

NOSTALGIA – COLLEGE KE DINON KI YAADEIN

By Hina Sapra

College Days starts at the age of 18 in every individual's life. It is the time when everyone learns something important for life.

It is today that I find my college days to be the best part of my life.

College Days starts at the age of 18 in every individual's life. It is the time when everyone learns something important for life.

I completed my graduation from a very renowned institute of Bareilly, Invertis Institute of Management Studies.

The first day of my college was 18 Aug '06. I was as nervous as I was never before.

I entered the institute at 9'o clock in the morning. At first, I was very happy to see such a big college of which I was also a part. Big library, big lecture rooms, big computer block, auditorium and much more....

But then, suddenly I came back into the real world of college which was ragging, studies, suspensions and more...

We, freshers in the college, were asked to gather in front of library for some important announcement. I was standing there all alone looking here and there since all were strangers for me.

After 5 min, co- coordinator came and asked all of us to go to different places for different purposes. For e.g., we were asked to go to mess which was in other end of college to give our measurement for uniforms, to library to get made our library card, to computer block third floor to get our photograph clicked for identity-card and many more.

When these announcements were being made, I was thinking how I will finish all these jobs. And then, the bad time started....

We all were running from one part of college to another feeling so much tired but had no other option other than completing the work. I made many friends while doing all these work and was very happy.

Overall it was a hectic day as well as interest-

ing as I came to know the rules and regulations of my college and learnt many new things.

*Today, I am a part of another college but unable to forget the **VERY FIRST DAY OF MY COLLEGE LIFE...***

ATITHI DEVO BHAVA

By Shweta Saxena

21 years old Mary (name changed) from United States of America visited India for the first time but now has made up her mind that she won't come again. Reason being- she was a victim of SEXUAL EXPLOITATION.

Have you ever thought why is this happening in our country?

What has happened to the Indians and Why are they misbehaving and ill-treating with the foreign visitors? Why can't they respect and give love to them?

Mary is not the only one who was sexually exploited on her visit to In-

dia. We can hear a number of cases where foreign visitors are exploited every now and then. This is a serious issue and we have to take some steps to avoid such a critical situation to occur in a country like ours.

There was another case when an 11 year old Russian girl was sexually exploited in Goa by some unknown Indians. By misbehaving with the foreign visitors these people are not only spoiling the image of our country but also making us feel ashamed in our own eyes.

The Indian Government has to take stringent steps to control this growing menace in our country.

At a point where India holds important people like the famous singer Lata Mangeshkar, the famous cricketer Sachin Tendulkar, the famous actor Amitabh Bachchan and Shahrukh Khan, at a point where India has the famous Taj Mahal which itself is a symbol of love.

Where India holds the tag as "UNITY IN DIVERSITY". Where women are given the position as goddess Laxmi, these sexual exploitation do not hold any space neither in our country nor in our hearts and therefore must be abolished.

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SHOULD TELANGANA BE FORMED?

By Hina Sapra

India is a sovereign, socialist, secular and democratic republic. It is one nation with many divisions with respect to states, cities, towns, villages etc. There are many more divisions with respect to caste, religion and more. In short, India has been fragmented and we all are responsible for this FRAGMENTED INDIA.

There were 25 states all over the country till 2000. But then in 2000 three more divisions were made in the country namely Jharkhand, Uttarakhand and Chattisgarh from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar respectively. And now, again, Andhra Pradesh demands one more division in the country i.e., TO SEPARATE TELANGANA FROM ANDHRA PRADESH. Is this the future of our country? More and more divisions within the country.....more statesmore differences..... Is this what a "UNITED NATION" is? Is this what the "UNITY IN DIVERSITY" is?

I would like to ask one question to all "IS IT A CRIME TO STAY AS ONE NATION?" Why divisions are required in one nation?

I agree that it becomes easier to control a nation as per divisions. But then, why people get separated?

*First day of one's college life is not only memorable but also nerve wracking as **Sunanda Tripathi** shares her own experience in Masscomedia with befitting description of her classmates*

Well as we all know that I have joined the college very late. So I had missed all the golden moments of my batch like the fresher's party, teacher's day and other colourful events. I wish I could rewind the clock but I can't.

Let me recall the first day with the group of M.Sc sorry not with the group of M.Sc, with my "NEW FREINDS". I was really scared while I had entered the class but all made me comfortable and welcomed me.

Archana, Vineeta , Shweta were the first with whom I had interacted.

Archana: Sweet, reserved and moody.

Shweta: Intelligent, smart and good for everything.

Priya: Most innocent girl of M.Sc.

Radha: Our first internal topper, my helper and my guide book.

Pragya: Reserved, silent and miss regular.

Vipra: Miss pretty of M.Sc batch.

Shivani: Very sporty, active and dynamic.

Hina: Smart and talented.

Rajni: Our next" Barkha Dutt" and MISS CHATTER box.

Megha: excellent in calculation even better than calculator but most irregular.

Shailendra, Ankush, Saurav ,Anjneesh: "Ravan Sena": Without these guys, class is incomplete and lonely. Their presence makes the crowd. They have good sense of humour. They do a lot of leg pulling of everyone including "me". But still they are good from their hearts. "Hope So"

Pankaj and Subash: Talented and studious people of M.Sc. Having a good knowledge of everything. Upcoming IAS's

Nishant: Mr. Formal. Don't know much about him because I had interacted less with him.

Rishi: Very shy and calm in nature.

Sushil and Abhishek: "Virus and Jai jodi". Both are smart, dynamic and irregular.

Animesh: model of July batch 2009. Good, sober and decent guy of a class.

These are my friends. They are all different in these ways but united with each other and make a team. And I am proud to be a part of them.

At last I would like to thank Ritu mam and Albeena mam without whose support I would not have written my first article.

Living on the edge

By Shailendra Kumar Singh

Sonbhadra, the largest district of Uttar Pradesh, was once full of forests and hills and seemed like infertile land is now an energy hub to India. Growth and development is greeted by one and all but not at the expense of the innocent lives. The Adivasis residing there are passing their lives under strained circumstances. Apart from other problems the epidemic of diarrhoea has engulfed the place for quite a long time and this has led to countless deaths of innocent lives.



At least 24 people were victimised and killed by diarrhoea within a week. The astonishing fact is that the administration is unaware and has been caught in napping. Natives living in the fringes of Sonbhadra are still facing traumatic experience; due to this more than 70 people have lost their lives. A thick cloud of sorrow, grief, uncertainty is hovering over the natives and this is an indicator towards the prevailing grim situation which has come to surface as a result of step-motherly attitude of centre.

It is a paradox that in spite of witnessing a boom in economic and financial sector combined with real estate development and upcoming world class infrastructure these innocent natives are compelled to face a life of isolation and they are cut off from VIBGYOR of development.

One statement that can be tagged in compliance to this misery of natives **“Darkness existing beneath lamp”** has been responsible for this tragic situation and sooner the administration comes out of their hibernation is the better.

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AMAN KI ASHA

By Shivani Tripathi

Aman ki asha, a campaign started by the media giants of India and Pakistan. The Times of India and Jang Group have joined hands to improve the diplomatic and cultural relationship between the two neighbouring countries. Aman Ki Asha: Destination Peace look behind the confines of a 62-year-old political boundary to the primal bonds that tie together the two peoples.

In an effort to strengthen the cultural bonds between the two nations, famous artist from across the boarders like Lata Mangeshkar, Gulzar, Bhupinder Singh, Shankar Mahadevan, Hariharan, Noor Jahan, Ghulam Ali, Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, Abida Parveen, Mehdi Hassan, Rahat Fateh Ali Khan ,Kailash Kher have come together to contribute in this campaign.

In an extensive poll conducted jointly by The Times of India and the Jang group of Pakistan, what it was found was that an overwhelming majority want a peaceful relationship. Most hearteningly – and unexpectedly – there is also a high degree of optimism about the possibility of an end to hostilities and there is a widespread recognition that bringing about that happy denouement is not a task that can be left to the two governments alone.

Now the million dollar question is that will this campaign really affect the relation of two countries? Will the efforts to bolster the cultural bonds be fruitful?

Can just by singing heart-wrenching songs which delineate the dramatic pain of cross-border love can improve our relations?

There are about 420 Indian fishermen including 8 children are lodged in the prisons of Karachi. Their boats were seized and have been charged for murder and terrorism. These prisoners are in a very pathetic condition and complained that neither India nor Pakistani government is helping them.

Where on other hand around 400 Pakistanis including children are being detained and put in Indian prisons. The Pakistani children who cross the borders just to watch Indian movies are being caught by the BSF and detained by the Indian Government and been given the tag of informer or terrorist.

Mohammad Yousaf, 13 , son of a poor carpet weaver in Multan who smuggled his way into India to meet his favourite film star Shahrukh Khan, is serving a six month sentence in an Indian jail.

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Aman Ki Asha contd...

Human and child rights organisations in India are mum over the issue of detained Pakistani juveniles and other fishermen languishing in Indian prisons.

The delay in settlement of Sir Creek border issue is a permanent troublemaker for the fishermen as there is no evident demarcation in the sea. Therefore, the fishermen of both countries easily stray into the economic water zones of the other country.

Fishermen are one of the most suppressed communities in both countries. Many of them are not even adequately dressed. One Indian fisherman, at the time of his arrest, was wearing several polythene bags patched together. These people are arrested in a game of pawns played by bureaucrats sitting in their comfortable offices. They do not realize the suffering these innocent people and their families go through every day while the diplomats negotiate for days over the venue of their next meeting. A former Pakistan foreign secretary once said that anything between Pakistan and India will take time: when he mentioned time, he did not have days or weeks in mind; he probably meant years.

So the matter of concern here is where is ASHA of these fishermen and those innocent children? Do they see the open sky and earth beneath them behind the campaign of peace between two countries? It's the duty of both the governments of the country to make them see their dreams in open air not behind those bars in which they have lost all their hopes. And this can only be happen when they will be released and provided proper incentives for their living.

Hope this" AMAN KI ASHA "act as ears between those suffered ones and government and make their problem the problem of the whole country and take initiative to release them and bring "Asha Ki Kiran" in their new journey to life.



Will **Right to Education Bill** make a huge mass of revolution in Indian education?

By Anjneesh Shrivastav

India's much delayed Right to Education Bill has finally got the Parliament's nod. The landmark legislation makes education free and compulsory for children between the ages of 6-14 and provides 25% reservation for students from the weaker sections in private schools.

India approved legislation to make education compulsory and free, providing hundreds of millions of children with schooling to avoid a "demographic nightmare" that may curtail economic growth. Lawmakers passed a bill in the Indian capital this week that promises children aged 6-14 places in a neighbourhood school within three years without fees or entrance tests, delivered on 2002 constitutional amendment declaring lessons on human right.

India's schools suffer from crumbling buildings, high rates of teacher absenteeism and vacant posts. As many as

25% of teachers were absent from class at any time, a 2004 World Bank study showed. Almost 42% of Indians live on less than \$1.25 a day, the World Bank estimates, putting private education out of the reach of the majority even where centres exist. Save the Children and the Smile Foundation say more than 35 million of India's children don't attend school, while the government puts the figure at 7.5 million.

India ranked 102 out of 129 countries, immediately below Kenya and Nicaragua, in UNESCO's 2009 *Education for All Development Index*, which scores nations on the spread, gender balance and quality of primary education and adult literacy.

Under the legislation, state-level officials have a responsibility to ensure admission and attendance, while funding will be shared by local and central governments. Schools will have to be built in

areas where they don't exist.

While poverty means that child labour is a serious issue for a minority of children, the **"main use of a child's time when not enrolled in school is playing - not working."**

The new legislation "has little to say about either learning or the role of secondary schools. That's a worry given that learning inequalities in India are amongst the highest in the world".

"main use of a child's time when not enrolled in school is playing - not working."

DELHI METRO

By Rajni Kaushik

The first section of the Delhi Metro was opened on December 24, 2002. It is the second underground rapid transit system in India, after Kolkata. The Delhi Metro has a combination of elevated, at-grade and underground lines, and has carried over a billion commuters in the seven years since its inauguration. The Government of India and the Government of Delhi jointly set up a company called the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) on March 5, 1995. Physical construction work on the Delhi Metro started on October 1, 1998. The first line opened on December 24, 2002 and the entire Phase I of the project was completed in December 2005.

Phase I of the network comprises 65.11 km of route length with 13.01 km underground corridor and 52.10 km surface/elevated corridor. Phase II of the network comprises 128 km of route length and 79 stations, and is presently under construction, with the first section opened in June 2008 and a target completion date of 2010. Phase III (112 km) and IV (108.5 km) are planned to be completed by 2015 and 2020 respectively, with the network spanning 413.8 km by then.

Current routes

- * Red line-- Dilshad Garden - Rithala
- * Yellow line--Jahangirpuri - Central Secretariat
- * Blue line--Noida City Centre - Yamuna Bank - Dwarka Sector 9, Yamuna Bank - Anand Vihar

Routes under construction

Phase II consists of 127 km (79 mi) of new rail, of which the following sections are under construction. This phase has completion deadline of 2010.

Construction work in progress for the Phase II extension to Gurgaon.

- March 2010 | Yellow Line Qutub Minar - Sushant Lok (Gurgaon)
- March 2010 | Green Line Inderlok - Mundka
- June 2010 | Yellow Line Central Secretariat - Qutub Minar
- June 2010 | Green Line Kirti Nagar - Ashok Park
- September 2010 | Blue Line Dwarka Sector 9 - Sector 21
- September 2010 | Airport Express New Delhi Railway Station - IGI Airport
- September 2010 | Blue Line Anand Vihar - Vaishali (Ghaziabad)
- September 2010 | Violet Line Central Secretariat - Badarpur

Delhi metro faced a few technical errors in the initial phase but now it's running smoothly and a very good way of commuting in Delhi.

INTERESTING FACTS

By Ankush Chaudhary

Chess was invented in India

The Persian invaders converted it into Hindu. The name 'Hindustan' combines Sindhu and Hindu and thus refers to the land of the Hindus.

The World's First Granite Temple is the Brihadeswara Temple at Tanjavur, Tamil Nadu. The shikhara of the temple is made from a single 80-tonne piece of granite. This magnificent temple was built in just five years, (between 1004 AD and 1009 AD) during the reign of Rajaraja Chola

The world's highest cricket ground is in Chail, Himachal Pradesh. Built in 1893 after leveling a hill-top, this cricket pitch is 2444 meters above sea level.

The oldest European church and synagogue in India are in the city of Cochin. They were built in 1503 and 1568 respectively

India is one of the largest exporter of computer software products. It exports softwares to over 90 countries.

Many Indians find toilet paper repellent and consider it cleaner to splash water with the left hand in the appropriate direction. Consequently, the left hand is considered unclean and is never used for eating

India is the largest English speaking nation in the world.

India is the only country other than US and Japan, to have built a super computer

Crossing market road ordeal for commuters

By [Subash Deb](#)

Sector-27 one of the oldest sector is house to the famous Atta Market. (Atta Market is part of the Atta Village which is a part of Sector-27). One can buy any kind and every kind of articles from this market and that too at any price (i.e. from the lowest to the highest). Atta market house all types of showrooms from the very up market in the Sunheri Market to the pavement vendors, one can see all the shades of market place and its peculiarities here.



Atta Market: Where pedestrians find no footpaths and zebra-crossing

In spite of all Atta market is being ignored by civic bodies and facing major problems with regard to poor drainage system, poor sewerage, footpaths of the market are broken and there is literally no Zebra Crossing on road between Sector 27 to Sector 18. These problems are not only affecting the businessmen and shopkeepers but also commuters.

Shopkeepers complain about the drastic fall in their business due to the failure of the drainage system. They hold DMRC responsible for the current problems of the Atta Market. The DMRC seem to have forgotten its promise to maintain and repair the footpaths which were demolished while metro construction was underway.



Crossing Road here is risky too!

Commuters are also scared to cross the road from Sector 18 to Sector 27 as there is no Zebra Crossing and no signal, says Avinesh a trader from the market.

The starting of metro services have proved to be a boon to commuters but have drawn flak in Atta Market for closing all crossing points from Sector 27 Gol Chkkar to Sector 18 metro station by have been closed the Noida Authority. To cross the road, a commuter needs to go either to Sector 27 red light or Sector 31 cut or wait for 20-25 minutes to cross the road.

Several fatal accidents have taken place in the last few months. We have complained to the Noida Authority but no action has been taken says a member of the Atta Market Traders welfare Association. They warned to go on massive protest if their grievances are not heard.

A lesson that teaches you to understand something...as Vipra Jain makes an interesting conversation with a stranger

I saw him at the railway station. He was nearly 25 of age. Tall, handsome, fair in colour, extreme good looking guy was having groundnuts. My eyes could not change their view. I could not stop myself from talking to him. Here was our conversation when I went near him:-

I - What is your good name sir?

He - Sanjay Sharma, smiled.

I - What you do sir?

He - I am working with 'Connexions', Gurgaon.

I - You look so damn good!

He - Oh, but not as good as you look. So, can we sit somewhere and talk?

I - Yeah, sure sir.

He - So, Miss, what do you do basically?

I - Simply love talking to your types of good looking, handsome but unfortunately illiterate guys.

He - Hey! Let me correct you gorgeous, I am from CBSE background and have completed my studies from Delhi University.

I - Well, not so bad but even after having such education you don't know the use of dustbin?

He - What????

I - I've been noticing you for last 20minutes and you are simply standing, having groundnuts and throwing its peel onto the platform. No use of such good qualification, I suppose.

He, with his ashamed eyes, turned his pale face down to the ground and called up the sweeper after 1minute of break.

I - Thank you sir. I hope it's your own nation ! I can't make illiterate people do this but...I suppose you are capable enough to make your nation "SAFE N CLEAN".

Keep it safe and healthy.

"I can't make illiterate people do this but...I suppose you are capable enough to make your nation "SAFE N CLEAN"."

FIND THE RIGHT ROAD

By Radha Singh

“Our life is what our dreams make it”

Before we decide to go anywhere, we must first choose our destination. To some this may be easy. Some people is born ambitious to become a doctor or an astronaut. But there are many others who find their path as they travel down life’s winding streets. There are also those, who create their own path. Whichever class you belong to, a goal is always important.

Accept, adapt and achieve- These are the three watchwords for success in today’s ever changing situation. Sticking to goal is vital. But knowing when to change them requires wisdom and humanity. The realization that our goal need to be modified may not be very easy to accept. To change the path that we’ve been following for ages takes courage to say.

“Life is a pure flame, and we live by an invisible sun within us”

It’s true –you are unique, you are special. But that doesn’t mean you can’t benefit from what others have to offer. Simply relying on your personal experiences may not be enough. You can always learn from the experiences of others because **“every colour motivates you in life** “in your own way.

Take a page on someone’s book and write it in your own handwriting in your book of life. Keep your identity, follow your own dreams, but a little help does not make your success somebody else’s.

“Don’t limit your challenges- Challenge your limit”

But there is something more difficult than saying ‘yes’ – the ability to say ‘no’ at the right time. This is what draws the time between being an achiever and a push over. You need to set your priorities right. Everyone has individual ideas of what’s important and what’s not. It’s true that your priorities shouldn’t be guided purely by external forces, but at the same time, you should strike a balance so you don’t end up with selfish ideals. You have to decide what it is that you’re willing to give up for the right reason and what is that you’d defend with everything that you have.

Always keep your eyes on eternal goals so that no obstacle comes in the way of your success and it is said by someone that **“obstacle are the things we see when we take our eyes off our goals”**. Last but not least always think positive because *“the positive thinker sees the invisible feels the intangible and achieve the impossible”*.

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Concept of College News

By Subash Deb

News informs and insinuates people about the latest developments in the country and the world and help people decipher the policies of the government with its analytical report of each and every incident. TV news has taken the lead today as more and more people are getting interested in news with live story coverage. However there is a stark difference between the news in general and the college news. College news are confined to respective colleges only

This may tend towards volley of questions with regard to pattern of news that may occur in college. But we cannot lose sight of the fact that college news does not deal with any single individual, entity or issue. It deals with students, teachers, staff and also the interest and prospect of the college. College news helps the new students to understand the college at best. It tracks the events of the college and help in raising issues connected with the students, teachers and staff. It is the best form of print media within the college where students, teachers and staff come together to express their common interest thereby bolstering the bond.

In many colleges newsletters and magazines are the most common ways of disseminating information. Students literally get chance to showcase their talents and creativity. However it would be a grave faux pas if one takes college news as a new trend as this has been in existence since time immemorial. At one time college news used to work as mouthpieces of the ordeal of students in their fight against the British Imperialism and nowadays it focuses on the subjects of development and common interest of the students.

Nonetheless with the passage of time better forms of college news are appearing. Now a days blogs and websites have replaced the dominant role of periodicals and newspapers without affecting the center of attention.

“At one time college news used to work as mouthpieces of the ordeal of students in their fight against the British Imperialism and nowadays it focuses on the subjects of development and common interest of the students.”

Masscomedia News

Masscomedia the new age media institute completed yet another event reports Megha Maheswari

In the changing scenario of today, perpendicular growth has no platform to land to. Only multidimensional personalities have chances for sustenance and growth. Masscomedia, a media institute, has realized this demand of time. This new age communication institute, as the tag line speaks, is leaving behind the conventional methods of education & is emerging as a pioneer for overall development of students. The vivid events set by the institute are different in their own ways, as they are giving edge to students to explore their creativity. One such event was organized by the institute on 18 of Feb 2010, which witnessed how creativity and passion of students reformed to an entertaining & informative experience.

The enthusiasm was in the air on the D-day. Every face was glittering. The overwhelmed audiences had occupied the whole seminar hall of the institute premises at Noida. The euphoria among audiences came to a halt when two melodious voices serenaded the atmosphere. The podium was kept alive by the two young and dynamic debutant anchors- Anugrah Bhel and Ratika Mehra, both pursuing bachelors.

The event started with sweetness of candies circulated by the first vibrant presenter- Radha Singh. Her sweet candies set the mood for all but soon her concern for cleanliness & her promotion of dustbin engulfed our minds to think about what we do with our waste daily. This completely entertaining but inspiring speech was followed by the next presenter Megha Maheshwari who promoted the upcoming event of cricket in the institute. Her one liner "IF YOU HAVE PASSION WE HAVE THE PITCH FOR YOU", instilled a gush of enthusiasm among those who have a liking for the game and her display of stadiums, cheer leaders were enough to glamorize the game. The stage was set to fire by the comparing of anchors. The enthusiasm soon turned every one hungry when the confident speaker Shweta Saxena promoted her South Indian restaurant. The mouth watering snaps in presentation made me realize the extent of creativity in the presenters.

The signing off of anchors welcomed the mentors to give kudos to the podium. The encouraging feedback by PROF. HONEY DHUSSA kindled the students to garnish their strengths and overcome their weaknesses.

The mentor shared his feedback with audiences about the presenters. He also encouraged other students to come out of their comfort zone to the courage zone and lead such upcoming events. The extreme support of mentors and passion in students make the institute a pioneer in modern education.

"IF YOU
HAVE
PASSION
WE HAVE
THE
PITCH
FOR
YOU"

We undermine ourselves

By Pankaj Ghosh

India, a land of mysteries & glories, has been a subject of fascination ever since it came to its very existence. The everlasting and enriched history combined with its rich cultural & literary background seems to be an idealist's conception's of a perfect country with a vista of opportunities & with a tenacity to never disappoint its people. There is indeed something magical about this country. Otherwise the British were not senseless to have wasted almost 200 years in this country. India has been one of their favorite colony and they we always reluctant to leave this country, but thanks to some commendable efforts of some of the great leaders of this country, this country has attained independence. Bloods flowed and bloods were flown. Lakhs of people were ready to die for their country and the history of independence is in fact written upon the blood soaked soil of this country. Many die-hard nationalists like me shall acknowledge the fact that it is in fact a great privilege to be a part of this country and how our hearts swell with pride when we are called INDIAN. From a layman's point of view we might have attained independence, but still there are lot of achieve in terms of each and every aspect. One weakness that has ever daunted India has been lack of unity among its people. We Indians are a bunch of sentimental and emotional people and we always seem to give more importance to ourselves, we never really try to live life for others over certain issues and consequently, the foes benefit from that.

One of the major reasons behind India's slow pace of development has been its obsession with the West. We always tend to compare ourselves with the West in terms of infrastructure, education, economy, health care, real estate development, in terms of fashion and over the last few decades Western culture has made an over whelming influence upon our lives. But still lays the typical Indian psyche and the underlying irony. It is in fact paradoxical that we, in spite of being an ardent admirer of Western culture have aped some of their ways, which are in fact not at all acceptable in Indian society. Speak about these issues and you are bound to be boycotted. I am not an Eastern hardliner. But I believe over what Swami Vivekananda said, "You should be like swans". He had a deep rooted meaning behind what he said. Swans are known for their uncanny ability to differentiate between pearls and stones. They shall pick the pearls only and would leave aside the pebbles. But sadly enough, Indians have failed to do so. We have got carried away by the glitz and glamour, the swanky Western lifestyle and in turn have never really concentrated on the Western model of development. One very common problem daunts us and that is in-efficiency and indiscipline. The very teacher who teaches his student to maintain decorum in the primary schools flout traffic rules on a regular basis. So he has followed discipline in its truest sense? For instance, your land line telephone is out of order, you are making complaints and still you are not getting any response. The situation is even worse in metros. We make rules for ourselves and we are the ones who break them as well. And even if someone is caught, he can't be taught a lesson because he would take the name of an influential link and then the whole case would be handled in the simplest manner possible. To be a bit harsh, there is nothing called LAW in India. If your house is burgled and the next day you go to file a report, instead of looking for the culprit, you will have to face tones of questions. The bottom-line is that, we are lazy people, are not really willing to work. We are not actually willing to prove out potential to its optimum level.

But still, this country has got a lot of positives as well. If we look from a Westerner's perspective, then we can realize that how happy we are actually. Nevertheless, something is still missing there (West). People are wealthy there, but a sort of spiritual misery hovers over them. People are not happy there. Only material happiness can be found there. In India, we do have misery, but that is only physical. But people who are born here are inherent with so much rich qualities that eventually make them spiritually wealthier. But we Indians never realize the greatness of this country, have forgotten the values of this country. We have forgotten the ancient wisdom. So much of talent is here, yet we have been constantly denying ourselves. From Kashmir to Kanyakumari, what great talent lies, what diversity, what culture, what rich heritage we have, we have never tried to realize. How can India look forward to things unless it is proud of itself??

Indians from that part of country to another are not proud of their country. The self pride is evidently lacking here. We might be individually taking pride in being an Indian, but when it comes in terms of collective sense, it's missing. There are enormous potentials and talents here and at the same time, yes, there are some problems, but problems are in fact an integral part of each and every nation to be very specific. For instance, in Europe, same religion is shared, may be there are Protestants and Catholics, but somewhere and somehow. People share the same roots and they have the same origin. They have the same outlook and same democracy there. In fact, hard times were faced in uniting Europe as a whole. Even now, it has not been easy to have a consistency in maintaining unity in Europe. England and France keep fighting each other; England does not want to enter the common market. In India, there are so many religions, so many diversities, so many ethnic origins, people are different from one state to another, and they have different language and different customs.

Contd...at page 17

"One of the major reasons behind India's slow pace of development has been its obsession with the West"

So problems are bound to arise here. But the biggest problem is that we have been obsessed with our problems. There are problems because there is so much potential because there is so much diversity.

Yet, there is something that binds India. You can visit any part of this country and you would find the same understanding, the same gentleness, and the same tolerance. Yet, everyone seems to be separate. Everyone thinks their problems are genuine and unique. We never try to solve the problems in close co-ordination with one another. And here lies the problem. No body cares about the other. No one is conscious about the greatness and unity lying everywhere in India. Swami Vivekananda and Rishi Aurobindo also said the same thing. Even though there is difference in language, customs there is something that binds India. That is greatness, but we keep on denying that greatness and judge ourselves by Western standards. We have so much of ancient wisdom and much more ancient civilization. Then why we expect us to be judged by the West always? We can take another aspect that testifies our greatness. It is not possible for an Indian, a Hindu to be a national party president in West. But look at Sonia Gandhi. What she virtually and literally knows about India? Still, she is the president of one of the oldest and biggest national political parties of India, This is a prime example of great Indian tolerance. People are extraordinary and unique here.

Delhi is not only the political capital of India, but to be very precise and honest, it has been one of the very fewer Indian city that has been able to upheld the rich cultural heritage of India and at the same time has allowed modernism to make inroads. Walk inside Red Fort, and you will hear beats of Hindustani and Carnatic music playing all over soothing your senses. On the entrance to the main fort, one can find an array of shops displaying ancient handicrafts, jewels, clothes and some of them even dates back to the Mughal era. Pay a visit to Jantar Mantar, the history shall speak about itself. Each and every corner of that building speaks for itself and you shall literally need no description of that. Go to India Gate, and you are bound to be mesmerized by the feeling of pride and nationalism of being an Indian. Walk around Qutub Minar and its ruins, try to feel the underlying history and you are guaranteed that you shall not return home empty handed, a whole new treasure of knowledge will become your friendly luggage. Sit for at least 15 minutes inside the hall of Lotus Temple and you will ask yourself to visit the place again and again. Offer a prayer at Jama Masjid and feel the pious and thought provoking teachings of Prophet Mohammad. Stroll around the lanes of Chandni Chowk and the real Delhi will come alive in front of your eyes, the irresistible smell of jalebis, samosas, paani poori, laddoos and a whole lot of delicacies will just allure you towards them. No wonder why Chandni Chowk is still one of the most famous names in Delhi. From a simple wage earner to multi millionaire, all are tempted to taste the flavors of Chandni Chowk. Laze along the streets of Daryaganj and ask for any book on any topic, you will never get disappointed. Drive to South Delhi and drop in at Swami Narayan Akshardham Mandir, and be ready to be showered with the immense effect of enchanting mantras and shlokas. The very environment is assured to have an impact on your prevailing mood and mind set.

Education is our main strength which produces brilliant and super talented and there is no denying the fact that Indian students are among the brightest students in the world. We are very versatile, fluent, brilliant, but at the same time, they do not have grounding to their own culture. Indians often have heard saying outside that “a sort of persecution prevails in India and there is lack of freedom”. What do you exactly mean by freedom? Journalists can go anywhere, at anytime in India. Several others have never really faced any kind of forced restrictions or so. We should in fact appreciate India for the kind of spiritual and creative liberty it provides. Of course, there are problems, and these are because of democracy, freedom, separatism, fundamentalism and many more. Democracy in India existed a long ago. But the situation changed since Pt. Nehru came to power and re-wrote the structure of Indian democracy. Now, everything in India is controlled form Delhi. But it is not correct at all. Being in Delhi, they really never get the idea about what is happening in the other parts of the country. So, the blame can be pinned towards Pt. Nehru as he never cared to look after the ancient Indian wisdom and the trend has been following since then after he set a new benchmark. As a result, millions of cases are still lying in the court and what looks more ridiculous is that we have got an educational system, a sophisticated constitution that has almost given no power to the President!

This is indeed faulty; to get elected in India, we spend crores. But have we ever thought, from where the money comes. These are black money which points towards the fact that corruption starts from the very beginning i.e., the base. It is a paradox that sincere people cannot become a politician in India as the very system is wrong. We have to change this and this can be done only with the combined effort of many people who are willing to bend their back for this country. Because what Nehru did, may be his intentions were good but that created a kind of havoc. The problems of the North East, the ignorance of the North East can be directly related with Nehru. The Kashmir problem also can be associated with him. The effect of one man’s legacy is very much realized here. And that is the sole reason behind why we are constantly undermining and denying ourselves. Nehru created a breed of intellectuals who kept everything hidden from the people and made a kind of mockery of democracy. Enormous problems are there, and unless the people unite themselves the problems cannot be solved. We will have to take the charge of our own country and should stop relying on politicians any more. They have failed for the last 63 years, whatever their party; they have disappointed us, failed us and betrayed us. We elect them, they go to Delhi and then they forget why we elected them and the very conception of “by the people, for the people” gets distorted. They have changed the Parliament into a fish market. It is a matter of shame that they behave in such a way. They never really care for us and the main problem is that there is no collective sense or civic sense and more shockingly, people do not care about others. Even in Delhi, if someone falls from his bike, nobody will stop!

It is heartening to note that a very few organizations are working for the downtrodden. We are very passive. We have to unite from the bottom and have to save India, it is our duty. We have to stop running down ourselves. We need some collectiveness. Every one is pulling one side. Andhra Pradesh is pulling one side, so is West Bengal, Assam, Kashmir and latest to join the foray is Uttar Pradesh. Do we want India to break up???

Basilica of Bom Jesus -Rest House of a miracle

By Pragya Mehra



India is a land of art and rich culture. It is famous and admired by the world for its festivals, religion, versatile culture and number of heritage sites. One of integral part of those heritage sites is BASILICA OF BOM JESUS a Church located in OLD GOA near about 10 kms away from the NEW PANJIM CITY. The monument is more than 400 years old and declared as the World Heritage Site by UNESCO. In Spanish it is pronounced as: **Basilica do Bom Jesus**

The church is dedicated to Bom Jesus which is used as a name



for the infant Jesus which literally means The Holy Jesus. The construction work on church began on 1594 and was completed in May 1605 by archbishop Dom. fr Aleixo de Menezes. This prestigious monument is the landmark in the history of Christianity It is one of the oldest churches of Goa carpeted with marble

flooring and inlaid with precious stones. Apart from the elaborate gilted altars the interior of the church is simple.

The significance of the church is that it contains the holy body of Saint Francis Xavier who founded the Society of Jesus. The saint died on Sancian Island while on his journey to Continental China on December 1552. As told by Mr. Shiva, the tourist guide a common ritual among Christians is that the dead body is buried in a temporary grave first and then after 60 days the body is reburied into the permanent grave in Christian cemetery. The mortal remains of St. Francis Xavier were supposed to be shifted to Malacca, so in order to decay the mortal body rapidly lemon juice was sprinkled upon it but when the body was taken out after 60 days it was found to be as fresh as on the day it was buried with nails and hairs growing till that time . The body was first taken to Malacca and was shipped back to Goa 2 years later. The remains of the saint still attract a huge number of devotees and pilgrims from all over the world, especially during the public viewing of his body every ten years during the death anniversary

of saint. (last held in 2004). The saint is said to have miraculous powers of healing. The body of the saint is held in the casket made up of silver shown in the picture above. The another interesting and amazing fact about the holy body is that till date neither any chemical, nor preservatives are used to preserve it.

The church consists of the mausoleum on its top which was designed in the 17th century by the Florentine sculptor Giovanni Battista Foggini and took 10 years to complete. The mausoleum consists of the pictures and painting based



on the life of Saint Francis Xavier.

At last but not the least I would also like to appreciate the beautifully designed, magnificent and grand sculpture of monument made up of the brown tiles and grand pillars which not only supports the monument but also empowers the moral values and glory, an integral part of this priceless heritage.

Azamgarh: The Real Face

By Priya Asthana

Since last year Azamgarh (U.P.) has the dubious distinction of being projected as "Nursery of Terror" "Aantak-Garh" Crime infested, Illegal arms producing and Mafioso breeding place. All this propaganda has the influence of obscuring the good work being done here. Azamgarh is the birth place of great oriental scholars Allama Shibli Nomani, Pandit Rahul Sankartayn, Maulana Hamiduddin Farahi, Harioudh Singh Upadhyay, etc. The banks of river Tamsa (Tons) was chosen as a place to meditate by many ascetics in the past. Famous contemporary poets and critics like Khalilur Rahman Azmi, Moin Ahsan Jazbi, Kaifi Azmi, Shamsur Rahman Farooqui and Shabana Azmi (just to name a few) belong to this place.

The pioneering efforts of Allama Shibli Nomani in the field of education is responsible for producing scores of educated men and women who are holding respectable positions all around the globe. The services of Shibli National College (SNC), Azamgarh in enlightening the region can not be ignored. It was the great vision of administrators of SNC that we have so many trained teachers and lawyers who have gone out of Azamgarh to serve the nation. Majority of lawyers in Azamgarh (and in Mau) are alumni of SNC. All new education centres being opened in and around Azamgarh invariably look up to SNC as a role model. Allama Shibli Nomani as a visionary could foresee the mighty tree brought forth through the seed he sowed as early as 1883 in the form of "National School". This was two years prior to the birth of Indian National Congress. Presently, Shibli National College imparts graduate and postgraduate education in the field of Arts, Science, Commerce apart from professional courses like B.Ed. and LL.B. Primary and secondary level educational needs are catered by Shibli Nursery and Shibli National Inter College.

The full account of Shibli's contribution in spreading the spirit of enquiry and scholarship can not be gauged without mentioning his last and perhaps most important accomplishment i.e. the establishment of Darulmusannefin (literally meaning House of Writers). The Academy was established at a time when the freedom movement was gaining momentum. Scholars of Shibli Academy through their writings contributed to inspire spirit of liberty and freedom, but refrained from direct politics. They fostered communal harmony, Hindu-Muslim understanding, and advocated the need to build up a common political forum. Sayyid Sulaiman Nadwi called upon the people to forget the past, and make a fresh beginning by writing anew Indian history after 1857. He was of the opinion that by remembering the past bitter deeds, the future should not be spoiled. He denounced the use of history for narrow political and religious ends. In later times, Sayyid Sabahuddin Abdur Rahman, in particular, through his writings such as Hindustan Amir Khusru Ki Nazr Mein, Hindustan Ke Aehad Mazi Mein Musalman Hukmarano Ki Mazhabi Rawadari, Salatin Dehli Ke Aehad Mein Hindustan Se Muhabbat Wa Shaiftegi Ke Jazbat, etc., demonstrated the religious tolerance of Islam and of the Muslim rulers to the growth of common Hindu-Muslim culture and their love and sacrifice for the motherland. Scholars of the Academy discourage writings, which can generate animosity and friction between the two major communities of India. No wonder many leading freedom fighters visited the Academy. The first eminent political activist to visit was Muhammad Ali Jauhar on 1 March 1921. Hundreds of people went to Shahganj to receive him. Thereafter, Pandit Madan Mohan Malwiya visited the Academy in June 1922 and among other important matters, he discussed the Urdu-Hindi language issue. In subsequent times, some of the most distinguished Indians to visit were Mahatma Gandhi, Moti Lal Nehru, Jawahar Lal Nehru, Lal Bahadur shastri, Indra Gandhi, Ram Manohar Lohia, Mohammad Ali, Bi Amma, Zafar Ali Khan, Mawlana Abul Kalam Azad, Humayun Kabeer, Fakhruddin Ali Ahmad, Sarojni Naidu, Dr. Zakir Husain, V.V.Giri and Vinoba Bhave. As a good gesture, Jawahar Lal Nehru became its life-member. Some other persons who became its life member were Mawalana Abul Kalam Azad, Rafi Ahmad Qidwai, Nawwab Hamidullah Khan (Ex-ruler of Bhopal State), Syedna Saifuddin Tahir and Dr.B.Gopalareddy (Governor, U..P.) In fact, during the Non-Cooperation and Khilafat Movement the Academy often served as a meeting point of political leaders.

Contd..... at page 20

Azamgarh: The Real Face contd...

Darulmusannefin Shibli Academy was meant to provide all which can be dreamt of by a writer. It was supposed to have a well equipped library, printing press and residential area where scholars/writers could carry on their work in an environment conducive to learning and research. It has all these things apart from staying facilities for guest scholars who are free to help themselves of all the facilities being provided. The library not only has around one lakh books but rare manuscripts and record of our freedom struggle in the form of letters and other memorabilia. However, it is sad that the Academy could not keep pace with the modern development due to lack of patronage. It still tries to print material on an extremely old printing press which should have adorned a museum. Great scholars who worked here produced such marvelous gems on Indo-Islamic culture that they ought to be printed again and again in nice format and get-up. Alas! The printed output of the result of hours of toiling leaves one frustrated and disgusted at the apathy of our community towards such important institutions. What is needed is reprinting of more than 200 priceless volumes-produced by great scholars from the sweat of their brow- in modern style and format. This, of course, is possible only through a modern printing press along with facilities for digital scanning and computerization. An approach to the govt. resulted only in finding the fact that funds for printing press-an inventory item could not be released. It seems government is only interested in providing funds for buildings but is least bothered as to what is housed in these buildings. This is a point to ponder for law makers.

Media has not bothered to highlight all these but it has concentrated only on maligning the good name of Azamgarh. It has accused Madarsas of encouraging terrorist activities though not a single Madarsa has been found to indulge even remotely in activities subversive of law and order. It will be interesting to mention the role of Jamiatul Falah, Bilariyaganj (Azamgarh) in its exemplary cooperation with police. When govt. banned SIMI and went to arrest some of its members studying in Jamiatul Falah, students got agitated and the situation might have turned ugly if not tackled very intelligently by the Falah officials. Nazim (Rector) Jamiatul Falah advised police personnel to go away and promised to hand over the boys later on. In citizen's peace meeting in Kotwali, SSP mentioned this and praised the director who had himself came along with the boys to personally hand over the boys to police. Incidentally, in that meeting when someone asked the SSP and DM about meaning of SIMI and as to why it is banned, they had no answer.

We never knew that Azamgarh is home to Abu Salem till media reported about his birth place being Saraimir. Abu Salem's life history tells us about a boy whose father, a lawyer, died when he had attained the age of 18. This orphaned boy was compelled to move out of Azamgarh in search of employment and this innocent lad landed in the metropolis Bombay or Mumbai. The rest, of course, is history. How far Azamgarh is responsible in turning an innocent lad of 18 into hard core criminal is really questionable?

Azamgarh is also being projected as having factories for country made fire arms. It is baffling as to why these factories are not closed when everybody knows about them. Who has stopped police from going ahead?

Use of narcotics is on the rise in Azamgarh. Generally, police sometimes get hold of petty drug users but feels shy in nabbing the supplier. Why not stop the supply of narcotics. Similar is the case with money laundering through "Hawala". If facilities are provided for overseas currency exchange in the banks this menace can be controlled to a large extent. However, even such a prestigious bank as SBI does not have this facility. These banks are not even equipped to cash traveler's cheques.

One sincerely hopes that now the media will concentrate on projecting and promoting the good values and traditions of Azamgarh instead of over emphasizing the negative points which is prevalent only due to malfunctioning of administrative machinery.

RAMPING BAD-2-WORST

By Megha Maheshwari

Today's scenario witnesses a competition which is interpersonal as well as intrapersonal. Everybody is in the race of acquiring better paid jobs and lifestyle which will enrich their personality as well. But had we people of developed & developing nations had given a thought to how our life would have been if we had been struggling for basic needs of food, shelter, peace to live & freedom to express. I believe never.



A person never realizes the value of his own torn slippers until he encounters a bare footed person. In a developing country like India we admit that there are issues of unemployment, illiteracy, corruption, poverty curbing the society but still we are democratic, perhaps the largest democracy in world. But every country is not destined as ours. Somalia, Sudan & Zimbabwe are living examples of failed states, electoral drubbing, tyranny, and dying socialist utopia.

History has witnessed a long era of suffering and pain in Zimbabwe which is hitherto. Till 1963, Zimbabwe was not a separate nation. Like all other African countries it was under European colonial rule. In 1965 when it was recognized by

name of Zimbabwe a white minority group started ruling it known as Southern Rhodesia. No change came in tedious state of common man. At this time when torture to the state was at apex, Robert Mugabe, leader of Zimbabwe African National Union (ZAPU), along with his cronies out posted the white minority rule. Robert became new President of free country.

Celebrations didn't know that they will be followed by array of destruction again. Within a decade the development express traveled from BAD to WORST station.

Mugabe's cronies started capturing lands illegally This capture led to decrease in food production & increase in unemployment. Food riots broke out and engulfed many innocent lives in them. Masses of people started shifting to neighboring Countries of Botswana & South Africa illegally.

Mugabe allied with cronies' continued misuse of powers. The friends from opposition party, Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), joined the party & the fiends were tortured to suppress.

With international pressures & interference of other countries & UN, Mugabe agreed to elections. He dis-

sent the results claiming victory of Morgan Tsvangirai, the opponent leader. Re-elections were announced on 27 June 2008. Every possible inhuman step was taken by Mugabe & group to torture opposition leaders mentally physically & emotionally. This feud did not spared families of opponents. Morgan was pulled out safely and shifted to embassy of Netherlands. Acrid circumstances faced by his party members in country forced him to quit his name from elections.

Soon Mugabe came to power & tyranny continued. Despite of international pressures Mugabe is ruling the country. Disputes have raised a heated border situation with Botswana.

In this tyranny the real sufferers are common men whose struggle for stability in life is continuing. No clue hitherto regarding the halt of this tyranny. But one thing is for sure, situation for common man is ramping from bad to worst.

Sketch Lounge

Save the Tiger
A sketch By Sushil Kumar



POEMS

TODAY....

With every rising of the sun
 Think of your life as just begun
 Let all yesterdays asleep
 Concern yourself with just today
 Woo it and teach it to obey
 Your will and wish
 Today is the real friend of man
 Don't look to yesterday or tomorrow
 But you look for today only...

By Shivani Tripathi

MY MOONLIGHT

When the glittering moon beams
 Lit with ethereal beauty
 Descend down dancing
 On the terrace
 My splendid moon beam glows
 Behind the tight windows
 to make my dark room brightest
 You come like queen
 In my lonely gloomy room
 With grace and charm
 of the moon
 coming forth slowly
 Through the curtains of the
 dark clouds
 Coaxing you to hurry up
 My dark room keeps walking
 To kiss the fragrant Lotus face
 of my MOONLIGHT....

By Shivani Tripathi

WHO IS A TEENAGER

A teenager is a person.....

- Who may forget to take the dog out for a walk, but will never forget a phone call.
- Who may spend only 12 minutes preparing for the history exam, but will spend 12 hours for obtaining a driving license.
- Who may forget a formal dinner but never a Madonna or Aishwarya concert?
- Who can hear a song of Ricky martin from three blocks away, but not his parent's call from the next room?
- Who receives his pocket money on Monday, spends it on Tuesday and borrows from his friends on Wednesday.
- Who may not be tired to go for a round on his bike, but is always tired to do the household chores.
- Who is sure that his parents were never teenagers?

By Radha Singh

JOKEES

Jayaprada showed her fiancé to Sridevi, who said "The boy's okay but when he laughs his teeth look rather ugly"
 Don't worry after marriage he wouldn't have many occasions to laugh.

Teacher: I wish you would pay a little attention.

Pupil: I' m paying as little as I can.

Teacher: 'A' for Apple, 'B' for what?

Sanjay: 'B' for Big Apple

By Rishi Tiwari

SUPERSTITIONS

By Sourabh Sisodia

Whenever a black cat crosses our path or a mirror cracks, we are certain of some disastrous consequences. Belief in superstitions is not limited to the uneducated or the illiterate. Since superstitions are beyond logic or reason, even rationally sound minds believe in them. Man is always uncertain about the future and full of fear in case something bad hits him. Most superstitions beliefs have a negative effect. For example, a new bride is held responsible for any mishaps in the house. If someone sneezes while someone is going out of house, it is thought to be unlucky and a sign of a failure. Because of this, many people leave aside their important work and sit at home. However, some superstitions have a positive effect. For example, the sight of a kingfisher is considered lucky and something good is expected on that day. To find a horse shoe on the road is considered to be lucky. In this way, the iron shoe, which may hurt someone, is removed from the road. But such superstitions are very few. Most of them instill fear and anxiety in us. It makes one lose confidence in oneself. Thus, superstitions should be removed from our life with the help of proper education and scientific temperament.

My name is Khan Movie Review

By Rajni Kaushik

Director: Karan Johar

Star Cast: Shah Rukh Khan, Kajol

Bollywood seems to be no longer interested in trying the conventional masala movies but in fact has taken on to much challenging experimental projects. Speak of Shah Rukh, you instantly remember the chocolate boy Rahul in 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai' or Raj in 'Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge'. But in an era when becoming an actor is considered a better deal than being a super star, Shah Rukh seems to understand the need of the time. Especially, when the stiff competitor like Aamir bring in a revolution in Indian cinema with his flicks like 'Lagaan', 'Taare Zameen Par' and the most recent one '3 Idots' then how can our King Khan be lagging in the race?

Luckily, Karan Johar walks in with the right movie for Shah Rukh at a time when he desperately needs one to revive his magic on his audience. After 'Kabhi Kushi Kabhi Gham' one may find it extremely tedious to name an extraordinary movie of Shah Rukh. Based on 9/11 terror attack, Karan Johar for the first time tries something beyond his normal stuff of melodramas and song sequences. The theme is a noble one and is being weaved in the most intricate and delicate manner; strong enough to melt any hard heart. The movie is an eye-opener to the society that has been forced to believe to some degree or other that most of the global terrorists are Muslims. The movie propagates that Islam like any other religion stands for peace and harmony and strongly condemns violence.

'My Name Is Khan' is the story of Rizwan (Shah Rukh) and his sincere effort to uphold the dignity of Muslims. Growing with the mental challenge of Asperger's syndrome, Rizwan learns the lessons of humanity from his mom as he spends his childhood amid 1983 Bombay riots. He is taken up by his brother (Jimmy Shergill) and sister-in-law (Sonya Jehan) to US after the death of his mother. It is here that he meets his love, Mandira (Kajol) who happens to be a Hindu widow with a child. Despite having some problems in dealing in crowded places, intimate hugs and expressing and reacting as per the outside environment, Rizwan secures a place in the heart of Mandira and they live together as a happy couple until that tragic day of 9/11 dawns.

Rizwan's peaceful life is shattered as Mandira alleges him to be the worst mistake in her life. This makes the innocent Rizwan to undertake a journey to meet US President and to say that "My name is Khan and I am not a terrorist". The depiction of each scene is so subtle and touchy that you cannot afford to miss even a single one. Innocence and honesty form the core of the story. The story is a hard-core revelation that no matter how educated and cultured one is, there is always a general misconception regarding Muslims. Rizwan in his simple and innocent manner tries to uphold humanity and teach people lessons of unity.

The movie abounds in powerful one liners. One such one liner which deserves mentioning is when Rizwan is refused entry at the presidential fundraiser that is aimed to help the Christian poor in Africa. He leaves behind \$500 and says, "This is for those who are not Christians in Africa". Shibani Bhatija deserves applauds for the splendid screenplay. Ravi K Chandran's cinematography is excellent and Shankar Ehsaan Loy's music is very pleasing to the ears and in no ways seems extra in the movie.

Coming to the actors, Shah Rukh needs no words officially. Though at times the personality of Shah Rukh peeps from Rizwan, he still proves himself capable in accepting challenges. Though initially you may feel as if he is rehearsing, but soon you get into the role. After 'Swades' and 'Chak De' this movie is indeed a remarkable stone in his career. Kajol, as always, shows herself the queen of Bollywood with her incomparable charm and non-challengeable act. Love sequences between the evergreen pair Shah Rukh and Kajol is simply superb though it does not get much time to be shown fully. Other actors Jimmy Shergill, Sonya Jehan, Zarina Wahav and others have very well justified their roles no matter how small space they shared on the screen. The captain of the ship, Karan Johar surely deserves all praises for taking up such a theme and handling it in such a deft manner.

So, the verdict is: 'My Name is Khan' is definitely a movie of substance and is a must watch for both Shah Rukh's fans and the ones wanting to see a logical nice movie!

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HOW SAFE IS DELHI METRO FOR WOMEN?

By [ANIMESH RICHHARIYA](#)

It was a good news for the people of Delhi when metro was launched as it brought relief to commuters in terms of comfort, safety and time . However, now-a-days it seems Delhi metro is not safe anymore especially for women commuters.

Rampant incidents of molestation and eve teasing are reported day in and day out. It is a big stigma for the DMRC as it cannot ensure the mere safety of its commuters. Even after passing through security check men are found drunk in metro and are allowed to travel freely.

On average, more than 850,000 people travel daily in the Delhi Metro, bulk of them commuting between 8.30 and 11.30 in the morning and from 5.30 to 8 in the evening. That they will reach their destination safely and timely, people prefer to travel by metro because there is no traffic problem as compared to roads.

So for the safety of women either there should be a separate compartment as there is in local trains in Mumbai, or a proper secu-

rity staff for ladies in metro.

Frequency of metro should be increased so that it could help to decrease the rush and women can travel happily. This can be done if DMRC take a quick action.