Assali and his wife, Sarmad, are originally from Syria but have been in the United States since the Clinton administration. Dr. Assali earned his degree from New York University and has a dentistry practice in Pennsylvania. Sarmad's two brothers, their wives, and their two children have been trying to flee Syria since 2003, and were finally approved for residency in the United States in December of 2016.

However, when the six Assali relatives arrived in the United States only hours after Donald Trump signed his executive order indefinitely banning immigration from seven predominantly Muslim countries (including Syria), they were promptly detained by U.S. Customs.

"Two security guards were waiting for them," Sarmad Assali told NBC News. "They took them. They said, 'Are you Syrians?' They said, 'Yes.' They said, 'Come with us.'"

Assali said her vote for Donald Trump was done out of a desire to see secure borders, though she didn't expect one of her candidate's chief campaign promises to be applied to her relatives, who are all Orthodox Christians with green cards. Even though White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus recently stated that Trump's order wouldn't apply to green card holders,



Assali's relatives were nonetheless forced to board the next flight to Syria despite waiting over a decade to be with their family in the United States.

"I understand he wants to make America safe," Assali said. "We're all on with this. I definitely want to be in a safe place. But people need us and we need to be there for them."

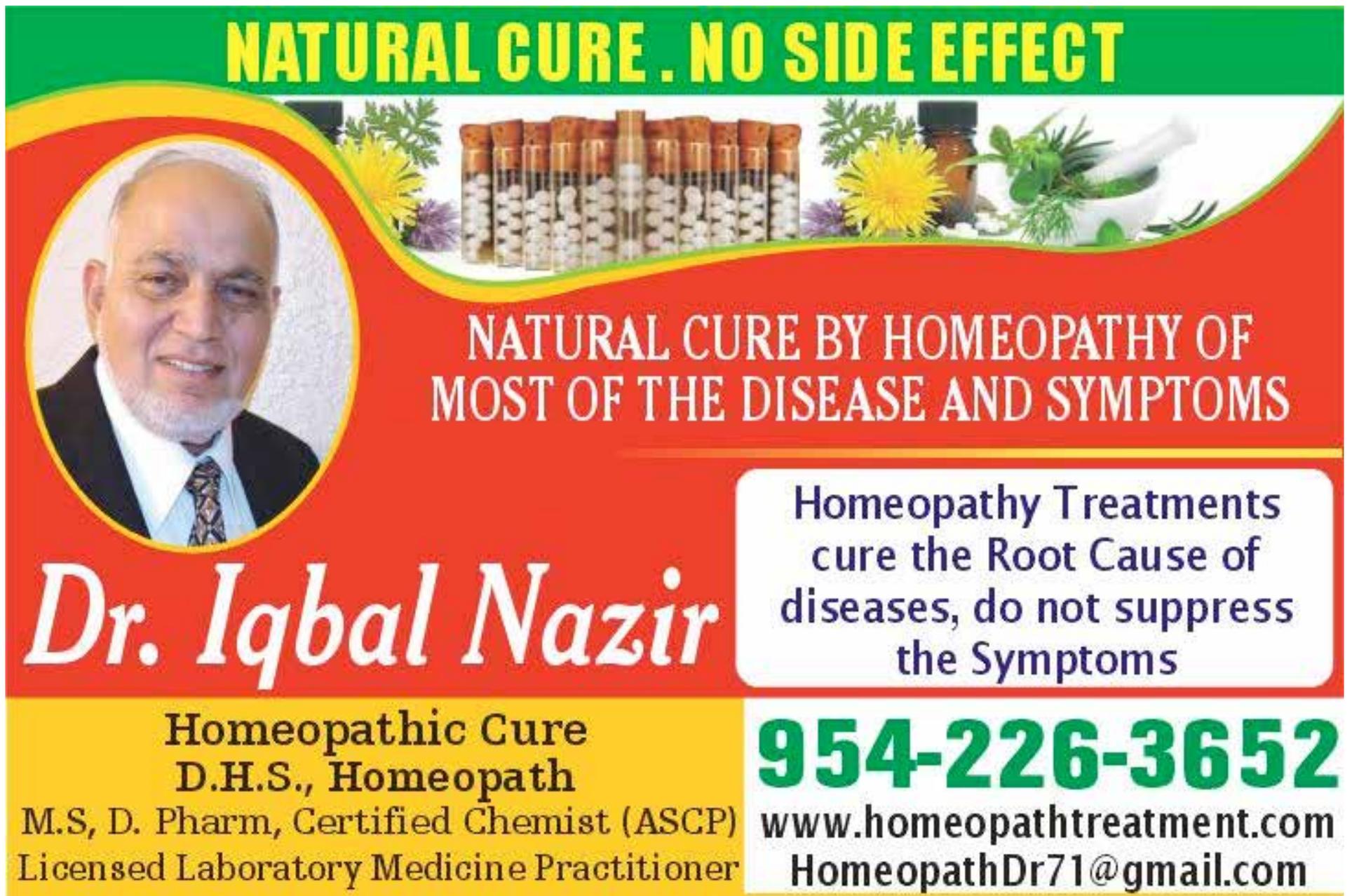
Ghassan Assali compared the U.S. government under the president he voted for to the Islamic State, expressing disappointment that the country he calls home now issues religious purity tests to immigrants,

"America is not America," Dr. Assali said. "Like ISIS now, they ask, 'Are you Christian? What do you believe?' And if they are not saying what they believe, they kick you out and they cut your head off. So America, same thing. They ask you are you Muslim? You've got to change your religion. Thank you."

One of those deported was the mother of 21-year-old Tarwak Assali, who came to the United States three years ago.

"I was one hour away from hugging her," he said. "Seeing her."

# NATURAL CURE . NO SIDE EFFECT



**NATURAL CURE BY HOMEOPATHY OF MOST OF THE DISEASE AND SYMPTOMS**

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**954-226-3652**  
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Editor-in-Chief  
&  
Publisher



Azeem A. Quadeer, P.E.  
Licensed Professional  
Engineer in the States  
of Texas, Indiana and  
Illinois

Editor@AsiaTimes.US  
\*\*\*\*\*

Finance and Marketing  
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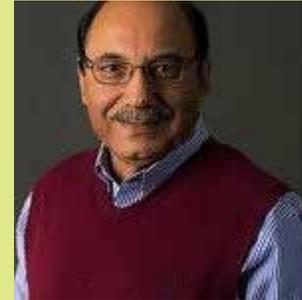
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**Sunil Shah**



**Syed Hussaini**



**Talat Rashid**



**Waliuddin**



**Nasir Jahangir**



**Mahijit Viridi**

**A word from Hassan Ahmad, ESQ**

I've practiced immigration law for nearly 15 years. What's happened is something I never seriously thought I'd see in the United States. The bold refusal of a government agency to heed the order of a federal judge to allow access to counsel. The admission by Guiliani that this Executive Order began with the question, "How do you ban Muslims legally?" The banning of refugees, the most vulnerable of people. The targeting of immigrants who played by the rules and did things legally. The use of bureaucracy to hobble constitutional protections. I've written often that if you want to find legalized bigotry, look in the immigration law. It is no coincidence that we are seeing this assault on due process of law in the nation's airports. Yet there remains cause for hope. People want to preserve a welcoming America: for hours at Dulles yesterday, everyone who walked through the international arrivals hall was greeted with loud cheers: "Welcome to America! Welcome to America!" It didn't matter who they were. Every single person.

I had enough trouble trusting ICE and CBP agents under Obama. I've been hung up on, dismissed, lied to, and tricked more times than I care to admit. What I saw yesterday, however, brought back every bad memory I've ever had working in immigration. It reminded me of the NSEERS days, with mass confusion, no one knowing who or what would be affected, and stone-faced agents who simply repeated words like, "I can't open the door," like so many robots.

It reminded me of some of my asylum cases, where my clients would tell me stories about checkpoints, registration, being targeted, being told different things by different officials, about the law simply not working. Except this was Virginia, minutes from my home. Please help support the efforts of my colleagues around the nation. If you're an immigration lawyer, you are needed at airports and beyond, when people are detained. Wear a sticker with your name and the word "Lawyer." If you have experience with legal research, or know rules of habeas, injunctions and other remedies, sign up. Coordinate with the teams on the ground to be able to file for injunctive relief in real time. Share your templates. If you speak a language from a banned country (currently Arabic, Farsi, and Somali), go to the airport protests wearing a sticker identifying your language. If you're an organizer, connect the lawyers with the community and set up seminars and webinars.

If you're a social media guru, watch for information from folks on the ground and then do your thing. If you live locally, take food and drink for the tireless team of advocates. Ease the financial burden by paying for advocates' parking. See the team on the ground and ask if they need office supplies, printers, greater Internet band-



**HASSAN M. AHMAD, ESQ. (MANAGING ATTORNEY)**

width, and \*power strips for charging phones.\* If you want to support monetarily, I'd recommend (non-exhaustively):  
The International Refugee Assistance Project, <https://irap.urbanjustice.org/civicism/contribute/transact...>  
The American Anti-Arab Discrimination Committee <https://support.adc.org/>  
The American Civil Liberties Union <https://action.aclu.org/secure/donate-to-aclu>  
The Executive Orders from this week reek of supremacist ideology and propaganda. It might start with immigration - but it will not end there. Don't let the cycle start.  
Resist.

**ISNA Conference in Houston**  
February 25, 2017





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## February Friends



Azharuddin  
February 8, 1963

- Rafiq Sheriff 2/1
- Mohammed Yousuf 2/1
- Kranthi DrillMan 2/28
- Harshada Patil 2/1
- Prachi Jaitly 2/2
- Sunil Hali 2/2
- Azmina Mohamed 2/2
- Zahida M Imran 2/28
- Saleem Shaik 2/2
- Raziuddin Ahmed 2/2
- Meran Husain Dhol 2/2
- Mohammed Wasay 2/2
- Bhavuk Goyal 2/3
- M Hamed H Aghai 2/3
- P P Ganga Reddy 2/4
- Srinivasa Reddy 2/4
- Syed Faiz Ahmad 2/5
- Sarwat Nauroze 2/5
- Nick Nensi 2/28
- Arshad Hashmi 2/28
- Harwinder Sidhu 2/5
- Chinmayi B Desai 2/6
- Farukh Khan 2/6
- Ravinder S Sood 2/6
- Salma Ally 2/6
- Mohan Nannapaneni 2/7
- Arshad A Mateen 2/28
- Vipp Jaswal 2/7
- Pranav Desai 2/7
- Amina Rab 2/8
- Sana Khan 2/8
- Danish Pirani 2/8
- Kashif Rasul 2/8
- Sunny Sharma 2/9
- Mani Singh 2/8
- MA Muqsith Qureshi 2/9
- Praveen Sati 2/9
- Sam Birla 2/9
- Alif Naveed Jpsf 2/10
- Jassi Akkal 2/11
- Nur Khan 2/12
- Nadeem Khaksar 2/12
- Kim Chhugani 2/14

- Atif Ali 2/14
- Imran Ilyas 2/14
- Natasha S Sharma 2/14
- Deepak Chhabra 2/15
- Munna Quadri 2/15
- Zafar Iqbal 2/15
- Hema C Reddy 2/15
- Tariq Choudhry 2/15
- S M Aslam Quadri 2/17
- Mohammed Qadeer 2/27
- Mustafa Hashmi 2/16
- Raj Dhillon 2/17
- Yusuf Jamal 2/17
- Amina Amina 2/17
- Nadira T Smith 2/18
- Arti Chandhok 2/18
- M Muneeruddin 2/18
- Lalit Thaker 2/27
- Sameer Date 2/18
- Haroon Moghal 2/19
- Amir Saeed 2/19
- Sreedhar Bandaru 2/19
- Jigar Parikh 2/20
- Khaja Akif 2/13
- Sanket M Patel 2/20
- Mahendar KamiReddy 2/20
- Mohammed Farrukh 2/20
- Khurram Patiala 2/20
- Ahmadjnu Lohit 2/21
- Akbar Khan
- Abdul Rauf Khan 2/22
- Rizwan Naeem 2/22
- Shaun Mehtani 2/23
- Roosevelt DSouza 2/23
- Rahul Vijaywargiya 2/23
- Qazi Mohsin 2/23
- Hassan Butt 2/24
- Avni Khanna Singh 2/25
- Harpinder Saini 2/25
- Syed Munir Aziz 2/25



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### Valentine's Family Night

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- Ehtesham Hussain 2/25
- Faruque Amin 2/25
- SaleemSir Unis 2/25
- Sonia Zee Mua 2/25
- Avni Singer 2/25
- Dharmal Masti 2/26
- Aznil Gill 2/26

- Iqbal Mahmood 2/26
- Raza Mirza 2/26
- Prachi K ShirSagar 2/26
- Venkatesh Reddy 2/26
- M.A. Basith 2/2



Fareeduddin Sabiri  
2/3

### Consulate General of India in Atlanta celebrated India's 68th Republic Day



Mustafa Ajmeri with Rupal K Patel , Arya Dance Academy who was invited to perform at a presidential inauguration event.



The Consulate General of India in Atlanta celebrated India's 68th Republic Day Ceremony at the Consulate this morning (Jan.26,2017). Hon.Nagesh Singh, D.V.Singh, R.Srinivasan, Timothy Jetty, ( to name a few from the Consulate);their families,leading members of the Indian community and media representatives celebrated the event with great joy,,enthusiasm and national pride. After Nagesh Singh unfurled the Tiranga, the gathering sang Indian National anthem, clapped and joyfully shouted Bharat mata ki Jai. Nagesh Singh then proceeded to read the Hon.President of India Pranab Mukherjee's rousing and inspiring address to the nation on eve of India's 68 Republic Day. Nagesh Singh appealed to the community to interact with the Consulate to solve their problems rather than use social media to vent their grievances in abusive manner. He assured the community that the Consulate is diligently trying to improve its services and simplify the procedures. He appealed the community to make more use of Consulate's website for information and to be patient and respectful in airing their complaints.Delicious refreshments were served and relished by all. BY Mahadev Desai



Suman Ali-Khan second anniversary celebrations with the best of friends! Suman Ali-Khan, Sameer khan Ricky Walia , Simi Walia , Anupreet Mohan , Raman Mohan , Dinesh nagpal, Deepali nagpal



Congratulations to Rajeshwar Reddy Gangasani and team for taking charge of NATA 2017-18! Photo: Venkat Mondeddu

Beautiful evening for Yugal Kunj Seniors Adult Center Opening Ceremony. Abdul Ali Asani seen with others





The 68th Republic Day 2017 was celebrated in Washington DC today on January 26, 2017 at Embassy premises. Ambassador Navtej Sarna paid floral tribute to the statue of Mahatma Gandhi in front of the Embassy. Thereafter, Ambassador unfurled the National Flag. The National Anthem was sung. Ambassador addressed the guests and read out the Address of the Hon'ble President made on the eve of the Republic Day of India 2017. This was followed by singing of patriotic songs by a young Indian American. Over 200 members of the Indian American community attended the celebrations. Documentaries titled "A Day in the Life of India" and "INDIAN ARMY: An Instrument of National Power" were screened on the occasion. Printed copies of Hon'ble President's Address both in Hindi and English were distributed to the guests.

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H.E. Ambassador Navtej Sarna chaired the two-day Conference of Consuls General and senior officers of the Embassy of India at Washington DC to discuss steps for further streamlining the Consular and Visa services rendered to the Indian Diaspora in the United States. — with Nagesh Singh.



Khalid Irfan at the inauguration of book "Chutki mein Zafran"

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# Pakistan American Business Association (PABA) hosted a farewell lunch in honor of Pakistan Ambassador to the US Jalil Abbas Jilani

Pakistan American Business Association (PABA) hosted a farewell lunch in honour of Pakistan Ambassador to the US Jalil Abbas Jilani. The event was very well attended by the distinguished Senators, Congressmen, elected officials, academia & prominent community members. Mr. Siddique Sheikh, Chairman PABA paid rich tribute to the Ambassador Jilani and acknowledged his efforts not only in promoting Pak-US relations to a higher level during his tenure but also for the welfare of Pakistani American community.

Ambassador Jalil Abbas Jilani in his address said that he would be carrying home the unforgettable memories related to his stay in the US capital. Washington was a global capital and he enjoyed representing his country during his stay here.

Ambassador Jilani lauded the efforts made by PABA in promoting and strengthen-

ing economic and trade activities between Pakistan and the US over last 25 years. He reiterated that the bilateral relations between Pakistan and the US were on a solid track and looked extremely promising in near future.

On the occasion, Ambassador Jilani remarked that Pakistan and USA had worked closely together for promoting common objectives right from the beginning. Pakistan had been part of the US led alliances namely SEATO and CENTO which bears testimony to the fact that Pakistan had been the close ally of the US over the years. At present, Pakistan and the US have been extending cooperation through Working Groups in key areas such as Counter Terrorism, Defence Cooperation, Education, Nuclear Non-proliferation and Energy sectors. Pakistan and USA needed to build on their commonalities for further deepening bilateral relations,

he added.

Ambassador Jilani underscored that Pakistan had successfully carried out a campaign of historical proportion to address the menace of terrorism. Pakistan-US had collectively taken up the challenge of terrorism and these efforts have yielded positive results. Over the last two years, the terrorism related incidents in Pakistan have reduced significantly leaving a very promising, positive impact on our economy. Pakistan Stock Market had surpassed the other markets in the region. Business opportunities in Pakistan are opening up increasingly. The Ambassador reiterated that Pakistan was looking forward to closely working with the new US Administration as only collectively the regional and global



challenges can be met effectively.

The Pakistan American Business Association (PABA) is a global member-based, not-for-profit business organization serving as an economic bridge between the United States of America and Pakistan.



Raja Razzak with Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke showing solidarity with Muslim community. Mohammad Rizvi ( COPO ) for organised this important event where more than 1000 people attended most of them were AMERICANS.



Dee Ayesha Abedraboh, District Manager and Tina Ahmedi Manager, Investors Bank, NJ, presenting a check for APPNA US College Scholarship Fund on behalf of Investors Foundation, Inc. to Dr. Nasar Qureshi



Meeting with Senator Sherry Rehman, Sajid Tarar and Anwar Iqbal and Khurram Shahzad in Washington DC



Malik Nadeem Abid at a protest Rally at JFK Airport against President Trump's executive order resulting in detention of many Muslims traveling on valid visas and even Green Card holders.

## ISNA Conference in Houston February 25, 2017



Urdu Adab Dallas conducted their monthly gathering this time hosted by Riaz Qureshi. from Left to Right :Mohammad Raees, Mohammed Mansoor, Mohammed Iftqar, Sameer Siddiqui, Haden Khan Saheb , Riaz Qureshi, Mohamed Rahman, Mohammed Abdul-Hameed, Rizwan Saheb , Mohammed Nasim, Mohammed Shawkat Janab Azhar Bukhari Saheb.

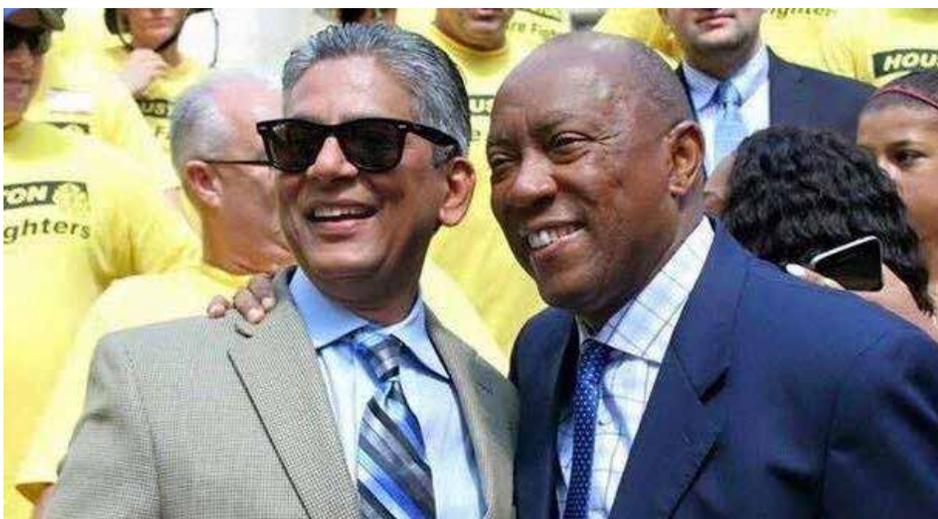
**The honorable Qari Athar Saeed Siddiqui passes away**  
by Dr.Ashraf Abbasi

I am deeply saddened to learn about the sad demise of my dear friend from 70's and a noble & beloved soul, with heavy heart and offer my Heartfelt sympathies & Condolences to Asrar Siddiqui of Tempura, his siblings and family.

He was an Islamic Scholar, a poet, author, a community leader, a journalist, a public speaker, an entrepreneur and most of all a social worker & Reformer.

May Allah Almighty rest the departed soul in eternal peace, and provide the highest status in Paradise.

May Allah (SWT) grant the family patience to sustain the irreparable loss with perseverance and may Allah (SWT) grant solace and comfort to the family to bear this great loss.



Congratulations to Hafar ZAF Tahir: Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner has appointed him to the Planning Commission and the Houston Airports Commission.



Umar Siddiqui Ran into Satnam Singh of Dallas Mavericks, first desi to be drafted into the NBA



Qiasar Imam running for City of Sugar Land council

ISNA Conference in Houston  
February 25, 2017



ISNA President Azhar Azeez and Director of ISNA Office of Interfaith and Community Alliances Dr Syeed M Sayyid attended the welcoming reception of the newly elected congressional members of ethnic minorities. Dr Sayyid addressed the reception. Photographed is of Rep. Darren Soto, Member of Congress from Florida, with ISNA leaders.

**Tabla maestro, Dexter Raghunanan passes away**

Tabla maestro, Dexter Raghunanan, who travelled the world playing alongside India's greatest singers has died.

Raghunanan, 43, passed after a brief illness at his home in Houston, Texas.

The Express was told that Raghunanan complained of feeling unwell after performing at a concert on Saturday night.

He visited his doctor and was advised to rest.

Raghunanan was unable to conduct his tabla classes on Monday, as he was weak.

Raghunanan, originally from San Fernando, moved to Houston some seven years ago where he conducted tabla classes. He was an active member of the Lakshmi Narayan Mandir in Houston.

He has travelled throughout North America and India performing alongside legendary Indian singers including Anup Jalota, Anuradha Paudwal, Zakir, Pradeep Acharya and Prakash Gosine among others.

Raghunanan returned to Trinidad frequently to perform alongside local entertainers.

Pundit Abhedanand Persad Sharma said, "He was an ambassador for Trinidad representing our country. Wherever he goes people from other parts of the world couldn't believe he was not from India until they heard him speak. Apart from him being the best in the west his humility was very admirable, a down to earth guy and never forgot where he came from. He will be missed."



He said Raghunanan became well known among many of the artistes from India and in the US and Canada. "Whenever artistes come from India they would not walk their tabla player because they know Dexter was here. He even played with me when I was in Houston," he said.

Local entertainers took to social media to express shock and sorrow in Raghunanan's passing.

The National Council of Indian Culture (NCIC) stated, "One of the most acclaimed tabla maestros of Trinidad and Tobago, as well as one of the most distinguished Indian Classical artistes to originate from Trinidad, Dexter Raghunanan, has passed away at age 44. May Shri Krishna guide his soul to His eternal abode. Rest in Peace."

Former Government Minister Chandresh Sharma described Raghunanan as an ambassador who should not be forgotten. He said Raghunanan was involved in reshaping the artform, having played tabla alongside the African and Chinese drums.

Daily Express

# Immigration/Muslim Ban EO Demonstrations all over US



Ahmed Khan with Ameya Pawar at Chicago O'Hare Airport Terminal 5.



DALLAS-HOUSTON PAGES

DALLAS-HOUSTON PAGES



Dearest friends,

I have some good news to share. I have filed to run for the City of Sugar Land council and represent the wonderful residents of District 4. I ask you to pray that God guides me to run a positive campaign. I ask you to pray that God helps me to represent the people with the utmost integrity and humility.

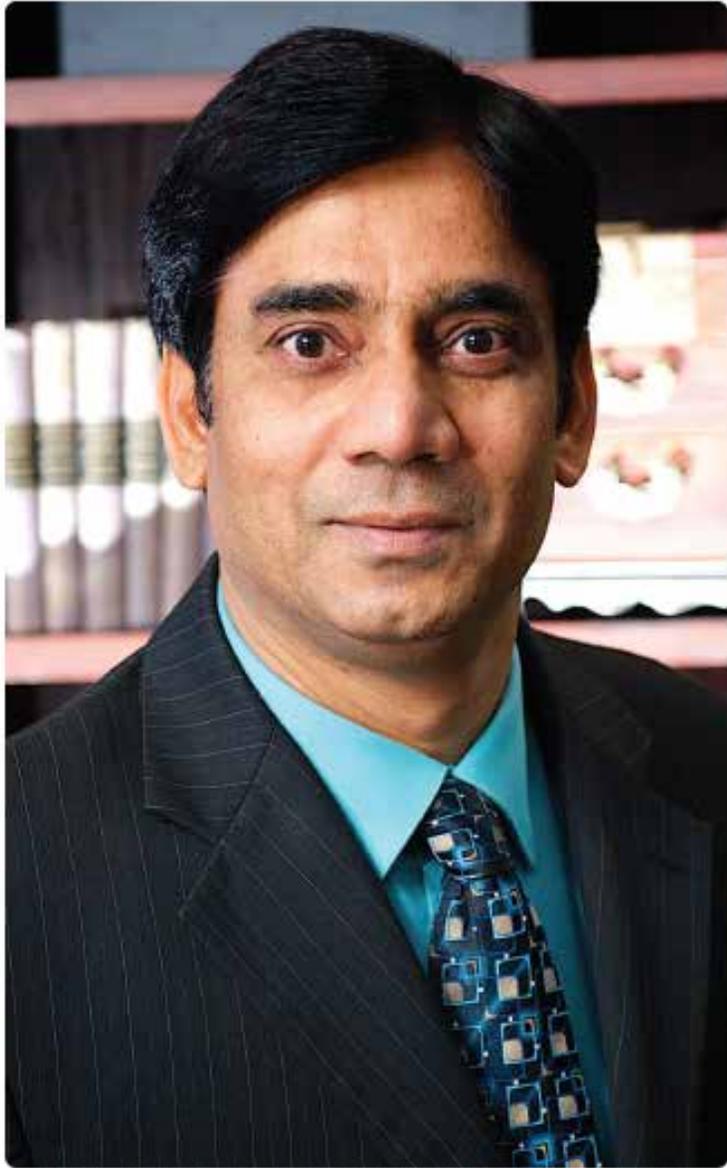
I also look forward to hearing your ideas on how to continue making Sugar Land the best place to live, work and play.

Above all, I hope that I will bring all communities together for the betterment of our city and the beautiful families calling Sugar Land "home sweet home".

I also want to give you some other good news. My dear friend and mentor Evelyn Traylor will be the campaign treasurer. She will be a great source of positive energy as I move forward.

God bless.

**Qaisar Q Imam**



#7

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IFTEKHAR SHAREEF IN INDIA



A.K Khan Director General of Police(Anti-Corruption Bureau) retired on December 24th.2016 and next day he is appointed as Adviser to Government of Telangana State. Thanks a lot Saberi's for hosting a wonderful party attended by Deputy Chief minister Mehmood Ali Sahab, Home Minister Narsimha Reddy, Satyanarayan Sahab DCP South zone, Nagi Reddy DCP, Ms Janaki Rajgopal, Sarib Rasool Khan and many others.

Thanks Siasat Daily for yet another Matrimonial programme(DU-BA-DU) today at Royal Regency Hall at Asifnager in collaboration with Minority Development Forum.



Shadan medical college healthcare and hospitality stall at Prince Agha Khan university during international kite festival. Thanks Sarib Rasool Khan for inviting me along with Swamy Goud Telangana legislative council chairman, Deputy C.M Mehmood Ali Sahab, Talasani Srinivas Yadhav minister for commercial tax, and Tourism minister Azmeera Chandulal.



Dr Hyder CEO Munsif TV hosted dinner at Park Hyatt Hyderabad with Mohamed Azharuddin former India's Cricket captain, Keerthi Kumar and others. Wishing good lucks to Azharuddin for HCA elections this month.



At Agashiye Restaurant , Ahmedabad with Kalpesh Joshi and Babu Bhai Patel



Anmol Saleem sahab MLC and chairman Anmol group of hotels visited me at my residence. We all wish you for a successful term as would be chairman of TELANGANA Wakf board. Please ensure protection of Wakf properties of Telangana.



press conference of Media Premier Cricket league second year tournament launch. Announcing the tour to UAE first time in media history. Also announcement of possible contest of Mohamed Azharuddin former India's cricket captain for President of Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA).



Janab Saleem Member of legislative Council (MLC) and chairman Anmol group of hotels. Wish you good lucks for possible chairmanship of Wakf Board . Thanks Majaz bhai and Syeda Falak international Karate Champion for hosting lunch . Thanks Mohsin Mohd Mohd Boxer for accompanying me.



Dinner at the residence of Janab Mahmood Ali sahab deputy chief minister of Telangana state with Keerthi Kumar, Azam Ali, Furkhan, Masi ullah, Muneer and others

# FIA's celebrated Indian Republic Day



FIA Chicago celebrated 68th Indian Republic Day!



Nikiben Patel, Chhayaben Patel and Anil R Shah

Nimish Jani Celebrating 68th Republican Day of India at Indian Consulate, with new Consulate General Mrs. Neeta Bhushan, Consul Deshbandhu Bhati, Ashok Shah and Mukesh Joshi and fellow volunteers from BAPS!!!

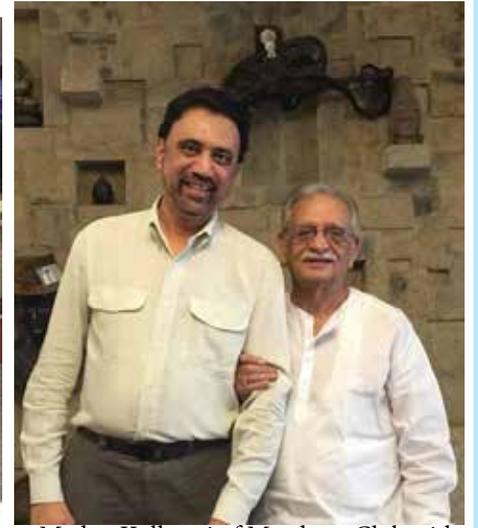


Payalben, Anil R Shah & Chhayaben Patel

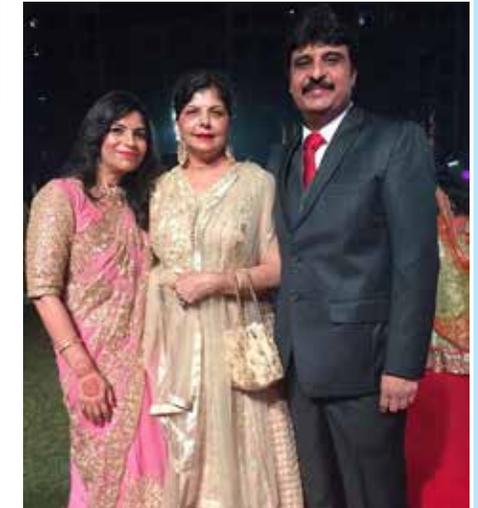
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Madan Kulkarni of Meadows Club with Poet, lyricist and filmmaker Gulzaar saab at his residence " Boskyana" on Pali Hill in Mumbai



Rita Shah at a Wedding Reception party in Mumbai with niece Beena & her husband Bimal



Amit Vatal's Sur Sargam 2017 team at Bristol Palace Banquets, Mount Prospect. Mr Waliuddin Emcee and others are seen



Parminder Walia Grand opening new Indian restaurant Taste of Spice in Itasca Chicago. Congratulations Pama & family.



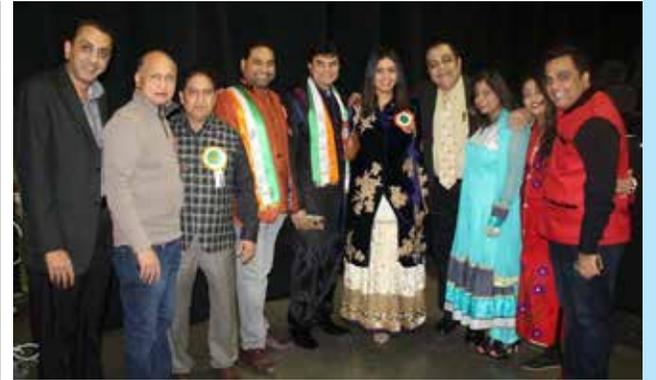
Congratulations to Mohammed Sajid Khan & Asma Nusrath on their 33rd marriage anniversary



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## Lohri festival: Celebrations of richness and magnificence at Hari Om Mandir

### Asian Media USA ©

Chicago IL: This year also Lohri was celebrated with great fanfare at Hari Om Mandir located at 6 North 20 Medinah Road, Medinah, IL on Friday, January 13, 2017. The cold weather did not deter the attendance & excitement of the devotees, who thronged the Temple in large numbers – “House Full”!!! The devotees celebrated the day with traditional food of Saag (Mustard Greens), Makki Ki Roti (Corn), Lassi (Buttermilk), followed by a vibrant cultural evening of Gidda, Bhangra, Jago, Punjabi Folk Songs, culminating in a lively night of blazing bonfire.

The Mandir was beautifully decorated on the traditional theme of a Punjabi Village. The Special Events Team led by Jeetu Patel and Aarti Singla created a virtual village home from Punjab....the newly wed Bride & Groom sitting by the Lohri Fire, enjoying the treats of the season like Moongphali, Popcorn, Rewari, Bhugga etc. The Hukka, Charkha, Chullah, the Village Well with the costumes like Kurtis, Jackets & Pagris hanging in the backdrop.....ALL added to the ambience & mood of the Festival. Lohri is a time to enjoy the foods of the cold weather and look forward to a bountiful harvest in the coming season. The farmers and people in general thank God for His countless blessings and pray for a prosperous future.

As part of the celebrations, ladies dressed in colorful Phulkaris and Punjabi Suits,

performed Giddha – led by Mona Sharma, Rajeshwari Rawat and team. The guys were not behind either.... Tushar Sharma along with Sahil Butani & Arjun Vyas did Bhangra. Several ladies from the congregation joined the two young Brides - Amrit Salwan, Nirvka Sharma, who led the Jago team – special Pot (Gaggar with lighted lamps/candles) and above ALL, the beat of the DHOL by our very own Ajay Ghai set the mood, and very soon everybody joined to dance their hearts out on Punjabi Boliyan – sung by, Mr. Subhash Sharma & Mr. Atwal.

Mr. Satpal Salwan, Chairman Board of Trustees wished everybody a Happy Lohri. Mr. Vipin Wadhwa, President Executive Board greeted everybody on this auspicious occasion and congratulated all the new born babies, newlyweds on the First Lohri occasion. He also gave special Lohri Wishes to the newly wed couples of the Hari Om Parivar – Manish & Amrit Salwan, Chandan & Aarti Kalia, Sunny & Sapna Sharma and Sohail & Nirvka Sharma and requested Pandit Dinesh Ji to bless them with holy Mantras. Mr. Ayod-



Asian Media USA

hya Salwan started off with the traditional Lohri Song “Sunder Mundriye” and also sang the “Badhai Geet” for one & all.

Mr. Vipin Wadhwa also thanked everyone for their generous donations and participation in the Mandir Events. Special thanks to Mrs. Usha Verma & Mrs. Shubh Sharma and their team for their outstanding efforts in arranging & managing the Food & Prasad. Kudos to Mr. Anil Saxena and his team for doing an excellent job in handling the traffic & parking for almost a 1000 people who attended the function.

Finally, under the guidance of Pandit Dinesh Kumar, the Lohri Bonfire was

lighted by the President Vipin Wadhwa & Chairman Satpal Salwan. All the Board Members joined hands and gathered around the fire to offer prayers, and as the ritual is, to throw chidwa, moongphali, popcorn, rewari etc into the flames to seek abundance, pray for prosperity from Agni Devta. Once again the Dhol Beat started and people sang and danced with joy to make merry on the cold night.

Packets of Moongphali, Rewari, Bhugga, Popcorn, Dates were distributed as Prasad, which was relished by all the devotees!



A three day conference on “ Minimal Invasive Surgery (MIS) was held at the Hanifa Suleman Dawood Oncology Centre of SIUT which was largely attended by surgeons from abroad and clinical team of SIUT.

Those who came from abroad included Prof. Shamim Khan of King’s College London, Prof. Matin Khalid of Medway Maritime Hospital Kent, Prof. Ghulam Nabi of Ninewells Hospital Dundee, Dr. Tariq Tasadduq of Bedford Hospital, Dr Faiz Mumtaz of Royal Free Hospital London ,Dr. Munir Ahmed of King’s College London, and Dr. Benjie Tang from University of Dundee.

Those who represented SIUT at the conference were Dr. Sajid Sultan, Dr. Asad Shehzad and Dr. Khawar Aziz.

Dr. Umar Farooq, Philadelphia with Mayor Khairullah of Borough of Prospect Park at a fundraising dinner for Syria. Its so sad how the destruction in Syria has affected the lives of innocent citizens.



Mian Ahmed Hasan With son Mian Mohammad Hasan and Rick Scott, Governor of Florida



Khalsa Khalsa with Lt Governor Suzanne Crouch and Dr. Bijender Kront



# Saaz aur Awaaz



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Indian Community welcomes Neeta Bhushan as new Consul General in Chicago



Ashfaq Hussain Syed With Ayeisha Osman and Neeta Bhushan.

Mrs. Neeta Bhushan assumed the office of Consul General in Chicago. Indian community in Chicago welcomed her. She joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1994. As a career diplomat, her overseas assignments have included political and information work in Tokyo (Japan), Head of the Press, Culture and Information Wing in Dhaka (Bangladesh), and Head of the Economic and Commercial Wing in the Indian Embassy in Berlin (Germany). She also worked as Director in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and as Joint Secretary (Parliament & Coordination) in the Ministry of External Affairs. Before joining as Consul General of India in Chicago, she was Deputy Chief of Mission in Embassy of India, Abu Dhabi. She is married to Mr. Anurag Bhushan, presently Consul General of India in Dubai and she has a daughter and a son.



Nimish Jani representing Schaumburg Township with Clerk Timothy Heneghan to the Congressman Raja Krishnamurthi's open house. Congratulations to new Congressman from 8th congressional district, who's a resident of the Schaumburg Township.



Farewell to Dr. Ausaf Sayeed:  
Above: Iqbal Baig  
Left: Saif Khan, Zaheer Bin Saleh (Urooj) and Syed Quadri

# Saaz-O-Naghma, Sur Sangam & Desi Perdesi Entertainment

## Present Valentine's Family Night

Saturday

11th February, 2017

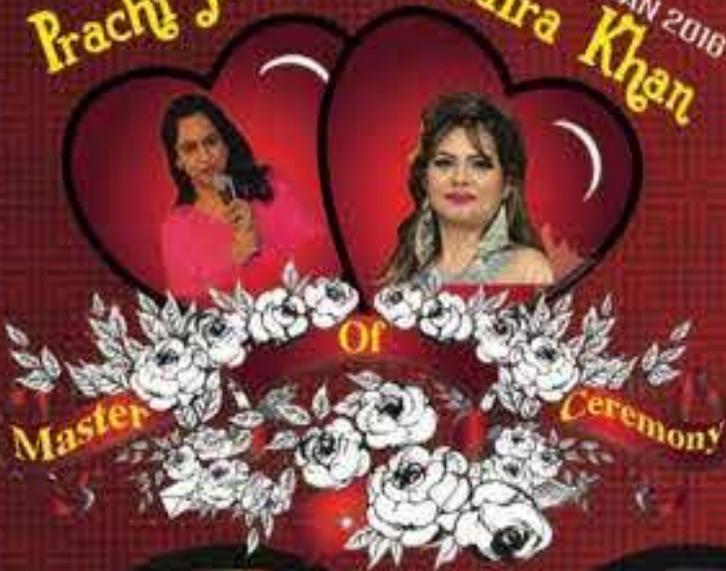
Dinner: 8:00pm

Hosted By  
Rafee Kidwai & Maira Khan

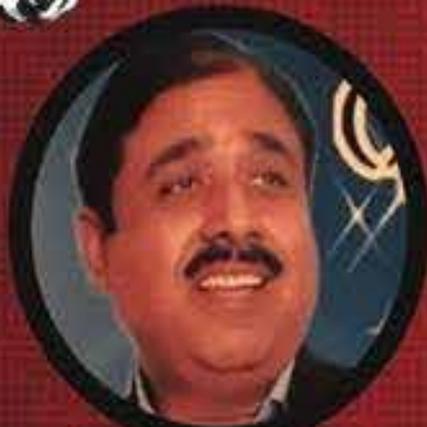
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# Stark inequality: Oxfam says 8 men as rich as half the world

## Richer than 'ultra rich'



Bill Gates, Microsoft founder

\$75 billion

Amancio Ortega, Spanish founder of fashion house Inditex

\$67 billion



Warren Buffett, American business magnate and investor

\$60.8 billion



Carlos Slim Helu, Mexican business magnate

\$50 billion



Jeff Bezos, founder, chairman, and chief executive officer of Amazon.com

\$45.2 billion



Mark Zuckerberg, chairman, chief executive officer, and co-founder of Facebook

\$44.6 billion



Larry Ellison, co-founder of Oracle Corporation

\$43.6 billion



Michael Bloomberg, former mayor of New York

\$40 billion



Source: Oxfam

Oxfam used Forbes' billionaires list that was last published in March 2016 to make its headline claim.

Oxfam says the gap between the very rich and poor is far greater than just a year ago.

Oxfam urged leaders to do more than pay lip-service to the problem.

LONDON: The gap between the super-rich and the poorest half of the global population is starker than previously thought, with just eight men, from Bill Gates to Michael Bloomberg, owning as much wealth as 3.6 billion people, according to an analysis by Oxfam released Monday.

Presenting its findings on the dawn of the annual gathering of the global political and business elites in the Swiss ski resort of Davos, anti-poverty organization Oxfam says the gap between the very rich and poor is far greater than just a year ago. It's urging leaders to do more than pay lip-service to the problem.

If not, it warns, public anger against this kind of inequality will continue to grow and lead to more seismic political changes akin to last year's election of Donald Trump as US president and Britain's vote to leave the European Union.

"It is obscene for so much wealth to be held in the hands of so few when 1 in 10 people survive on less than \$2 a day," said Winnie Byanyima, executive director of Oxfam International, who will be attending the meeting in Davos. "Inequality is trapping hundreds of millions in poverty; it is fracturing our societies and undermining democracy."

Last year's equivalent report showed that the richest 62 people on the planet in 2015 owned as much wealth as the bottom half of the population+. Oxfam has since revised that figure down to nine.

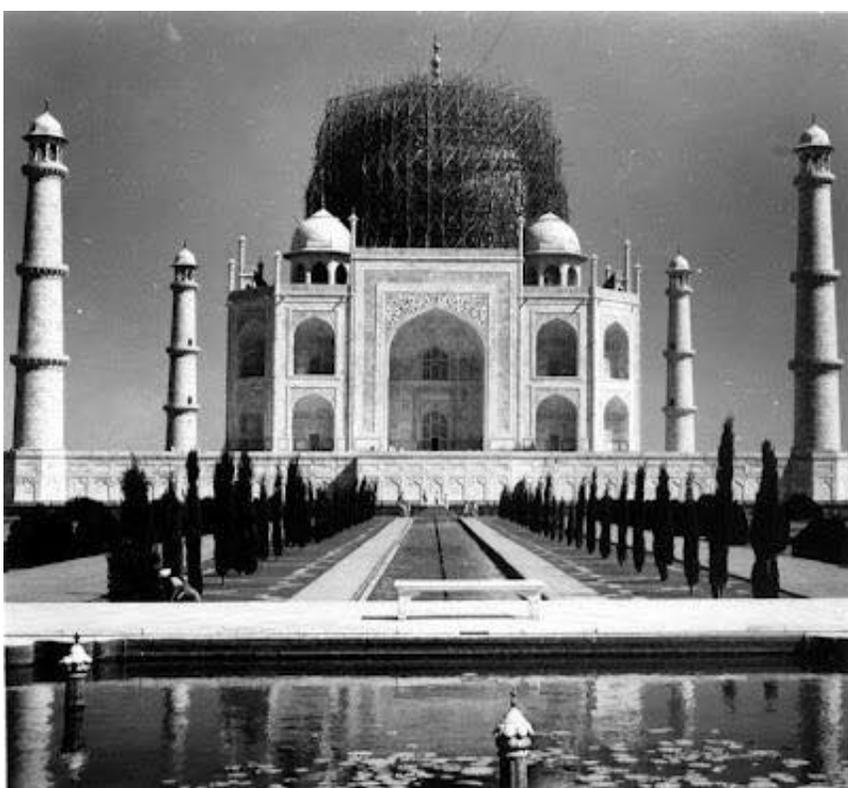
Oxfam used Forbes' billionaires list that was last published in March 2016 to make its headline claim. According to the Forbes list, Microsoft founder Gates is the richest individual with a net worth of \$75 billion. The others, in order of ranking, are Amancio Ortega, the Spanish founder of fashion house Inditex, financier Warren Buffett, Mexican business magnate Carlos Slim Helu, Amazon boss Jeff Bezos, Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg, Oracle's Larry Ellison and Bloomberg, the former mayor of New York.

Oxfam outlined measures that it hopes will be enacted to help reduce the inequality.

They include higher taxes on both wealth and income to ensure a more level playing field and to fund investments in public services and jobs, greater international cooperation by governments on ensuring workers are paid decently and the rich don't dodge their taxes. And business leaders should commit to paying their fair share of taxes and a living wage to employees.

Max Lawson, Oxfam's policy adviser, urged billionaires to "do the right thing," and to do "what Bill Gates has called on them to do, which is pay their taxes."

The ability of the rich to avoid paying their fair share of taxes was vividly exposed last year in the so-called 'Panama Papers'+ , a leaked trove of data that revealed details on offshore accounts that helped individuals shelter their wealth.



## How Taj Mahal was protected during War

How Taj Mahal was protected from Bomber Jets in 1942 during World War II

This was how the Taj Mahal was protected from bomber jets in 1942 during world war.

It was covered with huge scaffold, to make it look like a stockpile of bamboo and misguide bombers.

This covering is still incomplete in this photo. It seems the whole of Taj Mahal was covered but this picture shows only the main dome covered. Maybe the government did not allow any photographers later to shoot the final scaffold cover.

During the India-Pakistan war in 1971, it was protected by covering it with a green cloth and making it almost invisible i.e camouflaged within the greenery around it.

Even in 2001, after the Sep 11 attack, Archaeological Survey of India took up the precautionary measure to cover it with cloth and it took them more than 20 days to do that!!

Is not it strange? You work hard and develop a beautiful asset. You get praises from everyone around the world. Later you work hard to safeguard this asset from getting destroyed by the same people who praised it.

**Prince Tucu**

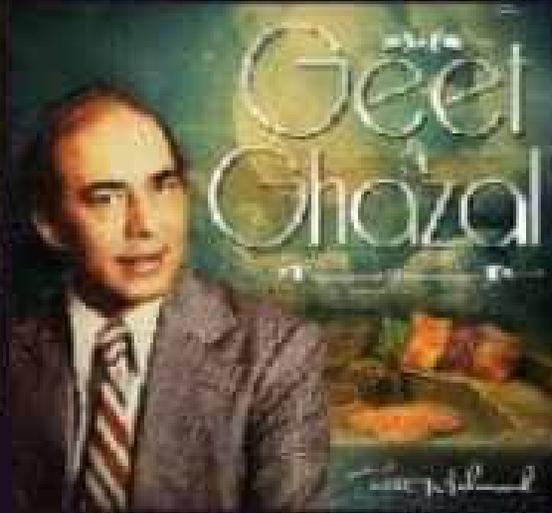
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# Indian Republic Day celebrated in Riyadh SA



Republic Day Celebrated at the Indian Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. A large number of Indians and their families attended.



Dr. Hifzur Rahman Azmi Second Secretary, Embassy of India graced the occasion as a Chief Guest.



NRI Forum Riyadh and Bazm-e-Rabab-e-Sahra honored Mr. Mohammed Saifuddin with the wonderful memento.



In the above picture are from left to right - Dr. Shaukat Perwez, Sultan Mazharuddin Member Managing Committee Riyadh IIS Riyadh, Dr. E. K. Mohammed Shaffe, Mr. Syed Hamid & Mr. Syed Masood Ahmed. The meeting was held to discuss the Unified Service Rules of the 10 schools in KSA for whom Ambassador Ahmed Javed is the Patron.



MIDDLE EAST PAGES

MIDDLE EAST PAGES

## PWC Bids Farewell to its Member of Long Standing - By: Aymen Zaheer

Engr. Faiz Al-Najdi and Ambreen Faiz under the banner of Pakistan Writers Club and its Ladies Chapter hosted a farewell dinner reception in the honor of PWC senior member Engr. Syed Khawaja Nehal Uddin (Vice President Program Design) in the Recreation Hall of Riyadh Care Hospital. Nehal is due to leave for final exit upon attainment of superannuation. Pakistani Ambassador H.E. Manzoor Ul Haq and his wife, Madam Nighat Manzoor were the chief guests on the occasion.

The farewell event was ably conducted by the senior members of PWC Ladies Chapter (aka: PWC-LC) Asma Tariq and Engr Madiha Noman who informed the audience that this event was hosted in the honor of Nehal on the occasion of his departure from the Kingdom.

The event kicked-off with the recitation from the Holy Quran by Shumaila Malik and Naat rendition was by Almas Mumtaz – both senior members of PWC-LC.

Faiz A-Najdi highlighted the objective of this gettogether. He paid a rich homage to Nehal for his age-old friendship and painted many aspects of his personality. He also expressed words of appreciations for his praiseworthy services for PWC and remarked that PWC would be poor without him.

PWC President Abdul Rauf Mughal described Nehal as a sedate gentleman. He appreciated his selfless services for PWC and mentioned that his loyalty towards the club could never be challenged.

Ashiq Hussain – former PWC General Secretary – added that Nehal shall always be remembered especially for his popular dialogue writing. Ehsan Abbasi – the incumbent PWC General Secretary said

that Nehal was a beacon of knowledge and he learnt a lot from him. H M Fayyaz – PWC VP Coordination remarked that he found Nehal as a nice fellow. He added that he would miss him a lot especially for the reason that he was his partner in the popular PWC segment of Mukalma. Fayyaz Malik – PWC senior member – said that it's very easy to say welcome, but, it's very hard to bid farewell to such a nice person.

Aymen Zaheer – Deputy General Secretary & PRO, praised Nehal for utilizing the power of the pen in a constructive way, and for the manifestation of his feelings. Shah Jehan Sherazi – VP Media – spoke good words for Nehal and said that Nehal was very diligent and devoted to the interest of the club. Zubair Bhatti - VP Finance - humorously added that when Nehal came into the Kingdom, he was “Nau-Nehal”, but now he has transformed to “Nehal”. Naveed Ur Rehman – a senior member of PWC - said Nehal was a down to earth man and was a useful member of our team.

Farah Ehsan – Convener of Ladies Chapter extended warm wishes and mentioned that his gap can never be filled. Madiha Malik – deputy convener - said that by the courtesy of virtual world, PWC & LC would be able to stay connected with him in order to amuse by his fresh piece of works in future. Shumaila Maik expressed her feelings by reciting some farewell verses dedicated to him. Asma Tariq remarked that Nehal was a kind person. Madiha Noman expressed her sadness about the departure of a lively and literary person.

Qundeel Aymen said that he was one of the wittiest persons in PWC and his sense of humor was matchless. Almas Mumtaz



spoke very high about Nehal. Ambreen Faiz added that he was a multitalented person and extended best wishes for him. Dr Farah Nadia also spoke very high of him.

Nehal upon his turn recited his piece of poetry. He took this opportunity to narrate some of the mischievous activities of his childhood friend Faiz Al-Najdi. He also thanked Najdi for hosting a farewell dinner reception in his honor and paid gratitude to all the members of PWC & LC for speaking kind words for him. “It has been a proud to be a part of PWC family and I have tried my best to give the best of myself. I will miss this club in my entire life,” Nehal added.

Earlier on Asma Tariq had arranged for a fun-painting of flowers & petals on a canvass wherein Ambassador, Madam, their daughter and all the members of PWC & its Ladies Chapter tried their hands-on to complete the job which was finally presented to Nehal.

Chief Guest Ambassador Manzoor Ul Haq in his address mentioned that it was a good gesture that Pakistan Writers Club and its Ladies Chapter have bestowed to one of their senior members. “By dint of new modern technology Nehal can stay

in touch with the club, and we would also love to read his poetry & literary works – if he shares,” Haq remarked.

The event concluded with enchanting melodies from an invited singer Shahana Choudhry and her band including Babul and Muneer Bhai. Shahana spread the spell through her voice and won the hearts of the audience with her superb rendition of some of very popular numbers. Syed Hameed Rizvi also sang few popular numbers and received appreciations.

Hosts of the event presented some token gifts to Ambassador Haq, Madam Manzoor, Engr. Nehal, Singer Shahana and to Asma Tariq on her wedding anniversary.

The event concluded on a happy note and the invited guests were feted with a sumptuous dinner.

Aymen Zaheer is a Freelance writer based in Riyadh. He is also a Deputy General Secretary and PRO of PWC.

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## Pak Envoy Lauds the Creativity of Pakistani Ladies

By: Aymen Zaheer

Pakistani Ambassador to Saudi Arabia - H.E Manzoor Ul Haq - was all praise for the members of Ladies Chapter (aka: PWC-LC) of Pakistani Writers Club - Riyadh aka: PWC. He was speaking as a Chief Guest on the occasion of a colorful event of PWC-LC to acknowledge & celebrate the contribution of women toward the beauty & color in life in any society - and with that extension in the entire world & the universe at large.

This event by PWC-LC was a family event and was hosted in the Chancery Hall of Embassy of Pakistan in Riyadh and which was attended by a large number of invited guests from Riyadh and its adjoining areas.

Ambassador of Pakistan and his wife Madam Nighat Manzoor were the Chief Guests on the occasion. Dr. Sayyara Abdul Sattar and Mrs. Irum Amir were the Guests of Honor.

Pakistani Ambassador and his wife were very upbeat at the great show put up by PWC-LC and thoroughly enjoyed the same. "Pakistani women have rendered countless services toward development of our country and they are no less than men in any manner. We take pride in our women engineers, doctors, teachers, scientists, writers and artists," Haq remarked. He also added that the Ladies Chapter of PWC is a great union of talented ladies and their programs are always a delight to watch. He especially praised the women writers in the Kingdom namely, Qudsia Nadeem Lali, Tasneem Amjad and Ambreen Faiz and added that they were doing a great job in projecting a good image of Pakistan.

Speaking on the occasion Madam Nighat Manzoor appreciated the efforts of ladies of PWC-LC especially the ones who participated in the event. She mentioned that importance of women for the development of any society - or any nation - could never be ignored. "It is true that behind success of any women there always is a man - in most cases he is her husband and her father," Nighat added.

The event was ably conducted by Madiha Malik (Deputy Convener of PWC-LC), Asma Tariq (Advisor to Convener), Shumaila Malik (Finance Secretary), Madiha Noman (Event Coordinator), and Almas Mumtaz - PRO of PWC-LC.

The proceedings of the event got underway with the recitation from verses of the Holy Quran by Shumaila Malik and melodious Naat rendition by Almas Mumtaz - aka: the Naat Queen of Riyadh.

The various items presented in the event

per se were all very well show-cased and which also won applause from the audience.

Asma Tariq and Shumaila Malik together enlightened the audience in a very stylish manner about the formation of PWC-LC on 15 November 2013 by the then President of PWC Faiz Al-Najdi. All members of PWC-LC then

joined Farah Ehsan - the incumbent Convener of PWC-LC who lit a candle and all those who followed lit their respective candles from her - symbolizing the unity and strength among the members of PWC-LC. This show was a very impressive one indeed.

The items of the event then followed. Ambreen Faiz presented some beautiful verses from the collection of poets Parveen Shakir and Saghar Siddiqui highlighting the importance of women in the society. Shumaila Malik also did the chores via her thought provoking poetry quatrains.

The duo of Asma Tariq and Madiha Noman show-cased a live-painting and draping on a volunteer model - Miss Laiba - and won big applause from the audience.

Madiha Malik, Qundeel Aymen along with a bunch of young girls - Hafsa, Mahnoor, Mariam and Fatima - stage-played a thought-provoking mime which was received huge appreciations from the audience.

Shumaila read out a beautiful Punjabi poetry entitled "Kikli". Qundeel Aymen and Almas Mumtaz - supported by two kids Aleena and Mahnoor - enacted the message conveyed in the poetry per se.

Finally to mark the conclusion of the segments of this event, a satire & humorous skit was performed by the group of PWC-LC members that included Farah Ehsan, Dr. Farah Nadia, Qundeel Aymen, Asma Tariq, Madiha Noman, Almas Mumtaz and Hafsa Ehsan which was applauded by the spectators.

Towards the end of this event, the two Guests-of-Honor Dr. Sayyara and Mrs. Irum Amir speaking on the occasion appreciated PWC-LC for hosting such an entertaining event.



The added attraction was a thrilling musical evening with a courtesy performance by maestro Aqib and his ML Studio band.

Farah Ehsan - Convener of PWC-LC - extended her thanks to the Chief Guests and the Guests-of-Honor for gracing the occasion with their august presence. She also had words of praise for all members of PWC-LC.

Engr. Abdul Rauf Mughal - President PWC - also expressed words of praise for the Ladies Chapter for a successful

event. He thanked all guests, officers from the Embassy and members from the media for attending this event and gracing the occasion.

Memento shields were awarded to Madam Nighat Manzoor, Dr. Sayyara Abdul Sattar and to Mrs. Irum Amir. The event concluded on a happy note and with sumptuous dinner.

Aymen Zaheer is a Freelance writer based in Riyadh. He is also a Deputy General Secretary and PRO of PWC.

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BeMine  
Candles  
Candy  
Cards

Chocolate  
Flowers  
Gifts  
Hearts  
I Love You

Valentine  
Romance  
Love Birds  
Red  
Pink

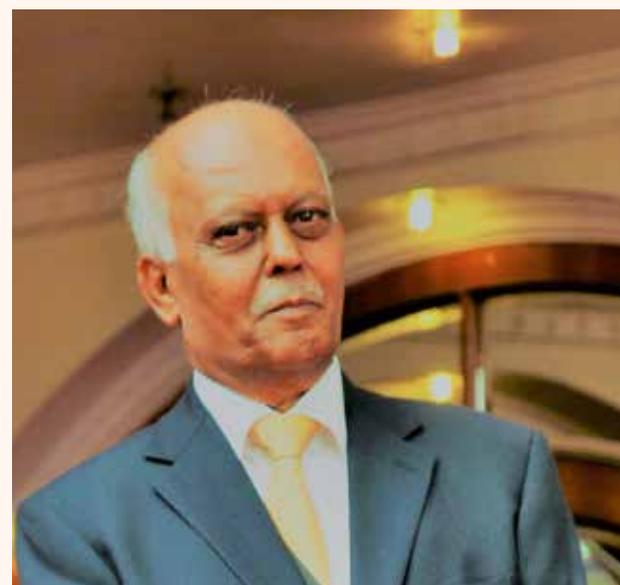
Stuffedanimals  
Rose  
Music  
Poetry  
Jewelry

# The Guns of Navarone Are Silent MS Zahed

Ms. Navrekha Sharma, a Joint Secretary for international Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) in the Ministry of External Affairs, during 1997. MEA commissioned HMT to refurbish an Entrepreneurial Training & Development Centre (ETDC) in Dakar, Senegal, which was earlier gifted by Japan had been languishing for want of refurbishing and also needing some more machines to balance the training in various trades. After brief negotiations with ITEC in Delhi, a contract was signed for USD 4.5 million with MEA which also included for periodic review visits to monitor the progress jointly by HMT and MEA. We started implementation in right earnest, our experience of working in other developing countries came in handy, Training manuals were prepared in India to suit the curricula of Senegal, translated into French and delivered. We also had to depute ten instructors to start up and hand over the baton to locals later. The first mid course review visit, was planned during mid 1998 and I happen to accompany Ms. Sharma to Dakar. Named after River Senegal, the country is situated at extreme tip of western Africa with only Atlantic separating it from Americas with its capital Dakar, famous for Paris-Alger-Dakar rally one of the most arduous tests in motor sport, the two-week-long rally. Senegal was first occupied by Portuguese, French, English and in 19th century, it was a French controlled colony and was an important for slave trade in the French Africa known for its natural resources, ebony, peanuts, and agriculture blessed by fertile land irrigated by river Senegal. The colony got its freedom in 1960 with the merger with French Sudan and Leopold Sedar Senghor was the first President. Senegal has a population of about 14 million, also has a very infamous history of slave trade, it was here millions of slaves, hunted like animals in the forests, imprisoned for few months before being sold by auction to the middlemen and traders from Americas. It is also noticeable that these slaves were never taken to Europe for exploitation and perhaps they did not want to "dilute" their races. There were all together twenty eight sea face ports where slave houses were built and extensively used which could keep, men, women and child slaves till they are sold. Young, muscular, and healthy slaves fetched a good price of couple of hundred dollars and old were forced to die. Millions of slaves died in captivity due to epidemics too. Conditions were appalling. The black spots of history numbering some twenty seven places of slave trade were

closed and one place in "Ile de Goree" (Goree island) is retained as a grim reminder of wrongs to the humanity and for visitors to pay homage. Dakar is thinly populated and I would venture to say poverty stricken, when you walk through the main down town streets, you would see hundreds of jobless youths hanging around in the corners. Amidst these conditions interesting feature in Dakar is that women do their hairdo almost like a piece of art each with many some with hundreds of plaits. Women proudly display saying that there are at least five to six million of different unique hairdos at any given time, which one cannot find elsewhere on earth and no two hairdos match or identical! It seems true, as you see them everywhere in Senegal. The Review meeting was at the secretariat of the Ministry located in a typically French design building with large bay windows. With shutters of louvers opening towards sea of Atlantic. The review meeting chaired by Ms. Sharma in the Ministry of Training went off very well and India was the donor country was treated as such. As the diplomacy demanded, and as a necessary protocol, we invited the Senegalese delegation for a Dinner at Sofitel Teranga for which the embassy had carefully chosen and prepared printed invitations to the Senegalese on the stationery of the Indian embassy. The French have made them very protocol oriented and bound. This was a sit in Dinner with display of the names on each chair as per the protocol decided by the Embassy. Ms. Sharma was at the head of the table flanked one side by me and the other was the Senegalese Secretary of the Ministry. The dinner was with a typical five course French menu, consisting of Apreritf, Soup, Salad. Wine to go with entrée, main course of Lobster which they call fruit of sea, again with white wine, desert, cheese, desert wine and in the end Cognac. The dinner was almost ceremonial, as at the beginning, the Chef, a six footer in white tail coat and a bow, walked in with his assistants similarly dressed with white napkins neatly placed on their left elbows and who stood in a line facing the length of the table. The Chef greeted "Bonjour Madam et Messieurs" and like a poetry read out the menu both in French and English and described each dish in detail and the history of the grapes and wines. The table was laid with couple of forks on left and three knives on the right with three wine glasses of different sizes and a starched napkin on a choice bone Chin plate in the centre. The guests enjoyed the Dinner and as customary, were praising the choice of dishes to Ms. Sharma, who appeared

delighted At the end of Dinner the Senegalese Secretary informed of next day's programme of visit to touristic spot which they had arranged to two places



"The Guns of Navarone Locale" and Slave House in "Ile de Goree", we were taken first to an abandoned locale of the famous Hollywood movie "The Guns of Navarone," the cave housing Nazi guns created by movie makers just like the one original in the hills of Greek Island of Navarone. The caves were empty overlooking the sea and the scene from the movie recalled the memories of acting by Gregory Peck, Anthony Quinn and David Niven. After some photography session we left for "Slave House" a heritage site of UNESCO on a nine hundred meters stretch of island "Ile de Goree" about twenty minutes by ferry from Dakar, said to be around 400 years old, where I could see the remnants of inhuman cells at three levels each hardly 6 feet high, to house the slaves and, at the center of quadrangle building, was a platform, may be six by six feet where each slave was displayed for auction. Walking through the dreaded place. I felt, as if, I am hearing the chorus of moans, cries of women and children. They must have been dragged like animals on to the platform and even God must have cried at His creation once. I was gasping for breath with choked emotions walking through the place. The slave house was located on hilly rocks adjacent to sea and if any slave, were to attempt escaping he would surely drown in Atlantic. The visit reminds of the famous book "Roots" by Alexander Haley which sold in millions of copies, in which there is graphic description of how the slaves were ambushed and caught as herds of animals, in the forests of West Africa. The character Kunta Kinte in the novel describes the white skin of hunters of slaves as the dead skin of feather peeled chicken. People like Martin Luther King Jr, Oprah Winfrey, Louis Armstrong, Mohammad Ali, Joe Frazier, Carl Lewis, Malcolm X, Michael Jordan, the Jacksons Five and many African Americans have contributed not only to the growth of United States but also to eradicate racism as a tribute to the sufferings of their forefathers. As I was returning seated in the Air France Flight to Paris en route Delhi, I felt happy that we as a country are perhaps wiping the few tears of cruel history in Senegal. Viva la ITEC

## TIME

Where does it go? How does it fly? This Time, this elusive, slippery Time, it filters through the fingers, like water.

Wasn't it just yesterday that I stood at the corner of my street and played with my friends? We had seen rainbows in the puddles of water laced with oil, and had marveled at the kaleidoscope of colors every time we jumped in it. It was just the other day when we had run through the garden, trying to catch the dragonflies, knowin...g very well that if we caught one, then the gods of rain would shower us with Monsoons and we would be able to play in the rain.

But look where Time has brought me... oceans away from that childhood euphoria where I thought time would stand still and I would continue my simple games and stories that were spun out from a fancied imagination--

"Did you know, that in a country far from here, it doesn't rain and instead of rain there is something called snow? And it looks like cotton balls, and is whiter than white?? Or, did you know that to get to that country you

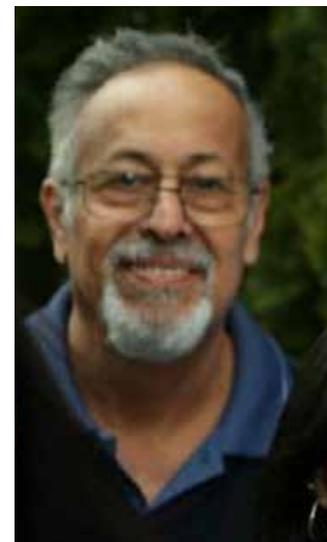
have to sit in a large machine that looks like a bird and you would fly?? Or you can sleep in the belly of that bird and when you wake up, you will be in a different country where sometimes instead of rain, it snows!"

Innocent and guileless, I had such a clear conscience. I thought I owned that part of the beautiful earth. I thought we would stay young and continue to be the doves and the lambs. But Time drove us out of our innocence. It came like a raging bull, and took away our simple dreams, and showed us the rest of the world; where there was guile and guilt, and ways of the world that shook your beliefs to the core. And with that realization, I buried my head in the lap of this year, and cried for the beauty of this earth, which I fear, will be lost for four years to come.

Why did Time suddenly become so uncaring, and so worldly AND SO POLITICAL??

**Zakiah Sayeed**

**This Page is compiled by Syed Saifullah Quadri - a member of Charminar Connection**



# Federer reigns in Australian Open

The rivalry between two of the very best ever to hold a tennis racket Federer and Nadal was at its peak between 2005-2010 with their present head to head at 23-11 (13-0 on clay and 9-7 on hard courts to Nadal) with Federer 3-2 on hard court finals. They have met just 3 times in the last 6 years with Nadal leading 2-1 (both on clay) instead of three times a year. Nadal leads 6-2 (4 on clay) wins in Grand Slam finals the last being the French in 2011.

Both were coming back from injuries defying the odds and their critics, their ages and seedings Federer playing after 6 months to be seeded 17th for the first time in his career took the rough road to survive with two 5 setters against the 4th and 5th seeds to a three times Slam winner and a finalist with another finalist and 10th seed in Berdych in the quarters.

Federer has unfortunately lost the last 3 Grand Slam Finals to Djokovic and who last won a Major with the Australian in 2010 and Wimbledon in 2012 and Nadal in 2009 and French in 2013. Total titles won Federer 88 and Nadal 69 (49 on Clay)

Carnival atmosphere at Melbourne Park bursting at its seams just to witness History being made between the Legends of the game for a "Rumble in the Park" Both held opening service games comfortably only for Federer to break for 4-3 and with 11 points in a row on serve for 5-3 to finish with 2 aces for 6-4 in 35 minutes. Due to a wrong shot selection Federer let Nadal to break him in the opening game of the set and with Nadal saving 2 break points to lead 3-0 and 4-0 only to be broken for 2-4 and after a Federer hold for 3-5 Nadal held his last 2 service games to love to level match for 6-3.

In the 3rd after being 40-0 in the opening game Federer missed 2 regulation volleys to hand Nadal a break point and another 2 only to save with aces to hold. With a glorious improbable half volley forehand down the line from the base line he broke Nadal to serve 2 aces for 3-0. Nadal saved 3 break points and after 4 deuces to hold for 1-3. Federer then held to love and in his next after a double fault and a break point went on to hold.



Nadal saved a set point and after Federer saved another break point with another ace for the the set. It was exhibition tennis never giving Nadal a look in for 6-1 In the 4th due to some lose shots by Federer it was identical to the that of the last with Nadal stealing into a 3-0 lead. Then struggling to hold his next service game it was Nadal who with an impossible fore hand cross court winner to a certain Federer winner for 4-1 which even left Federer applauding. After a howler overhead volley miss Federer saved a break point with an ace to hold with an ace (4 aces in the game) for 3-5. Nadal served out for the set to level at 2 sets all.

The momentum was with Nadal in the decider after Federer took medical time out (adductor in the leg?) similar to that against Wawrinka for the 9th time in 1332 matches. He was broken in the opening game to be 0-2. With a brilliant cross court back hand Federer sets up 2 break points only for Nadal to save them. The 3rd by courtesy of a lucky net cord was also saved by Nadal and again another to lead 3-1. Federer held for love for 2-3. The longest 18 shot rally of the match ended with a Federer backhand cross court winner for

the first break point saved to eventually break with another glorious back hand cross court for 3-3. Another love service game to Federer to be in front for the first time at 4-3.

Federer continued to press on the Nadal serve earning him breaking points with his attacking and instinctive brand of tennis hurrying Nadal into a double fault for 0-40 with 3 break points which he saved with heavy serves and a down the line fore hand passing shot. An exhilarating rally of the match that will be ranked amongst the best ever with Nadal thumping out forehands after forehands brutal and relentless with Federer slicing backhand returns with precision and footwork moving Nadal around from side to side to open an opportunity to "thread through an eye of a needle" a backhand down the line for 4th break point only to be brought back to deuce by a resilient Nadal. Another brilliant Federer back hand gave him his 5th break point for deuce to finish with a glorious back hand for a 6th to eventually break for a 5-3 lead. Federer serving for the Title was down 15-40 only to save 2 break points with an ace and an inside out outrageous forehand winner. Federer challenged Hawk Eye successfully on the 1st match point serve but not successful on reserving again then again after a forehand decided by the finest of margins winning 5 games in a row from 1-3 down. A terrific battle of will and determination with its ebbs and flows lasting 3hrs 38 minutes for a 6-4, 3-6, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3.

The first man in history to win 5 or more titles at 3 different Slams (7 Wimbledon, 5 US and 5 Australian) Against all the commentators and pundits predictions I hope this has laid to rest the never ending saga of the GOAT by winning his 18th Major after a 5 years draught. "Mirror mirror on the Wall who is the GREATEST of them ALL."

My comment in the first post of "good omen" of being the 17th seed same as that of his idol Pete Sampras when he won his last Grand Slam for Federer to eventually get past 17

**Arif Quadri**  
**Middlesex UK.**



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# Trump's Hindu, Sikh and Muslim power brokers

## By Brajesh Upadhyay

When Indian-American industrialist Shalabh "Shalli" Kumar donated close to a million dollars to the Trump campaign, many in the community dismissed it as a poor investment.

But today, Mr Kumar is the go-to guy not just for Indian-Americans chasing opportunities in the new administration but apparently for the Indian officials seeking contacts with Trump aides.

A leading Indian TV channel NDTV introduced him as "the man with a direct line to Trump" on their show. Another top-ranking Diaspora website, The American Bazar, has called him "the most influential Indian-American power broker" in DC. And Kumar isn't complaining about this new celebrity status. "I would like to be the bridge between the two sides," he told the BBC. "I have arranged two big meetings between Indian officials and leading figures in the Trump team."

A majority in the Indian immigrant community have traditionally supported Democrats and Trump's anti-immigrant campaign rhetoric seemed to have further alienated many.

Kumar says he and his Republican Hindu Coalition mobilised Hindu Indian-Americans votes in swing states like Florida.

Their message? Trump was the anti-terrorism candidate, and would help India and US see greater collaboration in defence, energy and manufacturing.

Trump's anti-Muslim rhetoric did appeal to some Hindus, but whether that actually swayed the community at large is unclear. Kumar is not the only one whose stock has soared with a Trump victory.

Pakistani-American Sajid Tarar, who is a Muslim, and Sikh-American Jesse Singh, sided with Mr Trump at the peak of his anti-Muslim barbs. They were pilloried by their own communities for doing so. One exit poll suggested more than three-quarters of Muslims voted for Clinton.

Mr Tarar's Facebook inbox used to be swamped with negative messages, calling him a "disgrace to Pakistan and Islam". But on the morning of 9 November, his phone wouldn't stop ringing. Mr Tarar had more than 80 messages congratulating him on Mr Trump's victory and how he had made Pakistan proud. He says the Pakistan embassy reached out to him to facilitate a call between Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and the President-elect. "I sent out a few emails and the call happened," says Mr Tarar, a real estate businessman.

"The ambassador later called to thank me." Mr Singh was branded a "traitor" for supporting Trump and claims to have been subjected to "personal attacks at community gatherings".

"I was always confident that he would win. But I also realised that when he wins, our community will be nowhere on his radar. "So, despite all the hate messages I decided to stick with him," says Mr Singh.

Both Mr Tarar and Mr Singh have been approached by community members with resumes, looking for jobs in the new administration.

On Saturday, they were also part of the group leading the prayers at the National Cathedral as part of Mr Trump's inauguration celebrations.

Kumar, Tarar and Singh were high-profile examples of diverse supporters for the Trump campaign, which relied primarily on a predominantly white support base to win the election.

But with the need for photo-ops gone, will there still be a role for them in the coming days?

Mr Kumar, who was part of the transition team on finance, says he is working to triple the amount of trade between the US and India and create jobs in both countries. He's made three trips to India since the election results were announced.

His Twitter account has a picture of him hugging Indian Yoga guru Baba Ramdev, mentioning a discussion to create 100,000 yoga related jobs in the US.

Those tagged in the tweet are the Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, Mr Trump's daughter Ivanka Trump, his treasury secretary nominee, Steven Mnuchin, and former speaker Newt Gingrich.

He says he's always been a strong advocate for "establishing a Hindu-American voice on public policy". Does that mean seeking a position in the Trump administration?

"I have been my own boss in the past 44 years. But I will be happy to help where I can be most of service," says Mr Kumar, adding it would be too premature to talk about specific posts.

When probed further, he did seem inter-



ested in the ambassador's job to India or a position in the commerce department. For Tarar, the state's department's Special Representatives to Muslim Communities, or as envoy to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) would be Trump administration posts worth aspiring to. But if he doesn't get the job "it will not be end of the world".

## Indian techie sells company to Cisco for \$3.7 billion

BENGALURU: There's something about the name Bansal. After Sachin Bansal and Binny Bansal of Flipkart, Mukesh Bansal of Myntra, Rohit Bansal of Snapdeal and Peyush Bansal of LensKart, yet another Bansal has made a killing with a startup.

Jyoti Bansal, an IIT Delhi graduate, has just sold the company he founded eight years ago in the US, AppDynamics, to Cisco for \$3.7 billion. Bansal now owns 14% of the company, after having diluted his stake to many venture funds over the years. So he'll get about \$520 million (Rs 3,400 crore).

The announcement came a day before AppDynamics was to launch its IPO, which valued the company at \$2 billion. AppDynamics' last round of funding had valued it at \$1.9 billion. So the price that Cisco agreed to pay is almost twice of that. Bansal graduated from IIT Delhi in 1999 and moved to the US soon after. In an article in the run-up to the IPO, Forbes magazine wrote that Bansal's father had given him \$200 so he could go to Silicon Valley.

In a blog posted just after the announcement of the acquisition, Bansal says he

knew he wanted to be an entrepreneur even when he was helping his father manage his business back in India. Software was his passion, a "magic clay" that could be used "to sculpt solutions to different problems". The Bansal community, a subset of the Aggarwal community, is also known to be skilled at trade and commerce.

After graduation, Bansal shifted to Cupertino on an H-1B visa to work for a startup. He had to wait for almost eight years before he got his green card. "I waited seven years for my employment-based green card and I wanted to leave my job and start a new company but couldn't," he told Forbes in a 2016 interview.

In 2005, Bansal joined Wily Technology as an architect. CA (Computer Associates) bought the company in 2006, and two years later, Bansal left CA to start AppDynamics.

Bansal's struggles continued during the initial days of building the venture. Many days were spent making the rounds of Sandhill Road in Silicon Valley, looking for investor interest. "The nights were spent coding on the couch in San Fran-

cisco," he recalls in his blog.

He faced about 20 rejections from VCs before getting his first funding of \$5 million. In the meantime, Bansal also convinced his friend Bhaskar Sunkara to join the venture. After that it looked like one high after another. AppDynamics went on to raise more than \$350 million in eight funding rounds from Silicon Valley investors that included Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, Lightspeed Venture Partners, Greylock Partners, Goldman Sachs and Battery Ventures.

AppDynamics, which has over 900 employees, develops software to help companies monitor their mobile apps and websites for bugs and fix them before customers drop off. It was expected to be the first tech company in 2017 to go for an IPO.

With the acquisition, AppDynamics will continue to be led by CEO David Wadhvani, to whom Bansal had handed over the reins in 2015. Bansal then took on the role of chairman. Wadhvani was previously with Adobe and Oracle. "AppDynamics will be a new software business unit under Rowan Trollope, Cisco senior



vice-president and general manager, IoT and applications business," Cisco said.

This is Cisco's largest acquisition after its 2013 acquisition of US-based security company Sourcefire for \$2.7 billion. Hilton Romanski, Cisco's head of corporate strategy, told news agency Bloomberg: "It is important for Cisco to have market-leading software in our portfolio to deliver on this journey that we've been on for some time (to transform Cisco by offering customers more flexible, customizable products that will generate recurring revenue). This asset is best in class. We believe this is one of the best teams out there to help us on our journey."

# Is Chivalry Really Dead?

-----  
What happened to those days when men showed what chivalry was?

When I asked this question to one of the youngsters, his reply was, "Well you ladies want to be treated as equals don't you? Then where does this 'ladies-first' thing come in?" Maybe he is right in a way. As for me I feel great to be a woman and would love to be treated like one.

For me, being equal does not mean that I hand over the broom to my husband and say, "Here, we are equals, so clean." What is more important is when my man says, "Here give me the broom, you must be tired."

Wanting to be equal or one up on the men does not mean we stop wanting to be treated like ladies. Where are the macho men of yesteryears gone? Men who would get up to give a woman their seat in a crowded bus. When they would open the car door for the ladies and waited till they got in, closed the door and then got in themselves. When they carried in all the groceries and let the wife go into the house with only her bag. Where you saw the lady to her door instead of zooming off even before she reaches the door.

In the days of Sir Walter Raleigh men took off their cloaks and laid them on puddles so women could cross without getting their feet dirty or wet.

It is no surprise that the women of today are out there 'trying to do a man's job'. Tell me who defines what a woman's job is and what is a man's job? Women themselves. Earlier we were bound to our home and hearth because we had children to look after, because travelling was rough, distances were far and jobs were few. Conveyance was not what it is today. Plus we had no time to educate ourselves beyond a limit. So we stayed and watched the

home while the man brought in the money.

Behind every successful man is a woman is an apt saying. As time progressed we women progressed. It was never that we did NOT have it in us but because it was the custom in some cultures for the woman to be seen but not heard. Slowly we are getting out from behind the curtain. When we see a woman doing well we stand on the sidelines and applaud like it is a personal achievement. The fact that we do this shows that we have underestimated our own. We women are CEO's of multinational companies. Become Prime Ministers. We have reached the moon; climbed Mount Everest; we play all the games men play [literally not figuratively] and indulge in all sorts of sports too, dangerous or otherwise.

So why are we always shouting from the roof tops saying we want equality. Who is stopping us? Who are we fighting against? With a few exceptions here and there we are inching our way towards our goals. Men might be a little insecure about this, but why blame them since for years... correction, for centuries they have performed the role of the bread winner and it is not easy to suddenly change things around. They are allowed a little bit of ego to make themselves feel the caretakers of the family. When we had no earnings of our own we had no qualms about living on their money. So why make a big deal now of being one up on them.

Since times are changing the men too I am sure want their women to work along with them so they can share their burden of educating the children, giving themselves a better life now that there is so much more to give. Earlier one gave the children "an education" now they want to give them that and the best they can in other fields too, as competition is tough and life does not come with smooth edges.

The rich women worked if they wanted to and not if they did not want to. On the other hand for years the poor woman labourers of India have stood side by side and lifted the weight of mortar and bricks along with the men, on their heads. Even when pregnant. For them there is no question of not being equal to men work-wise; but yes they do draw the line somewhere. Their men have an upper hand in most of their decisions. Since most of the poor women are uneducated they acquiesce. That too is slowly changing.

Where we do not have equal rights we are fighting for it. So what is the big deal? Why only we, even the gay activists are out there fighting for their rights too. They too want to be seen and heard. In the U S they want to marry, adopt children and lead a normal life. In India the eunuchs want their representatives in politics and are MLAs. Thai Airlines has recruited transgender flight attendants. Times are changing or have changed. Yes, there are always exceptions to a rule.

In spite of all this I feel a woman should be treated as a woman. These are the perks given to us by the society since time immemorial. From God himself who decided women were the more 'dainty' 'sensitive' 'loveable' [!!] creatures.

Above all when we become mothers we have the Jannath under our feet.

And I for one would like to take full advantage of it.

**Nusrath  
Hyderabad.**

## STARBUCKS CEO: We're going to hire 10,000 refugees

Starbucks (SBUX) CEO Howard Schultz sent out a company-wide letter following President Donald Trump's decision to sign an executive order that bans citizens of seven majority Muslim countries from entering the United States.

Schultz's letter detailed plans to hire 10,000 refugees in the countries where the coffee chain operates. This was met with some backlash on social media, with some users calling for a boycott of Starbucks.

The executive order, signed on Friday, temporarily halts citizens from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen from entering the US.

"We are living in an unprecedented time, one in which we are witness to the conscience of our country, and the promise of the American Dream, being called into question," Schultz wrote.

Reuters/ David Ryder  
More

He continued: "These uncertain times call for different measures and communication tools than we have used in the past. Kevin and I are going to accelerate our commitment to communicating with

you more frequently, including leveraging new technology platforms moving forward. I am hearing the alarm you all are sounding that the civility and human rights we have all taken for granted for so long are under attack, and want to use a faster, more immediate form of communication to engage with you on matters that concern us all as partners."

A number of CEOs, including Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg, have knocked Trump's decision to sign the orders.

Schultz's letter went on to detail some of the actions the company is taking, including plans to hire 10,000 refugees.

"We have a long history of hiring young people looking for opportunities and a pathway to a new life around the world. This is why we are doubling down on this commitment by working with our equity market employees as well as joint venture and licensed market partners in a concerted effort to welcome and seek opportunities for those fleeing war, violence, persecution and discrimination," Schultz wrote.

He continued: "There are more than 65 million citizens of the world recognized as refugees by the United Nations, and



we are developing plans to hire 10,000 of them over five years in the 75 countries around the world where Starbucks does business. And we will start this effort here in the U.S. by making the initial focus of

our hiring efforts on those individuals who have served with U.S. troops as interpreters and support personnel in the various countries where our military has asked for such support."

# Is US-UK special relationship in strain under Trump presidency?

-Dr. Abdul Ruff

UN veto members America and Great Britain have maintained special relationship for decades, notwithstanding changing governments in both western capitalist nations. Arrival of ultra nationalist Donald Trump on US political arena directly as US presidency candidate with his ideas of greatness for USA alone has sent cold waves even in UK which is known to toe the US line of thinking on all aspects- even on Palestine issue well where both opposed Palestine and supported Israel for ages since the Jewish state was imposed on Mideast by both in 1948 and quickly made a full-fledged UN member- but now both indirectly support the idea of establishment of Palestine state and condemn the illegal Jewish settlement proliferation in Palestine.

However, the British doubts over Trump approach towards its closest ally looks untenable as President decided to receive at White House British premier as his first foreign guest.

Thus the British PM Theresa May has won the race to be the first foreign leader to meet President Donald Trump in Washington. But her trip to the US capital is anything but a victory lap.

Theresa May gets a warm welcome at the Republican retreat and in the White House. Trump has already pronounced Britain "very special!" in one of his tweets. He has also restored to the Oval Office a bust of Britain's World War II Prime Minister Winston Churchill that was removed while Barack Obama was president, to the chagrin of some patriotically minded Britons. May's office says she intends to admire the bust when she visits the White House. She'll also give Trump, whose mother was born in Scotland, a Quach, a traditional Scottish cup of friendship.

Of course, history has proved that political positions are not always a guide to personal relationships, however. Former PM Tony Blair and Republican President George W. Bush formed a friendship that surprised many — and led Britain into the divisive, costly Iraq War. May and Trump could hardly be more different. He is a brash, spotlight-loving businessman whose closest British ally to date has been the bantering former UK Independence Party leader Nigel Farage. She is a small-town vicar's daughter who has risen to the top of politics through prudence and by avoiding personal ostentation or controversy. Her most flamboyant feature is a fondness for leopard-print shoes.

Apparently, Theresa May's staff worked feverishly to secure the two-day trip, which includes a meeting with the president on Friday at the White House. British officials hope it will help cement the UK's place as a pre-eminent American ally and provide proof of what Britons — more often than Americans — call the trans-Atlantic "special relationship."

However, May faces the challenge of persuading a

president who has vowed to put "America first" of the benefits of free trade with Britain and the vital role of the 28-nation NATO military alliance. And she must build a working relationship with a populist president whose protectionist outlook and loose way with facts have alarmed many European politicians, including some of May's own allies.

UK PM Theresa May insists she's up to the task of being America's steadfast but plain-speaking friend, telling British lawmakers that "I am not afraid to speak frankly to a president of the United States." Her message in the USA will include elements of gentle history lesson, as she urges the two nations to "lead together." In a speech to Republican legislators in Philadelphia, May plans to say that the trans-Atlantic relationship "made the modern world" and built the institutions that have underpinned the global order since the end of World War II.

Excerpts from the speech were released in advance by PM May's office. May's seeming embrace of Trump — in the wake of his commitment to building a Mexico border wall and other recent edicts — drew criticism from her domestic opponents.

Donald Trump welcomed the UK decision to leave the EU and even asked other European nations also to follow suit. Linking Britain's vote to leave the 28-nation European Union with the win of political outsider Trump, she'll say that "as you renew your nation just as we renew ours, we have the opportunity — indeed the responsibility — to renew the special relationship for this new age."

Former Labour Party leader Ed Miliband tweeted: "Today he starts on wall, praises waterboarding, bullies climate scientists. She says they can lead together. Surely decent Tories feel queasy?"

A politics lecturer at the University of Leeds, said the effusive tone coming from Trump's White House marked a change from the Obama years. "Obama has been a more Asia-Pacific-focused president (with his Asia pivot theme) so this is a return — at least in rhetoric — to the good old days of the USA-UK special relationship," she said. "But it's very difficult to know exactly what Theresa May is going to get out of this other than warm words."

Britain needs more than words from the USA as it prepares to start divorce talks with the European Union. May has said the UK will be leaving both the bloc and its single market in goods and services, which now stretches over 28 countries including Britain and involves half a billion people. By leaving, the UK is gaining the opportunity to strike new trade deals around the globe, and the USA, as the top destination for British exports, is one of the big prizes around.

While former President Obama warned that Britain out-

side the EU would go to the "back of the queue" for a US trade deal, Trump told the Times of London newspaper that a trade deal could be done quickly and he backs it.

Experts argue that any talks in Washington this week would be preliminary, since Britain is barred by EU rules from substantial negotiations on new trade agreements until it actually leaves the bloc — which is likely to be in 2019 at the earliest.

And May will face strong domestic opposition to any deal that forces Britain to bring its standards into line with the USA on things like genetically modified food — currently banned under EU rules — or the private sector's role in health care.

Trump has also been generally cool on trade agreements. He is pulling the USA out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership — a deal Obama worked hard on — and has promised to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico. In other challenges for May, Trump has called NATO "obsolete" and called the EU "basically a vehicle for Germany" that Britain was "smart" to leave.

May told the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, last week that although the UK is leaving the EU, "it remains overwhelmingly and compellingly in Britain's national interest" that the bloc still succeed. And while Trump said in his inauguration speech that "from this day forward, it's going to be only America first," May vowed in Davos to stand up for free markets, free trade and globalization.

The US-UK leaders try to create the chemistry that they need to create. When leaders of governments really want to make it work, they can make it work, anyway.

Obviously, there is big queue of foreign signatories, especially presidents and premiers, seeking through their diplomatic channels, an appointment with president Trump and he would go in his own way in picking his guests. In fact many leaders are in waiting list to receive a presidential call from Washington. Many leaders around the world — who will make their own visits to Washington in the coming months — will be watching closely to see if they do.

Meanwhile, as President Donald Trump is gaining diplomatic niceties in office, the US-British relations have no reason to stumble even during the Trump era. A businessman is always a business man and business cannot thrive without essential diplomatic skills-

And President Trump knows that.

ISNA Conference in Houston  
February 25, 2017



# Donald Trump Policy: Blame others - K. Ashraf



President Donald J. Trump has made to the most powerful office on the planet earth by blaming others for everything bad that comes his way. He bashed American media throughout his presidential campaign. CNN a world-wide American media outlet was particularly his target. He did not spare reputable American newspapers like New York Times and Washington Post. In his view, they were responsible for anything negative in his campaign. After getting elected, he could easily change his stance and build a better relationship with powerful American news media, but he preferred to continue his rant against the media.

Countries throughout the world rely on American media to form their policies towards United States. If US president bashes American media and calls them "liars" who in the world is going to believe them? what type of image they will form about the United States?

Throughout his campaign his rhetoric was anti establishment. He used the word "swamp" for establishment in Washington. He promised to his audience to drain this

swamp after coming in power. He blamed CIA for leaking Buzz feed story which connected him to possible sexual scandals in Russia. The CIA directed had to defend his organization. He told President J. Trump to be ashamed of himself for making this type of comments. Later, while talking to CIA officials he blamed to American media for falsely portraying his remarks about CIA.

This issue was still in the air while another controversy emerged on the scene. He again blamed media for portraying a smaller gathering at his inauguration ceremony. His confidants issued "Alternative facts" about the size of the inauguration gathering. Of course, the alternative facts are that President Trump's inauguration gathering was larger than previous inauguration gatherings.

A USA president should not play blame games with important government institutions like CIA or US media or other government functionaries. To be a USA president is a very demanding job. It seems like nothing is demanding for President Donald Trump. In first three days, he

has acted like the office of the President of the United States is the office of his Trump empire.

President Obama has left United States in much better shape than what he inherited from Republican President George Bush. He has practically wound up two wars. Economy is growing moderately and unemployment rate is at the lowest in American history. Wages are constantly rising. American workers are better than they were until 2008. Crime rate is much lower throughout the United States. International threats to USA and USA allies have decreased to their minimal.

The steps President Trump is taking will generate economic depression, crimes will increase (violent acts against minorities are also crimes), more jobs will flee from the United States as American manufacturers have to compete against the international manufacturers and it won't be possible for them to continue manufacturing in United States economic environment. that President Trump's policies are going to create.

All these things will happen, but President

Donald Trump won't take their blame. He will deny everything and blame probably on the American media for negative reporting. How good that blame policy will work for the US citizens and the United States we have to wait and see for all this. While President Donald Trump will be blaming American media for internal failures, due to his policies international isolation will make things more difficult for the United States. America is an important international power player. Her withdrawal from international stage will encourage many rogue actors to appear on the stage and upset the international political balance. It won't be a good scenario, but that's how things will turn out if President Trump's policies of international isolation are implemented. Probably President Trump will blame China for all these troubles and keep his lips tight about Russia, because Mr. Putin will be the only ally he will have on his side.

## Mark Zuckerberg knocks Trump's executive orders on immigration

Credits: Getty

Facebook (FB) founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg posted a status update slamming President Donald Trump's decision to sign executive orders on immigration.

"Like many of you, I'm concerned about the impact of the recent executive orders signed by President Trump," he wrote.

The post continued: "We need to keep this country safe, but we should do that by focusing on people who actually pose a threat. Expanding the focus of law enforcement beyond people who are real threats would make all Americans less safe by diverting resources, while millions of undocumented folks who don't pose a threat will live in fear of deportation."

This is a personal matter for Zuckerberg. He noted that his great-grandparents came from Europe and that his wife Priscilla's family were refugees from China and Vietnam.

Zuckerberg's Facebook status also came as Trump was unveiling a pair of executive orders, including one reportedly calling for a temporary halt to all refugees.

"Secondly, I'm establishing new vetting measures to keep radical Islamic terrorists out of the United States of America. We don't want them here. We want to ensure that we are not admitting into our country the very threats our soldiers are fighting overseas. We only want to admit those into our country who will support our country and love deeply our people. We will never forget the lessons of 9-11, nor the heroes who have lost their lives at the Pentagon. They were the best of us. We will honor them not only with our words, but with

our actions. And that's what we're doing today. I am privileged to be here with you, and I promise that our administration will always have your back. We will always be with you," Trump said according to a White House press pool report.

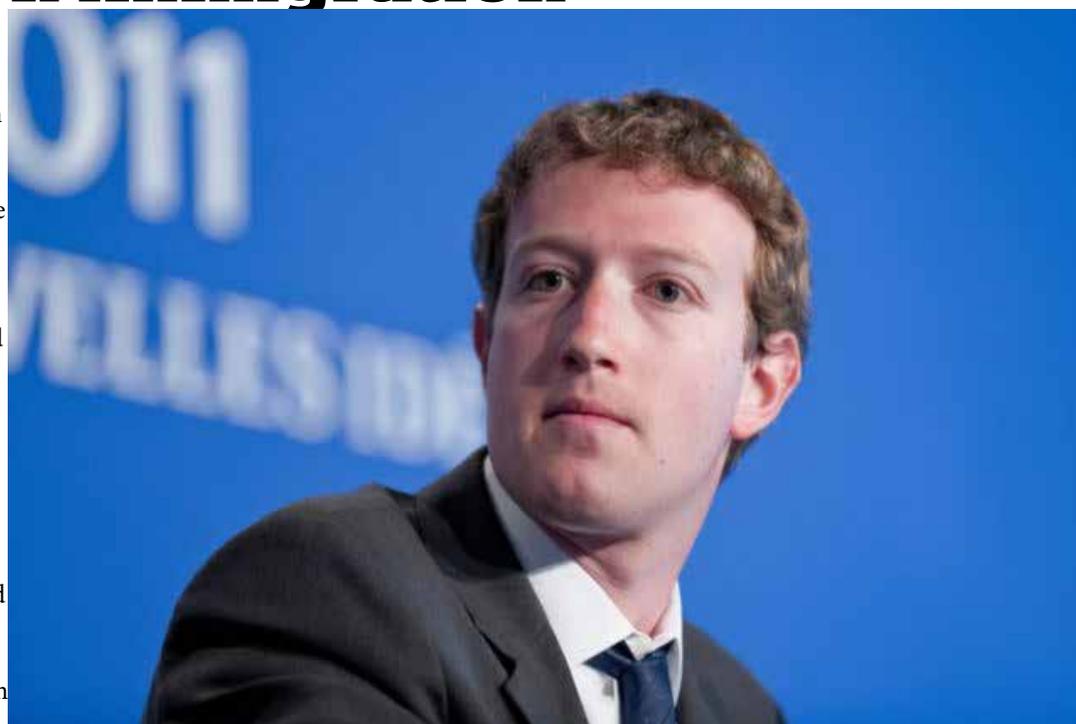
Earlier in the week, Trump ordered additional orders aimed to crack down on illegal immigration, including a measure expanding the authority of local law enforcement officers to enforce immigration laws, among other policies. Critics say the policy, known as "Secure Communities," will make victims and other people less likely to cooperate with the police if they are worried about their immigration status. Trump also announced that it was his administration's policy to immediately begin construction of a wall along the U.S.-Mexican border.

Here's the full post:

My great grandparents came from Germany, Austria and Poland. Priscilla's parents were refugees from China and Vietnam. The United States is a nation of immigrants, and we should be proud of that.

Like many of you, I'm concerned about the impact of the recent executive orders signed by President Trump.

We need to keep this country safe, but we should do that by focusing on people who actually pose a threat. Expanding the focus of law enforcement beyond people who are real threats would make all Americans less



safe by diverting resources, while millions of undocumented folks who don't pose a threat will live in fear of deportation.

We should also keep our doors open to refugees and those who need help. That's who we are. Had we turned away refugees a few decades ago, Priscilla's family wouldn't be here today.

That said, I was glad to hear President Trump say he's going to "work something out" for Dreamers — immigrants who were brought to this country at a young age by their parents. Right now, 750,000 Dreamers benefit from the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program that allows them to live and work legally in the US. I hope the President and his team keep these protections in place, and over the next few weeks I'll be work-

ing with our team at FWD.us to find ways we can help.

I'm also glad the President believes our country should continue to benefit from "people of great talent coming into the country."

These issues are personal for me even beyond my family. A few years ago, I taught a class at a local middle school where some of my best students were undocumented. They are our future too. We are a nation of immigrants, and we all benefit when the best and brightest from around the world can live, work and contribute here. I hope we find the courage and compassion to bring people together and make this world a better place for everyone.

**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 : 16V886  
 Manufacturer : Corp. Micro Bird Inc.  
 Make / Model Years : MICRO BIRD / 2015-2016  
 Subject : Bus can be Driven with Wheelchair Lift Deployed

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V897  
 Manufacturer : Triple E Recreational Vehicles  
 Make / Model Years : TRIPLE E / 2017  
 Subject : Overloaded Wire may result in a Fire

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V900  
 Manufacturer : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.  
 Make / Model Years : MERCEDES BENZ / 2015-2016  
 Subject : Improperly Assembled Axle Carrier Bolts

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V901  
**NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16C008**

Synopsis : Baby Trend, Inc. (Baby Trend) is recalling certain Hybrid LX 3-in-1 Centennial booster seats, model number FB58181, manufactured on July 23, 2016,

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V912  
 Manufacturer : C & M Trailers Inc.  
 Make / Model Years : C&M / 2016  
 Subject : Missing Reflex Reflectors/FMVSS 108

Manufacturer : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.  
 Make / Model Years : MERCEDES BENZ / 2014  
 Subject : Brake Booster Vacuum Line Connector May Break

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V903  
 Manufacturer : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.  
 Make / Model Years : MERCEDES BENZ / 2016-2017  
 Subject : Classification System may Deactivate Air Bag

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V904  
 Manufacturer : Halcore Group, Inc.  
 Make / Model Years : AEV / 2016  
 Subject : Cot May Not Be Securely Fastened

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V905  
 Manufacturer : Jayco, Inc.  
 Make / Model Years : JAYCO / 2016  
 and Hybrid LX 3-in-1 Kiwi booster seats, model number FB48417, manufactured on July 14, 2016. The affected child seats have a center adjuster rivet that may pull through or break if the harness is being used with a child weighing more than 40 lbs. As such, these child seats fail to com-

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V914  
 Manufacturer : BMW of North America, LLC  
 Make / Model Years : BMW / 2016-2017

Subject : Entrance/Exit Steps may Unexpectedly Retract

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V908  
 Manufacturer : Keystone RV Company  
 Make / Model Years : DUTCHMEN / 2016-2017  
 Subject : Rear Door Hinge Weld may be Insufficient

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V909  
 Manufacturer : C & M Trailers Inc.  
 Make / Model Years : C&M / 2015-2016  
 Subject : Missing Information on Label/FMVSS 110, 567

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V913  
 Manufacturer : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.  
 Make / Model Years : AUDI / 2009 VOLKSWAGEN / 2009-2010  
 Subject : ABS and Stability Control Becomes Inoperative

ply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 213, "Child Restraint Systems." In the event of a crash, the child seat occupant is at an increased risk of injury. Baby Trend will notify owners and replace the child seat or provide a full refund. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Baby Trend customer service at 1-909-773-0018.

Make / Model Years : BMW / 2016  
 Subject : Loose Ground Cable may cause Shift to Neutral

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V920  
 Manufacturer : Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing  
 Make / Model Years : TOYOTA / 2017  
 Subject : Key may be Removed when not in Park/FMVSS 114

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V923  
 Manufacturer : Pierce Manufacturing  
 Make / Model Years : PIERCE / 2015-2016  
 Subject : Starter Motor may be Damaged by Cab Bracket

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V926  
 Manufacturer : Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.  
 Make / Model Years : KME / 2009-2016  
 Subject : Brakes may Engage Unexpectedly

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V927  
 Manufacturer : Volvo Trucks North America  
 Make / Model Years : VOLVO / 2017  
 Subject : Premature Axle Hub Failure

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V915  
 Manufacturer : Bluecar SAS  
 Make / Model Years : BLUECAR / 2016  
 Subject : Water may Leak into Battery Connector

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V916  
 Manufacturer : Corp. Micro Bird Inc.  
 Make / Model Years : MICRO BIRD / 2015-2017  
 Subject : Passenger Seats may Move in a Crash

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V917  
 Manufacturer : Corp. Micro Bird Inc.  
 Make / Model Years : MICRO BIRD / 2015-2017  
 Subject : Passenger Seats may Move in a Crash

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V928  
 Manufacturer : Volvo Trucks North America  
 Make / Model Years : VOLVO / 2013-2017  
 Subject : Brake System Contamination Due to Oil and Water

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V929  
 Manufacturer : Mack Trucks, Inc.  
 Make / Model Years : MACK / 2012-2017  
 Subject : Premature Axle Hub Failure

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V936  
 Manufacturer : Maserati North America, Inc.  
 Make / Model Years : MASERATI / 2017  
 Subject : Transmission May Shift into Neutral

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V945  
 Manufacturer : Ford Motor Company  
 Make / Model Years : FORD / 2017  
 Subject : Reinforcement Bracket Missing from Fuel Tank

**IS YOUR AIRBAG DEFECTIVE?**  
 Tens of millions of defective airbag inflators are under recall. Even a fender bender can cause these airbags to rupture, spraying shrapnel into drivers and passengers.

**DON'T RISK INJURY OR DEATH, CHECK YOUR VEHICLE TODAY.**

**Here's How:**

**Find it** | Write down or photograph your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN).  
 • Look for your VIN on the driver-side dashboard by the windshield or on your insurance card.

**Search it** | Visit AirbagRecall.com or SaferCar.gov to look up your 17-digit VIN.  
 Then follow the on-screen instructions to prove you are not a robot.

**Fix it** | If you see text that reads recall incomplete...  
**YOUR AIRBAG INFLATOR WILL BE REPLACED FOR FREE.**  
 Schedule an appointment at your automaker's local dealership as soon as possible. If you see text that reads "remedy not available," call a dealer anyway. Make sure your contact information is up to date so they can notify you as soon as parts are available for your repair.

**AIRBAGRECALL.COM**

Subject : Seat Mounted Air Bags may not Deploy

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V918  
 Manufacturer : Volvo Car USA LLC  
 Make / Model Years : VOLVO / 2017  
 Subject : Seat Mounted Air Bag may not Deploy/FMVSS 208/214

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 16V919  
 Manufacturer : BMW of North America, LLC

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
16V924  
Manufacturer : C & M Trailers Inc.  
Make / Model Years : C&M / 2016  
Subject : License Plate Lights may be Missing/FMVSS 108

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
16V930  
Manufacturer : Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.  
Make / Model Years : KME / 2011-2017  
Subject : Ladder Position Sensor Malfunction

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
16V931  
Manufacturer : Gillig LLC  
Make / Model Years : GILLIG / 2015-2016  
Subject : Gas Detection System Malfunction

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
16V934  
Manufacturer : HME, Inc.  
Make / Model Years : HME / 2015-2016  
Subject : Incorrect Weight on Certification label/Part 567

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
16V938  
Manufacturer : Navistar, Inc.  
Make / Model Years : INTERNATIONAL / 2017  
Subject : Battery Cover Latch may Short Against Battery

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
16V939  
Manufacturer : Nissan North America, Inc.  
Make / Model Years : INFINITI / 2017  
Subject : Possible Passenger Air-bag Non-Deployment/FMVSS 208

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V004  
Manufacturer : Karma Automotive LLC  
Make / Model Years : FISKER / 2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V005  
Manufacturer : McLaren Automotive Incorporated  
Make / Model Years : MCLAREN / 2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V006  
Manufacturer : Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing  
Make / Model Years : LEXUS / 2006-2009,2012  
PONTIAC / 2009  
SCION / 2008-2009,2012  
TOYOTA / 2007-2009,2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V011  
Manufacturer : Mazda North American Operations  
Make / Model Years : MAZDA / 2005-2009  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V012  
Manufacturer : Mazda North American Operations  
Make / Model Years : MAZDA / 2007-2009,2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V013  
Manufacturer : Mazda North American Operations  
Make / Model Years : MAZDA / 2007-2009  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V014  
Manufacturer : Subaru of America, Inc.  
Make / Model Years : SUBARU / 2005-2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V015  
Manufacturer : Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC  
Make / Model Years : LAND ROVER / 2007-2009,2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V016  
Manufacturer : Subaru of America, Inc.  
Make / Model Years : SAAB / 2006  
SUBARU / 2005-2008  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V017  
Manufacturer : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.  
Make / Model Years : MERCEDES BENZ / 2008-2009,2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V018  
Manufacturer : Ferrari North America, Inc.  
Make / Model Years : FERRARI / 2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V020  
Manufacturer : BMW of North America, LLC  
Make / Model Years : BMW / 2007-2009,2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V022  
Manufacturer : Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.  
Make / Model Years : MITSUBISHI / 2012,2014  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V023  
Manufacturer : Tesla Motors, Inc.  
Make / Model Years : TESLA / 2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V024  
Manufacturer : Ford Motor Company  
Make / Model Years : FORD / 2005-2009,2012  
LINCOLN / 2006-2009,2012  
MERCURY / 2006-2009  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V025  
Manufacturer : Daimler Vans USA, LLC  
Make / Model Years : DODGE / 2009  
FREIGHTLINER / 2009,2012  
MERCEDES BENZ / 2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :

17V026  
Manufacturer : Subaru of America, Inc.  
Make / Model Years : SUBARU / 2005-2009  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V027  
Manufacturer : Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC  
Make / Model Years : JAGUAR / 2009,2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V028  
Manufacturer : Nissan North America, Inc.  
Make / Model Years : INFINITI / 2005-2010  
NISSAN / 2007-2009,2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V029  
Manufacturer : Honda (American Honda Motor Co.)  
Make / Model Years : ACURA / 2005-2012  
HONDA / 2005-2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V030  
Manufacturer : Honda (American Honda Motor Co.)  
Make / Model Years : ACURA / 2009-2012  
HONDA / 2006-2012  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V031  
Manufacturer : Honda (American Honda Motor Co.)  
Make / Model Years : HONDA / 2006-2009,2012  
Subject : Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

NHTSA Recall ID Number :  
17V032  
Manufacturer : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.  
Make / Model Years : AUDI / 2005-2009  
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

## ISNA Conference in Houston February 25, 2017



## Attorneys Warn Immigrants Not To Travel Outside The U.S., Thanks To Trump

WASHINGTON Immigration attorney Ally Bolour got a call on Wednesday from a client worried about President Donald Trump's expected executive order that could temporarily shut down travel from majority-Muslim countries. The client is planning a trip to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, for his birthday. He lives in the U.S. legally as a green-card holder, but he's from Iran — one of the countries Trump will likely single out for restrictions. The man, Amir, who asked to be identified only by his first name, already paid for his flight and hotel, but asked Bolour for advice. "If I were you, I wouldn't go," Bolour said he told Amir. "It's too uncertain." Trump has not yet signed an executive order to keep people from certain countries from coming to the United States. But already, news that he is considering such restrictions is having a dramatic impact. Leaked drafts indicate it could be harder or even impossible for people from seven countries to get into the U.S. even if they hold green cards. Immigration attorneys and advocacy groups said they were being inundated

with questions from people legally in the U.S. wondering whether it would be safe for them to travel. Some want to leave the country to attend a parent's funeral. Students hoped to travel home for spring break. Couples have plans for a vacation together. All of them, lawyers are advising, should stay put. "I don't want to make people scared for no reason, but I think caution is best right now until we see what that exact language will be," said Nermeen Arastu, clinical law professor at CUNY School of Law. "If you're a not U.S. citizen, don't leave right now." Hassan Shibly, executive director of Council on American-Islamic Relations' Florida chapter, said a source in the federal government advised him to tell people that non-citizens who are natives of the countries mentioned in drafts of Trump's executive order should not leave the U.S. for the time being, even if they hold green cards. "We definitely need people to take caution at this point," Shibly said. "With Trump, you cannot take any risks. You cannot take any principle of liberty or justice for

granted. We cannot let our guard down." The attorneys and experts said they have spent recent days trying to calm immigrants and Muslim communities. Offering advice before Trump signs the order, without knowing the final language, is a particular challenge, they pointed out. They don't know, for example, whether it will apply to green-card holders and what countries will be targeted. "These orders are going to have an impact on the daily life of hundreds of thousands of individuals in this country who are here through different visa programs," said Abed Ayoub, legal director at the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. Immigration attorney Hassan Ahmad cautioned against blanket statements of advice about whether to leave or stay. The order isn't signed, he said, and many immigration cases are different. Some people may be seeking asylum, for example, in a different situation than someone with a green card. "There is no easy answer, unfortunately, and that's a really tough pill to swallow," Ahmad said.

Amir is still unsure what to do about his trip. When he planned the vacation, he never imagined he'd have to worry about presidential politics, he said. Amir, who is gay, came to the U.S. 11 years ago as a student and received asylum based on persecution in Iran over his sexual orientation, he said. He has held a green card for five years and has traveled outside the U.S. multiple times for work and pleasure. He hasn't been back to Iran. Amir said his whole life is in the U.S.: a job, a house, a partner and friends. He said he'll make up his mind about his vacation after he sees what Trump's executive order actually says, and whether green-card holders already outside the U.S. have trouble returning. "Let's say I go to Mexico and want to come back and they don't let me in. Where am I going to go?" he asked. "I can't go back to my home country. I don't have any other place to go."

## Nikki Haley confirmed as ambassador to United Nations

Nikki Haley is headed from the South Carolina statehouse to the world stage. The Senate on Tuesday overwhelmingly approved the Republican governor's nomination as the next U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, as Democrats put up little of the resistance they have to some of President Donald Trump's other Cabinet picks.

Haley was approved on a 96-4 vote. The daughter of Indian immigrants will be one of the few women and minorities in Trump's Cabinet, and some on the left hope she will be a moderating force in the new administration. Haley impressed lawmakers from both parties by taking a tough stance toward Russia, praising international alliances such as NATO, and calling out human rights violations in countries such as the Philippines. Some of these stances, however, put her at odds with the new Republican

president, and it remains unclear how she will square her positions with what Trump will demand she do while at the United Nations. Haley has little foreign policy experience, but she argued during her confirmation hearing earlier this month that her executive experience as South Carolina's governor gave her deal-making and coalition-building skills that will come in handy in dealing with the more than 190 member states at the United Nations. She also stressed that she will ensure that U.N. priorities are aligned with U.S. priorities, including by defending Israel when it is singled out for condemnation. In making her pitch to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which approved her nomination on a voice vote earlier Tuesday, Haley avoided the stumbles that had plagued Rex Tillerson, the former ExxonMobil CEO whom Trump has nominated as secretary of state. Tillerson took a softer line on Russia than many senators

were comfortable with, and he appeared lukewarm on pushing for human rights. Unlike Haley, Tillerson would not say he believed that Russia was committing war crimes in the Syrian city of Aleppo. Tillerson squeaked by the Foreign Relations committee on a party line 11-10 vote on Monday, but it's not yet clear when the full Senate will take up his nomination. In announcing that he would vote against Tillerson, Sen. Ben Cardin of Maryland, the committee's ranking Democrat, negatively compared Tillerson's performance to Haley's.



## KUWAIT'S EXECUTION OF PRINCE AND SIX OTHERS PART OF 'ALARMING TREND' IN MIDDLE EAST

Kuwait's hanging of seven people this week, including a member of the royal family, is part of an "alarming trend" across the region, Human Rights Watch said Thursday.

"Executing seven people in one day shows Kuwait is moving in exactly the wrong direction on the death penalty," Sarah Leah Whitson, HRW's Middle East director, said in a statement.

Wednesday's executions were the first since 2013, when Kuwaiti authorities executed five people after a six-year moratorium.

Two Kuwaitis were hanged along with five foreign nationals: two Egyptians, one Bangladeshi, one Filipino and one Ethiopian. All were convicted of murder, bar the Bangladeshi man, who was convicted of rape and kidnapping. "The Kuwait government should be reinstating the moratorium on the death penalty instead of hanging seven people," Whitson stated. She said that the Gulf state's decision reflects a "growing trend in the region to increase the use of, or lift moratoriums on, the death penalty." Saudi Arabia and Iran have executed hundreds of people since 2014, while Jordan

ended an eight-year moratorium in December 2014, executing 11 people. Bahrain executed three people earlier this month after ending a six-year moratorium.

The hanged prince—the first royal family member executed in Kuwait—was identified by Kuwaiti state news agency KUNA as Faisal Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah. Authorities accused him of killing his nephew in 2010.

Executions of royal family members in the region are not common, but in October 2016, Saudi authorities carried out the

death sentence handed to Prince Turki Bin Saud Al-Kabir. He was the first member of the royalty executed in the Gulf Kingdom since 1975.

Kabir pleaded guilty to the shooting and killing of fellow Saudi citizen Adel bin Sulaiman bin Abdulkareem Al-Muhaimeed during a mass brawl, according to Saudi state media. A court found him guilty in 2013 for the incident in the al-Thumama region, on the outskirts of Riyadh.


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## Prehistoric settlements and societies in the Indian subcontinent

The history of India includes the prehistoric settlements and societies in the Indian subcontinent; the advancement of civilisation from the Indus Valley Civilisation to the eventual blending of the Indo-Aryan culture to form the Vedic Civilisation; [1] the rise of Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism; [2][3] the onset of a succession of powerful dynasties and empires for more than three millennia throughout various geographic areas of the subcontinent, including the growth of nomadic Central Asian Muslim dominions during the Medieval period intertwined with Hindu powers; [4][5] the advent of European traders resulting in the establishment of the British rule; and the subsequent independence movement that led to the Partition of India and the creation of the Republic of India. [6]

Evidence of anatomically modern humans in the Indian subcontinent is recorded as long as 75,000 years ago, or with earlier hominids including *Homo erectus* from about 500,000 years ago. [7] Considered a cradle of civilisation, [8] the Indus Valley Civilisation, which spread and flourished in the north-western part of the Indian subcontinent from 3300 to 1300 BCE, was the first major civilisation in South Asia. [9] A sophisticated and technologically advanced urban culture developed in the Mature Harappan period, from 2600 to 1900 BCE. [10] This civilisation collapsed at the start of the second millennium BCE and was later followed by the Iron Age

Vedic Civilisation; the era saw the composition of the Vedas, oldest scriptures associated with Hinduism; and social stratification emerged based on caste. The Vedic Civilisation extended over much of the Indo-Gangetic plain and witnessed the rise of major polities known as the Mahajanapadas. In one of these kingdoms, Magadha, Gautama Buddha and Mahavira propagated their Shramanic philosophies during the fifth and sixth century BCE.

Most of the subcontinent was conquered by the Maurya Empire during the 4th and 3rd centuries BCE. From the 3rd century BCE onwards Prakrit and Pali literature in the north and the Sangam literature in southern India started to flourish. [11] [12] Wootz steel originated in south India in the 3rd century BCE and was exported to foreign countries. [13][14][15] Various parts of India were ruled by numerous dynasties for the next 1,500 years, among which the Gupta Empire stands out. This period, witnessing a Hindu religious and intellectual resurgence, is known as the classical or "Golden Age of India". During this period, aspects of Indian civilisation, administration, culture, and religion (Hinduism and Buddhism) spread to much of Asia, while kingdoms in southern India had maritime business links with the Middle East and the Mediterranean. Indian cultural influence spread over many parts of Southeast Asia which led to the establishment of Indianised kingdoms in Southeast Asia (Greater India). [16][17]

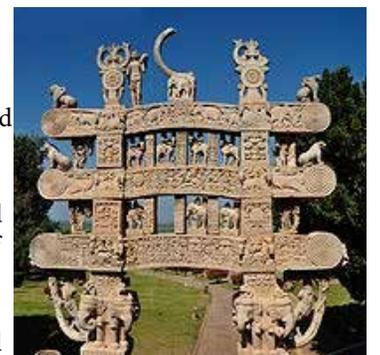
The most significant event between the 7th and 11th century was the Tripartite struggle centred on Kannauj that lasted for more than two centuries between the Pala Empire, Rashtrakuta Empire, and Gurjara Pratihara Empire. Southern India saw the rise of multiple imperial powers from the middle of the fifth century, most notable being the Chalukya, Chola, Pallava, Chera, Pandyan, and Western Chalukya Empires. The Chola dynasty conquered southern India and successfully invaded parts of Southeast Asia, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Bengal [18] in the 11th century. [19][20] The early medieval period Indian mathematics influenced the development of mathematics and astronomy in the Arab world and the Hindu numerals were introduced. [21]

Muslim rule started in parts of north India in the 13th century when the Delhi Sultanate was founded in 1206 CE by nomadic Central Asian Turks; [22] though earlier Muslim conquests made limited inroads into modern Afghanistan and Pakistan as early as the 8th century. [23] The Delhi Sultanate ruled the major part of northern India in the early 14th century, but declined in the late 14th century when several powerful Hindu states such as the Vijayanagara Empire, Gajapati Kingdom, Ahom Kingdom, as well as Rajput dynasties and states, such as Mewar dynasty, emerged. The 15th century saw the emergence of Sikhism. In the 16th century, Mughals came from

Central Asia and gradually covered most of India.

The Mughal Empire suffered a gradual decline in the early 18th century, which provided opportunities for the Maratha Empire, Sikh Empire and Mysore Kingdom to exercise control over large areas of the subcontinent. [24][25]

From the late 18th century to the mid-19th century, large areas of India were annexed by the British East India Company of the British Empire. Dissatisfaction with Company rule led to the Indian Rebellion of 1857, after which the British provinces of India were directly administered by the British Crown and witnessed a period of prolonged economic stagnation and major famines. [26][27] During the first half of the 20th century, a nationwide struggle for independence was launched with the leading party involved being the Indian National Congress which was later joined by other organisations. The subcontinent gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1947, after the British provinces were partitioned into the dominions of India and Pakistan and the princely states all acceded to one of the new states.



# Winter Storm Preparedness

Winter storms can range from a moderate snow over a few hours to a blizzard with blinding, wind-driven snow that lasts for several days. Some winter storms are large enough to affect several states, while others affect only a single community. Many winter storms are accompanied by dangerously low temperatures and sometimes by strong winds, icing, sleet and freezing rain.

## How to Prepare for a Winter Storm

Winterize your vehicle and keep the gas tank full. A full tank will keep the fuel line from freezing.

Insulate your home by installing storm windows or covering windows with plastic from the inside to keep cold air out.

Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected every year.

If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55° F.

## Put Together a Supply Kit

Water—at least a 3-day supply; one gallon per person per day

Food—at least a 3-day supply of non-perishable, easy-to-prepare food

Flashlight [Available on the Red Cross Store]

Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible) [Available on the Red Cross Store]

Extra batteries

First aid kit [Available on the Red Cross Store]

Medications (7-day supply) and medical items (hearing aids with extra batteries,

glasses, contact lenses, syringes, etc.)

Multi-purpose tool

Sanitation and personal hygiene items

Copies of personal documents (medication list and pertinent medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies)

Cell phone with chargers

Family and emergency contact information

Extra cash

Baby supplies (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers)

Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl)

Tools/supplies for securing your home

Sand, rock salt or non-clumping kitty litter to make walkways and steps less slippery

Warm coats, gloves or mittens, hats, boots and extra blankets and warm clothing for all household members

Ample alternate heating methods such as fireplaces or wood- or coal-burning stoves

Listen to a NOAA Weather Radio or other local news channels for critical information on snow storms and blizzards from the National Weather Service (NWS).

Bring pets/companion animals inside during winter weather. Move other animals or livestock to sheltered areas and make sure that their access to food and water is not blocked by snow drifts, ice or other obstacles.

Running water, even at a trickle, helps prevent pipes from freezing.

All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside and kept clear.

Keep garage doors closed if there are water supply lines in the garage.

Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors



to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. Be sure to move any harmful cleaners and household chemicals up out of the reach of children.

Keep the thermostat set to the same temperature both during the day and at night. By temporarily suspending the use of lower nighttime temperatures, you may incur a higher heating bill, but you can prevent a much more costly repair job if pipes freeze and burst.

Go to a designated public shelter if your home loses power or heat during periods of extreme cold.

Avoid driving when conditions include sleet, freezing rain or drizzle, snow or dense fog. If travel is necessary, keep a disaster supplies kit in your vehicle.

Before tackling strenuous tasks in cold temperatures, consider your physical condition, the weather factors and the nature of the task.

Protect yourself from frostbite and hypothermia by wearing warm, loose-fitting, lightweight clothing in several layers. Stay indoors, if possible.

Help people who require special assistance such as elderly people living alone, people with disabilities and children.

### Caution: Carbon Monoxide Kills

Never use a generator, grill, camp stove or other gasoline, propane, natural gas or charcoal-burning devices inside a home, garage, basement, crawlspace or any partially enclosed area. Locate unit away from doors, windows and vents that could allow carbon monoxide to come indoors.

The primary hazards to avoid when using alternate sources for electricity, heating or cooking are carbon monoxide poisoning, electric shock and fire.

Install carbon monoxide alarms in central locations on every level of your home and outside sleeping areas to provide early warning of accumulating carbon monoxide.

If the carbon monoxide alarm sounds, move quickly to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Call for help from the fresh air location and remain there until emergency personnel arrive to assist you.

### Cold-Related Emergencies

Frostbite and hypothermia are two dangerous and potentially life-threatening emergencies. Learn how to care for these emergencies by taking a first aid class.

# Home Safety Tips for Seniors

Due to the growing popularity of in-home care for seniors, it's important to make sure you and your loved one are aware of the potential dangers present in the home for seniors living alone and prepare accordingly. You can help prevent falls and accidents by making changes to unsafe areas in the home with these tips.

## GENERAL HOME SAFETY

The following home safety tips can help keep you and your loved ones safe:

Consider a medical alert or a buddy system.

Keep a fire extinguisher and smoke detector on every floor.

Never smoke when alone or in bed.

Always get up slowly after sitting or lying down. Take your time, and make sure you have your balance.

Wear proper fitting shoes with low heels.

Use a correctly measured walking aid.

Remove or tack down all scatter rugs.

Remove electrical or telephone cords from traffic areas.

Avoid using slippery wax on floors.

Wipe up spills promptly.

Avoid standing on ladders or chairs.

Have sturdy rails for all stairs inside and outside the house, or, if necessary, purchase a stairlift.

Use only non-glare 100 watt or greater incandescent bulbs (or the fluorescent equivalents.)

Make sure that all stair cases have good lighting with switches at top and bottom.

Make sure that staircase steps should have a non-slip surface.

## BATHROOM SAFETY

Leave a light on in your bathroom at night.

Use recommended bath aids, securely installed on the walls of the bath/shower stall and on the sides of the toilet. Skid-proof the tub and make sure the bath mat has a non-slip bottom.

To avoid scalds, turn water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit or below.

Mark cold and hot faucets clearly.

Use door locks that can be opened from both sides.

If possible, bathe only when help is available.

## KITCHEN SAFETY

Keep floors clean and uncluttered.

Illuminate work areas.

Mark "on" and "off" positions on appliances clearly and with bright colors.

Store sharp knives in a rack.

Use a kettle with an automatic shut-off.

Store heavier objects at waist level.

Store hazardous items separate from food.

Avoid wearing long, loose clothing when cooking over the stove.

Make sure food is rotated regularly and check expiration dates.

## DRUG SAFETY

Review your medicines frequently with your doctor or pharmacist and when you take new medication.

Make sure medicines are clearly labeled.

Read medicine labels in good light to ensure you have the right medicine and always take the correct dose.

Dispose of any old or used medicines.

Never borrow prescription drugs from others.



Check with your doctor or pharmacist before you mix alcohol and your drugs.

Have medication dispensed in a bubble pack or convenient dispenser.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist before mixing non-prescription drugs and prescription drugs.

## 'Jolly LLB 2' trailer review:

Akshay Kumar-Huma Qureshi starrer 'Jolly LLB 2' trailer is out. The film that revolves around the life of a small-time lawyer trying to make his mark in the big, bad world, has Akshay as a blunt, abrasive and yet oddly compassionate lawyer Jagdishwar Mishra aka Jolly.

The 2-minute-37 second long trailer starts with a scene that depicts Jolly's lack of seriousness towards his job. He is seen asking a witness, "Kya aap bata sakte hain ki Salman Khan ki shaadi kab hogi?" It gradually moves on to establish the character of Jolly as a

lawyer with no scruples, one who only aspires to earn big bucks. However, Jolly undergoes a transformation of sorts when he is faced with an all-important case. The trailer that starts on a humorous note leaves behind a serious undertone towards the end. The star of the story is, of course, Akshay who leaves you cracking with his one-liners and handles the serious scenes with equal adroitness.



## Rangoon Trailer Review : Kangana, Shahid & Saif Look Impressive

Vishal Bhardwaj's Rangoon is finally set to see the light of the day in February. The film has been in the making since long and is known to be a project close to his heart. Starring Kangana Ranaut, Shahid Kapoor and Saif Ali Khan in lead roles, the film's basic plot is a love triangle in the war stricken zone. Giving a complete musical feel, the trailer of Rangoon is even spaced when it comes to the three actors showing off their elements. Kangana will instantly gain praises for her bold avatar as Julia, who seductively says "Bloody Hell". She gets the punchlines here and hence makes the impact.

Saif Ali Khan subtly makes his presence felt as the peer of the realm in the British India. His possessive dialogue, "You're Julia, my Julia" is a brilliant glimpse of what to expect from his character. The third wheel in the story is also, Shahid Kapoor's

Nawab Malik who is more earthy. He plays dirty and that's what makes a beautiful maiden like Julia fall for him. The confrontational scene between Saif and Shahid looks absolutely entertaining.

Dialogues are taut and the presentation looks impressive with the big set up of the pre-independence era. VFX have been used for the war scenes and they look quite average.

There is a Broadway musical feel to this trailer. Rangoon looks like a heady mix of love, war, politics and history which thanks to Bhardwaj's skills may not be a massy affair.



For those who trust in the director's vision, this will be a much-awaited film.

## RAEES

Shah Rukh Khan plays the titular character of a spectacled goon who hates being called "battery"; he starts from harmless Ponzi schemes but graduates to pre-planned rackets and becomes the top bootlegger of his town. When ACP Majmudar (Nawazuddin Siddiqui) is posted

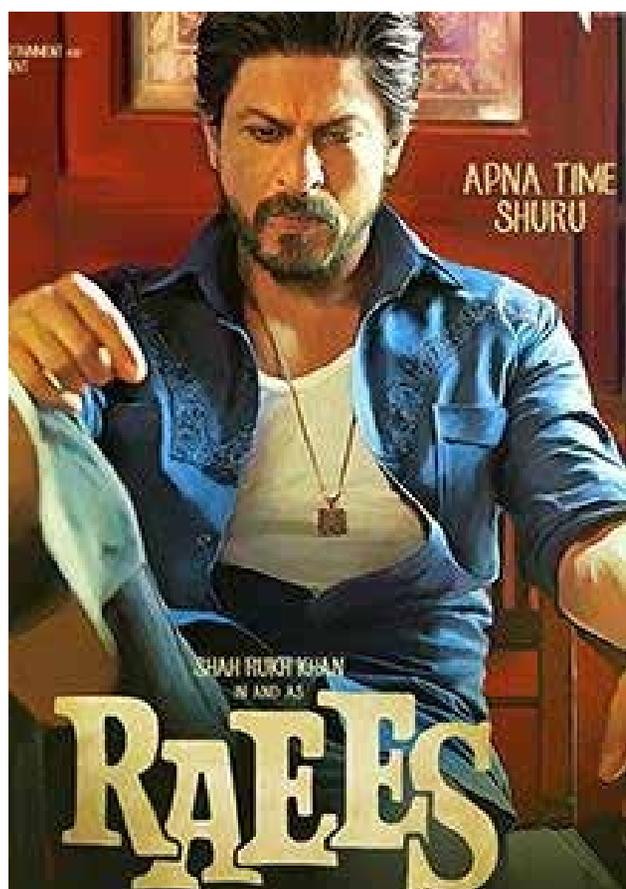
in his area, he meets his equal. Raees forms a nexus with politicians who fuel his business, but he soon becomes the thorn in their side.

The first half is well-paced; it draws you in and makes you root for the bootlegger; Majmudar's one-liners and the music whet your appetite and the Laila Main Laila sequence ups the ante. But the second half plunges into a weird Robin Hood zone where the antihero's morals are suddenly defibrillated and he becomes a messiah. The movie takes a rough path there on, and the long runtime makes the ride bumper.

Also Read : 'Raees' box-office collection Day 5: Shah Rukh Khan's film set to enter 100 cr club

Shah Rukh Khan has never looked better; he's full of fury and for once, isn't spreading his arms, but breaking others'. The film lies entirely on his shoulders and he carries the weight most of the times. When he doesn't, the ever-so-reliable Nawazuddin Siddiqui steps in with his crackling performance. In the trademark Nawaz style, he delivers some comic relief while playing the Tom to Khan's Jerry. Mahirah is restricted to songs and a few emotional scenes, but doesn't really add much. If her purpose was to soften the baddie, it's lost on the viewer.

The movie can feel a bit long, but if you're going for a great Shah Rukh performance and some good ol' popcorn-entertainment, it might just 'raees' to the occasion.



# HINDI MOVIE RELEASE DATES

Opening	Name	Genre	Director	Cast
6 January	<i>Sardaar Saab</i>	Action/Drama	Amit Prasher	Jackie Shroff, Juhi Chawla, Guggu Gill, Neetu Singh, Sudesh Berry, Shivendra Mahal, Karmjit Anmol, Sardar Sohi
	<i>Prakash Electronic</i>	Comedy	Manoj Sharma	Hemant Pandey, Hrishita Bhatt, Sanjay Mishra, Manoj Pawa
13 January	<i>OK Jaanu</i>	Romance/Drama	Shaad Ali	Aditya Roy Kapur, Shraddha Kapoor, Naseeruddin Shah, Leela Samson
	<i>A Death in the Gunj</i>	Drama/Thriller	Konkona Sen Sharma	Ranvir Shorey, Kalki Koechlin, Vikrant Massey, Tillotama Shome, Gulshan Devaiah, Jim Sarbh, Tanuja, Om Puri
	<i>Haraamkhor</i>	Comedy	Shlok Sharma	Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Shweta Tripathi
20 January	<i>Coffee with D</i>	Comedy/Crime	Vishal Mishra	Sunil Grover, Anjana Sukhani, Dipannita Sharma, Rajesh Sharma, Zakir Hussain, Pankaj Tripathi
25 January	<i>Kaabil</i>	Action/Drama	Sanjay Gupta	Hrithik Roshan, Yami Gautam, Ronit Roy, Rohit Roy Narendra jha
	<i>Raees</i>	Action/Crime/Drama	Rahul Dholakia	Shah Rukh Khan, Mahira Khan, Farhan Akhtar, Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Zeenat Aman
25 January	<i>Aa Gun Thaam</i>	Action	Prashast Singh	Prashast Singh
3 February	<i>Runningshaadi.com</i>	Drama	Amit Roy	Amit Sadh, Taapsee Pannu
10 February	<i>Jolly LLB 2</i>	Drama	Subhash Kapoor	Akshay Kumar, Huma Qureshi, Annu Kapoor
17 February	<i>Machine</i>	Romance/Thriller	Abbas-Mustan	Mustafa Burmawalla, Kiara Advani, Carla Dennis
	<i>The Ghazi Attack</i>	Action	Sankalp Reddy	Rana Daggubati, Taapsee Pannu, Kay Kay Menon
	<i>Chauhar</i>	Romance	Raghubeer Singh	Amit Singh Kashyap, Richa Dixit, Vivek Jha
24 February	<i>Rangoon</i>	Action, Romance	Vishal Bhardwaj	Shahid Kapoor, Saif Ali Khan, Kangana Ranaut
	<i>Aa Gaya Hero</i>	Action, Comedy	Dipankar Senapati	Govinda (actor), Ashutosh Rana, Murali Sharma, Richa Sharma (actress)
3 March	<i>Commando 2</i>	Action	Deven Bhojani	Vidyut Jammwal, Adil Hussain, Adah Sharma, Esha Gupta, Freddy Daruwala
	<i>Jeena Isi Ka Naam Hai</i>	Romance/Drama	Keshhav Panneriy	Arbaaz Khan, Manjari Fadnis, Himansh Kohli, Supriya Pathak, Ashutosh Rana, Rati Agnihotri, Prem Chopra
10 March	<i>Badrinath Ki Dulhania</i>	Romance/Comedy	Shashank Khaitan	Varun Dhawan, Alia Bhatt
17 March	<i>Begum Jaan</i>	comedy	Srijit Mukherji	Vidya Balan, Gauhar Khan, Naseeruddin Shah
	<i>Sarkar 3</i>	Drama	Ram Gopal Varma	Amitabh Bachchan, Manoj Bajpayee, Yami Gautam, Amit Sadh, Ronit Roy, Rohini Hattangadi
24 March	<i>Phillauri</i>	Romance/Comedy	Anshai Lal	Anushka Sharma, Diljit Dosanjh, Suraj Sharma
31 March	<i>Hindi Medium</i>	Romance	Saket Chaudhary	Irrfan Khan, Saba Qamar
	<i>Naam Shabana</i>	Action, Thriller	Shivam Nair	Taapsee Pannu, Akshay Kumar

## Here's how Indian IT companies plan to tackle new H-1B visa rules

BENGALURU: Indian outsourcing giants Infosys and Tata Consultancy Services will hire more engineers from campuses in the United States as they brace themselves for stringent visa norms expected to be unveiled by the new American administration led by Donald Trump.

The move marks a change in strategy for the \$150-billion Indian outsourcing industry, which until now has mostly relied on hiring large numbers of engineering graduates in India who were then posted to overseas client locations, a model that helped the industry win multi-billion dollar contracts but has also attracted the ire of locals.

Last fortnight, Senator Jeff Sessions, in his confirmation hearing for the post of attorney general of the United States, said that the Donald Trump administration will push for legislative reform to curb what he termed as "abuse of H-1B visas for foreign workers". The Indian outsourcing industry, whose biggest market is the US, has been a beneficiary of the H-1B visa system.

"We are (now) looking at hiring from more colleges in the US. With the (new) visa rules, we will have to look at building a pyramid there," UB Pravin Rao, chief operating officer at Infosys, told

ET. The offshore-pyramid model, the bedrock of Indian IT's success, has a simple structure. Low-paid coders, mostly hired straight out of Indian engineering colleges, formed the large base of the pyramid.

Better-paid mid-to-senior executives in roles like project managers formed the middle. While these two rungs worked predominantly out of India, a smaller number of engineers were sent on H-1B visas to work with clients onsite, in addition to sales executives who were hired in foreign markets.

These companies also hired senior-level executives with many years of industry experience in overseas locations, termed as onsite hires. Campus recruitment, however, has been minimal so far.

The structure, which kept overall costs low, helped the sector lure contracts away from more expensive multinational rivals, who promptly adopted the model themselves. But with IT companies staring at increasing costs and a more restrictive visa regime, they are looking at hiring more freshers from overseas campuses and creating a similar structure in the US.

India's largest IT services company Tata Consultancy Services also said it would

increase the number of young engineers it will hire in the US.

TCS's HR head Ajoyendra Mukherjee, though, added that it was too early to break down the composition of the onsite pyramid. "At this stage, it will be difficult to comment as to what the percentages would be and we have to ensure that we make our deliveries as per customer requirements. I am not going to get into the percentages of the pyramid," Mukherjee told analysts on Thursday.

Engineers with under three years of work experience comprise about 30-35 per cent of the Indian IT industry, which employs about 4 million people. A back-of-the-envelope calculation would peg the number of young engineers at between 1.2 million and 1.4 million of the total workforce.

Hiring more engineers in the US has the potential to hurt margins of the Indian IT industry. Engineering graduates in the US begin with average salaries of over \$40,000, or Rs 26 lakh, as talent is not readily available. In contrast, salaries for fresh engineers in India have stayed stagnant at Rs 2.5-3.5 lakh for the last five years. Over one million engineers graduate in India every year.

Industry watchers argue that while Indian IT companies are exploring multiple ways to mitigate the impact of visa restrictions, they have no other option but to increase hiring in overseas markets. "They want to do all the work they can offshore. Infosys even talks about virtual reality centres to give a sense of people working together when they are actually in other countries. They also want to automate onsite. But they will still have to hire," an analyst with a Mumbai-brokerage told ET.

TCS has said it is committed to delivering profit margins of 26-28 per cent, despite the potential for rising costs due to visas and local hiring. Few IT services companies can afford to pass on the higher costs to customers Indian IT companies have heavily abused the US visa system. They have treated IT professional like cheap labor. Finally justice will prevail.

Hiring at Indian IT companies is already dropping. Infosys said it hired 17,000 people in the first nine months of fiscal 2016. It has hired fewer than 6,000 in the same period this year.

# Is aspirin a wonder drug?

Imagine that after years of painstaking research, scientists announced the development of a breakthrough treatment that costs pennies a pill, saves lives, and could reduce healthcare spending by nearly \$700 billion in the coming years. And you wouldn't even need a prescription to get it. Perhaps this all sounds too good to be true. But, according to a new study, we already have such a drug: it's called aspirin. An analysis of aspirin use based on current recommendations, only about 40% of people who should be taking aspirin are doing so. In this new report, researchers asked: what might happen to population health, longevity, and healthcare costs if aspirin use were more widespread? To answer this, they analyzed reams of health data from thousands of patients and estimated the impact of more widespread aspirin use on their health and survival. Their findings were striking. For people in the U.S. ages 51 to 79, routine aspirin use could, over a 20-year period:

prevent 11 cases of heart disease for every 1,000 persons  
prevent four cases of cancer for every 1,000 persons  
lengthen national life expectancy by about four months, allowing an extra 900,000 people to be alive in 2036  
save \$692 billion.

Is there a downside to aspirin? As is true for all medications, aspirin has its downsides. Among other side effects, allergic reactions may occur. And, aspirin is a blood thinner and can irritate the stomach. Episodes of bleeding and stomach ulcers can be serious. So, the researchers took these into account; the estimates above include these side effects of taking aspirin. It's important to emphasize that this study assessed the impact of low-dose aspirin, such as the 85 mg daily dose often found in baby aspirin; higher doses may be recommended for other conditions (and come with added risk). In addition, aspirin can interact with other medications. For

example, if you take low-dose aspirin for your heart and ibuprofen for arthritis, it's important that the ibuprofen be taken at least 30 minutes after or more than eight hours before the aspirin; otherwise, the benefit of the aspirin may be lost. Who should take aspirin? For those at highest risk of future cardiovascular problems, including those who have had a prior heart attack or stroke, aspirin is routinely recommended to reduce recurrence. For everyone else, recommendations vary. Some experts recommend low-dose aspirin for everyone over age 50. Other guidelines make a more conservative recommendation based on age (e.g., 50–79 years old) and cardiovascular risk factors that predict a heart attack or stroke occurring in the next 10 years. Well-studied risk calculators, such as the one developed by the Framingham Heart Study, are available to estimate 10-year risk. In addition, aspirin is routinely recommended to lower cancer risk in people

with certain genetic conditions, including hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer. Why don't more people take aspirin? It's not entirely clear why many people forego aspirin use. My guess is that it's a combination of factors, including: a lack of awareness that aspirin is recommended it wasn't specifically recommended by their doctor a greater concern about side effects from aspirin than its potential benefits a previous bad experience with aspirin use, such as an allergic reaction an aversion to medications in general. It's worth emphasizing that when it comes to any treatment — and especially preventive treatments — individual preferences matter a lot. As a result, many reasonable people who would be good candidates to benefit from aspirin will choose not to take it.

## Women and sleep: 5 simple steps to a better night's rest

Sleep shortfalls can lead to a range of health problems, from being more likely to catch a cold or gain weight to increased risk of developing heart disease or diabetes.

For optimum health and function, the average adult should get seven to nine hours of sleep every night. But more than 60% of women regularly fall short of that goal. This may be due to insomnia or another underlying condition that may require medical attention. But most women with a

sleep debt run it up by burning the candle at both ends — consistently failing to get to bed on time or stay there long enough.

Don't worry about repaying the old sleep debt. Just make sure you start getting enough sleep from this point forward — starting tonight. Getting enough sleep is just as important as eating a healthy diet and getting regular exercise.

Tips for getting the rest you need:

Create a sleep sanctuary. Reserve your bedroom for sleep and intimacy. Keep it on the cool side. Banish the television, computer, smartphone or tablet, and other diversions from that space.

Nap only if necessary. Taking a nap at the peak of sleepiness in the afternoon can help to supplement hours missed at night. But naps can also interfere with your ability to sleep at night and throw your sleep schedule into disarray. If you need to nap, limit it to 20 to 30 minutes.

Avoid caffeine after noon, and go light

on alcohol. Caffeine can stay in your body for up to 12 hours. Alcohol can act as a sedative, but it also disturbs sleep.

Get regular exercise, but not within three hours of bedtime. Exercise acts as a short-term stimulant.

Avoid backsliding into a new debt cycle. Try to go to bed and get up at the same time every day — at the very least, on weekdays. If need be, use weekends to make up for lost sleep.

## Simple math equals easy weight loss

The pleasure of eating a candy bar lasts but a few minutes. Burning off the calories it delivers can take nearly an hour.

To lose one pound by exercising, you need to burn approximately 3,500 calories. It can take days of moderate exercise to do this. A better strategy for weight loss involves a two-pronged approach: exercising and cutting calories.

Although exercise by itself isn't the fast track to weight loss, it does offer important benefits beyond cancelling out calories.

It slightly increases the rate at which you burn calories even when you're not work-

ing out. And pounds lost through boosting your activity level consist almost entirely of fat, not muscle.

**Do the math**

Start with this number: 3,500. That's how many calories are stored in a pound of body fat. With that number, you can tally up how much weight you can lose through increasing activity, cutting calories, or both.

Walking or jogging uses roughly 100 calories per mile. (Precisely how many

calories you'll burn depends on a number of things, including your weight and how fast you walk.) So you'd lose about one pound for every extra 35 miles you walk — provided you don't change anything about your current food intake or other activities.

If you walk briskly (at a pace of 4 miles per hour) for 30 minutes on five out of seven days, you'll log 10 miles a week.

That means it would take three-and-a-half weeks to lose one pound if the number of calories you consume stays the same.

If you altered your diet and cut back by 250 calories a day (½ cup of ice cream or two sugar-sweetened sodas), you'd lose a pound in two weeks.

If you ate 250 fewer calories a day and walked for 30 minutes a day, it would take just over a week to lose one pound. Reducing calorie intake even more and exercising more would further speed the process.

## Build stronger muscles and protect your bones with workouts that fit your schedule and deliver results!

Imagine what you could do with stronger muscles: take a brisk walk, climb stairs with ease, lift your grandchild into the air. If you thought getting older would put an end to these and other activities, here's some good news — by strengthening your muscles, you can stay fit, active, and independent for years to come. Strength and Power Training, a Special Health Report from Harvard University's world-renowned medical school, tells you

exactly how to keep your muscles in great shape. The information in this report was specifically created for older adults who want to look and feel their best, but without spending hours in the gym, or a lot of money.

In this highly practical guide, you'll learn: how strength training can reduce your risk of heart disease, slow the advance of bone loss, and ease arthritis pain how strengthening your muscles can help

you control your blood sugar and lose weight the difference between strength training and power training, and how combining both can give you even greater health benefits everything you need to know about buying workout equipment, from floor mats to dumbbells to large machines how to choose an exercise trainer and what to look for in a gym.

Strength and Power Training also gives you: 12 ways to stay motivated a helpful progress chart so you can track your improvement tips on how to increase the intensity of your workouts, safely and correctly additional exercises and equipment to add variety to your workouts.

حسن چشتی  
غزل



دل ہی نہیں حزیں تو پھر خواب میں کوئی آئے کیوں  
راہ طلب میں جو نہ ہو تیری گلی میں جائے کیوں  
درد بھی ہے عروج پر رات بھی کچھ طویل ہے  
ایسے میں نیند آئے کیوں یاد تری بھلائے کیوں  
اُس کے فراق کی سزا اشکوں میں ڈھل کے رہ گئی  
ایسے میں اُس کی بے رخی وحشت دل بڑھائے کیوں  
ہم ہی چلے تھے چھوڑ کر محفل جان دوستان  
اُن کی گلی کا راستہ کوئی ہمیں بتائے کیوں  
تیری نگاہ ناز ہی ہو گئی بے نیاز جب  
مطرب اٹھار پھر نغمہ شوق گائے کیوں  
چھوڑ کے اُس کا آستان خود ہی تو در بدر ہوا  
کاہے کو روئے ہے حسن کرتا ہے ہائے ہائے کیوں

خوشبو کی طرح پھول میں رہتا تھا مراباپ



پھیلا ہوا درخت تھا بیٹھا تھا اس کا پھل  
باد صبا کی سانس تھا دھڑکن تھا  
کرتا تھا جھاڑوں میں ہر گام مسلل  
روح رواں تھا گھر کا گھر آنکھ سے اجمل  
چشمہ تھا کوئی ہرگز ہی بہتا تھا مراباپ  
خوشبو کی طرح پھول میں رہتا تھا مراباپ

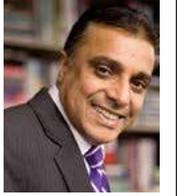
ہونٹوں پہ اس کے نتھی بہت ہاں سے زیادہ  
بروقت مرے واسطے رہتا تھا پریشان  
رہتی تھی مری گھر سے جاں سے زیادہ  
کرتا تھا مجھے پیار مری ماں سے زیادہ  
لیکن کبھی بھی مجھ سے نہ کہتا تھا مراباپ  
خوشبو کی طرح پھول میں رہتا تھا مراباپ

دیکھانہ مری آنکھ نے وہ درد کا منظر  
دنیا کی نعمتوں سے وہ محروم تھا لیکن  
اپنی ہی اک مثال تھا وہ مہر کا بیکر  
کرتا رہا اللہ کا وہ شکر برادر  
راشی ہر ایک حال میں رہتا تھا مراباپ  
خوشبو کی طرح پھول میں رہتا تھا مراباپ

سال نوے کی آمد پر

نہ سمندر ہے، نہ کنارہ ہے  
دن میں رکھا ہے باندھ کر سورج  
چلتے پانی کا ایک دھارا ہے  
رات میں چاند کو اتارا ہے  
بے ثباتی نے اس زمانے کو  
وقت کے جرم پہ ابھارا ہے  
وقت اس محفل روز و شب میں  
آنے جانے کا استعارہ ہے  
لے کے آئے تھے خلد سے جس کو  
وقت نے فرض وہ اتارا ہے  
وہ سمجھتے رہے کہ ان کا ہے  
ہم سمجھتے رہے ہمارا ہے  
روز کرتا ہے یہ شمار ہمیں  
وقت بس عمر کا خسار ہے  
خود سے رکھتا ہے عمر بھر غافل  
اتنا دکش ہے اتنا پیارا ہے  
ہے گذشتہ سے سدا پوستہ  
سال نو فرقتوں کا مارا ہے

ہم ہی سمجھے نہ یار شیرازی  
وقت کس چیز کا اشارا ہے



شہباز شیرازی

جب تیری یاد میں مصرعہ کوئی لکھنے بیٹھا  
میں نے کاغذ پہ بھی چھالوں کا گلستاں دیکھا  
تو نے دیکھا ہے منڈیروں پہ چراغوں کو فقط  
میں نے جلتا ہوا ہر دور میں انسان دیکھا

بزمِ یارانِ سخن ہیوسٹن ٹیکساس یو ایس اے

کے زیر اہتمام  
محترمہ تسنیم عابدی اور محترمہ رعنا حسین

کی کتابوں کی تقریب رونمائی

اور

مشاعرہ



جناب عرفان ستار کینیڈا

جناب امین احمد پاکستان

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Houston TX 77099

جناب مجید اختر کی فرنی

بروز: اتوار

وقت: ساڑھے چار بجے

بتاریخ: 12 فروری 2017

تکلیف: \$15

For more info:

Basit Jalili #832-228-4775

Dinner will be served

آنکھ سے دور نہ ہو دل سے اتر جائے گا  
وقت کا کیا ہے گزرتا ہے گزر جائے گا

اتنا مانوس نہ ہو خلوتِ غم سے اپنی  
تو کبھی خود کو بھی دیکھے گا تو ڈر جائے گا

تم سرِ راہِ وفا دیکھتے رہ جاؤ گے  
اور وہ بامِ رفاقت سے اتر جائے گا

زندگی تیری عطا ہے تو یہ جانے والا  
تیری بخشش تیری دلہیز پہ دھر جائے گا

ڈوبتے ڈوبتے کشتی کو اچھالا دے دوں  
میں نہیں کوئی تو ساحل پہ اتر جائے گا

ضبط لازم ہے مگر دکھ ہے قیامت کا فراز  
ظالم اب کے بھی نہ روئے گا تو مر جائے گا

احمد فراز



**On the lighter side....**

Boss: "Working hard here, Jimmy?"

Jimmy: "Ever since I heard you coming down the stairs, boss!"

A man walked by a table in a hotel and noticed three men and a dog playing cards. The dog was exhibiting an extraordinary performance.

"That is a very smart dog," the man commented.

"Not really," said one of the irked players. "Every time he gets a good hand he wags his tail."

Bob: "I took a big fall, fell off a 50 ft ladder."

Jim: "Oh wow, are you okay?"

Bob: "Yeah, it's a good thing I only fell off the first step."

Dad: "Can I see your report card, son?"

Son: "I don't have it."

Dad: "Why not?"

Son: "I gave it to my friend. He wanted to scare his parents."

A pick pocket was pronounced guilty and sentenced to pay a \$200 fine by the judge. His defense lawyer, knowing that his client could not pay the fine, pleaded with the judge asking, "Your honor, my client can only afford \$50. But if you allow him a few minutes in the crowd..."

"Didn't you suspect burglars had been in the house when you saw all the drawers pulled out and the contents scattered all over the floor?" asked the policeman.

"No," began the wife, "I just thought my husband had been looking for a clean shirt."

Reaching the end of a job interview, the Human Resources Officer asks a young engineer fresh out of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "And what starting salary are you looking for?"

The engineer replies, "In the region of \$125,000 a year,



depending on the benefits package."

The interviewer inquires, "Well, what would you say to a package of five weeks vacation, 14 paid holidays, full medical and dental, company matching retirement fund to 50% of salary, and a company car leased every two years, say, a red Corvette?"

The engineer sits up straight and says, "Wow! Are you kidding?" The interviewer replies, "Yeah, but you started it."

Q: What did the janitor yell when he jumped out of the closet?

A: "Supplies!"

"How are you getting on with your exams?"

"Not bad. The questions are easy enough, it's the answers I'm having trouble with."

A beginner rider at the stables was trying to saddle a horse. "Excuse me," said the old hand, "but you are putting that saddle on backwards."

"How do you know?" snapped the student. "You do not know which way I'm going."

A bank robber pulls out a gun, points it at the teller, and

says, "Give me all the money or you're geography!"

The puzzled teller replies, "Did you mean to say 'or you're history?'"

The robber says, "Don't change the subject!"

A bank robber pulls out a gun, points it at the teller, and says, "Give me all the money or you're geography!"

The puzzled teller replies, "Did you mean to say 'or you're history?'"

The robber says, "Don't change the subject!"

I could not find a frozen chicken big enough for my family dinner. I asked the young man behind the butcher counter if these chickens got any larger?

He replied, "I'm afraid not, they are all dead"

A woman meant to call a record store but dialed the wrong number and got a private home instead. "Do you have 'Eyes of Blue' and 'A Love Supreme'?" she asked.

"Well, no," answered the puzzled homeowner. "But I have a wife and eleven children."

"Is that a record?" she inquired.

"I don't think so," replied the man, "but it's as close as I want to get."

The crocodile walked into a trendy menswear store, approached the assistant and asked, "Do you have any shirts with pictures of people on the pocket?"

A woman took her dog to the parlor for a haircut and asked what it would cost. Being told that it would cost her \$50, she was outraged.

"I only pay 30 bucks for my own haircut!" she said.

The groomer replied, "That may be true. But then you don't bite, do you?"



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