

# MAURITIUS TIMES

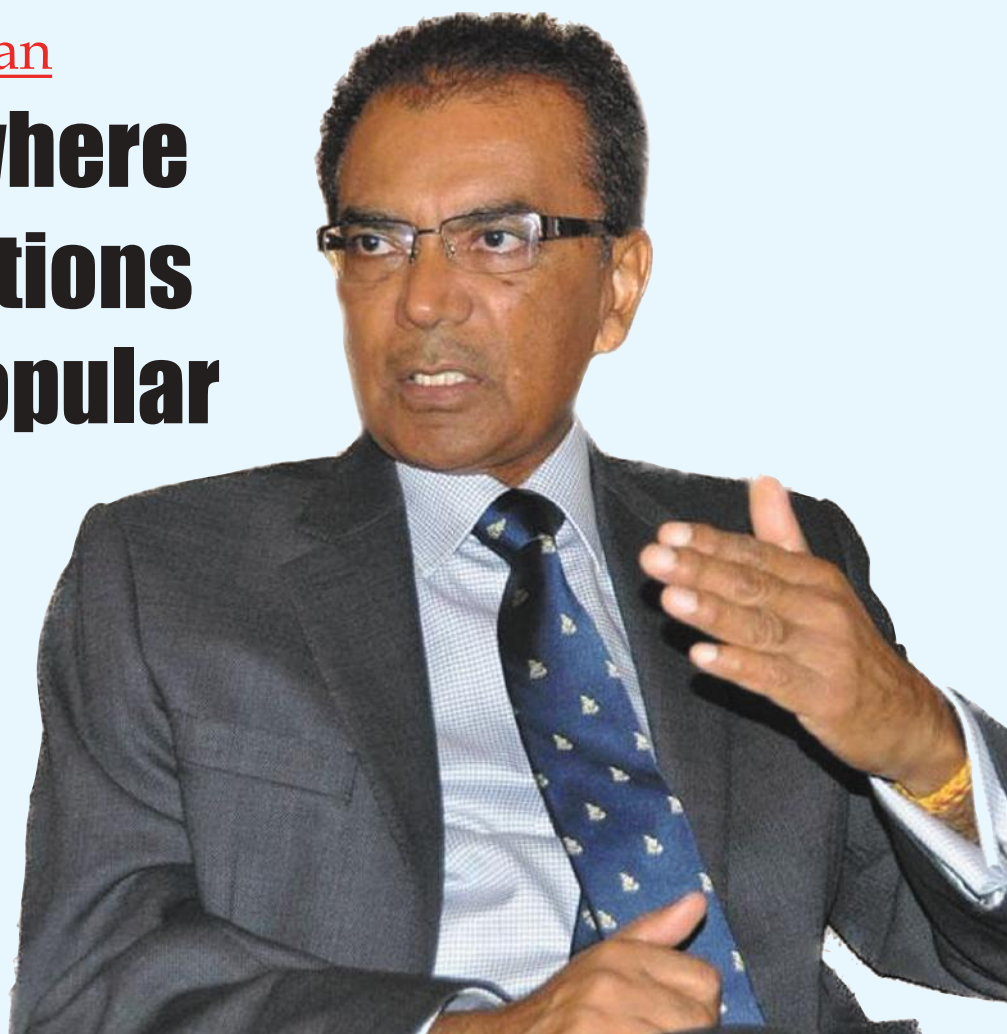
• "Twenty-five years ago, people could be excused for not knowing much, or doing much, about climate change. Today we have no excuse." – Desmond Tutu

Interview: Milan Meetarbhan

**«No opposition anywhere deserves to win elections only on the back of popular discontent»**

'Sitting back and waiting for the tide to turn because of anti-incumbency is not a viable option. And shouldn't be one'

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## Checks and Balances

Our imperfections allow racism, hatred, evil, oppression, authoritarianism, war to float in the ether. The problem is that just like the police officers and Redcoats, we have the power to destroy not only the lives of others but our own lives



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# The DPP & The Mercy Commission

**T**he Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions has lodged an application for judicial review of the decision of the Commission on the Prerogative of Mercy to entertain the application of Chandra Prakash Dip, son of the Commissioner of Police, for remission of the 12-month prison sentence delivered against him by the Intermediate Court into a Rs100,000 fine. The remission recommendation in this particular case expeditiously approved by the President of the Republic had raised lots of questions and protests from different quarters. One must recall here that anybody with a locus standi can call into question the fairness of a decision-making process and in the case of this mercy decision, only the office of the DPP would hold such a mandate and only the "Mercy Commission" could be subject to a judicial review by virtue of the President's immunity.

One of the arguments put forward is that the decisions of the Commission on the Prerogative of Mercy may defeat our justice system when the law provides for the President of the Republic, acting on the advice of the Commission, to radically change any sentence - even if the highest courts have ruled a guilty verdict. Tied to that are a number of questions, namely whether the suspension of the Intermediate Court judgement, as ordered by Justice David Chan on Monday 21 Nov 2022 until the determination of the appeal (lodged by Chandra Prakash Dip) to the Privy Council would, by implication, mean that Chandra Prakash Dip has not yet been convicted of any offence; and whether it was in order for the Mercy Commission to entertain any application for remission of a judgement and sentence that stands suspended in those circumstances. Given the stand taken by the DPP, it will be up to the Supreme Court to first decide whether the recommendations of the Mercy Commission are amenable to judicial review and only then how they might hear pleas and rule on a decision where the President of the Mercy Commission has himself been a retired past Chief Justice.

Our correspondent Lex had in an earlier interview argued the point that 'logically, if a judgment convicting a person and the sentence are suspended, it would mean there is no conviction.' Opinions differ on these ques-

tions, he added, as some would tend to support the view that following a conviction and even if there is an appeal pending and the judgment is suspended, the Mercy Commission can still consider an application for mercy; others may be of the firm view that in the absence of a conviction, the Commission has no power to intervene. 'Only a court of law can shed light on this.'

As regards whether the recommendations of the Mercy Commission can be brought up for judicial review, the DPP clearly seems to believe that that is indeed the case given that the Commission does not enjoy the immunity that the Constitution confers on the President of the Republic. Though the final decision (in an application for remission) is that of the President in the sense that the latter endorses the recommendation of the Commission, the main decision-making process is that of the Commission and should be amenable to judicial review, argued Lex.

Meantime it has been also reported that Chandra P. Dip is being hauled to the Financial Crimes Division of the Supreme Court by the ICAC (after a DPP greenlight, it seems) for alleged wrongdoings in a Rs 80m financial scam dating back a few years.

The continuing hassles that Chandra P. Dip is having to face to clear his name is not a matter for rejoicing for any of us. More importantly is the fact that the present DPP Rashid Amine, following in the footsteps of Satyajit Boolell, is giving the right signals as regards his intention to preserve both the independence and strength of his Office, including the maintenance of absolute prosecutorial discretion without direct or indirect pressure, arm-twisting or interference by other arms of the government. This is a welcome development in these rather troubled times, and like his predecessor it will go to the DPP's credit as well if he were to maintain the practice of providing explanations regarding his decisions to prosecute or not to prosecute especially in cases involving the high and the mighty.

It is critical that we preserve both the independence and strength of our public institutions. The administration of justice in particular should be seen to be as neat and irreproachable as Caesar's wife - above suspicion.

## The Conversation

# All politicians must lie from time to time...

... so why is there so much outrage about George Santos?

*Constituents' willingness to overlook deception may depend, in part, on whether politicians lie well and with a good purpose*

**T**he idea that politicians are dishonest is, at this point, something of a cliché - although few have taken their dishonesty as far as George Santos, US representative for New York's 3rd Congressional District, who seems to have lied about his education, work history, charitable activity, athletic prowess and even his place of residence.

Santos may be exceptional in how many lies he has told, but politicians seeking election have incentives to tell voters what they want to hear - and there is some empirical evidence that a willingness to lie may be helpful in the process of getting elected.

If this is true, though, then why should voters care that they have been lied to?

As a political philosopher whose work focuses on the moral foundations of democratic politics, I am interested in the moral reasons voters in general have a right to feel resentment when they discover that their elected representatives have lied to them. Political philosophers offer four distinct responses to this question - although none of these responses suggest that all lies are necessarily morally wrong.

## 1. Lying is manipulative

The first reason to resent being lied to is that it is a form of disrespect.



George Santos, US representative for New York's 3rd Congressional District, seems to have lied about his education, work history, charitable activity, athletic prowess... Pic - Salt Lake Tribune.

When you lie to me, you treat me as a thing to be manipulated and used for your purposes. In the terms used by philosopher Immanuel Kant, when you lie to me you treat me as a means or a tool, rather than a person with a moral status equal to your own.

Kant himself took this principle as a reason to condemn all lies, however useful - but other philosophers have thought that some lies were so important that they might be compatible with, or even express, respect for citizens.

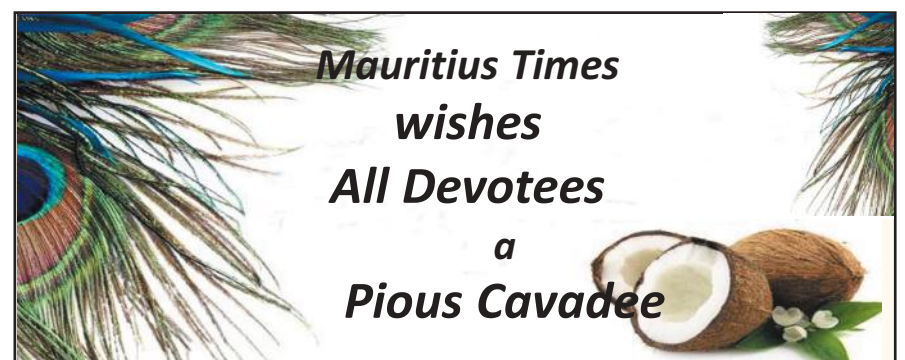
Plato, notably, argues in "The Republic" that when the public good requires a leader to lie, the citizens should be grateful for the deceptions of their leaders.

**Michael Blake - Professor of Philosophy, Public Policy and Governance, University of Washington**

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## Mauritius Times

Founder/Editor: Beekrumsing Ramlallah - Aug 1954-Sept 2000  
Editor-in-chief: M. Ramlallah / Senior Editor: Dr RN Gopee  
This epaper has been produced with the assistance of  
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# Met, Rains and Drains!...

Jan Arden

Several months of increasing drought with little or no rains through the driest period of the year, as could be expected, had brought a heavy, if somewhat uncharitable, torch to bear on the combined competencies, foresight and planning limitations at the Central Water Authority, the Water Resources Monitoring Unit and the parent ministry, not to mention the unflattering image of our Meteorological Services and the budgetary restrictions imposed by the Ministry of Finance.

And yet early in 2015 then Minister Ashit Gungah, as government spokesperson, soon followed by others, was on air to roll out the key government actions that would satisfy the proclaimed electoral promise of 24-hour water supply every day of the week: "Repair leak in our main Mare aux Vacoas reservoir (!), build a new dam at Riviere des Anguilles and replace all the inadequate piping of the CWA network". The dam has remained firmly in limbo, and Prakash Maunthrooa, government's recent special envoy in 2022 as GM of the CWA, recently alleged that his predecessor(s) had not undertaken any meaningful pipe replacement.

This government, with its previous variant having been in office since December 2014, many questions formulated from all quarters regarding these agencies and their higher authorities beg for clear answers. Environmental Studies pupils know the statistical rainfall pattern over Mauritius, with a reliance on heavy summer rains from January to March, while the driest months of the year are from September to Nov-December. This condemns us every year to start being cautious with water usage and waste as from August with a planned increase in severity of restrictions up till end of December at least so as to avoid our reservoirs running dry.

With a more affluent lifestyle, the development of gated communities, numerous IRS schemes luxury villas and more hotels around our beachfronts, rise in demand for water consumption could have been forecasted by the Water Resources Unit. Local specialised engineers would have forecast the need for extra catching power and, where feasible, small river dams to avoid that more than 80% of our surface waters do not rush freely and through rivers to the sea. No dam has been built since the river dams of Midlands (2002) and Bagatelle (began in 2012 and completed in 2017).

Desalination plants, working either by evaporation and collection of safe drinkable water or by forcing salt water through a set of membranes removing the salt as a sludge, require lots of energy and careful disposal of the thick heavy sludge of salt as pumping it back into the sea would have



**“With a more affluent lifestyle, the development of gated communities, numerous IRS schemes luxury villas and more hotels around our beach fronts, rise in water consumption demand could have been forecasted by the Water Resources Unit. Local specialised engineers would have forecast the need for extra catching power and, where feasible, small river dams to avoid that more than 80% of our surface waters do not rush freely and through rivers to the sea. No dam has been built since the river dams of Midlands (2002) and Bagatelle (began in 2012 and completed in 2017)...”**

potentially disastrous effects on marine organisms. Progress has been made on both fronts and containerized plants are commercially available but work is ongoing for units that are reliably solar-powered. They are still several times more expensive than rain water capture, volumes of output seem limited and engineers would know that the containerized units remain worthwhile for specific places like hotels, IRS schemes and where no other alternative is available, say Rodrigues Island, where it can complement rain water collection.

Therefore, there was some urgency for the CWA and the parent Ministry to have pushed harder for the establishment of the Riviere des Anguilles dam (towards which a nominal sum of Rs 100m had been bud-

geted in June 2021) and entrench a much more acceptable rate of old pipe replacement. Neither having been done, those responsible for the state of affairs and the possible political interference to make sure the tramway had every priority may have played havoc with our water availability and the severe drought the population had to endure over many months.

Eventually, we did get the long-awaited summer storm rains, courtesy of Cyclone Cheneso which battered Madagascar (more than 20 deaths, 100,000 displaced or refugees, we trust government will have offered some assistance, financial or otherwise) as it slowly crossed the island continent from North East towards the general South West and its tail spirals brought us some heavy downpours spread over some ten days. Our reservoirs, all of which had reached depletion levels, slowly regained some considerable composure even as 80% of the surface waters and river flows rushed unattended to the lagoons.

The battering rains were however to raise our worst fears as many sites around both the towns and the agglomerations in the countryside, including newly completed NHDC and NSLDC apartments barely handed over to their occupants, were inexorably drowned under several feet of water. Personal belongings lost, public transport halted, schooling for all levels disrupted, veggies on the rise and livelihoods

on hold, the depressing impression of déjà-vu. It could not be simply a matter of inadequate resources from Finance since the Minister had indeed earmarked the staggering sum of Rs 16 billion for drains in his June 21 budget — a mammoth departure from preceding budgets as evidenced by the table below:

Budget	Allocation for Drains
2015-2016:	Rs 1.3 billion
2016-2017:	Rs 1,5 billion
2018-2019:	Rs 1.2 billion
2019-2020:	Rs 0.65 billion
2020-2021:	Rs 0.2 billion
2021-2022:	Rs 16 billion

All-round scepticism was understandable as nobody believed our administrative processes to acquire lands and launch drain tenders would ever absorb such an astronomical amount in a one-year budget span. There was equal scepticism of the relation between economic growth and digging of drains, as propounded by Minister Padayachy in an interview to Radio Plus after his June 2021 Budget. But with such vast amounts budgeted and the cool assurance of the Finance Minister, there was no reason why, as Minister Hurreeram and other ministers predicted confidently, "Within one year, floods will be a thing of the past!"

Nothing much was heard of this budgetary manna until we learned that another private company, Drains Infrastructure Construction Ltd (DICL), was created in Nov 2021 and Avinash Gopee was appointed to manage a Rs 11 billion budget without having to report to anybody, still less to Parliament, perhaps not even to the Director of Audit. From Mr Gopee's answer to journo on the flood miseries around the island in the Monday issue of *Le Defi*, we read that since inception of the DICL 20 months ago, it has identified some 55 drain projects and tenders are now being launched for 19 of them.

If government has a narrative to tell about the state of the Met services, the confusion of school closure bulletins, the lack of progress on water retention investments or the desultory annual storyline of drains and floods succeeding months of drought, it had better articulate it.

## Court intrigues...

More intrigue unfolded elsewhere and went somewhat less noticed. Anoop Nilamber, who had been officiating as CEO of Airports of Mauritius, was appointed in June 2021 as CEO of the State Bank. Although he had qualified in Finance and Banking from Pantheon-Assas, he had little track record in local bank management and this inevitably raised some eyebrows in the banking community. Six months later his departure as SBM's CEO was announced and it appears a new post created for him at SBM Holdings with the same salary and conditions. Whether this was a necessary internal restructuring, a surprising desire of the short-lived CEO or a gentle "kick upstairs", we may never know.

Equally intriguingly was the follow-up to the ruckus and furore raised after the son of the Police Commissioner, whose name had been associated with alleged financial scams, had been granted a mercy by the President of the Republic in one case where he was still appealing his condemnation to the Privy Council. The one-year prison sentence had barely been graciously converted to a Rs 100,000 fine during this appeal process, that the ICAC, whose public perception has no longer to be commented upon, entered the previous case(s) of alleged financial embezzlement of some Rs 25m against the same individual at the Financial Crime Division of the Intermediate Court.

Again we may never know the motives behind the grace, nor those behind the revived case that has been set for hearing later in February.



# Checks and Balances



Anil Madan

*Our imperfections allow racism, hatred, evil, oppression, authoritarianism, war to float in the ether. The problem is that just like the police officers and Redcoats, we have the power to destroy not only the lives of others but our own lives*

It has nothing to do with racism, it has everything to do with racism, it has to do with the enforcement of rules to maintain order, it has to do with the destruction of order when enforcement goes beyond what is necessary, it has to do with the fact that authority is as effective when it is humane, but somehow humans in authority feel a compulsion to be inhumane. Ultimately, it is about the best in men, it is about the worst in men.

Tyre Nichols, a 32-year-old Black man was brutally beaten by five police officers in Memphis and died three days later. The police officers were all relatively young Black men. The police officers are charged with second degree murder. The police say Ty tried to run away from them. They chased him down, beat him up, shot him dead. Really.

They destroyed Ty's life. They have probably destroyed their own lives. They have destroyed a bit of the lives of Ty's family members and a bit of their own families' lives. They have destroyed a bit of life in all of us.

A few days later, Anthony Lowe, also a Black man, a 36-year-old double amputee was shot dead by police officers in Huntington Park, California. Lowe got out of his wheelchair and tried to run away from the police on his stumps. They chased him down, shot him dead. Really.

They destroyed Anthony's life. Undoubtedly, charges will be brought. They too destroyed their own lives, and bits of the life in many. And they too have destroyed a bit of life in all of us.

These incidents happened in 21st Century America. Really.

One hundred seventeen years ago, in 1906, Alfred Noyes described a shooting by the Redcoats, then the equivalent of the police, as the highwayman tried to run from them:

*Back, he spurred like a madman, shrieking  
a curse to the sky,*

*With the white road smoking behind him and  
his rapier brandished high.*

*Blood red were his spurs in the golden noon;  
wine-red was his velvet coat;*

*When they shot him down on the highway,*

*Down like a dog on the highway,*

*And he lay in his blood on the highway, with a bunch of  
lace at his throat.*

Undoubtedly, despite video evidence to the contrary, the officers who killed Ty will claim that he threatened them. Undoubtedly, the officers who killed Lowe will say he had a butcher knife that threatened them. Was there a need to pursue him and gun him down when the knife

was no longer a threat?

A poem written about Ty or Lowe would evoke no more sympathy for the police than The Highwayman evokes for the Redcoats.

Some years ago, I was waiting to tee off for a round of golf. The Starter (for the uninitiated, this is the person at the first tee who checks that you have paid your greens fee and, seeing that the group ahead is safely out of range, tells you that you are ready to start your round) saw a player in the group ahead miss his second shot with a terrible effort. The player dropped a second ball and took a practice swing. The starter, an overfed bull of a man, screamed at the top of his lungs: "Play ONLY ONE BALL" and repeated the line as if chanting. He screamed into his radio: "Tell the group on Number 1 fairway, ONLY ONE BALL!"

I remarked to my fellow players: "The only thing more obnoxious than a guy with a badge and a gun is a guy with a badge and a radio."

Of course, as we have seen people with badges and guns are far more dangerous. The Ukrainians have seen this with Putin. The Tibetans, Uyghurs, and people of Hong Kong have seen it with Xi Jinping and his predecessors. The Taiwanese may feel the same sting. History is filled with more examples. In modern times from Myanmar to the Middle East, from Egypt to Cape Town, from Venezuela to Peru, there are dictators and despots playing jury, judge, and executioner.

In America, we take pride in having a system of checks and balances that is designed to guard against usurpation and abuse of power by any one branch of government. We have failed to institute checks and balances at all levels where they are needed most. Businesses sell dangerous and defective products, financial

institutions engage in predatory practices, unfairness and scams abound.

To them who see in the cases of Ty and Lowe that there is no narrative other than that Black men are under systemic siege by White police officers, there is the discomfort that the five police officers in Memphis are Black. The comfort is... well, there is no comfort.

The preamble to the Constitution of the United States speaks to forming a more perfect union. We are still engaged in the trying to answer whether imperfect people can do that. In the world writ large, the challenge is that humanity cannot suppress its own inhumanity.

The challenge is to institute checks and balances at every interface of human interaction. Our imperfections



Protest against Tyre Nichols' brutal beating by police. Pic - Indiana Gazette

**“Tyre Nichols, a 32-year-old Black man was brutally beaten by five police officers in Memphis and died three days later. The police officers were all relatively young Black men. The police officers are charged with second degree murder. The police say Ty tried to run away from them. They chased him down, beat him up, shot him dead. Really. They destroyed Ty's life. They have probably destroyed their own lives. They have destroyed a bit of the lives of Ty's family members and a bit of their own families' lives. They have destroyed a bit of life in all of us...”**

allow racism, hatred, evil, oppression, authoritarianism, war to float in the ether. The problem is that just like the police officers and Redcoats, we have the power to destroy not only the lives of others but our own lives.

And for some reason, we seem to feel a compulsion to use our destructive powers.

It has everything to do with being human, it has everything to do with being inhumane.

Cheerz...  
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# Abolition de l'esclavage - Des tabous à briser

By A. Bartleby

**L**e devoir de mémoire, ritualisé par les commémorations, doit nous encourager à questionner ce que fut le système esclavagiste et sa pertinence dans l'histoire de la constitution du capitalisme à Maurice. Nous avons trop souvent cette tendance à demeurer dans l'incantation des douleurs coloniales historiques sans avoir le courage de réclamer la vérité par rapport aux causes et aux conséquences du colonialisme dans notre présent.



Par exemple, comment questionner l'exclusion actuelle sans en retracer la source dans la division raciale que le colonialisme institua? Ou encore, comment comprendre les résistances actuelles au pouvoir sans tracer une généalogie des résistances allant du marronnage jusqu'aux luttes ouvrières en passant par la lutte des travailleurs engagés?

Le principe fondamental du système esclavagiste reposait sur l'invention même de la notion biologique de «race», ce qui donna un fondement à la division raciale. Et la division raciale fut essentielle pour établir la relation dominants/dominés basée sur la différence de couleur – ce que le Code Noir codifia comme la «barrière de couleur». La barrière de couleur se trouva au fondement même de la justification de la marchandisation de l'homme par l'homme, qui était le principe de l'esclavagisme et du libéralisme mercantiliste.

Le système esclavagiste donna aux administrations coloniales hollandaise et française la force de travail qui leur permit la lente mise en place d'une industrie sucrière à Maurice. À son abolition, le système de l'engagisme vint le remplacer au sortir d'une bataille intense entre l'administration britannique et le lobby de la planocratie, représenté par Adrien d'Épinay. Mais à quel prix? Au prix d'une compensation versée par les Britanniques aux propriétaires d'esclaves afin que les esclaves affranchis puissent en bénéficier... Il est ici essentiel de rappeler qu'aucun esclave affranchi ne toucha de compensation à l'époque.

Il y a tout un ensemble de tabous à briser, tout un ensemble de vérités à regarder en face, tout un ensemble de questions à se poser – dans un pays qui confond trop souvent les bourreaux et les victimes – si nous voulons vraiment restaurer la possibilité même de la justice et si nous souhaitons la véritable égalité citoyenne, surtout dans l'accès à l'économie.

Aurons-nous enfin un jour le courage de cette vérité?



## Nomination de Premode Neerunjun – Un souffle nouveau

**L**a nomination d'un nouveau Cabinet Secretary et Chef de la Fonction publique, représente toujours un événement important dans la vie de l'administration publique. La Fonction publique a un nouveau patron, ce qui peut entraîner certains changements dans le style de management du PMO et des autres institutions sous sa tutelle. Un nouveau Cabinet Secretary peut surtout amener un changement dans la relation personnelle et professionnelle avec le Premier ministre.

Il y a d'ailleurs des précédents intéressants au Royaume-Uni, où les Cabinet Secretaries étaient souvent des hommes à la personnalité forte et au caractère bien trempé, qui n'hésitaient pas à s'opposer à un Premier ministre s'il le fallait. Chose que la sitcom «Yes, Prime Minister» met d'ailleurs parfaitement bien en scène en s'amusant de la relation entre le Premier ministre Jim Hacker et Sir Humphrey Appleby, son Cabinet Secretary.



Comme le faisait d'ailleurs remarquer Margaret Thatcher, cette satire comporte une grande part de vérité, et de fameux précédents ont historiquement marqué l'administration britannique. Nous pensons ici, par exemple, à la relation tendue entre Tony Blair et le Cabinet Secretary de l'époque, Sir Robin Butler. Ce dernier s'était régulièrement opposé à Tony Blair lorsqu'il tentait d'empiéter sur les pouvoirs réservés au Cabinet Secretary, et notamment lorsque Tony Blair avait tenté d'octroyer à ses Special Advisors le pouvoir de donner des ordres aux hauts fonctionnaires - chose impensable dans la grande tradition britannique de la séparation des pouvoirs.

La question est donc posée à Premode Neerunjun:

sera-t-il un Cabinet Secretary à la Sir Humphrey Appleby ou quelqu'un qui dira tout simplement «Yes, Prime Minister»?

\* \* \*

## Dérèglement climatique - La voie à suivre

**I**l est aujourd'hui indéniable que le climat évolue rapidement à Maurice, et ceci est dû au réchauffement climatique. N'oublions pas que Maurice compte parmi les pays les plus exposés aux risques et aux destructions liés au réchauffement climatique. Il faut rajouter à cela le fait que malgré les 'flashs floods', la pluviométrie est en réalité en baisse depuis quelques années ce qui fait que nous sommes exposés à une aridification progressive de nos sols.



Tout simplement, le problème des 'flashs floods' et des inondations est intimement lié à celui de la captation, du traitement et de la distribution de l'eau. Il y a également le gros problème de la bétonisation du territoire, un phénomène qui ne se décélère pas. Il est donc impératif de développer une approche holistique au problème de la gestion de l'eau. Nous devons tout aussi bien régler le problème des inondations qui plonge de nombreux Mauriciens dans une situation difficile que trouver d'autres stratégies de captation, de traitement et de distribution de l'eau. Il s'agit de repenser l'aménagement du territoire, les plans d'urbanisation tout autant qu'un plan clairement défini pour la construction de dispositifs de captage et de distribution de l'eau.

De ce fait, il est essentiel que le ministère des Infrastructures nationales, la CWA et toutes les institutions concernées puissent travailler de concert afin d'optimiser la captation, réduire les pertes et les fuites, et s'assurer que le système des drains fonctionne convenablement afin d'éviter toute catastrophe à l'avenir.

\* \* \*

## Plans d'urgence – Effacer l'improvisation et le hasard

**U**n plan de réponses aux urgences clair et précis doit être établi. Chaque scénario doit y figurer – allant des cyclones jusqu'aux accidents industriels en passant par les 'flashs floods' etc., – et chaque acteur institutionnel doit connaître précisément son rôle dans chaque contexte. C'est ainsi que la police, les pompiers, la SMF, les hôpitaux, les garde-côtes, les centres sociaux et tous les services urgentistes pertinents pourront être mobilisés de la manière la plus rapide et efficace qui soit.

☞ Suite en page 6



## Plans d'urgence – Effacer l'improvisation et le hasard

☞ Suite de la page 5

Ce plan doit s'accompagner d'une formation continue destinée aux différents acteurs, ainsi que des mises en situation pour chaque scénario afin que les diverses institutions engagées dans l'exercice puissent se familiariser avec les protocoles distincts et mieux se coordonner entre elles.

Ce plan doit également être connu de tous les Mauriciens afin qu'ils puissent réagir en conséquence lorsqu'une alerte est émise pour le territoire tout entier ou uniquement pour des régions précises.

Ces plans existent dans d'autres pays et fonctionnent de manière très efficace. Par conséquent, il suffit de s'en inspirer et de les adapter à nos spécificités. Lorsqu'il s'agit de la sécurité civile, le gouvernement se doit de ne laisser rien à l'improvisation et au hasard.

\* \* \*

## Chars américains et allemands en Ukraine – Un 'Gamechanger'?

**L**a situation devient de plus en plus complexe, et l'aide des pays occidentaux qui se voulait être une



aide pour la défense du territoire ukrainien se transforme petit à petit en une aide qui pourrait permettre à l'armée ukrainienne de conquérir des territoires russes. C'est d'ailleurs pour cela que des commentateurs avisés n'hésitent pas à parler d'engrenage pour décrire la situation dans laquelle se trouvent les pays occidentaux – et notamment les pays de l'Union européenne. Quelle sera la limite en termes d'aide? Après les chars, verra-t-on la livraison d'avions de combat comme le réclame Volodymyr Zelensky ou de sous-marins comme l'a mentionné son vice-ministre des Affaires étrangères, Andriy Melnyk?

Dans tous les cas de figure, nous allons clairement vers une mondialisation progressive du conflit avec un

risque de dérapage qui va continuer à s'accroître, la ligne extrêmement ambiguë de la question de la cobelligérance devenant de plus en plus difficile à définir.

La stratégie américaine semble en tout cas claire de ce point de vue: plus l'Ukraine aura des aides militaires importantes, plus la Russie pourrait s'affaiblir. C'est d'ailleurs exactement ce que recherchent les Américains, voyant d'un œil très inquiet le glissement progressif de certains pays du Moyen-Orient vers la sphère d'influence russe – ce qui résulte d'un travail diplomatique extrêmement important des Russes depuis plusieurs années. C'est le cas, par exemple, de l'Arabie saoudite, partenaire hautement stratégique des Etats-Unis, mais leurs relations se tendent de plus en plus du fait que Mohammed Bin Salman entretient des relations très amicales avec Vladimir Poutine.

Ce qui est sûr, c'est que nous devons rester très vigilants à Maurice. Le moindre petit dérapage pourrait faire exploser le prix des énergies et des matières premières, ce qui aurait des conséquences dramatiques pour le panier de la ménagère mauricienne.

A. Bartleby

### COASTAL RESORTS AND SMALL ENTERPRISES EMPLOYEES UNION

The Annual General Meeting of **COASTAL RESORTS AND SMALL ENTERPRISES Employees Union** will be held on 25 February 2023 at 9.00 am at Prabhat Hall, Grand-Baie.

#### AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM
2. Matters arising
3. Finance
4. President's report
5. Motions and amendments to rules/change (if any)
6. Elections of office-bearers (if any)
7. AOB

03 February 2023

Secretary

### MOKA DISTRICT COUNCIL EMPLOYEES UNION

The Annual General Meeting of **MOKA DISTRICT COUNCIL EMPLOYEES UNION** will be held on 25 February 2023 at 11.00 am at Prabhat Hall, Grand-Baie.

#### AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM
2. Matters arising
3. Finance
4. President's report
5. Motions and amendments to rules/change (if any).
6. Elections of office-bearers (if any)
7. AOB

03 February 2023

Secretary

### UNION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE TRUST FUND FOR SPECIALISED MEDICAL CARE

The Annual General Meeting of **UNION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE TRUST FUND FOR SPECIALISED MEDICAL CARE** will be held on 25 February 2023 at 11.00 am at MTUC Office, James Smith St, GRNW, Port-Louis.

- AGENDA:**
1. Approval of minutes of last AGM
  2. Matters arising
  3. Finance
  4. President's report.
  5. Motions and amendments to rules/change (if any)
  6. Elections of office-bearers (if any).
  7. AOB.

03 February 2023

Secretary

### FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC LABOUR UNIONS

The Annual General Meeting of **FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC LABOUR UNIONS** will be held on 25 February 2023 at 1.00 pm at Prabhat Hall, Grand-Baie.

#### AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM
2. Matters arising
3. Finance
4. President's report
5. Motions and amendments to rules/change (if any)
6. Elections of office-bearers (if any)
7. AOB

03 February 2023

Secretary

### FEDERATION OF LOCAL GOVT AND OTHER LABOUR UNIONS

The Annual General Meeting of **FEDERATION OF LOCAL GOVT AND OTHER LABOUR UNIONS** will be held on 25 February 2023 at 3.00 pm at Prabhat Hall, Grand-Baie.

#### AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM
2. Matters arising
3. Finance
4. President's report
5. Motions and amendments to rules/change (if any).
6. Elections of office-bearers (if any)
7. AOB

03 February 2023

Secretary

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A lawyer for US President Joe Biden has said that no classified documents were found in the latter's beach house in Delaware, during an FBI search of the property. Pic – The Hans India

## No classified documents found during search of Biden's home, says attorney

The U.S. Justice Department did not find documents with classified markings during a three-and-a-half hour search of President Joe Biden's beach house in Rehoboth, Delaware, on Wednesday but did take some materials for further review, Biden's attorney said.

The morning search by FBI agents appeared to represent an expansion of the probe into Biden's handling of classified documents, reports Reuters.

Materials were previously found at his home in Wilmington, Delaware, and at a Washington office he used during the time between his service as vice president under Barack Obama and his presidential election.

Biden's personal attorney, Bob Bauer, said in a statement that Wednesday's search took place from 8:30 a.m.

## Charles III won't appear on new Australian bank notes

Australia is removing the British monarchy from its bank notes, the country's central bank announced. On Australia's new \$5 bill, King Charles III would not feature but the monarch may still appear on coins, the bank announced. The \$5 bill is Australia's only remaining bank note to have an image of King Charles III.

Talking about the decision, the nation's central bank said that it has been taken after close consultation with the government. The British monarch continues to be Australia's head of state although the role has become largely symbolic in nature. Australia, like other former British colonies, has been debating on its constitutional ties to Britain and whether the country should continue them or not, reports Hindustan Times.

The new \$5 bill would instead feature a design to

## Princess Diana's letters to friends during divorce from King Charles up for sale

Princess Diana's personal letters to friends, which she wrote during her divorce from now monarch King Charles III, are going up for auction. Lay's Auctioneers said in a statement that the letters will be sold "in individual lots" calling the letters "highly personal" and "astonishing".

Princess Diana had written the letters to two of her close friends, Susie and Tarek Kassem. Lay's Auctioneers said that, although the two women have "treasured these letters for over 25 years," they do not want to pass them down to other members of their

to noon in "coordination and cooperation with the president's attorneys" and had been planned.

The search was conducted by the FBI, which is part of the Justice Department.

The issue has created a political headache for Biden, who is expected to announce a re-election campaign in the coming weeks or months. It has stripped him and fellow Democrats of a political weapon to use against former President Donald Trump, who also had classified documents found at his home.

Trump has said on social media, without providing evidence, that he declassified the records, though his attorneys have declined to repeat that assertion in court filings. He has launched his own re-election campaign and could face Biden in the 2024 general election.

Classified documents have also been found in the home of Trump's former vice president, Mike Pence, giving some political cover to Biden.

Biden has vowed to cooperate with the searches and Pence had said he takes responsibility for the found documents. Trump resisted efforts to return materials in his possession, prompting a FBI search of his Florida home and resort last year.

U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland has appointed two separate special counsels to review Trump and Biden's handling of such documents.

Meanwhile, the National Archives has reportedly asked all former U.S. presidents and vice presidents to search their personal records for classified documents or other presidential material that should have been turned over when they left office.

It is unlawful to knowingly or willfully remove or retain classified material, although no current or former president or vice president has been charged with wrongdoing.



King Charles III won't feature on Australia's new \$5 bill. Pic – Daily Mail

replace a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II to honor "the culture and history of the First Australians."

"The other side of the \$5 banknote will continue to feature the Australian parliament," the bank said in a statement. Explaining the decision, treasurer Jim Chalmers said that the change was an opportunity to strike a good balance.

family, reports Hindustan Times.

"They reflect the special and loving relationship they had with the most unique woman that they had ever known. Now, in 2023, the ownership of these poignant documents is a responsibility that the Kassem do not wish to pass on to their children or grandchildren. They have decided to sell the letters and use proceeds of the sale to support some of the charities that were close to Susie and Diana's hearts," the statement said.

In the letter, Princess Diana had written to Susie to thank her for her support.

"Thank you for all the lovely things you said to me on the telephone tonight. You have no idea the joy and trust you and Tarek have introduced into my life and I count myself extremely fortunate [for you] both and thank you for believing in me," Princess Diana wrote.

## Politics, war and strikes: Rishi Sunak's 100 days as UK prime minister

UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak marked 100 days in office after he preceded Liz Truss following a crisis in the Tory party. Rishi Sunak assumed office on October 25, becoming Britain's youngest leader for two centuries and its first prime minister of South Asian heritage.

Promising to control soaring inflation and "restore the integrity back into politics" after years of scandals under former prime minister Boris Johnson, Rishi Sunak has faced challenges on all fronts so far, reports Hindustan Times.



Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. Pic – Local Today

"The things that happened before I was prime minister, I can't do anything about. What I think you can hold me to account for is how I deal with the things that arise on my watch," Rishi Sunak said.

Once the Treasury chief, Rishi Sunak has underscored that his top priority remains improving UK's economy as gross domestic product remains smaller than it was before Covid resulting in the International Monetary Fund predicting that the UK will be the only major economy to contract this year, shrinking by 0.6% amid a global slowdown.

Within his party, Rishi Sunak is facing calls to push for immediate tax cuts to encourage growth. "We need growth or our debts will get bigger," lawmaker Iain Duncan Smith, a former party leader, said.

## Moscow accuses West of trying to destroy Russia: 'Is this not racism, Nazism'

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Thursday accused the West of wanting to inflict a lasting defeat against Moscow and lashed out against EU chief Ursula von der Leyen who earlier arrived in Kyiv.

"Ursula von der Leyen... said that the outcome of the war should be the defeat of Russia, the kind of defeat that for decades, for many decades, Russia cannot restore its economy," Lavrov said in comments aired on Russian state television.

"Is this not racism, not Nazism -- not an attempt to solve 'the Russian question?'" Lavrov added, evoking Russia's victory against Nazi Germany in World War II.

The European Commission chief announced she had arrived in Kyiv with a team of commissioners and the bloc's most senior diplomat earlier Thursday, a day before a Ukraine-European Union summit in the war-torn country, reports AFP.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has frequently drawn parallels between what he calls Moscow's "special military operation" in Ukraine and the war against Nazi Germany.

He launched the conflict in Ukraine in February last year with the announced aim of "de-Nazifying" the country.

\* Contd on page 8



## Philippines grants US greater access to bases amid China concerns



Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr talks with US Secretary of Defense Lloyd James Austin. Pic - AP

The Philippines has granted the United States expanded access to its military bases, the countries said on Thursday, amid mounting concern over China's increasing assertiveness in the disputed South China Sea and tensions over self-ruled Taiwan.

Statements from the defence ministries of both countries said Washington would be given access to four more locations under an Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) dating back to 2014.

The United States had allocated more than \$82 million toward infrastructure investments at the existing five sites under the EDCA, the statements said.

EDCA allows U.S. access to Philippine military bases for joint training, pre-positioning of equipment and the building of facilities such as runways, fuel storage and military housing, but not a permanent presence, reports Reuters.

U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin was in Manila for talks as Washington seeks to extend its security options in the Philippines as part of efforts to deter any move by China against self-ruled Taiwan.

The statements did not specify where the new locations would be. The former Philippine military chief said previously the United States had requested access to bases on the northern land mass of Luzon, the closest part of the Philippines to Taiwan, and on the island of Palawan, facing the disputed Spratly Islands in the South China Sea.

## UK houses worth 584 million pounds to fall into sea amid coastal erosion: Report

As global warming and its impact continue to impact many parts of the world, a new study conducted by a climate action group showed that thousands of coastal houses in Britain are at risk of sinking. The houses are located in areas affected by coastal erosion, the study said.

Climate change advocacy group One Home said that this would include 21 coastal villages and hamlets in England and houses worth almost 584 million pounds. The houses are most at risk of being submerged by the year 2100, reports Hindustan Times.

"The areas that are at risk of



UK house near the sea. Pic - newsandstar.co.uk

being submerged include seaside villages in Cornwall, Cumbria, Dorset, East Yorkshire, Essex, Kent, the Isle of Wight, Northumberland, Norfolk, and Sussex, amounting to 2,218 properties that are together worth around 584 million pounds," the study said.

The report also stated that "a rise in sea level is causing England's coast to erode faster than before. 2022 was the warmest year in England since records began 364 years ago. As the world warms, storms intensify, ice melts faster, and the oceans expand, causing sea levels to rise."

## Don't want to meet grandparents? Don't, Italy court rules in favour of children

Italy's top court ruled that it is not necessary for children to meet their grandparents if they do not wish to do so. The ruling was made in a case related to an appeal by the parents of two children against the decision of a lower court which had forced the children to spend time with their grandparents.

The case was filed by the grandparents and a paternal uncle complaining that they were unable to meet the children "due to the obstacles established by the parents" amid a family conflict.

In the juvenile court and the lower court the grandparents won after which courts had ordered in 2019 that they could meet the children in the presence of a social worker. The courts had then warned that if the children do not see their relatives they may suffer from potential psychological damage.

Meanwhile, the parents argued that the children should not meet the grandparents owing to family tensions. In its ruling, the top court said that even though there is "no

doubt" that the two children would "benefit from a bond with the articulated line of generations", they could not be forced to see their "ascendants", especially amid family tensions.

The court also said that the interests of the children must prevail over those of the grandparents and that "an unwelcome and unwanted relationship" cannot be forced.



Children are under no obligation to see their grandparents if they don't wish to: Italy's Supreme Court. Pic - ABP News

## Hong Kong is about to give away half a million airline tickets

Hong Kong is planning to announce the details of a plan to distribute 500,000 air tickets which will be part of a global publicity campaign set to be unveiled. Hong Kong's leader John Lee will oversee the launch of the Hello Hong Kong campaign, Bloomberg reported quoting a government statement.

The entire campaign will include over 200 events to underscore the city's return, South China Morning Post reported as most of the half-million free air tickets will be distributed by Cathay Pacific Airways



The move is part of many initiatives that Hong Kong has taken to boost tourism. Pic - Hindustan Times

and its airline HK Express. Some will also be handed out by travel agencies to international tourists, the report said.

The aim of the initiative to revive the economy of the city as well repair its global image following the violent protests

in 2019, and repair the city's global image which was damaged by often-violent protests in 2019, putting in place of strict security laws in 2020 and three years of isolation amid the Covid pandemic.

The tickets will be given to travellers in

Asia including China, as well as Europe and the US, with a "small portion" going to local residents for overseas travel, the report said.

In 2022, Hong Kong received almost 605,000 visitors as the city slowly dropped its Covid restrictions, which was higher from 91,000 in 2021, Bloomberg reported. But before the pandemic hit, the city was visited by almost 56 million people as Hong Kong was Asia's busiest international airport then.

The move is part of many initiatives that Hong Kong has taken to boost tourism as Covid testing requirements and a quota system for Chinese visitors are set to be dropped, while three more border crossings will also reopen after almost three years.



Milan Meetarbhan

# "No opposition anywhere deserves to win elections only on the back of popular discontent"

'Sitting back and waiting for the tide to turn because of anti-incumbency is not a viable option. And shouldn't be one'



Mauritius Times: Nadhim Zahawi has been sacked last Sunday as Tory party chairman after an inquiry, ordered by Rishi Surnak and conducted by ethics adviser Sir Laurie Magnus into the handling of his tax affairs, found that Mr Zahawi had "shown insufficient regard for the general principles of the ministerial code" and had not fulfilled the requirements of being an "honest, open and an exemplary leader". If ministers fall foul of the ministerial code in the UK, they are damned... Too bad we do not have the equivalent of Sir Laurie Magnus here, isn't it?

Milan Meetarbhan: First, it's too bad

that we do not have an equivalent Ministerial Code in Mauritius. Then it's too bad that we do not have an Ethics Adviser. But irrespective of whether you have a Code or an Ethics Tsar, the most important thing in any democratic society is whether the ruling class has a culture of ethical conduct or whether there is no culture whatsoever.

Any society needs safeguards, accountability mechanisms, judicial control and so on but first and foremost the electorate must decide whether they want people of integrity, competence and respect for values and institutions to be in government and vote accordingly.

Should the electorate exercise such

**M**ilan Meetarbhan, well-known legal and constitutional mind, shares in this interview his views on various issues of relevance regarding the state of political governance and democratic culture in the country. The Opposition has, as is their democratic duty, attacked the performance of the ruling party/alliance as one affair chased another in the headlines, but how far would they be prepared to go to implement change once in office? Milan Meetarbhan weighs in on the desirable contours of what should be on the cards of a reform-minded political dispensation.

discernment, the political class will be forced to adopt a different culture and to commit themselves to freedom of information, enhanced accountability frameworks and proper enforcement.

If we have a culture of impunity and selective enforcement of the law and the people do not demand better then we will continue to see an erosion of values and integrity.

\* Labour's party chairman Annelise Dodds criticised PM Rishi Sunak's handling of the situation, saying "We knew about these allegations for a very long period of time. The prime minister... vacillated, he wobbled, he couldn't decide what to do..." She concluded by saying that he "didn't need an investigation to deal with this matter, he needed a backbone". Does this strike a chord with what obtains here?

**"First and foremost, the electorate must decide whether they want people of integrity, competence and respect for values and institutions to be in government and vote accordingly. Should the electorate exercise such discernment, the political class will be forced to adopt a different culture and to commit themselves to freedom of information, enhanced accountability frameworks and proper enforcement..."**

**"No country needs 2-3 years to find out if there was what the French call 'emploi fictif' or not. The old legal fiction in some countries was that the King can do no wrong and thus has absolute immunity. Some believe this also applies in what purports to be a democracy. Those whose philosophy has always been that 'moralité pas rempli ventre' or that 'WE are Government and WE decide'... need more than a backbone..."**

Yes, sure it does. But some don't need a backbone but a sense of what is right and what is not. Only then can they realise that the conduct of proceedings in the so-called temple of democracy or the flagrant pursuit of a hidden agenda by a regulator or the crude propaganda of a state broadcaster have gone beyond the limits of decency and action is required.

No country needs 2-3 years to find out if there was what the French call 'emploi fictif' or not. The old legal fiction in some countries was that the King can do no wrong and thus has absolute immunity. Some believe this also applies in what purports to be a democracy.

Those whose philosophy has always been that 'moralité pas rempli ventre' or that 'WE are Government and WE decide'... need more than a backbone.

☞ Cont. on page 10



# 'Not all parties in Mauritius would need State funding!

## One has a war chest that will enable it to fight several campaigns'

☞ Cont. from page 9

\* The latest Mo Ibrahim report informs us that although Mauritius ranks 1st (out of 54) in Overall Governance in 2021, the country's score has deteriorated over the last decade (2012-2021) ... at an accelerated pace over the most recent five years (2017-2021). That should not come as a surprise, but the governance issue does not seem to have as yet become a determining factor in who wins or loses elections, isn't it?

“In a mature society people expect to be told, and they have every right to do so, what the challenger will do once in office. They have every right to know how credible and effective the proposed policies are and whether the challenger has the right people and the genuine commitment to implement these alternative policies. Sitting back and waiting for the tide to turn because of anti-incumbency is not a viable option”

The Mo Ibrahim Index is the latest of a series of reports, ratings and indexes published by international bodies which have found that good governance has declined in our country in the last few years. They have confirmed what local independent observers have been saying repeatedly. The response of political leaders, who are in a state of denial, is to accuse these international bodies of conniving with the opposition!

Good governance, accountability, transparency, are not only matters for academic debate. They affect people's daily lives more than they realise. Corruption, theft of taxpayers' money, nepotism deprives those working hard to earn qualifications of what they deserve, fraudulent practices rig the procurement process, lack of independent and impartial institutions make a mockery of regulation and administrative integrity. So good governance should in any democracy be a key indicator of where a country is heading and how people will fare.

\* The current government has adopted a business-as-usual attitude even in the face of the misgovernance issues which have hogged the headlines these last three years. One could expect that it will remain unperturbed no matter what critics, whether locally or even rating agencies, say about its record on this count. That is unlikely to change any time soon, don't you think?

A government may remain unperturbed and unlikely to change its ways but the country will change and the people and the country's institutions will come out weaker and poorer. Of course, there's not always a judicial remedy to every ill. Some argue that there are acts or omissions of rulers which can only be met with a political sanction. And political sanctions come only once in every five years. This is no more acceptable.

Of course, this does not mean that people should take the law in their own hands even if they should be free to express their opposition to practices and policies. We need to ensure that in between elections there are adequate mechanisms, independent institutions, a free press, watchful civil society organisations which will keep a government on its toes and keep people informed of what's happening.

\* But if you want change to happen, that can only take place if the people vote for change, and have to be convinced that what is on offer is a credible and workable alternative. That does not seem forthcoming so far?

No opposition anywhere deserves to win elections only on the back of popular discontent with the incumbent. Of course, highlighting abuses, misgovernance and harmful policies are part of what a challenger does. But the one who does only that does not deserve to win.

In a mature society people expect to be told, and they have every right to do so, what the challenger will do once in office. They have every right to know how credible and effective the proposed policies are and whether the challenger has the right people and the genuine commitment to implement these alternative policies. Sitting back and waiting for the tide to turn because of anti-incumbency is not a viable option. And shouldn't be one.

\* It might indeed seem to be a tall order for the existing mainstream parties, whether in power or in the opposition, to effect change within their own party establishments themselves. Does that seem to be the case?

Renewal is part of life and political parties, like any organisation, have to continually renew their composition and programmes. It's true that succession planning is not always easy for these parties. Each mainstream party is identified with a leader and, in fact, many voters will vote for that leader whom they want as Prime Minister and not for the candidates standing in their respective constituencies.

Political parties in Mauritius, generally speaking, do not have proper structures, internal democracy is scant, decisions are rarely taken collectively. Everything revolves around the leader. So, it's not surprising that the leader becomes the embodiment of the party. But as a result of this, anytime the leader goes down in the polls, the party

“Each mainstream party is identified with a leader and, in fact, many voters will vote for that leader whom they want as Prime Minister and not for the candidates standing in their respective constituencies... So, it's not surprising that the leader becomes the embodiment of the party. But as a result of this, any time the leader goes down in the polls, the party also does badly...”



“Some argue that there are acts or omissions of rulers which can only be met with a political sanction. And political sanctions come only once in every five years. This is no more acceptable. Of course, this does not mean that people should take the law in their own hands... We need to ensure that in between elections there are adequate mechanisms, independent institutions, a free press, watchful civil society organisations which will keep a government on its toes...”

also does badly and there is no avenue for rank-and-file members or even party establishment to effect, as you say, change.

\* Opinions may diverge on this, but are you in favour of some form of state funding of political parties, that is, taxpayers and consumers picking up the tabs, for parties activities and their electoral campaigns? What should be the strict countervailing rights of the population to prevent abuse or opening an unknown Pandora's box?

Not all parties in Mauritius would need State funding! One has a war chest that will enable it to fight several campaigns. But that does not mean that that party will not accept state funding if this is offered!

Yes, parties are seen as playing a major role in a vibrant democracy and as such a case may be made for taxpayers to subsidise political parties to enable them to play their role effectively. It is also argued that such state subsidy reduces the risk of corruption as parties may otherwise be tempted to benefit from the award of public contracts for instance.

In Mauritius, any form of public funding would first require that parties be registered and subject to the requirements for all legally constituted entities. They will need to file returns, have their accounts audited, hold elections of office bearers in a democratic and open manner and so on. Are our political parties ready for this? Will they make themselves more democratic and accountable to avail of public funds?

☞ Cont. on page 11



# 'First and foremost, the electorate must decide whether they want people of integrity, competence and respect for values... to be in government and vote accordingly

☞ Cont. from page 10

\* On the other hand, the latest stand taken by the Electoral Commissioner, who has submitted an Application for Conditional Leave against the judgement of Justices B. Marie-Joseph and R. Seetohul-Toolsee in the matter of the electoral petition lodged by LP candidate C Sayed-Hossen against the election of MSM candidate G. Bablee, does not indicate any shift in the position of the Electoral Commission as regards the conduct of the last elections. But what about the next one in terms of ensuring free and fair elections?

Any litigant is entitled to exercise the rights of recourse available to him under the law. But our courts also have a duty to ensure that all litigants are treated fairly and are not unduly prejudiced by legal stall tactics for instance. This is especially important in cases involving matters of major public interest.

In the present case, where three and a half years after an election some challenges have still not been resolved, the decision by a public office with a key constitutional function to appeal against a ruling before a final judgment and the possible consequence of which could be that the petition is not heard and determined before the next election is one where the public office concerned must have weighed the policy considerations of further delays.

\* Some observers have opined here and elsewhere that the PM and his party may plough on at the helm of the country, regardless of the outcome of the appeal lodged at the Privy Council by unreturned candidate Suren Dayal in No. 8. Would that be a plausible scenario?

I am not sure that this would be legally possible if the Privy Council were to decide that the election of the three candidates in Constituency No 8 was not valid.

Since one has to be a Member of Parliament to hold ministerial office, the two ministers from that constituency would lose their seats and will not be able to continue to serve as Prime Minister or Minister. Even if the ultimate outcome does not lead to loss of membership, should the

“Since one has to be a Member of Parliament to hold ministerial office, the two ministers from that constituency (No. 8) would lose their seats and will not be able to continue to serve as Prime Minister or Minister (if the Privy Council were to decide that the election of the three candidates in Constituency No 8 was not valid). Even if the ultimate outcome does not lead to loss of membership, should the proceedings before the court or comments in the judgment show that there was serious irregularity there would be a moral responsibility for the ministers to step down...”



general or regional, at his sole discretion? The current law allows a PM in office to drag the actual election date well beyond five years, when elsewhere, say in India, the mandate of the National Assembly ends five years after its previous election. Should we not enact a similar provision here?

In fact, we already have a similar provision in our Constitution. The Assembly automatically stands dissolved five years after its first sitting following a general election.

However, one feature we have inherited from what used to be part of the British constitutional regime, is that the Prime Minister can ask for the dissolution of the Assembly at any time before the end of its term and call for general elections. We have seen that in the case of municipal elections, it is in fact the Prime Minister who holds the ultimate power to call or to postpone the holding of these elections. His ministers unashamedly refer to this as the “prerogative” of the Prime Minister!

We have also seen how a Prime Minister can play around with dates for by-elections when he has no intention of holding a by-election and then conveniently dissolves the Assembly in time to avoid the by-election.

Whether it's a by-election or municipal elections or the general elections, the time at which such elections are held cannot be according to what is politically convenient for the Prime Minister of the day.

All these “prerogative” powers must end. We need as a country, which is celebrating its 55 years of independence, review our constitutional experience since 1968 and bring in the changes that are required.

Parliament yet.

What you call harassment of private media by the regulator is a different matter. But this issue has to be seen in the broader context of the role and independence of regulators which have hit rock bottom in recent years. This is of major importance to all citizens, to businesses in our country and to restore confidence of international investors in the country.

“The Attorney General mischaracterized the (Saint Brandon/Raphael Fishing) issue as a sovereignty one. This is a matter between the State and a private company over rights conferred during colonial rule. This company is not the only one to have benefited from oncessions/grants/leases from the French and British colonial governments. A review of all such benefits may be warranted if the government explains the reasons why this is necessary...”

Since you mention IBA, it's important to remember that IBA is the regulator for ALL broadcasters including the state-run one. Do we know if the regulator, which has suspended the operations of private broadcasters on some occasions, taken any action with regard to the state-controlled broadcaster or is it fully satisfied that the latter has at all times complied with the letter and spirit of the law and is beyond any sliver of reproach?

\* What do you make of the Attorney General's sortie against the Raphael Fishing Co Ltd and his promise to seek every way to “go beyond a Privy Council” ruling in favour of that company over lease rights to a dozen islets of Saint Brandon?

I believe that the Attorney General mischaracterized the Saint Brandon/Raphael Fishing issue as a sovereignty one. This is a matter between the State and a private company over rights conferred during colonial rule. This company is not the only one to have benefited from concessions/grants/leases from the French and British colonial governments. A review of all such benefits may be warranted if the government explains the reasons why this is necessary.

However, any talk of the legislative branch of government in effect reversing a decision of the highest court of the land is treading on dangerous grounds. In a democracy the legislature can change the law for the future if it is not happy with an interpretation of the law by the judiciary but it cannot sit as a court of appeal and quash a decision already handed down by the court with respect to past events.



“Whether it's a by-election or municipal elections or the general elections, the time at which such elections are held cannot be according to what is politically convenient for the Prime Minister of the day. All these “prerogative” powers must end. We need as a country, which is celebrating its 55 years of independence, review our constitutional experience since 1968 and bring in the changes that are required...”

proceedings before the court or comments in the judgment show that there was serious irregularity there would be a moral responsibility for the ministers to step down. But not in this country!

We cannot in this kind of situation rule out the fact that the Assembly may be dissolved even before the hearing to avoid the risk of exposure and damage that may occur with a highly publicised hearing that is broadcast to the world.

\* Would it be advisable for an Opposition government to end the ability of the PM to call for elections,

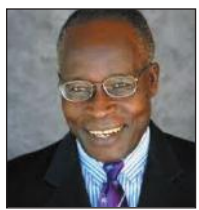
\* A Freedom of Information Act, with adequate safeguards having been a vain promise by all political hues and alliances, why should anybody trust what the Opposition might say on the issue? Will there be a common understanding to bring a bill to Parliament and accessorially end the harassment of private media by the IBA?

A Freedom of Information or Right to Information Act enables citizens to obtain access to information on government business. It has featured in electoral manifestos, but no government has introduced such legislation to



# Kenya has New Rules for Choosing The People who Run its Elections

*The body choosing Kenya's election commission is being overhauled – how this could strengthen democracy*



**John Mukum Mbaku**  
Professor, Weber State University

**K**enya has new rules for choosing the people who run its elections.

President William Ruto has signed into law the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (Amendment) Bill. It changes the composition of the panel that selects people to serve on the country's Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission.

The commission is a state institution that has the task of enhancing and supporting constitutional democracy in Kenya. It conducts elections, registers citizens as voters and maintains the voters' roll. It also fixes the boundaries of electoral constituencies and wards. It settles electoral disputes, registers candidates for election and conducts voter education.

But since it was established in 2011, the commission has been at the centre of Kenya's history of post-election violence.

In 2013, 2017 and 2022, the losing political parties accused it of failing to administer elections fairly and lawfully.

In 2017, the Kenyan supreme court accused the commission of "bungling" the presidential election. In the 2022 elections, the then vice-chairperson of the commission, Juliana Cherera, disowned the results of the presidential poll before the official announcement.

Raila Odinga, who lost that poll, called for reforms that would make the electoral commission a much fairer referee of the country's elections.

The new law seeks to streamline the process of appointing members to the electoral commission, making the selection process more participatory and reflective of the country's diversity.

And it comes at a critical moment. Seven commissioner positions are currently vacant.

A weak electoral agency poses four major threats to Kenya's democracy: it will fail to deliver fair, free and credible elections; it will disrupt improvements in the country's transition to democracy; it will prolong the culture of post-election violence; and it will divide the nation's diverse ethnocultural groups.

It is, therefore, vital that the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission be a strong and fully functioning organisation staffed by Kenyans who are dedicated to democratic governance.

## What's changing under the new law

Selecting electoral commissioners is a complex job.

The new law brings more independent commissioners and associations into the selection process. Previously, only three agencies nominated the seven commissioners: the Parliamentary Service Commission, the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya and the Law Society of Kenya. Now there are five. The newcomers are the Political Parties Liaison Committee and the Public Service Commission. They open the door for political parties and the public service to participate in this critical process.

It's important that the selection panel includes state and non-state organisations that promote election integrity. Only individuals who are citizens of Kenya and



William Ruto is sworn-in as Kenya's president in September 2022. Former President Uhuru Kenyatta looks on. Tony Karumba/AFP via Getty Images

meet the integrity requirements in Chapter 6 of the constitution can serve on the selection panel. These individuals must hold a degree from a university recognised in Kenya.

## The vacancies

Three of the current vacancies in the commission were expected: these commissioners' terms had expired. But four other commissioners quit under a cloud of suspicion.

Cherera, Justus Nyang'aya and Francis Wanderi resigned after being suspended for their conduct during the 2022 election. They had alleged that commission chairperson Wafula Chebukati had altered poll results in favour of Ruto. Another commissioner, Irene Masit, was also suspended. She now has charges pending against her before a tribunal investigating the matter.

## Why elections matter

Elections are a cornerstone of any democracy. They help a nation build and sustain democratic and development-enhancing institutions.

They are a check on government. Elections put the power in ordinary people's hands to change their government and choose more effective leaders for public service. They also give historically marginalised groups a voice.

To perform these functions, elections must meet certain minimum standards. They must be regular, fair, free, competitive, inclusive, transparent and credible.

## Life's Lessons

### Warriors

**W**arriors are not what you think of as warriors.

The warrior is not someone who fights, because no one has the right to take another life. The warrior, for us, is one who sacrifices himself for the good of others.

His task is to take care of the elderly, the defenseless, those who cannot provide for themselves, and above all, the children, the future of humanity.

— *Sitting Bull (c. 1831 - 1890), Hunkpapa Sioux.*

They must be conducted in strict conformity with the constitution.

That's why a strong, independent and functioning electoral agency is so vital.

## Risks of dysfunction

In Kenya, a weak and dysfunctional electoral commission would have dire consequences.

First, the failure to conduct elections that are considered by the majority of Kenyans as free, fair and credible could lead to the type of violence that the country experienced after the 2007 presidential election. More than 1,000 people died.

Second, a weak commission can derail improvements in Kenya's electoral system. A strong commission sets codes of conduct for candidates and political parties. This helps guard against various forms of political opportunism, including corruption.

Third, a dysfunctional electoral commission can be manipulated by politicians and their supporters to mono-polise political spaces. This situation has played out in Cameroon, where the ruling party has marginalised the opposition to remain in power since 1990. Similarly, in Togo, President Faure Gnassingbé has monopolised political spaces since 2005.

Fourth, in Kenya, the electoral commission is responsible for creating electoral boundaries. Any weakness in the commission can be exploited to create boundaries that benefit certain politicians and their supporters. This would undermine democracy and create distrust in the country's democratic institutions.

The new law doesn't meet the expectations of all of Kenya's political constituencies – some individuals and groups believe that their voice in the selection panel has been diluted. However, it's important for all Kenyans to recognise these reforms as an effort in the right direction – towards a stronger and more inclusive commission.

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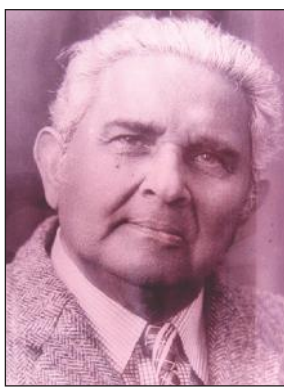


From the Pages of History - MT 60 Years Ago

5th Year No 218

MAURITIUS TIMES

Friday 10 October, 1958

• *He is below himself that is not above an injury. — Francis Quarles*

Jay Narain Roy

# What Next After The Luce Report?

**T**here is nothing in the Luce Report that members of the Labour Party have not said during the last ten years. Mr Luce has produced some figures which should be accepted as the basis of further action by Government. What action does the Government contemplate? How long will it all take? After how many years will

the lot of the workers improve? What panacea does Socialism hold out to them?

Personally, I do not think that the report goes far enough to diagnose the real trouble. I think that the measures proposed are some more of those dilatory tactics that the Government has always adopted on questions concerning the poor man. If we, professing Labour principles, cannot bring quick results in labour matters, then we must honestly pack off and make room for others. It is the greatest problem of the country, and it concerns the largest number of people of Mauritius. Socialism will undoubtedly be superseded by communism in Mauritius if it cannot solve labour problems as its priority measure. If communism comes, three parties will be responsible: the employers because they have failed to be sufficiently human; the Government because it has been incompetent to appraise the gravity of the problem and our Party because we have been dilly-dallying with the fate of the workers.

The only thing which interests me in the report is the enquiry through the UNO. Because of this, I should like to set down a few facts that may be of interest to that organisation. These facts are against the fundamental human rights and should be taken cognizance by that body. They are also against the canons of religion and morality but there are people here who do not care two hoots for God, religion or morality.

**The worker has no bargaining capacity.** This capacity has been taken away from him. It is implicit in the fact of unemployment. But there are three more factors contributing to it. The organisation for the recruitment and distribution of workers is in the hands of the millers.

It is usual to see transported workers being paid more only to keep the local men and women in check so that they cannot bargain. The centralisation of factories makes dismissal so easy, and when a man is dismissed, he is given more than one punishment: he is thrown out of job, and out of his house. And sometimes out of his metayage lands. All these come together as a result of his dismissal for the only reason that his face does not suit the authorities. When a dayman is thrown out of job, he cannot get work on estates for ten or twelve miles, just because they are the annexes of the same estate. What will the man do when all Crown and Pas Geometriques land producing fodder and firewood are in the hands of the same estate?

**The worker has no freedom of association.** Trade union leaders are blacklisted, and all manner of pretext is found to get rid of them. Hundreds of good trade union leaders have thus been lost to the movement and they have received no protection from the Government in



any shape or form despite their too costly organisation. There is no effective method for ventilating grievances, and the existing organisations are too cumbrous, too ineffective and too ostentatious. The estates have been allowed to maintain some puppet trade unions with leaders entirely at the beck and call of the estates, and the estates have even the power of choosing the puppet unions to open negotiations and to dictate terms, terms which the Government compel all the workers to accept.

Instead of paying proper wages, the money is diverted towards political purposes. I challenge our opposite party that if an impartial enquiry were made it will be found that the money which is being lavishly spent to fight the Labour Party comes from the estates, and on the estates, they have been saved on the back of the workers. Will our opponents accept the challenge that it is the workers' money that is made to fight the Labour Party? That itself shows how strong the ogre of the sugar industry has become.

These are very serious state of affairs. The remedy? Abolish the Labour Department. Deduct trade union subscriptions from wages and encourage trade unions to be strong and even temporarily subsidise them to have their own inspectors, negotiators, prosecutors, factory inspector, welfare officers, etc. Establish a Minimum Wages Board to fix wages as long as bargaining is not on equal terms. Let the Ministry elaborate a Five-Year Labour Scheme of Welfare.

**The worker has no freedom of political expression.** People of the opposite party can go to the estate at any time, organise and enrol members. In fact membership card of that Party is a kind of *Open Sesame* for jobs and promotions and favours - just as Labour activities make people lose jobs, promotions, metayage and what not. The camps where thousands of people live are private to the estates and the men cannot see their own relatives if their faces do not go with the authorities. Council candidates of our Party are refused admittance if they want to go and see their electors. Is this law, humanity, freedom, and must not a mass disobedience movement break them to bits as they have done with unjust laws in other parts of the world?

**The worker has no freedom of religions or**

**cultural expression.** It was one of the conditions of immigration that the religion and culture of the immigrants will be respected and preserved. That is why the estates-built temples and mosques and baitkas. On the estates these places of worship are in a regrettable state and the estates have failed to do the necessary repairs. In every village and estate people run private schools through voluntary subscriptions collected on the occasion of school anniversaries. It is the custom in these anniversaries to invite the leaders to take part and this attracts large number of partisans who contribute enough for the school to defray expenses for a whole year. But on the estates the workers are not allowed to invite their favourite leaders and so they cannot collect enough money. As a result the schools on the estates are in a lingering state and cultural growth is stunted.

How can we expect the estates to defray expenses when they are not even prepared even after 200 years to have English schools for camp children?

Were the days of slavery worse than this? What is civilization and progress in a country where the workers have no bargaining capacity, no freedom of association, no freedom of expression either political or cultural? Does the British Labour Party know this harrowing state of affairs which has not been mentioned by Mr Luce? It is high time the UNO were made aware of this model state of affairs in what a Governor called a model colony. The harrowing fact in that the Government knows nothing, nothing of this situation.

## MAHATMA GANDHI SECONDARY SCHOOL FLACQ PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

REGD. NO. 7630

TEL NO. 4130951 - FAX NO. 4133559

### RE: Annual General Meeting

All members of the Mahatma Gandhi Secondary School (MGSS) Flacq Parent Teacher Association (PTA) are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the above-mentioned Association on **Thursday, 23rd February 2023 at 12:30 pm** at the seat of the school.

#### AGENDA:

1. Welcome Address by the President of MGSS Flacq PTA
2. Welcome Address by the Head of School of MGSS Flacq
3. Reading & Approval of Minutes of AGM 2021
4. Matters Arising
5. President's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Election of members for the PTA Executive Committee for the year 2023-2024
8. A.O.B.

**NOTE:** If there is **NO QUORUM** on Thursday 23rd February 2023, the AGM will be adjourned for **Thursday 2nd March 2023 at 12:30 pm** at the same seat, with the same agenda.

**Mahatma Gandhi Secondary School Flacq,  
François Mitterrand Street, Central Flacq**

**Miss T. Beeharry**  
Secretary

27 January 2023



# All politicians must lie from time to time...

● Cont. from page 2

Michael Walzer, a modern political philosopher, echoes this idea. Politics requires the building of coalitions and the making of deals – which, in a world full of moral compromise, may entail being deceptive about what one is planning and why. As Walzer puts it, no one succeeds in politics without being willing to dirty their hands – and voters should prefer politicians to get their hands dirty, if that is the cost of effective political agency.

## 2. Abuse of trust

A second reason to resent lies begins with the idea of predictability. If our candidates lie to us, we cannot know what they really plan to do – and, hence, cannot trust that we are voting for the candidate who will best represent our interests.

Modern political philosopher Eric Beerbohm argues that when politicians speak to us, they invite us to trust them – and a politician who lies to us abuses that trust, in a way that we may rightly resent.

These ideas are powerful, but they also seem to have some limits. Voters may not need to believe candidates' words in order to understand their intentions and thereby come to accurate beliefs about what they plan to do.

To take one recent example: The majority of those who voted for Donald Trump in 2016, when he was trumpeting the idea of making Mexico pay for a border wall, did not believe that it was actually possible to build a wall that would be paid for by Mexico. They did not take Trump to be describing a literal truth, but expressing an untruth that was indicative of Trump's overall attitude toward migration and toward Mexico – and voted for him on the basis of that attitude.

## 3. Electoral mandate

The third reason we might resent lies told on the campaign trail stems from the idea of an electoral mandate. Philosopher John Locke, whose writings influenced the Declaration of Independence, regarded political authority as stemming from the consent of the governed; this consent might be illegitimate were it to be obtained by means of deception.

This idea, too, has power – but it also runs up against the sophistication of both modern elections and modern voters. Campaigns do not pretend to give a dispassionate description of political ideals, after all. They are closer to rhetorical forms of combat and involve considerable amounts of deliberate ambiguity, rhetorical presentation and self-interested spin.

More to the point, though, voters understand this context and rarely regard any candidate's presentation as stemming solely from a concern for the unalloyed truth.

## 4. Unnecessary and disprovable

The lies of George Santos, however, do seem to have provoked something like resentment and outrage, which suggests that they are somehow unlike the usual forms of deceptive practice undertaken during political campaigns. And this fact leads to the final reason to resent deception, which is that voters do not accept being lied to unnecessarily – nor about matters subject to easy empirical proof or disproof.

It seems clear that voters may sometimes be willing to accept deceptive and dissembling political candidates, given the fact that effective political agency may involve the use of deceptive means. Santos, however, lied about matters as tangential to politics as his nonexistent history as a star player for Baruch College's volleyball team. This lie was unnecessary, given its tenuous relationship to his can-



George Santos - Pic - media.cnn.com

didacy for the House of Representatives – and easily disproved, given the fact that he did not actually attend Baruch.

I believe voters may have made their peace with some deceptive campaign practices. If Walzer is right, they should expect that an effective candidate will be imperfectly honest at best. But candidates who are both liars and bad at lying can find no such justification, since they are unlikely to be believed and thus incapable of achieving those goods that justify their deception.

If voters have made their peace with some degree of lying, in short, they are nonetheless still capable of resenting candidates who are unskilled at the craft of political deception.

**Michael Blake - Professor of Philosophy, Public Policy and Governance, University of Washington**

## Veda Pratishthan

Shivala Road - Laventure

### Annual General Assembly

Members of the Veda Pratishthan are kindly invited to attend the Annual General Assembly of the Association, which will be held on Sunday 19 February 2023 at the seat of the Veda Pratishthan, Shivala Road - Laventure, at 13.30 hrs.

#### AGENDA:

1. Reading and approval of minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
2. President's report
3. Treasurer's report
4. A.O.B

3 February 2023

Secretary

## HINDU PRABHAT SANGH

The Annual General Meeting of HINDU PRABHAT SANGH will be held on 25 February 2023 at 6.00 pm at Rameshwar Mandir, Grand-Baie.

#### AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM
2. Matters arising
3. Finance
4. President's report
5. Motions and amendments to rules/ change (if any)
6. Elections of office-bearers (if any)
7. AOB

03 February 2023

Secretary

## LOCAL GOVT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting of LOCAL GOVT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION will be held on 25 February 2023 at 11.00 am at Morcellement St Andre Community Hall.

#### AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM
2. Matters arising
3. Finance
4. President's report
5. Motions and amendments to rules/ change (if any)
6. Elections of office-bearers (if any)
7. AOB

03 February 2023

H.S. Calyachetty  
Secretary

## To Our Readers

### Subscribe to the Mauritius Times

67 years ago, *Mauritius Times* was founded with a resolve to fight for justice and fairness and the advancement of the public good. It has never deviated from this principle no matter how daunting the challenges and how costly the price it has had to pay at different times of our history. We are determined not to abandon this line of action, which is the cardinal principle of our *raison-d'être*. This is what has given *Mauritius Times* a unique standing in the local publishing world.

Our production circumstances have changed since last year with the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, and we have had to move to the digital platform. We have since March 2020 freely circulated the paper via WhatsApp and by email, besides making it available on our website.

Readers will no doubt appreciate that it takes a lot of time, hard work, money and the continued support of our contributors to produce the *Mauritius Times* - as we have done without interruption in these last 67 years.

We are so grateful that our voice and readership extend far beyond our actual subscription base of loyal well-wishers. But we now need to expand that base of readers who value our independence and commitment to continue improving the paper and reach new audiences.

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# The Significance of Cavadee

Ravina Ramlugun

The one riding a peacock, holding a magnificent *vel* in hand, and wearing a beautiful garland of flowers on His neck, Kartikeya is the God who blesses devotees on the auspicious occasion of Cavadee. A very popular God in South India, He is profusely worshipped in Mauritius as well. Born to Lord Shiva and Devi Parvati for putting an end to evil, Kartikeya is often seen in the Shiva *parivar* pictures sitting on Shiva's lap or standing next to Him. The *Skanda Purana* is a text which gives a detailed view of the life events of Kartikeya.

Often, Kartikeya is worshipped in Shiva shrines or along with Durga Maa. But there are many temples dedicated to Him solely as well. To pay tribute to Him, Cavadee is celebrated with great devotion. The origin of this festival is rooted in an interesting story.

## What is the story behind Cavadee?

As Idumban walked briskly to the South, he thought of the mission he was assigned. There was no way he would disappoint his Guru. Little was he aware of what this journey had in reserve for him...

A little farther, on the freezing snow-white mountains of the Himalayas grew the pampered little sons of Shiva and Parvati with equal love and attention. Kartikeya and Ganesha were both wise and dutiful sons. Being the younger one, Ganesha always hovered around his parents. Kartikeya did not mind this at all and even he used to adore his younger brother.

One day, the celestial Gods descended on Kailash to meet the two powerful and illustrious brothers. Being very pleased with them, the Gods offered them a fruit. They then prepared to depart. However, before leaving the young boys, the Gods warned that this divine fruit could not be divided into two. It contained all the knowledge of the universe and was meant to be eaten by only one of them...

Both Kartikeya and Ganesha expressed their wish to have this most precious fruit. For the first time ever, there seemed to be some sort of rivalry between them. The sons were both loved tremendously. Shiva and Parvati were perplexed and could not decide to whom to offer the gift. To be impartial, Parvati put a contest for the two boys.

"Whoever of you two completes a round of the cosmos and returns here first will be gifted this celestial fruit which smells like an elixir of immortality," announced Parvati.

On hearing the directions of his mother, Kartikeya sat on his *mayur*. Swift and steep as a thought, he flew off leaving behind his brother. He travelled on and on. Over the blue ocean, tropical forests, icy regions and deserted lands, Kartikeya



made his way; he stopped only at pilgrimage sites to pay obeisance. After the cosmic round was, thus, triumphantly completed, Kartikeya happily headed back toward his point of departure.

From high above, Kartikeya could already catch sight of Ganesha still standing at the same spot. For sure, Ganesha could not have completed the round so quickly with his rat vehicle! Kartikeya thought with a smile. As soon as he landed, the delighted Kartikeya advanced toward his mother for the fruit. But his merriment was short-lived.

Ganesha had outwitted Kartikeya and was already the winner of the contest! Circling his parents, Ganesha stated that Shiva and Parvati meant the entire universe to him. There was no need for him to go round another universe other than them. The parents had lovingly accepted this claim. Feeling disheartened by coming this close to victory and yet not achieving it, Kartikeya mounted on his peacock yet again and left Kailash forever to come to the South of *Bharatvarsha*.

Saddened by the sudden estrangement of their son, the doting parents came down to pacify Kartikeya.

"What is the need of the fruit to you? You yourself are the fruit of all knowledge, o son," said Shiva.

The region where they stood, thus, came to be known as Palani (originating from the Sanskrit word *phalam*, which means fruit). In his heart, Shiva knew that the real aim of the contest had been to send Kartikeya to the South where He was destined to leave behind such a legacy that He would be forever remembered. Having, in this way, reconciled with their

son, the divine couple returned to their abode.

A few steps away from the meeting place of Kartikeya and his parents, Idumban, the *asura* disciple of sage Agasthiyar was still walking along with his wife. Upon the orders of his *Guru*, he had managed to carry with him two Southern hills known as Shivagiri and Shaktigiri. He had tied the two peaks at the two ends of his yoke (just like a *cavadee*) and was marching towards the *ashrama* of his *Guru* in the northern region.

Unaware of Kartikeya's presence, Idumban, feeling tired, decided to take rest in an area near Palani.

"Let us sleep here a little and then we resume our task," he said to his wife.

And he put down the yoke and two hills on the ground. The husband and wife lay down side by side. Seated on a slope not too far away, Kartikeya could see what was transpiring and decided to assume the form of a little boy - whether Idumban was reformed, more patient, and humble was now to be tested. While both Idumban and his wife were in deep sleep, Kartikeya, in his minuscule form, climbed on the Shaktigiri hill.

A few hours passed by. Idumban awoke and was more than ever determined to continue his route. Waking up his wife, he rose to his feet and stretched his arms before reaching down to his yoke. Was he still in a dream? Idumban wondered, for it was beyond his strength to move even one inch with the two hills. How was this possible when he had been carrying them so easily just some time back? Both Idumban and his wife looked at each other confused.

Idumban tried once more but failed; there was surely something amiss. Upon proper inspection, Idumban spotted a young boy sitting down leisurely on one of the two hills.

Irritated, Idumban ordered, "These hills are mine! Get down at once!" But the lad downright refused stating, "I am standing on them. So, they are mine."

This was an open challenge to the *asura* and a fight started between the two to decide about the ownership of the hills. Though Idumban had been a powerful *asura*, his strength was nowhere compared to the brilliant one he had decided to fight with. This was the blazing son of Shiva and Parvati. His might was immeasurable and in a matter of moments, he slayed the enemy just as the heat of summer consumes the dry trees.

The *asura's* wife, who had been a perturbed spectator throughout the fight, broke down. Sobbing uncontrollably, she turned towards Kartikeya and spoke:

"O noble one, I know you are no ordinary boy. I beg you to please forgive my husband for his ignorance and revive him. My life will be a ruined thing without him!"

Seeing the tears of the pleading wife, the benevolent Kartikeya was touched and accepted her request. Through mystic powers, the dead *asura* was bestowed with life. He took a long breath and opened his eyes. He now realised his mistake; bowing down to Kartikeya, he asked for forgiveness. Along with that, Idumban also promised to help all devotees who carry a *cavadee* in honour of Kartikeya.

## How is Cavadee celebrated?

The preparations for Cavadee start some days prior to the festival. A fast is observed for ten days in respect of Lord Kartikeya along with the offering of daily prayers. A simple and disciplined life is maintained by the devotees. They also engage in the making of the *cavadee* itself which is the most distinctive feature of this festival. The *cavadee* is a wooden carving usually decorated with colourful flowers, peacock feathers, and leaves. At times, a picture of Lord Muruga also adorns the *cavadee*.

On the main day of the ceremony, there are several processions on the roads as pilgrims make their way to the nearby river. Some of them also have piercings done with small needles on their body as a sign of their dedication and austerity. They march on the roads under the resounding chants. Multi-coloured *cavadees* brighten up the cities of Mauritius and there is a continuous encouraging beat of dhols. *Kovils* are well decorated, and prayers are offered to Lord Kartikeya.

Only by witnessing with one's own eyes that one can understand the beauty of this most pious day.

Vel Vel Vel Muruga.



## Horror movies manipulate brain activity expertly to enhance excitement

**H**umans are fascinated by what scares us, be it sky-diving, roller-coasters, or true-crime documentaries -- provided these threats are kept at a safe distance. Horror movies are no different.

Whilst all movies have our heroes face some kind of threat to their safety or happiness, horror movies up the ante by having some kind of superhuman or supernatural threat that cannot be reasoned with or fought easily.

A research team at the University of Turku, Finland, studied why we are drawn to such things as entertainment. The researchers first established the 100 best and scariest horror movies of the past century (Table 1), and how they made people feel.

### Unseen threats are most scary

Firstly, 72% of people report watching at last one horror movie every 6 months, and the reasons for doing so, besides the feelings of fear and anxiety, was



72% of people report watching at last one horror movie every 6 months, and the reasons for doing so, besides the feelings of fear and anxiety, was primarily that of excitement. Watching horror movies was also an excuse to socialise, with many people preferring to watch horror movies with others than on their own.

People found horror that was psychological in nature and based on real events the scariest, and were far more scared by things that were unseen or implied rather than what they could actually see.

This latter distinction reflects two types of fear that

people experience. The creeping foreboding dread that occurs when one feels that something isn't quite right, and the instinctive response we have to the sudden appearance of a monster that make us jump out of our skin, says principal investigator, Prof Lauri Nummenmaa.

### MRI reveals how brain reacts to different forms of fear

Researchers wanted to know how the brain copes with fear in response to this complicated and ever changing environment. The group had people watch a horror movie whilst measuring neural activity in a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

During those times when anxiety is slowly increasing, regions of the brain involved in visual and auditory perception become more active, as the need to attend for cues of threat in the environment become more important. After a sudden shock, brain activity is more evident in regions involved in emotion processing, threat evaluation, and decision making, enabling a rapid response.

However, these regions are in continuous talk-back with sensory regions throughout the movie, as if the sensory regions were preparing response networks as a scary event was becoming increasingly likely.



## Are some languages more difficult than others?

*It depends on whether you are learning as a baby or not.*

**A**re some languages harder than others? For example, is Japanese more difficult than English?

To answer the question, the first thing we have to do is distinguish between babies learning their first language and children or adults learning a second language. For babies who learn their first language, no language is harder than another. Babies all learn their first language in about the same period of time. This is because learning a language is natural for all babies, like learning to walk.

A baby's brain comes into the world prepared to learn any human language they hear spoken around them. The brain gets the same stimulation from exposure to any language, although it adapts to certain features of the language such as specific sounds. There is no evidence that some languages make you smarter.

In fact, babies can even acquire two (or more) languages together, if they hear them regularly. The languages can be similar, like Portuguese and Spanish, or very different, like English and Chinese -- but the baby's brain can learn them at the same time.

But that changes if you already speak a language and are learning a second one. A language that is very different to the one you already know is going to seem harder than one that's quite similar to your first language.

### Learning a second language

For example, if your first language is English, Spanish words like león for "lion" or sal for "salt" are going to be easier to learn than, say, Chinese shīzi and yán, or Turkish aslan and tuz.

To make English words plural, you usually add -s or -es, and the same is true in Spanish, so "lions" is leones. But in Turkish "lions" is aslanlar, and in Chinese there's no difference between "lion" and "lions" at all. It's mainly the difference from your first language that can make another language "easier" or "harder", not the language itself.

The more languages you know, the easier it is to learn other languages. Babies who learn two languages at the same time often have an easier time learning a third or fourth language when they are older. Their bilingual

brains already understand something about the ways that languages can be different.

Scientists used to think that there was a cutoff point, at around the age of 12 or 13, after which it was impossible to learn a new language completely. We now know that young people can learn another language throughout their teen years. After that, it does become harder - but not impossible - to reach high levels of fluency in a new language.

The reason that babies are so good at learning languages, though, is partly because they have more time to do it. A teenager's brain or a grown-up's brain may still be flexible enough to learn another language, but as people get older, they're busy with school, work and friends. When babies are learning their first language or languages, they're spending hours every day practising.

### Reading is different

While understanding and speaking a language comes naturally, though, learning to read and write is a different story.

Reading is not something that brains develop automatically. It actually has to be learned. And because different languages are written in different ways, it really does make sense to say that some languages are easier to learn to read than others.

Children who speak English or French spend more years in school learning to read than children who speak Italian or Finnish. This is because in Italian or Finnish there's a close match between written letters and spoken sounds, while in English or French there are lots of complications. If you're reading this, you'll already know about some of the complications in English.

In some languages where writing was invented a long time ago, especially in Asia, there are other complica-



maroke/Shutterstock

tions. In Chinese and Japanese, especially, writing is based on separate symbols for words or parts of words instead of letters that stand for individual sounds. Learning to read these languages can take even longer. In certain particular ways, then, some languages can be harder to learn than others.

### Antonella Sorace

Professor of Developmental Linguistics,  
The University of Edinburgh

## Senior Citizen Association

Ward IV - Port Louis

## Annual General Meeting

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Assembly of the Senior Citizen Association - Ward IV, Port Louis, to be held at its registered seat Monseigneur Leen Hall, Port Louis on Wednesday 1 March 2023 at 17.00 hrs.

### Agenda:

1. Reading & approval of minutes of proceedings of the last AGM
2. Matters arising out of minutes
3. President's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. A.O.B

**Mrs Anita Purrusing**  
Secretary

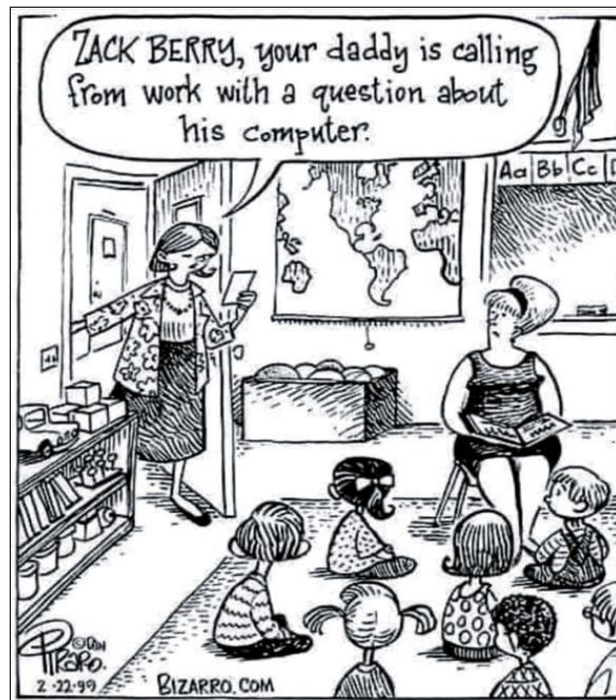




## Watching football with wife

Wife: Where are you going?  
 Husband: Watch the game at the cafe.  
 Wife: Why don't you watch it with me?  
 Husband: I want to see it with my friends.  
 Wife: So, I am nothing to you.  
 Husband: My God. OK, OK I am staying.  
 Wife: Why is the goalkeeper in black?  
 Husband: He is mourning his mother.  
 Wife: The commentator, how does he know all names?  
 Husband: It's his job.  
 Wife: There's a goal.  
 Husband: No, it's an offside.  
 Wife: What is offside?  
 Husband: No, it's a goal, just kidding.  
 Wife: Yes, but what is offside?  
 Husband: Offside is the name of the coach.  
 Wife: Where's the coach?  
 Husband: He is off the field.  
 Wife: Why isn't he playing?  
 Husband: No, he doesn't play; he changes the players and the game tactics.  
 Wife: Tell me, Maradona is there?  
 Husband: No, he died.  
 Wife: Oh My God, how?  
 Husband: He had watched a game with his wife!

\*\*\*



Moe, an 82-year-old man, went to the doctor to get a physical.

A few days later, the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm.

A couple of days later, the doctor spoke to Morris and said, 'You're really doing great, aren't you?'

Morris replied, 'Just doing what you said, Doc: 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful.'

The doctor said, 'I didn't say that. I said, 'You've got a heart murmur; be careful.'

\*\*\*

A senior citizen said to his eighty-year-old buddy:

'So, I hear you're getting married?'

'Yep!'

'Do I know her?'

'Nope!'

'This woman, is she good looking?'

'Not really.'

'Is she a good cook?'

'Nah, she can't cook too well.'

'Does she have lots of money?'

'Nope! Poor as a church mouse.'

'Well, then, is she good in bed?'

'I don't know.'

'Why in the world do you want to marry her then?'

'Because she can still drive!'

\*\*\*

Three girls all worked in the same office with the same female boss.

Each day, they watched the boss leave work early. One day, the girls decided that, when the boss left, they would leave right behind her.

After all, she never called or came back to work, so how would she know they went home early?

The brunette was thrilled to be home early...she did a little gardening, spent playtime with her son, and went to bed early.

The redhead was elated to be able to get in a quick workout at the spa before meeting a dinner date.

The blonde was happy to get home early and surprise her husband, but when she got to her bedroom, she heard a muffled noise from inside.

Slowly and quietly, she opened the door a fraction

and was mortified to see her husband in bed with her boss!

Gently she closed the door and crept out of the house.

The next day, at their coffee break, the brunette and redhead said that they planned to leave early again, and they asked the blonde if she was going to go with them.

No way! the blonde exclaimed. "I almost got caught yesterday!"

\*\*\*

A woman went on vacation, leaving her husband behind.

Before she left, she told him to take extra special care of her cat.

The next day she called her husband and asked if the cat was all right.

Her husband said: "The cat just died."

She burst into tears and said: "How could you be so blunt? Why couldn't you have broken the news gradually! Today, you could have said that it was playing on the roof; tomorrow, you could have said that it fell off and had broken its leg; then on the third day, you could have said that the poor thing had passed away in the night. You could have been more sensitive about the whole thing. By the way, how is my mom?"

Husband: "She is playing on the roof..."

\*\*\*

One day, the wife comes home with a spectacular diamond ring.

"Where did you get that ring?" her husband asks.

"Well, she replies, "My boss and I played the lottery and we won, so I bought it with my share of the winnings."

A week later, his wife comes home with a long shiny fur coat.

"Where did you get that coat?" her husband asks.

She replies: "My boss and I played the lottery and we won again, so I bought it with my share of the winnings."

Another week later, his wife comes home, driving a flaming red Ferrari... You guessed it:

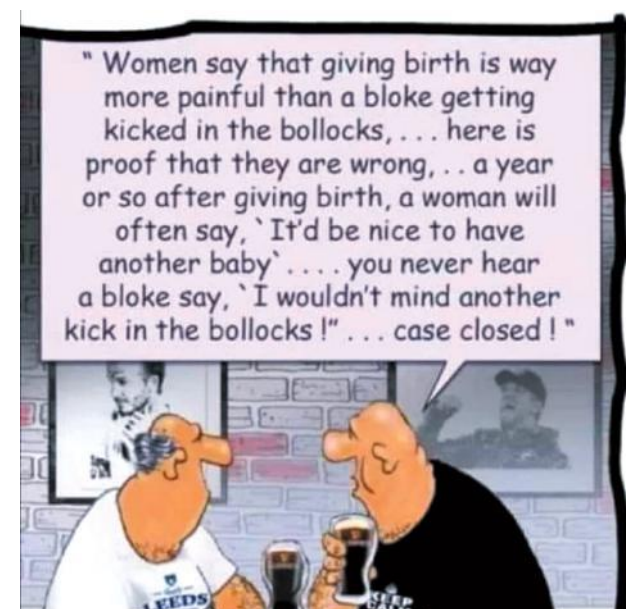
Her share of the lottery winnings...

That night, the wife asks her husband to run her a nice warm bath while. She gets undressed.

When she enters the bathroom, she finds that there is barely enough water in the bath to cover the bath plug.

"What the f... is this?" she asks her husband.

"Well," he replies, "We don't want to get your f.....g' lottery ticket wet, do we?"





Life's Lessons**The 6 Major Anti-Rules for Life Victory in 2023**

**I**'m not anti-many things. I do my best to live peacefully, to salute the gifts in others and to tread the earth with light footprints. Yet I do believe there are a number of things that we—if we're sincerely interested in a life of success and soulfulness—should fiercely resist. And protest.

Please allow me to share 6 of the primary ones:

1. **Be Anti-Average.** Who wants to follow the herd when it will only lead you off a cliff. Stand for higher standards than the crowd chooses. Abide by the wisest values (including honesty, courage, patience, understanding, mastery and kindness). Select activities that fuel your joy and accelerate your growth. Push work that is masterful. Exemplify possibility.

2. **Be Anti-Superficial.** What an era we inhabit! 10 second videos of people dancing are consumed by millions yet too many of the heroic books remain unread by most. Be a contrarian. Go deep versus really wide. Have rich conversations. Think interesting thoughts.

Apply rigour and excellence and carefulness to all that you do. Be a heavyweight in a culture gone ultra-light.

3. **Be Anti-Cynical.** Dreams get done every day. Human beings have a gigantic capacity to accomplish the extraordinary. And each day carries with it a window into awe and wonder, if we choose to open it. So, avoid the cynicism that too many good souls have allowed to cloud their sensibility to life's wonderful beauty.

4. **Be Anti-Injustice.** Life's too short to tolerate any form of mistreatment and disrespect in your orbit. If you see someone being hurt, step up. And definitely don't allow anyone to dishonour the magic that is you. You are special and essential and important to the world. Own it.

5. **Be Anti-Interruption.** It's become ever so easy to spend our limited days on earth in useless toil versus majestic flow. We are in a war: against distraction and trivial invasion. Turn off your devices for at least a few hours each day and for a full day each week. Work in quietude, on a big problem that will revolutionize the lives of those you serve. And live with greater silence, serenity and presence.

6. **Be Anti-Fear.** I want you—in 2023—to become super brave. Beginning today, I wish that you'd start doing more of the things you fear. Each time you do, you take back the power that you gave to it. And grow more fearless. This is a practice. So, the more you train on leaning into what terrifies you the better you'll get at it.

**Robin Sharma**

Humanitarian & Leadership Missionary

Life's Lessons**Secret of Winners**

In the jungle:

1. The Elephant is the biggest.
2. The Giraffe is the tallest.
3. The Fox is the wisest; and
4. The Cheetah is the fastest.

Yet, the Lion is the KING of the jungle even without ANY of these qualities.

Why?

Because:

1. The Lion is courageous, is bold, walks with confidence, dares anything and is never afraid.
2. The Lion believes it is unstoppable.

3. The Lion is a risk taker.

4. The Lion believes any animal is food for him.

5. The Lion believes any opportunity is worth giving a trial and never lets it slip from its hands.

So...

1. You don't need to be the fastest.

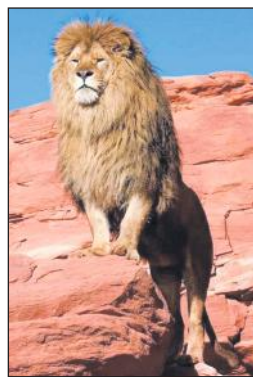
2. You don't need to be the wisest.

3. You don't need to be the smartest.

4. You don't need to be the most brilliant.

5. All you need is courage

6. All you need is the will to try.



7. All you need is the faith to believe it is possible.

8. All you need is to believe in yourself, that you can do it.

The Lion sleeps for 20 hours & works for 4 hours & yet eats meat.

But the elephant works for 24 hours and eats grass.

Your life's strategy matters most in your approach to circumstances and situations for you to be a champion or winner always.

Stay in the Lion's mood! That's the mood for winners.

*Author Unknown*

*HR Diary*

Life's Lessons**The secret of a successful woman**

**I** once asked a very successful woman to share her secret with me.

She smiled and said to me:

"I started succeeding when I started leaving small fights for small fighters.

I stopped fighting those who gossiped about me...

I stopped fighting with my in-laws...

I stopped fighting for attention...

I stopped fighting to meet people's expectations of me...

I stopped fighting for my rights with



inconsiderate people...

I stopped fighting to please everyone...

I stopped fighting to prove they were wrong about me...

I left such fights for those who have nothing else to fight...

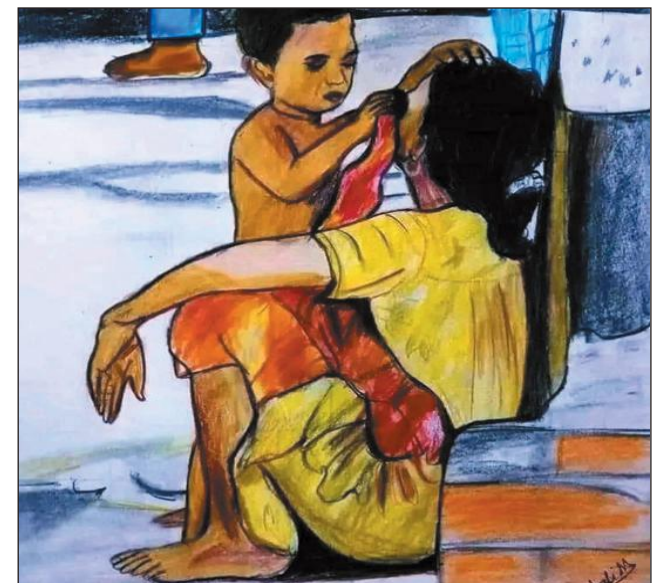
And I started fighting for my vision, my dreams, my ideas and my destiny.

The day I gave up on small fights is the day I started becoming successful and so much more content."

Some fights are not worth your time, choose what you fight for wisely.

*Author unknown*

*Artist: Pepper Tharp*

Thoughts to Live by**No person will love you like your mother will**

**T**he fate of a mother is to wait for her children.

You wait for them when you're pregnant.

You wait on them when they get out of school.

You wait on for them to get home after a night out.

You wait on them when they start their own lives.

You wait for them when they get home from work to come home to a nice dinner.

You wait for them with love, with anxiety and sometimes with anger that passes immediately when you see them, and you can hug them.

Make sure your old mom doesn't have to wait any longer.

Visit her, love her, hug the one who loved you like no one else ever will.

Don't make her wait, she's expecting this from you. Because the membranes get old, but the heart of a mother never gets old.

Love her as you can.

No person will love you like your mother will.

*Worthy Words*

**It's never too late to reinvent yourself.**

**Start a new career at 40.**

**Fall in love at 50.**

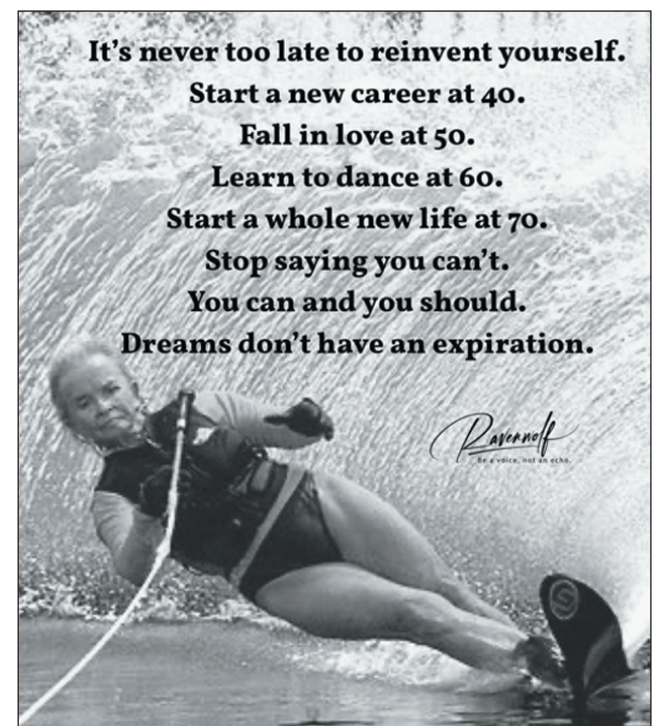
**Learn to dance at 60.**

**Start a whole new life at 70.**

**Stop saying you can't.**

**You can and you should.**

**Dreams don't have an expiration.**





Aging Tips

## Here's how to keep your mind young and sharp

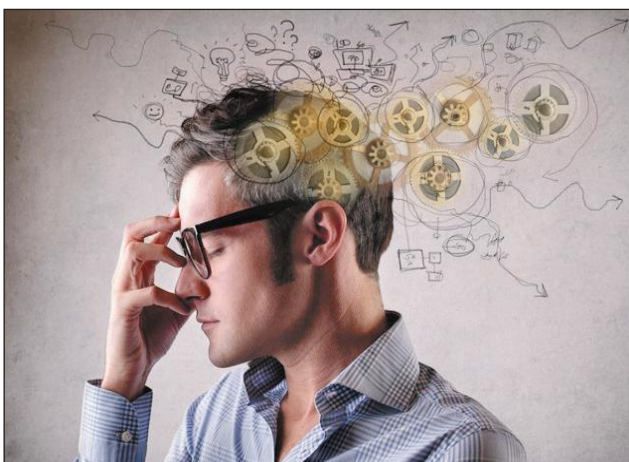
**Y**our brain gets a mental workout when you stream your favourite playlist. Not only can listening to music help you feel more alert, but it also can boost your memory and mood. One reason is that there's a math to music and how one note relates to the other. Your brain has to work to make sense of this structure. This is especially true for music you're hearing for the first time. More tips follow...

**Make time to make friends:** Getting to know new people boosts your brain's "executive function" as much as doing a crossword puzzle. Listening to someone else's point of view and trying to put yourself in their shoes pushes your brain to think in new ways.

**Laugh it off:** Stress can make your brain release a hormone called cortisol, which makes it hard to think clearly. Over time, high levels of stress can cause trouble with your learning and memory. A fun way to protect your brain is to have a good laugh. It can lower cortisol levels and help keep your brain healthy.

**Get outside:** Nature has a calming effect and can ease stress -- even if you're just looking out a window. When you spend time outdoors, you give your brain a rest from the constant flow of data and stimulus it gets throughout the day. This lets it reboot its ability to focus, so you may feel more creative and better able to solve problems.

**Ditch your routine:** There's nothing wrong with eating the same breakfast every day or driving the same route to work. Humans are creatures of habit. But it's good for your brain to try to mix things up. Even once a



week can help. A change in routine boosts your brain's ability to learn new info and hold onto it.

**Become a student again:** When you learn a new skill or subject, your brain makes new pathways between its many cells. You might try your hand at creative writing or a new hobby that interests you, like quilting or playing the guitar. If it seems hard at first, don't give up. The tougher it is for you to get the hang of it, the better for your brain.

**Focus on one thing at a time:** Just because you can text, watch TV, and check your social media feed at the same time doesn't mean it's good for you. When your brain is hit with several streams of info at once, it has to sift through it all. This makes it harder for you to focus, manage your memory, and switch from one thing to another. Go easy on your brain and give one thing your full attention at a time.

**Meditate:** Whether you say a mantra or just focus on breathing, meditation can help with high blood pressure or high cholesterol. (Both can raise your chances of Alzheimer's.) Studies show it also can boost your focus, memory, and ability to choose words, and it can make it

easier to switch from one thought to another. The reasons for this aren't clear, but one theory is that meditation gives your brain a break from concrete words and thoughts.

**Break a sweat:** Working out is as good for your brain as it is for your body. Exercise keeps your reasoning and thinking skills sharp because it ramps up the blood flow to your brain, along with certain chemicals that help protect it. Try to get moving every other day for at least 30 minutes.

**Give it a rest:** If you don't get enough sleep, even a simple task can take more mental effort than it would otherwise. You'll also find it much harder to focus, and you may notice gaps in your short-term memory. To stay fresh, aim for 7 to 9 hours of sleep each night.

**Watch what you eat:** The more calories you take in, the higher your chances of memory loss may be. The reason isn't clear-cut, but a greater BMI (body mass index) at middle age is linked to poor brain health later in life. Small changes, like switching from whole milk to skim, will help you cut down on calories. Your doctor or a dietician can help you with a plan that's right for you.

**Feed your brain:** Certain foods work hard to protect your brain. These include fruits, veggies, legumes, fish, and "good" fats like the ones in canola and olive oils. A daily cup of tea or coffee also can help your brain wake up. But watch the processed foods--which can wreak havoc on your blood sugar.

**Take care of your heart:** If your heart's in poor health, you're more likely to have learning and memory problems. Being overweight and not getting enough exercise can make your blood vessels narrow. This limits the amount of blood that flows to your brain, and your arteries may start to harden. High blood pressure is the biggest sign that your brain's health is at risk. If yours is high, talk with your doctor about how to control it.

MD - WebMD

Being Mum & Dad

## Parenting Resolutions You Can Keep in 2023

-- Amy McCready, Parenting Expert

**A** resolution that will impact your family for years to come. A resolution that will bring peace and joy into your home in ways you've never experienced. A resolution that will reconnect you with your children in a meaningful way. This isn't a resolution about doing MORE, but rather a resolution about doing BETTER -- both better for you and better for your children.

### 1. Rethink the way you spend time with your kids

Consider your day-in-day-out time with the kids. While we're physically WITH our kids, we're not always fully present in mind, body and soul. Because of that, we pay a price. If kids don't get some "fully present and engaged" time with us during the day, they will have their attention baskets filled one way or another -- whining, clinging, interrupting, fighting with siblings. Do any of those sound familiar?

All of these behaviours get your attention--albeit negative attention. You can turn those behaviours around by making a small tweak to the time you already spend with your kids. I'm talking kid-centered, intentional, and directly labelled time.

I'm suggesting you spend 10 intentional minutes, each day one-on-one, with each of your kids. By kid-centered, I mean your child is in control of the 10 minutes--they call the shots. Lego building? A tickle fight? Listening to their favourite music with your teen? Whatever the kid chooses, you oblige. (As long as it's an activity that can reasonably be accomplished in 10-15 minutes.) By giving your child the power during this time,



you help fill their power buckets in incredible ways.

By intentional, I mean no distractions -- put down your phone, don't answer that email, and turn off the show you're watching. Your child is the centre of your universe for these 10 minutes and it's critical you are fully present for your time with her.

### 2. Ensure your child gets enough sleep

Sleep matters...a lot. Kids would never admit it, but they need regular bedtimes and plenty of sleep to be at their best. These key components to a healthy and calm lifestyle.

The most effective way to get your kids more sleep is to keep bedtimes early and consistent throughout the week, without much more than a 15-minute difference on the weekends. If you give in to a late bedtime once, kids will think the hour on the clock is always up for negotiation.

### 3. Retool Routines

Once you've reset bedtimes, refresh your evening

routine so the not-so-fun stuff (brushing teeth, picking out an outfit for the next day) comes before the good stuff (reading with Mom or Dad until lights out at 8:30).

Start small by revamping one routine at a time. Once you have bedtimes streamlined, for instance, move on to mornings. Stick to the routine and soon your kids will take control of their own schedules with less pushback from them and no nagging from you.

### 4. Demonstrate the behaviour you want to see

Most parents don't know it -- or don't like to admit it -- but we do a lot of things that contribute to our kids' poor behaviour.

Like it or not, kids pay much more attention to what we DO rather than what we say.

When we command one thing and do another, we send the message that our rules are optional. By deleting these double standards, we'll get better behaviour from our kids.

### 5. Task every kid with a job (or two)

Remember last year when your kids never wanted to help out around the house? That doesn't mean your kids need to be exempt from taking on responsibilities at home.

In fact, kids of all ages thrive when they feel useful and needed, even if they simply empty trash cans and fold towels. What's more, when you divvy up the work, you'll feel less harried and better able to enjoy your family.

Studies show that the earlier you enlist your child's help, the less pushback you'll receive. First, start by assigning every kid a job. Then--and this part is critical--train each child thoroughly in any new skills.

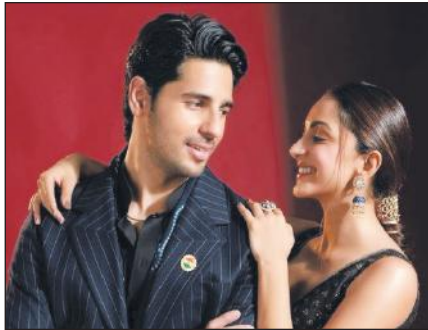
Amy McCready is the Founder of Positive Parenting Solutions®



## Kiara Advani - Sidharth Malhotra wedding to have a guest list of around 100, 80 rooms and 70 cars

ETimes was the first to report that Sidharth Malhotra will wed his girlfriend Kiara Advani in the first week of February and as the alleged date is almost here, more and more deets regarding the wedding are coming to the fore, reports the newspaper.

According to fresh reports, the wedding will be an intimate but grand affair, with a guest list of 100-125 people. This will include families of both Sidharth and Kiara, along with some close friends from the industry. Reportedly, celebs like Karan Johar, Manish Malhotra and Isha Ambani, who is Kiara's friend



from school, will attend the wedding.

In terms of wedding preps, around 80 rooms have been booked at a luxury palace in Jaisalmer. Around 70 cars, including the likes of Mercedes-Benz, Jaguar and BMW amongst others, have also been booked to ferry guests to and fro.

A source had earlier told ETimes, "Sidharth and Kiara are going to get married on February 6. Their pre-wedding functions will happen on February 4 and 5, where their guests and families will celebrate the customary, mehendi, haldi and Sangeet ceremonies. The wedding will take place on the 6th."

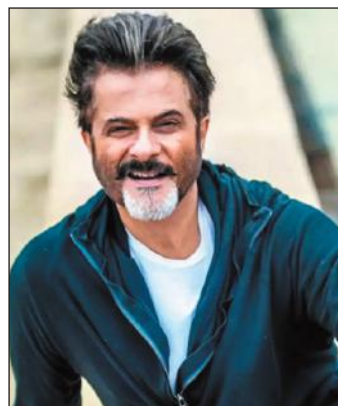
### Anil Kapoor on 4 decades in Bollywood

## 'One thing that hasn't changed is virtue of hard work'

Bollywood star Anil Kapoor has summed up his journey of over 40 years in Hindi cinema, where he has been feted with numerous awards and honours.

Anil took to Instagram, where he shared a string of photographs featuring his journey of four decades in Bollywood. The pictures show Anil winning multiple award during his run in the showbiz industry.

He captioned it: "In the 4 decades that I've been around, tides have changed, talent



has changed, tastes have changed and audiences certainly have changed... The one thing that hasn't changed is the virtue of hard work, persistence and conviction, and they are rewards enough.. But a few awards don't hurt."

The 66-year-old star, who has appeared in over 100 films in his career, established himself as a leading man with his roles in *Meri Jung*. He was later seen in blockbusters such as *Karma*, *Mr. India*, *Parinda*, *Tezaab*, *1942: A Love Story*, *Taal*, *Nayak*, *Welcome*, *Race*, *Dil Dhadakne Do*, *Malang* and *Jugjugg Jeeyo* to name a few.

He made his debut in international films with Danny Boyle's Academy Award-winning film *Slumdog Millionaire*.

Looking forward, Anil will next be seen in the upcoming action-thriller series *The Night Manager*, which also stars Aditya Roy Kapoor. He will also be seen in the film *Fighter* starring Hrithik Roshan and Deepika Padukone.

## 'RadhaKrishn' gone off-air since January 21

Sumedh Mudgalkar & Mallika

Singh: 'We had never imagined we would get so much love from fans'

Sumedh and Mallika Singh starrer *RadhaKrishn* has gone off-air since January 21 after enjoying a successful run of four years on Indian television. In an exclusive interview with ETimes TV, the lead actors of the show Krishna (Sumedh Mudgalkar) & Radha (Mallika Singh) spoke exclusively to ETimes TV about the mythological saga coming to an end, memories attached to the show and audiences' love for them.

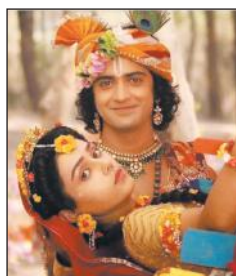
**'I feel blessed to be a part of the show'**

Sumedh: Our show *RadhaKrishn* was like a sun which was beautiful during the sunrise and is equally beautiful when it is now the time for sunset. Till the time it was on-air it gave us everything and brought

success in our lives. These last moments are very special and also the moments we spent during the scenes in all these years. All the spots on the sets have some unique memory and we will always cherish it. I feel blessed to be a part of the show and I know how big this opportunity has been for me. I don't anything better than *RadhaKrishn* can ever happen or come to my life.

**'We have learnt a lot while working on the show'**

**Mallika:** The show started on a beautiful note and now it is ending on a beautiful note. A lot of hard work has gone into making this project. People loved the Krishna Gyaan but nobody can imagine the hard work that has gone into it. We have learnt a lot while working on the show and it is a huge deal for us that we are ending the show on a high point and on a beautiful note. There was a point in my life after I started playing Radha that I would understand and feel the emotions and that



is a huge deal for me.

'We can never pay off the love that we get from fans for *RadhaKrishn*'

**Mallika:** Fans often drop on the sets to meet us. There's a fan who has been coming on the sets for a long time and he recently got emotional as the show is ending. He was crying and shared with us that the show is everything for him and is a turning point in his life. Not only him, a lot of people have been saying this and it is a big thing for us as an artist. We can never pay off the love that we get from fans for *RadhaKrishn*. We can only work hard and try to keep everyone happy.

**Sumedh:** Fans tell me they want to continue watching me as Krishna and I tell them that we have to change with time. The best part is we don't have any regrets as we have given our 100 percent in all the situations and the icing on the cake was the love of fans. I had never imagined I would get so much love from fans.



## Pakistani actress Meera Jee to play Meena Kumari's role in the remake of 'Pakeezah'

Pakistani actress Meera Jee is all set to star in the Pakistani remake of Bollywood's classic movie, 'Pakeezah'. The actress will be seen reprising Meena Kumari's role in the film.

Confirming the same, the Pakistani actress told a news portal that she has been working on this project for the last 13 years. She revealed that the shooting will start from March, 2023. Meera added that the movie is produced by a US-based production house called Red Lipstick, and the casting is still under process, the actress told SAMAA Digital. Earlier, there were rumours that actor Mahira Khan will essay the lead role.

'Pakeezah' is unarguably one of the finest works of the late legendary Bollywood actress. The film was made by Kamal Amrohi, who began work on it in 1956 but put it on hold due to their misunderstandings in personal life. Both of them came together to complete the film in 1969 when Meena was severely ill. The actress reportedly died almost a month after its release in 1972.

According to Meghnad Desai's book 'Pakeezah', Meena charged just a token amount of Re 1 for her role in the film.

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# Mouni Roy on the success of 'Brahmastra' and her journey...

**'There are no set rules to live your life. You have to build your own life'**

**M**ouni Roy, who got a thunderous response for her character of Junoon in the most talked about film of the year, *Brahmastra* is grateful for the love and appreciation she received. The actress revealed that she was completely surprised to witness the reaction that she got for her role in the film. Mouni in an exclusive chat with ETimes TV, further opened up about her religious inclination, her journey in the industry from *Kyunki* to *Brahmastra* and married life with Suraj Nambiar.

**'I was rooting for 'Brahmastra' and for Ayaan'**

We all were praying that this film should do a good business and if it does well it will be for the entire industry. It was Ayaan's brainchild, his original story and vision. It was a very important film for me personally because I feel a man is daring to dream. He dared to do a film like this in our country and then there was a lockdown of two years, but he still continued and finally after 5 years the film was released. I was rooting for the film and for Ayaan.

**'Brahmastra will definitely be one of the milestones of my career'**

Everything good takes time. Of course, *Brahmastra* will definitely be one of the milestones of my career. What it has received me is an immense amount of love and respect from both the industry and the audience. Let's see now I don't think so much. Whatever is written will happen. I believe in the present and I believe the project I am working on has my full attention and dedication.

**'I feel there is no finishing line to the rat race'**

I come from a religiously inclined family so I've always attracted that kind of friend. It is very important what kind of people you are surrounded with. All my friends have been attending the Bhagavad Gita class for the last 3 and half years. We have just finished chapter 11. Every Saturday we do the class online.

We look at success with different perspectives. For me to be happy, to be at a stage where you can support yourself, your family if needed, give back to the society, it is enough. I feel there is no finishing line to the rat race. Always more is always less, what next is the feeling that doesn't go away. I am very clear that I want to be happy in my life, have inner peace.

**'I have seen a lot of successes and failures'**

My journey has been like a roller-coaster ride, it has been full of ups and downs. I have seen a lot of successes and failures. But one thing that I've understood is that your work gets you work. Never stop working, and don't be too choosy. Just keep working because the amount of learning you get on the sets while working, you can never learn that much by just sitting at home. Nothing is ever a failure, either it gives you success or teaches you



something.

**'On facing rejection in Bollywood for being a TV actor'**

Yes, I have faced a lot of it but I have never cared about it. It also has a lot to do with the kind of personality you are. My concentration is not on people who are trying to pull me down. My aim is to work, lead a good life. I have my set of five friends and I love to read, travel. This is my life. I believe life is what you make out of it and not what is handed over to you.

There are no set rules to live your life. You have to build your own life and I understood this a long time ago. I come from an academically inclined family and both my mom and dad told me a simple thing, be honest, keep working hard. The most important thing my father told me was that there is a great power in a power of negation. You have to know where you have to say no. My yes and no were very clear. I never take it to heart because that is their opinion. Everyone is entitled to give their opinion.

**'On married life with Suraj Nambair'**

I recommend marriage to everyone because I feel like suddenly you have a best friend, a sense of belonging, a person with whom you can share everything with. It is going amazing. I don't like to talk a lot about my personal life.



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## YOUR STARS

### Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

Your work might give you a strain. However, this is easily navigable with hard work and determination. Remind your team of the team spirit and make sure to communicate clearly with them for the best results. You might get to see stability in your love life. Remember to cherish your loved one and remind them of the good memories you share.

**Lucky Numbers: 3, 9, 12, 15, 21, 33**

### Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

Your professional prospects appear to be very promising. Your team might surprise you positively and help you reach your professional goals. If you have a meeting, it might go in your favour. Your romantic prospects appear to be stable. However, avoid talking about controversial topics with your partner.

**Lucky Numbers: 15, 16, 19, 24, 30, 33**

### Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

The professional prospects for Aquarius appear to be stable, but you'll be overburdened with work. Your relationship might be stable and free of strains. If you are planning on taking a couples trip, the coming week might be a good day week to voice it out and plan it.

**Lucky Numbers: 11, 12, 16, 19, 25, 23**

### Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

The professional prospects of Pisces appear to be stable. If you own a business, you might get to witness a stable flow of income. The love prospects of Pisces seem to be very promising. If you are planning on taking the relationship to the next level, you might want to do it next week.

**Lucky Numbers: 2, 16, 20, 24, 26, 30**

### Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

Take stock of your current obligations to avoid problems. Some disagreements with high-ups can disturb your schedule. A brief romantic encounter can leave you with many good memories. The time spent in each other's company will not only pave the way for a deeper understanding of one another.

**Lucky Numbers: 4, 7, 9, 12, 16, 30**

### Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

It would be best if you tried to keep cool under intense work pressure. If you give it your all, you might get lucky and have some things go your way, like getting noticed and paid more than you're worth for your efforts. Some youngsters may learn the hard way that real love is more than a passing fancy.

**Lucky Numbers: 21, 23, 36, 37, 39, 40**

### Gemini: May 21 - June 20

You may encounter success in your profession with your bold character, sincere devotion, and hardworking mindset. You may find stability and an opportunity to prove yourself if you are already employed. A single Gemini can reconnect with a former flame they haven't seen in years.

**Lucky Numbers: 4, 11, 14, 19, 20, 23**

### Cancer: June 21 - July 22

Lack of teamwork among Cancers' co-workers and superiors could be a source of extra tension in the workplace. Having open lines of dialogue and setting reasonable goals with them will be essential. Now is the time for Cancers to put your romantic plans into action. In a relationship, you may feel a surge of excitement and desire for one another.

**Lucky Numbers: 7, 11, 13, 17, 20, 30**

### Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

Don't try to cut corners at work; if you want to get somewhere, you must put in the time and effort required to succeed. Innovative ideas give you a leg up on the competition. In the company of a true romantic friend, you and your partner may finally have a good conversation after a long time, deepening your friendship even further.

**Lucky Numbers: 1, 13, 18, 20, 23, 36**

### Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

Harness your ability to think outside the box. Try to surround yourself with competent people who can help you achieve it. Now is the time to be honest with your significant other about how you feel. Committed Virgo partners may share the same deep feelings of connection and emotional compatibility.

**Lucky Numbers: 8, 10, 17, 19, 20, 30**

### Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

The day might feel ideal, and you might not feel the burden of work this week. today. Appreciate your team and work closely with them, as they might be the key to success. You might be in luck when it comes to asking out your crush. Your partner might surprise you with a two-person bonding activity, like a dinner, movie, etc.

**Lucky Numbers: 5, 7, 15, 18, 23, 30**

### Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

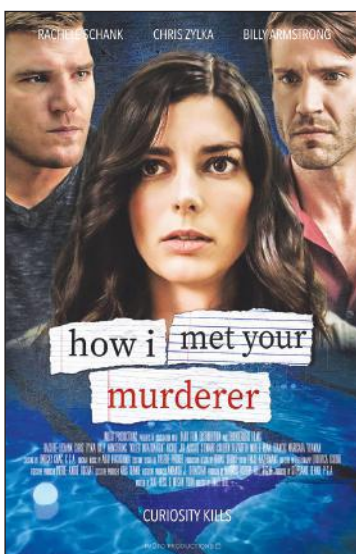
Invest your effort and expertise to complete an important job on time. Achieving professional success will help boost your prospects and earn you recognition. If a Scorpio is in a committed relationship, they are more likely to feel a strong sense of connection to their beloved. Loving couples may tell their families about their relationship and seek their blessings.

**Lucky Numbers: 20, 21, 24, 29, 30, 33**

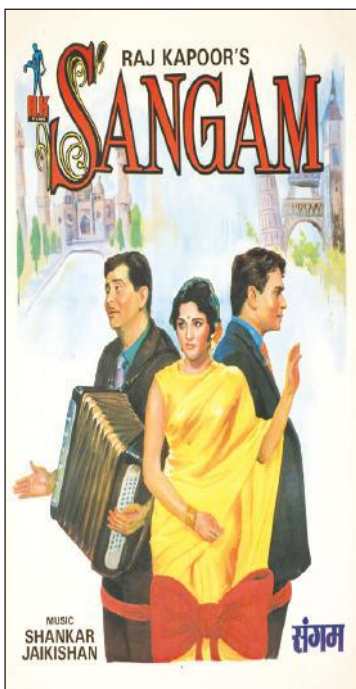




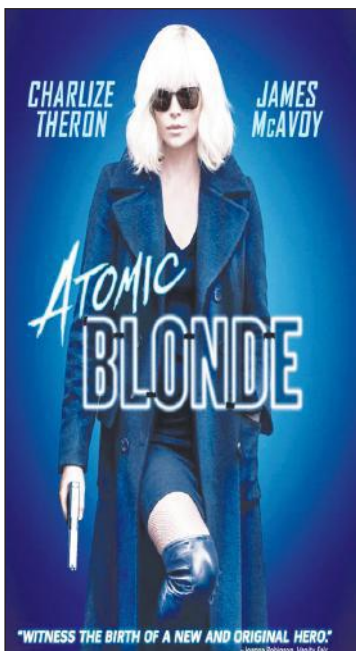
Vendredi 3 février - 21.15



Samedi 4 février - 21.00



Dimanche 5 février - 21.52



# Programme TV



vendredi 3 février

## MBC 1

07.15 Local: Les Grandes Lignes  
08.00 Local: Profil  
08.45 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer..  
11.00 Doc: World Capitals  
11.10 Tele: Rubi  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.40 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.25 Local: MBC Production  
14.35 D.Anime: Briko  
15.21 D.Anime: Pet Alien  
15.34 D.Anime: Darwin And Newts  
16.19 D.Anime: Kids Songs  
17.04 D.Anime: Fast And Furious  
17.28 Serial: Backstage  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.31 Serial: Surya Puran  
18.55 Serial: Jag Jaanani Maa...  
19.30 Journal & La Meteo  
20.25 Local: Les Grands Noms...  
21.45 Serial: Rookie Blue  
23.00 Le Journal

## MBC 2

07.00 DDI Live  
10.00 Serial: Wafa Lazim To Nahin  
11.11 Serial: Pyar Ke Sadqay  
12.02 Film: Bheeshma  
13.57 Mag: DDI Mag  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.22 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi  
15.45 Serial: Bommarillu  
16.04 Serial: Sondha Bandham  
16.27 Serial: Ishq Zahe Naseeb  
16.44 Serial: Saaton Vachanwa...  
17.11 Serial: Bhakharwadi  
17.30 Serial: Ishaaron Ishaaron...  
18.01 Serial: Oh! My Sweet Liar!  
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
20.00 Serial: Mushk  
20.44 Local: Anjuman  
21.09 Local: Urdu Programme -  
22.04 DDI Live

## MBC 3

07.00 Mag: Border Crossing  
07.51 Doc: Skuld, A Look Into...  
08.27 Doc: Nature's Keepers  
09.22 Doc: Les Grand Mythes  
11.51 Mag: Shift  
14.42 Doc: Saladeria  
15.19 Doc: Opaque Worlds  
16.48 Mag: Eco India  
17.14 Mag: Shift  
17.26 Mag: Border Crossing  
19.00 Student Support Prog...  
20.30 Live: News  
20.53 Doc: Hotels  
21.53 Mag: Sky Eye  
22.19 Doc: Once The Dust Settles  
23.04 Doc: Glacier Express  
23.47 Doc: Foodland  
23.50 Doc: A Bittersweet Deal  
01.14 Mag: Euromaxx  
01.40 Mag: Global Food  
02.35 Doc: Hotels

## Cine 12

01.17 Film: Crouching Tiger Hidden  
03.49 Film: Little Kingdom  
05.19 Tele: Tour De Babel  
06.15 Serial: Madam Secretary  
06.49 Film: Crouching Tiger Hidden  
08.45 Serial: Pure Genius  
09.30 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
10.21 Tele: Fierce Angel  
11.00 Serial: Anomalia  
11.46 Film: Extortion  
13.31 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.45 Film: Crouching Tiger Hidden  
16.35 Serial: Pure Genius  
17.15 Serial: Madam Secretary  
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel  
19.34 Serial: Hank Zipzer The World  
20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Serial: F.B.I  
21.20 Film: How I Met Your Murder  
Avec Rachele Schank Chris

## Bollywood TV

07.07 Film: Nachnewala  
Gaanewale  
Starring: heeba Agarwal,  
Saathi Ganguly, Shahbaaz...  
11.46 / 20.30 - Radha Krishna  
12.17 / 21.00 - Anupamaa  
12.47 / 21.30 - Mere Sai  
13.19 / 22.00 - Kismat Ki Lakiron  
13.47 / 22.03 - Yeh Teri Galiyan  
14.17 / 22.30 - Patiala Babes  
14.25 / 23.00 - 100 Years Of  
Indian Cinema  
14.53 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.23 Film: Sharmaji Ki Lag Gai  
Starring: Mugdha Godse,  
Brijendra Kala, Krishna  
Abhishek  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Kundali Bhagya  
19.00 Udaariyaan  
19.28 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke...

samedi 4 février

06.00 D.Anime: Akili And Me  
06.49 D.Anime: Gon  
09.40 Serial: Monster Hunt  
10.00 Local: Zafan Nou Zil  
10.38 Mag: Sand Tales  
10.57 Doc: World Capitals  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Local: Les Grands Noms...  
12.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.40 Local: Sur Prise  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.21 D.Anime: Pet Alien  
15.32 D.Anime: Darwin And Newts  
16.18 Film: Holiday Joy  
18.00 Samachar  
18.30 Enter: Taare Zameen  
19.30 Journal & La Meteo  
20.25 Local: MBC Production  
21.25 Film: Stan The Man  
With Steven ChaseAnne  
Leighton  
23.00 Local: Le Journal

07.00 Film: Ahsaas  
Starring Shammii Kapoor, Shashi  
Kapoor, Simi Garewal  
09.55 Bade Acche Lagte Hai  
10.47 Serial: Dikri Vahalno Dariyo  
11.28 Serial: The Demi-Gods And...  
11.56 Serial: Nanda Saukhya Bhare  
12.19 Serial: Mooga Manasulu  
12.43 Serial: High School  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.25 Film: Yeh Majhdhaar  
Stars: Salman Khan, Manisha  
Koirala, Rahul Roy  
17.45 Mag: DDI Mag  
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
20.00 Serial: Vikram Betaal Ki  
Rahasya Gatha  
20.30 Serial: Porus  
21.00 Film: Sangam  
Starring Raj Kapoor, Vyjayantimala,  
Rajendra Kumar

06.00 Foodland: Veggie Feasts  
06.45 Mag: World Stories  
06.57 Mag: Our Vocies  
07.31 Mag: Euromaxx  
07.56 Doc: Global Food  
09.46 Mag: Saladeria  
10.22 Doc: Once The Dust Settles  
12.58 Mag: Our Voices  
13.25 Mag: Euromaxx  
17.30 Mag: Sky Eye  
18.08 Doc: World Capitals  
18.24 Mag: In Good Shape  
19.30 Mag: Check In  
20.30 Local: News (English)  
20.50 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
20.50 Doc: Albatros Et Gorfou...  
21.48 Doc: Skuld  
22.08 Doc: Hiss Boom Bang!  
23.22 Doc: What Did The Big...  
00.05 Doc: World Capitals  
00.34 Doc: Smoothie Mania

01.17 Film: How I Met Your  
Murderer  
02.50 Serial: The Baker And The...  
03.30 Serial: Blacklist  
04.12 Serial: Rich Man, Poor Man  
05.00 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana  
06.20 Serial: F.B.I  
07.02 Serial: Riviera  
08.30 Serial: Madam Secretary  
09.11 Serial: Blacklist  
10.45 Film: Stormboy  
12.31 The Baker And The Beauty  
13.30 Serial: Scorpion  
14.55 Tele: Missing Bride  
16.24 Serial: F.B.I  
17.06 Film: Hero Mode  
18.50 Serial: Kojak  
19.35 Serial: Hank Zipzer The...  
20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Series: F.B.I  
21.15 Film: Lost And Found  
22.45 Tele: Rubi

04.04 Radha Krishna  
04.35 Anupamaa  
05.04 Mere Sai  
05.32 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
06.00 Yeh Teri Galiyan  
06.33 Patiala Babes  
08.00 Yeh Teri Galiyan  
10.00 Kalari Kids  
10.13 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
12.00 Serial: Udaariyaan  
14.04 Serial: Anupamaa  
16.15 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...  
18.00 Samachar  
18.30 Film: Mere Do Anmol  
Ratan  
Starring: Arshad Warsi  
and Namrata Shirodkar  
21.15 Kalari Kids  
21.28 Porus  
21.49 Naagin Season 4  
22.34 Yeh Teri Galiyan

dimanche 5 février

06.00 D.Anime: Akili And Me  
07.09 D.Anime: Gon  
07.27 D.Anime: Sissi  
09.40 Serial: Monster Hunt  
10.00 Local: Zafan Nou Zil  
11.00 Local: Nu Rasinn  
11.55 Local: Autour Des Valeurs...  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.40 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.05 Local Prod: Elle  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.21 D.Anime: Pet Alien  
15.55 D.Anime: Sabrina  
16.17 D.Anime: All Hail King Julien  
17.14 D.Anime: Panda Fanfare  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Local: Yeh Shaam Mastani  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.30 Local Production: Les Klips  
21.25 Film: Atomic Blonde  
23.15 Le Journal

07.00 Film: Bad Aur Badnam  
11.03 Serial: Azhagu  
11.20 Jag Jaanani Maa  
Vaishnodevi  
11.39 Serial: Surya Puran  
12.06 Film: Angezi Medium  
15.00 Samachar  
15.20 Mooga Manasulu  
15.42 Serial: He Mann Baware  
16.04 Serial: Sondha Bandham  
Starring: Bharathi, Badekilla,  
Pradeep, Naresh Eswar  
16.30 Local: Yaadein  
17.03 Serial: Siya Ke Ram  
17.48 Serial: Chacha Bhatija  
18.30 Local: Tipa Tipa Nu Avanser  
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
20.05 Serial: Porus  
21.15 Serial: Crime Patrol  
22.02 Serial: Naagin Season 3

06.00 Doc: Snapshots  
07.06 Mag: The 77 Percent  
07.25 Mag: Check In  
09.15 Doc: Skuld  
10.52 Doc: What Did The Big Bang  
12.41 Mag: Salad Area  
12.44 Mag: The 77 Percent  
13.10 Mag: Check In  
13.40 Doc: Volcano Stories  
14.06 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
15.03 Doc: Skuld  
15.48 Doc: Secret Weapon  
17.22 Mag: Check In  
18.17 Doc: Smoothie Mania  
19.06 Mag: Salad Area  
19.37 Doc: Japan From Above  
20.30 Live: News (English)  
20.50 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
21.49 Doc: Innovation On Board  
22.15 Doc: Argentina  
23.35 Doc: World Capitals

01.09 Film: Lost And Found  
02.36 Serial: Imposters  
03.19 Film: Stan The Man  
04.49 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana  
05.59 Serial: F.B.I  
06.43 Film: Memories Of War  
08.33 Serial: Madam Secretary  
09.11 Film: Lost And Found  
10.00 Film: Hero Mode  
12.15 Serial: Imposters  
13.30 Serial: Anomalia  
15.35 Tele: Missing Bride  
17.00 Serial: F.B.I  
17.45 Serial: Imposters  
18.30 Serial: L'incroyable Hulk  
19.36 Serial: Hank Zipzer...  
20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Serial: New Amsterdam  
21.15 Serial: Suits  
22.00 Film: Outlawed  
23.34 Tele: Rubi

00.00 Serial: Sasural Simar Ka 2  
01.56 Udaariyaan  
03.50 Anupamaa  
06.00 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...  
08.00 Kalari Kids  
08.14 Main Maike Chali Jaungi...  
10.01 Kundali Bhagya  
12.01 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
14.00 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
16.08 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
17.33 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Film: Shakalaka Boom...  
Starring: Bobby Deol,  
Upen Patel, Kangana  
Ranaut, Celina Jaitley  
20.47 Naagin Season 4  
21.30 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
23.19 Main Maike Chali Jaungi  
Tum Dekhte Rahiyo  
01.10 Kundali Bhagya  
03.09 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se

lundi 6 février

06.00 Local: Zafan Nou Zil  
07.00 Local: Nu Rasinn  
07.55 MBC Production  
09.00 Doc: The History Of Green...  
11.00 Doc: World Capitals  
11.10 Tele: Rubi  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.30 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.17 Local: Nu Rasinn  
14.35 D.Anime: Briko  
15.35 D.Anime: Darwin And Newts  
17.35 Serial: Backstage  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Serial: Mere Sai  
18.55 Serial: Jag Jaanani Maa  
Vaishnodevi  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.25 MBC Production  
21.15 Local: Agir Ensemble  
21.40 Serial: Rich Man, Poor Man  
Avec: Nick Nolte, Peter Strauss

07.00 DDI Live  
10.00 Kundali Bhagya  
12.06 Film: Ghar  
Starring Vinod Mehra, Rekha  
15.00 Samachar  
15.20 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi  
15.47 Serial: Bommarillu  
16.02 Serial: Sondha Bandham  
16.26 Serial: Ishq Zahe Naseeb  
16.48 Serial: Saaton Vachanwa...  
17.08 Serial: Bhakharwadi  
17.30 Serial: Vandhal Sridevi  
18.00 Serial: Oh! My Sweet Liar!  
18.30 Mag: DDI Mag  
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
20.00 Programme In Telugu  
20.30 Film: Thikka  
22.43 DDI Live

07.00 Mag: Salad Area  
07.55 Doc: Japan From Above  
08.55 Doc: Gustave Eiffel's  
09.47 Doc: Innovation On Board  
12.02 Mag: Smoothie Mania  
14.29 Doc: Gustave Eiffel's  
15.25 Doc: Innovation On Board  
16.29 Doc: The Côte D'Azur  
18.00 Mag: Eco@Africa  
19.00 Student Support Prog...  
19.33 Mag: In Good Shape  
20.50 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
20.53 Doc: Nos Cinq Sens  
22.06 Mag: Tomorrow Today  
22.32 Doc: Smoothie Mania  
23.00 Doc: Push  
23.46 Doc: Foodland  
23.49 Mag: Eco@Africa  
00.15 Mag: The 77 Percent  
00.47 Serial: Africa 54  
01.15 Mag: In Good Shape

02.04 Film: Outlawed  
03.52 Serial: Anomalia  
04.34 Film: Le Secret Du Grand...  
05.50 Tele: Tour De Babel  
06.38 Serial: New Amsterdam  
08.02 Film: Dark Beginnings Of...  
09.30 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
09.56 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
10.20 Tele: Fierce Angel  
11.00 Serial: Anomalia  
11.46 Film: Wolves  
13.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.51 Film: Dark Beginnings of...  
16.40 Serial: New Amsterdam  
17.21 Serial: Suits  
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel  
19.39 Serial: Malory Towers  
20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Serial: Riviera  
21.15 Film: The Marine 5

08.00 Taare Zameen Par  
11.30 / 20.30 - Radha Krishna  
12.00 / 21.00 - Anupamaa  
12.30 / 21.30 - Mere Sai  
13.00 / 22.00 - Kismat Ki Lakiron  
13.30 / 22.03 - Yeh Teri Galiyan  
13.59 / 22.30 - Patiala Babes  
14.30 / 23.00 - 100 Years Of  
Indian Cinema  
15.00 / 21.46 -  
Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.27 Film: Baaghi  
Starring: Salman Khan,  
Nagma, Kiran Kumar  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Kundali Bhagya  
19.00 Udaariyaan  
19.31 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...  
20.01 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
20.30 Radha Krishna  
21.06 Anupamaa



**mbc-1**  
Mardi 7 février - 21.10**mbc-1**  
Mercredi 8 février - 21.15**CINE 12**  
Jeudi 9 février - 21.15

# Programme TV

**SERIAL**

mardi 7 février

**MBC 1**

07.26 Local: Rodrig Prog  
09.00 Doc: About Time  
10.15 Morisien Konn Ou La Sante  
11.10 Tele: Rubi  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Local: Les Grands Noms...  
12.30 Tele: Fierce Angel  
14.07 Local: Les Grands Noms...  
14.35 D.Anime: Briko  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.20 D.Anime: Pet Alien  
15.56 D.Anime: Sabrina  
17.30 Serial: Backstage  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
18.55 Local Prod: MBC  
19.30 Journal & La Meteo  
20.20 Local: Priorite Sante  
22.15 Film: Borrowed Time  
With: Eric Roberts, Louis

**MBC 2**

07.00 DDI Live  
10.00 Serial: CID  
10.50 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
12.00 Film: Fakira  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.20 Saare Tujhyachsathi  
15.43 Bommarillu  
16.04 Sondha Bandham  
16.24 Serial: Ishq Zahe Naseeb  
16.42 Serial: Saaton Vachanewa...  
17.13 Bhakharwadi  
17.35 Serial: Premabhishekam  
18.00 Serial: Oh! My Sweet Liar!  
18.30 Local: DDI Magazine  
19.00 Zournal Kreol  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
20.06 Local: Tamil Programme  
20.30 Film: Tuls  
Starring: Sachin Sadhana, Singhinder Thakur

**MBC 3**

06.00 Mag: Eco@Africa  
07.32 Mag: In Good Shape  
08.54 Doc: Destination  
09.11 Mag: Tomorrow Today  
11.22 Mag: Eco@Africa  
14.28 Mag: Tomorrow Today  
14.54 Mag: Washington Forum  
16.33 Mag: Eco@Africa  
18.00 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto...  
18.50 Doc: World Heritage  
19.31 Mag: Check In  
20.02 Doc: La Route De La Soie  
20.30 Live: News  
20.50 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
21.28 Mag: Euromaxx  
21.54 Mag: Close Up  
22.23 Local: Rodrig-Klip Seleksion  
23.50 Mag: The Global Auto...  
00.16 Mag: Healthy Living  
01.17 Mag: Check In  
01.43 Doc: La Route De La Soie

**Cine 12**

01.17 Film: The Marine 5  
02.44 Serial: Anomalia  
03.44 Film: The Killer Downstairs  
05.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
06.18 Serial: Riviera  
06.52 Film: 119 Jours  
08.45 Serial: Pure Genius  
09.30 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
10.20 Tele: Fierce Angel  
11.00 Serial: Anomalia  
12.00 Film: The Killer Downstairs  
13.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.45 Film: 119 Jours  
16.40 Serial: Pure Genius  
17.20 Serial: Riviera  
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel  
19.37 Serial: Malory Towers  
20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Seiral: Riviera  
21.15 Film: The Dark Beginnings...

**Bollywood TV**

07.15 Film: Baaghi  
11.30 / 20.29 - Radha Krishna  
12.01 / 20.57 - Anupamaa  
12.29 / 21.27 - Mere Sai  
13.01 / 22.07 -  
Kismet Ki Lakiron Se  
13.36 / 22.37 - Yeh Teri Galiyan  
13.59 / 23.07 - Patiala Babes  
14.25 / 21.59 - 100 Years Of Indian Cinema  
15.00 / 22.25 -  
Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.26 Film: Raghuv  
Starring Suniel Shetty, Shilpa Shirodkar, Suresh Oberoi  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Kundali Bhagya  
19.03 Udaariyaan  
19.33 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise  
20.06 Sasural Simar Ka 2

mercredi 8 février

07.00 Local Prod: Profil  
07.40 Local: Priorite Sante  
08.00 Local Prod: Rodrig  
09.30 Local: Tous Egaux  
10.05 Local: La Societe  
11.35 Tele: Rubi  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Local: Autour Des Valeurs...  
12.30 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.20 Local: Les Klips  
14.07 Local: Priorite Sante  
14.37 D.Anime: Briko  
14.44 D.Anime: Cat & Keet  
15.54 D.Anime: Harvey Girls For...  
17.30 Serial: Backstage  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Other: Radha Krishna  
19.00 Local: Planet Bollywood  
19.30 Journal & La Meteo  
20.30 MBC Production  
21.25 Morisien Konn Ou La Sante  
22.20 Film: Chatter

07.00 DDI Live  
10.00 Suhani Si Ek Ladki  
12.00 Film: Be-Reham  
14.30 DDI Magazine  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.23 Saare Tujhyachsathi  
15.49 Bommarillu  
16.15 Sondha Bandham  
16.26 Serial: Ishq Zahe Naseeb  
16.53 Saaton Vachanwa Saath...  
17.18 Bhakharwadi  
17.31 Serial: Kulvadhu  
18.00 Serial: Oh! My Sweet Liar!  
18.30 Local: DDI Magazine  
19.00 Zournal Kreol  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
19.59 Programme In Marathi  
20.26 Chinese Local Prod  
20.52 Film: Chinese Film  
22.52 DDI Live

06.00 Mag: Rev: Global Auto...  
06.29 Mag: Healthy Living  
07.31 Mag: Check In  
08.00 Doc: La Route De La Soie  
09.00 Mag: Euromaxx  
10.36 Doc: Europe Revealed  
17.26 Mag: Vous et Nous  
17.56 Mag: Motorweek  
18.26 Mag: Vous Et Nous  
19.00 Student Support Prog...  
19.30 Mag: The Inside Story  
20.30 Local: News (English)  
20.50 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
21.38 Mag: Saladeria  
22.25 Mag: Business Africa  
22.51 Doc: Smoothie Mania  
00.05 Mag: Motorweek  
00.31 Mag: Vous Et Nous  
01.05 Mag: Arts.21  
01.31 Mag: The Inside Story  
02.23 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures

01.27 Film: Borrowed Time  
03.16 Serial: Anomalia  
03.58 Film: The Dark Beginnings...  
05.15 Tele: Tour De Babel  
06.11 Serial: Riviera  
06.53 Film: Borrowed Time  
08.45 L'Incroyable Hulk  
10.22 Tele: Fierce Angel  
11.05 Serial: Anomalia  
12.05 Film: The Dark Beginnings...  
13.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.36 Film: Borrowed Time  
16.33 L'Incroyable Hulk  
17.15 Serial: Riviera  
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel  
19.37 Serial: Malory Towers  
20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Seiral: Madam Secretary  
21.15 Film: How I Met Your Murderer

07.08 Film: Raghuv  
Starring: Suniel Shetty, Shilpa Shirodkar, Suresh Oberoi  
11.35 / 20.06 - Radha Krishna  
12.00 / 20.26 - Anupamaa  
12.29 / 20.02 - Mere Sai  
13.02 / 20.46 -  
Kismet Ki Lakiron Se  
13.37 / 21.09 - Yeh Teri Galiyan  
14.00 / 21.50 - Patiala Babes  
14.25 / 22.15 - 100 Years Of Indian Cinema  
15.30 Film: Zamane Se Kya Darna  
Starring: Sanjay Dutt, Raveena Tandon, Alok Nath  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Kundali Bhagya  
19.00 Udaariyaan  
19.30 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...  
20.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
20.30 Radha Krishna

jeudi 9 février

06.00 Local: Rodrig - Klip Seleksion  
07.00 Local: Rodrig Prog  
07.40 Local: Ero Deryer Rido  
08.10 Local Prod: Elle  
09.55 Doc: Son Ladan Mem  
11.04 Doc: World Capitals  
11.10 Tele: Rubi  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.30 Tele: Fierce Angel  
14.35 D.Anime: Briko  
14.46 D.Anime: Cat & Keet  
15.21 D.Anime: Pet Alien  
15.32 D.Anime: Darwin And Newts  
16.06 D. Anime: All Hail King Julien  
17.25 Serial: Backstage  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
18.56 Local: Tirth Yatra  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.30 Film: Gully Boy  
With: Ranveer Singh, Alia Bhatt, Siddhant Chaturvedi

07.00 DDI Live  
09.58 Serial: Agniphe  
12.00 Film: Gunahon Ka Devta  
14.24 Mag: DDI Mag  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.22 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi  
15.45 Serial: Bommarillu  
16.02 Serial: Sondha Bandham  
16.26 Serial: Ishq Zahe Naseeb  
16.41 Serial: Saaton Vachanwa Saath Nibhaib Sajna  
17.09 Bhakharwadi  
17.35 Local: Amrit Vaani  
17.45 Local: Bhajan Sandhya  
18.00 Serial: Oh! My Sweet Liar!  
18.30 Mag: DDI Mag  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
20.04 Local: Les Grandes Lignes  
20.59 Film: Stan The Man  
With: Steven Chase, Anne Leighton

06.00 Mag: Motorweek  
06.24 Mag: Vous Et Nous  
06.57 Mag: Arts.21  
07.55 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
11.29 Mag: Motorweek  
12.09 Local: Vous Et Nous  
12.37 Doc: World Heritage  
13.38 Doc: Planet Home  
15.38 Doc: Smoothie Mania  
16.53 Mag: Motorweek  
18.00 Mag: Eco India  
18.26 Mag: Carnet De Sante  
19.30 Mag: Tomorrow Today  
20.01 Doc: Skuld, A Look Into...  
20.30 Local: News (English)  
20.53 Doc: Guardians Of Nature  
21.48 Mag: Saladeria  
22.17 Doc: Smoothie Mania  
23.00 Doc: The North Drift  
23.50 Doc: Eco India  
00.16 Mag: Shift

01.16 La Blessure D'une Femme  
02.44 Serial: Anomalia  
03.26 Film: How I Met Your Murr...  
05.12 Tele: Tour De Babel  
06.00 Serial: Madam Secretary  
06.57 Film: La Blessure D'une...  
08.45 Serial: Pure Genius  
09.30 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
10.19 Tele: Fierce Angel  
11.56 Film: How I Met Your Murr...  
13.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.51 Film: La Blessure D'une...  
16.25 Mag: Top 100 Famous...  
16.40 Serial: Pure Genius  
17.15 Serial: Madam Secretary  
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel  
19.36 Serial: Malory Towers  
20.05 Tele: L'envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Serial: Madam Secretary  
21.15 Serial: Kojak

07.00 Film: Zamane Se Kya Darna  
11.46 / 20.26 - Radha Krishna  
12.17 / 21.01 - Anupamaa  
12.47 / 21.31 - Mere Sai  
13.19 / 21.56 -  
Kismet Ki Lakiron Se  
13.46 / 22.20 - Yeh Teri Galiyan  
14.15 / 22.52 - Patiala Babes  
14.25 - Mag 100 Year Of Indian Cinema  
15.00 / 21.46 -  
Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.24 Film: Kasam  
Starring Sunny Deol, Naseeruddin Shah...  
18.00 Samachar  
18.30 Kundali Bhagya  
18.59 Udaariyaan  
19.31 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...  
20.01 Sasural Simar Ka 2



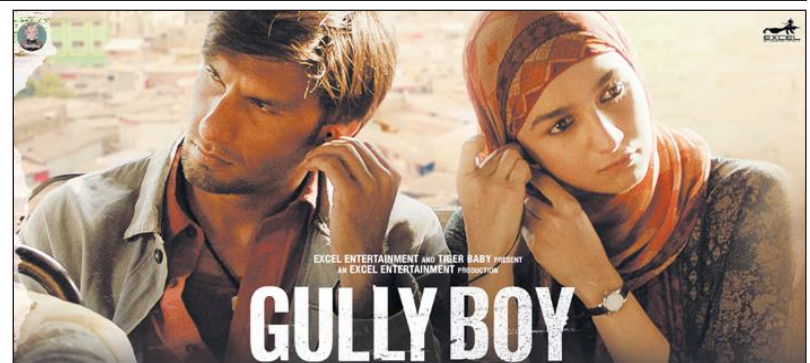
Jeudi 9 février - 15.30

Stars: Sunny Deol, Naseeruddin Shah, Chunky Pandey, Neelam Kothari



Jeudi 9 février - 20.30

Star: Ranveer Singh, Alia Bhatt, Siddhant Chaturvedithari





# Tyre Nichols: U.S. police violence stems from a long history of fighting 'internal enemies'

In the face of violent crime, both real and imagined, too many U.S. police forces adhere to racist philosophies about rooting out 'internal enemies' as they did hundreds of years ago.



**Jason Opal**  
Professor of History,  
McGill University

Many of the details surrounding the recent fatal police beating of Tyre Nichols in Memphis, Tenn., are still unknown or disputed. The rest may seem confusing.

Yet in many ways, all you need to know is how the encounter started: With Nichols expressing confusion as to why he had been stopped, and one officer replying that he would "knock your ass the fuck out."

In approaching Nichols as someone hostile — an enemy on a battlefield, rather than a member of the public — the police in this case brought nearly 400 years of American history to what was allegedly a routine traffic stop.

The first English authorities in the Americas sometimes imposed martial law over the early colonists, while the Puritans of New England added a range of Biblical laws to everyday life. By the mid-1600s, however, most North American colonists enjoyed the unequal protections of English law, which gradually became more equal for their descendants.

## Roots in Barbados

A different pattern emerged on Barbados, settled by the English in 1626 and by far the wealthiest of the colonies after its shift to sugar production in the 1640s. To plant, cut and boil the sugar canes, they imported more than 10,000 West African slaves that decade.

For the first time, an English overseas community held a large population of presumably "brutish" and "pagan" peoples as permanent captives.

The English assumed that the African slaves could never become part of the lawful population of Barbados. And so, in 1655, the island's governor decreed that all Black defendants were to be tried in special courts of "oyer and terminer" ("to hear and determine"), which were normally used only against the most extreme criminals, like witches or traitors.

The idea was formalized in a set of Barbados laws in 1661. Whereas every son and daughter "of the English nation" would henceforth enjoy due process of law, every Black slave was subject to new slave courts (akin to oyer and terminer) and slave patrols (groups of armed and mounted white people).

These laws spread word-for-word to the English colony of Jamaica in 1665, and from there to South Carolina in the 1690s and Virginia in 1705.

Racial slavery waxed and waned in North America over the next century and a half, shrinking during the revolutionary years of the 1770s and 1780s and then exploding with the rise of cotton in the early 1800s.

South of Pennsylvania, the core institutions of slave courts and slave patrols remained and indeed expanded in the early United States.

White authorities were very clear as to the rationale behind these courts and patrols: Black people were neither citizens (like white men) nor members of households (like white women and children). Rather, they were an "internal enemy," a hostile and alien element within the lawful community.

## Slavery's violence endured

Conservatives often point out that American slavery ended 158 years ago. That's true. It's also true that the

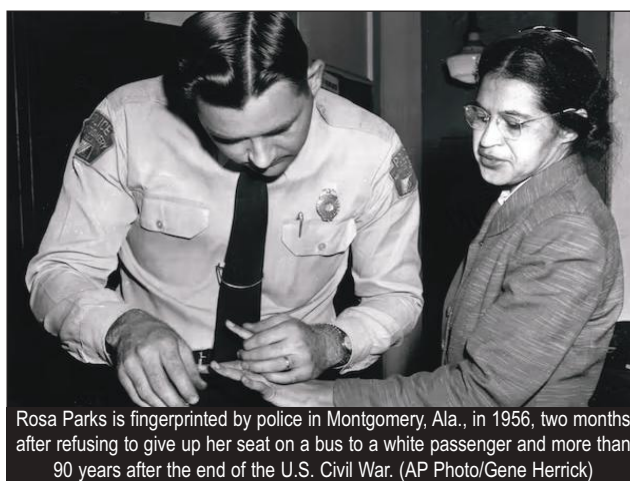


Demonstrators gather during a protest on Jan. 28, 2023, in Atlanta, over the death of Tyre Nichols, who died after being beaten by Memphis, Tenn., police. (AP Photo/Alex Slitz)

northern countryside of the 19th century was famous for not needing much of a police presence, because almost everyone in that democratic stronghold felt protected by and responsible to the law.

Yet it's equally true that slavery was a central feature of American life for more than 200 years. Some of its most violent practices endured long after the Civil War ended as white militias — reconstituted slave patrols — repressed freed peoples' rights to vote, go to school and hold property throughout the late 1800s and well into the 1900s.

In other words, during an era of European imperialism across Africa and Asia, the U.S. continued to hold a subordinate group captive within its borders. It was a kind of internal empire that also expanded its reach over North America in a series of "Indian wars" in the 1870s and 1880s.



Rosa Parks is fingerprinted by police in Montgomery, Ala., in 1956, two months after refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white passenger and more than 90 years after the end of the U.S. Civil War. (AP Photo/Gene Herrick)

"Next to other western democracies," notes the legal scholar Mugambi Jouet, "America has historically had a far bigger proportion of racial and ethnic minorities." Few of those minorities have fit easily within the constitutionally recognized community of "the people."

The significance of this simple fact cannot be overstated. American democratic principles of equality before the law came earlier to the U.S. than to Europe or Canada. Nonetheless, those principles grew alongside the raw violence of slavery and colonialism, requiring citizens — or the armed groups charged with protecting them — to hold captive the alienated victims of slavery

and colonialism who also lived inside the nation.

The result was a pattern of law enforcement that repeatedly adapted to the dizzying pace of change in America.

Even as modern police departments emerged in the late 1800s and early 1900s, for example, presumed criminals such as labour activists or "uppity" Blacks were regarded as existential threats to the lawful population. These sentiments fuelled violence by the U.S. National Guard, by hired thugs known as Pinkertons and by lynch mobs.

## Broken windows, bloody landscapes

The most recent echo of the pattern is the so-called "broken windows" philosophy of policing that emerged in the 1980s and 1990s.

The basic idea here is that fear of violent crime is itself cause for police intervention, requiring pro-active investigation of suspicious places, such as buildings with broken windows or of suspicious persons, often Black men.

In 2013, a federal judge ruled that New York City's "stop-and-frisk" policy, one of the most aggressive outgrowths of the broken windows philosophy, violated the Fourth and 14th amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

But in the face of violent crime, both real and imagined, many communities continue to turn to new variations on the old theme, treating whole swaths of the population as internal enemies to be approached with guns drawn — including, apparently, police officers who are themselves Black.

In Memphis, for example, the police launched the SCORPION (Street Crimes Operation to Restore Peace In Our Neighborhoods) unit in 2021 to combat a surge in murders by flooding the streets with quasi-undercover agents in black hoodies who used traffic stops as opportunities to find drugs or guns.

It's important to understand the deep and broad appeal of this approach in an apparently fearful country where there are more guns than people and where mass killings are shockingly routine.

It's equally important to trace the approach itself to specific historical moments, so that clear alternatives can become imaginable — perhaps even possible.