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AIKS **naad**

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**11 SOLDIERS, 10 CIVILIANS MARTYRED IN 3 MONTHS
NATION SALUTES THESE BRAVEHEARTS**

Book Donation Function on June 26 at Shri Vishvakarma Skill University presided over by Vice-Chancellor Shri Raj Nehru!"



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THIS MONTH'S COVER

Picture of
Terror in J&K

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Dear esteemed readers, while the July month, each year, brings a hope of relief from the scorching heat with expecting rains in the plains of Bharat, it holds not-so-pleasant memory for the Kashmiri Pandits. Last 93 years, 13 July, every year has been a reminder of horror that was perpetrated on the innocent community for no fault of theirs. Destiny seems to have had very unfair offerings in stock for our miniscule community and it doesn't seem to leave hold of it even till today. How else can one explain the repeated onslaughts on it for the last 700 long years.

Who doesn't know about **Batta Loot** of July 13, 1931. And what was the Batta's fault? Just one – he was a Kashmiri Pandit! It is a strange phenomenon only with respect to the Kashmiri Pandits that they have lived as submissive underdogs and yet have been the targets of religious onslaught throughout these 700 odd years. With the Dogra rule coming into the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir in 1846, the community's horror of many centuries seemed to end and the people started to heave a sigh of relief. However, by this time their numbers had drastically dwindled through killings and forced conversions by the long Muslim rule in Kashmir. Despite the Dogra rule of 75 long years, the demographic figures of the Kashmiri Pandits as per the census of the Year 1921 in the valley are very dampening. There were just about 55 thousand Kashmiri Pandits living in Kashmir with about 40 thousand of them being illiterate. But for a few in employment in the Dogra regime, majority of the educated were unemployed. This demographic situation of the Pandits shows not-so-bright status of the community despite the Hindu Dogra rule at that time.

Just a decade after this census, the Dogra rule faced the onslaught of Muslim uprising

seeking rights for the Muslim community that was spearheaded by the Muslim Conference with Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah as its leader. It is noteworthy that Kashmiri Pandit, being another subject of the society, did not figure in their demands of the struggle. Instead, he became the soft target of their wrath against Monarchy. And on the fateful day of 13th July, 1931, this miniscule minority was attacked throughout resulting in mass looting of the houses, shops and other establishments belonging to Pandits that left over 20 Pandits dead and thousands injured. Maharajanj, an important business center, was raised to ground. This incident came to be known as **Batta Loot**.

Although Kashmiri Pandits had an organisation in Sanatan Dharm Yuvak Sabha, headed by the then social reformer Shri Kashyap Bandhu, it was more involved in social reform of the community and had no political agenda for the community. The initiative was grabbed by Muslim Conference by rechristening it as National Conference and convincing the KP leadership in letting it to be the combined political face of both the communities. Thus, killing any possibility of Kashmiri Pandits becoming part of the political mainstream in Kashmir. Ironically, till date, we have not been able to create a political platform from where we could fight for our rights, dignity and claim on our homeland.

Should remembering **Batta Loot** ignite the thought in the community to have a political platform from where a united battle against the injustice can be effectively fought? Food for Thought!

Namaskar

Note: Census data is courtesy Shri Vijay Kashkari

युकाउकायउ *Abubhachan*

From the President's Desk



To a displaced person, the most imperative thing is to be alive, as being alive outweighs his personal satisfaction. Forced exodus of KP's is one such example when the vast majority of them fled during 1990's from Kashmir that saw widespread destruction to human life, leaving back all that they had worked for in their lifetime and that of their progenitors. Having left the entirety of their things back in their place of origin, these people additionally deserted their confidence, fearlessness, personality, dreams for the future, and so forth. It even stripped the minimal sense of pride that stayed in them who even accepted as being labelled – Migrants. Kashmiri Pandits, a community marred by decades of strife, finds now itself grappling not only with the perils of displacement but also with the spectre of driving them towards oblivion.

They are now in the 35th year of their running exile and during the period lot of water has flown down the Vitasta. The first big change that they have observed is that the milk of human kindness has dried and their

exodus and its consequences have become a new normal. Their plight does not evoke anymore reaction now, as it has been rendered to the footnotes of Archaeology. A similar situation was witnessed in early 1980's with a difference that it was a forced migration of Tamil Sri Lankans to Tamil Nadu at the peak of Civil War. Tamil Sri Lankans had to face a forced displacement from their native Country Sri Lanka, who had to run for their lives at the peak of the Sri Lankan civil war. More than 3 Lakh refugees landed on the shores of Tamil Nadu at various times from 1983 seeking safety and asylum from the harrowing Sri Lankan Civil War. These Sri Lankan Refugees were accommodated in various Government run refugee camps in Tamil Nadu. Currently more than 62,000 Tamil refugees live in 107 camps spread throughout Tamil Nadu, one in Orissa and just under 37,000 live outside the camps in Tamil Nadu. Though as a state, India is not a signatory to the 1951 Geneva Convention or its Protocols, and as such has no special legal framework for refugees or asylum-seekers and treats them only as “illegal migrants”. Yet, it came forward and accorded them all the hospitality and associated protocols. Organisation for Elam Refugees Rehabilitation (OFERR) formed by these people takes up their welfare and resolution of issues with the Government from time to time. The brief description of the benefits they receive from the Government is given as under:

1. Monthly Cash Dole, free housing, electricity, water and monthly food rations
2. Access to all welfare schemes which are available to native Tamilians

3. Women's rights scheme of Rs 1,000/- pm
4. Arts Students – one-time education support programmes
5. Science Students – Rs 12,000/- and Engineering Students Rs 50,000/- pm
6. New Homes – Tamil Nadu Government constructed and handed over 5000 new homes to them.

In addition to it Tamil Nadu Government issued an order to rename these camps as Displaced Tamil from Sri Lanka Tamils in India. Though it is a semantic change, yet it is an effort to restore the dignity and respectability of the homeless people.

Coming straight to the argument there is a great amount of similarity between Tamil Sri Lankans refugees and KP's except that Tamils came from a different Country. The point is the treatment meted out to KP's as they continue to be euphemistically known as migrants. The dictionary meaning of the migrant is “*a person that travels to a different Country or place, often in order to find work*”. How demeaning is this migrant tag to an, otherwise, respectable community who had to plough a lonely furrow all these years to ensure their day-to-day survival. Though a symbolic step yet to restore the dignity of the Sri Lankan Tamil refugees, Tamil Nadu

Government rechristened them as Displaced Tamils to destigmatise them by removing the tag of refugees. Here in our case, keeping the whole circumstances in view we continue to live with the stigma of being called migrants despite our best efforts to treat us as internally displaced people.

Looking at the housing scheme wherein Sri Lankan Tamils have been handed over 5000 houses when they still continue to be the refugees, isn't this step slightly short of granting citizenship with their stay spanning now for more than four decades? The question that arise here is don't KPs qualify for such a housing scheme? There are so many things to be said on the subject but suffice to say, while comparing the two situations, KPs seems to be far behind them despite being children of the motherland. To ameliorate our issues, AIKS even knocked the doors of Supreme Court of India by filing a civil writ petition there to seek Justice for the beleaguered community, since transferred to J&K High Court for further follow up.

While concluding, it is imperative on the part of the political administration to treat the issue of displacement and dispossession of KPs as not a migration but a civilisational assault on the hapless KPs.



Shradhanjali!

Sh. Narotam Nath Mattu S/O Late Shri Udhay Nath Mattu breathed his last on 2nd June 2024 at 13:46 hrs peacefully. Shri Mattu originally belonged to Bagh Jogi Lanker, Rainawari and post displacement, he made his abode at 669-A, PHE Lane, Opposite Krishna Building, New Plot, Jammu - 180005. Shri Mattu was a career educationist. He retired as Literary Editor from J & K Board of School Education, JAMMU.

Shri Narotam Nath Mattu was the father-in-law of Shri Bansi Razdan, Secretary All India Kashmiri Samaj, New Delhi. AIKS expresses deep condolences to Shri Bansi Razdan and the entire Mattu family on this irreparable loss. May Sadashiv bestow Moksha to his Aatma! Namah Shivai!



Shri Narotam Nath Mattu
(29-12-1925 to 02-06-2024)



- Puran Patwari



General Secretary's Column

Owing to the general elections and extreme hot weather conditions this and previous month, AIKS has mostly run the business through e-mode. However, there has been no letup in the quantity of tasks undertaken. It has been, as usual, a busy and action packed month.

Update on AIKS OWP in J&K HC

In view of the recent notification of Ministry of law and Justice making it mandatory for all courts of the law including subordinate courts like Tribunals and Commissions to decide cases within a short time frame and dispose of all pending and long running cases as soon as possible, it has raised hope that AIKS filed Civil Writ Petition, originally in the SC, now known as OWP (Other Writ Petitions) may soon reach its logical conclusion. There is a sense of expectation in the community that all our prayers (in the petition) including relief and rehabilitation and compensation will be considered with open mind by the honorable judges and Justice granted to the beleaguered community. The wait for justice has been long and arduous and a final and positive verdict will grant some healing touch to the wounds, though intermittent orders have rendered some good to the community. As regards the latest status of the case, I may apprise my community members that our team of Advocates have voluntarily taken it upon themselves to make an inventory of the physical location and status of the temples/ shrines across all districts of Kashmir along with their properties and land holdings by our deities in and around the temple/ shrine complexes as it existed pre-

1990. In this regard the venerable community lawyers have enlisted the support of retired revenue officers of the community who in their respective careers have worked in villages, blocks, and districts of the valley. The lawyers have held an extensive interaction with these retired officers and an authentic inventory is underway. The move was necessitated by the court asking the government to furnish the status of temples and shrines as it existed pre-1990s. In order to preempt a wrong documented version of the status of temples and shrines by the government agencies the, venerable lawyers felt it desirable to have authentic inventory prepared which can be used for future references too. AIKS on behalf of the community expresses deep gratitude to Advocates— Shri P N Raina, Shri P N Goja, Shri Ravinder Bhat and Shri Kashmiri Lal Bhat. Shri Kashmiri Lal Bhat is the force behind putting things together and pursuing the matter in Jammu HC. Not to speak of the valuable contribution rendered by AIKS Vice President Shri A.K Raina who, as AIKS points man, coordinates between apex organization and the Advocates.

KOA Raises a toast to AIKS

Kashmir Overseas Association (KOA) the socio-cultural organization of the KPs living in the US holds an annual four-day camp from July 4 (American Independence Day) every year. The week long recreational get together is often a well-attended event where Kashmiri cultural bonanza is on offer including typical veg/ non-veg culinary

items, food, photo shoot in tarang pheran dress, dance and drama and the soul lifting Kashmiri songs which come live from KP singers, many celebrity singers are invited from India to render live music shows these five days. The just concluded event this year was held in the scenic city of Colorado. This event marks the highlight of KOA programme diary, an occasion where the head of the organization rededicates itself to community cause and felicitates contributors to the cause. For the second time in a row KOA has put on record the contribution of AIKS as its India partner for carrying out its myriad welfare programmes like its flagship programme of Scholarship and family sustenance etc., apart from Sharika Foundation and other organizations. KOA had extended an invitation to AIKS President Dr Ramesh Raina for attending the camp

which the President reciprocated by sending a video message to the community gathering.

AIKS greets PM and HM

President Dr Ramesh Raina greeted PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah on their re-election in just concluded general elections by sending them a congratulatory letter.

AIKS Future Programme

AIKS is actively considering holding J&K connect programme in the month of September at Jammu. The AIKS Jammu team is at work to finalize the venues and put together various aspects of the programme needed to make it an all-inclusive and impressive show.



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(APEX BODY OF INDIAN & OVERSEAS KASHMIRI PANDIT ORGANISATIONS)
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Faridabad Haryana 121003, Telephone: 0129-4061043
Web: www.aiks.org; E-mail: hqaiks@gmail.com

Date: July 20th, 2024

ELECTION NOTICE

Whereas the undersigned has been appointed as Returning Officer vide letter No **AIKS/GS/Corres./(Elec.)/2024-27 dated 26th May 2024**, to conduct the election for the post of President of AIKS, for the term 2024-27, therefore, I Ajay Kumar Pandita, Returning Officer, hereby notify that the said election will be held at Club Florence, Golf Course Extn Road, Sector 56, Gurugram, Haryana 122011 (Nearest Metro station Sector 55-56, Rapid Metro) on Sunday, October 27th 2024.

ELECTION PROGRAMME

Programme	Day/Dates	Time	Venue
1. Filing of Nominations	Monday 7 th October 2024 to Sunday 13 th October 2024	From 11.00 AM to 4.00PM	Office of the AIKS House No. 308, (LGF), Ashoka Enclave Part-III, Sector 35 Faridabad Haryana 121003
2. Scrutiny of Nominations	Monday 14 th October 2024	From 11.00 AM to 01.00 PM	-do-
3. Display of Valid Nominations	Monday 14 th October 2024	At 02.00 PM	-do-
4. Withdrawal of Nominations	Saturday 19 th October 2024	By 04.00 PM	-do-
5. Display of final list of candidates	Saturday 19 th October 2024	At 05.00 PM	-do-
6. Polling	Sunday 27 th October 2024	From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Club Florence, Golf Course Extn Road, Sector 56, Gurugram, Haryana 122011.
7. Counting of votes	Sunday 27 th October 2024	From 04.30 PM onwards	-do-
8. Declaration of results	Sunday 27 th October 2024	After counting of the votes is over	-do-

Contd....2/-

The nomination forms can be obtained from the office of AIKS, House No. 308, (LGF), Ashoka Enclave Part-III, Sector 35 Faridabad Haryana 121003 between 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM from 7th October 2024 to 13th October 2024.

The authenticated voter list of All India Kashmiri Samaj will be available with RO in the office of AIKS, House No. 308, (LGF), Ashoka Enclave Part-III, Sector 35 Faridabad Haryana 121003 from 07th October 2024 onwards.

Casting of votes through Postal Ballot: Those Patron members / Life members/ Affiliates willing to exercise the option of voting through postal ballot will request the RO for sending them the postal ballot form by letter addressed to RO at AIKS office/email from 07th October 2024 to 25th October 2024 by 2.00 p.m. The sealed postal ballot must be sent to the RO at AIKS office so as to reach him latest by 4.30 p.m on 26th October 2024. The directions for filing the postal ballot will be mentioned in the forwarding letter of the postal ballot itself.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING

1. Affiliates should have deposited the affiliation fees at the time of voting.
2. Candidates desirous of contesting AIKS Presidential Election 2024-27 should be either Life Member or Patron Member of AIKS as approved by previous AGM held on 17/12/2023.

Copy to:

1. President / General Secretary, AIKS
2. Patron members / Life members /Affiliates
3. Editor-in-Chief - Naad for publication
4. Registrar of Societies, Allahabad
5. Sh. Sanjeeva Chaudhary, ARO



Sh. Ajay Kumar Pandita
Returning Officer
Mob No: 9818698920
Email : ajay.pandita16@gmail.com

AIKS affiliated Units at:

Inland : Agra, Ahmedabad, Allahabad, Ambala, Amritsar, Bangalore, Bahadurgarh, Baroda, Bhopal, Chandigarh, Dehradun, Delhi, Dharamshala, Faridabad, Ghaziabad, Gurugram, Gwalior, Hyderabad, Indirapuram, Indore, Jabalpur, Jaipur, Jammu, Jodhpur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Ludhiana, Mumbai, Moradabad, Nagpur, Noida, Panchkula, Pune, Ranchi, Sahibabad, Shimla, Srinagar, Udaipur, Varanasi, Karnal, Tilangana.
Overseas : U.K. & U.S.A



- Dr. Ramesh Raina



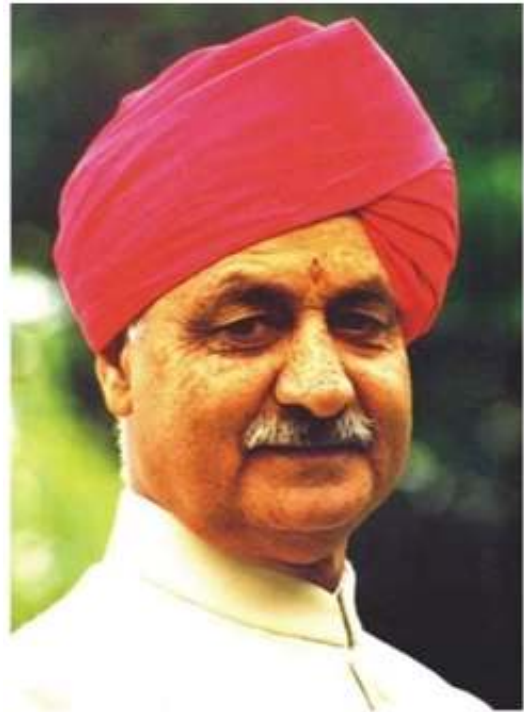
VAISHNAVI JI

TALLEST AMONG HIS CONTEMPORARIES

While recollecting my memories about Parmeshwari agitation in 1967, I remember him as a man famous for the slogan Jaikara Har Har Mahadev and panch nara Pandava ta chhata nara Jai Hind.

It is difficult to define the persona of a person who devoted his entire life to the cause of the community and its people. He is none other than Pt. Amar Nath Vaishnavi Ji, popularly known in the community as Lala Ji. His towering personality and powerful presence instilled a sense of confidence in every KP and that is what set him apart from his contemporaries. His sense of helping attitude made him enter not only every house hold but his presence was felt in every conceivable area of the society. My father would often talk proudly about his contribution to Kashmir especially during Parmeshwari agitation of 1967. He would often talk about the role he played in educating Ladakhi's about their rights as there was a generalised feeling of neglect in them. The height of the things is that he had been sent there on a punishment posting and he utilised the opportunity to the advantage of the deprived people. On learning about his activities, it is said that, he was transferred back again. He became instrumental in awakening the people and making them conscious about the political life of the State (as told to me by my father).

While recollecting my memories about



Parmeshwari agitation in 1967, I remember him as a man famous for the slogan Jaikara Har Har Mahadev and panch nara Pandava ta chhata nara Jai Hind. I have grown with these

slogans that have left a deep impact on me. Ever since, I remained emotionally in touch with this saintly man. He was the most familiar face of that time and is credited in giving momentum to the agitation.

His post displacement innings has also been remarkable as he played an important role in mitigating the day-to-day problems of the exiled brethren. That was the time when people had nowhere to go and nobody was there to listen to their woes. He emerged as the voice of Kashmiri Pandits at a time when it was needed the most. His contribution shall always occupy an important place in the History of Kashmiri Pandits as he was a giver without any expectations from any quarter.

I will quote my personal experience about an important incident where I was directly involved to have his participation. It so happened that we were invited to meet the joint parliamentary committee on the Relief and Rehabilitation of KPs constituted by Ministry of Home Affairs to discuss its recommendations with them in Rajya Sabha Secretariat on January 20, 2013. Sh. Venkaiah Naidu was the Chairman of the said

Committee. Apart from him Sh. L K Advani and all other important leaders both from Government and opposition were its members. Fortunately for us, most of them were present that day. The meeting lasted for about two hours. Lala Ji was also required to be part of KP delegation. I frantically searched for him and came to know that he was operated for Prostate by Dr B L Bhan and was admitted in Jeevan Hospital, Delhi and it was not possible for him to attend the meeting. Still I took a chance and rang him up. After being told about the importance of the meeting he readily accepted and promised me that he would attend the meeting come what may. I was in for a big surprise and never imagined that he would actually make it even against the medical advice. To my utter surprise he came to attend the meeting when he was still carrying the catheter with him and participated along with it. He was greeted warmly by Sh L K Advani there along with all the big leaders. The meeting turned out to be very productive and meaningful. That raised his profile many notches higher up.



Some are born great, greatness is thrust on some and some attain greatness. He was born great. Let his noble soul rest in peace.



– Ashok Ogra



ART OF MANAGING A COALITION GOVERNMENT MODIFICATION IN MODI-FICATION

After enjoying a single party majority in the 2014 and 2019 elections, the 2024 election verdict has, much to the surprise of many pollsters, denied the BJP the majority necessary to form a government on its own. The party secured 240 seats, 32 short of gaining a simple majority. To retain power, the BJP has reached an agreement to form a coalition government that includes the two regional parties -Telugu Desam Party and Janata Dal-United, apart from other smaller parties. This arrangement has led credence to the popular saying: “Coalition politics is not the politics of the ideal; it is the politics of the possible.”

The question bothering most Indians is whether Narendra Modi will be able to manage the contradictions that a coalition government entail. Going by his record - first as undisputed and unchallenged Chief Minister of Gujarat from 2001 till 2014 and then two terms as Prime Minister till 2024, it is undoubtedly going to be a huge challenge. He is decisive and not consultative by nature. He prefers operating through his trusted advisors and bureaucrats, and often gives short shrift to the elected representatives. Will he make a transition to being more accommodative and ensure that decisions are made with collective buy-in is difficult to



predict?

Managing coalition governments is inherently challenging due to the diversity of ideologies and power dynamics. However, with clear agreements, willingness to foster cooperation and robust conflict resolution mechanisms, these challenges can be navigated successfully. The success of such governments ultimately depends on maintaining a shared vision for the greater good.

The concept of coalition governments is not new, and it has evolved over time in various forms and in different countries. The first modern coalition government - The Broad Bottom Ministry (1744–1754) - is often credited to the United Kingdom. The coalition was primarily driven by the need to unite various factions to stabilize the government and effectively manage the country's affairs. The Netherlands also has a long history of coalition governments, with one of the first modern coalition governments forming in 1848.

Such governments have become a common feature in parliamentary democracies worldwide, including countries like Germany, India, Israel, and Italy, where multi-party systems necessitate the formation of coalitions to achieve a governing majority. Italy has had the maximum number of coalition governments in the recent past: since World War II, it has had 68 different governments, averaging about one government every 1.1 years.

Back home, we have examples of political leaders reinventing themselves to adjust to new realities. Narasimha Rao had not expected to become Prime Minister. He had retired from politics and his party had won 232 seats, short of a majority. Therefore, his journey from heading a coalition government to ushering in major economic reforms is an intriguing tale of political adaptation and pragmatism. He gave full freedom to his finance minister Manmohan Singh to dismantle the 'license raj', modernize the banking and stock markets, ease restrictions on FDI etc. 'No decision is also a

decision', Rao would often say, a philosophical twist to what his critics felt was only dithering on decisions. Neerja Chowdhury in her book *HOW PRIME MINISTERS DECIDE*, quotes Rao's loyalist Bhuvanesh Chaturvedi: "PV Thanda Karke Khaate Hain (PV believes in first cooling the food and then eating it.)"

The handling of the Cauvery water dispute between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka was a critical issue faced by Rao government. The AIADMK criticized the central government's approach, claiming it was detrimental to Tamil Nadu's interests, and formally withdrew its support, thus reducing the government to a minority in the Lok Sabha. In spite of this, Rao managed to navigate the political turbulence through strategic alliances and support from other smaller parties and independent MPs and complete a full five-year term.

It was Rao's deep political acumen and understanding of the political landscape that allowed him to navigate the complexities of his own party and that of coalition politics effectively.

Described as the most 'peaceable PM who roared', Atal Bihari Vajpayee's personality was central to his success in managing a coalition government during 1999-2004. His inclusive leadership style, which emphasized dialogue and negotiation, fostered a sense of unity and collaboration among diverse coalition partners. Remember, BJP had won only 182 seats. Vajpayee skilfully managed relationships with regional and smaller parties, securing their support on critical issues and ensuring government stability.

Vajpayee's tenure was marked by significant economic reforms, from the new telecom policy to a greater thrust on disinvestment, inaugurating the Golden Quadrilateral and National Highways Development Project etc. His policies laid the foundation for India's economic growth and development in the following decades.

Vajpayee's charisma and strong oratory skills inspired confidence and rallied support within the government, and he also managed to keep the RSS in good humour.

Unlike Rao and Vajpayee, Manmohan Singh had no prior political experience and yet, as the head of a coalition government (the UPA alliance managed to secure 222 seats with the Congress party winning just 145 seats), he steered India through significant economic transformations, attracting foreign investment, enhancing infrastructure, and boosting GDP growth rates. He was admired for his intellect, integrity, and technocratic approach to governance. His leadership was characterized by his calm demeanour, focus on economic development, and commitment to inclusive growth. He often emphasized the importance of reforms and was credited with maintaining economic stability during his tenure.

It is widely believed that in a coalition government, taking decisive decisions often becomes a casualty. But the record does not support this assumption. Above all, it was Rao who took the bull by the horn and liberalized the economy – much to the chagrin of several left-leaning congressmen.

Vajpayee government was confronted with the infiltration of Pakistani soldiers into Kargil sector in J&K. Vajpayee authorized a swift and decisive military response. His actions demonstrated his ability to make swift, strategic decisions while maintaining a balanced approach.

Who can forget Singh's most notable act of decisive leadership when he went ahead and signed the India-U.S. Civil Nuclear deal? Despite strong opposition from several political parties and members of his coalition (with the left parties withdrawing their support), Singh remained steadfast.

True, leaders with an absolute majority benefit from the ability to make swift, decisive decisions aligned closely with their vision, resulting in consistent and stable policies. This approach is advantageous in situations requiring prompt resolution.

However, the reverse is also true: such leaders who are capable of taking decisive decisions run the risk of betraying sound judgment. How does one explain the imposition of an emergency by Mrs. Gandhi - informing the cabinet next day morning, first

securing Presidential assent? Similarly, Modi's COVID-19 lockdown exposed several challenges, particularly the migrant crisis and the economic impact on vulnerable populations.

In contrast, leaders managing a coalition must navigate the complexities of consensus-building, which may slow down decision-making, but at least it ensures more inclusive and representative governance.

What is equally creditable is the overall economic performance achieved under the coalition governments. During Rao's period, the GDP registered an average (approx.) growth of 5.38%, while during Vajpayee's tenure it increased to an average of 6% before registering a healthy 7.6% during Singh's two terms between 2004-2014. True, the growth rate during NDA 2 and 3 is marginally higher at 8% (approx.).

Writing in the Hindustan Times, noted commentator Narendar Pani makes a valid observation that the positive effect coalitions can have on policy is usually missed due to the identification of policymaking entirely with the speed of decision-making. He argues that a strong majority enables quick unchallenged policy decisions, whereas as a coalition government has the opportunity to be more democratic but also more effective in the overall process of policymaking.

The phrase “Politics is the art of the possible, the attainable - the art of the next best,” is attributed to Otto von Bismarck, a 19th-century German statesman. This saying highlights a pragmatic approach to politics, emphasizing that successful politics is about being pragmatic, realistic, and flexible, working incrementally towards improvements rather than seeking perfection. It encourages politicians to navigate the complexities of the real world and to make the best possible decisions within the constraints they face.

True, under the leadership of Modi, the country has witnessed decent growth across various sectors of the economy. That the country is going to be \$25 -35 trillion by 2047 is no ordinary feat. Also, India is today

acknowledged as one of the leading emerging global powers by the developed countries. However, the fact remains that unemployment and underemployment and agrarian crisis continue to define our economy. Similarly, per the NITI Aayog report, 11 % Indian's population still qualified as poor last year. India ranks 129th on the list of countries with the highest GDP per capita in PPP terms. The 2024 verdict shows that Indians are united by a desire for development that is equitable and inclusive.

What is more worrying, however, is the erosion in the autonomy of key constitutional bodies and institutions that provide the necessary nutrients to our democracy? An informed citizenry holding differing viewpoints is at the heart of a dynamic democracy. "Without debate, without criticism, no administration and no country can succeed, and no republic can survive." (John F Kennedy phrase)

Nobody doubts Modi's political astuteness, political adaptability, and electoral mastery and crisis management abilities. However, he has to acknowledge that in a coalition government, compromise is not a sign of weakness; it is in fact the strength that keeps the partnership working.

The reputed 'The Economist', London

FOOTNOTE: *What hope do Kashmiri Pandits have from Modi 3.0? Facilitate their early return to the valley, with dignity? Nothing more, nothing less!*

Tragically, as of today, the more we long for home, the father away it appears. The place that was ours is slowly disappearing.

has captured the dilemma that Modi faces: 'Modi will have to choose between the two political avatars that have dominated his career. One is the 'Emperor of Hindu Hearts' and the other 'Development Man' bent on unleashing India's potential.' The million-dollar question is whether Modi can evolve from a polarising strongman into a unifying consensus builder, and whether we will see modification in MODI-fication.

Knowing that he is keen to surpass the record of Nehru as the longest elected Prime Minister in office (incidentally, Nehru was sworn in as PM four times and both Mrs. Gandhi and Vajpayee three times each), there is every likelihood of Modi reinventing himself. A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus but a moulder of consensus. Can the beginning be made by announcing a non-BJP MP as the next speaker of the Lok Sabha? Recall, that during Vajpayee's tenure, the speaker post was held by M. C. Balayogi and Manohar Joshi – belonging to the Telgu Desam Party and the Shiv Sena respectively.

Also, if he listens to Vajpayee's advice to follow 'Raj Dharma', he has a strong possibility of being remembered in history as another Vajpayee.

(Ashok Ogra works as Advisor with reputed Education society based in New Delhi)



PROFESSOR GIANLUCA SARRI RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS KAW LEGACY AWARD

30 April, 2024. We're pleased to announce that Professor Gianluca Sarri has been awarded the KAW Legacy Award, an important recognition in the field of plasma and nuclear fusion research.

ASKPC OBSERVES JULY 13 AS BATTA LOOT DAY!

All State Kashmiri Pandit Conference (ASKPC) observed July 13 as Batta Loot Day, remembering the killings, burning and looting of the innocent Kashmiri Pandits and their properties on July 13, 1931 in the Muslim uprising against then Maharaja Hari Singh. The members of ASKPC held a peaceful demonstration in front of Raj Bhawan, in Jammu. The community stalwarts spoke on the occasion demanding punishment to the perpetrators of terror in Kashmir in the last 35 years and return of the displaced KPs to their homeland with dignity and foolproof security.





ASKPC (SDYS)

VOICE OF KASHMIRI PANDITS

The historical snippets of Sanatan Dharm Yuvak (Young Men's) Sabha (SDYS), later renamed as All State Kashmiri Pandit Conference (ASKPC), discussed in this Paper based on various reliable sources include the archives of the official organ 'MARTAND', and handwritten reminiscences of Pt. Kashyap Bandhu, as related by Pt. Amar Nath Vaishnavi, a book titled 'Kashmir Main Urdu' by Abdul Qadir Sarwari, published articles of Pt. J. N. Saproo, Pt. C. L. Sadhu and Prof K. N. Pandita, 'Kashmiri Pandit' by Anand Koul, and 'Wail of the Vale, Kashmir Stinks' published by Kashmir Hindu Action Committee, Srinagar.

According to the 1921 census, 55,052 Kashmiri Pandits lived in Kashmir. Of these, 14,749 were literate, whereas 40,303 were illiterate. Moreover, 5,154 were literate in English, including 50 females. Despite a few Kashmiri Pandits occupying high posts during the Dogra rule, it is worth noting that a significant number of literate Kashmiri Pandits were unemployed at that time.

Only one organization of Kashmiri Pandits existed to address the community's problems, called 'Sanatan Dharam Sabha' (SDS). Every male and female Kashmiri Pandit was its member. The organization's responsibility fell on Pt. Hargopal Koul 'Khasta'. He was an ardent crusader in fighting for the social causes of the

community and was called the Lion of Kashmir. He was President of the Sabha when Sir Hari Singh was crowned Maharaja of Jammu & Kashmir in 1925. In the next six years, a political upheaval took place in the valley by the young literates of the majority community, firstly from the reading room party. Later, the same group formed the Muslim Conference, which Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah led.

As the political movement became vital for the majority community, the leaders of Sanatan Dharam Sabha (SDS) found themselves marginalized in local politics. They resolved to give the organization a new constitution so that it could take up Kashmiri Pandits' political aspirations. The SDS's new name was SDYS (Sanatan Dharam Yuvak Sabha).

By 1931, the Muslim Conference was at the forefront of seeking political and civil rights of the majority community from Maharaja Hari Singh. The same year, on 13 July, a communal flare-up occurred. In the riots, the minority community lost 110 houses. Twenty-two persons were killed. Five hundred twenty shops were looted, and 2000 were wounded. Mahrajganj trading centre was in ruins.

In 1931, the President of SDYS was Pt. Kashyap Bandhu. He prioritized unemployment as a more significant problem

and led the organization's "Bread Movement" and "Roti Agitation" to consolidate the community to fight for their rights. His widespread social reform was to get women to dress differently from the traditional dress to salwar kameez or sari. The organization was for women's education and was successful in that endeavour. SDYS fought all these reforms from Sharika Bhawan and Sheetalnath. The people of Sathu provided the building for the office of SDYS and The Martand as the official organ. By October 1931, the organization had reorganized the North, West, South, and East areas around Vitasta. Three hundred volunteers from all parts of Kashmir were part of SDYS. The second line of the SDYS were the branch Sabhas to keep vigil around their areas. Pt. Sat Lal Sadhu was an essential member at that time. The other ardent supporters were Pt. Shambu Nath Ogra, Pt. Shyam Lal Gurtoo and Pt. Ram Chand Abhai.

Pt. Kashyap Bandhu was a strong votary through the "*Martand*" publication. Due to its publication, he had to endure agony. His wife, Smt. Vimla Kaul was a student at S P College and obtained a scholarship granted to women. This scholarship had been in vogue since 'Raj Tilak' of Maharaja Hari Singh. Smt. Vimla Kaul was a student at the Women's College, established in Lahore in 1929. Because of Pt. Kashyap Bandhu's fearless community voice, his wife's scholarship was discontinued. The College received a letter mentioning the address of Smt. Vimla Kaul as the w/o disloyal subject of Maharaja Bahadur.

The restless youth of that time, unemployed law graduates and other degree holders, were at the organization's forefront. On 24 October 1931, SDYS submitted a charter of demands to the Maharaja. The needs included employment, liberal grants of land so that Hindu families are encouraged to take agriculture as a profession, all the restrictions in the sale, mortgage and transfer of agricultural land removed, scholarships paid as paid to other communities for education, protection provided to the community to safeguard their property, their homes and their places of worship. The memorandum further

said that the Kashmiri Pandits be supplied with firearms wherever necessary; discrimination against the community stopped as preference was given to Muslim matriculates over Hindu graduates to be repudiated; no statutory recognition to communal majorities and minorities; and the military department opened for employing Kashmiri Pandits. Signatories to this memorandum were Pt. Jia Lal Kilam, Pt. Janardan Teng, Pt. Prem Nath Bazaz, Pt. Damodar Bhat and Pt. Kashyap Bandhu.

The struggle of Kashmiri Hindus, organized by SDYS, was so intense that Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah approached KP leadership to join his party's National Conference. The Muslim Conference in 1932 changed to the National Conference under the influence of the Indian National Congress. Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah took every opportunity to lure Kashmiri Hindus to join his party. Firstly, the solid executive body of SDYS didn't relent. The KP leaders were not in favour of joining NC. The leaders included S/Pandit Jia Lal Kilam, Srikanth Chaku, P N Bakshi, D N Kotru, S N Daftari, V L Sumbly, M N Braru, Tarachand Dassi, Sukhdev Ganjoo, L N Dhar, N N Dhar, Sheo Narain Fotedar and Janki Nath Bhan. But in a meeting, the constant persuasion of S M Abdullah and leaders of the freedom movement of India, SDYS resolved that the NC shall take up the political affairs of the Sabha. SDYS shall retain a socio-cultural agenda with them. Pt. Kashyap Bandhu was the first to join the National Conference. Others who joined later were Pt. Jia Lal Kilam and Pt. Prem Nath Bazaz. Persuaded by the NC, Pt. Kashyap Bandhu resigned as President of SDYS. Pt. Sheo Narain Fotedar was elected the President of the Sabha. He retained his office until his term ended, despite being nominated as Member of Parliament and Chairman of State Legislative Counsel.

The Presidents of the Sabha till 1987 were Pt. S. C. Chaku for the years 1940 to 45, Pt. Harjee Lal Raina 1945 to 73; Justice J N Bhat 1973-75; Dr S. N. Peshin from 1983 to

87; and Pt. Amar Nath Vaishnavi, from 1987 till his demise in 2013. Pt H L Chatta was President after Vaishnavi Ji's demise until he left this world in 2014. On his death, the Sr. Vice President, Pt Radha Krishen Raina functioned as President. He got the elections conducted, and Pt Ravinder Raina was elected President for two years, ending in September 2017. He did not conduct an election till his demise on 20 August 2020. Since 2019, no election has been held, and the Late President Ravinder Raina's executive members are occupying the office of ASKPC.

Remember, I want to name other prominent office bearers of ASKPC from time to time, such as Pt. Prem Nath Bhat, Sr. Vice President, Pt. Kashi Nath Duloo, General Secretary, Pt Prem Nath Bazaz, Pt Amar Nath Ganjoo, Justice J L Kilam, Pt. D P Koul, Pt. Tikka Lal Taploo and Pt. Hriday Nath Jattu. Pt. Jattu was President of the Ganpatyar Mandir Committee and a member of the working committee of ASKPC. Later, he formed the All India Kashmiri Pandit Conference (AIKPC). Pt. J N Sapru also joined him. Pt K N Duloo was his General Secretary.

The President, Dr S. N. Peshin, had a robust executive body comprising Dr B N Khashu, Major Radha Krishen, Pt. Neel Kanth Ganjoo, Pt. J. N. Gadoo, Prof. S. L. Pandit, Prof. P. N. Pushp, Pt. T. N. Dhar, Pt. N. C. Bali, Pt. Amar Nath Vaishnavi, Pt. Maharaj Krishen Koul, Pt. J. N. Kachroo, Pt. C. L. Sadhu, Pt. Prem Nath Bhat, Pt. Harjee Lal Jad, Pt. A. K. Ganjoo, Pt. H. L. Chatta, M. L. Thusoo, Pt. Niranjnan Nath and Pt. Kashi Nath Dulloo. The special invitees were Pt. Tikka Lal Taploo, Pt. Ashok Bhan, Prof. D. N. Madan and Pt. M.L. Bhat. After two terms of Dr S.N. Peshin, Pt. Amar Nath Vaishnavi was elected President of ASKPC, SDYS.

In 1972, ASKPC drafted a new constitution, which was issued by the General Secretary, Pt K N Duloo. In 1982, on the 10th and 11th of July, a convention was held at Shitalnath, presided over by Dr S N Peshin. The well-attended gathering passed resolutions that KPs living in Kashmir Valley

placed on record their sense of solidarity with all the Kashmiri Pandits, wherever they live. ASKPC would strike with full force and fight for its rights through all legal, constitutional, and other necessary means.

ASKPC reminded the Government that in the erstwhile Praja Sabha, with a total membership of about 40, the community had three seats reserved. Thus, in the Naya Kashmir, the Government should reserve at least two seats. The State Government should appoint a statutory Minority commission, Hindus be allowed to visit the Holy Shrine of Sharda Mata in POK, the Government should adopt the Devanagari script for Kashmiri literature, the State Legislature should examine the Hindu Religious Endowments Bill, and a select committee of the community should be supported. The Convention also discussed the opposition to the organization.

ASKPC had to face dissent from time to time. The mischievous efforts of vested interests foiled the creation of community vocational centres and a few projects concerning unemployment, encroachments, and social reforms like wasteful expenditures in marriages, yegnopavit, betrothals, etc. The Convention also strongly resented changing the names of places in the valley without any rationale.

As the organization ASKPC (SDYS) was at the forefront of KP affairs, the community youth was consolidated by forming Mahavir Dal, Batyar Dal, Alakshwari Dal, Rainawari Dal and Ganpaityar Dal in Srinagar City and Sabhas in other districts.

SDYS launched an agitation in 1937 to prevent Dharmarth Trust from taking over Durganag Temple. The community was also in the forefront of safeguarding Kashmir from raiders in 1947. The Sabha supported refugees from North Kashmir who had lost everything in the tribal raids.

After J&K State acceded to the Indian Union, Sabha became famous as the ASKPC (All-State Kashmiri Pandit Conference), and Sheetalnath became a political hub.

It is appropriate to mention several events that affected the KP community politically and

economically after 1947 in Independent India.

1947, the barbarian Pathan raiders (Qaballies) sent from newly created Pakistan started mayhem to eliminate the minority community. For a week loot, murder and rape were the schedule of operations. The raiders forcibly converted Hindus, Sikhs, and Christians to Islam. Many people who were able to save themselves fled to Srinagar. The city turned into a refugee camp. ASKPC volunteers came forward to help refugees. The raiders were thrown out of Uri by the Indian Army. ASKPC, under the leadership of Pt. Kashyap Bandhu sent learned men of the community to villages to bring the KPs back to the Hindu fold who had converted to Islam. One of the learned with him was Pt. Srikanth Kashkari.

In the fifties, particularly up to 1953, SDYS had to face uphill tasks because of the policies of the State Government at that time. Under NC rule, KPs were declared absentee landlords under the State Government's 'Land Reform Act'. The plea was that the community was 'progressive and of socialistic outlook'. The landowners got no compensation for their snatched lands. The state government took over the Karan woollen mill, Srinagar, and Rose match factory Baramulla, which KPs ran. The time of uncertainty had started for the minority community.

In 1967, the infamous conversion, a girl named Parmeshwari Handoo, an employee in Super Bazar, Srinagar, was abducted by a Muslim, another employee of the same organization. After filing the FIR, the police shifted the abducted girl from one police station to another. The police did not restore the girl to her widowed mother. The minority community shopkeepers observed a complete hartal on 8 August 1967. The call of the hartal was ASKPC's spontaneous decision. A protest meeting took place at Sheetalnath under the Chairmanship of Pt. Sheo Narain Fotedar. ASKPC demanded the return of the abducted girl. ASKPC constituted the 'All Kashmir Hindu Action Committee' to agitate diligently. The agitation lasted for twenty-six days. The turmoil ended with the intervention of Shri Y B

Chavan, then Union Home Minister. The entire Kashmir Hindu Action Committee team was led by Pt. Gopi Krishen of Sudhar Samiti, Srinagar. Pt. Prem Nath Ghasi was nominated second in command. Shree Balraj Madhok, President of All India Jan Sangh, supported this agitation. Seven were killed, 2132 were wounded, and the satyagrahis were lathi-charged 57 times. One thousand five hundred thirty-two persons were arrested.

Three commissions, Dayal Commission, Kohli Commission and Gajender Gadkar Commission, were formed to address the grievances of the minority community of J&K. None of the commissions' reports saw the light of day.

During 1968-69, fire accidents were a regular feature of Kashmir, by a planned design. In the fires of 1968-69, the rumour was that the fires were by the Sanghis. Sadhus were beaten on this pretext. KPs restricted their movement from one village to another.

In 1971, the Supreme Court of India's prompt action saved about a hundred employees from career advancement and promotion to higher levels.

Another Agrarian reform Bill was passed in 1972 when Syed Mir Qasim was the Chief Minister. This bill seized whatever land the community held as landlords.

In the Chhatable area of Srinagar city, a centuries-old Temple, Khatkeswher Bhairav Nath Shrine, exists. The shrine is famous for the visit of a Pathan ruler, Ali Mardan Khan, who had challenged KPs to celebrate Shivratri in July to make snowfall. A regular feature of the Temple was holding the "Hawan." In 1973, a mob of Muslims attacked the shrine and vandalized the "mandap". In this incident, Pt. Prithvi Nath Hakeem died. Two truck-loads of CRPF personnel rescued men and women of the Hindu community, the office-bearers of the shrine including Pt. Amar Nath Vaishnavi and Pt. J. N. Dhar.

(Contd.....)



- Mohit Kandhari

THE ARC OF TERROR IS COMPLETE FROM KASHMIR TO JAMMU, INDIA BLEEDS

(The article is courtesy The Pioneer dated 09 July, 2024)



At least four Indian Army soldiers were martyred and five others were grievously injured in yet another provocative terror strike on an Army vehicle near Badnota village of Machhedi under the jurisdiction of Lohai Malhar block in Billawar tehsil of Kathua district on Monday. The area falls under the 9 Corps of the Indian Army.

The attack took place a month after a group of foreign terrorists targeted a pilgrim

bus in which nine civilians were killed and 41 others were injured in the Reasi district on June 9. A similar attack was attempted on an Army post by another group of terrorists in the frontier Rajouri district early on Sunday morning. However, the same was repulsed by one of the alert troopers manning the periphery of the Army installation. According to preliminary reports, a group of terrorists pitched atop a prominent hill feature targeted the Army vehicle by first hurling a grenade and

later opening indiscriminate firing to inflict maximum casualties. The terrorists also took advantage of the foggy weather and poor road conditions before targeting the Army vehicle. During the heavy exchange of firing several soldiers were badly hit. The fate of terrorists could not be known immediately as the anti-terrorist operation was still going on in the thickly forested area.

Confirming the firing incident, a spokesman of the Jammu and Kashmir police in a brief statement said, "Exchange of fire between terrorists and security forces going on in the Machedi area of Kathua district. Two Army personnel were injured in the initial round of firing. A massive search operation has been launched". Meanwhile, additional troops have been rushed to the spot to plug the escape routes and neutralise the terrorists.

Senior police and Army officers were supervising the ongoing operation. The Army authorities have issued an advisory to the residents in the area to remain indoors and not to venture out to prevent injuries in the heavy exchange of gunfire.

A day after gunning down six terrorists in two back-to-back encounters in the South Kashmir district of Kulgam Brigadier Prithviraj Chauhan, Commander 1 sec RR, on Monday claimed the security forces have inflicted a big blow to the Pro-Pakistan terrorist outfit Hizbul Mujahideen in the Valley. The killing of six terrorists in South Kashmir is a significant blow to Hizbul

Mujahideen," he said. The security forces are also investigating the role of the locals in sheltering the terrorists inside their homes. During the routine searches, the security forces stumbled upon a well-fortified concrete hideout concealed behind a wardrobe in a civilian residence situated in the Chinnigam Frisal area of Kulgam.

The senior Army officer also paid tributes to the martyred soldiers who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty during the twin encounters. Briefing media persons, Brigadier Chauhan said after concluding the operation, we found and promptly destroyed an IED weighing approximately 6 kilograms, keeping collateral damage in mind.

Speaking on the Modergam encounter, Javed Ahmad Matoo, DIG South Kashmir, said two terrorists were killed in the second operation. "Adil, who had multiple FIRs against him in different police stations, was killed in one operation. The second encounter took place in the Chinnigam area based on specific information, resulting in the killing of four terrorists.

Among them was Yavar Bashir Dar, a Category 'A' terrorist. The others were identified as Tauheed Ahmed, Shakeel Ahmed Wani, and Zahir Ahmad Dar. A significant cache of arms and ammunition was recovered from the encounter site. Both locations had hideouts that the terrorists had been using for a considerable time," Matoo said.

APPEAL FOR ARTICLES!

NAAD is a monthly community magazine of All India Kashmiri Samaj (AIKS) with circulation across the globe. The monolingual publication is in English. It needs support from its readership scholars by way of articles that relate to the Kashmiri community and also to the country. Please come forward and send your articles. In order to give space to maximum number of writers, we request to make each article of 3 to 4 pages in Times New Roman with Font size – 12.

Please send your articles on hqaiks@gmail.com.



- H L Kak



EXODUS FROM KASHMIR DUE TO TERRORISM

3 generations of J&K suffered due to over 3-decade long terrorism: Dr Jitendra

JAMMU, Apr 27: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh today said that three generations of people suffered and were badly affected after terrorism hit J&K in particular and India as a whole onwards nineties.

Addressing a gathering of intellectuals and BJP activists at party office, at Trikuta Nagar here in connection with release of senior BJP leader, Dr Kulbushan Mohtra's book 'Untold story of Terrorism and Proxy War in Jammu', Dr Jitendra Singh said country as a whole and J&K in particular faced nightmarish experience of terrorism onwards nineties and three generations of people were badly hit by it.

Dr Jitendra Singh said among the three generations which suffered in the erstwhile State of J&K included our generation which was in its formative years at that time and

their journey was disturbed. Second was the earlier generation which was stabilize but had got uprooted and third was the generation of teenagers whose education was affected with displacement.

He said though biggest displacement in history of world was the exchange of population between India and Pakistan due to unfortunate partition of Sub Continent in 1947 but displacement of Kashmiri Pandits from Valley in 1989-90 was the unique case of displacement as biggest ever population within its own country.

The Union Minister said even more unfortunate was that there was political design to politicise Kashmiri Pandits' displacement. Some attributed it to the then J&K Governor, Jaghmohan and some accused Pandits of leaving Kashmir to get plots in Jammu, Dr Jitendra Singh added.



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, BJP J&K president Ravinder Raina and other party leaders releasing Dr Kulbushan Mohatra's book at BJP Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar on Saturday. Excelsior/Rakesh



- Dr. S.N. Pandita



State Subject to Domicile The Journey of Indian Citizenship of J&K Residents (Part-II)

(Cortesy: Kashmir Rechords dated January 1, 2024)

Notes to The Notification

The Notification further carried two Notes and read

Note (1) “In the matter of grants of State Scholarships, State land for agriculture and house building purpose and recruitment to State Service, State Subject of class I should receive preference over other classes and those of class II over class III subject, however, to the order dated 31st January 1927 of His Highness the Maharaja Bahadur regarding employment of hereditary State subjects in Government service”.

Note (2) “The descendants of the persons who have acquired the status of any class of the State subjects will be entitled to become the State subjects of the same class. For example, if A is declared a State subject of class II his sons and grandsons will *ipso facto* acquire the same status of class II and not of class I”

The Third State Subject Notification

Subsequently, vide another Notification dated June 27, 1931, one more Class of State Subject and one more qualifying Note was added as Class IV State Subject and Note 3.

The Class IV State subjects were defined as:

“Companies which have been registered as such within the State and which, being companies in which the Government are

financially interested or as to the economic benefit to the State or to the financial stability of which the Government are satisfied, have by a special order of His Highness been declared to be State subjects”.

The Note 3 read:

“The wife or a widow of a State Subject of any class shall acquire the status of her husband as State Subject of Class as her husband, so long as she resides in the State and does not leave the State for permanent residence out-side the State”.

State Subject Certificates for Employment Only

Evidently, the State Subject Certificates issued under the Notification dated 31st January 1927 of the Private Secretary to His Highness Maharaja Bahadur Hari Singh became paramount in securing employment in the state Government. After the establishment of this definition in 1927, every entrant into the State Government service was required to produce a certificate of his being a hereditary State subject of Class I. Such certificates were issued by the Wazir Wazarat in whose jurisdiction the candidate happened to reside.

Curse for Pandits & Boon for Muslims

Parentetically, it was the Kashmiri Pandits,

whose untiring efforts including the agitation “Kashmir for Kashmiris” in the 20s of the last century led to the implementation of the State Subject Law, yet “ultimately the definition proved boon for the majority community”, the Muslims of the State and curse for the Kashmiri Pandits in the following decades because of the vicious communal politics that played out in the post-independence era.

Format & Purpose of Early State Subject Certificates

The earliest State Subject Certificates were simply titled: “Certificate of Hereditary State Subject”. These were essentially issued only for the purpose of employment of the candidate in the State Service. Such certificates expressly stated the name of the candidate and his residential address and also declared his being a candidate for employment in the particular department in which he had or would apply for employment and being a hereditary State Subject of Jammu and Kashmir territory “within the meaning of Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja Bahadur's Notification No: Nil, dated 31st January 1927”.

Such certificates were issued by the Wazir Wazarat on the basis of his enquiries and how he had satisfied himself that the candidate had fulfilled the criteria of the Notification dated 31st January 1927.

The present writer has perused two such certificates extant presently. The first one bears No: 71 issued on November 27, 1929 under the signatures of the then Wazir-Wazarat Sri Ram. This certificate is issued on the attestations of Prof. Radha Krishen Bhan and Prof. Nand Lal Koul, both Professors at S.P. College, Srinagar and Pandit Jia Lal Kilam, then a Pleader at the Maharaja's Court who later rose to become the Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and came to be famously known as Justice Kilam.

In that sense this certificate is uniquely historical for being issued on the attestation of Pandit Jia Lal Kilam who was the main architect of the State Subject Law as detailed in the earlier parts of this paper. The second certificate bears the title: “His Highness'

Government, Jammu And Kashmir” is issued on August 12, 1930 under the signature of Wazir Wazarat S.N. Raina. The certificate is issued on two criteria; firstly, on the record of Certificate No: 71 dated November 27, 1929 and also the Wazir Wazarat knew the applicant personally.

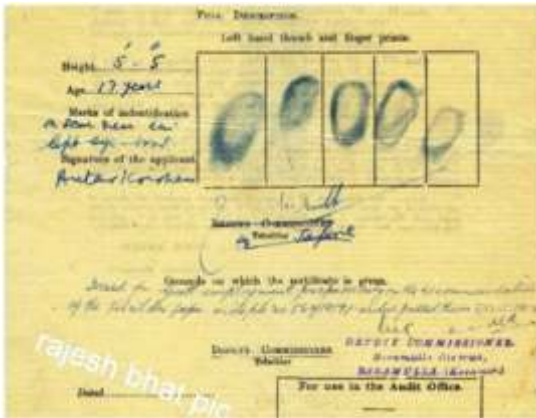
However, subsequent to the State Subject Notification dated April 20, 1927 the candidates were also issued certificates of being State Subjects of Class I, II and III within the meaning of the Judicial Department Notification No: 84 dated the 20th April 1927 and Class IV vide Notification dated June 27, 1931. Such certificates allowed the candidate to acquire State land for agriculture and house building purposes and avail State Scholarships for educational purposes. The fundamental criterion for the issuance of such certificates was that the candidate's caste was not declared as Non-Agriculturist in Gazette dated June 29, 1934. Presently a State Subject Certificate of Class I category of Hereditary State Subject issued on January 29, 1937 by the Tehsildar Khas, Southern, Srinagar vide office File No; 1305 of 1937 still survives.

Permanent Residency Certificates

These definitions of State Subjects were later adopted and subsumed, essentially unchanged into the term “Permanent Residents” in the Jammu and Kashmir Constitution adopted on November 17, 1956 which came into effect on January 26, 1957 in conjunction to Article 370 of the Indian Constitution adopted on October 17, 1949. All persons who were State Subjects as on May 14, 1954 were deemed as Permanent Residents of the state.

From then onwards, while the validity of the State Subject certificates continued to remain effective a revised certificate of Permanent Residency also came into vogue as defined under Section 6 of the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir. Such certificates were issued under the signature of Deputy Commissioner of the respective divisions of the state.

State Subject Certificates with Riders Issued to Kashmiri Pandits



(Permanent Resident Certificate issued for the purpose of seeking Government Employment only. Pic: [Kashmir Rechords](#))

By late 70s of the last century, the main criterion on which such certificates were issued to Kashmiri Pandits were for the “Purpose of Training Only”. In the case of the female Kashmiri Pandit holders, an additional rider was put with the remarks “Valid till Marriage” subsequent to the incorporation of Article 35 A in the Indian Constitution adopted in sequel to the 1952 Delhi Agreement reached between Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister of India and Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, the Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir on July 24, 1952.



(Permanent Resident Certificate of an unmarried Hindu girl with a rider “Valid till Marriage”. Pic Source: Internet)

Annuling the State Subject & Permanent Residency Certificates

For subsequent several decades both the State Subject Certificates issued during the Dogra Period of Maharaja Hari Singh and the Permanent Residency Certificates issued thereafter in independent India by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for the permanent residents of the State remained as valid documents until they were annulled by scraping Articles 370 and 35 A of the Indian Constitution by a Parliamentary Act on August 5, 2019 along with which the State was also bifurcated into two Union Territories, the UT of Jammu and Kashmir and the UT of Ladakh.

Birth of Domicile Certificates

Subsequent, administrative orders issued by the Government of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir replaced the State Subject Certificates and Permanent Residency Certificates with a common Domicile Certificates. According to the laid down rules and prescribed procedures all the holders of the State Subject Certificates and Permanent Residency Certificates were granted Domicile Certificates.

Domicile Certificates to Other Non-Permanent Resident Categories

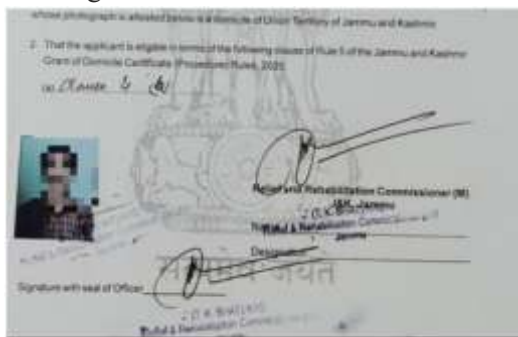
However, other non-permanent residents of the State, or outsiders have now also been made eligible to become Domiciles of Jammu and Kashmir subject to the laid down new criterions. These include all persons and their family members who serve in Jammu and Kashmir and belong to all the categories of the Indian Civil Services like, IAS, IPS, IFS, IRS etc.; persons and their family members belonging to military and para-military forces; any person who studies in Jammu and Kashmir up to class VII and necessarily has passed Class 10 Examination of any Educational Board be that of State or Central and persons who have a continuous residency of 15 years and more in the Union Territory shall also become eligible for Domicile Certificates of the Union Territory.



(Domicile Certificate of Navin Choudhary, a bureaucrat from Bihar who had become J&K's first non-local domicile in June 2020. Pic Source: Internet)

Introduction of Watermark Seal in Domicile Certificates of Exiled Kashmiri Pandits

It may be noted that all previously issued State Subject Certificates and Permanent Residency Certificates were issued on normal printed stationery of the Government without any Court of Arms of the Dogra insignia or the State logo of Jammu and Kashmir.



(Domicile Certificate of a Kashmiri Pandit migrant Student, issued by Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner, Jammu under Clause 4-b. Pic: [Kashmir Rechords](#))

However, the latest Domicile Certificates issued to the members of the exiled Kashmiri Pandit Community bear a printed watermark seal of the lion of the national Ashoka Pillar and the certificates are issued under the signatures of Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrant)

State Subject Movement & Trinity of Jia Lals

Looking in retrospect it will be evident to readers that the crusade of awareness, protest and agitation that finally culminated in the promulgation of the State Subject Law was inaugurated by Kashmiri Pandits. However, what appears to be divinely coincidental is the fact that the Movement for State Subject that was started by four Kashmiri Pandits; and three of them were named Jia Lal (Kilam, Koul and Jalali). The fourth one was Shanker Koul.

* *Dr S. N Pandita is a noted Author, Writer and Researcher with nine books and about 80 research papers to his credit. He has attended five International and 15 National Conferences; Scores of Seminars, Lectured at SAALG, British Library, London, PRASADA, University of Leicester, UK, Universities of Luton, Leeds, Birmingham, UK & Nehru Centre, London.*

Academic qualification: Ph.D. (D. Phil); Bodleian Reader, Oxford. Principal Research Investigator; HLF-KBC Sir Aurel Stein Kashmir Heritage Project, U.K. ;

Awards & Recognition: Atisha Award 2001; Man of The Year-2004, (American Biographical Institute); Listed to 2000 World Intellectuals, 2004 (International Biographical Centre, Cambridge, UK)

Academic Field : History, Heritage, Culture, Language & Literature of Kashmir.(Inter-Disciplinary & Trans-Disciplinary Studies)

Specialization & Expertise: Collaborative Interface of Scholarship between the Western & Kashmiri Scholars during the 19th and 20th century. (Dogra Period) & Currently Unknown and Defunct Kashmiri Numeral System developed and used during the Dogra Period.

* *Dr. S. N Pandita asserts his Copyright on the entire text of the article under the main heading "State Subject to Domicile: The Journey of Indian Citizenship of &K Residents (From the Feudal Dogra State through Independent India to the Present-day Naya Bharat) as its author.*



– Ashok Bhan



ZESHTAMATA'S BIRTH ANNIVERSARY IS CELEBRATED WITH RELIGIOUS FERVOUR IN ZETHEYAR -ZABARWAN HILLS SRINAGAR

Kashmiri Pandits are longing to return home and there is a great societal yearning to welcome home atmospheric currently loud and visible.

Srinagar, May 29: The birth anniversary of Devi Zeshtamata was celebrated with great religious fervor at the Jaashtha Devi temple in Srinagar, featuring a grand Maha Yagna. Devotees from distant places of UT and outside visited the temple to partake in the rituals and celebrate the auspicious occasion.

When contacted for his views -Ashok Bhan, a prominent Kashmiri Pandit's leader and noted supreme court lawyer, highlighted the deep historical ties/ roots of Kashmiri Pandits to the region, which span more than over five thousand years.

He emphasized the integral civilisational connect of Kashmir to Indian civilisation and called for structured government initiatives to plan and facilitate the return of Kashmiri Pandits to their homeland. Bhan specifically mentioned the need for support from Prime Minister Modi and Home Minister in these efforts. It has been their political & constitutional commitment both in and outside the Parliament. There is a socio-Political consensus in the Country and Jammu & Kashmir for return, rehabilitation and restitution of the Kashmiri Pandit Community back to homeland. 35 years of exile is too traumatic and fraught with disintegration of



this illustrious/Unique community.

Bhan said; Kashmir is incomplete without the physical presence of its aborigines pandit population. Kashmir being an inalienable part of Union of India, the new age youth by huge participation in voting recently have preferred democracy and

rejected violence in all forms, bigotry & exclusivity.

It is the high time for UOI to initiate and plan a structured return and rehabilitation for the exiled aborigines Kashmiri Pandits back in homeland. The idea of India would be incomplete and genuine peace will allude in the absence of large population of Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley. Such realisation is discernible on ground Bhan say after his visit to all the shrines in the Valley including “Bhairava cave of Acharya Abbinow Gupta”: focussed interactions with civil society, religious peers and political leadership The policy pandits for UOI have to realistically appreciate, create new narrative and advise the leadership to fulfil their in and out of Parliament commitments urgently about the Ghar wapsi of KPs.

Kashmiri Pandits are longing to return

home and there is a great societal yearning to welcome home atmospheric currently loud and visible.

"Kashmiri Pandits now indisputable rights to return to their homeland following integration, peace and democratic process. Bhan said, underscoring the importance of their return to the valley for revival of the inclusive society, peace, strengthening of idea of India and glory of the cradle of Kashmiri civilisational ethos. Other pandit's echoed the similar sentiments and at the event warmly welcomed all natives who attended the celebration, marking it as a significant and sacred occasion for the community.

Thousands of KP devotees attended and participated in Hawan at Mata Zetheyar temple and all devotees prayed for peace and Ghar Wapsi of the exiled aborigines Kashmiri Pandit Community.



Shehjar Caterers

Shehjar House, Plot No. 2048, Gali No. 5, Kashmiri Block, Jain Nagar, Karala, Delhi - 110081

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– Rohit Tikoo



AMAR SHAHEED SARVANAND KAUL 'PREMI'

*Jo shakhs ho zinda to phir kya khaak marta hai
Hunar ke saath insaan amar ho jaata hai*

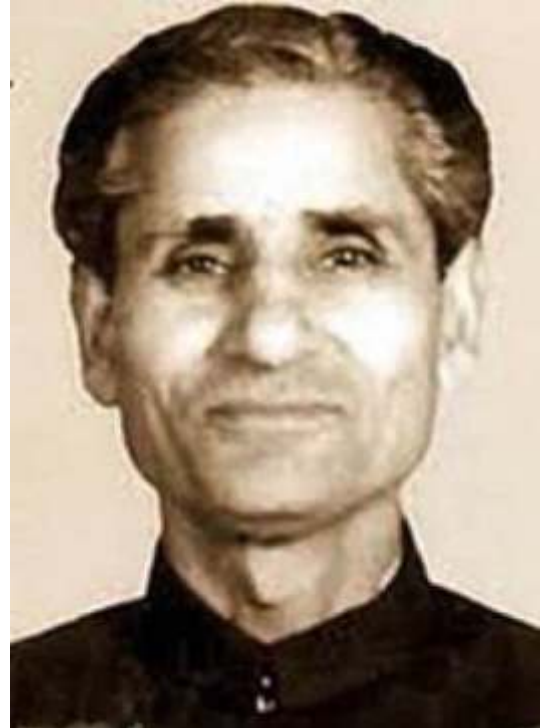
These words by Josh Malihabadi resonate profoundly with the life and legacy of Sarvanand Kaul Premi, a luminary whose diverse talents and unwavering spirit continue to inspire long after his untimely demise alongside his younger son, Virender Kaul, at the hands of radical jihadis.

Birth and Early life

Sarvanand Kaul Premi was born on November 2, 1924, during the holy month of Kartik, on Krishna Paksha Navami in Soaf Shali near Kokernag in Anantnag District. He was the second of five siblings born to Gopinath Kaul. His forefathers had lived in Rainawari, Srinagar, before migrating to Butagund, a village near Bijbehara, and finally settling in Soaf Shali, Kokernag. Sarvanand Kaul's mother passed away when he was only four years old, after which he was cared for by his aunt Gunwati.

Family Background and Spiritual Influences

Sarvanand Kaul Premi's father, Gopi Nath, was a deeply religious man who dedicated much of his time to devotional practices, including worshipping and studying sacred Hindu scriptures. The family home was frequently visited by sadhus (holy men), creating an atmosphere steeped in spirituality



and learning. This environment had a profound impact on young Sarvanand.

As the saying goes, "Jaisa Sang, Waisa Rang" (one is influenced by the company one keeps), and Sarvanand was no exception. He was deeply influenced by the spiritual and intellectual atmosphere of his childhood home. Sarvanand came to regard his father,

Gopi Nath, not only as a parent but also as a mentor and spiritual guide. From his father, he inherited a deep appreciation for religious texts and spiritual knowledge, which would shape his own path as a scholar and writer.

This early exposure to religious studies and spiritual seekers laid the foundation for Sarvanand's future as a multifaceted individual, combining spirituality with scholarship and social engagement.

The Freedom Struggle: Premi's Involvement in India's Independence Movement

After completing his graduation, Sarvanand Kaul Premi joined Khader Bhandar (Gandhi Ashram) for a job. Khadi was adopted in 1920 as a political weapon in the Swadeshi movement by Mahatma Gandhi. It was here that he encountered other freedom fighters and had the privilege of meeting Mahatma Gandhi himself, who was deeply impressed by the young man's dedication and commitment to the cause of independence. Inspired by Gandhi's principles of non-violence and civil disobedience, Sarvanand Kaul Premi became actively involved in organizing local protests.

His involvement with Khader Bhandar not only strengthened his resolve but also expanded his network within the freedom struggle movement. Sarvanand Kaul Premi's efforts were instrumental in mobilizing support from various sections of society, including students and workers, towards the goal of Indian independence. As his reputation grew, Sarvanand Kaul Premi became a target of British repression. Undeterred, he continued to lead protests and faced arrest on multiple occasions

Encounter with Mahjoor and the Birth of a Poet

Sarvanand Kaul Premi wrote a lot during this time, but he was unsure about his poetry and kept it hidden. Someone close to him convinced him to share his work with the well-known poet Mahjoor. Mahjoor, whose full name was Ghulam Ahmad Mahjoor, was a renowned Kashmiri poet

known for his contributions to Kashmiri literature. The meeting between Premi and Mahjoor proved to be pivotal in Sarvanand Kaul's Premi's career.

This meeting initiated what is known as the Guru Shishya Parampara, a traditional Indian concept of mentorship where knowledge, skills, and wisdom are passed from a guru (teacher) to a shishya (disciple). Mahjoor's experience and insight allowed him to recognize Premi's talent immediately. He encouraged Premi to continue writing. This encouragement led to Premi's famous poem, "Roodha Jehri." (Rain spell).

Social Activism and Communal Harmony

Sarvanand Kaul Premi's commitment to social reform manifested in various ways, including his efforts to support the marriage of orphaned Muslim girls, demonstrating his cross-community engagement. His work unfolded against a backdrop of escalating political instability in Jammu and Kashmir.

In 1986, a significant political transition occurred when Ghulam Mohammad Shah supplanted Farooq Abdullah in what was essentially a coup. This shift led to increased volatility in the region's governance. In an attempt to solidify his position, Shah's administration sought legitimacy through alignment with Islamist factions, inadvertently amplifying their political influence.

A pivotal moment arose when Shah proposed the construction of a mosque within the confines of an ancient Hindu temple in Jammu's New Civil Secretariat area, ostensibly to provide Muslim employees a space for prayer. This decision catalyzed widespread protests among Jammu's Hindu population, ultimately resulting in inter-communal clashes.

Upon returning to the Kashmir Valley, Shah employed inflammatory rhetoric, suggesting that Islam was under threat. This narrative exacerbated tensions, culminating in the 1986 Kashmir riots. During this period, Kashmiri Hindus became targets of violence, with numerous temples desecrated or destroyed, particularly in Anantnag. The

unrest led to the looting of Kashmiri Hindu properties, instigating a wave of panic among the minority community and precipitating their exodus from the region.

The interreligious tensions between the Hindu and Muslim communities manifested in mutual economic boycotts during significant religious observances such as Maha Shivratri. While Hindus abstained from purchasing meat, Muslims reciprocated by withholding essential commodities from Hindu consumers. In this context of communal discord, Sarvanand Kaul Ji emerged as a mediator, attempting to bridge the divide between the antagonistic groups and promote interfaith harmony.

He appealed to members of both communities to cease hostilities, emphasizing the historical fraternal bonds between local Muslims and Hindus. Initially, his efforts towards fostering communal amity yielded some positive outcomes. However, the tragic irony of his endeavors became evident in 1990 when he fell victim to the very sectarian violence he had strived to mitigate. This unfortunate event underscored the intricate and volatile nature of the region's communal dynamics, highlighting the challenges inherent in maintaining peaceful coexistence in areas of deep-rooted religious tensions.

The Tragic End : The Brutal Killing of Sarvanand Kaul Premi and His Son

On April 28, 1990, a group of armed extremists perpetrated a heinous act against the family of Sarvanand Kaul Premi in Kashmir. The assailants strategically disabled the local power supply before infiltrating Premi's residence, timing their intrusion to coincide with the family's post-dinner retirement.

Under the pretence of seeking someone Ghulam Rasool address, the intruders gained entry. They systematically held the family members into a single room, proceeding to seize valuables including gold, jewellery, Pashmina Shawls, and their clothes, which they have purchased for the wedding of his close Family relatives. Their pillage extended to forcibly removing personal adornments



from family members too. Nothing was left behind.

The adjacent library, Sarvanand Ji's adjacent house for reading and writing, was not spared. The assailants vandalized this space, absconding with significant literary works and manuscripts that Premi had been developing.

Following the comprehensive looting, the perpetrators employed deception, claiming a need to escort Sarvanand Kaul Premi to meet their Commander with assurances of his safe return. Virender Kaul, Premi's son, insisted on accompanying his father, sensing potential danger. The assailants' agreed to this request was an ominous portent.

In the aftermath, after days of their kidnapping, local law police officials approached the family with the ostensible intent of preparing them for the grim reality. The police first suggested that the family should eat something. This was their way of gently preparing the family for the terrible news they were about to hear. Then, the police told the family that they had found Sarvanand and Virender. Sadly, both had been killed. Their bodies were found hanging from a tree. They had been badly hurt - their arms and legs were broken, and their eyes had been damaged. This showed that the kidnappers had been extremely cruel before killing them.

The tragedy was further compounded by the domestic circumstances of Virender Kaul. His untimely demise left in its wake a young widow and an infant child, merely eighteen months of age. This familial fracture exemplifies the far-reaching consequences of such acts of violence, extending beyond the immediate victims to impact subsequent generations.

Compounding the tragedy, Sarvanand Kaul's youngest son, Ravinder Kaul, was unable to attend his father's cremation due to the risks associated with his position at All India Radio's news section in New Delhi. During this period, employment with state-run media outlets like All India Radio or Doordarshan was viewed with extreme hostility by radical extremists. Such employees were often branded as agents of the Indian state, making them prime targets for violence. The gravity of this threat is exemplified by the fate of Lassa Kaul, who was murdered solely for his association with Doordarshan. This grim reality underscores the perilous circumstances faced by media professionals in the region, caught in the crosshairs of political and ideological strife. This was not the only case where bodies were mutilated before being killed. Same thing happened with Girja Tikoo, Sarla Bhat and many others.

Premi's Multifaceted Personality and Literary Contributions. Notable Works and Translations

Sarvanand Kaul Premi, revered as Shaheed (martyr) in Kashmiri Pandit community stands as a paragon of intellectual versatility and cultural synthesis in 20th century Kashmir. His multifaceted persona encompassed roles as diverse as they were profound: poet, author, thinker, scholar, translator, socio-political activist, and journalist. Premi's scholarly acumen was particularly evident in his linguistic prowess. His command over multiple languages allowed him to bridge cultural divides and bring literary masterpieces to new audiences. Perhaps his most remarkable achievement in

this realm was his translation of Rabindranath Tagore's "Gitanjali" into Kashmiri. This work not only demonstrated Premi's technical skill as a translator but also his deep understanding of both Bengali and Kashmiri cultural nuances, enabling him to convey both the literal meaning and the spiritual essence of Tagore's seminal work.

His other great works was the translation of Bhagvad Gita and Ramayana into Kashmiri and Urdu. The breadth of Sarvanand Kaul Premi's contributions to Kashmiri culture and literature is difficult to overstate. His life's work serves as a bridge between languages, cultures, and belief systems, exemplifying the rich, syncretic tradition of Kashmir. In his roles as writer, translator, and public intellectual, Premi not only preserved but also dynamically interpreted and expanded the cultural heritage of his homeland.

His notable works are Kalami Premi, Bhakti Kusum, Biography of Mirza Kak, works on Mathura Devi, Rupa Bhawani , Paanchader, and many dozen books

Awards and Recognition

The Delhi Metro has commemorated the legacy of a celebrated Kashmiri poet and martyr by installing a plaque at Barakhamba Metro Station. This tribute acknowledges his significant contributions to social harmony, cultural preservation, and communal unity.

Throughout his life and posthumously, the poet received numerous accolades for his work:

1. 1997: Posthumously honored with a gold medal by the Jammu & Kashmir Government
2. 1997: Awarded a medal and memento by Delhi Pradesh BJP during India's 50th independence anniversary celebrations
3. 2000: Bestowed the Shree Bhatt Puruskar by J&K Vichar Manch, New Delhi
4. 2001 (September 5): Presented with the Sarvanand Kaul Premi Gold Medal by the Jammu & Kashmir Government at Raj Bhawan, Srinagar
5. 2006: Received the Sharda Puruskar Saman from Sanjeevani Sharda Kendra, Jammu

6. 2017: Honoured with the inaugural Alakh Saman by Shri Alakh Sahiba Trust, Jammu

These awards recognize the lasting influence the poet has had on Kashmiri culture. His work also aimed to bring different communities together. In his hometown of Soaf Shali, a higher Secondary school was even named after him in his honour.

Hue and Cry in Jammu Kashmir Controversy: Inclusion of Premi's Works in Educational Libraries

In 2018, a significant initiative was proposed in Jammu and Kashmir to incorporate religious texts, including translations of the Bhagavad Gita and the Kashmiri Ramayana by Sarvanand Kaul Premi, into various educational and cultural departments. This decision was initially approved in a meeting chaired by BB Vyas, an advisor to Governor Satpal Malik, on October 4, 2018 was taken back on 18th October, 2018 meeting the same fate as allocating Land to Amarnath Shrine board

The Fight for Justice : Rajinder Kaul's Ongoing Struggle

Faced with immense personal adversity, Rajinder Kaul, the elder son of Sarvanand Kaul has embarked on a mission to preserve and promote his father Sarvanand Kaul Premi's invaluable literary contributions. Surrounded by his father's manuscripts and personal belongings in Delhi, Rajinder tirelessly works to republish Premi's works. This includes translations of Russian folktales and the poetry collection 'Bhakti-Pushp' into other languages. However, he faces significant challenges like a diminishing readership for Kashmiri literature and a lack of recognition as well as support from governmental bodies and institutions.

National and State Human Rights Commissions

In 1994, shortly after the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) by the Government of India, Kaul took a significant step. He penned a four-page handwritten letter to the NHRC, detailing the

atrocities, genocide, human rights violations, and ethnic cleansing experienced by the Kashmiri Pandit community. This simple act of reaching out to the newly formed commission would set in motion a series of events that continue to resonate today.

The NHRC's response was swift and unprecedented. Taking suo moto cognizance of Kaul's petition, the commission granted him an audience with its full panel, including Justice Ranga Nath Mishra, Justice S.S. Kang, and Justice B.B. Fatima. This hearing, held in June 1994, focused on the denial, deprivation, and discrimination suffered by the exiled community. Kaul's appeal was not just for recognition of their suffering but also for preventive, punitive, and restorative measures.

As other organizations like All India Kashmiri Samaj and Panun Kashmir Movement joined the cause with their petitions, Kaul's efforts became part of a larger movement. The NHRC began hearing these petitions collectively, culminating in a verdict in 1999 that specifically appreciated Kaul's arguments on genocide.

The struggle for justice, however, was far from over. In 2008, the NHRC transferred Kaul's family case to the State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) of Jammu and Kashmir, urging a speedy disposal of the case. This transfer came in light of the state government's failure to address the grievances of Kaul's family, described as "patriotic and front-line terrorism victims."

After four years of prolonged hearings, the SHRC delivered a landmark double bench verdict in 2012 – the first of its kind in a Kashmiri Pandit case. The judgment directed the state government to address the grievances "Sooner The Better." This verdict seemed to promise a turning point in the long-standing issue.

Despite this clear directive, the implementation of the SHRC's recommendations has been frustratingly slow. Multiple high-level meetings have been held, chaired by various senior officials including the Principal Secretary to the Chief

Minister, the Financial Commissioner, the Chief Secretary, and even the Governor's advisor. Yet, as of Kaul's account, these meetings have not translated into concrete action.

This continued inaction, in Kaul's view, represents not just a disregard for the SHRC's authority but also an insult to the sacrifices made by families like his who have suffered immensely at the hands of Terrorists. The lack of progress stands in stark contrast to the urgency of the situation and the clear directives issued by various bodies over the years.

Rajinder Kaul's journey from writing a heartfelt letter to navigating the complex corridors of bureaucracy and human rights commissions illustrates the challenges faced by those seeking justice for displaced communities. His persistent advocacy, spanning nearly three decades, serves as a poignant reminder of the ongoing struggles of the Kashmiri Pandit community and the often-arduous path to justice in cases of forced exile and human rights violations.

As this situation continues to evolve, Kaul's efforts remain a crucial part of the larger narrative of the Kashmiri Pandit exodus, highlighting the need for continued attention and action on this critical issue of human rights and social justice.

Conclusion :

The Enduring Impact of Sarvanand Kaul Premi

As we reflect on Sarvanand Kaul Premi's life

and contributions, we are reminded of the vital role that intellectuals, artists, and activists play in shaping society and fostering understanding across divides. His story serves as an inspiration for future generations to pursue knowledge, embrace diversity, and work tirelessly for the betterment of their communities. In an era where cultural tensions and social divisions continue to challenge our societies, the life and work of Sarvanand Kaul Premi offer valuable lessons in resilience, creativity, and the pursuit of harmony. His legacy lives on not only in his written works but in the ongoing efforts to build a more inclusive and understanding world – a fitting tribute to a man who dedicated his life to bridging cultures and fostering peace. To sum up

*Chaman mein jis ne khushboo ka dia tha nazrana,
Taasub ki aag ne us gul ko kar diya fana*

The violence in Kashmir is merely a glimpse into the larger tragedy. Intolerance has fuelled horrific attacks by extremists, tearing apart the social fabric of the valley and claiming lives from both Hindu and Muslim communities. If you have a firsthand account of these events, I'm ready to share your story uncensored. Please reach out to me at author@rohittikoo.com and let me amplify your voice.

*For detailed information on the genocide of Kashmiri Pandits Read the book **Kashmiri Pandits: A Tale of Solitude and Survival.***

Calendar of Month

Aashtami (Krishna Paksha)	28 th July 2024
Ekadashi (Krishna Paksha)	31 st July 2024
Amavasya	04 th August 2024
Ashtami (Shukla Paksha)	13 th August 2024
Sankranti	16 th August 2024
Ekadashi (Shukla Paksha)	16 th August 2024
Shravan Poornima (Raksha Bandhan)	19 th August 2024

Note

Panchak starts on 19th August 2024 ends on 23rd August 2024

Shravan (Krishna Paksha) from 22nd July 2024 to 04th August 2024
Shravan (Shukla Paksha) from 05th August 2024 to 19th August 2024



- Arvind Raina

CONGRATULATIONS!

Anushka Raina

Anushka Raina D/o Arvind Raina and Rachna Raina completed her undergraduate studies in Biochemistry from Deshbandhu College, University of Delhi. Throughout her academic journey, she developed a keen interest in both research and the business aspects of science. This dual passion drove her to explore various avenues within the scientific community.

She had the opportunity to present her review work at numerous national and international conferences, covering a diverse range of topics from drug delivery systems to nanoparticles. These experiences not only honed her presentation skills but also deepened her understanding of these



cutting-edge fields. Furthermore, her dedication to research was recognized when her work on the efficacy of Curcuma longa, Withania somnifera, and Ginkgo biloba in curing dementia was published in a reputable science journal.

Anushka is now thrilled to share that she has received acceptance offers from both Johns Hopkins University and the University of Melbourne for an MS in Biotechnology. With Johns Hopkins having an acceptance rate of 7.3%, this opportunity feels like a privilege, and she is eager to continue her academic and research journey at such a prestigious institution.

On personal front Anushka is janeudhari Kashmiri Girl where thread ceremony was performed in 2017 as per Sanatan Dharma in Faridabad. Anushka can speak and understand our mother tongue Kashmiri language which I am proud of her.



ASHOK KAK

Kashmir's Cultural Icon

(Credits: Kashmir Rechorde November 14, 2023)

Among one of the surviving artists of Kashmir's exalted and most popular daily radio soap opera "Zoondab" which has now become the cultural statement of sorts, the artist, Ashok Kak known as "Ismaal" the affable, meek and wayward simpleton, adolescent who served as the domestic help to "Aga Saeb" is respected as a cultural icon in Kashmir so much so that he chose to remain and serve in Kashmir during the period post 1990s. He continues to breathe life into the roles he is assigned.

Zoondab's Ismaal



Team Zoona Dab :

From left to right : Nayeema Akhtar (Nana Koor), Som Nath Sadhu Saeb), Maryam Begum (Agha Bai), Pushkar Bhan (Mama Pipjee), Nehru (noosh), Ashok Kak (Ismaal), Bashir Arif (Nazir Lala)
(Image courtesy: Bashir Arif)

Not only has he been part of the healthy infotainment provided by Radio Kashmir (now All India Radio) Srinagar, he has independently made forays into the whole process of drama production and donned the

roles of writer, producer and the artist respectively. His character in the *Zoondab*, which made him a star, is now part of the folklore of Kashmir. His journey as 'Ismaal' in the most popular *Zoondab* is continuing. Spotted by Kashmir's broadcasting legends Som Nath Sadhu, Pran Kishore, Bansi Nirdosh and others, Ashok Kak was offered the role of an adolescent domestic help initially. A specific drooling and dialogue dragging style invented as a cliché "*LAGAY BALAAY*" by him endeared him to Kashmiris of all age groups. Everyone would imitate and copy him. Ashok Kak was so consumed by the passion and the adulation; he could not think anything else but the dramas. His total commitment coupled with his dedication took him to every nook and corner in Kashmir valley and outside where he presented his craft mainly as a comedian. His puns and satires were unique and legendary. He got fixed as the stock character in the serial *Zoondab*, which continuously ran for decades. Radio Kashmir [Srinagar](#) felt the need to absorb him as a permanent staffer, a position he richly deserved and earned. The journey since then has been eventful. Countless dramas written and presented by him both for the audio and the visual medium besides exploring their potential through the medium of theatre have become hot topics for academic research. His experimentations in a highly evolving field like theatre and dramas have made him a professional in this field and his adaptations have enabled him to stay relevant.



Ashok Kak performing on a stage.

Ashok Kak as Drama Writer

Some of his dramas besides his first written drama 'Mokjar' which have carved a niche in Kashmir's cultural landscape include 'Anokhay Lal', 'Gari Pethie Zaamtur', 'Kanjoos', 'Adrie Zaet', 'Intequaam', 'Drama Te Haqeeqat' besides many others.

His visions were broadened and after familiarising himself with the developments in the field of drama in India and elsewhere he has

imbibed the craft so much so that he is sought as a counsel by the established drama groups in Kashmir.

Ashok Kak has worked hard to get to the position he is enjoying in the hearts of Kashmiris but very few accolades have come his way. He continues to be the underrated Drama legend in the eyes of the government, though the civil society in Kashmir respects him as a cultural icon.



Broadcasters Rafiq Masoodi and Satish Vimal at a book release function of 'Poshe Vear' written by Ashok Kak

PRESS RELEASE

Results of 3rd Online Essay Contest 2023 - 2024.



"It was really hard to revive the memories of Contribution, struggle & achievements of Lt. Kashyap Bandhu ji - The Unsung Hero, Social Reformer & Freedom Fighter from Kashmir; pertinently after a gap of nearly 40 years, among the Displaced as well as the post 1990 generation of Kashmiri Pandits." remarked Padam Shree Dr K. N. Pandita, Patron of TEAM ESSAY while declaring the results of two years' long exercise of 3rd Online Essay Contest 2023-2024 concluded recently.

Nearly a total of 200 young school going children from the Valley, Jammu & Delhi-NCR participated in the Contest very enthusiastically. The efforts put in by active members of TEAM ESSAY viz. Prof. Sudhir Sopory ex VC, JNU & Poet Subash Premi, Faridabad; Dr. Rajiv Bhat, Grandson of Bandhu Ji, A.K.Raina ex Director, School Education, Veena Pandita, ex Chairperson, BOSE & CA U K Handoo, President, BMM, Ganpatyar, Rohit Bhat, Gen. Sec., Pune Sabha & many others in educating the GenNxt about the Unsung Hero Bandhu ji by addressing children thru 19 Online Google meets, constituted a very attractive feature of the whole Campaign.

In addition, about 55 corner meets were also held on various occasions like Havans, Socio-religious functions, Cultural events etc. in Jammu, Valley, Delhi-NCR; Bangluru, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Pune etc. wherein Life & achievements of Bandhu ji would be explained to one and all.

Above all, publication of a 32-page booklet on Bandhu Ji edited by Dr K N Pandita added to the efforts of the Team for which few members also visited the GEIRU village in Tral earlier.

Sh. Yogesh Munjal, All India Vice President, Arya Samaj was kind enough to **write the Foreword for the said booklet.**

The support & publicity provided by TEAM Wangjvorr of RADIO SHARDA & Community magazines viz. NAAD and KOSHUR SAMACHAR always provided the required energy to the TEAM ESSAY through these two years.

Team Essay thanked Nancy Koul, Sr. Teacher, Dr. Rajni Raina, ex HOD, Zoology, Well known Poet & Author Santosha Shah 'nadaan'; Vinod Mattoo, Sr. Bank Officer, Dr. Mahesh Koul, Ph.D.; C.L.Razdan, Jyotishacharya- cum-Sharada expert and all concerned for their valuable contributions. However, this huge initiative could only create a feeble ripple among the struggling Displaced community - still a lot needs to be done.

Results Of 3rd Online Essay Contest 2023 – 2024

Kashyap Bandhu – Our Social Reformer & Freedom Fighter From Kashmir

A. 4th - 7th English

S.No.	Name	Class	Place	Rank
1.	Yashika Mahaldar	7th	Kashmir	First
2.	Yeshika Kachroo	6th	Kashmir	Second
3.	Bhavika Pandita	6th	S.I.memorial, Tomal	3rd
	Dharna Bhat	5th		3rd
	Panshul Krishen	6th	B.I.s. School, G. Noida	3rd
4.	Hitanshu Babroo, Praznath Wangoo, Ridhi Safaya, Pahal Pandita, Shraavan Tikoo, Anaikait Dutt, Mihit Safaya and Akanksha			Consolation

B. 8th - 11th English

S.No.	Name	Class	Place	Rank
1.	Y Vidhi Raina	9th	Coventry Scholars, Chinore	First
2.	Poorvi	8th	S.I. Memorial, Tomal	2nd
3.	Mohit Pandit	8th	Gms, Jagti	3rd
	Jitesh Raina	8th	Gms, Jagti	3rd
	Sheel Sarup	10th	Amity Int. School, Vasundhara, Gzb.	3rd

Chahat Sargotra, Kritika Dhar, Shrishti Bhat, MAULIK, Vanshika Fotedar, Abistha Dhar, and Manvi Pandita- Consolation Prize

In Hindi category: Tanvi Bhat, 10th & Jeevika Koul, 5th (SLM, Tomal) stood 1st; while Bhavni Jshan Jot Kour, 10th stood 2nd.

ABHIYANK HANDOO, 5th, Kapskakulan School, GURGAON & Appurwa Pandita, 11th (SOS, Gole Gujral) stood 1st in Kashur & Sharada respectively.

Mosmi Pandita & Meenakshi Ramesh stood 1st and 2nd in Seniormost category.

(TEAM ESSAY)

PRESS RELEASE

VAISHNAVI DIWAS (2024) OBSERVED

Vyeth, a socio-cultural organization observed Vaishnavi Divas in Writer's Club, Jammu on 1st July 2024 in which glowing tributes were paid to Pt Amarnath Vaishnavi, an RSS ideologue, former President of All State Kashmiri Pandit Sabha (ASKPC) and a veteran leader on his 12th death anniversary at a function of Vyeth in collaboration with Amar Balidan Trust, Jammu. On the occasion BJP JKUT President, Ravinder Raina was the Chief Guest while Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner migrants, Dr Arvind Karvani, former DGP J&K Police, Kuldeep Khuda and senior KP leader and close associate of Amarnath Vaishnavi, Moti Lal Malla were the guests of honour. The function was presided over by Prof Virender Rawal, Founder President Vyeth. Paying tributes to Vaishnavi Ji, BJP President, Sh. Ravinder Raina said Vaishnavi Ji is an inspiration for future generations. He said the total integration of J&K with India and annulling of 370 and 35 A in 2019 by Narendra Modi Government was the result of selfless struggle launched by leaders like Pt Prem Nath Dogra and Vaishnavi Ji. The revocation of this controversial article is itself a great tribute to them, he added. He said Vaishnavi Ji was a great RSS ideologue and his death has created a vacuum in the society.

Relief Commissioner, Dr Arvind Karvani said that every effort will be made to preserve the legacy of great leader who has done a lot not only for the community but the nation as a whole. Paying tribute to Vaishnavi Ji, Kuldeep Khuda, former DGP, said that he was a man of principles who served the community and the nation until his last breath. Appreciating Vyeth in observing Vaishnavi Diwas every year on this day, Sh. Kuldeep Khuda said that the Vyeth organisation has left an indelible mark in the present history of J&K and other parts of the globe. Moti Lal Malla highlighted the role of Vaishnavi Ji right from Praja Parishad Movement to mass exodus of the community in 1990 and said, he will be always remembered for his selfless services. Prof Virender Rawal and Naina Saproo Trisal also paid tributes to Vaishnavi Ji. While paying her tributes, Ms. Naina Saproo Trisal, an eminent singer in her brief speech related her experience of recording the title song of Vaishnavi Ji's documentary produced by Vyeth whose lyrics was wonderfully penned down by Pt. Bal Krishan Sanyasi. Prof. Virender Rawal in his brief note was happy to announce that this year Vaishnavi Diwas is commemorated in Canada as well as in Perth Australia by our socio religious leaders Swami Kumar Ji and Dr. Suhil Wattel who are at present there.

Pt. Brij Lal Bhat, a well-known social activist and President of Administrative Committee Vivekananda Kendra Nagdandhi, was presented the annual Vaishnavi Award



from Vyeth by Ravinder Raina. His citation was read by Sh.Hira Lal Bhat, Seh Prabhari Kashmir BJP and a social activist. Speaking on the occasion B L Bhat highlighted Vaishnavi Ji's contribution as a Swayamsevak especially in Prajaparishad movement of 1953. He also threw light on his role in 1967 Parmishori agitation in Kashmir and launching a social movement in Ladakh for the cause of nationalist people in the region. Pt.Vaishnavi shall be remembered for his service to the community in



1990 when it was forced to flee from Valley. He said that the reservation to the KP children in professional colleges was the result of his struggle who took up this issue before the then Shiv Sena Supremo and Hindu Samrath, Balasahib Thackeray and top Sangh leaders.

Dr.Kailash Mehra's recitation of Geeta Shaloka and Kabir's Doha in her magical and soulful voice kept the audience spell bound. Among the galaxy of intellectuals and social activists present at the occasion were Sh.Bal Krishan Sanyasi, Sh.M.K.Jalai, Sh.B.L.Saraf Former Principal and Sessions Judge, Sh.Kashmiri Lal Bhat (Prem Nath Bhat Memorial Trust),Sh.Shiban Kahibri critic and historian, Sh. M K Yogi, Sh. Chandji Bhat President KDD, Team from Amar Balidan Trust which included Sh. A K Raina President, Sh. Ramesh Hangloo, Ashok Kangan, Dr.Kailash Mehra, Mrs.Naina Saproo Trisal. Sh.Rajinder Tiku, Sh.Vikram Kaul and Roshan Lal Pandita with KVP team, Mrs. Shiela Handoo former corporate, Dr.Usha Kher Rtd. Superintendent Police, Dr T K Bhat, Dr Pran Kaul and many more. Renowned broadcaster Ramaesh Marhata conducted the proceedings, and Sh. Sundri Lal Kaul proposed the vote of thanks. Vyeth is indebted to Sh.Kamal Krishen Ganjoo for photographic coverage and Sh Anil Wali for videography coverage. Special thanks to Dr.Ramesh Nirrash, Sh.Pradeep Pandita and his students from Gandhi Memorial college, Jammu for the stage and overall management.





- Avtar Mota

DOON AND OTHER STORIES

(Displacement & Identity)

By Rohini Vaishnavi

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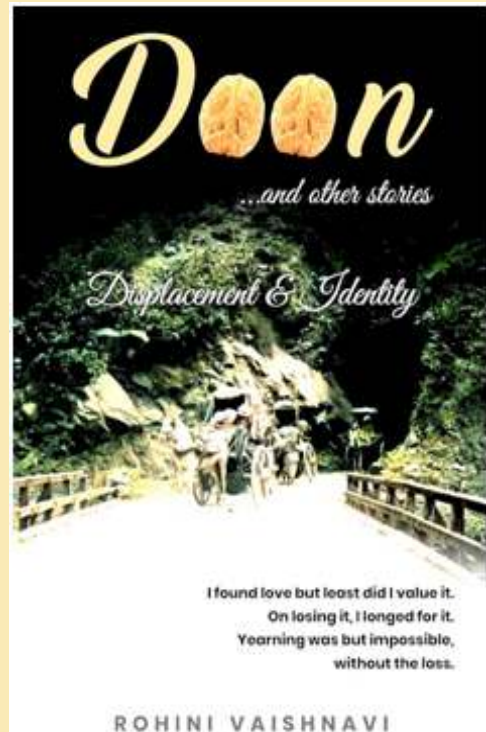
Price 250 (available on Amazon)

Rohini Vaishnavi has done her Masters in Business Management from a prestigious European university. After that, she has been in various leadership roles in the corporate world for many years. And now she has founded a content creation and brand communication agency. She is a columnist in Times of India Opinion. She has also edited "The Chronicles of Kashmir", a book by Bal Krishen Sanyasi, her father and a well known Kashmiri poet. She belongs to the family of Pandit Amar Nath Vaishnavi, the well-known selfless leader of Kashmiri Pandits. She is directly connected with many Initiatives of **Amar Nath Vaishnavi Foundation**, a social organization working for the exiled Kashmiri Pandits.

Dedicated to Somawati Vaishnavi (her grandmother), this 127-page book consists of 5 stories titled, **Yusuf, The Bedside Lamp, It Was Destined, Doon and Shireen**. In Her Introduction to the book, Rohini writes this:

"I understood the role that geography plays in shaping individual and collective identity only after I had to leave my birthplace forever, never to return. Though this book is a work of fiction, I have drawn the emotions and situations from the lives of real people that I know of and some of it is my personal experience. I salute the resilience of this miniscule community which bounced back and started life from a scratch after the Exodus and always had faith in India and its democracy."

The 'Short Story' technique gained great popularity in the world literature after the arrival of writers like [Guy de Maupassant](#), [Nikolay Gogol](#), **Leo Tolstoy**, **Anton Chekhov** and many more. Chekhov went ahead and broke the tradition of a well plotted story. He was not interested in conveying dramatic happenings through his short stories though much is revealed about his characters and the quality of their lives. Unlike Maupassant, Chekhov focused on his characters using his perception, subtle humour and irony. The event was not important for him. He employed what is known as foreshadowing technique to convey human suffering, loss, helplessness, pathos and loneliness. His characters are breathtakingly relatable and lifelike. **Unknowingly or**



knowingly, Rohini uses something like Anton Chekhov's technique to convey stories. Her stories revolve around intangible loss, struggle for survival, helplessness, suffering, relationships, loss of culture and loss of identity; the issues that the Kashmiri Pandits faced after being driven out from their motherland.

In the story **Yusuf**, Rohini uses Yusuf, a young boy to convey the loss of '**Ghar-Devta**' for the Kashmiri Pandit exiles in the heat and dust of the plains of the country. Yusuf's parents buy the house of an exiled Kashmiri Pandit where young Yusuf finds a picture drawn by one Avinash in his notebook with a note on Ghar-Devta and his miracles. Innocent Yusuf believes that the Ghar-Devta would certainly help to save his ailing mother. The story of Ghar-Devta is woven in a style that is profoundly relatable for the readers from the Kashmiri Pandit community. The story also recalls the greedy brokers who followed Pandit exiles in their tents and camps and used all types of pressure forcing them to sell their property for peanuts.

Similarly, in the story, '**The Bedside Lamp**', Neena's longing to revisit her home in Kashmir results in her kidnapping. Shafi the captor, in spite of speaking the same language and being from similar cultural background, fails to demonstrate human empathy and warmth. And Shafi (who is now the Area Commander of a terrorist group) was closely known to Neena's family during the days when peace prevailed in Kashmir. He was their neighbour. And finally Neena walks to her freedom only after the sudden army crackdown that makes her captor run for life. Similarly, in the story, '**It Was Destined**' the reader finds similar situation when a Kashmiri Pandit family revisit their house. When Sarita revisit her house, she finds everything changed. She recognises Majid, the new occupant of their house. Thirty years back, Majid, the truck driver had informed Sarita that her sister had been shot dead.

'**Doon**' is another story full of nostalgia, pathos and suffering. Doon or walnut is symbolic of Kashmiri culture. The walnut was a binding force in the composite culture of Kashmir especially during Shivratri festivity. In the story, Ashwini is a Bangaluru based Kashmiri Pandit engineer whose mother died in a Jammu hospital of some unknown ailment in 1996, a time when Ashwini was completing his BE degree from a Pune college. Kashinath, his father lived a lonely life in one room in Jammu after the death of his wife. Kashinath's lonely life in the room brings back the painful memories of sufferings of every Kashmiri Pandit in Jammu after being thrown out from the valley. Kashinath goes to live with Ashwini (who has married Sunayna, a Kannada girl) in Bengaluru and decides to celebrate Shivratri with walnuts the way he used to do when Shobha, his wife was alive. Sunayna cooperates happily. Sahil, Ashwini's son also gets connected to walnuts that he sees in California where he moves permanently after completing his education. Doon fascinates Kashinath, Ashwini and even Sahil who lives in California. Kashinath suffers from dementia and Sunayna is all happy to pass on the cultural importance of Doon to the German girl who is now Sahil's companion. The story is woven in incidents and situations that bring painful nostalgia and a profound sense of loss.

The last story is a moving tale of two young hearts, two lovers; Vikram and Shireen who face sudden onset of brutal terrorism that changes the course of their lives and shatters all dreams. While reading the story, I was reminded of **Sahir Ludhianavi's** poem '**Parchhaiyaan**' or **Shadows**. Sanjay and Raksha, common friends of Vikram and Shireen too are dumbfounded with this sudden change in the peaceful environment in the valley. The story is woven around the killing of Tika Lal Taploo, bomb blasts and kidnappings. The situation at that time was a clear signal to the Pandits and other minorities living in the valley. **Allama Iqbal** has summed up this situation in his poetry as under:

*"Chhupa kar aasteen mein bijliyaan rakhi hain garduun ne
Aanaadil bagh ke gaafil na baithen aashiyaanon mein*

*Wattan ki fikr kar nadaan museebat aanewaali hai
Teri barbaadiyon ke mashware hain aasmaanon mein.”*
**(The arched sphere has concealed lightning in its sleeve,
Let not the nightingales of the garden sit carefree in their nests,
Oh, the ignorant! Think of your homeland, the tragedy waits in wings,**

Consultations for your destruction are being held in the skies.)

And then these characters live through the horrible night of 19th January, 1990. Thereafter, silence and suspicion become the way of life for Kashmiris that include Omkar Nath and Sheela, parents of Shireen. This was the period when neighbours turned strangers. A period when the season of exile had set in. Leaving everything behind, Kashmiri Pandits run to the plains of the country to save their lives and honour using every available mode of transport. Shireen was studying in Mumbai while whereabouts of Vikram's family were unknown. None knew where did they go and how they were. And Shireen kept looking for Vikram in the refugee camps, in the long queues to collect tap water, in the tattered tents and anywhere and everywhere.

The book invokes an intense feeling of collective loss and uprooting. These stories are also a great effort towards documenting what befell a peace-loving community. I have every reason to believe that such stories will be read as the 'history of the sufferings of a community' by posterity.



"Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah"

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Dr. Neeru Khuru, Jammu - Mob. : 9419286832 | Pt. Ajay Pandita, Gurugram - Mob.: 9818698920

TODAY IT IS SOMEONE ELSE, TOMORROW IT CAN BE ME



The Tale of the Red-Whiskered Bulbul

- Sanjay Pandita

Beneath the green leaves' woven canopy,
A Bulbul, red-whiskered, finds its plea.
Tiny claws cling to the branch's embrace,
A feathered sentinel, bathed in daylight's grace.

Lost in thought, this avian sage appears,
With cryptic messages in solitude's frontiers.
No feathered friend to join in flight's delight,
Yet solitude whispers wisdom through this sprite.

In mystic realms, we ponder nature's rhyme,
As secrets whispered softly, transcending time.
The Bulbul's branch, where sacred lessons start,
A spiritual journey, within the seeker's heart.

In solitude, the spirit finds its soothing song,
On tranquil currents, it glides along.
The message it brings, though silent, rings clear,
Embrace your own solitude, draw it near.

Within the hush, deeper truths take hold,
A connection with the universe, a story, untold.
The Bulbul's isolation, a quest, divinely blessed,
To find unity within, it gently suggests.

So when you encounter this scene so new,
A lone Bulbul 'neath skies of tranquil blue,
Reflect on the message it seeks to convey,
In solitude, your soul may find its way.

04.09.23





- Rajeshwar Dhar



INDIA WCT20I CHAMPS INAGURAL 2007 & NOW 2024

India is The Reigning ICC T20 World Cup Champions following their 2024 Victory on June 29 2024 at Kensington Oval, Barbados, West Indies and India became The First Country to Win The Tournament without losing any Game. The Spectacle Two Teams India and South Africa produced at the Kensington Oval in Final of T20I was more than worthy of a World Cup Finale. It was a contest that swayed back and forth, each blow followed by an equally brutal counterpunch that left the result in the balance until the final moments.

Few Players, Even The Greatest, Get to Script their Perfect Farewell

For India, the 13-year wait finally ended on a glorious day in Barbados. Alas, for South Africa, the endless agony goes on, with no guarantee if or when it will end. If Rohit's was a Sweet Triumph, Kohli's was the stuff of legend. He came into the final with 75 runs in the bank from seven innings over the tournament and left it adding 76 in a single match, but the most important one of all. Kohli had always risen above his extravagant talents in World Cups, even when India were



unable to claim the ultimate Prize. And in this particular format, he was always the King without a Crown - No more or No Less! But he did not do it alone. Axar Patel repaid his team's faith in promoting him up the order and played his pinch-hitter's role to perfection. When he fell, Shivam Dube followed suit in a seamless transition.



Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli celebrating with T20 World Trophy



Jaspreet Bumrah, Virat Kohli, Surya Kumar Yadav and Hardik had all the reasons to celebrate to receive from ICC with Bumrah as The Player of the Tournament of US\$ 15000, Kohli as Player of the Final Match of US\$ 3000, Surya as Smart Catch of the Final of US\$ 3000 and Hardik was the best with both the ball and the bat (no award for the best All-Rounder).

When the time came to defend, two early South African wickets had the mostly Indian crowd roaring, but Klaassen's bludgeoning was brutal and the pendulum had swung again. In the time it took to blink an eye, he reduced South Africa's target to 30 runs off 30 balls, but as Rohit turned to Hardik Pandya, he struck immediately as Klaasen chased a wide delivery with a booming drive, only to edge behind. In a game stuffed with key moments, this was the kicker and the crowd sensed that too and blue shirts were billowing in the stands. South Africa had not lost all hope, as their ever-reliable innings-finishing batter David Miller – lovingly known as the Killer Miller, was still at the crease, joined by the bowling all-rounder Marco Jansen. But would Jansen survive the unbelievable genius of the beautiful freak that is Jasprit Bumrah? Bumrah, the human slingshot with logic-defying accuracy, had bowled flawlessly in all innings. A fiendish missile launched with that impossible wrist snap that angled in and straightened as it spat off the pitch to blast Jansen's stumps and send India's fans into a frenzy.

Last but not the least, Suryakumar plucks one from the sky, the only thing this final had lacked thus far was a breathtaking catch to top off the highlights reel and it came in the first ball of the final over. South Africa needed 16 runs off six deliveries but with Killer Miller having gone, hope was lost. A third wicket to Pandya, this time that of Kagiso Rabada, gave Yadav another catch. There was one ball remaining but the Indian fans were already celebrating!

In the Indian dressing room, Head coach Rahul Dravid slammed shut the notebook that he had been scribbling on, pumped his fists and yelled in a fashion belying the sedate Dravid cricket fans have known since 1996. Why would he not? It was his last day on the job as India's Head coach and his last chance to win a Men's ICC World Cup Title, one that eluded him in his 15-year playing career. And there were Rohit and Kohli, each bidding farewell in their own way -Kohli hoisted by his teammates in a fitting echo of the 2011

World Cup finale, when he shouldered Sachin Tendulkar in tribute, Rohit and Jadeja, demurring for a later reveal. They had left their indelible marks on this team, this format, in their ways.

Not only that, The 2024 T20I World Cup will be remembered for the spirited performances by the ICC Associate Nations, for its incursion into uncharted American territory, for USA and Afghanistan's Fairytale Wins and for a resurgence of cricket in the Caribbean. There were pitch controversies, nightmarish logistics and standout performances from unheralded new talents. And there was Newfound Triumph, with familiar heartbreak, for South Africa, not forgetting, that Proteas are Dream Boys of Indian IPL Teams –Much Loved, too!

Indian Cricket achievements

The India Men's National Cricket Team represents India in Men's International Cricket. It is governed by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and is a Full Member of the International Cricket Council (ICC) with Test, One Day International (ODI) and Twenty20 International (T20I) Status.

The Team played its First International Match on 25 June 1932 in a Test against England at Lord's Cricket Ground in London, becoming the sixth team to be granted Test Cricket status. India's first Test Victory was in 1952 and success was limited in the team's first fifty years of International Cricket with only 35 wins in 196 Tests. However, they gained strength in the 1970s with the emergence of the Indian Spin Quartet of Bhagwat Chandasekhar, Bishen Singh Bedi, Erapalli Prasanna, Srinivas Venkataraghavan and Famous Batters Players like Sunil Gavaskar, Gundappa Viswanath, Dilip Vengsarkar, Krishnamachari Srikant and all-rounders like Kapil Dev, Mohinder Amarnath et al. In Men's Limited-Overs Cricket, India made its ODI debut against England in 1974 and its

T20I debut against South Africa in 2006.

With this, later galaxy of stars emerged in Indian Cricket Arena like Ravi Shatri, Sachin Tendulkar, Azzharudin, Ajay Jadeja, Anil Kumble, Javagal Srinath, Virender Sehwag, Sourav Ganguly, Rahul Dravid, VVS Lakshman, Zahir Khan and 2000 onwards MS Dhoni, Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, Ravinder Jadeja, Harbajan Singh, Ravichandran Ashwin, Surya Kumar Yadav, Sanju Samson, Mohd Shami, Shivam Dube and now budding breed of Shubman Gill, Rituraj Gaekwad, Axar Patel, Harshit Patel, Yashavi Jaiswal, Riyan Parag, Abhishek Sharma. Mohd Siraj, Rinku Singh, Avesh Khan, Mukesh Kumar et al (to name not many but which I could recollect at the moment)

India's Men's National Cricket Team has Won Six Major ICC Tournaments, winning

- The Cricket World Cup Twice (1983 and 2011),
- The ICC T20I World Cup Twice (2007 and 2024) and
- The ICC Champions Trophy twice (2002 and 2013).

India has also finished as Runners-up in

- ✓ The World Cup Twice (2003 and 2023)
- ✓ The T20I World Cup Once (2014)
- ✓ The Champions Trophy Twice (2000 and 2017) and
- ✓ The ICC World Test Championship Finals in the first two editions (2021, 2023).

India has won Asia Cup Eight Times (1984, 1988, 1990, 1995, 2010, 2016, 2018 and 2023) and have finished Runners-up Three Times (1997, 2004, 2008).

- ✓ India also won a Gold Medal in the 2022 Asian Games.
- ✓ Other achievements include winning the ICC Test Championship Mace Five Times and the ICC ODI Championship Shield Once.
- ✓ India was the Second Team (after the West Indies) to win the World Cup and the First to Win the Competition on home soil, winning it in 2011.

As of May 2024, the team is at the top of the ICC rankings for ODIs and T20Is and Second in Tests behind Australian cricket team. With such success, it is one of the most successful teams in international cricket.



Captain Kapil Dev with 1983 ODI World Cup Played against England at Lords, Curtailed) (This was the Maiden World Cup of India, won with All Round Heroics of Kapil Dev)



Captain Saurav Ganguly with 2002 Champions Trophy Shared (Rain Final against Sri Lanka at Premadasa, Colombo, Sri Lanka)



Captain, Greatest Ever, of White Ball Cricket M S Dhoni With (Clockwise) 2007 T20I

World Cup Played Final against Pakistan at Wanderers, Johannesburg, South Africa; 2011 ODI World Cup Played Final against Sri Lanka at Wankhade, Mumbai, India and 2013 Champions Trophy Played Final against England in Edgbaston, Birmingham, UK



Rohit Sharma with 2024 T20I World Cup played Final against South Africa at Kensington Oval, Barbados, West Indies

But, for the time being, as the Gold Confetti fluttered across Kensington Oval, all else faded into the background, only Rohit, Kohli and their teammates remained in view. For, in the end, the memory that matters is that of incredible India-Bravo!

(Rest of the scintillating Indian Cricket history would be shared with esteemed readers in future issues of NAAD, God willing)

Rajeshwar Dhar writes for Socio-Eco-Politico Sustainability, can be approached @rajeshwardhar@rediffmail.com, @9999989621



- Rajeshwar Dhar



The Sixfold Nirvana Stotram for the Forgiveness of Divine Offenses-

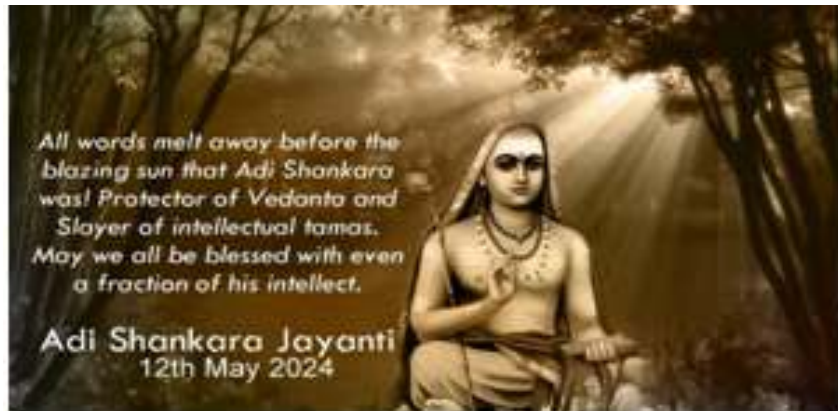
I am Shiva, the form of Chidananda

निर्वाण-षटकम् देव्यपराधक्षमापन स्तोत्रम्-
चिदानन्दरूपः शिवोहम् शिवोहम् ।
जब आदि गुरु शंकराचार्य जी की अपने गुरु से प्रथम
भेंट हुई तो उनके गुरु ने बालक शंकर से उनका
परिचय माँगा । बालक शंकर ने अपना परिचय किस
रूप में दिया ये जानना ही एक सुखद अनुभूति बन
जाता है। यह परिचय 'निर्वाण-षटकम्' के नाम से
प्रसिद्ध हुआ ।

मनो बुद्ध्यहंकारचित्तानि नाहं,
न च श्रोत्र जिह्वे न च घ्राण नेत्रे ।
न च व्योम भूमि न तेजो न वायुः
चिदानंद रूपः शिवोहम् शिवोहम् ॥
न च प्राण संज्ञो न वै पंचवायुः,
न वा सप्तधातु न वा पञ्चकोशः ।
न वाक्पाणिपादौ न च उपस्थ पायु,
चिदानंदरूपः शिवोहम् शिवोहम् ॥
न मे द्वेषरागौ न मे लोभ मोहौ,
मदो नैव मे नैव मात्सर्यभावः ।
न धर्मो न चार्थो न कामो न मोक्षः,
चिदानंदरूपः शिवोहम् शिवोहम् ॥
न पुण्यं न पापं न सौख्यं न दुःखं,
न मंत्रो न तीर्थं न वेदो न यज्ञः ।
अहम् भोजनं नैव भोज्यम न भोक्ता,
चिदानंद रूपः शिवोहम् शिवोहम् ॥
न मे मृत्युशंका न मे जातिभेद,
पिता नैव मे नैव माता न जन्म ।
न बंधून् न मित्रं गुरुरू नैव शिष्यं,
चिदानंद रूपः शिवोहम् -शिवोहम् ॥
अहम् निर्विकल्पो निराकार रूपो,
विभुव्याप्य सर्वत्र सर्वेन्द्रियाणाम ।
सदा मे समत्वं न मुक्तिरु न बंध,
चिदानंद रूपः शिवोहम् शिवोहम् ॥

I am not mind nor intellect nor ego nor the reflections of inner self (chitta), I am not the five senses. I am beyond that. I am not the ether nor the earth nor the fire nor the wind (the five elements), I am indeed, that eternal knowing and bliss, the auspicious (Shivam), love and pure consciousness || Neither can I be termed as energy (prana) nor five types of breath (vayus) nor the seven material essences, nor the five coverings (pancha-kosha). Neither am I five instruments of elimination, procreation, motion, grasping, or speaking, I am indeed, that eternal knowing || I have no hatred or dislike nor affiliation or liking nor greed nor delusion nor pride or haughtiness nor feelings of envy or jealousy. I have no duty (dharma), nor any money, nor any desire (kama) nor liberation (moksha). I am indeed, that eternal knowing || I have neither merit (virtue) nor demerit (vice). I do not commit sins or good

Continued on pg 54





- B.L. Saraf



KARGIL RESULT

WHAT DOES IT MEAN

The Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Kargil, election result, announced on 8th instant, repeats the pattern of 2018. Having won 12 seats out of 26, the National Conference (NC) emerges out a largest party. With its ally Congress (INC) securing 10 seats the I.N.D.I.A. has truly romped home. BJP has won two seats.

Kargil is too remote to be taken note of any political development, except for the one which impinges up on defense calculations. But located as it is in that area of the country – till recently having been part of Jammu and Kashmir – and whose macro and micro management is carried out directly by the Central Ministry of Home Affairs – with Prime Minister's personal monitoring it regularly since August the 5th, 2019 – Kargil's latest political development has thrown up certain indicators which may forecast upcoming political weather in Jammu and Kashmir.

The big take away from the Kargil result is that the NC is there to stay in Ladakh, too. Many attempts were made to deny the party a political space in this Kargil election by refusing it the accredited election symbol of Plough, which it ultimately got thanks to the Judicial intervention at the national level. Omar Abdullah, who himself led the Kargil campaign, has his position as a true inheritor of the NC legacy. By choosing NC the Kargilis have shown their preference for Kashmir and is a vote against the August 5th 2019, development which has separated them from the Valley.

For the Congress Party, Kargil electoral

victory, coming rather soon after its success in Karnataka and Himachal Pradesh, is a matter of great satisfaction. It is an endorsement of sorts for the leadership of Rahul Gandhi who in summer spent good time in Ladakh. These victories will certainly rejuvenate the sagging morale of Congress party and its leadership which may stand them in a good stead at the time when preparations for 2024 Lok Sabha election are afoot. That given a little bit of more effort much of its lost political space can be salvaged. Rahul will have to do something more than an occasional visit to a way side motor workshop or wear a railway coolie uniform with a wheeled baggage on head.

This result gives hope to many Indians that basic fundamentals of the Idea of India are well founded to withstand the stormy weather. Today, we live in a highly polarized world where societies stand riven apart on sectarian considerations and people look at one another with fear and suspicion. Therefore, any campaign undertaken by anyone to overcome the feeling of insecurity which bears fruit, reinforces inter-societal and inter-communal bond among the people who live in India is welcome. 'Nationalism' and the sectarian rhetoric can be hyped to a limit where after it becomes a story of diminishing returns: that 'local' has preference over 'national' when it comes to the real business of providing bread, butter and the shelter.

The BJP need to understand that in politics emotions play a part only up to a point: in the long run matters of bread and butter influence a

voter's choice. True, the elections in states are fought on local issues so the electoral reversal should not be seen as a reflection on working of the central government. But then BJP doesn't shy away from interjecting national issues even to a municipal election. Here, abrogation of Art 370 was projected as a panacea for all 'ills' that, according to the BJP, ailed J&K, Ladakh including.

For the people in J&K Kargil Election throws up many possibilities that something can be retrieved from the tremor of August the 5th, 2019. It may add to the local politician's confidence that BJP can be challenged successfully on a local political turf. NC and PDP have potential to reclaim major part of the political ground lost in the wake of neutralization of Art 370. They have to put their house in order and reach out to the people – afresh, address their real issues of bread and butter and not waste time and energy in pampering to the emotive issues.

We witness a strange scenario unfolding in Kashmir where a routine policy or administrative event is marked with lavishness. We see whole Valley dazzling with high voltage lights at the time when people in J&K are feeling the power cut pinch. The spectacle

contrasts sharply with what prevails on the ground. The show is paraded as normalcy of sorts which, on all accounts, is still illusive. Deadly encounters of the terrorists with the security forces have become order of the day across length and breadth of the UT, where in a number of high ranking security personal have martyred.

A leaf seems to have been borrowed from the book written by EX Prime Minister of the state, Late Bakhshi Gulam Mohammed, who mastered the art to the hilt. Round the year he went places vigorously with his 'Jashen-e-Kashmir' program, just to show everything was normal in Jammu & Kashmir when, in fact, situation had turned bad in the wake of Sheikh Abdullah's dethroning, in 1953. It took one unfortunate event, in the beginning of 1964, to dismantle the decade old 'managed normalcy'.

There is a fillip side to this result, also. That assembly election is pushed further away. Having seen what happened to its poll prospects in Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka now nearer home, BJP won't risk unfavorable poll result in J&K, so close to the 2024 national. That too after it has exorcised the “ghost of Art 370”.

(The author is the former Principal District & Sessions Judge)

Continued From pg 52

deeds nor have happiness or sorrow, pain or pleasure, I do not need mantras, holy places, scriptures (Vedas), rituals or sacrifices (yagnas). I am none of the triad of the observer or one who experiences, the process of observing or experiencing or any object being observed or experienced, I am indeed, that eternal knowing ||

I do not have fear of death as I do not have death, I have no separation from my true self, no doubt about my existence nor have I discrimination on the basis of birth. I have no father or mother nor did I have a birth, no any relative nor the friend nor the guru nor the disciple, I am indeed, that eternal knowing ||

I am all pervasive, I am without any attributes and without any form. I have neither attachment to the world nor to liberation (mukti). I have no wishes for anything because I am everything, everywhere, every time, always in equilibrium I am indeed, that eternal knowing ||

Adi Shankaracharya Jayanti is observed as birth anniversary of Indian Guru and philosopher Adi Shankara. Adi Shankara was born in Kalady which is situated in Kerala during 788 C.E. and he was disappeared at young age of 32 in year 820 C.E. Adi Shankaracharya Jayanti is observed on Panchami Tithi during Shukla Paksha of Vaishakha month and currently falls between April and May. Shankaracharya consolidated the doctrine of Advaita Vedanata (अद्वैत वेदान्त) and revived it at a time when Hindu culture was on decline. Adi Shankara, along with Madhava and Ramanuja, were instrumental in the revival of Hinduism. These three teachers formed the doctrines that are followed by their respective sects even today. They have been the most important figures in the recent history of Hindu Philosophy.



Kashmiri Pandit Temple, Shrine Property Be Protected: High Court

In a judgement of far-reaching consequences, the J&K and Ladakh High Court has ordered that Kashmiri Hindu temple shrines left unattended and vulnerable be preserved, protected and maintained by the administration.

Renowned advocate Mohsin Qadri, senior additional advocate general of J&K, represented the state in this case. Senior advocate C.M. Koul represented the petitioners through virtual mode. Delivering a landmark judgement, Justice Sanjeev Kumar has allowed a petition by the members of the Kashmiri Pandit community and directed the district magistrate of north Kashmir Ganderbal district to preserve, protect and maintain two Hindu religious shrines namely 'Asthapan Devraj Bharav' situated in Nuner village of the district and 'Vidhushe' shrine and to take requisite steps under the J&K Migrant Immovable Property (Preservation, Protection and Restraint on Distress Sales) Act 1997.

The petitioners also filed a grievance against unscrupulous elements over the encroachment at the only cremation ground in Ganderbal district for the local Hindu community.

This judgement is likely to protect and determine the fate of scores of such Hindu religious properties in Kashmir that have remained in disuse and thereby became vulnerable to encroachments by greedy encroachers and influential land mafia.

Life Members of ASKPC Hold a Day Convention

Life members of ASKPC held a day's convention in Jammu to discuss the revival of the oldest KP organization. For over three years, the president's election was not considered by the persons occupying the office

of the ASKPC, thus failing to have a representative character. The senior Kashmiri Pandit leader Moti Lal Malla, designated as Marg Darshak, presided over the convention. After the discussion, a resolution was passed that the ADHOC Body, already framed, will start a membership drive to update the old, outdated, and obsolete voter list so that the election for ASKPC can be held as early as possible. District coordinators were asked to launch the membership drive. A large number of members spoke at the convention.

DC Jammu initiates digitization of Kashmiri Migrants' Ration Cards

In a meeting convened by Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, attended by the Relief Commissioner (M) Arvind Karwani, focussed on reviewing the Ration Card classification and digitization initiative for Kashmiri migrants. During the meeting, it was decided to organize special camps to expedite the process. The Deputy Commissioner elucidated the roles of concerned officers, including Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs), Tehsildars, and Camp Commanders, in this exercise.

RRC reviews transit accommodations across Kashmir

Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (RRC), Migrants, J&K, Dr Arvind Karwani, accompanied by Superintendent Engineer Nissar Ahmed Lala, Executive Engineers, AEEs, and other site engineers inspected various transit accommodations for PM package employees under construction in South and Central Kashmir, during the weeklong visit.

During the visit, the RRC also interacted with PM package employees at different locations in the Valley and listened patiently to their demands. He assured them that all of

their genuine demands would be redressed as a priority.

Abhinavagupta Jayanti celebrated with fervour in Valley

The Maha Maheshwaracharya Abhinavagupta Jayanti, coinciding with Nirjala Ekadashi (Jyeshtha Shukla Paksha Ekadashi), was celebrated with religious fervour by Shree Ram Shaiv Trika Ashram at Nasib Nagar, Janipur. The event, steeped in the Trika tradition, paid homage to Abhinavagupta, a towering figure in Kashmir Shaivism known for his comprehensive work on Tantric philosophy. The celebration commenced with the Yagneopavit ceremony of Abhinavagupta, which was based on Agamic traditions.

Dr Sarvesh Tripathi, from the Faculty of Kashmir Shaiv Darshan at the Central Sanskrit University, Ranbir Campus, highlighted Abhinavagupta's unparalleled scholarship. Dr Sujit Kumar Pandey, also from the Central Sanskrit University, emphasized the harmony between Agama and Nigama, debunking theories that seek to divide these integral aspects of Indian knowledge. Sanjay Raina, an expert in the Trika system, lauded the Shree Ram Shaiv Trika Ashram for preserving the Trika tradition amid socio-political upheavals. The event concluded with the felicitation of guest speakers Dr Sarvesh Tripathi and Dr Sujit Kumar Pandey.

200 Kashmiri Pandits reunite in Pulwama village

On June 11, 2024, about 200 Kashmiri Pandits met in Pulwama after 34 years. Mr Ratan Lal Bhat was waiting to receive them in a shrine in his village, Murren, in the Pulwama district of Kashmir, 38 km from the capital, Srinagar. His fellows, including 91-year-old Pandit Badrinath, looked after the shrine these years. The gathering offered prayers to Goddess Parvati, who had been worshipped for centuries by their ancestors in the local name of Brari Maj (divine Mother who appeared as a cat). Muslims of the area

had put up a banner in English and Urdu, reading, "Hearty welcome to Pandit brethren. Hindus and Muslims are like pure sugar and milk; dissolve sugar in milk." Prashad was served to 520 persons.

Kashmiri Pandits Celebrated Annual Kheer Bhawani Mela in Kashmir and Jammu

On June 14 2024, Kashmiri Pandits celebrated the Mela Kheer Bhawani with gaiety and fervour. The annual event at the Kheer Bhawani temple, dedicated to Rangya Devi, in Ganderbal district's Tulmulla, is also celebrated in other shrines and temples in Jammu and Kashmir to mark 'Zyeth Atham', or 'Jyeshtha Ashtami'. A large number of devotees attended the fair in Tulmulla and other places. Kashmiri Pandits also thronged the temple in Jammu city to mark the start of the three-day annual Mela, seeking blessings and paying tributes to the victims of terror attacks. Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha also paid obeisance at the temple in Tulmulla. On the occasion, Shri Manoj Sinha laid the foundation stone for the Yatri Bhawan at Mata Kheer Bhawani Temple, Tulmulla. He stated that the Bhawan will enhance the pilgrimage experience by providing comfortable lodging and sanitation facilities. Speaking to reporters later, the LG said over 30,000 devotees paid obeisance at Mela Kheer Bhawani this year. Political leaders, including former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir Farooq Abdullah, BJP's J-K president Ravinder Raina, and CPI(M) leader M Y Tarigami, also paid obeisance at the shrine.

As a Tribute to Terror Victims, Devotees Lighted Diyas

Kheer Bhawani Peeth Janipur in Jammu was constructed as a replica of the original shrine at Tulmulla in central Kashmir's Ganderbal after the mass migration of the community from the Valley in the early 1990s. Since then, Tulmulla Mela has been celebrated yearly on Zaisht Ashtami on the temple premises. This year, Ardh Ratri Maha Regheneya Sewa Sanstha

Trust lighted Diyas as a tribute to the nine people and a CRPF jawan who lost their lives in recent terror attacks.

Mirwaiz exhorts

Kashmiri Pandits to return

Chief priest and Hurriyat leader Mirwaiz Umar Farooq has urged migrant Kashmiri Pandits to return. Addressing the congregation at Jama Masjid in Srinagar, which coincided with the Mela Kheer Bhawani, Mirwaiz said that the day should be celebrated with Kashmiri Pandits. He further said that it was time for reconciliation. He once again appealed to Kashmiri Pandits to return to their motherland, which awaits them, and live there as they did in the past. It's time to reconcile and rebuild the broken bonds. We owe it to our next generation," he said. "I also repeat the appeal to those in power that the issue and sentiments of people of JK should be addressed through deliberation," he added.

Yatri Bhawan to come up at Kheer Bhawani in 8 months: LG

On the auspicious occasion of Jyeshtha Ashtami, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha laid the foundation stone for Yatri Bhawan at Mata Kheer Bhawani Temple, Tulmulla.

Addressing the media persons, Sinha reiterated the commitment of the UT Administration to augment the facilities for the devotees of Mata Kheer Bhawani. He said the Yatri Bhawan, constructed at Rs 3.85 crores, will enhance the pilgrimage experience by offering comfortable lodging and sanitation facilities. "We expect to complete the Bhawan in the next eight months, and it will accommodate 1000 pilgrims," he added.

The Lt Governor also appreciated the efforts of the District Administration, Relief Commissioner's Office, Police & Security Forces and all stakeholders for the smooth conduct of the Mela. He said over 30,000 devotees paid obeisance at Mela Kheer Bhawani this year. Around 200 buses arrived from Jammu, and the administration and citizens ensured the devotees had the best possible facilities.

During his visit to the holy shrine at Tulmulla, Ganderbal Sinha interacted with the members of the Kashmiri Pandit community and discussed various issues. The devotees prayed for the well-being of humanity and peace.

Sources: Agencies
Editing: Vijay Kashkari

NAAD Needs your Financial Support!

NAAD is a monthly community magazine of **All India Kashmiri Samaj (AIKS)** with circulation across the globe. It is published both, in the print and electronic forms. The aim of AIKS is to reach the feelings and expressions of its writers and authors that keeps the whole community, spread across the globe, informed about the happenings, developments and special initiatives that are expected to benefit them. To keep the magazine reaching you – on time, all the time – **NAAD** solicits your financial support in the form of liberal donations. Please come forward and own this community mouthpiece.

Send your donations to:

- ❖ *All Cheques/DDs favouring All India Kashmiri Samaj to be sent at H. No. 308 (LGF), Sector 35, Ashoka Enclave Part -III, Faridabad, Haryana - 121 003*
- ❖ *Donations/ Subscriptions can also be remitted directly online to the following:
A/C Punjab National Bank: A/c No. 0151000100442202
A/C Name : All India Kashmiri Samaj IFSC Code : PUNB0015100*

Varsities can Admit Students Twice a Year

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has allowed higher education institutions to admit students twice a year or biannually in regular mode from the academic year 2024-25, the commission chairperson M Jagadesh Kumar stated.

According to Kumar, the decision was taken during a UGC meeting on May 05. Currently, universities and colleges admit students in regular mode in July-August of every year. Therefore, all higher education institutions (HEIs) in India follow the academic session that begins in July-August.

Last year, the UGC allowed students to be admitted in open and distance learning (ODL) and online modes biannually in January and July during an academic year.

AICTE Special Scholarship Scheme for the Students of U.T. of J&K & Ladakh

Particular Scholarship Scheme for the Students of Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (SSSJKL) under Pradhan Mantri Uchchar Shiksha Protsahan (PM-USP) Yojna PMS is a scholarship scheme by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for the students who are domicile of the U.T.s of J&K and Ladakh who, after passing Class 12th or equivalent examinations, secure admission in government colleges/institutions and other select institutions outside the U.T.s of J&K and Ladakh through AICTE's counselling

process under the supernumerary quota created by the government (except in medical courses). The applicant should have passed the Class 12th examination from JKBOSE or CBSE-affiliated schools in the U.T.s of J&K and Ladakh. The family income of the applicant should not exceed ₹8,00,000 per annum. Five thousand fresh scholarships are available per annum. Two thousand seventy scholarships are for General Degree Courses, 2830 for Professional/Engineering, and 100 for Medical Courses.

The aspirant must secure admission in a government college/institution or other AICTE-approved institutions outside J&K and Ladakh (except for medical courses) through the AICTE counselling process under the supernumerary quota. Scholarships are available for students admitted through the management quota.

Eligibility criteria might change slightly year-on-year, so it's advised to refer to the official AICTE website for the latest information.

Online Registration for Academic Session 2024-25 under SSS J&K and Ladakh commenced on 18.06.2024. I've included details regarding eligibility criteria, courses, and financial help below.

The ScholarsScholarship students who have passed 10+2 from JKBOSE or CBSE Schools located in UTs of J&K or Ladakh in session 2022-23 (enrolled in 2022 and passed in 2023) and 2023-24 (enrolled in 2023 and passed in 2024)

Courses / Stream	Academic fee Provided	Maintenance Allowance Provided
General Degree	Upto Rs. 30,000/ p.a.	Rs. 1.00 lakh per annum (In ten equal instalments)
Professional (Engg/ Nursing)/ Pharmacy/ Hotel Management / Architecture, BA LLB through NLU etc.	Upto Rs.1.25 lakh p.a.	Rs. 1.00 lakh per annum (In ten equal instalments)
Medical/ BDS or equivalent	Up to Rs.3.00 lakh p.a.	Rs. 1.00 lakh per annum (In ten equal instalments)

Students must visit the nearest Facilitation Centre for Registration only. From 21.6.2024 onwards, for document verification, please visit the nearest Facilitation-cum-Documents Verification Center (FDVC). A list of these Centers is available on the AICTE Website.

For registration, refer to the link <http://www.aicte-jk-scholarship-gov.in>. Detailed information about the scheme guidelines is available at <https://www.aicte-india.org/SSSJKL%202024-25>. Visit the AICTE website regularly for updates and a calendar of events.

For any query, email: jkadmission2024@aicte-india.org

Warning: Students already enrolled in any other school scheme on Board with NSP or enrolling while being a beneficiary of SSSJ&K and Ladakh are not eligible for scholarsScholarship the guidelines of the Scheme.

CBSE Board Exams Changes Introduced

The education minister has announced two board exams; however, no official updates have been on whether these will be implemented for the next academic session, 2024-25, or later. Many social media influencers and portals have mixed these announcements, confusing the parents.

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has decided to discontinue the use of answer books in which tables were provided on the subject of the Class 12 Accountancy paper. The CBSE made this announcement in October in a letter addressed to principals of all schools affiliated with CBSE.

"It is informed that from t" e Board Examination, 2024 CBSE, based on feedback received from stakeholders, has decided to do away with the Answer Books, wherein tables were provided on the subject of Accountancy. From Examinations-2024, normal lines Answer Books as provided in other subjects in Class 12 will also be provided in Accountancy subject," the official notification" stated.

❖ **Supplementary Exams:** CBSE conducts annual special exams for those flunked in one subject or more. These tests were called compartment exams; however, in Board year, the Board announced that they would now be called supplementary exams. These exams are usually conducted in July; the results are released by August. This change is based on recommendations made in the NEP 2020.

❖ **Special Exams for Students participating in International Events:** After receiving multiple requests, CBSE has decided that the Board will conduct special exams later for students participating in national or international sports events or international Olympiads who might not appear for their CBSE Class 10 and Class 12 exams (February-April).

❖ **CBSE Exams Twice a Year? Formal Announcement Awaited:** The Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced that the board exams will be conducted twice a year and that students will be allowed to retain the best score. However, a statement in this regard is awaited from the ministry. The government has yet to make a final decision.

From now on, Class 11 and 12 students will have to study two languages, and at least one language must be an Indian language. Subject choices will not be restricted to streams; students will have the flexibility to choose.

The CBSE proposes more changes, such as adding languages; however, an official announcement has yet to be made. © I.E. Online Media Services Pvt Ltd

3 IIMs, JNU among 69 Indian Universities in Top 500 QS Rankings

The Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) in Ahmedabad, Bangalore, and Calcutta ranked among the top 50 globally for business and management studies. Indian universities have made significant progress in the latest

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) world university rankings by subject. Sixty-nine institutions feature in the top 500 list, a 19.4% increase from the previous year's entries. The 2024 edition of years World University Rankings by Subject features 55 subjects across five broad subject areas.

Among the standout performers, the Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) in Ahmedabad, Bangalore, and Calcutta ranked among the top 50 globally for business and management studies. Jawaharlal Nehru University also debuted in development studies, securing the 20th spot worldwide.

"One of the biggest challenges faced" by India is educational – providing high-quality tertiary education in the face of exploding demand," said AS CEO Jessica Turner, referring to the country's National Education Policy, which aims to achieve a 50% gross enrolment ratio by 2035.

Turner noted that the increased representation of Indian programs across the 55 subject rankings and five broad faculty areas "should provide some reassurance" and "demonstrates "the positive role" that well-regulated private provision can have in enhancing India's higher education sector."

In Asian region, India ranks second in the number of universities featured (69), behind only China (101), and holds the fourth position in the total number of ranked entries (454).

The 12 Institutes of Eminence (IoE), including the University of Delhi and several Indian Institutes of Technology, contributed to 40% of the country's total entries in the rank. The country secured a majority of the top 100 positions across various disciplines.

India has also shown progress in research, with a 20% improvement in Citations per Paper and a 16% growth in the International Research Network indicator. However, the country needs help securing citations in premier global journals, with only 15% of its research cited in these publications between 2017 and 2021.

"Despite facing challenges, India is un"enviably becoming a formidable player in the international academic community," said Q.S. Senior Vice President Ben Sowter

For subject rankings, Q.S. uses four components:

- ✓ Academic reputation
- ✓ Employer reputation
- ✓ Research citations per paper
- ✓ The H-index (a measure of both the productivity and impact of published work)

The University of Delhi had the most entries at 30, followed closely by the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB) with 28 entries and the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IIT-KGP) with 27.

The Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences secured the 24th spot globally in Dentistry, boasting a perfect score of 100/100 in the H Index metric.

According to the body, India has shown significant progress in various indicators, including a notable 20% improvement in citations per paper, reflecting a strong research capability, and a 16% growth in the International Research Network indicator. However, the H Index, which assesses research productivity and impact, slightly decreased by 5%.

India's research output surged by 54% from 2017 India's, making it the world's fourth-largest producer of research, according to the world's rankings.

Here is the corrected version of your sentence:

"Six Indian universities also ranked among the world's top 10 for employer reputation in specific subjects, according to feedback from employers surveyed by QS. The universities include Symbiosis International (Deemed University) and the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B)."

CBSE Issues Warning Against Fake Syllabus, Sample Question Papers

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued an advisory cautioning students and parents against misleading information about syllabus, resources and sample question papers for 2024-Boardssion.

The Board has warned students against falling prey to online portals spreading unverified news.

“It has come to our notice that certain online Portals and websites are circulating outdated links and unverified news related to sample question papers, curriculum, CBSE resources, and activities. These links and news falsely claim to provide updated information for the session 2024-25,” the advisory said.

“In the interest of the public, we wish to emphasise that information from unauthorised sources can be misleading and may cause unnecessary confusion among schools, students, parents, and other stakeholders,” it added. (Agencies)

Central Seat Allocation Board (CSAB) for Unfilled After 5th JoSAA Round CSAB-2024 Special Rounds Schedule

- ✓ Online Request for category restoration starts Friday, July 26 2024, at 10:00 hrs
- ✓ Online Request for category restoration ends Saturday, July 27 2024, 17:00 hrs
- ✓ Display of Vacancies after JoSAA Rounds Monday, July 29 2024, 17:00 hrs
- ✓ Registration, Payment of Special Round Enrolment Fee (IAF-I + SRPF), and Choice Filling start Wednesday, July 31 2024, 10:00 hrs
- ✓ Registration and Payment of Special Round Enrolment Fee (IAF-I + SRPF) ends Friday, August 02 2024, 17:00 hrs
- ✓ Choice Filling ends Saturday, August 03 2024, 17:00 hrs
- ✓ Exercising Willingness in CSAB Special Round-I and Online Reporting, Monday, August 05 2024, 10:00 hrs to Wednesday, August 07 2024, 17:00 hrs
- ✓ Display of CSAB Special Round-II Seat Allotment Result Saturday, August 10 2024, 17:00 hrs

You can visit the website of allotted institute for actual dates of physical reporting, commencement of classes, etc.

Admission Alerts

Rajasthan Engineering Admission Process (REAP)-2024

B. Arch Course

Supernumerary seats for Kashmiri Migrants (KM) and Kashmiri Pandits /Kashmiri Hindu

Families (Non-migrants) for B.E./B.Tech./B. Arch. courses: -

According to the Order/File No. AICTE/P& A.P./Misc/2020/ of AICTE dated 06/10/2020, an additional 5% of AICTE approved intake capacity per Course/ branch (over and above sanctioned seats) will be reserved for Kashmiri Pandits /Kashmiri Hindu Families (Non-migrants) and Kashmiri migrants.

- ❖ Last date for payment of the online application cum registration fee of Rs. 590/- is 31.07.2024
- ❖ Last date for submitting online application cum registration form is 02.08.2024
Website: <https://reapbtech24.com/>

Directorate of Technical

Education, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal

Admission/Counselling to MBA based on CMAT-2024

- ❖ Registration from 2nd July to 27th July 2024
- ❖ Choice filling July 15 to July 31 2024

Admission/Counselling to MCA based on Merit of qualifying Examination

- ✓ Registration from 2nd July to 27th July 2024
- ✓ Choice filling July 15 to July 31 2024

Admission/Counselling to 5 years Integrated MBA & MCA based on 10+2 Merit of qualifying Examination

- ❖ Registration from 1st July to 10th July 2024
- ❖ Choice filling July 03 to July 14 2024

For complete details, visit Website <https://dte.mponline.gov.in/portal/services/onlinecounselling>

Reservation to J&K Migrants Seats & J&K Residents Seats: One seat in each institution is available on an over-and-above basis, irrespective of the preference capacity.

Feedback: vijaykashkari@gmail.com



Looking for a suitable match for our son, Manik Patwari, DoB: 21-12-1994, Place of Birth: Faridabad (Haryana), Time of Birth: 09:35 AM, Height: 5'5" ft. Qualification: B-Tech (Mechanical Engineer) from Deen Bandhu Chhotu Ram University of Science and Technology, Murthal Sonipat) Haryana. Job Profile: Presently working as Engineer in M/s Sanden Vikas India Pvt. Ltd, Faridabad. PREFERENCE: Working KP Girl. Present Address: H. No B/29 Ashoka Enclave Part 2 Sec 37 Faridabad and Valley Address: Sangri Colony Kanlibagh Baramulla Kashmir. For more details please contact: puranpatwari@yahoo.co.in, Mobile number: 9811561341, sunilpatwari007@gmail.com, Mobile number: 9810191189, Ramesh Bhat Mobile number: 9310357707



Looking for a suitable match for our son working in Deloitte Bangalore as a Software Engineer. Qualification: B.Tech from PDEU Gandhinagar Gujarat in ICT (information and communication Technology). Born on 14 NOV 1997 at 09:26 AM, Height -6 Feet. Appearance: Handsome, FAMILY originally from Fathe Kadal (Vakils) Srinagar. Family well settled in Ahmedabad, Father - CEO in Pvt organisation. MOTHER - Associate Professor in Pvt University Please contact: 9924700377



Suitable alliance invited for my son (B.E, M.B.A), born 28th May 1995, 5'9". Working as DATA ANALYST at LOWE'S COMPANI, Inc., Bengaluru, Karnataka Interested may contact: Ramesh Pandita, Anand Nagar, Jammu, Email-Id: aryanramesh99@gmail.com, or Mobile no. 9419189513.



Looking for a Suitable Match for our Son Born on 29th August 1994 at 08:55 AM at Jammu. Parents are presently living in Roop Nagar, Jammu. Height 5'9", Qualified as BE in Computer Engineering from Mumbai University plus pursuing MS in AI & ML. Working as Senior Data



Scientist in Fractal Analytics Pvt Ltd, Pune currently WFH. Interested people may contact on MB- 7889558793,9419241773, Email id: sunitarazdan25@gmail.com for Tekni & Biodata.



Seeking Alliance for my Daughter. DoB: 12-09-1997, Born in Faridabad, Haryana at 05.04 PM. Height: 5ft.2in. Qualification: B.TECH (EIC) from Govt Engineering College YMCA, Faridabad. Non-Manglic. Working in Central Govt. Service. Father from Karan Nagar, Srinagar. Retired as C.E.O and Settled in Faridabad Haryana. Mother: Gazetted Officer, retired from Central Government. Seeking Alliance from equally educated Boy. Preferably working in PSU or Central Govt Service (DELHI NCR). Interested, Please Contact on: WhatsApp No - 8178887009 Or 9868109905.

Looking for suitable match for our Son, born on 02nd January 1991 (06:30 PM) at Jammu. Height: 5'11, Education: BE (C.S.E) MBA from University. Working as Manager in MNC company at Bangalore handsome package. Interested person may contact on : - MB No. & WhatsApp: - 7006171324, 8717090262, 8717090264 & 9055272134 or Email-Id: - hldhar1958@gmail.com



We are looking for an alliance for our Daughter, DOB: 24-07-1995, TOB: 09:41PM, POB-Delhi and Height: 5'5". Qualification: MBBS (IGMC Shimla), Currently Perusing Masters in UK. Present address: Dwarka, Delhi. Valley address: Zaina Kadal, Srinagar, Kashmir. Boy should preferably be settled in the UK/USA. Interested may contact on MB no. 9871790735 or 9871790729.



Looking for an alliance for my daughter Dr. Aditi Tikku, Date of birth : 12-10-1989, Time of birth : 10:58 AM, Place of Birth : Srinagar, Height : 5 feet 5 inches, Qualification : BDS Mumbai, MBA in Health Care Management from IIM-Calcutta. Currently working as an Implementation Project Manager at Tata Trusts Hospital Mumbai. Valley Address : Haba Kadal Sgr, Present Address : Mumbai/Gurgaon. If interested please WhatsApp tekni and kolawali on Contact no: 9312869544 or Email id: jyotinder.nath.tikku@gmail.com.



Seeking a suitable alliance for my Son. DOB-17/09/1993, Height- 5.11 ft, Qualification- BE in Computer Science & MBA Finance (Mumbai University). Occupation: Sr. Manager in Kotak Mahindra Bank, Mumbai. Earlier he was working as Relationship Manager in HDFC Bank. Family Details - Father: Sh. Predemen K Tikoo, Rtd Dy-SP and Mother: Smt. Bunty Tikoo, House Wife. Valley Address: Village Bandipora, Kashmir. Present Address –Saraswati Vihar, Bohri, Jammu. Interested may contact at MB No- 9419240281, 9419272653.



Looking for a Suitable alliance for my daughter. DOB – 21/02/1996, Time & Place of Birth – 10.40 AM Jammu, Height – 5'4". Qualification – MBBS from Manipal College of Medical Science, Job Profile – Working as Medical Officer in one of the leading Hospital in Delhi. Valley Address – Rainawari, Srinagar, Kashmir. Present Address - Sector 7, Jasola Vihar, New Delhi. Manglik – No. Interested may Contact through - WhatsApp No – 9818879945 or Email ID - vakilrajinder@gmail.com.



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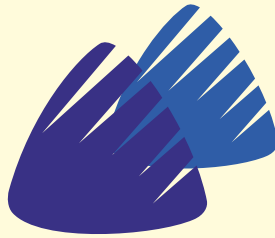
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