

# MAURITIUS **TIMES**

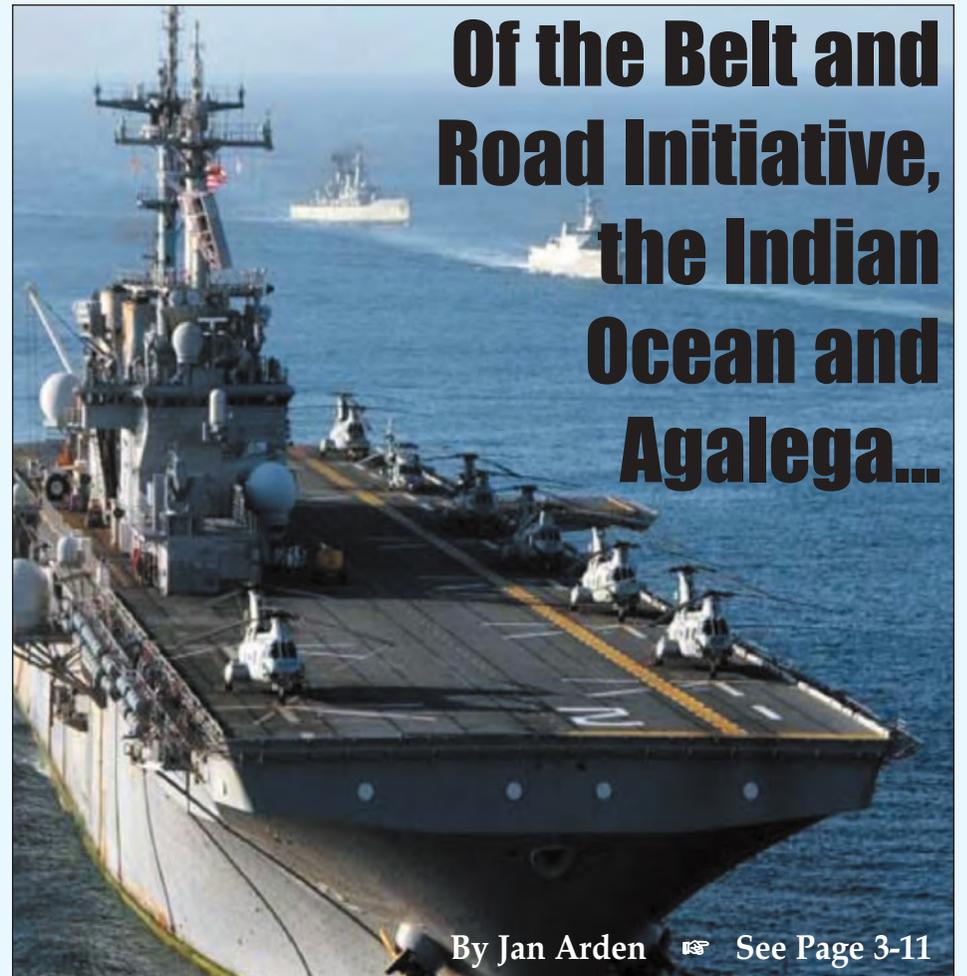
• "That which does not kill us makes us stronger." -- Friedrich Nietzsche



Qs & As

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## Social Media

# The Dark, Dangerous Side

**F**or some time now there is a major face-off going on between Big Tech, which includes social media platforms like Facebook, Google, Twitter, Instagram, etc., and governments in several countries which are considered the prime examples of functioning democracies: UK, France, Germany, USA. Their leaders have expressed the need for more rigorous regulation of these platforms which have become so big and are wielding so much of power that they are behaving like supranational states – as there are no boundaries in digital space. As such their mode of functioning and their 'rules' can go counter and even clash with the local laws of a country.

Here also ICTA has circulated a consultation document about amendments it was planning to bring to the Act, and people have given their perspectives. It is going to be a delicate balancing task meet the principle of freedom of expression and judicious regulation so as to prevent it from being used to excess, to cause harm to individuals or disturbance of social peace, or again, endangering the country's security.

One of the major problems of social media is that fake news and lies, like gossip, spread faster than truth. And gullible people are apt to be taken in and put themselves at risk, risk that can be so high that it can lead to exploitation of the person or even death.

There are numerous examples of such kinds of social ills that have been exposed in several countries. Thus, paedophilia rings have been uncovered, often too late because so much of damage has been done already. Similarly, with pornography networks wherein women are lured by promises of work and land up being trafficked as prostitutes, unable to get out and return to their countries. At one stage this was rampant in the UK, with women from the poorer Eastern European countries falling into the trap.

The current case of the alleged psychopathic 'serial killer' is a poignant example of the dark, dangerous side of social media that many do not seem to be aware of. In fact, there are so many cases that have been reported both locally and outside of susceptible people, especially women in vulnerable situations, being taken in by the false promises being made, using false identities and changed names. Unsuspectingly, they believe that the names being used and the promises being made – of marriage, or travel outside/settling abroad – are genuine, and it is too late by the time they realise and then can't escape because of blackmail, well-known being photos of the victims in compromising postures being surreptitiously taken and made to go viral on social media. In extreme cases, these lead to suicide, or to the killing of these subjects.

Clearly, no amount of regulation can prevent any defaulter from creating a false identity or making spurious claims on Facebook, which is the oldest and most popular social platform. And practically all the cases of exploitation that have been uncovered locally relate to messages traded on Facebook. Given the quasi-inability of official regulation in these personal matters, the clear lesson is that the responsibility of protecting oneself lies squarely on the shoulders of the individual. From the incidents that we have been seeing, it would appear that many people, especially those in difficulty, are not aware of the dangers that await them on Facebook. It is therefore up to parents and family, NGOs and civil society organizations to take the lead in creating the necessary awareness among people.

On the other hand, that does not preclude the State itself launching a campaign to supplement the efforts of non-State actors in this project. There is a very valid reason for the State to be involved: in the protection of the citizens of the country, fundamentally, and eventually, when a crime is committed, it is the State's human and logistical resources that are mobilized to investigate and try to solve the crime, resources which could otherwise be put in service elsewhere.

The lockdown may have been a factor in triggering or accelerating this phenomenon, as people with time on their hands and facing boredom may have been tempted to take a chance at an easy form of escape that then turns out to be deadly. All told, therefore, everyone must be extremely careful in using Facebook, whether it is posting material especially personal details, or responding to posts. They must check, check, check before they take any step forward if they do not want to end up cheated or dead.

## The Conversation

# Why hatred should be considered a contagious disease

*Hate-inspired violence is the cause of conflict around the world. It's time to consider hatred as a serious public health issue*



"For the Asian American communities that are experiencing this, it just feels like an all-out assault. Pic - apa.org

**A** significant portion of violence in the world is based on hatred. People find so many reasons to hate one another: their class, gender, authority, religion, skin colour, ethnicity, sexual orientation, creed, customs, nationality, political opinions, physical attributes or imagined attributes. And many of those who are targets of hatred in turn hate their haters and return the violence.

Hatred and violence are threats to human health and global stability. As a medical doctor who researches public health as a tool for peace, I consider hatred a contagious disease and a health emergency of international concern.

Hatred and violence have considerable costs in terms of human health and life. Hatred should be acknowledged as a contagious disease, a public health issue and a determinant of health because prevention is needed - and because of the limited health-care resources available to fight it.

In a 2002 report, the World Health Organization called violence a "leading worldwide public health problem" and estimated that 1.6 million lose their lives to violence every year. The report is almost 20 years old now. How many more have died as a result of violence since then?

### A long history of hatred

The world has recently seen the latest example of hatred-inspired violence playing out between Palestinians and Israelis.

What do we expect from all those who are exposed to different varying aspects of

harm from discrimination, racism, violence, intimidation, humiliation, oppression, occupation, hate crime, hate speech, incitement and violence?

The WHO defines violence as "the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development, or deprivation."

### Fuelled by hate

Health, freedom, justice, education, well-being, violence and war depend on who you are and where you live. Many of the current violent civil or civil-military conflicts across the globe are either based on, or fuelled by, hatred.

In an academic paper I co-authored in 2017 with Dr Neil Arya, entitled *The Palestinian-Israeli conflict: a disease for which root causes must be acknowledged and treated*, we noted that hatred goes side by side with violence. Hatred self-perpetuates, usually through cycles of hatred and counter-hatred, violence and counter-violence - sometimes manifested as revenge.

Hatred has been studied for centuries by philosophers and theologians, and more recently by social psychologists, anthropologists and evolutionary scientists.

Izzeldin Abuelaish  
 University of Toronto

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# Of the Belt and Road Initiative, the Indian Ocean and Agalega...

Jan Arden

It is no secret that sub-Saharan Africa, according to international studies, is a resource-rich part of the continent, harbouring minerals, rare earths to oil and gas, amongst others. Yet the region has an immense quadrillion dollar deficit in the type of mega-infrastructure of ports, airports and internal rails and road communications that could maximize their development potential even as a raw-material and commodity supplier. And almost every single country, some emerging from wars of liberation, others run by corrupt leadership, was cash-strapped, looking hungrily for Western investment that would only come laden with IMF-World Bank or European Union-type conditionalities and certainly not of the required scale.

Many resource-rich, cash-poor nations, were therefore presented with a difficult choice: (a) delay construction of desired infrastructure until resource revenues become available sometime in the distant future - a bleak scenario, or (b) borrow money now to build the infrastructure in the short term with the loans being repaid from and secured by future resource revenues, which is called resource-financed infrastructure. That requires great care to check that projected future revenues are reasonably forecast and that multilateral or Western donors do not overly weigh on terms and conditions.

This is where the Chinese authorities stepped in around 2013 with the mammoth Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), a signature policy of President Xi, proposing a planetary link of resource highways connecting resource-rich poor countries with markets, the whole to be financed through the clout of multi-trillion dollars accumulated in China through trade and manufacturing. Their forecasts were dizzyingly dazzling and soon their more flexible approaches made them indisputable development and investment partners in sub-Saharan Africa.

In 2017, the BRI was written into the constitution of the Chinese Communist Party, and 138 countries and 30 international organizations have agreed to participate, with announced investments to link Asia, Africa and Europe reaching some \$8 trillion. As opposed to the West's willingness to impose their terms (transparency, democratic functioning, painful structural adjustments) China's commitment to "non-interference" in the domes-

tic affairs of other countries was a boon to African leadership. The result is also BRI projects that are "riddled with graft, influence peddling, and embezzlement. The unstated purpose of noninterference is to provide cover for such practices" charged one anti-corruption US agency.

But could the African (or cash-strapped Asian) leaders be blamed for taking onboard the massive investments

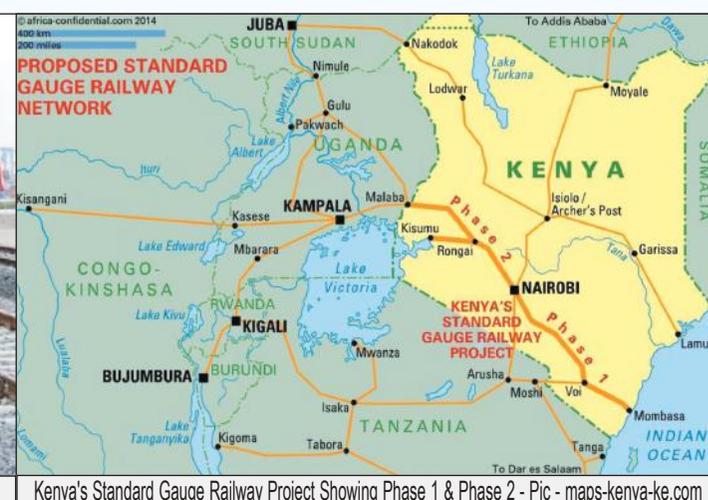
and the rhetoric to cold real-politics when Hamambota, the Sri Lankan port, had to be handed over to Chinese investors when a leonine investment contract with a 99-year lease collateral defaulted. This has fuelled a wave of disquiet. Closer to us the mammoth Standard Gauge Railway project linking Mombasa to East African interiors has been halted with the fate of Mombasa under siege. The port's assets were collateral, and observers say

lessons and amend its ways. The Covid-19 pandemic, which no one needs reminding finds its origins inside Wuhan, China, has contributed to irreparably damaged economies, development and trade prospects around the globe and may have something to do with this belated "prise de conscience". In China's own interests, these apparently generous contracts should be renegotiated with a combination of write-offs, bail-outs and re-engineered loans without exorbitant collaterals.

It is worth recalling here that a similar mammoth port development project straddling the Port-Louis area from Baie du Tombeau to Pointe aux Sables, was ushered by the former Minister of Finance, Vishnu Lutchmeenaraidoo, sometime in June 2015 when the new



Pic - railwaygazette.com



Kenya's Standard Gauge Railway Project Showing Phase 1 & Phase 2 - Pic - maps-kenya-ke.com

that, for instance, would see huge investments in Djibouti connected by new rail and road to the Ethiopian hinterland? Or the massive rail connection between a redeveloped Mombasa and the interiors of Nairobi, Uganda, Sudan and Rwanda, or the large dam and power generation plants in Western Africa, or the deep port investments around Walvis Bay in Angola? In 2018 the World Bank reckoned that Chinese lending portfolio accounted for 21% of public and public guaranteed debt in 38 African countries.

## A potential debt trap

There were dire warnings issued in some circles of a potential debt trap should countries embarking on Chinese fabulous but unrealistic forecasts of future revenues, fail or lag behind in their investment and interest reimbursements. A particular twist to the resource-financed infrastructure was the increasing frequency of straight resources-for-infrastructure (R4I) deals in which a Chinese conglomerate builds the infrastructure now in exchange for natural resources concessions, resource and mining rights, or the actual commodities into the future.

Could China then use BRI funds to overwhelm recipient nations, drown them in debt "generosity" and then seize those collateral, often strategic assets, such as mineral resources or even a port or airport? The question moved from specula-

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they are not protected by Kenya's sovereign immunity due to a waiver in the contract.

Stung by the increasing criticisms of its financing terms and a damaging reputation as an African raw material and commodity seeker, or a port-hungry predator for vulnerable island states (for instance, Sri Lanka and Maldives), engaging these states into leonine resource-financed infrastructure and R4I contracts, China Inc may be drawing the

government presented its first budget. It was certainly bold and innovative and could indeed be marketed as launching the birth of a maritime and fishing pillar, setting out fresh perspectives for growth of the economy.

He duly travelled to Malaysia and Dubai but his efforts only met with success, it seems, after meeting a Chinese delegation locally. On 25 August 2015, he announced an agreement between China and Mauritius towards the creation of this "fishing port" to be undertaken by LHF Marine Development Ltd, headquartered in China, and to be financed by the China Development Bank.

Unfortunately, as with many such State projects in recent years, there was minimal supporting evidence that revenue projections were not glowingly rosy and collateral would not be imposed by the Chinese firm in cases of repayment difficulties. According to l'express, works had started but stalled by March 2016, when the ministerial reshuffle led to the replacement of Minister Lutchmeenaraidoo by Pravind Jugnauth. From the vague information gleaned by the journal, project costs had already soared from a few billion Rs to 7 billion and 10 billion. Were projections fanciful, this might have been a noose around our neck right under our port's nose.

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# Climate Change - Interesting Twists



Anil Madan

*There are calls for reducing carbon emissions which means reducing consumption of fossil fuels, and on the other hand, there is concern that the world simply cannot just stop using fossil fuels. Or can it?*

The question of what approach is the best way to address the climate change issue is confounding. On the one hand, there are calls for reducing carbon emissions which means reducing consumption of fossil fuels, and on the other hand, there is concern that the world simply cannot just stop using fossil fuels. Or can it?

No matter where you stand when it comes to this debate, there are three significant developments that deserve more than passing mention.

First, earlier this month, the International Energy Agency (IEA) issued a Special Report titled *Net Zero By 2050* declaring that if all of the pledges to date by governments around the world to reduce energy-related carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions are achieved, they will still fall well short of what is required to bring such emissions to net zero by 2050 which the IEA accepts as necessary to give the world an even chance of limiting the global temperature rise to 1.5°C.

The IEA offers a pathway to transition to a net zero energy system by 2050. It does so without advocating reliance on new technologies but rather, focuses on greater proliferation of solar and wind solutions with a doff of the hat to bioenergy, geothermal and hydro power. There is no mention of nuclear power. The IEA claims that its approach is a cost-effective and economically productive pathway, resulting in a clean, dynamic and resilient energy economy dominated by renewables (solar and wind) instead of fossil fuels.

Whether the IEA's "solution" is realistic or viable is not clear but, at least facially, the IEA does not seem to be projecting naïveté. It describes the pathway to build-



Pic - assets.nrdc.org

**“A judge in Holland ruled that Shell’s current climate strategy is “not concrete enough and full of caveats,” adding that the oil major has a legal obligation to reduce its emissions in line with international climate goals. So, the judge ordered Shell (Royal Dutch Shell) to cut its emissions 45% by 2030 compared to 2019 levels. This is an extraordinary ruling. It exalts the Paris Climate Accords to the level of an almost constitutional obligation. It has a court dictating what corporate policy should be...”**

ing a net zero energy sector in the next three decades as "viable" but "narrow and extremely challenging" and one that "requires an unprecedented transformation of how energy is produced, transported and used globally."

The IEA recognizes that net zero means a huge decline in the use of fossil fuels. Built into the IEA's analysis is the assumption that global energy use will shrink by 8% over the next three decades even with two billion more people on earth, representing an increase of more than 25% in the world's population. The IEA also expects that the global economy will be twice as big.

It is tempting to dismiss the IEA's report as pie-in-the-sky and almost nonsensical. Indeed, for an agency that has no policy-making authority, its "pathway" does bring back that question about naïveté. Does the IEA expect that countries and fossil fuel giants will suddenly drop their business models and give up exploration and development?

Indeed, the IEA states that beyond

projects already committed as of 2021, its pathway has no room for any more new oil and gas fields, nor for new coal mines or mine extensions. But note that there is no room in the IEA's assumptions, and none of this is binding on any government.

Some aspects of the IEA's pathway may well come to fruition. For example, its plan is that no internal combustion engine cars would be sold after 2035. Many countries and some U.S. states are already moving in this direction. The IEA states that the global electricity production sector would achieve net zero emissions by 2040 as wind, solar, bioenergy, geothermal and hydro generation modalities provide about 90% of electricity generation by 2050 and two-thirds of total energy supply.

The IEA projects a drop in oil demand of 75% and a drop of 55% for natural gas by 2050.

These projections seem unrealistic. Take just the case of China where President Xi Jinping has vowed to reach

carbon neutrality by 2060 and where the country's leadership has reiterated its Paris Climate Accords pledge of a 2030 emissions peak.

What is not clear is how high that peak will be or, as *Yale Environment 360*, published by the Yale School of Environment notes, how strong China's climate ambitions really are and how quickly China can wean itself from its main source of energy — coal.

Already, in the second half of last year, 2020, steel, cement and heavy manufacturing, predominantly fed by coal power, boosted China's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 4 percent compared with the pre-pandemic days of 2019

The Yale review notes that coal remains at the heart of China's flourishing economy. In 2019, 58% of China's total energy consumption came from coal. This helps to explain why China accounts for 28% of all global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. A sobering note is that in 2020, the year of the pandemic, China brought 384 gigawatts of new coal-fired power into operation, and this is more than three times what was brought on line everywhere else in the world.

The future looks bleak for those looking to cut coal usage. A total of 247 gigawatts of coal power is now in planning or development, nearly six times Germany's entire coal-fired capacity. China has also proposed additional new coal plants that, if built, would generate 73.5 gigawatts of power, more than five times the 13.9 gigawatts proposed in the rest of the world combined. Last year, Chinese provinces granted construction approval to 47 gigawatts of coal power projects, more than three times the capacity permitted in 2019.

China has pledged that its emissions will peak around 2030, but that high-water mark would still mean that the country is generating huge quantities of CO<sub>2</sub> — 12.9 billion to 14.7 billion tons of carbon dioxide annually for the next decade, or as much as 15 percent per year above 2015 levels.

The Chinese Communist Party is obviously caught in a difficult position. Whereas reducing its carbon footprint is a de rigueur stated policy, the country still has to deal with fostering economic growth for its immense population.

## ICTA, Annoyance &amp; The Constitution

# “There is no way in which a citizen can challenge a law voted by Parliament...

... without a referral by a court of law in the course of proceedings. This is definitely a weakness in our Constitution”

**F**ollowing a ruling given by the Supreme Court in the case *Seegum J v The State of Mauritius* in relation to the offence of using an information and communication service for the purpose of causing annoyance, LEX clarifies certain points about the issue of ‘annoyance’ caused by posts on social media, and about challenging laws made by the National Assembly.

LEX

accused the constituent elements of the offence.

**\* Is this ruling important in light of the recent consultation exercise of ICTA and its earlier proposals to tackle social media abuse?**

The consultation was about how to monitor social media so as to prevent the spread of messages of a spurious nature. Had the ruling dealt with the freedom of information aspect, it might have been relevant.

**\* Will it however have an impact in any way on cases relating to offences that may today fall under the amended version of the law, with particular reference to the redrafted section 46(h)(ii) of the ICTA, as amended by Act No.14 of 2018?**

The element of annoyance, which is couched in vague terms, that is without any definition or precision, is still there in the new provision of ICTA. If cases are prosecuted under the amended version, the issue of constitu-

achieve that result and that must be proved by the prosecution.

When we say that somebody is sending a message that is likely to cause annoyance, it would suffice to prove he sent it and leave it to the court to deduct from the evidence that the message was **likely to cause** annoyance.

It would appear that in a prosecution against a person by averring that he sent a message that was likely to cause annoyance (though annoyance has not been caused), proof of the offence is more easily done.

“The element of annoyance, which is couched in vague terms, that is without any definition or precision, is still there in the new provision of ICTA. If cases are prosecuted under the amended version, the issue of constitutionality may still be raised...”

**\* Justices Chan Kan Cheong and Gunesh-Balaghee state in their ruling with reference to the earlier version of section 46(h)(ii) of the ICTA that “in Mauritius, a single message sent for the purpose of causing annoyance is caught by section 46(h)(ii), even if the content of the message is true, while in the UK, the offence is only committed where the offender knows that the message is false or persistently makes use of a public electronic network... In India, the offence is committed where the message is false and is sent persistently.” Does the same risk exist with the amended version of the law?**

The judges are right. Any message, true or false, are caught by section 46(h)(ii). That would be so under the law as amended.

**\* What if a person were to circulate on social media what could amount to a news-breaking story relating to the arrest of a VVIP in a drug busting or prostitution sting operation by the police, which ultimately turns out to be false? Would that contain the elements likely to cause annoyance and would therefore amount to an arrestable offence?**

Of course, especially if the message turns out to be false. In such a case the person who is targeted may also resort to court by suing for defamation. Unless the author pleads good faith.

**\* Does the offence of “causing annoyance” (which is not defined in the ICTA) and defamation carry the same weight in the eyes of the law, or is annoyance the first step to defaming an individual/institution?**

In a number of cases it has been held that in determining whether words have a defamatory meaning or not “...what does matter is what the adjudicator at the trial thinks is the one and only meaning that the readers as reasonable men should have collectively understood the words to mean.”

➔ Cont. on page 6



Social media & the risk of causing annoyance. Pic - media.wsimag

“There is no way in which a citizen can challenge a law voted by the National Assembly without a referral by a court of law in the course of proceedings. This is definitely a weakness in our Constitution because until a law is challenged it remains on the statute book and may be used...”

**\* Justices D. Chan Kan Cheong and K.D. Gunesh-Balaghee have ruled in the matter *Seegum J v The State of Mauritius* that Section 46(h)(ii) of the Information and Communication Technologies Act (as it stood at the time of the offences, that is in 2012), in relation to the offence of using an information and communication service for the purpose of causing annoyance, for which Vinod Seegum was prosecuted, “must be struck down as unconstitutional.” In essence what is the core finding of this ruling besides the test of constitutionality?**

The court decided nothing else except the constitutionality of section 46(h)(ii) of the ICTA by holding that it was a vague provision that did not drive home to an

tionality may still be raised.

**\* What could have been the reasoning behind the amendment of the earlier version of section 46 of ICTA, which made it an offence for “using an information and communication service for the purpose of causing annoyance” to read thereafter “... which is likely to cause annoyance...”?**

The word ‘likely’ connotes the idea that something might happen or probable but which may not happen. Whereas the words ‘for the purpose’ connote the idea of intentionally wanting to do something.

When we say somebody is sending a message **for the purpose** of causing annoyance, it means he wants to

## ICTA, Annoyance &amp; The Constitution

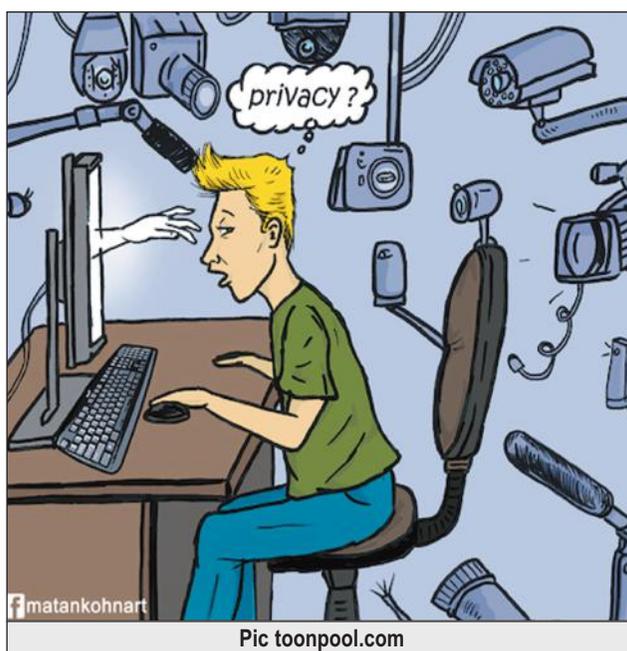
# ● 'The element of annoyance, which is couched in vague terms, that is without any definition or precision, is still there in the new provision of ICTA'

Cont. from page 5

A British judge laid down the test as follows: "...whether the words would tend to lower the plaintiff in the estimation of right-thinking members of society generally". In a defamation case, the plaintiff must establish a « faute ». But once this is done, it is for the defendant who sets up good faith as a defence -- to prove that he was acting in good faith. If a person feels offended by a message posted on social media and feels defamed by it, he can still sue for defamation.

\* We note that lots of cases are brought before the Supreme Court to seek its guidance or to test the constitutionality of some particular law. Could it be said that

“A British judge laid down the test as follows: ...whether the words would tend to lower the plaintiff in the estimation of right-thinking members of society generally". In a defamation case, the plaintiff must establish a « faute ». But once this is done, it is for the defendant who sets up good faith as a defence -- to prove that he was acting in good faith...”



Pic toonpool.com

our Constitution, and in particular its principles, drafted and adopted a little more than 50 years ago, are still relevant in essence in today's society?

There are a number of matters that need to be reviewed in the Constitution. But this is another debate. Suffice it to say that the provision of the Constitution that permits a citizen to challenge a law can only be invoked as a result of proceedings before a court.

Section 84 (1) of the Constitution provides: "(1) Where any question as to the interpretation of this Constitution arises in any court of law established for Mauritius (other than the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court or a court martial) and the court is of opinion that the question involves a substantial question of law, the court shall refer the question to the Supreme Court."

It should be noticed that there is no way in which a citizen can challenge a law voted by Parliament without a referral by a court of law in the course of proceedings. This is definitely a weakness in our Constitution because until a law is challenged it remains on the statute book and may be used.

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The African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) is a pan-African multilateral financial institution established in 1993, for the purpose of financing and promoting intra and extra African trade. "The Bank" is currently hiring the below positions. All positions are based at "The Bank's" Headquarters (HQ) in Cairo, Egypt unless otherwise stated on the job description. To view further information, please visit their website: [www.afreximbank.com](http://www.afreximbank.com)

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Johnson, 56, exchanged vows with Symonds, 33, at the Roman Catholic Westminster Cathedral in front of a small group of friends and family. Pic - Reuters

## UK PM Boris Johnson marries fiancée in private ceremony

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and his fiancée Carrie Symonds married on Saturday in a small private ceremony in London, his Downing Street office said on Sunday, reports AP.

Johnson's office confirmed reports in the Mail on Sunday and the Sun that the couple wed at the Roman Catholic Westminster Cathedral in front of a small group of friends and family. The Sun said senior staff in Johnson's 10 Downing St. office were unaware of the wedding plans. Under current coronavirus restrictions in England, no more than 30 people can attend a wedding.

Johnson, 56, and 33-year-old Symonds, an environmental advocate, announced their engagement in February 2020 and have a son together, 1-year-old Wilfred. The marriage is Symonds' first and Johnson's third. He has at least five other children from previous relationships.

The last British Prime Minister to marry in office was Lord Liverpool in 1822.

The reported nuptials come after a tumultuous political week for Johnson, who was accused by former top aide Dominic Cummings on Wednesday of bungling the government's response to the coronavirus and being "unfit for the job."

On Friday, an ethics inquiry found the prime minister acted "unwisely" in renovating his Downing Street apartment without knowing where the money had come from but it cleared him of misconduct.

## Brazilians stage nationwide protests against President Bolsonaro's Covid response

Brazilians staged protests against President Jair Bolsonaro's handling of the Covid-19 pandemic in at least 16 cities across the country on Saturday, carrying signs such as "Out with Bolsonaro" and "Impeachment now."

Bolsonaro's popularity has plummeted during the coronavirus crisis, which has killed more than 460,000 Brazilians as the far-right leader played down its severity, dismissed mask wearing and cast doubt on the importance of vaccines.

Organised by leftist political parties, unions and student associations, Saturday's protests in the capital Brasilia and in Rio de Janeiro were peaceful, but in the northeastern city of Recife, police threw tear gas and shot rubber bullets.

In Sao Paulo, Brazil's largest city, thousands of mask-wearing people blocked one the largest city's avenues. One large balloon depicted



Bolsonaro as a vampire.

Some protests, like the one in Rio, included images of former Leftist President Luis Inacio Lula da Silva wearing the presidential sash.

Earlier in May, Lula met centrist

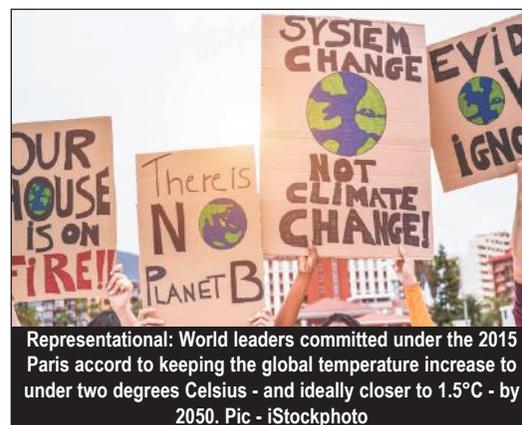
Fernando Henrique Cardoso, also a two-term former president, for lunch in a public show of their common purpose to block Bolsonaro from gaining a second term in next year's presidential election.

## World leaders call for cleaner, greener planet

World leaders on Sunday called for more action and inclusion of all countries in the global drive towards a cleaner and greener planet at a climate summit hosted virtually by South Korea.

South Korea, which recently announced plans to cut finance for international coal projects, is seeking a bigger role in the global initiative to go green.

"South Korea will play a responsible role as a bridging nation between developing and advanced nations," said President Moon Jae-in as he opened the 2021 Partnering for Green Growth and the Global Goals 2030, or P4G, summit.



Representational: World leaders committed under the 2015 Paris accord to keeping the global temperature increase to under two degrees Celsius - and ideally closer to 1.5°C - by 2050. Pic - iStockphoto

The two-day summit is the second of its kind following the inaugural meeting held in Copenhagen in 2018, and is focused on public-private partnerships, especially in developing countries.

Advanced nations have laid out ambitious emissions-cutting goals in recent months, as well as plans to ultimately go carbon neutral by 2050.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel called on the countries to phase out their dependence on fossil fuels, warning that the climate crisis is threatening people's lives and the

economy as much as the Covid-19 pandemic.

World leaders committed under the 2015 Paris accord to keeping the global temperature increase to under two degrees Celsius - and ideally closer to 1.5°C - by 2050.

## Covid crisis: British retail faces 'tsunami of closures' without rent help

Britain's retail sector will endure a "tsunami of closures" if the government does not extend a moratorium on aggressive debt enforcement, industry lobby group the British Retail Consortium (BRC), said on Sunday.

Citing survey data it said two-thirds of British retailers have been told by landlords they will be subject to legal measures to recover unpaid rent from July 1 when the moratorium ends, reports Reuters.

Many UK retailers deemed "non essential" had to close their stores during multiple Covid-19 lockdowns over the last 15 months, accruing total rent debt of 2.9 billion pounds (\$4.1 billion), the BRC said.



Covid crisis: Industry data shows one in seven shops already lie empty. Pic - Reuters

The pandemic has hammered the sector and industry data shows one in seven shops already lie empty.

The BRC's survey found 80% of tenants said some landlords have given them less than a year to pay back rent arrears.

Without action, the end of the moratorium could see thousands of shops close, said BRC chief executive Helen Dickinson. She called on the UK government to allow the rent arrears built up during the pandemic to be ringfenced and the moratorium on repayment of these debts to be extended to the end of the year.

"Without action, it will be our city centres, our high streets and our shopping centres that suffer the consequences, holding back the wider economic recovery."

\* Contd on page 8

## British spies believe Wuhan Covid lab leak theory is 'feasible': Report

The controversy around the possible leak of the Sars-CoV-2 virus from the Chinese city of Wuhan has received another boost. According to a Sunday Times report, British intelligence officials believe it is "feasible" that the pandemic began after a virus leak from a Wuhan laboratory. The British spies are now investigating the theory of a possible leak from the Wuhan Institute of Virology, according to the report.

Quoting people familiar with the development, the British daily said that a recent reassessment of the possible source of coronavirus disease (Covid-19) has prompted UK intelligence to investigate the lab leak theory. Sharing renewed concerns over virus origin, American diplomatic sources said that the world is "one wet market or bio lab away from the next spillover", reported The Sunday Times.

The hypothesis of the introduction of Sars-CoV-2 through a laboratory incident had gained a lot of traction in the early days of the pandemic but was largely dismissed as a conspiracy theory. A global study, convened by the World Health Organization (WHO), also deemed it "extremely unlikely" after international experts visited



The British spies are now reportedly investigating the theory of a possible leak from the Wuhan Institute of Virology. Pic - Reuters

Wuhan in January this year.

But a recent remark by top US infectious disease expert Dr Anthony Fauci on virus origin possibilities took

the world by surprise, which was followed by a demand for a new "transparent" investigation. Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, told a virtual event that he was not convinced with the theory that the virus "developed naturally."

"Certainly, the people who investigated it say it likely was the emergence from an animal reservoir that then infected individuals, but it could have been something else, and we need to find that out. So, you know, that's the reason why I said I'm perfectly in favour of any investigation that looks into the origin of the virus," he said.

According to a Daily Mail report, a study has found that the Sars-CoV-2 has no 'credible natural ancestor' and was created by Chinese scientists while working on 'gain-of-function' research.

## Sri Lanka launches probe after burning ship leads to pollution crisis



Smoke billowing from the Singapore-registered container ship MV X-Press Pearl, which has been burning for the tenth consecutive day in the sea off Sri Lanka's Colombo Harbour, in Colombo. Picture taken on May 29, 2021. Pic - AFP

Sri Lanka launched a criminal probe on Sunday into a massive container ship fire that has swamped the island nation's coast with plastic pollution in an unprecedented marine disaster.

Tonnes of microplastic granules have inundated the South Asian country's famed beaches, forcing a fishing ban and prompting fears of ecological damage.

The Singapore-registered MV X-Press Pearl has been smouldering on the horizon for 11 days after a blaze broke out as it was heading to Colombo from Gujarat, India.

The 25-member crew, who have already been evacuated from the ship, will be questioned on Monday after a complaint was lodged by Sri Lanka's Marine Environment Protection Authority, police said.

Last week, authorities said they believed the fire was caused by a nitric acid leak that the crew had been aware of

since May 11.

"The captain and the crew were in quarantine, but health authorities have told us that we can question them from tomorrow," Ajith Rohana, a police spokesperson, told AFP.

The ship's owners, X-Press Feeders, said the vessel's hull remained intact and there was no damage to its fuel tanks.

Much of the ship's cargo, including 25 tonnes of nitric acid, sodium hydroxide, lubricants and other chemicals, appears to have been destroyed in the fire, according to officials.

Sri Lanka's Marine Protection Authority (MEPA) said the plastic waste from the burning ship had probably caused "the worst beach pollution in our history", and warned it could cause years of ecological damage.

Fishermen have been banned from the 80-kilometre (50-mile) stretch of coast where the pellets have washed up.

## China: Tianzhou-2 reaches space station module carrying supplies

A cargo spacecraft carrying supplies including food and equipment docked with China's first space station's key module Tianhe early on Sunday, state media announced as the station prepares to host three astronauts in June.

The unmanned Tianzhou-2, or "Heavenly Vessel" in Chinese, docked with Tianhe (the key module) at 5.01am Beijing time, official news agency, Xinhua said.

The launch and docking of Tianzhou-2 comes a month after Tianhe, the first part of the space station Tiangong, "Heavenly Palace" in Chinese, was launched.

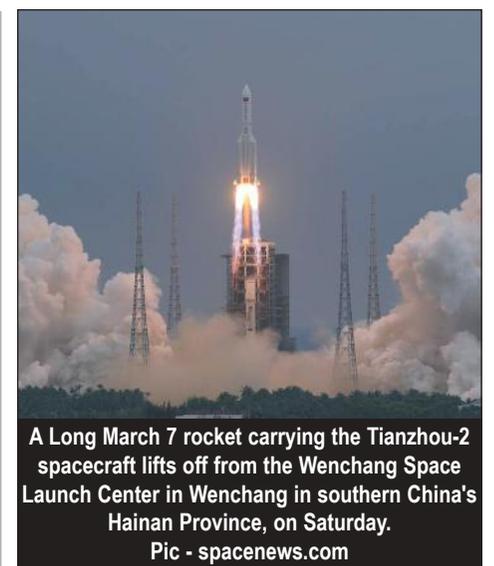
In late April, China sent to space Tianhe, the management and control hub of Tiangong, the permanent space station, which it plans to complete by 2022 as part of its ambitious space programme.

The Tianhe, which was sent to orbit by a rocket, can provide electricity and accommodate three astronauts for up to six months.

More than 160 large and small packages including supplies for astronauts and space-science equipment for Tianhe were loaded into the cargo spacecraft, the China Academy of Space Technology (CAST) told state media.

Tianzhou-2 delivered space food, dubbed "space deliveries" by Chinese engineers, including many traditional Chinese dishes for the astronauts getting ready to leave for the space station in June.

"From staple foods to non-staples, from meat to vegetables, the menu design is of high quality and appetising for astronauts. Famous stir-fried Chinese dishes like fish-flavoured shredded pork and Gong Bao (Kung Bao) chicken are both on the menu," the Xinhua report said.



A Long March 7 rocket carrying the Tianzhou-2 spacecraft lifts off from the Wenchang Space Launch Center in Wenchang in southern China's Hainan Province, on Saturday. Pic - spacenews.com

Following five launch missions this year, China plans to have six more missions, including the launch of the Wentian and Mengtian lab modules, two cargo spacecraft and two crewed spacecrafts, by 2022, to complete the construction of the space station.

"Since 2003, China has sent six astronauts into space including astronaut ZhaiZhigang who carried out China's first outer space walk in September 2008," the report said.

Once completed, the Tiangong is set to be a rival to the International Space Station from which China is excluded.

The ISS comprises Canada, Japan, the Russian Federation, the US, and 11 member states of the European Space Agency (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK).

# Climate Change - Interesting Twists



Climate change and the fight for our future. Pic - assets.unenvironment.org

“There is increasing pressure on Western governments and Western corporations to deal more aggressively with climate change and to find actual solutions. No similar pressure is applied in China or India, two of the largest emitters of CO2. History tells us that when the US and other Western countries focus on a problem intensely, they usually produce technological breakthroughs to solve it. Both China and India have tremendous talent to offer the world and their role in solving challenges of, and related to, climate change may make all the difference...”

☛ Cont. from page 4

The Yale publication notes that China can only flatten its carbon emissions if it can achieve heavy reliance on renewable energy augmented by nuclear power, as well as major technological advances in carbon capture and battery/storage technology.

But, make no mistake, China's coal dependence is at odds with any notion of a long-term decarbonization project and with the goal of the Paris Climate accords to limit global temperature increases to 1.5°C.

Second, a judge in Holland ruled that Shell's current climate strategy is “not concrete enough and full of caveats,” adding that the oil major has a legal obli-

gation to reduce its emissions in line with international climate goals. So, the judge ordered Shell (Royal Dutch Shell) to cut its emissions 45% by 2030 compared to 2019 levels.

This is an extraordinary ruling. It exalts the Paris Climate Accords to the level of an almost constitutional obligation. It has a court dictating what corporate policy should be.

Greenpeace and six other environmental groups sued Shell on behalf of 17,000 citizens of Holland. Their contention was that Shell must conform to international climate obligations and that its investments in oil and gas exploration threaten the lives of Dutch citizens.

Needless to say, Shell has promised

to appeal the decision. It is reasonable to expect that an appellate court will rule that the Paris Climate Accords are not binding on business corporations and, in any event, the courts are not the arbiters of what corporate investment policies should be. On the other hand, if a corporation commits a transgression and injures a person, a court of law is the appropriate forum for an award of damages. Might not a more expansive view of the law include the notion that ensuring compliance with the law or directing that conduct not run afoul of the law is a proper function of the courts?

Third, less than a week ago, ExxonMobil announced after its annual shareholders meeting that at least two of its twelve directors had been replaced by others who are seen as better suited to fight climate change, bolster the company's finances and guide it through a transition to cleaner energy. Final results may show that more than two seats were affected.

The significance here is that the dissident directors were backed by many of America's major institutional investors. As might be expected, the California Public Employees' Retirement System, popularly referred to as CalPERS was among the supporters of the replacement directors.

These developments tell us that there is increasing pressure on Western governments and Western corporations to deal more aggressively with climate change and to find actual solutions. No similar pressure is applied in China or India, two of the largest emitters of CO2.

History tells us that when the US and other Western countries focus on a problem intensely, they usually produce technological breakthroughs to solve it. Both China and India have tremendous talent to offer the world and their role in solving challenges of, and related to, climate change may make all the difference.

Cheerz...  
Bwana

Mauritius

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A complete Guide to Municipal and District Councils

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From the Pages of History - MT 60 Years Ago

4th Year No 165

MAURITIUS TIMES

Friday 4th October 1957

● *The only liberty that is valuable is a liberty connected with order. -- Edmund Burke*

# Glory and Gratitude

By Somduth Bhuckory

The Municipality of Port Louis has agreed to give a place for the erection of Manilal's statue in the Company's Garden - in the garden which is opposite the Hindu Maha Sabha to be precise. This grant goes to the credit of those who are at present in office at the Municipality and they deserve to be congratulated for their generosity and courage.

Never before, we believe, an Indian has been the object of such high consideration. No wonder then some people cannot get reconciled to the idea of having the statue of an Indian in the very heart of Port Louis.

One would have expected the first thrust from Felicien Mallefille Street but it came from St. George Street. The two streets have perhaps merged into one as the fourth and fifth fingers of Mr Koenig, and so what is in the mind of one is also in the mind of the other. Anyway, *Le Mauricien* came out with a nasty bit of disguised contempt last Friday in the form of a *manchette*: 'La gloire et l'esthétique'.

*Le Mauricien* expressed the fear that the beauty of the garden might be spoiled by the statue. The *manchette* writer must be imagining a hideous Manilal wearing a loincloth and a turban. How will not such a thing wound the aesthetic sense of some people? Well, they have to find some pretext for grounding their disapproval. The statue will be a blemish, hints *Le Mauricien* but in the fair name of *esthétique* it has revealed more than its concern for beauty spots. Does it honestly think that in their *enthusiasm* to crown glory with gratitude, Indo-Mauritians are going to put up something which will not suit a hero or a public garden?

The next day *Le Mauricien* had a variation on the same theme. The *manchette* writer this time quoted a BBC critic as having said: "pour les générations nouvelles, un monument est moins un hommage qu'une oeuvre d'art." Does *Le Mauricien* sincerely believe that Indo-Mauritians cannot pay homage to one of their heroes properly? Does it mean that everything is just a show?

Now Felicien Mallefille Street too has shown its reaction. One 'Travailleur' in a note headed 'Contrastes' and published in *Le Cernéen* of last Tuesday speaks of Anquetil and Rozemont as being the idols of workers, who died before Manilal and remarks that nobody has said anything about erecting a memorial in their honour whereas Manilal who died recently is getting one.

*Le Cernéen*, it will be found, does not care for any *esthétique*. It is out only to show that Indo-Mauritians are communalists. By the way, it does not say what Manilal did half a century ago to alleviate the lot of workers who were at the mercy of the masters. But to drive a wedge between Indo-Mauritians and Creoles, *Le Cernéen* has not hesitated to go to the length of implying that priority of death should prevail over priority of service. On the other hand, Anquetil has got a street after him and Rozemont a Square. Who say that they have been forgotten? And let it be added that the Committee which is



erecting the memorial has no connexion with the Labour Party.

Whether *Le Mauricien* and *Le Cernéen* like it or not, the foundation stone of the statue of Manilal Doctor will be laid on Sunday the 13th instant. The caravan will go on no matter how bitter the barking.

\*\*\*

## Appointment of Head Teachers

The appointment of head teachers is one of the most baffling problems of the Education Department. It tends to satisfy a few by causing frustration to many. Teachers as well as the public are anxious to know the secret behind the

appointment.

Only last month six teachers have been promoted to become head teachers. If you have a look at their names, first of all you will start wondering whether discrimination is not at work somewhere. But that is not all.

What makes you feel uneasy really is that there is a good number of other teachers with the same qualifications and with equal if not more time of service who have been bypassed. What is the factor which secures the promotion of one and the lack of which is responsible for making another mark time? As long as a reasonable explanation is not given the feeling will persist that favouritism has displaced justice and fair play.

There is a great deal of talk of communalism in public life. We would like some responsible person or body to study what havoc communalism is creating in the Civil Service.

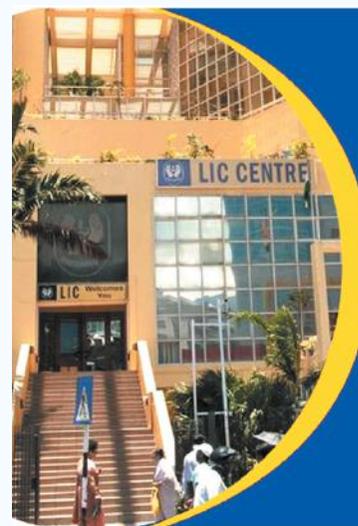
Whenever there is something wrong in a department, there is a tendency now to appeal to the minister in charge of the department. We refrain from doing so because we have been given to understand that in matters of promotion ministers are not worth more than the man next door. Promoting teachers is the joint business of Mr Snell, the Director of Education, and the Public Service Commission.

Mr Snell has to assess the merits of first-class teachers before the PSC is called upon to sanction any appointment. Does the Director assess their merits by just putting them a few simple questions? Or does he also take into consideration (a) time of service, (b) good work, (c) clean character, (d) certificate, (e) punctuality and regularity, (f) head teacher's report, and (g) superintendent's report?

Until recently the PSC had nothing to do with the appointment of head teachers. There was discontent regarding some appointments and it was expected that the PSC would set matters right. But the hope has not been fulfilled. That is why people think that PSC or no PSC, the result is the same.

How then can justice be done to the deserving teachers who have been discarded? Can Mr Snell go on recommending anybody at their expense? Have the teachers no remedy to redress the wrong done to them?

We appeal to the representatives of the people to look into the matter.



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# Of the Belt and Road Initiative, the Indian Ocean and Agalega...

☛ Cont. from page 3

Neither was it clear who would actually manage this Chinese port infrastructure or grant fishing, berthing and fuelling rights. Still less was it clear whether this would have been a dual civil-naval port facility only ostensibly for fishing operations but whose primary purpose might have been elsewhere, in line with Chinese naval requirements in the south Indian Ocean. Mauritius would have certainly constituted an interesting port of call for Chinese fleet, naval and commercial, plying to and from say Namibia or round the Cape. Even more so if the facility was entirely operated and managed by a Chinese conglomerate, often a proxy for the Chinese state.

## Geo-strategic interest

The proposed port then certainly held a geo-strategic interest for China, but the concern of a hidden agenda may have dawned on Mauritian authorities, who decided to let the ship flounder on the sands of Bain des Dames. Although it



A cargo train sets off on its inaugural journey from Mombasa to Nairobi on the new Chinese-built line. Picture: AFP

does not mean Mauritius should give up its ambitions to develop its maritime pillar and exert what control it can over its economic zone, lack of transparency around real intents and geo-political naïveté were not salubrious then. They are not now

either in our dealings with the Indian government over the facilities being built in Agalega.

India is the largest development co-operation partner of Mauritius with a focus on our people-centered development: the

cybercity, science and culture or the public health infrastructure are but a few examples. External Affairs Minister late Smt Sushma Swaraj visited Mauritius from 1-3 November 2014, to attend, as Chief Guest, the national level celebrations commemorating the 180th anniversary of the arrival of Indian indentured labourers. During her visit she made clear that India had no qualms about making our joint accords public and a strategic partnership was mooted and developed during successive visits since 2015.

The contours of that partnership include developing Agalega infrastructure for joint use by both Mauritius and certainly India, which is funding the overall development, and Mauritius which will oversee and manage both the port and airport at Agalega. Beyond defense and joint national security issues or clauses, the terms of our accords should be made public.

Jan Arden

# Why hatred should be considered a contagious disease



☛ Cont. from page 2

There is no consensus on a definition of hatred that is scientific, comprehensive and holistic.

Hatred is more than just an emotion. Eric Halpern, an Israeli psychologist and political scientist, defined hatred as "a negative emotion that motivates and may lead to negative behaviours with severe consequences."

## Hatred is contagious

Hatred can be conceptualized as an infectious disease, a determinant of health and a public health issue spreading violence, fear and ignorance. Hatred is contagious and crosses barriers and borders, and no one is immune to its risks.

Like traditional diseases, hatred is initially triggered by a causal agent or from harmful exposure. Once the exposure is manifested and incubated within the host, it can

grow slowly over a period by continuous chronic exposure - or instantly by acute exposure.

As the harmful exposure starts to grow, it will start to negatively impact the host's health and well-being. Based on the individual's threshold for tolerance and resilience, either hatred could develop and spread, or hatred could be mitigated or prevented. If hatred is developed, the host will actively participate in an act of hatred that results in trauma and the spread of hatred to others.

Just like other diseases, hatred can also be contagious and hereditary with the ability to spread both horizontally (to those in proximity to you) and vertically (transgenerationally).

Hatred is a public health issue because it often engenders widespread physical, psychological or political violence.

The current violent civil or civil-military conflicts across the globe, many of which are either based on or fuelled by hatred, testify that hatred is a dangerous and contagious disease - at least metaphorically, but perhaps even literally.

## Harmful to health

Some data suggests that the byproducts of hatred - such as stress, depression and anxiety - are associated with several health problems other than injury and death.

Marshall Marinker, a British physician and researcher, defined disease as a pathological process, most often physical, sometimes undetermined in origin. In his book *Hatred: the psychological descent into violence*, professor of clinical psychiatry Willard Gaylin suggests that hatred is a disease of the mind.

Hatred is also a disease of the human heart, soul and body. Hatred is a complex process that attacks humankind and becomes a community disease. Hatred is complex, discrete, involves destructive intent, is contagious to individuals, groups and communities and is often

the result of exposure to harm. It is the result of chronic frustration leading to episodes of rage that go unaddressed.

Hatred has risk factors and causes that can be prevented from developing or modified and whose effects we must treat. Hatred has a negative physical and emotional impact that disturbs the homeostasis and emotional equilibrium of an individual leading to physical, psychological, social and behavioural changes.

## Investigating the causes

This is why there's justification for dealing with hatred as a contagious disease, determinant of health and a public health issue by employing a public health approach investigating its societal characteristics and causes, and identifying modifiable risk factors, prevention and management strategies.

Understanding the psychological, pathological, physiological and neurobiological consequences of hatred suggests that the link to disease may not be just metaphorical, but literal and measurable for the individual experiencing it.

Hatred is a pressing public health issue demanding to be taken seriously by the medical community, the public, governments and other institutions. Hatred is an intense, destructive attitude. Its manifestations are war, disease, violence and cruelty, symptoms that compromise the health, welfare and functioning of human beings, both at the individual and population level.

The global community must recognize hatred as a public health issue in order to move from the management of hatred to the active prevention of its root causes through promotion, education and awareness. We must measure it and if unable to prevent it, mitigate it.

Izzeldin Abuellaish, University of Toronto

# I'm over 50 and hesitant about the AstraZeneca COVID vaccine. Should I wait for Pfizer?

*Many over 50s seem to be asking this question. But there are a number of reasons it's important to go ahead and get the AstraZeneca vaccine now*



**Hassan Vally**  
Associate Professor,  
La Trobe University

**I**t's been well documented that there's a significant level of vaccine hesitancy. This appears to be a particular issue among adults over 50 concerning the AstraZeneca vaccine, for which this group is now eligible.

Hesitancy over the AstraZeneca vaccine, likely to be stemming largely from the very small risk of blood clots, is leading some people to ask: can't I just wait and get the Pfizer vaccine later?

## Thinking about the blood clot risk

Thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS), an unusual blood clotting disorder, has been associated with the AstraZeneca vaccine.

It's important to emphasise it's not unreasonable to have concerns about the risk of a potentially serious side effect from the AstraZeneca vaccine, or any other vaccine. The challenge is in understanding the magnitude of this risk, putting this risk into perspective, and then weighing up the risks versus the benefits before making a decision.

The difficulty is your brain plays a variety of tricks on you when you try to make sense of risks like this. For example, we have a tendency to perceive the risks of very rare adverse outcomes (such as TTS) as being greater than they are.

We also tend to be more concerned about negative consequences that may arise as a result of our actions than our inactions. That is, we're generally more worried about a potential adverse outcome from taking a vaccine than any adverse outcome that may result from not taking it. This of course isn't logical, but is another one of the errors we make in processing risks.

In terms of assessing the risk of TTS associated with the AstraZeneca vaccine



for over 50s, we've always known the risk is very low.

At the time of writing this article the Therapeutic Goods Administration's COVID-19 weekly vaccine safety report reported there had been 21 confirmed cases of TTS out of about 2.1 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine administered. This is equivalent to one case per 100,000 vaccinations.

Importantly, as we've got better at detecting and treating this condition, the likelihood of severe outcomes from TTS have come down considerably. So the rare risk of serious illness from this syndrome looks to be even rarer than we first thought.

To put TTS into perspective, it's also useful to note we see around 50 blood clots unrelated to TTS every day in Australia.

## Weighing the risks against the benefits

The benefits of getting the AstraZeneca vaccine are considerable for over 50s, from both an individual and a community perspective.

When opting to get a vaccine, you're protecting yourself against the future risk of infection and possible severe illness. For over 50s who contract COVID the risk of severe illness and death is very real. We're also learning many people who get COVID-19 suffer with ongoing and sometimes debilitating symptoms, a phenomenon called "long COVID".

Another factor which may be driving hesitancy around the AstraZeneca vaccine is the perception the Pfizer vaccine works better. But the most recent data suggest any difference in the performance of these vaccines may be smaller than we originally believed.

Although phase 3 clinical trial data indicated the AstraZeneca vaccine had an efficacy of around 70%, new real-world data from the United Kingdom tells us it could be as much as 85%-90% effective in protecting against symptomatic COVID-19.

This is positive news and not far off the 95% figure for the Pfizer vaccine seen in clinical trials and in the real world.

And apart from effectively protecting against severe illness and death from the original strain, the AstraZeneca vaccine appears to work almost as well in protecting against more severe outcomes for variants of concern, such as the UK variant. Early signs also suggest the vaccine is working quite well to reduce transmission of the virus.

It's also important to understand - and this applies to all age groups - that we're getting vaccinated for the health of the community as a whole.

Although a great deal of the success or failure of the vaccination program has been framed in terms of reaching herd immunity, we don't need to reach a certain threshold for the community to reap benefits. Every vaccine delivered makes a

difference as the greater the proportion of the population vaccinated, the more difficult it is for the virus to spread.

As we've seen in Taiwan in recent weeks, being complacent about COVID is flirting with danger.

Even though we don't have community transmission of COVID in Australia now, and we may feel safe and secure in this climate, we need to remember things could change very quickly.

## Get the job

There's really no logical reason for someone over 50 to wait for an alternative to the AstraZeneca vaccine, like Pfizer or Moderna. If you do choose to wait, there's no guarantee when any alternative might be available, and in the interim you risk leaving yourself vulnerable.

By stepping up to get your vaccine as soon as you can, you protect yourself against severe COVID and make a significant contribution to putting this pandemic behind us, including getting Australia closer to opening up international borders.

## Appartement à louer - long terme



Appartement meublé de 3 c.a.c, climatisé, cuisine équipée, piscine et parking, sécurité (24/24) à Trou aux Biches - Complexe Fleury sur Mer  
Tel: 57809413 - 57530881

## To Rent

Fully furnished and air conditioned 3-bedroom apartment at Fleury sur Mer Complex, Trou aux Biches for long-term. Parking and 24 hour security, swimming pool  
Tel: 57809413 - 57530881

## Notice for Permission for Land Use

Take notice that **Ms Persand Jemina** will apply to the District Council of Pamplemousses for a Building and Land Use Permit for a proposed General Retailer at Royal Road Long Mountain. Any person feeling aggrieved by the proposal may lodge an objection in writing to the above-named Council within 15 days as from the date of this publication

Date: 28 May 2021



## An Indian in Canada

An Indian left his job in India and joined a salesman's job in a big departmental store in Canada. On the first day, the Indian worked with full vigour.

At 6 pm...

Boss: "How much of sales did you do on the first day?"

Indian: "Sir, I attended to 1 sales call."

Boss: "Only 1 sale the whole day? Usually every salesman here does 20 to 30 sale transactions a day. Well, tell me what is the value of your today's one sale?"

Indian: "\$93,300!"

Boss: "What? Unbelievable! But how did you do that?"

Indian: "Sir, one customer came in and I sold him a small fishing hook. Then a mazola and then finally sold a big hook. Then I sold him one big fishing rod and some fishing gear. Then I asked him where does he go to catch fish and he said to the coastal area. Then I said to him that he would need a boat. So I took him down to the boat department and sold him a 20 ft double engine schooner boat.

"When he said the boat won't come in his Volks Wagon, I took him to the auto mobile section and sold him the new Deluxe 4x4 blazer to carry the boat. And when I asked him where he would be going fishing. He didn't plan anything. So I took him to the camping section and sold him a six sleeper camper tent. And then he took groceries worth \$200 and 2

cases of beer..."

Now the boss took two steps back and asked: "You sold all this to a person who came just to buy only 1 fish hook?"

Indian: "No, Sir... He actually came in to buy 1 tablet for his headache... I explained to him that fishing is the best way to get rid of headaches!"

Boss: "Where did you work before?"

Indian: "I was a PRO in a private hospital in India. For any patient who would come in for any 'Minor Complaint', we get the patient tested for Pathology, ECO, ECG, TMT, CT SCAN, X-Ray, MRI..."

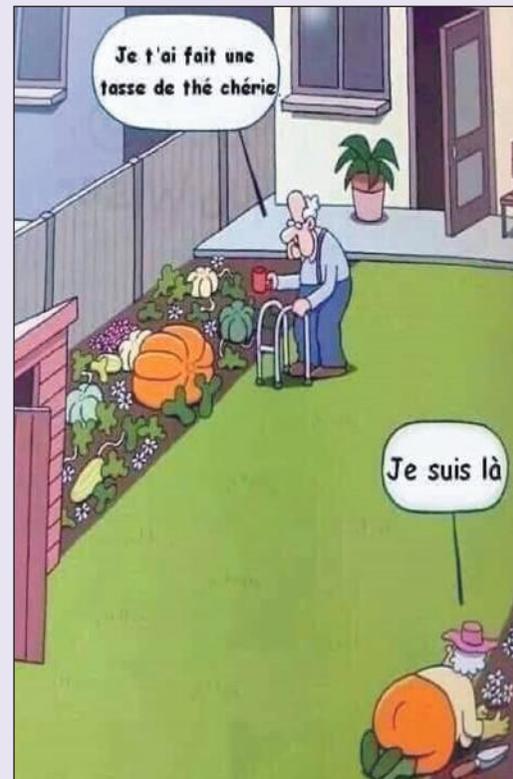
Boss: "Will you please sit in my chair? I shall go to India and join a private hospital for training."

## I passed my in-laws' little test

I was a very happy man. My wonderful Italian girlfriend and I had been

dating for over a year, and so we decided to get married. There was only one little thing bothering me... It was her beautiful younger sister. My prospective sister-in-law was twenty-two, wore very tight miniskirts, and generally went bra-less. She would regularly bend down when she was near me, and I always got more than a nice view. It had to be deliberate. Because she never did it when she was near anyone else.

One day this 'little' sister called and asked me to come over to check the wedding invitations. She was alone when I arrived, and she whispered to me that she had feelings and desires for me that she couldn't overcome. She told me that she wanted me just once before I got married and committed my life to her



sister. Well, I was in total shock, and couldn't say a word.

She said, 'I'm going upstairs to my bedroom, and if you want one last wild fling, just come up and get me.'

I was stunned and frozen in shock as I watched her go up the stairs. I stood there for a moment, then turned and made a beeline straight for the front door. I opened the door, and headed straight towards my car. Lo and behold... my entire future family was standing outside, all clapping!

With tears in his eyes, my father-in-law put down his shotgun and hugged me and said, 'We are very happy that you have passed our little test. We couldn't ask for a better man for our daughter. Welcome to the family.'

*The moral of this story is: Always keep your condoms in your car.*

## Life's LESSONS

### What killed the frog?

Put a frog into a vessel filled with water and start heating the water.

As the temperature of the water begins to rise, the frog adjusts its body temperature accordingly.

The frog keeps adjusting its body temperature with the increasing temperature of the water.

Just when the water is about to reach boiling point, the frog cannot adjust anymore.

At this point the frog decides to jump out, but it is unable to do so.

Because it has lost all its strength in adjusting with the rising water temperature.

Very soon the frog dies.

What killed the frog? Think about it. I know many of us will say the boiling water. But the truth about what killed the frog was its own inability to decide when to jump out.

We all need to adjust with people and situations. But we need to be sure when we need to adjust and when we need to move on. There are times when we need to face the situation and take appropriate actions.

If we allow people to exploit us physically, emotionally, mentally financially, or spiritually, they will continue to do so.

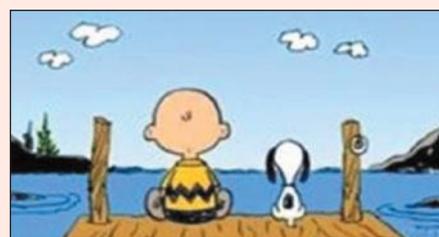
Know when to jump out.



*The following is the philosophy of Charles Schulz, the creator of the 'Peanuts' comic strip. You don't have to actually answer the questions. Just ponder on them, and you'll get the point.*

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners (awarded annually to the most outstanding player in college football).
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America pageant.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

### The Charles Schulz Philosophy



How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday.

These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields.

But the applause dies. Awards tarnish...

Achievements are forgotten.

Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.



Here's another quiz. See how you do this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

#### Easier? The lesson:

The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money... or the most awards. They simply are the ones who care the most.



Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. In a few hours it will be already tomorrow in Australia!"

*Be Yourself.*

## 5 things that successfully married couples never do



He &amp; She

There is no doubt about the fact that marriages are difficult. It takes a lot of effort, compromises, adjustments, and sacrifices to make them work. Be it arranged marriage or love marriage, when two people start to live together under the same roof, problems are bound to arise. However, marital problems don't matter as much as how you handle them and try to resolve them. There are also certain things that successfully married couples never do. Here is a look at 5 of them as reported by TOI.

### Stop dating

Even though you may have been married for over 10 years, every now and then, you must turn off your phones and have dinner together without your kids. Due to busy schedules, we often forget to enjoy the company we have right next to us. Dating your spouse creates a culture of happiness and builds your relationship up.

### Play the blame game

Whether you are disagreeing about where the money goes, or feeling stressed out and frustrated at the chores that need doing, the blame game will get you nowhere. Instead of playing the blame game, learn how to sit down and discuss your feelings and needs in a respectful and safe way. Take some quiet time to analyze your feelings and figure out why you are upset and what you need to feel

better.

### Nag each other too much

The more you nag and criticize and faster your happiness and relationship breaks down. By continually communicating in a negative tone, you are setting the development of your relationship to be negative as well. Instead, cheer each other on. Appreciating your partner leads your relationship to a good place.

### Treating relationship as the last priority

Your relationship is an important part of your life, and needs nurturing, care, and your full attention. If you put your relationship last after your career, hobbies, or friends, it will eventually break down. Never take your partner for granted or just assume they will be there for you after you have finished with all the things on your to-do list. Your partner deserves the best of you, not what's left after you have dealt with everything else.

### Gossip about their relationship with friends and family

No matter the good, bad or ugly side of your marriage, don't gossip about it with your family at dinner or your friends. When issues arise, happy couples resolve the issue with each other directly, leaving friends and family out of it. While talking to others, keep the talk about your spouse honest but guarded.

## Being Mum & Dad

### Ways of help your child through teenage

As children get into their teens from their secure pre-teen years, they move into a storm of changes, not only physically but sexually and emotionally as well. They are exposed to a myriad of new emotions, circumstances, passions and desires. It is a tricky phase where their parents crib that they are not kids anymore and at the same time they are not old enough to make their decisions independently. To sail through these turbulent times in their lives, teens alight their parents' ship and begin to voyage with their friends, mates, teachers, role models and likewise.

It is also this phase of teenage years where emotional disorders like depression become the fourth and anxiety becomes the ninth leading cause of illness and disability amongst the age group of 15-19 years. Suicide is the third leading cause of death in this age group globally. Teens are also gripped by mental morbidities like behavioural disorders, eating disorders, addictions, risk-taking behaviours, psychosis and a few other issues.

It is not just a turbulent time for the teens but also their parents. Caught in a jinx of security to their teens and the liberty to their dreams, parents face a unique dilemma of moderating their teen's behaviours. Although easier said than done, there are a few tips given by Dr Nilam Behere-Kolekar, psychiatrist, as reported by Shikha Desai of Times of India, that can ease the interaction with our teens...

**1. Listen, listen and listen actively** - When we listen actively, we are involved in

the conversation, our faces express compassion and a sense of understanding. We often tend to wave heads as the speaker does. Active listening also includes components like speaking out 'hmm', 'ohh ohh', 'I see', 'tell me more' etc. Silence, at appropriate places, is also a very important part of active listening.

**2. Validate, tell them they are thinking it right** - Emotions are very personal and they don't deserve judgements! No emotion is wrong. Any given emotion is right for an individual, at that given time and circumstances. So let them know that it's okay to feel angry, uneasy, insecure, jealous or unjust. All we can do is help them further in choosing the right way of action on those emotions.

**3. Suggest, don't advise** - Teens have very active and malleable brains. Rather than advising, when you suggest



solutions, you hit two targets. Firstly, you give them the freedom to choose and secondly a responsibility and onus of their decisions.

**4. Let them take their small steps (while you supervise)** - Mend them into a habit of dividing any given task into smaller tangible targets. Every small target achieved will serve as a reward and make their efforts more systematic and calculated.

**5. Be authoritarian, not authoritative** - Responding to teens emotional needs, appreciating their efforts and encouraging their point of views is what good parents do. Harsh criticism and punishments need to be avoided strictly.

## The reflections

Once a dog ran into a museum filled with mirrors. The museum was very unique, the walls, the ceiling, the doors and even the floors were made of mirrors. Seeing his reflections, the dog froze in surprise in the middle of the hall. He could see a whole pack of dogs surrounding him from all sides, from above and below.

The dog bared his teeth and barked all the reflections responded to it in the same way. Frightened, the dog barked frantically, the dog's reflections imitated the dog and increased it many times. The dog barked even harder, but the echo was magnified. The dog, tossed from one side to another while his reflections also tossed

LIFE IS AN ECHO. WHAT YOU SEND  
OUT COMES BACK. WHAT YOU SOW,  
YOU REAP. WHAT YOU GIVE, YOU  
GET. WHAT YOU SEE IN OTHERS,  
EXISTS IN YOU.

- ZIG ZIGLAR



around snapping their teeth.

Next morning, the museum security guards found the miserable, lifeless dog, surrounded by thousands of reflections of the lifeless dog. There was nobody to harm the dog. The dog died by fighting with his own reflections.

Moral: The world doesn't bring good or evil on its own. Everything that is happening around us is the reflection of our own thoughts, feelings, wishes and actions. The world is a big mirror. So let's strike a good pose!

Alltimeshortstories.com

# 10 Bollywood actors on motherhood journey

Here's what Bollywood actors have to say about their journey through motherhood

**P**regnancy can be a very empowering as well as stressful journey. When a woman conceives a new life, she undergoes major changes in life physically, mentally, and emotionally. Every woman who experiences pregnancy is a single mother irrespective of her marital status. Her body goes through the transformation alone and no man can match the effort of a mother.

Many Bollywood moms have embraced motherhood and are inspiring women to be themselves and enjoy the journey. They are also motivating them to take care of themselves while staying happy and fit during and after pregnancy. Here are some tips and advice from the Bollywood moms to all the moms out there, as reported by Shriya Sarang of shethepeople.tv.

## Importance of strong and grounded character - Tahira Kashyap

When Tahira Kashyap was asked about what she deems to be the most important lesson for parenting children, she said, "It's important to have a strong and grounded character."

As children watch and learn from adults, a strong and grounded character in the mother is what's most important. Similarly, if you want your children to do something, a secret here is to do it yourself and your little monkeys will follow.



## Anushka Sharma on 'seeing new changes'

Anushka Sharma has embraced motherhood a while ago with husband Virat Kohli. Sharma says about pregnancy, "You are more connected to your body, to all that is happening. It's mind-boggling when I see the changes. It's amazing."

## Sushmita Sen on how her life 'stabilised' because of motherhood

Sushmita Sen who adopted two daughters and broke some massive stereotypes says, "The wisest decision I made at the age of 24 was to become a mother. It stabilised my life." Sen further said that people think that it was a great act of charity and wonderful action but in reality, it was self-preservation. "It was me protecting myself", Sushmita Sen added.

The former Miss Universe not only inspires women to break the barriers and embrace motherhood, but she also gave a very important lesson that you don't need a man to be a mother. Romantic love and motherly love can both happen separately and you don't need a husband to justify your children. Because your children have a name of a strong person who is YOU.

## Kalki Koechlin on having a gender-neutral name

We often put barriers on our children wanting them to behave in a certain way. Walk like a man, don't cry like a girl, the stereotypes engulf an innocent mind and kill the true calling of the baby. It is important to give children the space to find out who they are. Right from their identity to sexuality, every individual deserves their own space. And the Bollywood actor Kalki Koechlin has done something marvelous. Koechlin gave her baby a gender-neutral name so that they aren't forced to be something that they didn't want to.

## Kajol on a working mother's guilt

Kajol addressing an important social stigma of the guilt that comes with being a working mom says, "I think it [working mom's guilt] is because of the responsibility factor." Kajol further added that society generally puts the responsibility of bringing up the child on the mother and that's where the guilt comes from.

## 'It has opened my eyes', says Lisa Haydon

Lisa Haydon opened up about career apprehensions and said, "I believe that we are finally arriving at a place where women don't need to have career apprehensions towards starting a family. You can have it all." She further revealed that having children has 'opened her eyes'.



## Aishwarya Rai Bachchan on the stigma around weight gain after pregnancy

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan opened up about the stigma around weight gain and said, "This is who I am. I am a mother. And I am fine with weight gain." She is also normalised gaining weight and empowered women towards self-love with her statement.

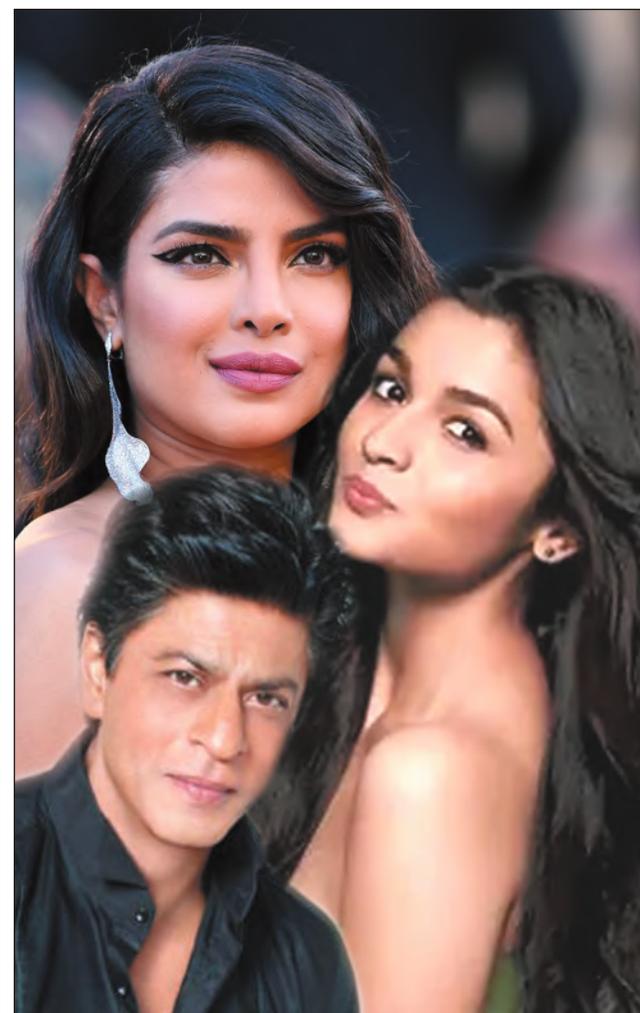
## Twinkle Khanna on parenting

She says, "Children are not listening to what we say but watching what we do and they emulate us. Be a good role model and you will raise a good human being."

## Malaika Arora on self-love



The most valuable advice shares actor and dancer Malaika Arora. She said, "I believe a lot of mothers forget about themselves while trying to take care of their families. They become too selfless. I feel every woman should be a little selfish in a good way." Arora further added, "There will always be a hundred things to do but you must remember to give some time to yourself too. Treat yourself for all the hard work that you put in; go for a spa or on a shopping spree, whatever makes you happy. Don't always compromise; keep some time for yourself too."



## Priyanka Chopra is much ahead of SRK, Alia Bhatt in charging for one Instagram Post

Let us take a look at how much Priyanka Chopra, Shah Rukh Khan and other big stars earn from their one sponsored post on Instagram, as reported by Koimoi.

**S**ocial media is a big source of earnings in today's world of the internet. While big Bollywood stars take big paychecks for playing a part in a film, their income from social media, especially Instagram, is huge.

Starting with Amitabh Bachchan, the actor charges a whopping sum for one sponsored post. With a following of 26.7 million on Instagram, Big B reportedly charges around Rs 5 M for one post. Big B is still very much in demand, thanks to his connect with young Bollywood fans and box office pull.

Speaking of Shah Rukh Khan, the actor fills his pockets with a huge amount from Instagram. He charges around Rs 8-10M for one sponsored post. Alia Bhatt too is at the same level that of SR Khan thanks to her consistent box office successes and a huge following. She charges around Rs 10 M per post.

Priyanka Chopra leaves Shah Rukh Khan, Alia Bhatt and Amitabh Bachchan behind as she charges a whopping amount of around Rs 18 M per sponsored post. She has a following of 63.8 million on Instagram. Ever since she actively switched to Hollywood, her fan base is ever increasing. Also, social work is something that keeps Priyanka trending all across the globe

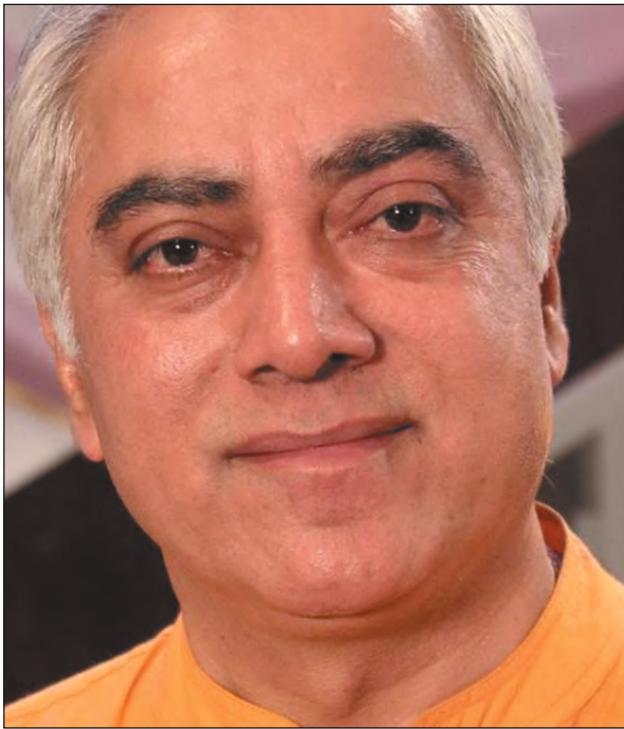
## Sanjay Gandhi: 'It is a bad and scary situation'

Some production houses are using lockdown to reduce fee

The senior actor admits that he is in a financial crunch, hasn't worked at all since July 2020. He rues the fact that there is lack of work and many actors are sitting at home jobless.

"So many actors are sitting at home and are jobless. There is lack of work and roles are offered for low fee," rues senior actor Sanjay Gandhi, who has been part of a number of TV shows and has been looking for work, reports Kavita Awaasthi of Hindustan Times.

"The mood of the industry is very low. Your only hope is that things will improve one day. Every day, I hear of someone I knew passing away due to Covid-19. People are suffering and while I want to help people, but I feel helpless. I am not rich and am in a financial crunch as I haven't acted since July 2020 in *Nagin 4*. I live in a rented house and have expenses every month. There is no work,



no money, no future plan!" states the 50-year-old.

With lockdown, he also misses meeting people and relying on emotional support from his industry friends. Moreover, some of his friends contracted Covid-19, which added to his anxiety about stepping out for work as "it is risky". He adds, "Moreover, today I am healthy, but will I be the same tomorrow? There is no guarantee. I have to lookout for myself and my health and I also have to go out of the house and work which is risky. *Kare toh kya karen?*"

What is "frustrating" for him is that there are a few roles out there and though he thinks senior actors shouldn't be called for audition, he went for one and was selected but the fee offered was so low that it felt "disrespectful". "There are two kinds of people are working in the Covid-era. One is *majboor* and the other is *mazdoor*. Both have no option but to work in whatever capacity. It is a bad and scary situation. Some production houses are using lockdown as an excuse to reduce actor's fee by 50 or 60%. That's why actors refuse such offers and prefer to wait. After an audition, to be offered peanuts as remuneration for the lead antagonist's role was not done. I felt hurt, upset and disrespected. Instead of agreeing to such pittance, I would rather sit at home.

## Neena Gupta didn't have money for C-section when pregnant: 'Had only Rs 2000 in my bank account'

Sharing an excerpt from Neena Gupta's memoirs, daughter Masaba Gupta wrote, "As I read mom's biography I learn so many things and the hardships she has had to endure."



Celebrity fashion designer Masaba Gupta last week took to her social media platforms to give a peek into her mother Neena Gupta's upcoming memoirs, *Sach Kahun Toh*, reports Indian Express. Sharing an emotional excerpt from the book, the fashion designer wrote, "When I was born, my mum had Rs 2000 in her bank account. A timely tax reimbursement would bump that number up to Rs 12,000 and of course I was a C-section baby."

Writing about her gratitude for her mother, Masaba wrote, "As I read mom's biography I learn so many things & the hardships she has had to endure. I work very hard every single day of my life & never ever let anyone not give me what I deserve only to make sure I can pay her back for bringing me into this world.....with interest!"

The excerpts shared by Masaba reveal how Neena, when she was pregnant with Masaba, didn't have enough money to comfortably deliver her child.

The excerpts read, "As my due date approached, I started to worry because I had very little money in my account. I could afford a natural birth because it would cost only Rs 2000. But I knew if I had to have a C-section, I would be in trouble because the surgery cost almost Rs 10,000. Luckily, a tax reimbursement of Rs 9000 came through a few days before my delivery and I finally ended up with Rs 12,000 in my bank account."

"Good thing this money came through, because my doctor informed me that I would need a C-section. My father, who had come down at the time to help me through the birth, was livid. He said this was a ploy to just charge us more money," Neena writes.

Neena's autobiography is scheduled to release on June 14. The mother-daughter duo were last seen together in Netflix's *Masaba Masaba*, directed by Sonam Nair, the two are all set to appear in the show's second season soon.

## Zindagi Ki Mehek actor Karan Vohra joins the cast of Pinjara Khubsurti Ka

Karan Vohra, who became a household name with his stint as the male lead in *Zindagi Ki Mehek*, is all set to join the cast of Saurabh Tewari's *Pinjara Khubsurti Ka*. The show stars Riya Sharma and Saahil Uppal in the lead roles. Karan will play the parallel lead and will be paired opposite Riya. The actor commenced shooting from today and his entry is slated to air next week. The unit of the show is shooting at a resort near Delhi.



While Karan remained unavailable for comment, a source associated with the show told us, "We are introducing a twist in the storyline for which we required to rope in a new actor. It is a cameo and Karan fits the bill perfectly. He will play Mayura's love interest and will be seen as a rich, South Delhi lad. His entry will result in insecurity and complications in Mayura and her husband Omkar's (Saahil) lives. We are shooting his introduc-

tion scene today."

On the personal front, Karan, who hails from Delhi, has been doing his bit during the pandemic. During the lockdown last year, the actor had started a fundraiser campaign in association with a crowd-funding platform to support a Delhi-based NGO for animals. The actor also appealed to his fans on social media to come forward and support the campaign.

## Tannaz Irani shocked at being replaced in 'Apna Time Bhi Aayega'

Over the years, we have seen many television actors crying foul over uncereceremonious ouster from shows. The latest example is Tannaz Irani, who plays Ranisa in *Apna Time Bhi Aayega*. The actress says that she was replaced on the show after she expressed her reservations about moving to Goa for the shoot. According to her, the makers replaced her abruptly, without even discussing the possibility of a solution, reports Neha Maheshwri of TNN.

She says, "I shot with them till April 11, two days before they decided to move to Goa after shoots came to a halt in Maharashtra. The production house texted everyone, enquiring whether we would be available to shoot, but without mentioning other details like accommodation and duration of the stay.

I told them that I was not sure about travelling, but was open to a discussion. However, there was no discussion."

Tannaz adds, "Given the current situation, I wouldn't have been allowed to travel back to Mumbai to see my children. I do not have anyone to look after them, and can't expect my husband (Bhakhtyar) to take care of everything, including their online classes. Besides, I have already been infected with Covid-19 once. So, my family is bound to get worried for me. Having said that, I was not completely averse to the idea, but it's a big decision, and I wanted to discuss it."

The actress says that while she was expecting to resolve the issue, the production house informed her about her replacement.

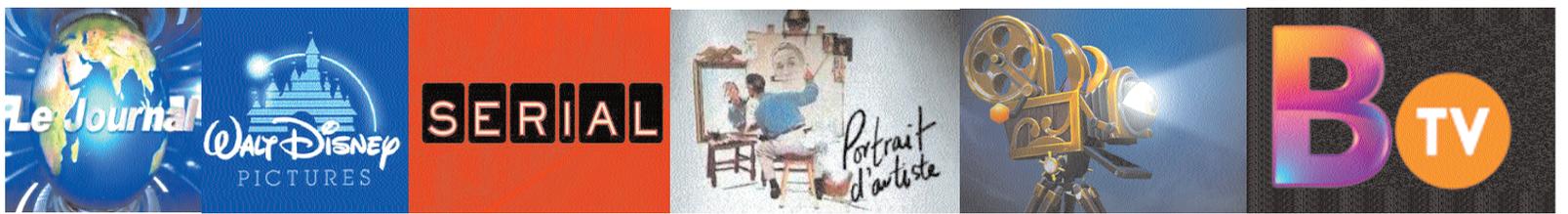


Mercredi 2 juin - 21.00  
**The Past Never Dies**



**Xenophobia**

Jeudi 3 juin - 21.15  
Avec: Kristen Renton, Manu Intraymi, Brinke Stevens



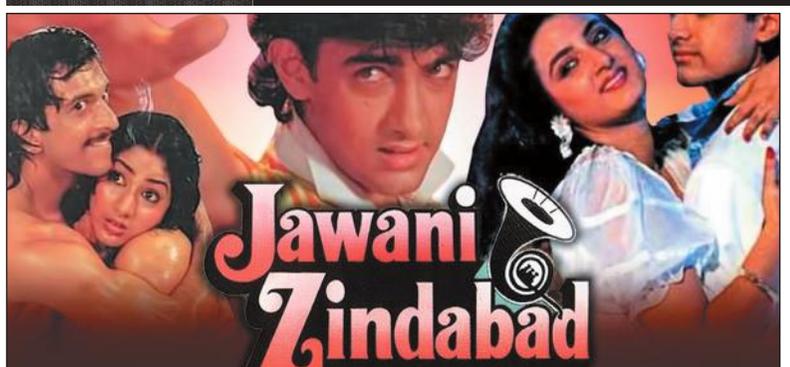
	MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	Cine 12	Bollywood TV
<b>mardi 1 juin</b>	07.00 Dessin Anime 10.35 Serial: Open Heart 11.00 Mag: Le Saviez Vous? 11.10 Tele: Soleil Levant 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir 12.55 Doc: L'art Et La Matière 14.00 D.Anime: The Hive 14.33 D.Anime: La Famille Blaireau 14.44 D.Anime: Spongo, Fuzz And... 14.56 D.Anime: Pet Alien 15.08 D.Anime: Cosmic Quantum... 15.30 Film: Bobby The Hedgehog 17.05 Serial: Backstage 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 18.56 Local Prod: Charcha 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.35 Local: An Eta Dalert 21.05 Film: Night Wolf 23.10 Le Journal	10.00 Serial: CID 10.48 Serial: Ye Vaada Raha 12.04 Film: Raavan Starring: Smita Patil, Vikram Makandar, Gulshan Arora 15.00 Serial: Ek Deewana Tha 15.25 Serial: Aamhi Doghi 15.45 Serial: Bava Maradullu 16.08 Serial: Apoorva Raagangal 16.29 Serial: Suno Chanda 16.49 Serial: Imtihaan 17.13 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala 17.34 Telugu - Premabhishekam 18.00 Serial: Colourful Bone 18.30 DDI Magazine 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.30 DDI Magazine 20.00 Local: Tamil Programme 20.30 Film: Shagoon Star: Waheeda Rehman, Kamaljeet	06.00 Mag: Eco@Africa 06.52 Mag: Voa Connect 07.27 Mag: In Good Shape 07.53 Doc: Amazing Gardens 08.19 Mag: Future Mag 10.14 Mag: Global 3000 10.40 Mag: Washington Forum 11.13 Mag: Eco@Africa 11.39 Mag: Arts And Culture 12.05 Mag: Voa Connect 13.06 Doc: Amazing Gardens 13.32 Mag: Future Mag 14.09 Doc: Tresors Oublies De La... 15.27 Mag: Global 3000 15.53 Mag: Washington Forum 16.26 Mag: Eco@Africa 16.52 Mag: Arts And Culture 18.02 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto... 19.00 Open Univ: Student Support 19.31 Mag: Made In Germany 20.40 Doc: Ville En Fête	01.26 Film: Astronaut 03.04 Serial: L.A.'s Finest 03.40 Film: Xtinction 05.07 Tele: Muneca Brava 06.58 Film: Brush With Danger 09.00 Serial: Chicago Fire 09.45 Tele: Daniella 10.35 Tele: Tanto Amor 11.01 Serial: L.A.'s Finest 12.00 Film: Xtinction 13.30 Tele: Muneca Brava 14.15 Mag: Hollywood On Set 14.45 Film: Brush With Danger 16.41 Serial: Chicago Fire 17.23 Serial: Absentia 18.05 Tele: Daniella 19.00 Tele: Tanto Amor 20.05 Tele: Sinu, Rio Des Pasiones 20.30 Serial: Absentia 21.15 Film: Jumanji 23.09 Serial: Chicago Fire	08.00 Film: Krantiveer 12.04 / 19.54 - Sanjivani 12.26 / 20.11 - Radha Krishna 12.48 / 20.32 Agniphera 13.09 / 21.09 - Bade Acche Lagte Hai 13.31 / 21.24 - Zindagi Ki Mehek 13.51 / 21.59 - Naagin Season 3 14.33 / 22.25 - Ikyawann 15.11 / 22.56 - Mere Sai - Shradha Aur Saburi 15.18 Film: Veere Di Wedding Starring: Kareena Kapoor, Sonam Kapoor, Neena Gupta 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 18.52 Serial: Ek Rishta Saajhedari Ka
<b>mercredi 2 juin</b>	07.15 Dessin Anime 10.40 Serial: Open Heart 11.10 Tele: Soleil Levant 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir 12.55 Doc: L'art Et La Matière 14.05 D.Anime: The Hive 14.30 D.Anime: La Famille Blaireau 14.42 D.Anime: Spongo, Fuzz, And... 14.55 D.Anime: Pet Alien 15.30 Film: Spider-Man 17.30 Magazine: Origami 17.38 Doc: A Question Of Science 17.44 Serial: Magic Mania 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 18.55 MBC Production 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.25 Prod Indepen: Lottotech 21.20 Film: Searching Stars: John Cho, Debra Messing, Joseph Lee 23.25 Local: Le Journal	07.00 DDI Live 09.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija 09.24 Serial: Chota Bheem 10.00 Pyar Ka Dard Meetha Meeth 12.00 Film: PratiGYa 14.22 DDI Magazine 15.00 Serial: Ek Deewana Tha 15.21 Aamhi Doghi 15.44 Bava Maradallu 16.10 Apoorva Raagangal 16.30 Serial: Suno Chanda 16.53 Serial: Imtihaan 17.12 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala 17.33 Serial: Kulvadhu 18.00 Serial: Colourful Bone 18.30 Serial: DDI Magazine 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.30 DDI Magazine 20.00 Special Prog Proposed By Maratha Mandir 21.00 Film: Justice Bao 22.29 Live: DDI Live	06.00 Rev: The Global Auto... 06.26 Doc: Extremism And Viol... 06.52 Mag: Check In 07.26 Mag: Made In Germany 08.19 Doc: Ville En Fête 10.05 Local: Klip Seleksion 10.55 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto... 11.21 Doc: Extremism And Viol... 11.52 Mag: Check In 12.27 Mag: Made In Germany 13.19 Doc: Ville En Fête 14.43 Mag: Close Up 15.09 Local: Klip Seleksion 15.55 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto... 16.47 Mag: Check In 17.45 Doc: Japan 2020 18.00 Mag: Motorweek 18.30 Mag: Vous Et Nous 19.00 Student Support Prog... 20.04 Mag: Tendance XXI 20.54 Mag: Luxe & Trends 21.25 Doc: Comme Un Poisson...	00.31 Serial: Absentia 01.39 Film: Contract Killers 03.17 Serial: L.A.'s Finest 04.01 Film: Jumanji 06.37 Serial: Absentia 07.19 Film: Clarity 09.00 Serial: Chicago Fire 09.45 Tele: Daniella 10.35 Tele: Tanto Amor 11.01 Serial: French Series 12.00 Film: Jumanji: Bienvenue... 13.41 Tele: Muneca Brava 14.45 Film: Clarity 16.40 Serial: Chicago Fire 17.20 Serial: Absentia 18.05 Tele: Daniella 19.00 Tele: Tanto Amor 20.05 Tele: Sinu, Rio Des Pasiones 20.30 Serial: 19-2 21.15 Film: The Past Never Dies 22.45 Tele: Muneca Brava 23.30 Serial: Chicago Fire	08.00 Film: Veere Di Wedding Starring: Kareena Kapoor, Sonam Kapoor, Neena Gupta 12.04 / 20.06 - Sanjivani 12.24 / 20.26 - Radha Krishna 12.44 / 20.02 - Agniphera 13.14 / 20.46 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 13.36 / 21.09 - Zindagi Ki Mehek 14.06 / 21.31 - Naagin Season 3 14.48 / 21.46 - Ikyawann 15.09 / 21.59 - Mere Sai - Shradha Aur Saburi 15.16 Film: Jawani Zindabad Starring: Aamir Khan, Farha Naaz 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 18.51 Ek Rishta Saajhed Ka 19.16 Bhakharwadi
<b>jeudi 3 juin</b>	06.00 Local: Klip Seleksion 06.45 Local: Sur Prise 08.53 D. Anime: Kung Fu Panda 10.15 D. Anime: Astrology 10.38 Serial: Open Heart 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir 13.05 Local: Le Rendez Vous Avec... 13.44 Local: Zanfan Nou Zil 14.14 D.Anime: Teenie Weenies 15.00 D.Anime: Pet Alien 15.18 D.Anime: Cosmic Quantum... 15.40 Film: Ethel & Ernest 17.47 Serial: Magic Mania 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 18.55 Local: Tirth Yatra 19.30 Le Journal 20.15 Film: Street Dancer 3D Stars: Varun Dhawan, Shradha Kapoor, Prabhu Deva	10.00 Karm Phal Data Shani 12.05 Film: Aaj Ka M.L.A Ram... Starring: Rajesh Khanna, Shabana Azmi, Shatrughan Sinha 15.00 Serial: Ek Deewana Tha 15.23 Aamhi Doghi 15.43 Bava Maradallu 16.05 Apoorva Raagangal 16.33 Serial: Suno Chanda 16.53 Serial: Imtihaan 17.09 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala 18.00 Serial: Colourful Bone 18.30 Serial: Ghar Pahucha Da... 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.30 DDI Magazine 20.10 Local: Les Grandes Lignes 20.36 Local: Evasion - Petra 21.06 Film: Xenophobia Starring: Kristen Renton, Manu Intraymi, Brinke Stevens	06.00 Mag: Motorweek 06.25 Mag: Vous Et Nous 07.28 Doc: Garden Party 08.20 Doc: The World From Above 09.51 Mag: Initiative Africa 10.10 Mag: Focus On Europe 10.45 Doc: A Deadly Legacy 11.30 Mag: Motorweek 13.52 Doc: The World From Above 14.26 Doc: Comme Un Poisson... 15.20 Mag: Initiative Africa 17.01 Mag: Motorweek 18.03 Mag: Eco India 18.30 Mag: Shift 18.41 Mag: Sur Mesure 19.00 Student Support Prog... 19.30 Mag: Tomorrow Today 20.05 Mag: Science Ou Fiction 20.30 Local: News (English) 21.32 Doc: Legendary Hotels 22.14 Doc: New York City Rich...	01.27 Film: The Big Gundown 02.56 Serial: Shades Of Blue 03.38 Serial: Island Doctor 05.06 Tele: Muneca Brava 06.56 Film: Searching 09.00 Serial: Chicago Fire 09.45 Tele: Daniella 10.35 Tele: Tanto Amor 11.01 Serial: Shades Of Blue 12.00 Serial: Island Doctor 13.30 Tele: Muneca Brava 14.16 Mag: Hollywood On Set 14.48 Film: Searching 16.50 Serial: Chicago Fire 17.29 Serial: 19-2 18.05 Tele: Daniella 19.00 Tele: Tanto Amor 20.05 Tele: Sinu, Rio Des Pasiones 20.30 Serial: 19-2 22.04 Film: Mes Enfants Pris En... 23.37 Tele: Muneca Brava	08.00 Film: Jawani Zindabad 12.05 / 19.54 - Sanjivani 12.22 / 20.11 - Radha Krishna 12.48 / 20.32 Agniphera 13.07 / 21.09 - Bade Acche Lagte Hai 13.29 / 21.24 - Zindagi Ki Mehek 13.48 / 21.46 - Naagin 14.29 / 21.59 - Ikyawann 14.55 / 22.52 - Mere Sai 15.20 Film: Hindustani Film 18.00 Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 18.51 Ek Rishta Saajhed Ka 19.16 Serial: Bhakharwadi 19.38 Serial: Siddhi Vinayak



Mercredi 2 juin - 15.20  
Star: Aamir Khan, Farha Naaz



Jeudi 3 juin - 20.15  
Stars: Varun Dhawan, Shradha Kapoor, Prabhu Deva



# Champions League final 2021 - a game of two sides powered by gas and oil

*Chelsea and Manchester City have similar goals on and off the pitch*

On the night of 29 May 2021 UEFA Champions League Final, Chelsea and Manchester City battled it out for European glory. Only one of the two English teams walked away with the trophy - but despite the rivalry on the field, both sides have plenty in common off the pitch.

They were, for instance, part of a doomed attempt to usurp the very tournament they were trying to win, with the establishment of a European Super League. That plan, involving 12 of the biggest clubs in the world, collapsed in the face of unfiltered outrage from fans, pundits and politicians - and crucially, a change of heart at Chelsea and Manchester City.

The Super League house of cards seems to have truly started falling when Chelsea announced its intention to withdraw from the competition. Their move was followed a few hours later by a similar statement from City.

There have been reports that Chelsea's U-turn was prompted by a telephone call from Russian president Vladimir Putin to his compatriot Roman Abramovich, the billionaire who owns the London club. Some media outlets have even suggested that Putin declared a super league would be "against the spirit of the fatherland".

But however those decisions came to be made, the reality of the geopolitical and economic basis of European football is clear. And this is where the Champions League action becomes particularly interesting, especially in its associations with oil and gas.

Russia's Gazprom - a corporation with origins as a state energy producer dating back to the old Soviet Union - has been a major sponsor of the competition since 2012, and has just announced a big new deal with UEFA.

Gazprom was privatised during the early 1990s reform period in Russia, but Putin's ascent subsequently led to a majority of the company's shares being taken back into state ownership. Gazprom later acquired a rival energy company, the oil firm Sibneft, owned at the time by Abramovich.

Gazprom, which is based in Putin's home town of St Petersburg, also owns the local club, Zenit Saint Petersburg. The former president of Zenit is Alexander Dyukov, a man who is also president of the Russian Football Union. In addition, Dyukov is chief executive of Gazprom and, in the middle of the Super League debacle, he was elected to the executive committee of UEFA.

If Putin really did call Abramovich about the Super League, it could be seen as yet another episode in Russia's engagement with football as a geopolitical and diplo-



Chelsea fans protested in London against the proposed formation of a European Super League.  
Pic - Alamy Stock Photo

matic tool.

For many years, some observers have wondered why an organisation that sells gas to governments sits alongside the likes of McDonald's and Coca Cola as a Champions League sponsor. But the answer to this can be found in the way that Gazprom enables Russia to project soft power and build legitimacy through its associations with the world's favourite game.

During his time as US president, Donald Trump was bullish towards Russian energy suppliers, and even imposed sanctions upon Gazprom. Trump claimed that Europe's growing dependency on Russian energy supplies, especially in Germany (where Gazprom sponsors FC Schalke 04), constitutes a strategic threat to the continent's security. The Joe Biden administration holds similar concerns.

But perhaps being a sponsor of the tournament and having a strong relationship with both UEFA and Chelsea isn't enough. For Gazprom also continues to strengthen its relations with Abu Dhabi, the small Gulf state which, via a member of its royal family, owns a majority stake in Manchester City.

## Gas goals

Like Russia, Abu Dhabi owns some of the world's largest carbon fuel reserves. In this sense, the Champions League final will therefore be a game powered by gas and oil.

Over the last decade, relations between Russia and Abu Dhabi have strengthened, leading to a series of strategic agreements, the most significant of which was signed in 2018. Described as a watershed in bilateral relations, it covered all manner of issues in investment, trade,

culture, space, tourism and security.

One outcome of this was the acquisition by Abu Dhabi's state-owned Mubadala Investment Company of a \$US271 million (£191 million), 44% stake in one of Gazprom's subsidiaries. In 2019, the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company then signed a strategic framework agreement with Gazprom to explore for and extract new oil reserves.

This led to a 2020 announcement that Gazprom and Mubadala will engage in technological cooperation in Siberia, where coincidentally Abramovich began building his gas powered fortune.

Come match day, most fans of City and Chelsea will not be overly concerned by the origins of the cash that has fuelled their clubs' success. And with talk of a super league fading and many football fans hailing its defeat, some will see the Champions League Final as a victory parade for normality.

But this would be naive and misguided. For football has not merely been commercialised and industrialised over the last 30 years. It has also become intensely geopolitical, and sits at the heart of a complex global network of interests and investments. Indeed, for some powerful players, the sport has become a tactically astute means to extremely lucrative other ends - as epitomised by this year's Champions League final.

## Simon Chadwick

Global Professor of Eurasian Sport |  
Director of Eurasian Sport, EM Lyon

## Paul Widdop

Senior Lecturer in Sport Business, Leeds  
Beckett University



Tree of Knowledge

Madisyn Taylor

## Magical Moments

The truly noteworthy events in our lives are often the least momentous, yet the most wonderful.

Most of us are adept at seeing the big picture. Caught up in the hectic pace of modern life, we feel compelled to immediately distinguish what is important from what is not. The assessment is an easy one to make when we are mired in the daily grind -- everything relating to success seems significant and everything else seems comparatively trivial. But what is most precious in this life cannot be measured in affluence or influence. The truly noteworthy events in our lives are often the least momentous yet the most wonderful. They are the magical moments in which we are simply awestruck by the wonderment of life. Though our perception of magical moments may be blocked by worldly concerns, our days are filled with such moments. To experience them fully, we need only open ourselves to their existence.

Magical moments are not measured by the composition of an experience but rather by our reaction to it. Since such moments come and go quickly, they should be consciously savored and noted. They stick with us only when we recognize the impact they have had on our mood, our day, and our lives. In such instances, we may find we are suddenly and blissfully aware that we have evolved or that those around us have changed in some positive way. We may stand in awe at the beauty of a familiar object or derive great pleasure from an everyday activity. Or we may witness incidents of supreme kindness and compassion that do not directly involve us yet touch our hearts intensely. Nature is a constant source of magical moments. When we cherish such occurrences, we condition ourselves to take note of them when they happen and appreciate the value they add to our lives.

An idea for increasing your awareness of the magical moments in your life is to record all such happenings in a journal kept for that purpose. As these moments are personal, your journal can be a documentation of small joys or a testimony of grand revelations. You may begin to notice that there is more magic in your life than you initially imagined. In striving to make the most of each of these magical moments, you grant yourself permission to experience new levels of joy, surprise, tenderness, and personal fulfillment.