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Born on January 20, 1972, Nikki Haley is an American politician and diplomat who served as the 116th and first female governor of South Carolina from 2011 to 2017, as well as the 29th American ambassador to the UN for two years, from January 2017 to December 2018.



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Though I have lived in India for a long time, there are still issues here that I find hard to understand. For example, why do so many educated Indians become agitated when India is referred to as a Hindu country?

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AI and Chat GPT are all the rage right now. It is all the kids are talking about. So I figured, why not write an article exploring how AI technology could potentially be used in the practice of law.

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Do you recognize any of these recurring themes in your parenting? *Wails* I need the iPad. I'm in the middle of something! I hate you. You're so unfair! *Whines* I hate this! I don't want this. You never make anything I like!

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When I was in grade school, questions such as "why does your religion have monkeys, elephants and other animals," were ubiquitous. I was always interested in our religion, but could never defend it because I felt I wasn't well-informed.

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Editor's View

Dear Readers,

The year 2023 is a watershed moment for Indian-Americans, with the thought that the next US President may be an Indian-American. There is already a long list of heads of state or governments in the world who are of Indian descent.

The list includes Rishi Sunak, Prime Minister of Britain; Portugal PM António Costa; Mauritius PM Pravind Jugnauth; Mauritius President Prithvirajsing Roopun; Singapore President Halimah Yacob; Suriname President Chan Santokhi, and Guyana President Irfaan. Nikki Haley or Vivek Ramaswamy may join this list after the 2024 US presidential election.

It is very noteworthy that, where 70% of Indian-Americans identify as Democrats, 2024 presidential candidates Nikki Haley and Vivek Ramaswamy are members of the Republican Party. Similarly, Indian-descent Bobby Jindal, who served as the 55th governor of Louisiana and ran in the presidential primaries in 2016, was also a Republican Party member.

While a majority of Indian-Americans continue to support the Democratic ticket, it seems that the Republican Party is having some success growing support among Indian-American voters.

No, I am not forgetting that our current Vice President, Kamala Harris, a Democrat, wants to identify herself as Indian-American, but I am also not forgetting that she did not want to identify herself as Indian-American prior to the 2020 presidential primaries.

Leaving party politics aside, as I wrote in my article "The Next US President May Be an Indian-American," Vivek Ramaswamy's or Nikki Haley's chances of winning are very low, especially when you see the election from a completely different angle: discrimination. Remember that the nation that preaches equality for men, women, races, and religions throughout the world has never chosen a woman or a non-Christian to lead it as president.

The second part of our cover story talks about Nikki Haley's presidential candidacy and her views on key issues. Elected twice as governor of South Carolina and serving for two years as UN Ambassador, she has a long list of accomplishments. She also has very clear views on important topics such as foreign policy, taxes, immigration, and abortion.

More importantly, in my view, she has never forgotten her Indian ancestry when she says in her campaign videos, "I was the proud daughter of Indian immigrants. Not black, not white, but different."

I hope she is the first choice of Republican voters in the 2024 primaries, and if not first, definitely a strong second, so she can be picked as the vice presidential running mate for the party's winning candidate.

Now let me turn to my favorite topic: India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In this issue, we are presenting the results of the poetry contest we sponsored at a high school while we were in India last January. The subject was Prime Minister Modi. I was very pleased to see enthusiasm, originality, and creativity in these young boys and girls.

More than 100 students submitted their poetry, and most of them focused on different virtues of Prime Minister Modi. Looking at the enthusiasm of these high school students, I can definitely see how the Prime Minister's approval rating is 76%, as reported by the US company Morning Consult. In this issue, we have included the top 10 poetry entries picked by local judges.

At this point, let me welcome our new contributor, Tampa-based Krishna Rao, a former financial planner. In the article, "All You Need to Know About the SECURE 2.0 Act," Mr. Rao explains in easy-to-understand language all of the changes made by the government in the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) 2.0 Act. Since he is retired, he no longer works with clients but has graciously agreed to contribute articles and answer any questions on financial planning. Please email your question to editor@deshevadesh.com.

Our Ayurveda and Yoga expert Chahna Tailor Gupta always writes very interesting articles, but in this issue she focuses on an idea that is very near and dear to my heart: "Preserving Our Roots and Ancient Knowledge." Please read this article and send us your comments at editor@deshevadesh.com.

Dr. Namitha Raju, our parenting coach who wrote the article "I Want to Break Free!," once again comes up with very valuable advice for parents. Every parent faces some challenging situations, such as: How to react when your child makes a harsh statement about you, your spouse, or your behavior. Dr. Raju explains how to react in situations like these.

Everybody talks about AI and ChatGPT. So why not our immigration expert Seth Finberg? In the article "How AI Can Affect the Practice of Law," he talks about using AI. When I first read the title of the article I thought he was killing his own practice by recommending using AI. But when I read the article in full I understood what he was trying to say.

He writes, "It is important for law firms to carefully consider the ethical implications of using AI and ensure that it is used appropriately and responsibly." Very true. As a matter of fact, not only is it true in law, it also applies in every field, including my field of work, writing articles for publishing fields. As I have mentioned in previous issues of Desh Videsh, I have also used AI and ChatGPT out of curiosity.

Now let me share some important news about our Myshadi Bridal Expo. As you may have seen on our social media platforms, our Fort Lauderdale Bridal Expo was a huge success thanks to all of our supporting vendors and local brides, grooms, and their families.



You may also have seen our social media posting and e-blast about our two upcoming bridal expos, one in Orlando on Sunday, July 23, 2023, at the Caribe Royale Orlando, and on Sunday, August 27, 2023, at the Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley in Raleigh, NC. We hope you will join us.

Until then, be safe and be happy!

Raj Shah
Managing Editor



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Next US President may



be an Indian-American?

By Raj Shah & Arkamita Sengupta

Like Britain, the United States of America may also have an Indian-origin president after the 2024 presidential election. The fresh faces of Indian descent for the US presidential election are Nikki Haley and Vivek Ramaswamy. This news has created a buzz across the globe as it reflects the popularity of Indians worldwide. According to the report, in a community that makes up 1.3% of the US population, two out of three candidates currently vying for the GOP presidential nomination are Indian-Americans.

The Indian diasporic politics of today are on the way to rewriting history with the two prominent American candidates of Indian origin running for the Republican presidential primaries in the 2024 election. Nikki Haley and Vivek Ramaswamy are the two well-accomplished Republicans who have made the community proud by announcing their bid for the presidency in 2024.

This era marks significant growth for the Indian-American community as they emerge as a powerful political influence in US politics. Even though Indian Americans are in the minority, they are swiftly climbing up the ranks in the US political arena, getting involved in political activism in a very striking manner.

Illinois Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi, of Indian heritage, classified his “fellow colleagues” as the “Samosa Caucus” at an event, claiming that “we may be small, but we’re spicy.”

If we assess the history of US politics, in 2013, the House of Representatives had just one Indian American member, and less than 10 Indian Americans served in state legislatures. Until then, no Indian American had had the honor of being elected to the Senate, let alone running for president.

Ramaswamy made a name for himself with his strong stand against “anti-wokeism” “covidism” (an attack on former Chief Advisor to the US President Antony Fauci), “climatism” (a callback to climate activist Greta Thunberg), and “genderism”.

Fast forward to 2023, and there has been a massive leap in the inclusion of Indian Americans in US politics, starting from the swearing in of five Indian Americans in Congress in January 2023 to the announcement of Nikki Haley’s and Vivek Ramaswamy’s bid for the presidency.

Neil Makhija, the executive director of Impact, an Indian American advocacy group, says, “We’ve gone literally from having no one to getting close to parity.” And he could not be further from the truth when even the vice president of the US is of Indian heritage, marking a watershed year for Indian Americans. This new generation of Indian Americans is taking US politics by storm by entering and beginning their foray into the political mainstream of their new homeland.

A study of Indian-American voters conducted prior to the 2018 midterm elections found that 70% of the registered voters among them identified as Democrats, while 18% identified as Republicans, and the remaining 12% were independent. A recent YouGov poll found that Indian-Americans’ support for democratic presidents is declining. In 2012, 84

percent of Indian-Americans voted for President Obama. This number declined in 2016, when 77 percent voted for Hillary Clinton, and in 2020, it further declined. 72 percent of registered Indian American voters supported Vice President Biden. On the contrary, Indian-American voters’ support for the Republican Party has increased. The poll found that the number of Trump-supporting Indian Americans had grown to 22 percent from the 16 percent who supported him in 2016.

The first-generation Indian immigrants were notably absent from the political scene in the US. A decade later, Nikki Haley proudly emphasizes her identity as an Indian in her campaign, contributing to the wealth and high-level education of the second and third generations of Indian American descendants.

Nikki Haley, a proud Indian American, was born Nimarata Nikki Randhawa to Sikh immigrants who immigrated from Punjab, India. Although Haley converted to Christianity after marrying Michael Haley, she still holds onto her original roots even as she runs for the 2024 Republican presidential primaries.

With a similar heritage and background, Indian-descent Vivek Ramaswamy also announced his bid for the presidency on February 21. His parents, who immigrated to the US, are from Kerala, a south Indian state. An Indian-American entrepreneur, Ramaswamy majored in biology at Harvard, graduated from Yale Law School, and founded Roivant Sciences, a pharmaceutical company. Although Indian-descent Bobby Jindal, who served as the 55th governor of Louisiana, ran for the presidential primaries in 2016, this is the first time more than one Indian American is running for the US presidential primaries.

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Ramaswamy made a name for himself with his strong stand against “anti-wokeism” “covidism” (an attack on former Chief Advisor to the US President Antony Fauci), “climatism” (a callback to climate activist Greta Thunberg), and “genderism”. He also stated, “We’ve celebrated our diversity so much that we forgot all the ways we’re really the same as Americans”. Ramaswamy claims this is “a national identity crisis” and makes a call to GOP talking points in “faith, patriotism, and family”.

Ramaswamy’s intense focus lies in “getting rid of ‘affirmative action’ and allowing more highly skilled immigrants into the US.” Haley herself stated in her speech that “America is not a racist country” and that her purpose lies in saving “our country from the downward spiral of socialism and defeatism.” A bold statement from Haley indeed; she seems to be targeting the desire of the immigrant communities for upward mobility, an approach Democrats have taken for quite some time.

However, the question lies in whether identification with someone’s race and ethnicity will be enough to represent a bigger goal to achieve. Vikram Mansharamani, a New Hampshire Republican who ran for Senate last year and recently hosted an event for Haley, said that Haley’s story reminded him of his own life story and surely moved him.

On the other hand, a 2020 study reveals that “nearly 60 percent of Indian Americans are open to voting for an Indian American candidate regardless of their party affiliation”, which could contribute to the success of candidates of similar ethnicity and background. Regardless of political affiliation and motive, the truth cannot be denied: people want to see their own people win, and the Indian American community certainly wants to see more representation of their race in the office.

Professor Sadhwani, one of the 2020 study’s authors, said, “My sense is that there will be a lot of excitement amongst Indian Americans to see Nikki Haley stepping into this role.”

Experts and politicians claim that “support for an easier immigration process and opposition to nativism and xenophobia were major factors in Indian Americans’ political preferences.”

Moreover, Ramaswamy’s messages of US exceptionalism and disengagement from China will surely win him more voters. He was also heard quoting Martin Luther King Jr.: “We need to judge not on the color of your skin but on the content of your character” and citing the Great Seal:



Nikki Haley was heard proclaiming in her campaign videos, “I was the proud daughter of Indian immigrants. Not black, not white, but different.”

‘e pluribus unum’, which means ‘from many, one’.

“I do think that the more we have diversity, the more the actual ideological views will be paramount,” Ms. Jayapal stated. “Once we’re not sort of wowed by the fact that there’s an Indian American woman running for whatever office it is, I think we’ll be able to focus more on the actual ideas. And that should be the way it is.”

The Indian American community is happy about the increase in the number of members of their society participating in politics over the last few years. They are proud to see the increase in candidacies in diasporic politics in the host country of America, where another one of their own is rising. “A beautiful thing is happening: Indian-Americans are coming to the forefront,” hotelier Danny Gaekwad said, adding that “the latest bid could encourage more Indian-Americans to run for elections even at the local level.”

Despite having a fair amount of support in their home states and communities, Vivek Ramaswamy or Nikey Haley are not as well-known as other potential contenders like Florida Governor Ron DeSantis or former President Donald Trump. Vivek Ramaswamy’s or Nikey Haley’s chances of winning are still uncertain. Especially when you see the election from a completely different angle: discrimination.

The Constitution famously forbids any religious test or prerequisite for holding public office. Nevertheless, nearly all of the presidents of the country have been Christians, many of whom have been Episcopalians or Presbyterians. The majority of the remaining presidents are members of other well-known Protestant denominations. Joe Biden, the current president, is the second Catholic to hold the office of president after John F. Kennedy.

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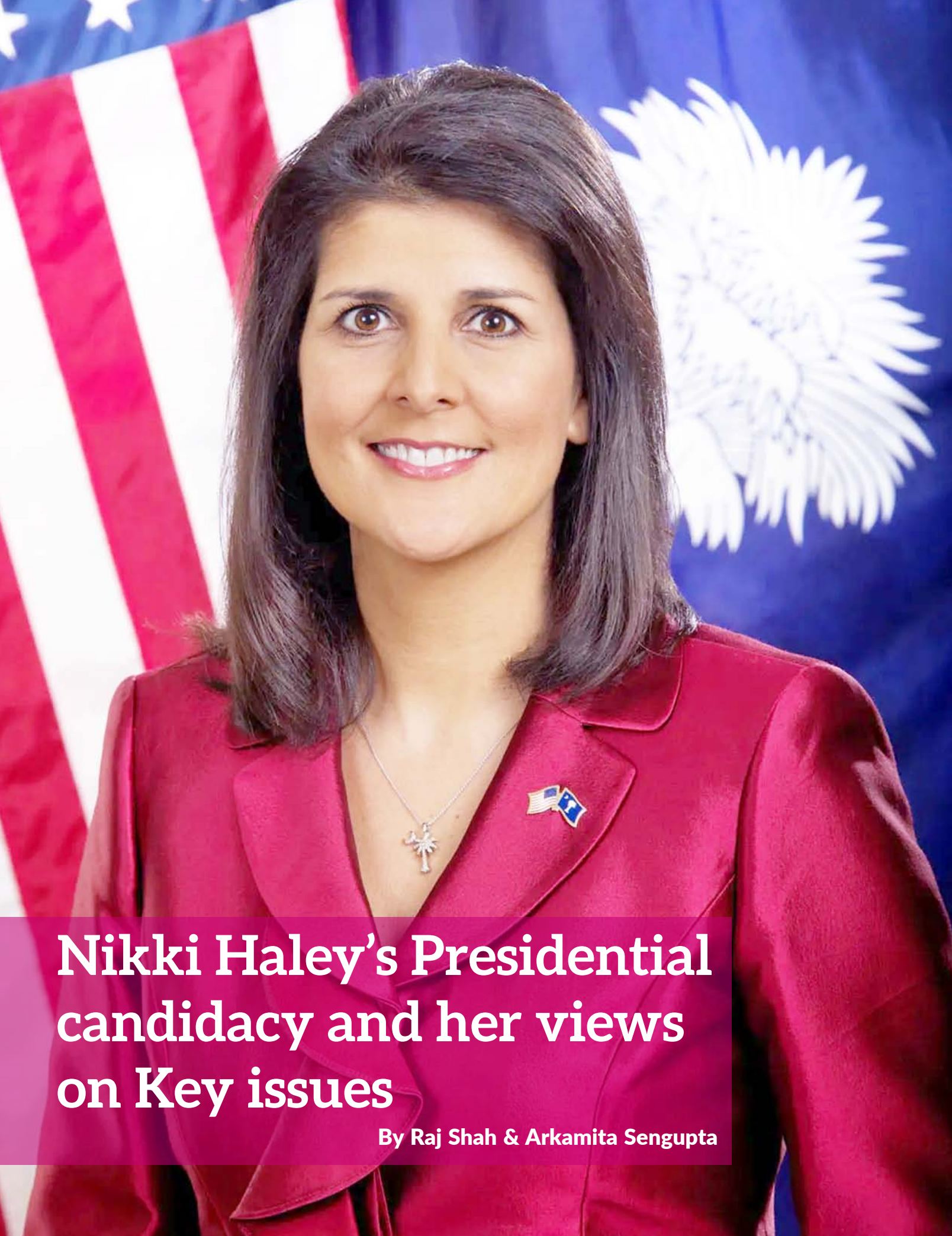
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Nikki Haley's Presidential candidacy and her views on Key issues

By Raj Shah & Arkamita Sengupta

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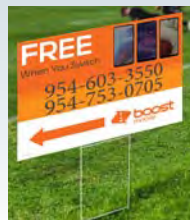
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Born on January 20, 1972, Nikki Haley is an American politician and diplomat who served as the 116th and first female governor of South Carolina from 2011 to 2017, as well as the 29th American ambassador to the UN for two years, from January 2017 to December 2018.

Nikki Haley, a former United Nations Ambassador, former South Carolina governor, and the first Indian-American to run for US president, was born Nimrata Randhawa in Bamberg, South Carolina. She attended Clemson University, majoring in accounting, and graduated with honors.

Haley served as Governor of South Carolina from 2011 to 2017. During her time in office, she focused on creating jobs, improving the economy, reforming government and education, and advancing the rights of all South Carolinians. She was the face of her state during several national tragedies, including the Charleston church shooting and the floods of 2015.

Recently, Haley announced her candidacy for President of the United States. She has centered her campaign on the idea of restoring hope and trust in government. She has spoken out against corruption and partisanship and is an advocate for economic opportunity, immigration reform, and national security.

What are the main political ideas behind Nikki Haley's presidential candidacy?

Nikki Haley has made a name for herself in US politics and is now seeking the Republican nomination for president. Throughout her political career, she has advocated for conservative principles like lower taxes and limited government regulation. Additionally, she is a strong proponent of traditional American values like freedom, patriotism, and faith.

She is also a proponent of free markets and limited government involvement in the economy. She believes that the government should focus on creating conditions that will help businesses succeed and promote economic growth. Additionally, she supports providing tax breaks to those who are engaged in job-creating activities and investing in infrastructure projects.

Haley also believes in promoting and protecting civil liberties. She has called for religious freedom laws that protect people's right to worship as they choose. She has also come out against racial profiling and any form of discrimination. Haley is a strong supporter of national security measures and military spending. She believes that the United States should remain vigilant against terrorism and other threats to the country's safety and sovereignty. Additionally, she has argued for increasing military spending to modernize and equip the armed forces with the latest technology and training.

Now let me talk about Nikki Haley's views on important topics in a bit of detail.

Haley's Foreign Policy Views

Nikki Haley has been a vocal critic of China and its human rights abuses, with the famous quote: "They all think we can be bullied and kicked around. You should know this about me. I don't put up with bullies. And when you kick back, it hurts them more if you're wearing heels," says Nikki Haley. In response to spy balloons flying over U.S. airspace, Haley has suggested showing "strength" against China.

Haley has also shown her support for Israel, famously saying at the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) policy conference, "The days of Israel-bashing are over." During her time as

Ambassador to the United Nations, the U.S. pulled out of the Iran nuclear deal. She has stated her firm stance that any nuclear deal with Iran must guarantee the safety of the region and protect US allies in the Middle East.

Nikki Haley is making her stance on foreign policy clear during her campaign for US president. She is committed to strengthening the alliances between the United States and its allies and ensuring that our security and economic interests are protected.

Haley has emphasized the need to combat terrorism, protect American citizens abroad, and ensure that the U.S. is leading the way in global diplomacy. She supports maintaining strong relationships with our closest allies and believes that military action should only be used as a last resort. In addition, she believes that the United States should be proactive in addressing humanitarian crises around the world and should work together with international organizations to provide assistance where it is needed.

Haley also strongly believes in promoting democracy, free markets, and human rights across the globe. She is an advocate of free trade and has advocated for the US to remain engaged in multilateral agreements such as the Paris Agreement and the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Finally, Haley has made it clear that she will not tolerate hostile regimes or hostile actions against the United States and its allies. She believes in the importance of a strong defense and has stated that she will take a hardline stance against any nation that seeks to challenge our sovereignty or undermine our values.

Views on Abortion

Nikki Haley's position on abortion has been very clear and consistent

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Born as Nimrata Randhawa
 Date of birth: January 20, 1972
 Birthplace: Bamberg, South Carolina
 Father: Ajit Singh Randhawa
 Mother: Raj Kaur Randhawa
 Siblings: Charan Randhawa, Mitti Randhawa, and Simran Singh
 Children: Nalin Haley, Rena Haley
 Religion: Raised in the Sikh faith, she converted to Christianity (Methodist) in her twenties.
 Political Party: Republican
 Marital Status: Married to Michael Haley since 1996.
 Alma Mater:
 Clemson University,
 B.A. in accounting, 1994

throughout her political career. She has been a strong advocate of pro-life policies, having supported laws that ban abortion after 20 weeks while also expressing her belief that all abortions should be banned. While she does not believe in the federal government taking action to restrict access to abortion, she has been outspoken in her support for states that have implemented their own restrictions. In a statement released during her candidacy for governor of South Carolina, she stated: "I am pro-life with exceptions for rape, incest, and the life of the mother. I will work to ensure that South Carolina continues to protect innocent lives." This stance remains unchanged, as she recently stated: "We should make it harder for young women to have abortions, not easier."

Views on Immigration

Nikki Haley has been fairly consistent in her position on immigration throughout her political career. She has described herself as an "immigration hardliner" and has called for greater border security and enforcement of existing laws.

In 2017, she supported the Trump administration's decision to end DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals). In 2018, she issued a statement saying that she would not support any effort to pass the DREAM Act, which would have granted legal status to individuals who arrived in the US as minors. Haley believes that undocumented immigrants should not be granted amnesty, and she has opposed any effort to provide a pathway to citizenship. She also opposes sanctuary cities and believes that they should be defunded. In general, Haley's position is that the US should have secure borders and enforce laws that are already in place.

Views on Medicaid and Medicare

Nikki Haley has stated that she wants to make Medicaid and Medicare more efficient and cost-effective. She believes that Congress should look for ways to control costs while still providing a comprehensive health care program. She also supports continuing the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which provides free or low-cost health care coverage to children in

working families who do not qualify for Medicaid. Haley also supports giving states more flexibility in how they use their Medicaid and Medicare funds, so they can find the best way to provide quality care for the people in their states. She believes that Medicaid should be modernized to allow people to keep the same doctor, even if they move states or receive treatment at another hospital.

Views on Taxes

Nikki Haley is in favor of tax cuts for all Americans and wants to simplify the tax system. She has proposed a flat income tax rate, which would eliminate deductions and loopholes and make filing taxes simpler. She also wants to reduce corporate taxes in order to make it easier for businesses to invest and create jobs. Furthermore, she supports making sure taxes are paid by the wealthiest Americans, stating that the country needs "fair and equitable taxation that does not unfairly burden any particular group." In addition, she wants to reduce the national debt by cutting spending, specifically targeting excessive government waste.

Nikki Haley was an ardent tax cutter both as governor and during her candidacy for the office. In a Dec. 2010 interview with Fox News' Neil Cavuto, she stated: "We're not raising taxes. We are going to reduce debt. We are going to reduce spending. And we're going to do it in a way that doesn't just get us through one year, but we're thinking about years three, five, and seven, so that we come out of it stronger than when we started".

She also proposed eliminating the corporate income tax. In August 2010, she told The State newspaper: "The first thing we want to do is eliminate the corporate income tax". Her plan was to make South Carolina more attractive for businesses and create

jobs. However, some argued that such drastic cuts would negatively affect the state's budget and public services.

Nikki Haley is a strong advocate for cutting taxes for the middle class and believes that taxes should be simplified to make them easier for citizens to understand. She believes that the tax system should prioritize helping those who need it most and supports expanding the earned income tax credit. She is also in favor of closing tax loopholes that allow corporations and wealthy individuals to pay less than they should. Additionally, she has spoken out against raising the gas tax as a way to pay for infrastructure improvements.

Views on India

Nikki Haley, the former South Carolina governor, has been an outspoken proponent of India-US relations. She has actively promoted India-US bilateral trade and investment, and during her tenure as US Ambassador to the UN, she continually worked to ensure that India was able to effectively participate in international forums.

Haley has also been a vocal critic of China's human rights abuses and has urged the US to take a stronger stance against the country. She has spoken in favor of strengthening ties between India and the US, especially with regard to defense and security.

Moreover, Haley is a strong proponent of India's economic policies and has spoken positively about India's efforts to bring economic development to its citizens. Additionally, she has praised India's role in the fight against terrorism, citing its actions in Afghanistan as a positive example.



Finally, Haley is an ardent supporter of India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his "Make in India" policy. She has praised Modi's commitment to create jobs, spur economic growth, and improve infrastructure in India. In addition, Haley has expressed admiration for Modi's leadership style and his commitment to uphold democracy and religious freedom. With her support for India-US relations, it is clear that Nikki Haley would be a strong advocate for India if she were

to become President of the United States.

Views on Prime Minister Modi

Nikki Haley has had a good relationship with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi since he assumed office in 2014. She has visited India multiple times and has called for closer ties between the two countries. She spoke fondly of her visits to the country and expressed admiration for Prime Minister Modi's commitment to economic growth and job creation.

Haley also praised Prime Minister Modi's decision to take a hard line against cross-border terrorism and stressed the need for India and the US to work together on common security challenges. She also expressed support for Prime Minister Modi's policies on clean energy, sanitation, and infrastructure development. She also mentioned that she believes India will play an important role in ensuring global peace and stability.

Views on Religion

Religion is an important part of Nikki Haley's life, and she has been vocal about her Christian faith. She is a Methodist and attends church regularly. On the campaign trail, she often references God and speaks about how her faith shapes her views on certain issues. She has spoken out against attempts to politicize



faith, saying that religious beliefs should never be used as a basis for policy decisions. She has also spoken in support of religious freedom and the right of people to practice their own religion. Additionally, Haley has defended Israel and its people and has been a strong advocate for strengthening the relationship between the US and Israel.

Views on Sikhism

Nikki Haley, the Republican candidate for President of the United States, has been outspoken in her support of the Sikh community in America. During her tenure as Governor of South Carolina, she hosted several events to celebrate the Sikh holiday of Vaisakhi and participated in a roundtable discussion with Sikh leaders. In 2019, she issued a proclamation recognizing the 400th anniversary of the birth of Guru Nanak Dev Ji and the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Angad Dev Ji. She has also supported legislation that would designate April 14th as Vaisakhi Day in South Carolina and has advocated for federal legislation that would recognize Vaisakhi as an official U.S. holiday. Haley's position on Sikhism stands in stark contrast to that of her opponent, Joe Biden,

who has yet to publicly comment on the community. This shows her commitment to advocating for all communities and her willingness to stand up for religious freedom.

Views on Culture Wars

Nikki Haley has spoken out against conservatives' need to "own the libs" online. In a 2021 Virginia gubernatorial campaign event, Haley blasted the "culture wars" in the U.S., saying, "They've done nothing but to divide America. You've got these culture wars, and I know that China and Russia are saying, What happened to America?"

Haley also stated that "real leadership is about persuasion; it's about movement; it's bringing people around to your point of view. Not by shouting them down, but by showing them how it is in their best interest to see things the way you do." This view has shaped her political stances since she first ran for office and her 2020 presidential campaign. It is clear that Haley values compromise over division, something many Americans have been calling for in recent years.

Views on Education

Nikki Haley has made her stance on education clear, supporting

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis' move to ban Critical Race Theory (CRT) in K-12 classes. According to Andrew Vinson, a political strategist in South Carolina, "She will be pro-education and certainly reluctant to support CRT and things that have become buzzwords on the Republican side of things."

In June 2022, Haley also backed DeSantis' "Don't Say Gay" law, which prohibits teachers from discussing homosexuality in school. Vinson says of Haley's potential candidacy: "If there is a market in the Republican Party for someone who is less in your face and less chaotic than Trump and DeSantis, she can chart that lane. That's a path that she will be comfortable talking."

About the Authors

Raj Shah

A software engineer by profession, Indian culture enthusiast, ardent promoter of



Hinduism, and a cancer survivor, Raj Shah is a managing editor of *Desh-Videsh Magazine* and co-founder of *Desh Videsh Media Group*. Promoting the rich culture and heritage of India and Hinduism has been his motto ever since he arrived in the US in 1969.

He has been instrumental in starting and promoting several community organizations such as the Indian Religious and Cultural Center and International Hindu University. Raj has written two books on Hinduism titled *Chronology of Hinduism* and *Understanding Hinduism*. He has also written several children books focusing on Hindu culture and religion.

Arkamita Sengupta

Arkamita Sengupta, a resident of Siliguri, graduated from Salesian College, Siliguri with a Master's degree in English Literature and a Bachelor's



degree in English Honors from Amity University, Kolkata. Her interests lie in reading, listening to music, painting, and learning foreign languages. She is also learning French as a foreign business language and is further interested in learning Korean, Mandarin, and Spanish.

However, being an avid reader, Arkamita aspires to pursue a career mainly concerned with academics, preferring to be an author or an editor. She enjoys reading critical essays and articles on literary pieces, which inspires her to conduct research on literary topics such as post-colonial world literature and contemporary literature.

Nikki Haley has spoken out against conservatives' need to "own the libs" online.

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All You Need to Know About the SECURE 2.0 Act

By Krishna Rao

The Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) 2.0 Act is a recent legislative measure that was signed into law. This act seeks to make improvements to existing retirement savings plans by introducing new provisions to benefit workers, retirees, and businesses. The new legislation was introduced in response to the changing demographics of the workforce, where workers are living longer and seeking greater flexibility in their retirement planning.

Your financial future may be impacted by the retirement plan changes made by the SECURE 2.0 Act. Some of the main changes from the Act are as follows:

Matching for Roth accounts

The SECURE 2.0 Act's first noteworthy element allows businesses to offer their staff the choice of receiving vested matching contributions to their Roth IRAs. This represents a substantial change from the past, when matching contributions were limited to conventional pre-tax accounts.

Roth retirement plans allow for after-tax contributions, after which

earnings can increase tax-free. As a result, retirement withdrawals are tax-free, which can result in significant savings for the employee. Employees will have the opportunity to maximize their tax savings if their employers offer the option of matching contributions to Roth accounts.

It's crucial to remember that, unlike Roth IRAs, Roth accounts must make required minimum distributions (RMDs) from an employer-sponsored plan until tax year 2024. RMDs for Roth accounts will then be equal to those for conventional pre-tax accounts. In order to clear up any misunderstandings, employers should explain this to their staff.

Overall, the option for employers to pay matching contributions to Roth accounts gives them more freedom to customize their retirement plans to suit the needs of their workforce. For both businesses and people trying to maximize their tax savings in retirement, it's an exciting trend.

New and Improved RMDs

The SECURE 2.0 Act makes some substantial changes to required minimum distributions (RMDs). The age at which owners of retirement

accounts must start taking RMDs will increase from 72 to 73 on January 1, 2023. However, you must continue taking RMDs as scheduled if your 72nd birthday is in 2022 or earlier. Additionally, starting in 2033, this Act will raise the starting age for RMDs to 75. Retirees now have a little more time to put money down for their future and can retain more of it in their accounts for longer periods of time thanks to this adjustment. Additionally, the current 50% penalty for failing to take an RMD will be reduced to 25% of the RMD amount not taken. More retirees should be encouraged by this decrease to adhere to RMD regulations and make sure they are annually withdrawing the proper amount from their retirement accounts.

Additionally, beginning in 2024, the new law exempts Roth accounts in employer retirement plans from the RMD requirements. For retirees who prefer to retain their money in Roth accounts to avoid taxes, this exemption gives them greater freedom. The excess annuity payment can be allocated to the year's RMD if an individual has in-plan annuity payments that are greater than their RMD requirement. For retirees, this provision smooths out the payment process and does away with the necessity for extra payments throughout the year. Finally, it's crucial to remember that retirees have a few choices when it comes to taking their first RMD. The deadline for taking it is December 31, 2024, although they have the option to postpone it until no later than April 1, 2025. Prior to making any decisions, it is always a good idea to speak with a financial advisor to determine which course of action is best for the individual's particular financial situation.

Changes to annuities

A number of annuity-related adjustments are made under the

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SECURE 2.0 Act, with a special emphasis on Qualified Longevity Annuity Contracts (QLACs). Deferred income annuities, known as QLACs, can be bought with retirement assets. Retirement beneficiaries receive a lifetime income stream from a QLAC, with payments required to start at or before age 85.

The SECURE 2.0 Act makes several significant changes, one of which is an increase in the cash cap for QLAC premiums. Retirees will be able to invest up to \$200,000 in QLACs starting on January 1, 2023, a significant increase from the existing cap of \$145,000.

Additionally, the Act does away with a previous restriction that set the maximum premium amount at 25% of a person's retirement account balance. Retirement savers now have greater freedom because they can put more of their retirement funds into QLACs, providing a reliable income stream for their later years.

Higher catch-up contributions

The SECURE 2.0 Act's provision for larger catch-up contributions is one of its main advantages. Beginning January 1, 2025, people ages 60 to 63 will be able to make catch-up contributions to a workplace plan of up to \$10,000 per year. This is an increase from the current catch-up payment for individuals 50 and older in 2023 of \$7,500.

It's crucial to remember that all catch-up contributions made to a Roth account at age 50 or older must be made in after-tax money if you made more than \$145,000 in the previous calendar year. Individuals who earn \$145,000 or less annually, inflation-adjusted, are exempt from this Roth requirement.

It's also important to note that those 50 and older can currently contribute up to

\$1,000 in catch-up contributions to their IRAs. With this Act, this limit will be indexed to inflation, which means it may rise annually in accordance with increases in the cost of living as determined by the federal government.

Overall, the Act's larger catch-up contribution limits give people the chance to boost their retirement savings and perhaps even their retirement income.

Qualified charitable distributions

Changes to qualified charitable distributions (QCDs), a fantastic method to support charities while lowering taxes, are also part of the SECURE 2.0 Act. People who are 70 1/2 years of age or older will be able to choose to use up to \$50,000 as part of their QCD limit as a one-time gift to a charitable remainder unitrust, charitable remainder annuity trust, or charitable gift annuity starting in 2023. It's crucial to remember that this sum, if appropriate, counts against the annual RMD. By the end of the calendar year, gifts must be made directly from the IRA in order to be considered. Additionally, QCDs can only be given to 501(c)(3) organizations that meet the requirements, not to all charities.

The SECURE 2.0 Act is a step in the right direction toward

enhancing retirement security and assisting people in better planning for their golden years. Be careful to speak with a financial counselor if you're interested in making use of these new laws to identify the best course of action for your particular circumstance.

For younger audience Automatic enrollment and automatic plan portability

One of the most significant changes made by the SECURE 2.0 Act is that starting in 2025, companies will be required to automatically enroll qualified employees in 401(k) and 403(b) plans with a minimum contribution rate of 3%. This is an effort to address the issue of Americans' lack of retirement savings, especially among younger workers who are not saving enough. It is hoped that automatic enrollment in retirement plans will encourage more Americans to start saving for the future and raise the nation's total savings rate. The Act also permits retirement plan service providers to provide plan sponsors with automatic portability services, allowing employees' low-balance retirement accounts to be transferred to a new plan when they move employers. For lower-balance individuals who generally cash out their retirement plans when they leave employers rather than continuing to save in another eligible retirement plan, this adjustment is especially helpful. A significant step toward raising Americans' total retirement savings rate is automatic enrollment and automatic plan portability. The SECURE 2.0 Act attempts to solve some of the key obstacles to retirement savings, such as procrastination and inaction, as well





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as give much-needed assistance to those with smaller account balances. It does this by automatically enrolling employees in retirement plans and making account transfers simple. The objective is to inspire more people to begin saving for the future and to improve the security of retirement for all Americans.

Emergency savings

The SECURE 2.0 Act encourages plan participants to save for emergencies in addition to retirement funds. Starting in 2024, defined contribution retirement plans—like 401(k) plans—will be able to establish an emergency savings account. As a result, workers are permitted to designate a portion of their retirement payments to a special emergency fund. The maximum yearly contribution to the emergency savings account is \$2,500, whichever is less and is determined by the employer. The first four withdrawals made each year are exempt from taxes and penalties, giving plan participants the freedom to access their emergency savings as needed. For people who might not have the sufficient reserves to handle unforeseen costs, this function is extremely helpful. Like regular retirement contributions, contributions to the emergency savings fund may also be eligible for an employer match. This gives staff members still another reason to take part in the program and accumulate emergency funds.

Participants in plans may be more inclined to save when there is an emergency fund available. This can reduce financial stress and assist people in avoiding taking on high-interest loans or using their retirement funds. In general, the SECURE 2.0 Act's requirement that retirement plans include an emergency savings account is a significant step toward

fostering financial security for individuals and families.

Student loan debt

The SECURE 2.0 Act's introduction of matching contributions for employee student loan payments is among its most important aspects. This indicates that starting in 2024, businesses will be permitted to contribute to their employees'



retirement accounts in an amount equal to the student loan payments made by those employees. This is fantastic news for workers who are struggling with student loan debt since it gives them an additional incentive to save money while they are repaying their loans.

The minimum 401(k) contribution requirements of the company will be met by the matching contributions for student loan payments. This implies that an employer will continue to make matching contributions to an employee's retirement account even if they are paying off student loan debt.

This is a game-changer for those who have student loan debt, since they have long struggled to strike a balance between preparing for retirement and repaying their debt. Now, thanks to the SECURE 2.0 Act, they will be able to do both at once.

529 Plans

Regarding 529 Plans, the SECURE 2.0 Act also made some

significant changes. For those who don't know, a 529 plan is a tax-advantaged savings program created to aid families in setting aside money for future educational costs. Under the new legislation, the beneficiary may now roll over funds from a 529 plan after 15 years to a Roth IRA. It's crucial to remember that these rollovers cannot total more than the aggregate before the 5-year window closes on the payout date. In other words, if you make a \$20,000 contribution over a ten-year period to a 529 plan, you can only roll over up to \$20,000 into a Roth IRA after fifteen years. It's also crucial to remember that the rollover counts towards the annual Roth IRA contribution cap. For instance, if the annual contribution cap for that year is \$6,000 and you roll \$5,000 from a 529 plan into a Roth IRA, you can only make an extra \$1,000 contribution to the Roth IRA for that year.

Everyone's financial situation is unique, so it's crucial to speak with a financial advisor or tax expert to determine how the changes brought about by Secure 2.0 may affect your particular situation. Nevertheless, for families looking to maximize their education savings while also making retirement plans, the option to roll over 529 plan assets to a Roth IRA after 15 years may offer more flexibility.

About the Author

Krishna Rao is a former financial planner who now lives in Tampa. He was employed by Wells Fargo Wealth Management prior to retiring.

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Indian-American Amit Kshatriya will head NASA's brand-new "Moon to Mars" mission



Amit Kshatriya, an experienced Indian-American software and robotics engineer, will help the agency develop a long-term lunar presence to prepare for humanity's next significant leap to the Red Planet. NASA's first Moon to Mars Program director is Amit. The new office will explore the Moon and Mars

for humanity, according to a NASA press release.

"The golden age of exploration is happening right now, and this new office will help ensure that NASA successfully establishes the long-term lunar presence needed to prepare for humanity's next giant leap to the Red Planet," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson.

"The Moon to Mars Program Office will help NASA carry out our bold missions to the Moon and land the first humans on Mars," Nelson said.

The Moon to Mars Program Office creates hardware, integrates missions, and manages risk for critical agency exploration initiatives. The 2022 NASA Authorization Act mandates Artemis Moon flights to initiate a new era of scientific discovery and prepare for manned Mars missions, according to a press release.

Amit Kshatriya managed the agency's Moon to Mars projects, including the Space Launch System, Orion, Exploration Ground Systems, and Artemis Campaign Development Division. Kshatriya coordinated these programs.

Kshatriya was the Common Exploration Systems Development Division's acting deputy associate administrator. He became a spacecraft, robotics, and software operator in 2003. He studied the ISS's robotic

assembly. He supervised multinational space station flight teams in all phases from 2014 to 2017.

He won the Silver Snoopy for flight safety as the chief robotics officer for the Commercial Orbital Transportation Services Dragon demonstration mission to the orbiting laboratory. He also got the NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal for conducting the 50th space station voyage.

He joined NASA Headquarters in 2021 as an assistant deputy associate administrator in the Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate and helped return the Artemis I spacecraft, meant to transport people to the Moon.

Second-generation Indian immigrant Amit Kshatriya obtained a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena and a Master of Arts in Mathematics from UT Austin. Kshatriya lives in Katy, Texas.

Spouses of H-1B visa holders are allowed to work in the US



After a court ruling, tech-savvy H-1B spouses can work in the US. Such employees' partners retain Obama-era H-4 visas.

Save Jobs USA said that Congress never allowed the DHS to hire foreign workers, including H-4 visa holders. Tanya Chutkan disagreed Tuesday.

H-1B spouses can work after the judge's ruling.

U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan rejected Save Jobs USA's challenge to an Obama-era rule allowing some H-1B visa holders' spouses to acquire employment authorization cards.

Amazon, Apple, Google, and Microsoft opposed the lawsuit. H-1B spouses—mostly Indians—have received 1,000,000 US work visas.

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Save Jobs USA claims in Judge Chutkan's order that Congress has never authorized DHS to allow H-4 visa holders to work.

The Immigration and Nationality Act, decades of executive branch practice, and explicit and implied congressional consent disprove this.

The judge found that Congress specifically allowed the U.S. government the ability to require H-4 spouses to work.

She believes Congress has allowed the federal government to authorize employment for similar visa classes since it generally does.

Homeland Security and its predecessors authorized student and spouse/dependent work under Judge Chutkan's order.

The judge dismissed Save Jobs USA's complaint because the Department of Homeland Security routinely grants work permits to the wives of foreign government officials and international organization workers or officers.

Local immigrant rights activist Ajay Bhutoria applauded the court's ruling allowing H1B wives to work.

H1B visas let US corporations hire overseas workers. H1B women couldn't work until recently, hurting families financially.

Mr. Bhutoria said, "With the court's decision to allow H1B visa holders' spouses to work, thousands of families across the country will be able to breathe a little easier." This decision will help struggling families survive. I support the court's judgment and hope it starts a more compassionate and equitable immigration system."

Google and nearly 40 other businesses will defend work authorization in 2021. H-1B wives are educated and experienced. Some STEM.

Former President Donald Trump favored removing the H-4 EAD, which permitted some spouses of H-1B visa holders to work in the US.

H-1B visa holders' spouses are 90% female, 2/3 Indian, and 6% Chinese, according to NFAP.

A 2022 NFAP analysis found that allowing H-1B visa spouses to work might boost the US economy, ease labor shortages, and attract talent.

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Sadhguru offers Inner Engineering

How to be Happy?



Have you ever taken a moment to observe a child playing? With an empty box, a metal pot, or some water and dirt, they can create an adventure. They are naturally joyous.

As we grow up, the cost of our happiness increases. We may route our happiness through earning an education, having a family, developing social relationships, or even by keeping busy doing various activities.

Happiness may become dependent on someone else, or by doing or obtaining something. But when you become naturally happy, you make better decisions, and your life becomes enriched and effortless.

What is Happiness? Hear from a Yogi, Sadhguru

“When do you really feel well in your life? When you’re really happy, you’re well. Even if you’re physically ill you’re still well. Isn’t it? Fundamentally, well-being means a certain level of joyfulness,

Sadhguru will be offering Inner Engineering in Atlanta on June 3-4 and in Los Angeles on June 24-25, 2023. This is a rare opportunity to learn a life transforming course directly from Sadhguru. Inner Engineering Completion is an advanced-level program and the prerequisite is completion of Inner Engineering Online, which can be done in the convenience of your home.

a certain exuberance of life. What is happiness? We can say happiness is this or that, but in terms of life, your life energies are happening in a more exuberant way than it normally happens. Depression means your life energies have become in a very low state. Happiness means your life energies are exuberant.

“Everybody has been happy, but the problem is they’re not able to maintain it. All this effort of life, everything that you did—education, career, business, family, whatever you did—was in pursuit of happiness. Everything that humanity has done on this planet is in pursuit of happiness.”

Sadhguru is a realized yogi, mystic, and visionary who has dedicated himself to the elevation of the physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of all people. He is an author and opinion maker who is regularly invited to speak at leading prestigious international forums and conferences such as World Peace Summit at the United Nations and the World Economic Forum.

Sadhguru Designed Inner Engineering to put your Happiness on Self-start

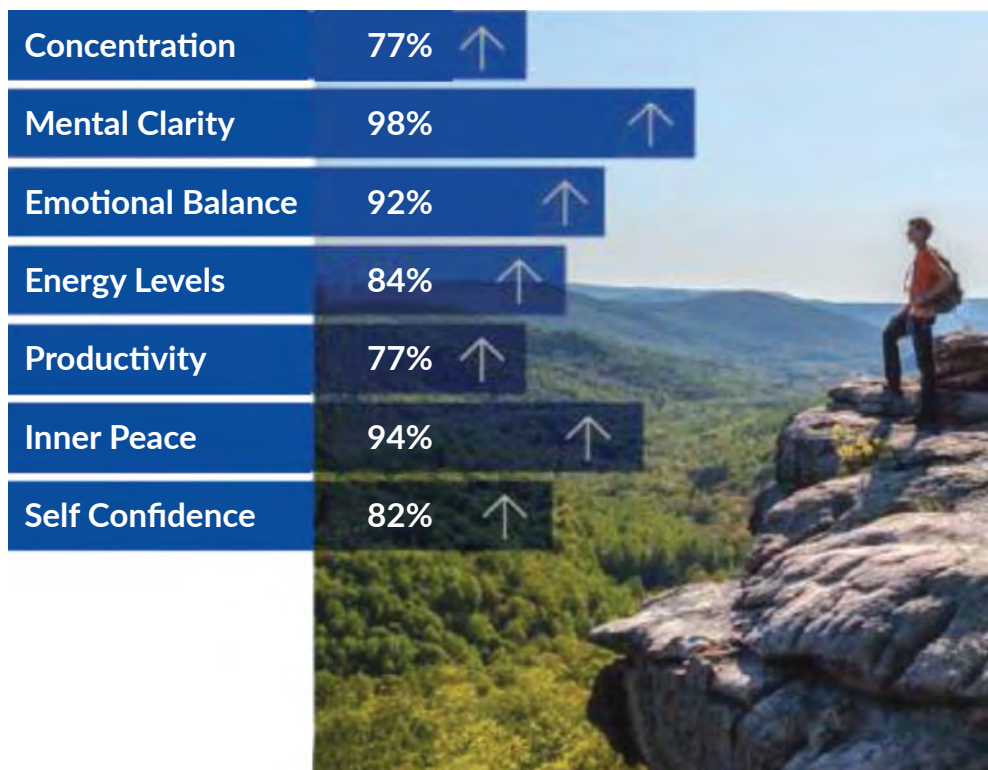
The Inner Engineering course empowers you with tools to attain what you are aspiring for within yourself so you experience life at its peak. It helps you put your life on self-start so you become in charge of your happiness, joy, and peace.

It gives you the opportunity to intellectually explore the ABC's of life using methods from the distilled essence of yogic sciences. The course imparts practical wisdom to manage your body, mind, emotions, and the fundamental life energy within.

Millions have benefited from Inner Engineering worldwide. A mother, an engineer, a student, a musician... and many other countless people just like you, with similar life situations, are making use of the tools and solutions that Inner Engineering offers. Here are just a few reviews from Inner Engineering participants:

Sadhguru is a realized yogi, mystic, and visionary who has dedicated himself to the elevation of the physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of all people.

A study conducted on 536 Isha Yoga practitioners showed improvement in the following area:



Learn about more research on www.InnerEngineering.com

"I took Inner Engineering Online whenever the pandemic started because I was definitely struggling, just like everyone else. So I took it online and it was incredible! I noticed particularly in the way that I was managing and processing the stress of all of these external things in my life had greatly improved."

- Anna Farid, Atlanta, GA

"Once I took Inner Engineering I was able to get off all medications including the monthly infusion treatment I was on for multiple sclerosis (I now have the word miracle in my medical chart). It's all thanks to

Sadhguru. His grace, his teachings, his courses, meditations, and practices have truly transformed this life."

- Charlotte C.

A research study on those who participated in Inner Engineering shows the following results

Sadhguru will be offering Inner Engineering in Atlanta on June 3-4 and in Los Angeles on June 24-25, 2023. This is a rare opportunity to learn a life transforming course directly from Sadhguru. Inner Engineering Completion is an advanced-level program and the prerequisite is completion of Inner Engineering Online, which can be done in the convenience of your home. As there will be significant changes in the way the Inner Engineering program will be offered in the future, this is the last time Sadhguru will offer this program in-person. To learn more visit: <https://innerengineering.sadhguru.org/with-sadhguru>

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Poetry Contest : Prime Minister Modi

Editor's Notes

Some of you may know that Aruna and I visited India early this year. I have written in my editorial column about celebrating Jan 26 - India republic day at Gujarat VidyaPeeth, institute founded by Mahatma Gandhi, visited Gandhi Ashram in Ahmedabad on Jan 30th, Gandhi ji death anniversary, hosted fashion show at one of the local colleges with the theme of Indian traditional outfits.

In this article let me talk about one more very interesting thing we did while we were in India. Desh-Videsh Media Group hosted a Poetry Contest at one of the high schools. The subject was Prime Minister Modi.

The rules of this contest were as follows,

The format of the poetry must be a quatrain, which consists of four lines in each stanza. The rhyme scheme of this poem will be AABB, meaning that the first and second lines of each stanza rhyme with each other, as do the third and fourth lines.

Raj Shah
Managing Editor

A Man of Humble Beginnings

In the land of India, there rose a leader bold
A man of humble beginnings, yet with a heart of gold
His name was Narendra Modi, a man of great renown
Who climbed the ladder of success, from a small town

He served his country with all his might
With a vision in his heart, and a goal in sight
To make India strong, to make it great
To lead it to a brighter, better fate

His words rang true, his actions spoke loud
He stood for justice, and he stood out from the crowd
A man of integrity, a man of grace
A leader who brought hope to the nation's face

He led with courage, and he led with care
He knew the challenges, and he faced them square
With his determination, he made a way
To transform India, every single day

He built new roads, and he made new bridges
He brought electricity to the farthest reaches
He gave the poor a voice, and the rich a heart
He united the nation, and set it apart

So let us all hail this great leader
Whose legacy will only grow stronger and greater
For he has shown us what true leadership means
And in his footsteps, we shall follow our dreams.

Aahan Grade 12

A World Leader

Prime Minister Modi, a leader with vision,
Guiding his nation with a clear mission,
Transforming India into a global power,
With development as his top tower.

From the hills of the north to the shores of the south,
He strives to improve lives and empower the youth,
Bringing modernization and innovation,
To uplift the nation with determination.

As a world leader, he stands tall,
Inspiring nations to rise and stand tall,
Promoting peace and cooperation,
For a better world and a brighter future for every nation.

With his strategic diplomacy and bold reforms,
He's leading India towards great norms,
His vision for a sustainable world,
remarkable, and worth being told.

Prime Minister Modi, a world leader we admire,
A true inspiration and a beacon of fire,
Leading India with compassion and might,
Towards a future that's bright and light.

Atharv Grade 10

A People's Prime Minister

Narendra Modi, the people's Prime Minister,
A leader of the people, a true trendsetter.
With a vision for India that's bold and bright,
He's working tirelessly day and night.

His passion for progress is truly inspiring,
He's transforming India with his tireless striving.
From Swachh Bharat to Digital India,
He's bringing change to every corner of the land.

His humble beginnings in a small town,
Have shaped his outlook, never letting him down.
A man of the people, he connects with ease,
With the young and old, the rich and the peasantry.

His speeches are powerful, his vision clear,
He inspires hope and banishes fear.
He speaks of development, of growth and of pride,
Of an India that's strong, with nothing to hide.

He leads from the front, with a firm resolve,
To make India great, to make it evolve.
His policies are bold, his actions strong,
To make India a leader, a place where dreams belong.

Narendra Modi, the people's Prime Minister,
A leader of the people, a true trendsetter.
With a heart full of love and a mind full of drive,
He's the hope of a billion, the light in the sky.

Kunal Grade 10

A Great Visionary

Modi, the Prime Minister of India,
A great visionary who leads with pride,
His passion and drive, a force to behold,
As he works for India's future, bold.

From humble beginnings to great heights,
Modi's journey inspires with its might,
He rose through the ranks with hard work and grit,
To become India's leader, a true statesman fit.

With a clear vision and a strong will,
Modi's policies have transformed India still,
From Digital India to Make in India,
His initiatives have sparked a new India.

His words resonate with the youth,
As he inspires them to dream and pursue,
A brighter future for themselves and the nation,
With his guidance, they find inspiration.

Modi's leadership has brought India far,
As he paves the way for a brighter tomorrow,
With his vision, determination, and might,
Modi is truly India's guiding light.

So here's to Modi, a great visionary indeed,
May his leadership continue to inspire and lead,
India to greatness, prosperity, and peace,
With Modi's vision, our future shall never cease

Ananya Grade 12



Mother's Love

In the land of India, a leader strong and bold,
With a heart of gold, and stories yet untold,
Stands Prime Minister Modi, a man of great renown,
But behind every great man, a mother can be found.

She's the one who taught him, how to be true and just,
With a love that's boundless, and a heart that trusts,
She's the one who raised him, to be kind and wise,
And to lead with courage, through the darkest skies.

Her love has guided him, through every trial and test,
And she's the reason why, he never loses his zest,
For life and for service, to his nation and his kin,
For she instilled in him, the values deep within.

And though she may be aging, her love for him remains,
A bond that's unbreakable, amidst life's joys and pains,
And as he leads his nation, with a heart full of grace,
He remembers his mother's love, in every single place.

For Prime Minister Modi, a mother's love,
A love that never fades, and always shines anew,
And he knows that without her, he wouldn't be where he is,
For she's the one who taught him,
to reach for the highest bliss.

Gitashri Grade 11

Love for Yoga

In the land of India, a leader arose,
With a passion for yoga that nobody knows.
He stood tall and proud, with a spirit so free,
And his name was Modi, the Prime Minister, he.

He spoke of the benefits, both body and soul,
Of the ancient practice that made him whole.
From the mountains to the sea, he spread the word,
Of the power of yoga, that must be heard.

With a mat in his hand and a smile on his face,
He encouraged his people to embrace the grace.
Of the practice that he loved with all his heart,
And the peace it brought that sets us apart.

He taught the world that yoga is not just a trend,
But a way of life, that we must all defend.
And with each breath, we take, we connect to our core,
And find the love, we've been searching for.

So let us follow Modi, and his love for yoga,
And find the peace, that we all deserve, ahh!
For in his practice, we'll find our way,
To a world full of love, and a brighter day.

Riya Grade 10

International Yoga Day

Prime Minister Modi, a man of great zeal,
Proposed a day of yoga, to promote health and feel
The benefits of ancient practice, revered and divine,
To unite the world, in a peaceful and healthy line.

On the 21st of June, the world would unite,
To celebrate the day, with the sun shining bright,
Yogis, gurus and masters, would lead the way,
In a global effort, to promote health and sway.

The practice of yoga, is an art and science,
For the body, mind and soul, it is a reliance,
The asanas, pranayama and meditation,
Helps in physical, mental and emotional elevation.

With Modi's vision, the world comes together,
To celebrate the day, in a bond forever,
A tribute to India, the land of yoga and mystic,
A gift to the world, for a life fantastic.

Let's join hands, on this International Yoga Day,
And embrace the practice, in every way,
To promote peace, harmony and love,
And lead a life, full of joy and dove.

Tanvi Grade 11



A Great Orator

Modi, the orator, with words so clear,
His speeches touch hearts, far and near.
With his voice, he ignites a spark,
That sets India on a journey, bold and stark.

His eloquence is like a shining star,
That guides us all, no matter how far.
He inspires with his every word,
And his passion for progress is always heard.

His words are like a ray of light,
That cuts through the darkness of night.
He brings hope to those in despair,
And reminds us all to strive and dare.

Modi, the orator, with his power of speech,
Has the ability to move and teach.
He connects with people from all walks of life,
And leads India towards a future that's bright.

He is a leader who commands respect,
His words always have a strong effect.
With his vision, he empowers the nation,
And inspires us all to rise to our station.

Modi, the orator, a true master of words,
With his speeches, he reaches the hearts of the herds.
He is a leader who truly inspires,
And his words will forever light the fires.

Trupti Grade 12

Love for Children

In India's land of ancient lore,
Where the sun shines bright and the winds roar,
There walks a leader, tall and strong,
Whose heart beats for the young and the long.

His name is Modi, a Prime Minister true,
With a love for children, pure and anew,
He sees in them the future of our nation,
And works tirelessly for their education.

With a smile that lights up their little faces,
He embraces them with warmth and graces,
From the humblest slum to the grandest hall,
He gives his time and love to them all.

He builds schools and playgrounds with care,
To nurture young minds and help them prepare,
For a life of success, and a brighter future,
Where dreams come true and hopes endure.

He listens to their voices, their dreams and fears,
And wipes away their sorrow and tears,
He's a father, a mentor, a friend in need,
Whose love for children is pure indeed.

So let us cherish this leader of ours,
Whose love for children truly empowers,
Let us learn from him, and follow his lead,
To build a better world for all in need.

Sagar Grade 11

Love for India

Amidst the bustling crowds and vibrant hues,
Stands a man with a heart full of love for his muse.
With every step, he walks with pride and grace,
For he knows that his love for India cannot be replaced.

Prime Minister Modi, a leader of great might,
Guides his country towards a future that shines bright.
Through trials and hardships, he stays steadfast and true,
For his love for India is unwavering and forever new.

He works tirelessly to bring progress and change,
To every corner of the land, from mountain range to coastal range.

He dreams of an India that's strong and free,
A nation that's a beacon of hope for all to see.

With his words, he inspires the young and old,
To work together for a future that's bold.
For he knows that his love for India is shared,
By millions of hearts that beat with pride and care.

So here's to Prime Minister Modi and his love for this land,
May his vision for India continue to expand.
May he be blessed with the strength and wisdom to lead,
And may his love for India forever succeed.

Paroo Grade 10

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How AI can affect the Practice of Law

AI and Chat GPT are all the rage right now. It is all the kids are talking about. So I figured, why not write an article exploring how AI technology could potentially be used in the practice of law. After all, the goal of my practice is to help as many clients as possible and provide the best immigration solutions. While my focus is on Immigration Law, I used to practice in other areas as well such as criminal defense, intellectual property, and sports and entertainment law. Therefore I can offer some insight into those practice areas as well and how AI could make things more efficient.

As we all know, there are only so many hours in the day and time stops

for no one. We as attorneys often get very busy, especially during certain times of the year (H-1B season for example) and other pressing and often unforeseen immigration matters. Occasionally we get so swamped we have to turn away clients. We also don't want to make promises (in terms of a timeline) that we can only fulfill under ideal circumstances.

1. Could using AI make my work faster? Certainly.
2. Could using AI allow me to charge my clients less? Yes.
3. Ethically, should you charge your clients less if you use AI? Potentially.
4. Would AI allow me to serve more clients? Probably.

5. Would my clients get the same level of workmanship and quality with AI? Unlikely.

Then how is using AI worth it? We really don't have those answers yet. This is such an emerging technology. A few years ago I wrote an article on International Entrepreneur Parole. At that time it was a brand new program and there was very little information or evidence out there on whether or not IEP was useful. I haven't really gotten around to exploring AI technology much less using it for my legal practice for many reasons. I prefer to practice credibility and reliability by making sure I handle my legal cases with my own personal judgment and legal application.

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Despite the fact that AI is transforming the practice of law in many positive ways, there are also some controversies associated with its use. Some concerns revolve around the topics of privacy, bias, accountability, and ethical issues. There is always the concern of our privacy being compromised when we hand over our information to technology. For AI to be effective, a lot of data is needed. Particularly in situations where private legal information is being exchanged and processed- this presents privacy concerns since it impacts our rights and sense of security.

When it comes to something that requires human perception, artificial intelligence can be deemed to be a biased tool to use, especially in the field of law practice. The quality of AI depends on the data being input into the system into which it is being taught. The AI used will be biased if the data is skewed. Legal professionals are concerned about this because biased AI might provide discriminatory results. Lawyers have to rely on our intuition, our instinct, our experience, and sometimes our gut feeling. AI will not be able to take advantage of any of that accrued expertise.

There is also the question of who holds the accountability when AI makes legal recommendations or comments. AI can make judgments without consultation from another human, which makes it challenging to hold someone responsible if something goes wrong. This is a problem in the legal profession because decisions made under legal provisions have serious repercussions.

In terms of ethics, the use of AI can pose ethical issues, most especially in the legal profession. The application

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The use of AI in law practices can have a significant impact on efficiency. Here are some of the effects of using AI in improving efficiency: time savings, improved accuracy, increased productivity, cost savings, and improved client services.

Overall, the use of AI in law practices can have a significant impact on efficiency, resulting in time savings, improved accuracy, increased productivity, cost savings, and improved client service.

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of AI in the legal profession poses moral dilemmas regarding the obligations of attorneys and their duty to their clients. There are questions over whether attorneys can rely on AI to make crucial legal decisions and whether AI can be held to the same ethical standards as human attorneys. Can we really trust an AI application to make ethical decisions on our behalf?

Only 10% of lawyers think that generative artificial intelligence tools, such as ChatGPT, will have a “transformative impact” on the practice of law, and 60% of lawyers have “no plans to use [the technology] at this time,” according to the results of a LexisNexis survey. (<https://www.abajournal.com/web/article/survey-finds-majority-of-lawyers-have-no-immediate-plans-to-use-generative-ai>)

These controversies suggest that the use of AI in law practice must be

carefully regulated and monitored to ensure that it is used in a way that is fair, transparent, and accountable. If we're not cautious, then the use of AI can pose threats to legal cases that require sensitive and careful discernment.

I used Chat GPT to write this paragraph:

AI (Artificial Intelligence) is increasingly being used in law practices to improve the efficiency, accuracy, and speed of legal services. AI technology has the potential to significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of legal services. However, it is important for lawyers to remain involved in the process and use their professional judgment to ensure that the technology is used appropriately and ethically. The use of AI in law practices can have a significant impact on efficiency. Here are some of the effects of using AI in improving efficiency: time savings, improved accuracy,

increased productivity, cost savings, and improved client services.

Overall, the use of AI in law practices can have a significant impact on efficiency, resulting in time savings, improved accuracy, increased productivity, cost savings, and improved client service. However, it is important for law firms to carefully consider the ethical implications of using AI and ensure that it is used appropriately and responsibly.

*This article does not constitute a solicitation or provision of legal advice and does not establish an attorney-client relationship. The answers provided should not be used as a substitute for obtaining legal advice from an attorney licensed or authorized to practice in your jurisdiction. You should always consult a suitably qualified attorney regarding any specific legal problem or matter in a timely manner.

About the Author

Attorney Seth Finberg is a 2005 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law and is a member of the Georgia Bar and the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). He is the owner and founder of Finberg Firm PLLC (located in Ft. Lauderdale, FL) and he represents clients nationwide and internationally in the areas of business, employment, and family-based immigration. Mr. Finberg is an active member of the Miami Asylum Office Committee for AILA South and Central Florida and he serves as a legal captain in

pro bono clinics for Temporary Protected Status. Seth has been recognized for his outstanding pro bono service by the South Florida chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, winning their 2021 Pro Bono Champion award. He can be reached by phone at (954)-843-3568 / (954) 249-6603 or by email at seth@finbergfirm.com or at www.finbergfirm.com.



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I Want To Break Free!

By Dr. Namitha Raju

Do you recognize any of these recurring themes in your parenting?

Wails I need the iPad. I'm in the middle of something! I hate you. You're so unfair!

Whines I hate this! I don't want this. You never make anything I like!

Yells I didn't do it. Stop accusing me! Get out of my room!

Groans I don't want to do it!

How do you react when you hear something like this from your kids? How does it feel? How do you feel about your kids in those moments? How do you feel about yourself in those moments?

Let's dive deep into a power struggle and see what is going on for us at such times. I have named this difficult interaction with our kids and what ensues the parenting struggle

pattern because it is a pattern that repeats itself from time to time.

This is how the pattern looks:

1. A parent encounters difficult behavior
2. The behavior triggers a bodily response in the parent
3. A state of frustration or acute helplessness pushes the parent to use a controlling technique (lecture, sarcasm, yell, blame, shame, punish) to ease their discomfort
4. The kid feels disconnected and distant from the parent
5. When the parent sees the child's disconnection, no matter how justified they feel in their actions, most of the time, they feel sad about the child's disconnection from the child.

6. At this point, some parents are reluctant to continue holding boundaries in order to rebuild the lost connection until they encounter the next challenge.

Interestingly, this pattern reveals that our "controlling techniques" are essentially coping mechanisms to overcome the acute discomfort we are experiencing!

Let's understand this pattern through the lens of nervous system science. As soon as we encounter a difficult situation, our nervous system shifts into a "fight, flight, or freeze" response. In this state, our prefrontal cortex, which is the part of the brain that can voluntarily control our thinking, emotional responses, and behavior, cannot be accessed. We only have access to our reactive lower brain, which augments our anger or fear reactions, compelling us to lecture, be sarcastic, yell, blame, shame, or punish. We clearly can't employ effective communication in this state with anger and fear as our resources. As a result, our kids naturally learn to shield themselves. They construct an emotional wall to disconnect from us, mainly to protect themselves. This makes it even more frustrating for parents whose best intentions didn't work and ended up worsening their relationship. As kids mature, parents want them to seek their help if they ever get into trouble or find themselves in a difficult situation. But kids hesitate to approach parents in these situations because they perceive their parents as judgmental.

So what's the answer here? The first step is to become aware of this pattern. Once you gain awareness, the next question is, "What do I do to break free from this cycle?" Many factors can contribute to the trigger that sets off the pattern. While there

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can be strategies you could use to escape the onset of this pattern, a lot of the time, you can be in a state of acute discomfort that disables you from accessing any strategy!

But there is hope. You can work on reducing the frequency of these triggers and these states of discomfort and frustration. Start by introspecting your fears concerning your child, your expectations from your child, your expectations from yourself as a parent, your own disappointments, and your history and conditioning. All this is a lot to unpack, and it can be overwhelming to traverse your emotional map without an objective and trained guide. It is usually helpful to seek structure and support from a parent coach. Whatever you do, remember that what you are going through is hard, and it is important that you treat yourself with kindness!

About the Author



Namitha Raju is a Certified Master Parent Coach. She coaches parents to develop deep connections and peace in their relationships with their kids. Her company, Beautiful Bonds, is based on the principle that emotional growth, healthy relationships, and personal transformation are the keys to fulfilling parenthood. Dr. Raju received a Ph.D. in Psychology, where she studied early development. As a mom of two kids, she found that her academic experience couldn't rescue her from her day-to-day parenting challenges! Her curiosity led her to garner the expertise necessary to inculcate deep connections between parent and child. She serves parents virtually throughout the US. If you would like to find out more, please visit <https://beautifulbonds.me>.

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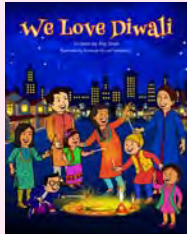
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We Love Diwali

Written by Raj Shah
Illustrated by Kamlesh M. & Natasha S.

We love Diwali, takes you inside the homes of families living in America where Hindus, Jain and Sikh children together celebrate Diwali, the festival of lights. In their own words, the children take turns explaining the different customs and traditions celebrated by Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs during Diwali. The children gather together to participate in a Diwali pooja.

ISBN: 978-0-9642962-1-3

Holi Hai!

Written by Raj Shah
Illustrated by Kamlesh M. & Natasha S.

Holi Hai, explains why Hindus celebrate Holi, the festival of colors all around the world in the spring season. This colorful book teaches children living in America the universal message of the victory of good over evil. It also explains the ancient story of Radha and Krishna and why they celebrated Holi. The Holi celebration consists of traditions such as lighting a bonfire and burning Holika, the evil sister of Prahalad.

ISBN: 978-0-9642962-3-7



Welcome to our Beautiful Mandir!

Written by Raj Shah
Illustrated by Kamlesh M. & Natasha S.

The mandir or the temple is not just a sacred place for the Hindus, but is also a ground for learning. While children find great joy in visiting the mandir, they also learn about the principles of Hinduism in simple ways. This story helps us all understand the basic ideals of Hinduism through the eyes of children.

ISBN: 978-0-9642962-6-8

The Complete Ramayana in 100 Tweets

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The Complete Mahabharata in 100 Tweets

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Illustrated by Kamlesh M. & Natasha S.

The *Mahabharat* is among the greatest of Hindu epics. However, it is also a wonderful story for all children as it is interesting and filled with events, and also has plenty of lessons to learn. In keeping with the times and the trends of the millennium, we bring the story of the Mahabharat in a simplified form for children to understand, presented as 100 tweets that encapsulate the most important moments of the story.

ISBN: 978-0-9642962-9-9

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Preserving Our Roots and Ancient Knowledge

By Chahna Tailor Gupta

When I was in grade school, questions such as “why does your religion have monkeys, elephants and other animals,” were ubiquitous. I was always interested in our religion, but could never defend it because I felt I wasn’t well-informed. My friends practicing other religions were able to eloquently speak about their faith, but they also never had to defend it. It didn’t help that school textbooks contained incorrect details on Hinduism; probably because they were written by someone of a different faith (a huge thank you to Hindu American Foundation for changing that!). As the other religions had similar prophets or roots, it was obvious how starkly different Hinduism seemed - and at times, Hinduism was seen as a joke.

As I became older, I started asking my parents and family members more questions about Hinduism. Thanks to Bala-Vihar at South Florida Hindu Temple with Swamini Divyananda and Swami Vijayananda, in addition to learning the meanings of certain mantras and slokas, I also learned the significance of certain pujas. I also took Hindi classes (as a Gujarati) which helped me familiarize myself with our national language (while also simultaneously helping me understand more of what my Bollywood husbands were saying on screen).

Reading our Vedas and other scriptures of Sanatana Dharma, it was clear that we were surrounded by ignorance when it comes to vedic practices and also how incredibly rich it is. Unfortunately, I feel, much of our

history has been construed, rewritten, or destroyed. As an example, look at how yoga is portrayed today - a stretch-based exercise to those looking from the outside.

By the time I had enrolled into an Ayurveda program, (thank you, Sampoorana College of Ayurveda), I was encouraged to learn Sanskrit (all made a little easier thanks to Hindi class!) and utilizing it for a deeper understanding of our Shastras. As I started reading different scriptures (even those translated in English), it was just astonishing how logical and useful they were - and how they could stand the test of time. The words from thousands of years ago still ring true today.

The thing about holistic medicine and lifestyle choices is that yoga and ayurveda are becoming more

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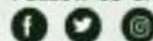
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popular in the west. But, will they be practiced correctly? Will it be only temporary? A fad, perhaps? We are lucky that in our local community we have resources like Desh Videsh to continue to provide a platform for our culture. But, other communities may not be so lucky. This

leads to the resounding question - if more of us do not keep stepping up to preserve Sanatana Dharma, will future generations be left with very little or diluted vedic knowledge at best? As an effort to spread Ayurveda and correct Yoga in our local community, my company Namaskar To You, is hosting an event called Life Fest that will focus on Ayurveda (hint - 'ayur' means 'life!'), as well as other alternative approaches. The event will take place at Huizenga Plaza in Fort Lauderdale on September 17, 2022. If you are interested in sharing your knowledge or be one of the sponsors, please feel free to reach out. At the end of the day, it's about preserving our rich culture for future generations.

About the Author



Chahna Tailor Gupta, an Ayurvedic Practitioner and certified yoga teacher, has a background in occupational therapy and health science with a focus in public health. Chahna was yoga trained in Rishikesh, India and had ayurvedic clinicals in Kannur, Kerala. Chahna provides yoga, pranayama, meditation, 200-hr yoga teacher training, and ayurvedic health counseling services through her company Namaskar To You. Chahna is a volunteer for Ekal Vidyalaya, American Association of Ayurvedic Professionals (AAAP), and Ayurveda Association of Florida (AAF). She is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in Ayurvedic Medicine while continuing her self-studies in yoga.

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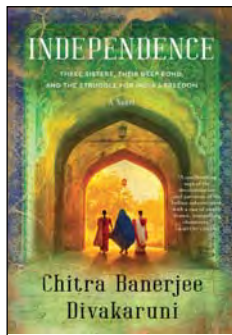
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Independence: A Novel

by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni



Three sisters of a distinguished doctor live in a Bengali village. Priya is educated and idealistic, determined to become a doctor like her father despite society's disapproval. Deepa, the beauty, wants a marriage to provide her family with happiness and prominence. Jamini is pious, sharp-eyed, and a gifted quiltmaker with hidden interests. They have a loving,

safe home away from the nation's violence. After a riot kills their father, their neighbors turn against them, bringing the country's events closer to home. Deepa falls in love with a Muslim and leaves her family as Priya pursues her job. Jamini keeps her family together while secretly longing for her sister's fiancé. A dangerous transformation occurs when India is partitioned. Pakistan is now Muslim; India is Hindu. Sisters take distinct paths. They worry about themselves and each other.

Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni outdoes herself with her very emotional story of sisterhood and friendship, painting an exciting and sad account of India's freedom that will make any reader—new or old—a dedicated lover.

Sadhguru: Story that inspires me

by Marko Belaso



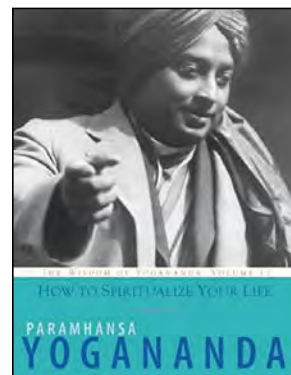
The Indian mystic Sadhguru (Jaggi Vasudev) is a spiritual leader. His lessons have inspired millions to learn more about themselves and the cosmos. This informative biography follows Sadhguru from his rebellious childhood in southern India to his 25th-year spiritual awakening. The book explores his struggles as he devoted himself to

serious spiritual practice and became a spiritual leader, forming the Isha Foundation in 1992. Readers discover Sadhguru's true self through interviews with his closest disciples, family, and friends. They learn about his personal hardships, love of adventure and discovery, and dedication to spreading inner transformation techniques. Sadhguru's teachings on living in harmony with nature, meditation, self-awareness, and humanity's desire to be more conscious and compassionate are also covered in the book.

Spirituality, personal growth, and inner transformation enthusiasts should read Sadhguru: A Life in Pursuit of Inner Transformation. It provides unique insight into the life of one of the world's most influential spiritual leaders and practical advice on how to live a more fulfilling and meaningful life.

How to Spiritualize Your Life (Wisdom of Yogananda)

by Paramhansa Yogananda



Paramhansa Yogananda penned tens of thousands of letters to his staff, his core group of devotees, other followers, and curious outsiders during the course of his lifetime. He frequently expressed his replies in the periodicals he wrote over the years. The wisdom imparted by Yogananda in this book is

drawn from those letters.

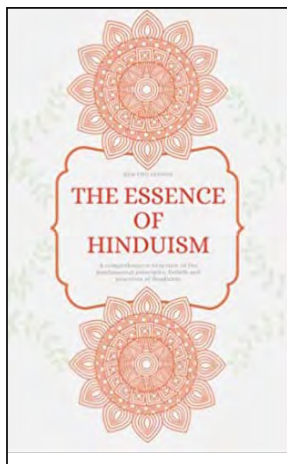
He discusses how to overcome obstacles that are financial, physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual in order to elevate consciousness and lead a fulfilling life. These responses to philosophical, practical, and merely inquiring questions, compiled from his publications, classes, and handwritten letters, reflect Paramhansa

Yogananda's depth of knowledge, empathy, and love.

Yogananda provides answers to a variety of queries, including: how to develop magnetism; how to increase efficiency; how to enhance memory; how to treat anxiety; and how to subdue rage.

The Essence of Hinduism

by Kem Cho Designs

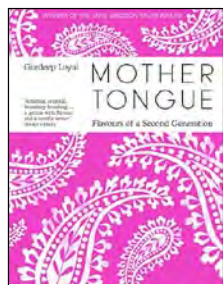


One should read "The Essence of Hinduism" to gain a deep understanding of the world's oldest religion, its beliefs, practices, and philosophy. This book provides a comprehensive overview of Hinduism, covering all the major aspects of the religion, including its scriptures, deities, festivals, and rituals. It also delves into the concepts of karma, reincarnation, and moksha, as well as the role of devotion, meditation, and

yoga in spiritual practice. By exploring the relevance of Hinduism in modern life, this book offers valuable insights and guidance on how to apply its teachings to one's own life. Whether you are new to Hinduism or looking to deepen your understanding of this profound spiritual tradition, "The Essence of Hinduism" is an essential read.

Mother Tongue: Flavours of a Second Generation Kindle Edition

by Gurdeep Loyal



Gurdeep, an Indian-born British citizen, experienced continual pressure from competing cultural standards. But he was able to accept the delightful contrasts of his polyglot British-Indian identity because of his love of food and cookery.

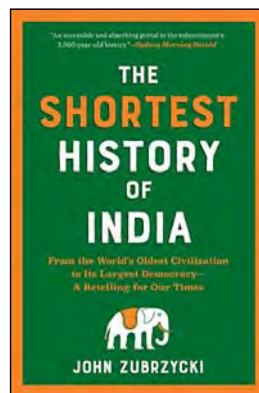
In Mother Tongue, he analyzes his childhood in food, which included "authentic" home-cooked Punjabi food, "inauthentic" Tikka Masalas from curry houses, the Western gourmet canon, and a desire to explore new places in search of flavor. The end result is a multicultural cuisine with heightened flavor that is a delicious culinary reflection of his second generation's experience of the modern world.

A mouthwatering Miso-Masala Fried Chicken Sando, Sweet Chilli-Gunpowder Roasted Cauliflower, Desi

Kofta Meatballs with Sticky Mango-Lime Tomatoes, and Chocolate-Orange Jalebis are just a few of the over 100 delectable recipes Gurdeep offers, all paired with expert knowledge of creating, blending, and remixing international flavor combinations. Home cooks can explore and be inspired by a variety of colorful, flavor-forward, vibrantly spiced meals in Mother Tongue every day.

The Shortest History of India

by John Zubrzycki



India, the world's longest continuously existing civilization, is a patchwork of traditions, cultures, languages, castes, and spiritual beliefs that have coexisted peacefully or violently for five millennia. John Zubrzycki masterfully condenses five millennia of deities, mutinies, wars, great empires, decadent dynasties, invasions, colonization,

and independence into a fascinating, coherent account, covering everything from the earliest humans and the Harappan civilization to Muslim invaders, the Great Mughals, British rule, the country's struggle for autonomy, and present-day hopes and challenges. Through a well-known cast of characters—Buddha, Alexander the Great, Akbar, Clive, Tipu Sultan, Lakshmi Bai, Curzon, Jinnah, and Mahatma Gandhi—and against a backdrop of the mystic Ganges, the desert forts of Rajasthan, the snow-capped Himalayas, and the ruins of India's legendary civilizations, he brings the complex and contrasting layers of Indian history to life.

India has had an impact on Asia and the world in a variety of ways, including through Bollywood. Although it has made tremendous progress in combating poverty and illiteracy, it still faces extraordinary problems, not the least of which is the threat to its secular foundation. If India can rise above its political, social, and religious difficulties and become the next global powerhouse, only time will tell.

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A Glimpse At Kumar Neeraj's Most-Awaited Film, *Nafisa*



A new-age Indian film writer and director, Kumar Neeraj, reveals his latest film, which centers around the horrors of Bihar's Muzaffarpur shelter home. Nearly five years after the gruesome incident, Neeraj brings to the audience a reality that not only shook Bihar's political foundations but also

aroused the nation's outrage.

Neeraj explicitly stated that the film will revolve around the victims of Muzaffarpur's government-run shelter home who were sexually exploited for years. Neeraj further revealed, "The film will give an insight into the trauma the girls had to bear. The incident, which is a blot on the face of Bihar, had created a furor not only in Bihar but also in the country."

Nafisa is also produced by four female producers: Vaishali Dev, Beena Shah, Munni Singh, and Khushboo Singh, and stars a range of well-known actors such as Akshay Verma, Nishad Raj Rana, Nazneen Patni, Sanya Sinha, Manisha, Anamika Pandey, Ram Sujun Singh, Rajveer Singh, Ratan Rathod, Upasana, Raju Kumar, Jai Prakash Shukla, Navnit Kumar, Urjan Ichhapuria, and many more.

The audience now eagerly awaits the wonder created by the triage of skilled people like director Kumar Neeraj, famed cameraman Najeef Khan, and choreographer Ganesh Acharya to drop on the big screen.

Amitabh Bachchan Tweets "Tu Cheez Badi Hai Musk Musk" On the Return of Twitter Blue Tick



Despite losing the Blue Tick twice, it seems like Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan has not lost his spirit yet. After regaining the much-desired Twitter blue tick, the actor celebrates his win and thanks Elon Musk with a unique message.

The moment he got the Twitter blue tick back, Bachchan took to Twitter to express his thanks to Elon Musk by dedicating a song *Tu Cheez Badi Hai Mast Mast* to him: "Ae Musk bhaiya! Bahut dhanyawad det hai hum apko! O, neel kamal lag gawa hamar naam ke aage! Ab ka batai bhaiya! Gaana gaye ka mun karat hai hamar! Sunbe ka? E leo suna: "Tu cheez badi hai musk musk... tu cheez badi hai, musk." Now that is something for Musk to decode.

Unlike other celebrities and stars who have moved on from the blue tick fiasco, Bachchan seems to take his Twitter account quite seriously and has in several instances complained about the changes in the Twitter platform. His fans are, however, happy and well-entertained with his uproariously hilarious tweets and feedback after his eternal battle for the Twitter blue tick.

Apple CEO Enjoys Vada Pav With Madhuri Dixit and cricket Match With Sonam Kapoor



Apple CEO Tim Cook seems to be having a blast as he is spotted in an IPL match after inaugurating Apple Saket in India. He was seen in the stands at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in Delhi along with actor Sonam Kapoor and her husband, Anand Ahuja. Later, Sonam Kapoor shared photos of Tim with herself and her husband on Instagram with the caption: "Tim Cook and the entire @ Apple team -- We hope you've had a lovely stay here and leave encouraged and positive about Apple's outlook in the country. We're so grateful for the care and attention you've given to creating your signature world-class experience here (folded hands emoji) @anandahuja." Later, Tim tweeted after Sonam took to Twitter to share the photos, "Thank you so much for an unforgettable evening!"

Tim was also spotted with Madhuri Dixit, devouring some world-famous vada pavs in Mumbai. Dixit later tweeted, "I can't think of a better welcome to Mumbai than Vada Pav."

Continuing with his star-studded night, Tim Cook met singer Armaan Malik at the launch event of the first Apple store in India. Meanwhile, Indian musical composer AR Rahman also shared a photo with Tim on Instagram. He is also seen smiling in selfies with other celebs such as Neha Dhupia, Mouni Roy and her husband, Shirley Sethia, Rakul Preet Singh, Farah Khan Ali, and more!



Aishwarya-Abhishek Duo Celebrate 'Sweet 16th' Marriage Anniversary



Celebrity couple Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and Abhishek Bachchan celebrated their 16th wedding anniversary on April 20, taking to Instagram to share a picture of a sweet moment between the couple.

Commemorating their milestone together, the couple is seen twinning in white outfits in the selfie, both of them wearing matching smiles on their faces. Abhishek looks classy in his white shirt, scruffy beard, and pair of glasses, whereas Aishwarya sports a natural look in the photo. While Aishwarya captioned her tweet with a cheeky "sweet 16" followed by various heart emojis, Abhishek wrote "16" with a sweet emoji and an evil eye emoticon. A steady flow of fans and other celebrities showered the couple with love and well-wishes.

The wedding of Aishwarya and Abhishek made national headlines in 2007, as did the birth of their daughter Aaradhya in 2011. The duo has appeared in films such as *Dhai Akshar Prem Ke*, *Kuch Naa Kaho*, *Umrao Jaan*, *Dhoom 2*, *Guru*, and *Raavan*.

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Community News

Georgia Atlanta Metro

Budh Purnima | Satyanaryan

When: 05/05/2023, 11:00 AM

Where: Shree Sadhana Mandir

5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd. Ste 733, Norcross,30071

Contact: 770-310-5944

Email: vedjoshiji@gmail.com

Host: Shree Sadhana Mandir

Sundarkand Paath by Shree Ashwinkumar Pathakji

When: 05/06/2023, 7:30 PM

Where: Sardar Patel Bhavan Gujarati Samaj

5331 Royal Woods Parkway, Tucker,30084

Contact: Sanjay Pandya 770-655-2160

Host: Kashtabhanjan Pariwar of Georgia

Sunderkand Paath

When: 05/07/2023, 4:00 PM

Where: Shree Sadhana Mandir

5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd. Ste 733, Norcross,30071

Contact: 770-310-5944

Email: vedjoshiji@gmail.com

Host: Shree Sadhana Mandir

Raja By Raga A Classical Celebration - Atlanta

When: 05/12/2023, 6:45 PM

Where: Rialto Center for the Arts at Georgia State
Univer

80 Forsyth St NW, Atlanta,30303

Email: rbysupport@bkrslc.com

Host: EPPO Music

Sports Day 2023

When: 05/13/2023, 9:00 AM

Where: 2397 Satellite Blvd, Buford,30518

Contact: 770-492-4346

Email: Shrinathjihaveliatlanta@gmail.com

Host:

Bismil Ki Mehfil

When: 05/14/2023, 7:00 PM

Where: Ashiana Banquet Halls

5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd ste 101, Norcross,30071

Contact: Babloo 770-310-4652

Mothers Day | Mata Ki Chowki

When: 05/14/2023, 4:00 PM

Where: Shree Sadhana Mandir

5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd. Ste 733, Norcross,30071

Contact: 770-310-5944

Email: vedjoshiji@gmail.com

Host: Shree Sadhana Mandir

Vat Savitri Amvasya | Devi Poojan

When: 05/19/2023, 7:00 PM

Where: Shree Sadhana Mandir

5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd. Ste 733, Norcross,30071

Contact: 770-310-5944

Email: vedjoshiji@gmail.com

Host: Shree Sadhana Mandir

Aaja Nachle Alpharetta

When: 05/19/2023, 9:00 PM

Where: on TOP LEVEL

3070 Windward Plaza p, Alpharetta,30005

Contact: 510-578-8243

Email: Inni.entertainments@gmail.com

Host: Inni Entertainments

Rahat Fateh Ali Khan in Atlanta

When: 05/20/2023, 6:30 PM

Where: Coca Cola Roxy

800 Battery Avenue Southeast, Atlanta,30339

Contact: ARIF KHAN 646-393-6994

Host: Up Close & Personal

Mughal-e-azam Live In Atlanta

When: 05/26/2023, 7:00 PM

Where: Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre

2800 Cobb Galleria Pkwy, Atlanta,30339

Contact: 855-267-4636

Host:

Ganga Ashtami Hanuman Chalisa - Bajrang-ban & Sankat Mochan

When: 05/30/2023, 7:00 PM

Where: Shree Sadhana Mandir

5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd. Ste 733, Norcross,30071

Contact: 770-310-5944

Email: vedjoshiji@gmail.com

Host: Shree Sadhana Mandir

Nirjala Ekadashi | Vishnu Sahasranam Paath

When: 05/31/2023, 7:00 PM

Where: Shree Sadhana Mandir

5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd. Ste 733, Norcross,30071

Contact: 770-310-5944

Email: vedjoshiji@gmail.com

Host: Shree Sadhana Mandir

Vat Savitri Purnima

When: 06/04/2023, 4:00 PM

Where: Shree Sadhana Mandir

5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd. Ste 733, Norcross,30071

Contact: 770-310-5944

Email: vedjoshiji@gmail.com

Host: Shree Sadhana Mandir

Mihun Sankranti & Ekadashi | Vishnu Sahasranam Paath

When: 06/14/2023, 7:00 PM

Where: Shree Sadhana Mandir

5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd. Ste 733, Norcross,30071

Contact: 770-310-5944

Email: vedjoshiji@gmail.com

Host: Shree Sadhana Mandir

Sur Sangam

When: 06/17/2023, 6:30 PM

Where: Global Mall - Impact Center

5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd., Norcross,30071

Contact: Shiv Aggarwal 404-456-2973

Email: ajayup@hotmail.com

Host: Ekal Vidyalyaya

Sunderkand Paath

When: 06/18/2023, 4:00 PM

Where: Shree Sadhana Mandir

5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd. Ste 733, Norcross,30071

Contact: 770-310-5944

Email: vedjoshiji@gmail.com

Host: Shree Sadhana Mandir

Gaurav Gupta Live in Atlanta

When: 06/23/2023, 7:00 PM

Where: Lawrenceville Arts Center

125 N Clayton St, Lawrenceville,30046

Contact: 475-218-3191

Host: Magic Entertainment

Gupt Navratri Mata Ki Chowki

When: 06/25/2023, 4:00 PM

Where: Shree Sadhana Mandir

5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd. Ste 733, Norcross,30071

Contact: 770-310-5944

Email: vedjoshiji@gmail.com

Host: Shree Sadhana Mandir

Summer Camp 2023

When: 07/16/2023, 12:00 PM

Where: 2397 Satelite Blvd, Buford,30518

Contact: 770-492-4346

Email: Shrinathjihaveliatlanta@gmail.com

Summer Camp

When : 06-12/06/2023, 8:00 AM

Where : Chinmaya Niketan

5511 Williams Rd.

Norcross, GA 30093

Contact: Geetha 478-213-6692

Email: gita.raghu@yahoo.com

Website: www.chinmaya-atlanta.com/summer-camp

Host:Chinmaya Mission Atlanta

India Furniture & Decor Expo

When: 05/04/2023,

10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Where: Gas South Convention Center
6400 Sugarloaf Parkway ,
Duluth, 30097

Contact: Harshal Bhagat 8447976111

Email: harshal79@gmail.com

Host: Southern Gujarat Chamber of
Commerce & Industry

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When: 03-04/06/2023 - Saturday: 9:00 PM to
8:30 PM & Sunday: 7:00 AM to 5:45 PM

Where: Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC)
285 Andrew Young International Blvd NW,
Atlanta, GA 30313

Contact: Radhika Rao 678-462-4848

radhikarao@ishausa.org

www.innerengineering.sadhguru.org

Host: Isha Foundation, Inc.

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Governor Brian Kemp declares May 2023 as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in Georgia.

The efforts of the Asian/Pacific American Council of Georgia (APAC) resulted in the signing of a proclamation by the Governor of Georgia, Brian Kemp, designating the month of May 2023 as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month in the state of Georgia. At a ceremony held on the North Stairs of the Georgia State Capitol on March 15, 2023, the proclamation was made public.

Sudhir Aggarwal, President The Asian Pacific American Coalition of Georgia released a statement in which they said, “It is a matter of great pleasure for the Asian Community that the Georgia Governor continues to provide his support for recognizing May as Asian Heritage Month.”

A consortium of 15 countries called APAC of Georgia is collaborating to increase awareness of Asian culture in the country of Georgia. As part of the celebration, the proclamation provides a synopsis of the contributions made by Asian and Pacific Americans to the state of Georgia, as well as the esteem in which the state holds its various cultures and traditions.

In 2023, the theme for Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month will be “Advancing Leaders Through Opportunity,” which was selected by the Federal Asian Pacific American Council. Opportunities are what propel leaders to the next level. The set of themes titled “Advancing Leaders” that began in 2021 will serve as a foundation for this year’s discussion. The phrase “Advancing Leaders Through Opportunity” highlights the work that FAPAC is doing to advance leaders in the federal government and in the District of Columbia government.



“

Sudhir Aggarwal, President The Asian Pacific American Coalition of Georgia released a statement in which they said, “It is a matter of great pleasure for the Asian Community that the Georgia Governor continues to provide his support for recognizing May as Asian Heritage Month.”

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The North Georgia Indian Dance Festival was held on April 22.

According to the Soorya Foundation for Performing Arts, which has been a pioneer in the Indian performing arts arena in both North Georgia and Southern California, the fourth edition of the North Georgia Indian Dance Festival was held on April 22 at West Forsyth High School. The festival was held at the same location as previous years.

It has been claimed that there will not be any admission fees required to participate in the event that will be launched by Georgia House Representative Todd Jones (District 25). During the course of the ceremony, Guru Sheila Rubin, who teaches Indian

classical dance at the Natyananda School, received recognition for all of her accomplishments throughout her career.

The festival will provide us with an opportunity to see renowned Indian classical musicians who have won awards, such as the following:

- The Deeksha School of Performing Arts in Georgia's capital city of Atlanta
- The Soorya Dance Ensemble from Georgia's capital city of Atlanta
- RAMA of Atlanta, located in Georgia
- Nrithya Samarpanam, residing in the city of Atlanta, Georgia
- Located in Atlanta, Georgia, the Samyuktam Natya Academy
- The Three Aksha Dance Company, based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

The Nayananda School of Indian Classical Dance is located in Birmingham, Alabama.

Guru Sushma Mohan is a Bharatnatyam dancer, choreographer, and composer who has won multiple awards for her work. She is the founder of the Soorya Foundation for Performing Arts, which is a charitable organization in Los Angeles. Through dance and music festivals, performances, dance productions, lecture demonstrations, and master classes given by famous gurus and performers, the foundation's sole objective is to preserve, maintain, and promote Indian traditional performing arts in Los Angeles and Atlanta.



the fourth edition of the North Georgia Indian Dance Festival was held on April 22 at West Forsyth High School. The festival was held at the same location as previous years.

Over a Thousand People Celebrated Chhatrapati Shivaji Jayanti in Atlanta

On March 25, 2023, the Atlanta chapter of the Shivaji Maharaj Antarrashtriya Parivar (SMAP Foundation Inc.) celebrated Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti with much fanfare and patriotic fervor. The festivities included a four-foot replica of the legendary king's statue, a wide assortment of performances, and food stalls, and they attracted well over one thousand guests. Desana Middle School served as the venue for the event.

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj is credited with establishing the Maratha Empire in Western India in 1674. He is known in some circles as the "Father of the Indian Navy."

The service was presided over by Cassandra Kirk, Chief Judge of Fulton County; Todd Levent, District 3 Commissioner; Shawn Still, Republican State Senate; Honorable Carter Barrett, Georgia State Representative; and Shawn Still, Republican State Senate. Other guests of honor were Carter Barrett.

The SMAP, which was initially conceptualized by Vijay Patil and is currently supported by the Honorable Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, the Honorable Governor of Georgia, Brian Kemp, the Honorable Chief Ministers of Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Goa, and various other dignitaries from around the world,

The Founding President of SMAP (GA), Monalisa Khandke, emphasized that SMAP celebrations are hosted in over one hundred places around the world, with Atlanta serving as the largest component of the major festivities.

The festivities kicked off with a spectacular parade that featured the "North America Dhol Tasha Lezim" team's spirited Dhol and Tasha Lezim, as well as a Palkhi march by the SMAP Youth Team. Inside, the festivities began with the key guests and Shila Vedak ji lighting lamps, which was followed by devotion to the Shivaji Maharaj Statue led by Kaushal Tripathi.



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Some of you may know that we have been publishing Desh-Videsh magazine from our headquarters in Fort Lauderdale since 1993. We have also been distributing and mailing several thousand copies in Atlanta over the last 15+ years.

After receiving numerous requests from our loyal readers in Atlanta, it is our pleasure to announce the Desh-Videsh Atlanta edition.

To begin with, we will print 20,000+ copies and will increase the quantity as demand grows. We will launch in Mid-October 2022 with our Diwali issue.

Because we are so excited to expand our reach, we are celebrating by rewarding those who act fast.

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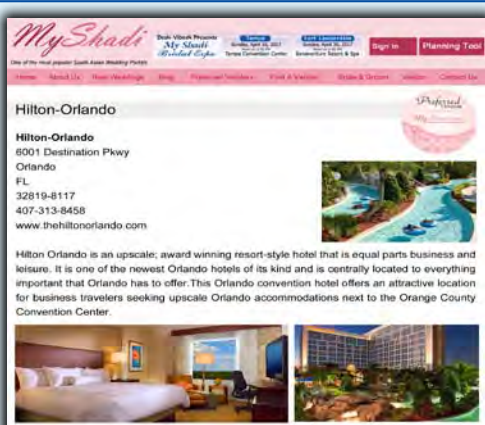
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