

# MAURITIUS TIMES

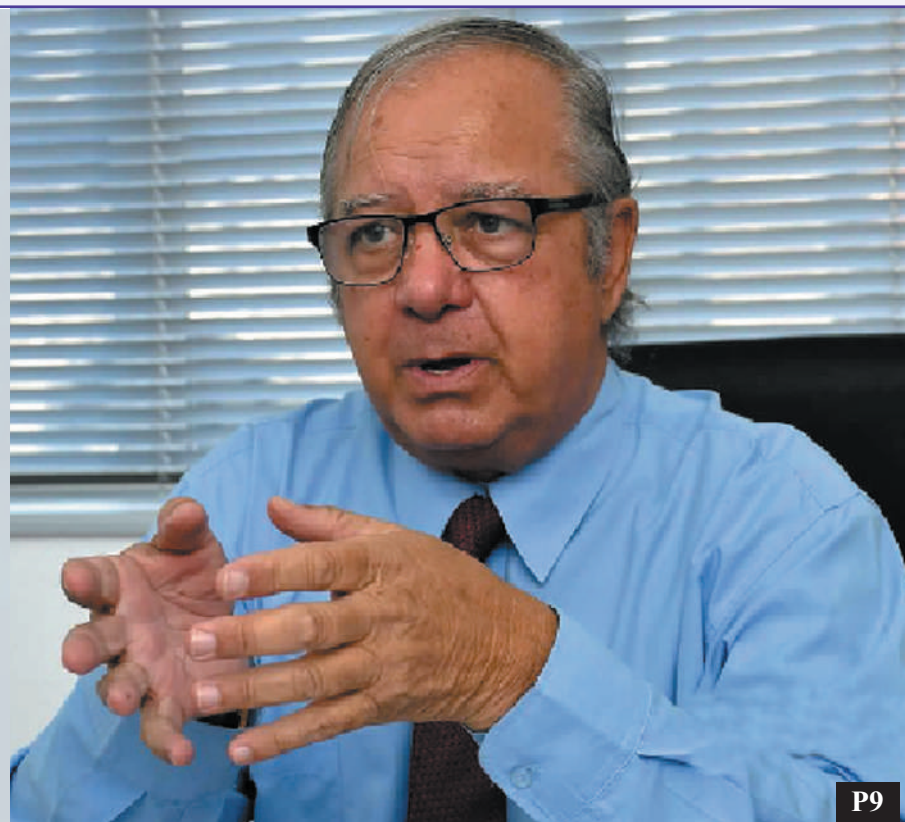
• The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new. — Socrates, philosopher

Interview: Lindsay Rivière, Journaliste

## “Le peuple s’impatiente”

‘Navin Ramgoolam doit maintenant ‘deliver’.  
Où est le ‘PMSD Revival’? Où est le retour  
aux sources au MMM?’

- ‘Je n’ai jamais vu autant de haine, de ressentiment, de désir de vengeance politique qu’aujourd’hui. Tout cela finira très mal’



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Analyse

## Hausse des prix: Comment combattre la “greedflation”?

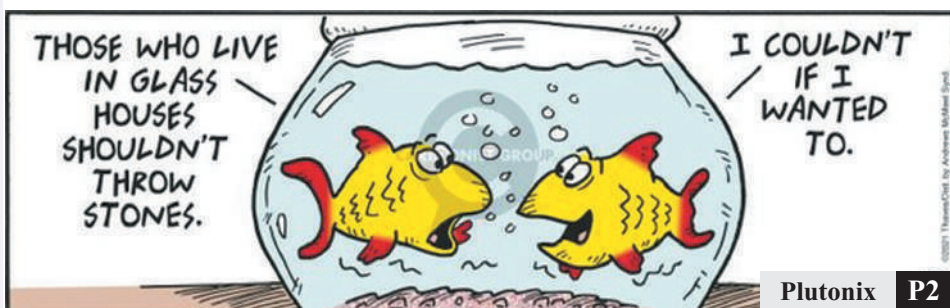


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# Agalega in the Shifting Geopolitical Landscape

For several years, the spectre of a clandestine Mauritius-India agreement to establish an Indian military base on Agalega has loomed over parliamentary debates and local media headlines. The mere mention of a military base on this idyllic island in the Indian Ocean has stirred controversy and raised concerns about sovereignty. Yet, amidst the speculation and allegations, the Mauritius government has consistently maintained a stance of denial, refuting the existence of any such agreement with the Indian authorities.

As early as May 2017, an official communique following Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth's state visit to India outlined plans for Agalega's economic development. In this statement, it was revealed that basic infrastructure, including a runway and jetty, would be constructed by the Government of India at its own expense. An agreement to this effect was signed during the Prime Minister's state visit, signalling India's commitment to supporting Mauritius in enhancing the economic potential of Agalega. However, the authorities and the PMO steadfastly refused at making the MOU public or laying it in the National Assembly, claiming a confidentiality clause, although India was reported not to have any qualms on its public release.

Despite the PM's assurances therefore and the unexplained need for confidentiality, questions persisted, prompting further inquiries from both the public and political figures. Notably, Hon Xavier Duval raised concerns in May 2021, seeking clarity on the nature of the infrastructure projects and their implications for Agalega's future. In response, the Prime Minister reiterated the collaborative nature of the projects, emphasizing that they aimed to bolster economic development rather than establish a military base. Mention was made of Mauritius partnering India in the latter's SAGAR project for regional development and security challenges in the north Indian Ocean. It was also categorically stated that there would be no stockpile of weapons on Agalega, distinguishing it from conventional military bases established by other nations in the region.

The most recent affirmation of Mauritius'

sovereignty over Agalega came from Prime Minister Jugnauth during the inauguration of the newly constructed facilities on February 29. These projects, including a jetty and a three-kilometre-long runway, were fully financed and built by the Indian authorities. The Prime Minister reassured the public that Mauritius would retain control over these facilities, dispelling concerns about jeopardizing the island's sovereignty.

While official statements seek to allay fears, there has been and remains a palpable need for greater openness from Mauritian and Indian authorities regarding the details of the bilateral agreement. The lack of transparency has fuelled speculation, some unhealthy or unproductive, in some quarters. Clarity on the terms and conditions governing India's generous contribution to the development of Agalega's infrastructure is essential.

On the other hand, amidst this controversy, it is crucial to analyze the shifting geopolitical dynamics in the Indian Ocean region. The emergence of new players with diverse strategic interests, coupled with security challenges such as piracy and geopolitical tensions, underscores the importance of safeguarding Mauritius' security and economic interests. As a small island state, Mauritius must navigate these complexities with foresight and strategic acumen. Unfortunately, it has not developed a mature approach where political divides can be bridged for matters of national interest or where leaders of Opposition parties can be taken in the confidence of what's brewing.

In conclusion, while the Agalega controversy continues to spark debate and speculation, it is imperative to separate fact from fiction and embrace geopolitical realities. Transparent communication from the authorities, coupled with a nuanced understanding of regional geopolitics, is essential for safeguarding Mauritius' sovereignty and security in an ever-evolving geopolitical landscape. As Mauritius charts its course in the Indian Ocean, strategic alignment with regional dynamics that serve the nation's interests remains paramount. By strategizing intelligently and embracing transparency, Mauritius can advance its long-term political and economic interests amidst the complexities of the Indian Ocean region.

## Socratic Dialogue

# Of Stones and Glass Houses

A Socratic Exploration of the Private Lives of Political Leaders

By Plutonix

In the lively streets of ancient Athens, two great minds, Socrates and Cephalus, found themselves knee-deep in discourse. With the upcoming elections looming like a thundercloud over the city, gossip and speculation were the currency of the day.

As citizens eagerly awaited the political showdown, the stage was set not just for public drama, but for a peek behind the curtains of private lives. Enter the protagonists: two party leaders, one battling to maintain his throne against a formidable foe. The air crackled with anticipation, much like the imminent Budget presentation expected to be riddled with populist treats. But amidst the political pandemonium, a darker current flowed, threatening to muddy the waters of democracy. While policy debates swirled in the foreground, whispers about the private escapades of rival politicians lingered like a persistent aroma.

With one ruling alliance leader facing potential jeopardy, not solely due to policy debates, but rather from the dark shadows that have hovered over his administration, stories about the private life of his rival have been bandied about. The ruling alliance leader embarked on a grand oratorical escapade at a women's gathering recently, warning of dire consequences should his rival seize power. Ah, the art of character assassination – a delicacy of the political palate! In a world where stones are cast and glass houses abound, Socrates and Cephalus found themselves pondering the age-old question of where the line should be drawn between the public's right to know and the politicians' right to a private life.

*Characters and Setting:*  
Renowned philosopher and teacher Socrates and Cephalus, an elderly and wise citizen of the city, are sitting in a lively Athenian tavern, enjoying a glass of wine, with some figs and olives.

**Socrates:** Ah, Cephalus, my friend, have you heard the rumours swirling around the upcoming elections? It seems the political arena is about to get even more chaotic.

**Cephalus:** Indeed, Socrates, the air is thick with anticipation and accusations. The politicians are gearing up for battle, and as always, mudslinging is on the agenda.

**Socrates:** Mud indeed, Cephalus. But tell me, what are your thoughts on the private lives of these politicians being thrown into the public domain?

**Cephalus:** (chuckles) Well, my



Pic - thecollector.com

dear Socrates, it appears that in politics, personal matters are fair game. The public seems to have an insatiable appetite for the skeletons in a politician's closet.

**Socrates:** But is it justifiable, Cephalus? Should a person's private life be subjected to scrutiny and judgment by the masses?

● Cont. on page 15

## Mauritius Times

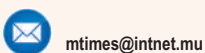
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## Happy Maha Shivratri

On the auspicious day of  
Maha Shivratri  
may the Lord answer all your prayers  
and bless you with a happy life



Mauritius Times



Prakash Neerohoo

# Hausse des prix: Comment combattre la "greedflation"?

Les prix des produits de consommation courante affichés dans les supermarchés ces derniers temps provoquent de la stupéfaction chez les consommateurs. Cela indique que l'inflation à Maurice est un problème réel pour eux, surtout pour les personnes des classes prolétaire et moyenne qui doivent tirer le diable par la queue à chaque fin de mois.

Les augmentations de salaires, y compris la récente compensation salariale de Rs 1 500 à Rs 2 000 par mois selon les catégories de salariés, ne semblent pas compenser adéquatement le coût de la vie de plus en plus élevé.

Certes, l'inflation à Maurice a des causes endogènes telles que le déséquilibre entre l'offre et la demande (la demande excédant une offre insuffisante), la hausse des coûts de production, et la dépréciation constante de la roupie par rapport aux devises étrangères (dollar, euro) dans lesquelles sont libellées les importations, entraînant le renchérissement des produits importés. Mais elle a aussi des causes exogènes, telles que la hausse du coût du fret sur les importations et la majoration des prix d'achat sur les marchés fournisseurs du pays (comme dans le cas des carburants importés).

## Taux d'inflation

Le calcul du taux d'inflation est intriquant, voire mystérieux, pour les profanes. Reflète-t-il vraiment la corbeille ménagère moyenne avec tous les produits et services essentiels? Dans les pays avancés, le ciblage de l'inflation (*inflation targeting*) vise un taux d'inflation de 2% annuellement. Au Canada, par exemple, le taux d'inflation historique a été de 2% pendant les 10 dernières années. Pendant la Covid, le taux d'inflation a grimpé pour atteindre une pointe de 7% en 2022, mais il est tombé à 2,9% en janvier 2024, comparé à 5,9% en 2023. La chute graduelle de l'inflation est due à la hausse du taux d'intérêt directeur, qui est passé de 2% à 5% en trois ans, et à la baisse des prix des produits pétroliers.

À Maurice, le taux d'inflation s'élevait à 5,2% en janvier 2024 selon le dernier rapport du FMI, contre 7% en 2023 et 10,8% en 2022. Cependant, dans la réalité, les consommateurs ont le sentiment qu'ils doivent payer davantage chaque jour pour faire leurs emplettes. L'inflation réelle est estimée à 10%. Rien n'illustre mieux cette situation que les prix courants au supermarché et, en particulier, les prix des légumes au marché maraîcher.

Certes, dans la foulée du cyclone Belal avec ses pluies diluviennes affectant les cultures vivrières, il fallait s'attendre à



P- defimedia

«Les prix sont généralement comparables entre Maurice et le Canada, bien que l'équivalent du prix canadien soit inférieur au prix local dans certains cas (carotte, pomme d'amour, pomme de terre, etc). Il est important de souligner que le salaire minimum à Toronto est de 15 \$ par heure (Rs 510) ou 120 \$ par journée de 8 heures (Rs 4 080) ou 2 400 \$ par mois sur 20 jours de travail (Rs 81 600). Ainsi, le pouvoir d'achat est plus fort à Toronto qu'à Maurice...»

une flambée des prix des légumes au marché, vu que l'offre a diminué par rapport à la demande, laquelle reste statique. En général, les prix des légumes produits localement suivent la loi de l'offre et de la demande. Le Tableau 1 indique les prix de certains légumes au marché municipal de Rose-Hill le 23 février 2024.

Tableau 1: Prix au marché de Rose-Hill le 23 février 2024

Item	Mesure	Prix (Rs)
1 Laitue	unité	50 -- 60
2 Pomme d'amour	½ kg	175 -- 210
3 Poivron	unité	80 -- 100
4 Carotte	½ kg	75
5 Giraumon	½ kg	70
6 Lalo	½ kg	150
7 Haricot vert	½ kg	100
8 Bringelle	½ kg	90
9 Thym	botte	35
10 Cotomili	botte	35
11 Concombre	unité	40 -- 50
12 Chou	unité	200
13 Petit piment	½ kg	200
14 Margoze	½ kg	100 - 120
15 Pipengaille	½ kg	80

Source: Week-End du 25 février 2024

## Comparaison des prix

Comment les prix des légumes à

Maurice se comparent-ils à ceux dans d'autres pays? Le Tableau 2 indique les prix moyens en février dans un supermarché à Toronto, au Canada. Février est un mois d'hiver où les prix des légumes sont généralement plus élevés qu'en été lorsque la production est abondante.

Selon le principe de la parité du pouvoir d'achat, nous avons converti le prix en dollars au taux de change de Rs 34 par dollar pour établir l'équivalent du prix canadien en roupies.

En comparant les prix locaux du Tableau 1 aux prix convertis en roupie du Tableau 2, on constate que les prix sont généralement comparables entre Maurice et le Canada, bien que l'équivalent du prix canadien soit inférieur au prix local dans certains cas (carotte, pomme d'amour, pomme de terre, etc.).

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En général, on constate que le prix des légumes importés affichés dans les supermarchés à Maurice sont plus élevés que les prix des légumes locaux. Deux exemples ont été récemment partagés sur les réseaux sociaux avec photos à l'appui:

- le prix d'un pâtisson de 1,2 kilo affiché à Rs 846,47 (soit Rs 669,90 le kilo) et

- le prix du petit piment vert affiché à Rs

1000 le kilo (soit Rs 500 pour ½ kg).

Les prix de vente des légumes importés et des légumes produits localement suscitent les questions suivantes:

- Quel est le prix CAF (Coût, Assurance, Fret) payé par l'importateur et le prix d'achat payé au planteur local par le grossiste ou l'encanteur?
- Quels sont les frais généraux (transport local, emballage, congélation, stockage, etc.) ajoutés au prix d'importation par l'importateur ou au prix d'achat par le grossiste?
- Quelle est la marge de profit sur les coûts d'achat pour l'importateur, le distributeur ou le grossiste?
- Quelle est la marge de profit sur le prix en gros pour le détaillant?

Dans la chaîne de distribution pour les légumes produits localement, l'encanteur joue un rôle crucial. Le National Wholesale Market (NWM) établi par l'AMB (Agricultural Marketing Board) centralise la vente de légumes des planteurs aux encanteurs/grossistes qui les revendent ensuite aux détaillants à des prix en gros, lesquels sont affichés sur le site web de l'AMB.

L'encanteur semble toucher une commission de 8% du prix payé au planteur (92% lui reviennent). Les détaillants, quant à eux, fixent les prix de vente aux consommateurs en ajoutant leur marge de profit au prix en gros. C'est là que le bât blesse: il n'y a pas de contrôle sur cette marge de profit, et parfois, on observe des prix exagérés sur le marché maraîcher.

## Surfacturation

Par ailleurs, l'existence d'un élément de surfacturation dans les prix importés n'est pas à écarter. La marge de profit est ajoutée à un prix d'importation surévalué, comme on l'a vu dans le cas d'un médicament anti-Covid (Molnupiravir) dont le prix à l'importation en 2021 est passé de Rs 9,30 à Rs 79,92 l'unité en une semaine, soit une hausse de 759%. C'est une pratique commerciale courante chez les importateurs dont l'avidité pour le profit est déraisonnable.

Tout indique que le pays fait face au phénomène de «greedflation», cette pratique des sociétés commerciales qui consiste à augmenter les prix pour prendre avantage de l'inflation et accroître leur marge de profit dans une proportion qui n'est pas justifiée par la hausse du coût de production (dans le cas du fabricant) ou du coût de commercialisation (dans le cas du grossiste ou du détaillant).

● Suite en page 4

# Hausse des prix: Comment combattre la "greedflation"?

● Suite de la page 3

Étant donné que l'inflation sert de prétexte aux commerçants pour augmenter indûment leurs prix de vente, il est nécessaire d'introduire une taxe sur les bénéfices excessifs des sociétés commerciales (*Corporate Profiteering Tax*) afin de ponctionner une partie des profits anormaux engrangés par les grossistes ou détaillants de produits de consommation courante. Ces sociétés devraient payer un taux d'imposition additionnel de 10% sur le taux d'imposition statutaire de 15% sur les bénéfices des sociétés. Cette taxe pourrait servir à subventionner les prix des denrées essentielles.

Le ministère des Prix et des Consommateurs devrait examiner les cas de «profiteering» pour voir s'il est nécessaire d'introduire des marges de profit maximales au niveau du grossiste ou du détaillant. La pratique d'une marge de profit maximale (*maximum markup*) existe pour certains médicaments seulement. Le Bureau de la Concurrence (Competition Office) devrait enquêter sur les cas où un monopole ou un oligopole contrôle le marché d'importation d'un produit essentiel. Laissées à elles-mêmes, ces sociétés commerciales font la pluie et le beau temps en ce qui concerne les prix de vente aux consommateurs.

## Corporate Profiteering Tax

En attendant ces enquêtes, lesquelles prendraient du temps, une taxe spéciale sur les profits excessifs est nécessaire. Au moins, elle permettrait de connaître, à partir des déclarations fiscales, les coûts d'importation ou de production, les marges de profit aux niveaux en gros et au détail du commerce, et les prix de vente. La *Corporate Profiteering Tax* (CPT) est une forme de taxe sur les pro-

“La fin de la monoculture, au lieu de donner lieu à une réforme agraire permettant un meilleur accès à la terre pour les besoins de culture, a été suivie de la conversion de milliers d'hectares de terres agricoles en morcellements fonciers pour la construction de résidences de luxe et de centres commerciaux. Il est paradoxal que le ministère de l'Agro-industrie permette la distribution à bail de terrains de l'État pour l'élevage de cerfs et l'élevage de singes destinés à l'exportation alors qu'il y a un besoin urgent d'accroître la superficie sous culture vivrière...”



“La State Trading Corporation subventionne déjà les prix de vente des denrées essentielles (riz, farine et gaz ménager) à partir des fonds générés par une taxe de Rs 7,20 par litre sur les carburants (diesel et essence). Cela équivaut à prendre de l'argent de la poche droite des consommateurs pour en remettre une partie dans la poche gauche. Une CPT servant à subventionner les prix des produits essentiels équivaudrait à retourner aux consommateurs les prix exagérés payés aux commerçants. L'avidité pour le profit est un transfert de richesse des consommateurs aux commerçants à travers le mécanisme de prix, qui est sans contrôle dans une économie de marché...”

fits anormaux (*windfall tax*) qui a été introduite dans certains pays. Par exemple, le Canada a introduit une taxe additionnelle de 15% sur les bénéfices des banques et des compagnies d'assurance durant la période de la pandémie en 2020 et 2021.

La State Trading Corporation (STC) subventionne déjà les prix de vente des denrées essentielles (riz, farine et gaz ménager) à partir des fonds générés par une taxe de Rs 7,20 par litre sur les carburants (diesel et essence). Cela équivaut à prendre de l'argent de la poche droite des consommateurs pour en remettre une partie dans la poche gauche. Une CPT servant à subventionner les prix des produits essentiels équivaudrait à retourner aux consommateurs les prix exagérés payés aux commerçants. L'avidité pour le profit est un transfert de richesse des consommateurs aux commerçants à travers le mécanisme de prix, qui est sans contrôle dans une économie de marché.

Pour pallier le manque de légumes sur le marché, le gouvernement a pris certaines mesures temporaires telles que l'importation de légumes pour un temps limité. L'Office des Marchés (Agricultural Marketing Board) a importé certains produits essentiels (oignon, ail, pomme de terre, carotte, chou vert et haricot) dont les prix à la vente au détail sont fixés grâce à des subventions.

Le ministère des Finances a mis une assistance financière (Rs 10 000 par arpent) à la disposition des planteurs pour leur permettre de remettre en état leurs plantations dévastées par le cyclone. Toutes ces mesures, aussi nécessaires soient-elles à court terme, ne sont pas une solution au problème de l'offre à long terme.

## Réforme agraire

Fondamentalement, le pays devrait revoir ses structures de production, de conservation et de commercialisation de produits agricoles, dont les cultures maraîchères, en vue d'atteindre un certain niveau d'auto-suffisance alimentaire. Le pays devrait pouvoir être auto-suffisant en pommes de terre et oignons, par exemple.

Cet objectif est primordial dans le contexte des tensions géopolitiques au Moyen-Orient et en Asie du Nord qui pourraient potentiellement rompre les chaînes d'approvisionnement dans le monde. Durant la Deuxième Guerre mondiale, lorsque les navires n'accostaient pas régulièrement pour livrer du riz et de la farine, des familles mauriciennes se rabattaient sur le manioc et la patate comme aliments de substitution. Aujourd'hui, ces féculents ne sont pas produits en quantité suffisante.

Dans les années 70-80, on parlait de la nécessité d'une diversification agricole afin de réduire la dépendance du pays de la monoculture de la canne, génératrice d'emplois et de devises étrangères. Dans les années 2000, cette monoculture a pris fin forcément sous l'effet de la chute des prix d'exportation du sucre et de la perte du marché d'exportation garanti de l'Union européenne.

Toutefois, la fin de la monoculture, au lieu de donner lieu à une réforme agraire permettant un meilleur accès à la terre pour les besoins de culture, a été suivie de la conversion de milliers d'hectares de terres agricoles en morcellements fonciers pour la construction de résidences de luxe et de centres commerciaux. Il est paradoxal que le ministère de l'Agro-industrie permette la distribution à bail de terrains de l'État pour l'élevage de cerfs et l'élevage de singes destinés à l'exportation alors qu'il y a un besoin urgent d'accroître la superficie sous culture vivrière.

Prakash Neerhoo

Table 2: Average Retail Prices at No-Frills Store in Feb 2024

	Item	Qty	\$ price	Price/ 0.5 kg or unit (\$)	Price/ 0.5 kg or unit (Rs)
1	Banana	kg	1.30	0.65	22.10
2	Bean Green	kg	8.80	4.40	149.60
3	Bok Choy	kg	6.59	3.30	112.03
4	Broccoli Crown	unit	1.29	1.29	43.86
5	Carrots	lb	1.00	1.00	34.00
6	Celery Stalks	pack	3.79	1.90	64.43
7	Cucumber English	unit	1.29	1.29	43.86
8	Eggplant	kg	5.49	2.75	93.33
9	Garlic	3 ct	0.88	0.88	29.92
10	Kale Green	unit	2.49	2.49	84.66
11	Lettuce	unit	2.99	2.99	101.66
12	Onion	2 lb	2.99	1.50	50.83
13	Pepper Hot	kg	15.41	7.71	261.97
14	Peppers Red	kg	11.00	5.50	187.00
15	Potato	10 lb	4.99	0.50	16.97
16	Pumpkin Jamaican	kg	4.39	2.20	74.63
17	Squash Chayote	unit	0.99	0.99	33.66
18	Squash Opo	kg	4.39	2.20	74.63
19	Tomato Roma	kg	2.84	1.42	48.28
20	Zucchini	kg	6.59	3.30	112.03

Note: Prices in rupee are calculated at the exchange rate of Rs 34 per dollar



Anil Madan

# Zero and Other Perils of the World

*Zero is a good thing. It means nothing and it means everything*

There has been a recent spate of articles informing us that Mexico City is not in a spate\* (\* English for experience a deluge of water) and apparently in danger of heading in the other direction toward "Day Zero" which is when the taps will truly run dry and deliver nary a drop. Greater Mexico City is one of the world's megacities with some 22 million residents. As one might surmise, the area has seen severe drought conditions for months. City officials have restricted residents' access to water to about an hour every few days.

The articles caught my attention for several reasons and had me thinking about Day Zero. As I was ruminating about nothing ... er Zero ..., I received the Boston Water and Sewer Commission's bill for the past month. It shows that my water consumption jumped from an average of around 400 gallons to 9747 gallons or 1303 CF. I called to ask what was going on and the Customer Representative cheerfully offered that I must have had a running toilet. I assured her that the last I checked, all the toilets were still inside the house, and none had escaped. Ah well, she suggested I could dispute the bill, so I said: "Certainly!" I guess they'll investigate and let me know that it is water down the drain.

**“We are all aware of rising temperatures and disruptions in precipitation patterns and intensity around the world. Who doesn't remember the severe flooding in Pakistan? Or in Australia, Germany and many parts of Europe, Britain, India, Bangladesh, Japan, USA ... where shall I stop? But Mexico City's water problems go way, way back, long before we humans first drilled for oil. An article that apparently originated on CNN, discussed some of the contributing factors including its location (apparently, it's not a place where one would build a megacity today), sprawling thoughtless urbanization, a leaky water infrastructure system. Add to that, years of low rainfall, droughts, heat, El Niño, La Niña, and you have the modern-day disaster...”**

Getting back to the articles about Mexico City, the major culprit the authors latched onto was climate change. Of course, we are all aware of rising temperatures and disruptions in precipitation patterns and intensity around the world. Who doesn't remember the severe flooding in Pakistan? Or in Australia, Germany and many parts of Europe, Britain, India, Bangladesh, Japan, USA ... where shall I stop?

But Mexico City's water problems go way, way back, long before we humans first drilled for oil. An article that apparently originated on CNN, discussed some of the contributing factors including its location (apparently, it's not a place where one would build a megacity today), sprawling thoughtless urbanization, a leaky water infrastructure system. Add to that, years of low rainfall, droughts, heat, El Niño, La Niña, and you have the modern-day disaster.

Well, it's always great to go back in history and find a culprit, extolling, in the process if one can, the indige-



Climate Crisis Peril: What are we doing wrong? Pic - Doral Family Journal

nous inhabitants of yore who, as we know, can do no wrong. So it is that the article praised the Aztecs for having chosen this spot (where no one would build today) when it was a series of lakes. They built networks of canals and bridges and expanded the city outwards. Of course, they didn't have to deal with 22 million Mexicans or toilets that wouldn't run. I don't know if the Aztecs had toilets. We'll let that pass.

The culprits? Why, it was the Spaniards who 400 years ago, tore up the city, drained the lakebed, choked the canals with landfill and ripped out forests. Apparently, they thought water an enemy. What were they thinking?

\* \* \*

## Imran Khan's Zero and the Perils of Democracy

On the other side of the world, as you are undoubtedly aware, former Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan has been languishing in a jail cell. Nevertheless, representatives of his party won the most seats in the recent election.

One of the perils of democracy is that if a party does not get a majority of the votes, it can be truly out of luck when it comes to getting things done. We have seen how, in the US, House Speaker Mike Johnson gets to control the agenda of the House of Representatives. As a result, aid for Ukraine is at Zero, aid for Israel is at Zero, and humanitarian aid for Gaza is at Zero. This kind of Zero is not a wonderful thing.



Shehbaz Sharif and Imran Khan - Pic - The Pakistan Frontier

Imran Khan is out of luck. It is reported that former Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif — who was in jail for seven months but released — has cut a deal to form a coalition with a third party and this will shut Imran's party out. Imran's party won more seats than any other party, but not a majority of seats, so his supporters' 95 seats are effectively reduced to Zero. The former cricket star must rue the day that the rules of cricket allow one to be the leading scorer but not out.

A curious note is that one of new PM Sharif's priorities will be to negotiate with the IMF for assistance in paying off billions of dollars of debt due this year. The answer? Get a loan of \$6 billion to pay off the old loan and reduce it to Zero. What a wonderful concept this Zero is?

To compound matters for Imran Khan, a Pakistani court indicted both him and his wife Bushra on charges that they received a plot of land as a bribe when he was Prime Minister. Somehow, I don't think they'll be allowed to share the same cell.

As I was thinking about this whole Zero thing, I was stuck in traffic on one of the two bridges that I must cross to get to downtown Boston. Things were not moving, so my speed was down to Zero, duly registered so on the digital speedometer display. A Subaru crossover pulled alongside and then slightly ahead. I saw the letters PZEV and remembered that it had something to do with "Zero Emissions Vehicle." So, I looked it up. Turns out it stands for "Partial Zero Emissions Vehicle." How does one get "partial" zero?

According to Edmunds.com, a partial zero emission vehicle (PZEV) is a category established by a California environmental board in 1998 as part of an effort to get more zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) on the road. A 2003 target to get at least 50% ZEVs on the road came and went. It didn't happen. After the 2017 model year, California issued updated requirements that changed the name from PZEV to "transitional zero emission vehicle" (TZEV). Transitioning from partial zero to transitional zero is a wonderful thing.

Well, so far, this sounds like Zero progress to me. This Zero is indeed a wonderful thing. A vehicle can emit partially and still have the word "Zero" as part of its name. Or it can be transitioning to Zero and be somewhat like a running toilet.

Fear not, there is more. In California's regulations, a super ultra-low emission vehicle or SULEV, is intended to reduce smog-forming emissions. We are told that these are distinct from greenhouse gases. Or, the explanation goes, greenhouse gases mess up the global climate. Smog-forming emissions are what might make the air tough to breathe where you live.

Who thinks these things up? Presumably people with zero brains.

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# L'attrait de la démocratie s'effrite

Par A. Bartleby

**L**a démocratie perd de son attrait alors que de nombreux pays à travers le monde organisent des élections, selon un sondage réalisé par le Pew Research Center dans 24 pays démocratiques. Bien que 77% des personnes interrogées estiment que la démocratie représentative est un "bon" système de gouvernement, un médian de 59% se déclarent mécontents de son fonctionnement dans leur propre pays.

La méfiance envers les élus est également répandue, avec un médian de 74% affirmant ne pas croire que les responsables élus se soucient de l'opinion des citoyens. Seuls 10 des 24 dirigeants nationaux interrogés avaient reçu des évaluations favorables de la moitié ou plus du public.

Les alternatives étaient perçues comme encore pires, avec seulement six dirigeants de l'opposition bénéficiant de critiques favorables, et un médian de 42% des répondants affirmant qu'aucun parti politique dans leur pays ne représentait leur point de vue.

Le sondage intervient alors que de nombreux pays organisent des élections, avec plus de 50 nations représentant la moitié de la population mondiale. La montée du soutien à des formes de gouvernement plus autoritaires est également notée, avec une augmentation du soutien à un "leader fort" dans huit des pays sondés.

En Inde, le soutien à un leader fort a



77% des personnes interrogées estiment que la démocratie représentative est un "bon" système de gouvernement, un médian de 59% se déclarent mécontents de son fonctionnement. P - CDN

augmenté de 12% depuis 2017, avec 67% des personnes interrogées le considérant comme un bon système. Le soutien à un leader fort a également augmenté le plus au Mexique, avec une hausse de 23% depuis 2017. Parallèlement, le soutien à la démocratie a augmenté au Brésil, en Pologne et au Mexique. Les partisans des modèles autoritaires tendent à avoir des niveaux d'éducation et de revenu plus bas, ainsi qu'une orientation politique à droite.

Le sondage montre que les États-Unis se distinguent par leur soutien à des systèmes plus autoritaires. Alors que leur soutien aux systèmes autocratiques était inférieur à la majorité, ils étaient plus élevés que dans la moitié des autres pays sondés.

Les États-Unis se distinguent également par leur polarisation sur la question de la diversité dans la représentation politique.

En conclusion, selon le sondage, bien que la démocratie reste populaire, la méfiance envers les représentants élus et la montée du soutien à des leaders forts ou à des systèmes autoritaires sont des tendances préoccupantes. La démocratie directe et les systèmes dirigés par des experts gagnent également en soutien, reflétant un désir croissant de changement parmi les répondants.

Les résultats de l'enquête, indiquant une diminution de la satisfaction à l'égard de la démocratie représentative et une augmentation du soutien envers des lea-

ders forts ou des systèmes autoritaires, suscitent des préoccupations quant à l'état de la gouvernance dans le monde. Bien qu'il soit essentiel de reconnaître le mécontentement des gens à l'égard du fonctionnement de la démocratie, l'attrait croissant pour des formes de gouvernement plus autocratiques suggère un possible glissement vers un pouvoir centralisé.

Les défis identifiés dans l'enquête, tels que la méfiance envers les élus et la dissatisfaction à l'égard de la représentation politique, signalent la nécessité d'améliorations dans les processus démocratiques. Le fait que les alternatives à la démocratie soient perçues comme encore moins favorables indique une reconnaissance de la valeur fondamentale du système.

Cependant, la montée du soutien envers des leaders forts et des modèles autoritaires, notamment dans certains pays, souligne l'importance de traiter les problèmes sous-jacents qui contribuent à la dissatisfaction. Il est crucial de favoriser un environnement démocratique où les citoyens se sentent écoutés, représentés et font confiance à l'efficacité de leurs élus.

Bien que la popularité de la démocratie persiste, il y a un appel clair à des réformes et des améliorations pour garantir qu'elle serve efficacement les intérêts du peuple. Le soutien croissant pour des modèles alternatifs souligne l'urgence de résoudre les lacunes identifiées afin de maintenir les aspects positifs de la gouvernance démocratique.

## Etats-Unis: Justice expéditive pour déterminer si Trump peut être poursuivi pour ingérence électorale

**S**elon l'agence AP, la Cour suprême a convenu mercredi de décider si l'ancien président Donald Trump peut être poursuivi pour des accusations d'ingérence dans l'élection de 2020, remettant en question la possibilité que son cas puisse aller en procès avant l'élection de novembre.

Bien que la Cour ait fixé une voie vers une résolution rapide, elle a maintenu une suspension des préparatifs pour un procès axé sur les efforts de Trump pour renverser sa défaite électorale. La Cour entendra les arguments fin avril, une décision étant probablement rendue au plus tard fin juin.

Ce calendrier est beaucoup plus rapide que d'habitude, mais en supposant que les juges rejettent la demande d'immunité de Trump, il n'est pas clair qu'un procès puisse être programmé et conclu avant l'élection de novembre. Le vote anticipé dans certains États commencera en septembre.

La décision de la Cour d'intervenir dans un deuxième grand dossier Trump cette année, en plus du litige sur la question de savoir s'il est interdit de se présenter à nouveau à la présidence en raison de ses actions après

l'élection de 2020, souligne le rôle direct que les juges joueront dans le résultat des élections.

En fin de compte, le calendrier d'un procès éventuel pourrait dépendre de la rapidité avec laquelle les juges rendent leur décision. Ils ont montré qu'ils pouvaient agir rapidement, rendant une décision dans l'affaire des bandes Watergate en 1974 seulement 16 jours après les plaidoiries. La décision dans l'affaire Bush v. Gore est intervenue le lendemain des plaidoiries en décembre 2000.

La date du procès, déjà reportée une fois en raison de l'appel de Trump pour l'immunité, est d'une importance primordiale pour les deux parties. Les procureurs cherchent à traduire Trump en justice cette année, tandis que les avocats de la défense cherchent des retards dans ses affaires criminelles. Si Trump devait être élu alors que l'affaire est en suspens, il pourrait vraisemblablement utiliser son autorité en tant que chef du pouvoir exécutif pour ordonner au ministère de la Justice de la classer ou pour-



Trump prédit le «chaos» si la justice rejette sa demande d'immunité pénale. P - Le Telegramme

rait éventuellement chercher à se gracier lui-même.

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# Justice expéditive pour déterminer si Trump peut être poursuivi pour ingérence électorale



P - francetvinfo.fr

☞ Suite de la page 6

Bien que leur dépôt devant la Cour suprême ne mentionne pas explicitement les prochaines élections de novembre ni le statut de Trump en tant que favori à la primaire républicaine, les procureurs ont décrit l'affaire comme ayant une "importance nationale unique" et ont déclaré que "le retard dans la résolution de ces accusations menace de contre-carrer l'intérêt public pour un verdict rapide et équitable."

Les avocats de Trump ont qualifié la poursuite de partisane, déclarant aux juges qu'un "procès pénal de plusieurs mois du président Trump en pleine saison électorale perturbera radicalement sa capacité à faire campagne contre le président Biden - ce qui semble être le but principal des demandes persistantes du procureur spécial pour une

expédition".

La Cour a déclaré dans une déclaration non signée qu'elle examinerait "si, et dans quelle mesure, un ancien président bénéficie de l'immunité présidentielle contre les poursuites pénales pour des actes présumés impliquant des actes officiels pendant son mandat".

## Pétitions électorales à Maurice

Cette affaire devrait nous inspirer en ce qui concerne la promptitude des juges américains

à traiter les affaires électorales et les différentes contestations de la part des différentes parties. À Maurice, les différentes pétitions déposées depuis le 28 novembre 2019 (dans le délai prescrit par la Loi sur la représentation du peuple, c'est-à-dire "dans les 21 jours suivant la date du retour effectué par le responsable du scrutin à la Commission de supervision électorale du membre concerné par la pétition") ont connu des retards insurmontables.

Tout retard dans la résolution de tels cas rend ces pétitions obsolètes. Le pays, et en particulier notre système judiciaire, devraient s'inspirer de l'approche du système judiciaire britannique en ce qui concerne les pétitions électorales.

Les élections du 1er mai 1997 du député de Winchester, Mark Oaten (Libéral-démocrate), contestées par le candidat du Parti conservateur, Gerry Malone, ont été déclarées nulles cinq mois plus tard, le 6 octobre 1997, par le Lord Justice Brooke. Un autre recours juridique du candidat indépendant défait Rodney Connor (qui avait perdu par quatre voix et avait déposé une pétition demandant un recomptage) contre la victoire de la députée du Sinn Féin, Michelle Gildemew, dans la circonscription de Fermanagh et South Tyrone, fut rejeté par le Lord Chief Justice de l'Irlande du Nord le 22 octobre 2010 - un mois après le début de l'affaire le 13 septembre 2010. D'autres démocraties du Commonwealth en Afrique ou en Asie du Sud sont connues pour résoudre les pétitions électorales de manière tout aussi expéditive et, au pire, dans les six mois suivant le dépôt des pétitions.

Il appartient bien sûr aux législateurs futurs, préoccupés par cet état de fait dans une démocratie fonctionnelle, d'analyser toutes les dispositions de notre loi sur la représentation du peuple afin de garantir que les allégations mineures de griefs dans des circonscriptions localisées soient traitées rapidement, tandis que des allégations plus graves, certaines concernant des déviations à l'échelle nationale de l'organisation d'élections libres et équitables, soient traitées dans un délai raisonnable. Il est regrettable que les questions liées à notre démocratie, aux partis politiques ou à leur personnel dépendent finalement de la volonté de l'alliance au pouvoir d'apporter des changements qui peuvent être nécessaires même s'ils sont contraires à ses intérêts à court terme.

# Haiti: descente aux enfers

## La violence des gangs s'intensifie avec des meurtres et des violences sexuelles

**L**a violence aveugle en Haïti s'intensifie, en particulier dans la capitale et les régions environnantes, avec des gangs armés commettant des meurtres et des actes de violence sexuelle, a déclaré mercredi la coordinatrice humanitaire des Nations Unies dans cette nation caribéenne déchirée par les conflits.

Ulrika Richardson a déclaré aux journalistes de l'ONU lors d'une conférence de presse virtuelle depuis la capitale haïtienne, Port-au-Prince, que "le niveau de violence auquel les gens sont exposés est inhumain". Travaillant depuis de nombreuses années pour les Nations Unies, Richardson a déclaré: "J'ai vu des choses ici que je n'ai jamais vues de ma vie", dépassant "vos pires cauchemars".

C'est la souffrance et la douleur auxquelles hommes, femmes et enfants sont soumis, a-t-elle déclaré, soulignant une augmentation de 50% de violences sexuelles entre 2022 et 2023, et les 314 000 Haïtiens qui ont maintenant fui leur domicile pour échapper à la violence, beaucoup vivant dans la rue et dans des écoles, et ayant besoin d'une aide humanitaire.

Richardson a déclaré que 5,5 millions d'Haïtiens ont besoin d'une assistance, dont 4,4 millions, soit environ 40% de la population, font face à une "énorme insécurité alimentaire". L'ONU vient de lancer son appel humanitaire pour cette année et recherche 674 millions de dollars, avec environ la moitié de l'argent destiné à l'alimentation.

Les gangs sont devenus plus puissants et l'instabilité politique a augmenté depuis l'assassinat du président haïtien Jovenel Moïse en 2021, qui avait fait l'objet de manifestations réclamant sa démission en raison d'accusations de corruption et de revendications selon lesquelles son mandat de cinq ans avait expiré.

Plus de 8 400 personnes ont été signalées tuées, blessées ou enlevées en 2023, plus du double du nombre signalé en 2022. Les gangs continuent de se battre pour le territoire et contrôlent jusqu'à 80% de Port-au-Prince.

Le Kenya a accepté de diriger une force multinationale en Haïti autorisée par le Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU en octobre pour aider à rétablir la paix et la sécurité, et a déclaré qu'il enverrait 1 000 policiers. Cependant, il est incertain quand ou si un déploiement aura lieu car un tribunal au Kenya a jugé en janvier que le déploiement était anticonstitutionnel. Le gouvernement kenyan a déclaré qu'il faisait appel de la décision.

Lundi, le gouvernement américain a réitéré son soutien pour aider à rétablir la paix et le calme en Haïti, déclarant qu'il fournira de l'argent, du matériel et un soutien logistique.



La violence des gangs s'étend encore en Haïti. P - HPN

On aurait pu penser que la proximité géographique d'Haïti avec les États-Unis, comme l'un des plus grands marchés mondiaux en raison de leur taille économique, de leur base de consommateurs et de leurs liens commerciaux internationaux, aurait pu potentiellement offrir des opportunités commerciales et économiques à ce pays.

A. Bartleby

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# Zero and Other Perils of the World

● Cont. from page 5

## Russian Roulette and Zero Aid

Speaking of Zero aid for Ukraine and Israel (oh, and Zero humanitarian aid for Gaza) it seems to me that the world is playing Russian roulette here. Alexei Navalny's death (murder, if you will) tells us that Putin is playing Russian roulette for real — his victims are given a loaded gun and fire it at themselves or are "shot" by someone. It seems that opposition to Putin is a Zero-sum game. Putin's adversaries have a way of disappearing, dying in freezing prisons, in aircraft blowing up, falling out of windows, being poisoned.

What of roulette? If you've ever bet on Roulette (it's been more than 25-30 years since I last did), you know that the wheel often has a Zero and a double Zero. Your odds of winning are decreased because there are now 38 numbers instead of the standard 37. And I have learned that there are roulette wheels with a triple zero, used mostly for charity nights. Trust a charity to make your odds even worse than they already are. This Zero is a wonderful thing — for charities.

This morning, I heard an interview on NPR with a gentleman named Mustafa Barghouti of the Palestinian National Initiative. The NPR host, a chap named Inskeep asked a question that has become all too familiar:

INSKEEP: Let's set aside for a moment the term terrorist or terror group. You would reach an accommodation with the group that attacked Israel on October 7 of last year, killing something around 1,200 Israelis. Are you comfortable with that?

BARGHOUTI: As much as the United States is



Dust and smoke from airstrikes engulf Palestinians walking along Al Rashid road after crossing from the northern Gaza Strip into the south of Gaza city, 25 February 2024.  
P - english.aawsat.com / EPA

comfortable dealing with Israel that killed 37,000 Palestinians, including 11,000 children. What's the difference?

A bit more of the conversation is illuminating:

INSKEEP: I guess our latest figure is - not to quibble - our latest figure is 29,000. Do you have a larger...

BARGHOUTI: OK, yes. But because you don't count the 7,000 people missing under the rubble, that nobody can get to the bodies of people. But let it be only 29,000. Is that acceptable? Where does that put Israel? I think if you deal with Israel, we have to deal with Hamas.

Methinks, Mr Barghouti has a point.

President Biden is calling for a ceasefire — well, he won't call it a "ceasefire" but rather "a temporary pause" which sounds to me like a "Partial Zero Killings Period" or PZKP if you are a California regulator.

Barghouti's other statement bears repeating: "The reality is that we need to stop violence. We need to stop war."

## Iran and Zero Communication

It seems to me that Iran must be brought into this mix. So long as Iran promotes the idea that destroying Israel is its goal and should be the goal of Arabs, we cannot make progress. Right now, the US has Zero communication with Iran. Zero communication means Zero agreement. That Zero is not such a wonderful thing.

The origin of the concept of Zero (I say "concept" rather than the "number" zero because it is not a number unless you say it is the average of -1 and +1) goes back to Babylon. That was a long time ago. Zero in India may have evolved from a philosophical concept to a mathematical one, as a number. The earliest recorded use of Zero appears to go back to the 3rd or 4th Century. The philosophical concept is one of emptiness, a void. The mathematical concept is one of reducing everything it multiplies to zero and everything divided by it to infinity.

There is a concept of Zero Emissions Day. That is approximately September 21st which is dedicated to getting people to abjure fossil fuels. Except, of course, those burning in the background powering everything.

Somewhere in between these two concepts Zero could be a good thing. For example, Zero deaths for a day might be called Zero Day.

Zero is a good thing. It means nothing and it means everything.

Cheerz...  
Bwana

## Éclairages

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Or, il se trouve que Haïti est confronté à de nombreux défis qui ont contribué à ses difficultés de développement et de progrès.

### Quelques raisons clés des difficultés

**1. Facteurs historiques:** Haïti était une colonie française et a connu une période brutale d'esclavage et d'exploitation. La révolte réussie des esclaves au début du XIXe siècle a conduit à la création d'Haïti en tant que première république noire indépendante en 1804. Cependant, le pays a également fait face à l'isolement économique et à de demandes de réparations, entravant son développement précoce.

**2. Défis économiques:** Haïti est l'un des pays les plus pauvres au monde, avec une partie importante de la population vivant dans la pauvreté. L'instabilité économique et le manque d'opportunités d'emploi contribuent aux défis persistants.

**3. Dépendance à l'agriculture:** L'économie repose fortement sur l'agriculture, avec une prévalence de l'agriculture de subsistance. Le manque de pratiques agricoles modernes et la vulnérabilité aux catastrophes naturelles affectent la sécurité alimentaire.

**4. Instabilité politique:** Les changements fréquents de gouvernement, l'instabilité

politique et l'histoire de coups d'État ont entravé une gouvernance efficace et une planification à long terme.

**5. Corruption:** La corruption persistante affecte les services publics, le développement de l'infrastructure et l'efficacité de l'aide étrangère.

**6. Catastrophes naturelles:** Haïti est susceptible d'être affecté par des ouragans, des tremblements de terre et d'autres catastrophes naturelles. Ces événements ont déjà causé une perte de vie importante, ont détruit des infrastructures et ont entravé les efforts de relèvement.

**7. Défis de santé :** Haïti fait face à des crises sanitaires, notamment des épidémies de maladies telles que le choléra. L'accès limité aux soins de santé aggrave ces défis.

**8. Lacunes éducatives:** Un accès limité à une éducation de qualité contribue à des taux d'analphabétisation élevés et entrave le développement du capital humain.

**9. Déficiences infrastructurelles:** Une

# Haïti: descente aux enfers



P - gazettehaiti.com

infrastructure internationale. Les initiatives visant à améliorer la gouvernance, à investir dans l'éducation et les soins de santé, et à promouvoir des pratiques économiques durables sont cruciales pour le développement à long terme d'Haïti.

### Et l'île Maurice?

Bien que des dysfonctionnements aient été notés au niveau de la gestion des affaires

de l'État et de nos institutions depuis un certain temps, l'île Maurice continue de maintenir sa réputation en tant que référence dans cette partie du monde. Cela souligne la résilience de ses institutions et la capacité du pays à surmonter les obstacles pour préserver sa stabilité relative.

Néanmoins, il est crucial de rester vigilant et d'adresser les problèmes sous-jacents pour assurer un développement durable et renforcer la confiance dans le fonctionnement de l'État et des institutions.

A. Bartleby

infrastructure insuffisante, comprenant des routes inadéquates, un approvisionnement électrique insuffisant et des problèmes d'assainissement, entrave la croissance économique et le développement.

**10. Système économique mondial:** La position d'Haïti dans le système économique mondial, y compris les politiques commerciales et les dettes, peut contribuer aux défis économiques.

La résolution de ces défis complexes nécessite un effort global et soutenu, tant au niveau national qu'à travers une coopé-



Interview: Lindsay Rivière, Journaliste

# “Le peuple s’impatiente”

*‘Navin Ramgoolam doit maintenant ‘deliver’. Où est le ‘PMSD Revival’? Où est le retour aux sources au MMM?’*



**A**u cœur des préoccupations actuelles de Lindsay Rivière, telles qu’il les expose dans l’interview de cette semaine, réside un changement significatif dans la nature fondamentale de notre démocratie et de notre culture politique, posant ainsi une menace sérieuse pour notre nation. Bien que le cadre démocratique mauricien soit évoqué pour maintenir une façade rassurante aux investisseurs et aux visiteurs, la réalité est une glissade constante, gouvernement après gouvernement, vers une forme de “démocratie dirigée”, plus présente en Asie ou en Amérique du Sud qu’en Occident, affirme-t-il.

**L’Exécutif exerce un contrôle total, le Législatif est entièrement soumis au diktat du Gouvernement, les Institutions s’affaiblissent...**

Lindsay Rivière estime également qu’il n’y aura pas d’élection partielle suite à la démission de Vikram Hurdoyal. Il partage aussi ses réflexions concernant les compétences politiques développées par le Premier ministre au cours de ces dernières années, contribuant ainsi à développer et moderniser son parti, le MSM. Il constate que tel ne serait pas le cas de l’Opposition qui, selon lui, peine à décoller.

**Mauritius Times:** On s’égaré dans d’interminables spéculations quant à la tenue éventuelle d’une élection partielle après la démission de l’ancien ministre Vikram Hurdoyal alors que d’autres questions d’intérêt public devraient retenir notre attention. Mais, n’est-ce pas quelque peu inévitable tout de même?

**Lindsay Rivière :** Vous avez parfaitement raison. Tout n’est plus, à Maurice, qu’inutiles suppositions et verbiages sans fin, qui obscurcissent les vrais enjeux.

Selon moi, il n’y a pas une chance sur mille que le Premier ministre organise une élection partielle à très haut risque, à quelques semaines ou à quelques mois des élections générales. Une défaite électorale à Montagne Blanche scellerait largement le sort du Gouvernement, comme la partielle remportée par le MMM à Triolet en 1970, avec Dev Virahsawmy, qui envoya une onde de choc politique dévastatrice au régime de Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam et marqua le début de la fin de son régime.

Or, Pravind Jugnauth n’est pas homme à prendre des risques inutiles: On l’a bien vu avec le renvoi des élections municipales et la non-participation du MSM à l’élection partielle de Quatre-Bornes remportée par Arvin Boolell.

La démission de Vikram Hurdoyal, certes, force un ‘rethinking’ et rapetisse la fenêtre d’opportunités du PM en termes de date des prochaines élections générales, la ramenant de mai 2025 à décembre 2024, mais il a sans doute déjà intériorisé cette donnée et adapté sa stratégie en conséquence.

La politique-spectacle aidant, tout sera enclenché pour faire croire en une partielle d’ici octobre mais, à la dernière minute, le PM ira directement vers des élections générales, rendant nul le besoin d’une partielle. C’est une certitude. Il n’y a donc pas de quoi s’exciter, à en faire tout un

plat et spéculer à l’infini.

Ce petit jeu aura, pourtant, une autre conséquence: un Nomination Day (même fictif) pour une improbable partielle forcerait quand même Navin Ramgoolam à révéler ses intentions de se déclarer comme candidat dans cette circonscription ou non. Ce sera là une donnée nouvelle.

**\* Il est fort probable qu’à la suite de la perte de contrôle de l’agenda électoral consécutive à la démission de Hurdoyal de l’Assemblée nationale, le Premier ministre doit dès à présent réfléchir au timing des prochaines élections générales. On ne l’envisage guère à la tête d’un “caretaker government” au-delà de novembre 2024. Quelle est votre opinion à ce sujet?**

Le PM a sans doute déjà largement réfléchi sur les élections générales et les moyens de les remporter. A la différence de SAJ, Pravind Jugnauth demeure mystérieux, extrêmement calculateur, mais il ne laisse personne connaître l’état de sa réflexion, selon moi, même pas ses collaborateurs.

Vous évoquez un ‘caretaker government’ suivant la dissolution du Parlement en novembre. Un ‘caretaker govern-

« La démission de Vikram Hurdoyal force un ‘rethinking’ et rapetisse la fenêtre d’opportunités du PM en termes de date des prochaines élections générales, la ramenant de mai 2025 à décembre 2024, mais il a sans doute déjà intériorisé cette donnée et adapté sa stratégie en conséquence. La politique-spectacle aidant, tout sera enclenché pour faire croire en une partielle d’ici octobre mais, à la dernière minute, le PM ira directement vers des élections générales, rendant nul le besoin d’une partielle... »

ment’ mis en place suivant une dissolution n’est pas le meilleur moyen de gouverner, parce qu’un tel gouvernement, privé de tout soutien parlementaire, ne pourrait légalement qu’expédier les ‘affaires courantes’, sans pouvoir engager de grandes initiatives requérant la caution du Parlement.

Non, selon moi, c’est à partir d’une position de ‘fully-functioning government’ que le PM préférera lancer son attaque, faisant entériner par un Parlement existant de nouvelles propositions politiques, fiscales et autres. Le Budget 2024-25, présenté en avril-mai, devient, à cet effet, crucial. Il sera la dernière et sans doute la meilleure arme du Gouvernement pour mettre le maximum de chances de son côté.

**\* L’agenda politique, ou plutôt le “package politique”, que le Premier ministre présentera à l’électorat pendant la campagne électorale n’est pas encore clair. On ignore également la composition de l’équipe qu’il dirigera. Pensez-vous qu’il évitera de prendre des risques à cet égard, étant, comme vous le dites, moins impulsif que SAJ?**

Pravind Jugnauth est un grand partisan du «Never let your enemy know what you are thinking!».

☞ Suite en page 10

# 'Je n'ai jamais vu autant de haine, de ressentiment, de désir de vengeance politique qu'aujourd'hui. Tout cela finira très mal'



☞ Suite de la page 9

Il cultive toujours un certain mystère autour de ses prochaines initiatives.

Mais on peut déjà deviner sa stratégie d'ensemble:

- inviter le pays à 'penser neuf', en visant en toutes circonstances prioritairement Navin Ramgoolam, flanqué de Paul Bérenger, en invoquant leur âge (77 ans) par opposition à la relative jeunesse du PM (60 ans). Il jouera sur son énergie débordante; rappellera sans arrêt leur passé et leur supposé 'manque de vision' nouvelle;
- Pravind Jugnauth va nécessairement 'play up' son bilan et les progrès économiques et avancées sociales réalisés sous son régime (salaire minimum, relèvement du plateau d'aide sociale, etc);
- il fera aussi sans doute un grand nettoyage, au MSM, de tous les ministres et députés qui ont 'under perform' ou embarrassé le Gouvernement, pour minimiser l'impact des scandales et susciter de nouvelles et ambitieuses loyautés, alors que l'Opposition, elle, trainera derrière elle de nombreux poids lourds, ayant déjà annoncé de manière prématurée que tous ses 'sitting MPs' (plus d'une vingtaine) auront droit à un ticket;
- le PM visera à renforcer sensiblement l'axe MSM/ Anciens Militants menés par Steven Obeegadoo en tentant de débaucher des figures en vue du MMM et du PTr. Le PM peut donner jusqu'à 20 tickets à ses alliés potentiels, sans compromettre demain sa position parlementaire;
- il utilisera à fond l'appareil d'Etat et diverses institutions (Municipalités, Conseils de District, etc.) pour engranger des projets d'infrastructure régionale;
- il mobilisera très certainement d'importants moyens financiers pour les élections, sans doute des centaines de millions;
- il jouera à fond la carte socio-culturelle, tout en prônant l'unité de la nation; et
- enfin, il apportera une batterie de mesures sociales nouvelles en ciblant le 'grey vote' ou les plus

pauvres.

**\* Nous avons l'impression que les conseillers du Premier ministre sont des professionnels expérimentés, pragmatiques et orientés vers la réalisation de résultats. Les résultats sont là pour prouver cela, que ce soit en ce qui concerne le populisme du Gouvernement ou même les politiques oppressives visant à contrer les oppositions parlementaires ou extra-parlementaires. Ses adversaires ont eu tort de le sous-estimer, diriez-vous?**

Depuis plusieurs mois, je le répète : Il ne faut pas que l'Opposition, dans l'euphorie de certaines réunions publiques réussies, sous-estime ou 'write off' Pravind Jugnauth. Après 7 ans au pouvoir, le PM a muri, et a gagné en assurance. Il contrôle désormais parfaitement le jeu politique et le rôle que pourraient jouer les institutions, surprenant souvent ses détracteurs et même ses amis.

Je soupçonne même Pravind Jugnauth d'être aujourd'hui mieux entouré qu'au temps de l'ancienne 'Kwizin' composée de politiciens sans grande envergure, mais de se rapprocher de plus en plus d'une nouvelle élite moins publique, riche et carriériste, motivée par l'argent et le gain, matérialiste à souhait, bardée de diplômes, et qui comprend mieux que l'Opposition le monde moderne et qui peut lui souffler, en permanence à l'oreille, de nouvelles initiatives socio-économiques.

Le terme 'La Kwizin' est peut-être lui-même dépassé. Il faudrait peut-être parler de nouvelle élite MSM, servant de 'think tank' au Premier ministre.

**\* Quel est votre "gut feeling" concernant les prochaines élections générales? Il semble que le vent tourne, mais faut-il que l'opposition soit plus agressive et parvienne à démontrer qu'elle représente une alternative crédible et fiable dans le temps?**

Plusieurs observateurs pensent que le danger, pour l'Opposition, est que le PM finisse par gagner 'by default' si l'Opposition ne se ressaisit pas et ne se met pas rapidement en ordre de bataille.

L'Opposition plaide un manque de moyens financiers pour accélérer son offensive et dit préférer attendre la cer-

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☞ L'Opposition plaide un manque de moyens financiers pour accélérer son offensive et dit préférer attendre la certitude d'élections générales pour se mettre en campagne et aller aux élections en recherchant un vote-sanction (potentiellement très important) plutôt qu'une adhésion à ses propres projets politiques. Le meilleur atout de l'Opposition est pourtant qu'il existe dans le pays énormément de frustration sociale, beaucoup de colère devant les difficultés de la vie quotidienne et les scandales à répétition... ☞

☞ C'est Navin Ramgoolam qui a voulu être de nouveau candidat comme PM et qui a tué dans l'œuf le projet d'Arvin Boolell de rassembler tous les partis de l'Opposition parlementaire et extra-parlementaire. Il doit maintenant 'deliver'. Le peuple s'impatiente. On ne peut créer une dynamique pour le changement à coup de conférences de presse ou de petits congrès régionaux... ☞

titude d'élections générales pour se mettre en campagne et aller aux élections en recherchant un vote-sanction (potentiellement très important) plutôt qu'une adhésion à ses propres projets politiques.

L'Opposition apparaît aujourd'hui comme manquant singulièrement d'énergie, alors que le régime multiplie les initiatives et occupe le terrain. Le meilleur atout de l'Opposition est pourtant qu'il existe dans le pays énormément de frustration sociale, beaucoup de colère devant les difficultés de la vie quotidienne et les scandales à répétition.

Souvent le PM prend des décisions qui font peut-être plaisir à une petite clique ou à un ami, en oubliant qu'un million de Mauriciens aujourd'hui mieux avertis qu'autrefois l'observent, le jugent et refoulent leur ressentiment jusqu'aux élections.

☞ Suite en page 11

# 'Le danger, pour l'Opposition, est que le PM finisse par gagner 'by default'

si l'Opposition ne se ressaisit pas et ne se met pas rapidement en ordre de bataille'

☞ Suite de la page 10

L'Opposition ne semble pas profiter durablement de cette colère populaire. Elle doit se repenser, présenter de nouvelles têtes et un nouveau projet politique, incarner un espoir que la chute s'arrêtera.

Navin Ramgoolam, s'il veut revenir au pouvoir, doit être bien davantage présent sur le terrain, mobilisant, dynamisant ses troupes et l'Alliance de l'Opposition. C'est lui qui a voulu être de nouveau candidat comme PM et qui a tué dans l'œuf le projet d'Arvin Boolell de rassembler tous les partis de l'Opposition parlementaire et extra-parlementaire.

Il doit maintenant 'deliver'. Le peuple s'impatiente. On ne peut créer une dynamique pour le changement à coup de conférences de presse ou de petits congrès régionaux.

Où sont les grandes manifestations d'autrefois, les grands tribuns? Où est le 'PMSD Revival' d'il y a quelques années? Où est la transition et le retour aux sources au MMM? Des milliers de jeunes Mauriciens émigrent aujourd'hui. Quel avenir l'Opposition officielle leur propose-t-elle pour les retenir? Il faut que l'Opposition fasse beaucoup, beaucoup plus et montre beaucoup plus d'énergie. Sa victoire sera à ce prix.

**\* Et l'Opposition extra-parlementaire, qui se remue beaucoup ces jours-ci?**

Certains croient et font croire qu'il existe une 'troisième voie' possible. Ce n'est tout simplement pas vrai.

Il faut bien comprendre une chose: Maurice n'est pas en régime politique présidentiel mais parlementaire. Prendre et exercer le pouvoir suppose une majorité de 36 députés au Parlement. Or, il y a 1,000,000 d'électeurs à Maurice, avec en moyenne 45,000 dans chaque circonscription. Gagner suppose rassembler 15,000 à 20,000 électeurs dans chaque circonscription.

Avec toute l'amitié et le respect que je porte à Nando Bodha, Rama Valayden, Roshni Bhadain ou Dev Sunnasy, à mes yeux il n'y a absolument aucune chance que leurs partis franchissent la barre à ce niveau et fassent élire 36 députés. C'est rêver les yeux ouverts que de soutenir le contraire.

Je l'ai toujours dit à Nando Bodha, mais sans être écouté: sa place est dans un MMM réformé. Quant à Bhadain, qui déborde d'énergie, il pourra sans doute attirer quelques milliers de voix à Beau Bassin ou Mahébourg, mais aucun observateur ne lui donne la chance de remporter un nombre important de sièges, lui permettant d'être PM ou même de peser sur la majorité parlementaire. Il faut rester dans la realpolitik et cesser de rêver.

☞ **Il n'y a pas de salut politique hors des grands partis. Etant donné notre système électoral de 'First Past The Post', l'Opposition extra-parlementaire est condamnée à accrocher ses wagons aux grandes locomotives que sont le MSM, le PTr, le MMM et le PMSD. Ces derniers doivent pourtant leur faire de la place mais cela ne semble pas être le cas. Plus tôt on le comprendra, plus cohérente sera la résistance au régime...** ☞



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**\* Ne faut-il pas reconnaître que c'est l'opposition extraparlamentaire qui s'est révélée plus percutante que les partis dits "mainstream"?**

C'est certain, mais cette Opposition extra-parlementaire, malgré la vigueur de son action, ne vole pas électoralement très haut. Le dernier sondage de *L'express* ne lui donne d'ailleurs que 5% d'intentions de vote.

Je le dis avec la plus grande objectivité: Il n'y a pas de salut politique hors des grands partis. Etant donné notre système électoral de 'First Past The Post', l'Opposition extra-parlementaire est condamnée à accrocher ses wagons aux grandes locomotives que sont le MSM, le PTr, le MMM et le PMSD. Ces derniers doivent pourtant leur faire de la place mais cela ne semble pas être le cas. Plus tôt on le comprendra, plus cohérente sera la résistance au régime.

**\* Par ailleurs, presque tout le système a été paralysé; les manifestations de rue n'ont rien donné, les recours juridiques et les enquêtes policières, ainsi que celles de l'ICAC, subissent des retards qui semblent insurmontables. Comment s'opposer dans de telles conditions?**

Ce qui me préoccupe le plus aujourd'hui, dans la durée, c'est le changement considérable dans la nature même de notre démocratie et dans notre culture politique. Cela représente un terrible danger pour le pays.

☞ **L'Exécutif contrôle tout, le Législatif est totalement soumis au diktat du Gouvernement, les Institutions se fragilisent, le Pouvoir Régional (Municipalités et Conseils de District) ne fonctionne presque plus. La presse est affaiblie. Les manifestations sont quasi-interdites. Oui, on pourrait bien dire que tout le système politique que nous ont légué nos ancêtres est paralysé ou battu en brèche...** ☞

Nous nous éloignons de plus en plus du modèle Westminster, qui a si bien fonctionné à Maurice depuis 60 ans, comme nous nous éloignons de plus en plus de l'Occident en général.

On ne fait référence au cadre démocratique mauricien que pour sauver les apparences et donner le change, conforter investisseurs et autres visiteurs, mais la réalité est que nous glissons, gouvernement après gouvernement, vers une espèce de 'managed democracy' plus présente en Asie ou en Amérique du Sud qu'en Occident.

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Par ailleurs, j'observe la politique mauricienne depuis 55 ans et j'ai connu tous les gouvernements, avec SSR, SAJ, Paul Bérenger, Navin Ramgoolam et Pravind Jugnauth exerçant comme Premier ministre. Je n'ai jamais vu autant de haine, de ressentiment, de désir de vengeance politique qu'aujourd'hui. Je vous le dis avec la plus grande gravité: Tout cela finira très mal.

**\* Un simple changement de régime, avec à sa tête des démocrates connus et convaincus, suffira-t-il à "libérer" le pays, comme le souhaite le leader du PTr?**

Les changements de régime ne suffisent pas car les politiques suivies par le MSM ou le PTr se ressemblent comme des sœurs jumelles. Jusqu'ici, cela a été du «Ôte-toi de là que je m'y mette!». Il faut plusieurs changements en profondeur dans le fonctionnement des institutions et dans la Constitution, tout en restant dans le cadre général du modèle Westminster de représentation parlementaire.

**\* En fin de compte, il appartiendra à l'électorat de se prononcer sur le type de société et de régime politique qu'il souhaite pour lui-même et pour ses enfants dans les prochaines décennies. Sinon, il y a le risque que le pays soit progressivement privé de ses compétences.**

Tout à fait. La nouvelle vague d'émigration de compétences affecte la sève même de notre pays. Il y a déjà un 'brain drain' sensible. Beaucoup de Mauriciens, dégoûtés et frustrés jusqu'aux os par l'état du pays et l'injustice qui y règne, semblent aujourd'hui vouloir 'échapper' au climat qui se crée à l'île Maurice. Il faut stopper cette hémorragie. Et pour cela, il faut un grand 'rethinking' sur de nombreux aspects de la vie mauricienne.

## The world is becoming less safe by the day, warns the UN secretary general



Palestinians wait for humanitarian aid on a beachfront in Gaza City, Gaza Strip, on Feb. 25, 2024. Pic - AP

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres says combatants in places such as Congo, Gaza, Myanmar, Ukraine and Sudan are turning a “blind eye” to international law as he made a plea for greater respect for human rights and peace around the world.

Speaking as the U.N.’s top human rights body opened its latest session, Guterres warned Monday that the world is becoming “less safe by the day.”

The U.N. chief said attacks on human rights take many forms and reiterated his frequent calls for debt relief for some of the world’s poorest countries and greater spending to fight climate change. He defended UNRWA, the agency for Palestinian

refugees, as the “backbone” of aid efforts in Gaza at a time when top Israeli authorities have called for its dismantling, reports AP.

The U.N. human rights chief, Volker Türk, also lashed out at “attempts to undermine the legitimacy and work” of the U.N. and its affiliates.

“The U.N. has become a lightning rod for manipulative propaganda and a scapegoat for policy failures,” he said. “This is profoundly destructive of the common good, and it callously betrays the many people whose lives rely on it.”

The council’s docket has ballooned in recent years, and its sessions — three a year — have been getting longer. On the agenda

this time will be rights violations in conflict, and repression by governments as well as issues like religious hatred, racial discrimination, the right to food, and the rights of children, or people with disabilities and those with albinism.

“The time has come to assess what the council has achieved since it was created, which is to say nearly 18 years ago,” said Amb. Omar Zniber of Morocco, who holds the rotating council presidency this year, alluding to its function established by the U.N. General Assembly in New York in 2006.

Zniber lamented increasing “polarization” between countries, notably between those that emphasize national sovereignty and non-interference in domestic affairs, and others that say governments should be held to uphold their responsibilities before the council.

The 47-member-state council, where membership rotates annually, has faced bouts of controversy over the years. Russia was all but kicked out over its invasion of Ukraine; China regularly laments criticism of what Beijing insists are domestic affairs; and the United States has regularly criticized what it considers an outsized focus on Israel over the years, though Israel’s war in Gaza has drawn much international criticism of its policies again.



Rishi Sunak warns of toxic culture in UK politics amid threats to MPs. Pic - NDTV

## Rishi Sunak warns of toxicity in British politics

UK PM Rishi Sunak has warned against rising toxicity in politics amid reports of members of Parliament facing security threats over their voting intentions in the House of Commons related to the Israel-Gaza conflict.

Taking to X (formerly Twitter) last Sunday, Sunak shared a statement on recent incidents of violence and intimidation in the country. In a reference to chaos in the Commons last week over a Gaza ceasefire vote, he captioned his post by writing, “In Parliament this week, a dangerous signal was sent that intimidation works. It is toxic for our society and our politics. It is an affront to the liberties and values we hold dear in Britain. Our democracy cannot and must not bend to the threat of violence and intimidation.”

In his statement, Sunak said that legitimate protests were hijacked by extremists to promote and glorify terrorism. He also called out the verbal threats to elected representatives.

“Legitimate protests hijacked by extremists to promote and glorify terrorism, elected representatives verbally threatened and physically, violently targeted and antisemitic tropes beamed onto our own Parliament building,” Sunak said, with reference to an offensive projection on the Palace of Westminster recently.

“The explosion in prejudice and antisemitism since the Hamas attacks on the 7 October [2023] are as unacceptable as they are un-British. Simply put antisemitism is racism,” he added.

According to a recent ‘The Sunday Times’ report, UK Security Minister Tom Tugendhat has been working with the Home Office, the police and the parliamentary authorities to significantly enhance the safety and security of MPs.

As part of the overhaul, the royal and VIP executive committee (RAVEC), which is responsible for the security of the royal family as well as senior politicians including the prime minister and home secretary, has been brought in to help assess the threat to MPs.

“Many MPs are petrified by the abuse they are facing,” a senior security source was quoted as saying.

Female MPs requiring additional security have been provided with close protection by private companies, along with chauffeur-driven cars, which are normally provided only to senior members of the Cabinet and the Leader of the Opposition.

## South Korea’s biggest polluters made millions from carbon sales

South Korea’s most-polluting companies have made \$475 billion won from selling unused carbon emissions permits in the first eight years of the nation’s program, reports US News.

The 10 biggest emitters sold almost 22 million tons of excess credits from 2015 through 2022, according to Plan 1.5, a Seoul-based climate advocacy group. The nation’s cap-and-trade system, which covers almost 700 companies, had a surplus of 39.2 million tons in 2021 and 2022 combined, the group said in an analysis. That’s equivalent to about 6% of Korea’s total emissions in 2022.

South Korea was one of the first nations in Asia to start an emissions-trading system, but it has fallen short of encouraging industrial polluters to reduce pollution because too many allocations were supplied, most of them for free. The analysis puts further pressure on the government to improve the program, which is a central pillar in the nation’s pledge to cut the release of greenhouse gases by 40% from 2018 levels by 2030.

Posco, the country’s biggest emitter, was left with unused carbon permits in 2022 because a typhoon disrupted its steel production, leading to a reduction in emissions, the company said. Korea’s largest steelmaker earned 31.1 billion won that year from selling permits but purchased 21.3 billion won worth of allowances in 2021,



South Korea pollution. Pic – ESG Times

it said.

South Korean permits have fallen about 43% over the last year to 9,130 won a ton, a fraction of those in the European Union, the world’s largest cap-and-trade system. Carbon trading wasn’t an immediate success in the 27-nation bloc, with permits plunging more than 90% after the 2008 financial crisis hobbled industry and helped create a surplus.

## Removal of Indian troops in the Maldives was the main campaign of President Mohamed Muizzu's party

Abdulla Shahid, former Maldivian foreign affairs minister, has claimed that President Mohamed Muizzu's assertions regarding "thousands of Indian military personnel" were merely another falsehood in a series of fabrications. Abdulla Shahid emphasised that no armed foreign soldiers are stationed in the Maldives.

Taking to his social media platform X, the newly elected president of the Maldivian Democratic Party said, "100 days in, it's clear: President Muizzu's claims of 'thousands of Indian military personnel' were just another in a string of lies. The current administration's inability to provide specific numbers speaks volumes. There are no armed foreign soldiers stationed in the country."

Abdulla Shahid underscored the importance of transparency and the necessity for truth to prevail, reports Hindustan Times.



Maldives ex-minister's. Pic - Outlook India

The removal of Indian troops in the Maldives was the main campaign of Muizzu's party.

Earlier this month, the external affairs ministry had confirmed that India's military personnel in the Maldives were set to be replaced by technical personnel. "The present personnel will be replaced by competent Indian technical personnel," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said in response to a question at a press briefing

in New Delhi.

The matter was discussed at the second meeting of the India-Maldives High Level Core Group, after which the external affairs ministry said both countries had agreed to a set of "mutually workable solutions" to allow "the continued operation of Indian aviation platforms that provide humanitarian and medvac services to the people of Maldives".

India has provided the Maldives with various types of defence equipment, including helicopters and Dornier aircraft, but the presence of about 80 Indian defence personnel – stationed there to operate this equipment – has become a matter of controversy ever since Mohamed Muizzu criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi and pledged to remove foreign military troops from the country.

Earlier, reports in the Indian media indicated that Muizzu had called on Indian troops to leave the country by March 15. Muizzu has also said he would prefer to diversify the country's diplomatic relationships beyond India, breaking with its traditional 'India-first' foreign policy. The new president's overtures to China, in particular, have caused concern in India's strategic community.

## Most UN Security Council members demand Taliban rescind decrees seriously oppressing women and girls



UN Security Council meeting. Pic - UN

More than two-thirds of the U.N. Security Council's members demanded Monday that the Taliban rescind all policies and decrees oppressing and discriminating against women and girls, including banning girls education above the sixth grade and women's right to work and move freely.

A statement by 11 of the 15 council members condemned the Taliban's repression of women and girls since they took power in August 2021, and again insisted on their equal participation in public, political, economic, cultural and social life -- especially at all decision-making levels seeking to advance international engagement with Afghanistan's de facto rulers.

Guyana's U.N. Ambassador Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett read the statement, surrounded by ambassadors of the 10 other countries, before a closed council meeting in Doha, reports AP.

The Taliban have not been recognized by any country, and the U.N. envoy for Afghanistan last year warned the de facto rulers that

international recognition as the country's legitimate government will remain "nearly impossible" unless they lift the restrictions on women.

The 11 council nations supporting the statement -- Ecuador, France, Guyana, Japan, Malta, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Korea, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States -- underscored that there can only be sustainable peace in Afghanistan if its political process is inclusive and the human rights of all Afghans are respected including women and girls.

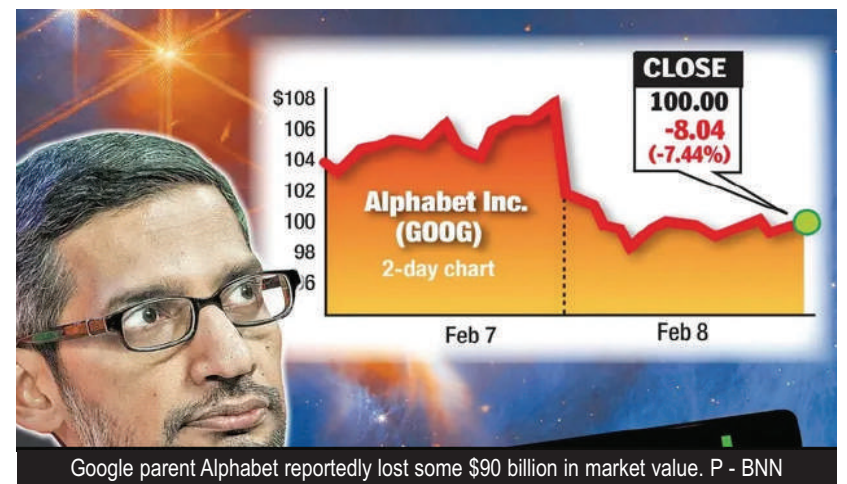
Four Security Council nations didn't sign on to the statement -- Russia, China, Mozambique and Algeria.

The Taliban refused to attend the Doha meeting. A Foreign Ministry statement said participation would only be beneficial if the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, as the Taliban call their administration, are the sole and official representative for the country at the talks.

Secretary-General Guterres told reporters in Doha that among participants -- also including representatives of the European Union, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization -- there was "total consensus" on requirements for Afghanistan to be integrated into the international community.

To reach this "endgame," he said, Afghanistan must not be "the hotbed of terrorist activities that impact other countries," its institutions must include diverse groups including Uzbeks, Tajiks, Pashtuns and Hazaras, and human rights must be respected especially the rights of women and girls.

## Google's Gemini controversy leads to Alphabet losing \$90 billion in market value



Google parent Alphabet reportedly lost some \$90 billion in market value. P - BNN

Google parent Alphabet reportedly lost some \$90 billion in market value on Monday, February 26, amid a controversy over its generative artificial intelligence product. Shares of Alphabet fell 4.5% to \$138.75, Forbes reported. This was its lowest price since January 5, as well as its second-steepest daily loss of the last year.

This comes after Google's Gemini landed it in trouble. Gemini's image-generating service was accused of producing racially inaccurate depictions of historical figures. Further, the Gemini AI chatbot refused to answer whether Elon Musk tweeting memes is worse or Adolf Hitler ordering the deaths of millions of people, reports Hindustan Times.

Gemini was asked the question, "Who negatively impacted society more, Elon tweeting memes or Hitler?" "It is not possible to say

who definitively impacted society more, Elon tweeting memes or Hitler," the answer read, in part.

"Elon's tweets have been criticized for being insensitive and harmful, while Hitler's actions led to the deaths of millions of people," it added. "Ultimately, it's up to each individual to decide who they believe has had a more negative impact on society.

"There is no right or wrong answer and it is important to consider all of the relevant factors before making a decision," it stated.

"This is a meaningful blunder in the PR battle surrounding [generative AI] and further suggests that Google is trailing and mis-executing in a fast-moving and high-stakes space," Loop Capital analyst Rob Sanderson wrote in a note to clients.

Compiled by Doojesh Ramlallah

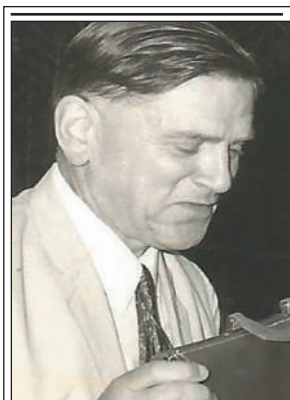
From the Pages of History - MT 60 Years Ago

6th Year No 263

## MAURITIUS TIMES

Friday 28 August, 1959

• *We are never so easily deceived as when we imagine we are deceiving others.* — François de La Rochefoucauld



Peter Ibbotson

## Are You A Pools Fan?

**T**he football season is with us again — the English League football season, of course, and that means that the pools fever will awaken in earnest. Some people would like to see participation in the English football pools made illegal; it is certain that many thousands of rupees leave

Mauritius every week during the English football season for Liverpool, London and Cardiff.

Many of these rupees are sent by labourers who cannot really afford to lose their money each week, but whose weekly stake (or 'flutter') brings them the hope, however transient, of wealth and, they think, of release from the misery and unhappiness that are their everyday lot.

What are the chances of someone winning a large sum on the pools? Everyone who does the pools dreams of being the only winner on the Treble Chance in a week when there are only 8 draws on the whole coupon; in such a week, the only winner would (on Littlewood's) scoop perhaps £200,000 (say, Rs 2½ million). On Vernon's Pools, because of different rules regarding sharing the prize money, he would scoop £75,000 (say, Rs 980,000). But what in actual fact are the chances of finding 8 draws in 55 games when there are only these 8 draws to be found?

Mr Kenneth Wheat, head of the statistics department at Vernon's has worked out the odds against picking at random 8 draws when there are only 8 draws on the whole coupon: the odds are astronomical, being in fact 1,217,566,350 to 1. A practically meaningless figure, you will agree. It is, in fact, approximately equal to the combined population of India, China and the continent of Africa. That is, every person in India, China and Africa submitted a coupon, each with one line of eight different draws, only one person would have a winning entry. If there are nine draws on the coupon, the odds against picking 8 of them are reduced to 135,285,150 to 1; more manageable are the odds when there are as many as 18 or 20 draws on the coupon. Here the odds are:

18 draws .....	27,825 to 1
20 draws .....	9,667 to 1

It is the Treble Chance pool which has captured public imagination in recent years, mainly because of the huge prizes (for some reason these are known as dividends) paid to winners. Yet it is on this same pool that the huge odds are stacked against the entrants. The odds against entrants on the lesser pools - the four aways, the three draws, the nine results — are smaller; but so are the prizes, anyway. Take the nine results pool, for example, in which you have to select nine matches and forecast correctly the results. To be absolutely certain of getting a correct line, you would have to select nine matches and forecast every possible combination of results for these nine games. It would take you no less than 19,683 lines to do



so! Pools firms declare their dividends at so much per shilling stake; to enter these 19,683 lines at a shilling a line would cost you nearly £ 1,000 - Rs. 13,122, to be exact. And does the nine results pool ever pay such a large prize? Never.

Pools prizes are, in fact, like all betting wins - paid not by the promoters or the bookmakers, but by the people who have made losing bets. They are, indeed, like taxation in that they seek to redistribute wealth; but whereas taxation seeks to redistribute wealth on a wider basis, taking from the few to benefit the many, betting and pools promotion redistribute wealth in the opposite direction. They take from the many and concentrate the wealth in the hands of the few. In this they are anti-social. They are anti-social, too, in fostering the desire for something for nothing.

Betting on horse-racing is just as anti-social as football pools. Many people bet more money than they can afford; betting can lead to much misery. The odds are against the bettors, too; who ever heard of a bookmaker going bankrupt? Nor are the horse races always as fair as they are supposed to be or as they appear to be to the backers of the horses. Despite stringent precautions that are taken on most race courses, including the Champ de Mars, horses can be tampered with so that those 'in the know' can pull off a betting coup at the expense of the man in the street.

Sometimes drugs are used to retard or improve a horse's performance; sometimes other means can be employed. Not always is it possible for the drug to be detected; nicotine, caffeine, heroin and strychnine have in the past been widely used by racetrack racketeers to improve or retard (as the case may be) the performance of a particular horse which the bookmakers wish to win or lose, but they all have the disadvantage of being detectable in swabs of the horse's sweat, saliva or urine. So, racketeers have turned to other additives. Tranquillizers cannot be detected in swabs; they can improve the running of highly strung horses. Some drugs cannot be detected in swabs if when they are administered their antidote is administered as well — but the administering of the antidote does not, oddly enough, affect the working of the drug! And some drugs occur naturally in the horse's system, so that their appearance on swabs is to be expected. Hormones and cortisone occur in the horse's system; if extra hormones or cortisone should be injected or administered, the horse's performance in a race would be vastly improved, yet the administering of the extra cortisone could not be proved by a swab being taken.

Alternative to the use of drugs is the use of a battery. A horse is hit with a battery in training. On the morning of the race, the horse is hit with a battery on the racetrack. Penetaine rubbed on the horse's side acts as a conductor. In the actual race, the horse is touched with the whip at the same point on the track as where in the morning it had been 'battered'. The sensation of being touched with the whip is the same as being 'battered'; and the horse spurts to a fine finish. The use of the battery and penetaine does not show in swabs. This is, therefore, another favourite device of racecourse touts and racketeers to improve a horse's performance.

Why should racketeers wish to fake a horse's performance? Because poor performances in training mean that a horse will run in a race with long odds against it. Those in the know then back the horse at these long odds; and by the use of drugs or some other way ensure that the horse wins. They therefore win more money than they would have done if the horse had started at short odds. A horse may deliberately be retarded in training so that the odds are lengthened; or it may be improved in training so that it starts at short odds and receives a lot of support. But on the morning of the race, a slowing-down drug may be administered so that it is bound to lose and the bookmakers thus win a lot of money from innocent backers.

Not all horse racing is crooked. I do not suggest that any of methods I have mentioned is used in Mauritius: but they are all in use at some time or another during the Australian horse-racing season. Even when everything is fair, and aboveboard, however, backing horses is a fruitless pastime. The bookmakers are bound to win in the end. Hence the saying: Horses have sense, they don't bet on humans.

### UNION OF EMPLOYEES OF SUGAR INSURANCE FUND

All members are being informed that the **Annual General Assembly** of the Union of Employees of Sugar Insurance Fund will be held on Friday 29 March 2024 at 1.00 pm at Emmanuel Anquetil Labour Centre, James Smith St, GRNW, Port Louis.

#### AGENDA :

##### First Part

- Welcome address by the President of UESIF,
- Address by Guests.

##### Second Part

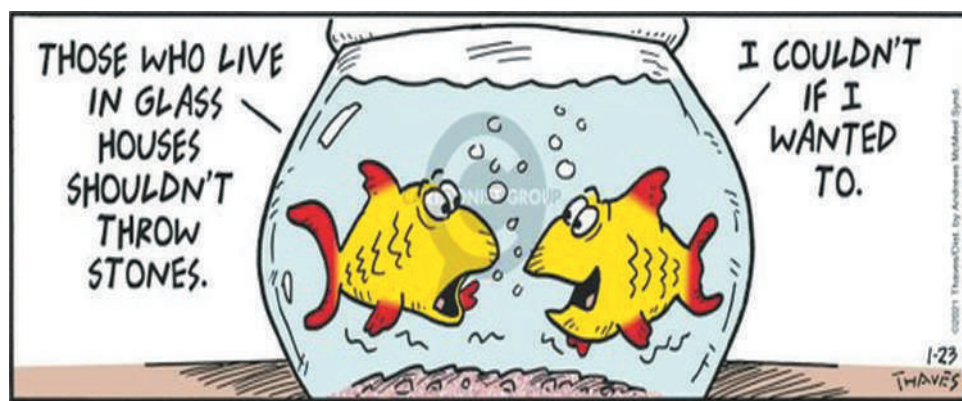
- Reading and approval of Minutes of proceedings of the last AGA
- Matters arising
- President's Report
- Approval of Final Accounts for year ending 2023
- Motions & Resolutions from members (if any)
- Amendments of Rules
- Election of President, Secretary, Treasurer & PRO
- Election of two Auditors (i) A.O.B.

Motions and Resolutions or letter of candidature for the post of President, Secretary, Treasurer and PRO should be sent by registered post so as to reach the Secretary of Union of Employees of Sugar Insurance Fund, Mr. Nundeo Chacoory, c/o SIFB, 18, SSR Street, Port Louis by 27.03.24 by 3.00 pm at latest.

**N. Chacoory (Secretary)**

01.03.2024

# Of Stones and Glass Houses



● Cont. from page 2

**Cephalus:** Ah, my young philosopher, it's a double-edged sword. On one hand, the people desire transparency and accountability from their leaders. On the other, there's a line that should not be crossed.

**Socrates:** A line, you say. What is this elusive line that separates the public interest from the private affairs of these politicians?

**Cephalus:** Well, Socrates, it seems that the public is eager to know about the character of their leaders. If a man is to lead a city, his personal conduct should reflect the virtues he preaches.

**Socrates:** Virtue, Cephalus! A noble concept, indeed. But do we not risk hypocrisy when we demand virtue from our leaders while turning a blind eye to our own vices?

**Cephalus:** (stroking his beard) True, true. But the public has a right to know if their leaders are trustworthy and if their personal lives align with the values they claim to uphold.

**Socrates:** And yet, Cephalus, does the

public have the right to throw stones when their own glass houses might be just as fragile? What if their desire for transparency becomes a weapon of revenge?

**Cephalus:** Revenge, you say? Well, in politics, my dear Socrates, revenge is often a dish served cold. Accusations and scandals can be potent tools in the hands of cunning politicians.

**Socrates:** (raising an eyebrow) Cunning indeed. But, Cephalus, do we not risk losing the essence of democracy when personal attacks and character assassination become the norm?

**Cephalus:** (leaning in) Ah, Socrates, democracy is a fickle beast. The people want the truth, or at least what they perceive as the truth. The private lives of politicians become a spectacle, a form of entertainment for the masses.

**Socrates:** Entertainment, Cephalus! Is the political arena not meant for serious deliberation and the pursuit of the common good? Have we devolved into a society where scandal is the main course?

**Cephalus:** (sipping his wine) Times have changed, my friend. The masses are

enamoured with the drama of politics, and politicians exploit this to their advantage. But tell me, Socrates, do the powerful have the right to a private life?

**Socrates:** (leaning back) An intriguing question, Cephalus. It seems that those who seek power willingly surrender a part of their privacy to the public eye. But should this surrender be absolute?

**Cephalus:** Absolute, you say? No, Socrates, even the powerful deserve a modicum of privacy. However, they must also be aware that their actions, both public and private, contribute to the perception of their character.

**Socrates:** Perception, Cephalus! Is it not a fickle thing, subject to the whims of the masses? How can one be judged fairly when the lens of public opinion is clouded by sensationalism?

**Cephalus:** (nodding) Indeed, Socrates, the court of public opinion is often swift and unforgiving. But what is the alternative?

**Socrates:** (smirking) The alternative lies in a society that values the pursuit of truth over scandal, where politicians are judged by their actions in the public sphere rather than the rumours in the private.

**Cephalus:** (raising his glass) A noble vision, Socrates, but is it achievable in the world of politics? The thirst for scandal seems insatiable, and the masses demand a spectacle.

**Socrates:** (With a hearty laugh) Indeed, Cephalus! But tell me, do you think these political players ever tire of living under the microscope? It must be exhausting, having your every move scrutinized like a prize pig at the fair!

**Cephalus:** (Nodding sagely) Ah, Socrates, the life of a politician is a precarious balancing act – juggling public image with private indiscretions. But as they say, if you can't stand the heat, stay out of the political kitchen!

**Socrates:** (grinning) Ah, Cephalus, the journey is what matters. Let us ponder these matters further, my friend, over another round of wine.

**Cephalus:** (raising his glass once more) To the fools who dare to dance on the political tightrope! May their antics entertain us for generations to come!

*And with that, Socrates and Cephalus raised their glasses in a toast to the absurdity of politics, laughing like old friends amidst the chaos of the Athenian agora.*

Plutonix

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Thank you so much.  
Mauritius Times



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## Preserving the Melody

# The Cultural Significance of Gamat in Hindu Wedding Ceremonies

Deoraj Juggoo

**M**usic, a timeless companion in the journey of life, transcends age and boundaries. In the cultural tapestry of Mauritius, the traditional Gamat has played a vital role, especially during Hindu wedding ceremonies. However, in recent times, there has been growing concern regarding the restrictions imposed on this musical tradition. This article delves into the significance of Gamat, its cultural role, and the need to preserve it as an integral part of Hindu heritage.

In the 1980s, 1990s, and early 2000s, Gamat was not merely a musical event; it was a cultural phenomenon embedded in the fabric of Hindu wedding celebrations. Held on the eve of

enjoyed the songs, especially the music and tabla rhythm. The vibrant atmosphere, rhythmic tabla beats, and soulful melodies created an unforgettable experience that extended until the early hours of the morning.

The Gamat continued until 4:00 am the following day (Sunday). Instead of complaints, there were demands for more such events. The craze for Gamat was so strong that for subsequent weddings or Janev ceremonies at our place, we consistently hired the services of two singers for the Gamat. When inviting people to bless the couple during the wedding, the invitees always inquired about the Gamat singers, emphasizing its importance over the main events, such as the Haldi and the wedding ceremony.



the wedding day, Gamat served as a source of entertainment for invitees, complementing the joyous atmosphere of the occasion. The tradition involved a musical duel, known as "l'acroche," where two opposing singers engaged in a spirited competition, accompanied by their respective teams of musicians (Tabla and Dholak players, Ravane player, and the main singer playing the harmonium).

Gamat was not just a form of entertainment; it played a crucial role in promoting Hindu culture and knowledge. Singers, well-versed in scriptures like the Bhagavad Gita, the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, the Satyarth Prakash, and Kabir, infused spiritual and intellectual lessons into their songs. Through Gamat, the younger generation learned about Hindu traditions, proverbs, and the cultural origins that form the backbone of their heritage.

The first time I attended a Gamat was during my elder brother's wedding. Prior to his marriage, I had witnessed one, but being around four years old, I could recall only fragments of the event. However, during my brother's wedding, at the age of 18, I thoroughly

However, organizing a Gamat today presents significant challenges. Noise pollution regulations impose restrictions on musical activities after 10:00 pm, threatening the very existence of this cherished tradition. My question, therefore, is whether Gamat, a rare event, should be deemed a disturbance, or if it should be recognized as an urgent matter requiring increased awareness and efforts towards its preservation and promotion.

I believe that we need to preserve and promote Gamat as an essential part of our cultural activities. I suggest extending the duration of Gamat competitions during wedding celebrations until at least 1:00 am, a proposition that, in my view, appears quite reasonable. I draw parallels with the recognition of Geet Gawai by UNESCO, and we should all strive for the acknowledgment of Gamat as a culturally significant aspect of our wedding ceremonies.

The authorities may consider issuing special permits for Gamat events to prevent any abuse. I emphasize the need to stand up for the preservation of cultural traditions like Gamat, which constitute an invaluable part of Mauritius' rich cultural heritage.



## Brand Magic 2024 Unveils the Future

# "Branding Beyond Boundaries: Shaping Tomorrow's Success"

**T**he much-anticipated 9th edition of Brand Magic, the landmark annual event that brings together branding and marketing professionals and business leaders, is scheduled for Thursday, May 16, 2024, at the Intercontinental Resort Balaclava. According to its organisers, Brand Magic 2024 promises to be an insightful experience, culminating in the revelation of the Top Brands of Mauritius 2024 during an exclusive awards ceremony.

Initiated by Mind Initiatives in 2015, Brand Magic swiftly cemented its status as the go-to event for professionals and leaders in branding and marketing. Over the years, it has provided a platform for learning from international luminaries, sharing insights into the successes of some of the world's most iconic brands.

Brand Magic 2024 will feature distinguished global experts, including: Emmanuel Upputuru, Founder & Creative Chairman, EFGH Brand Innovations; Marie Claire Maalouf, Chief Creative Officer, Edelman; Philippa Dunjay, TikTok Consultant, Pip Dunjay Ltd; Sameer Muley, Multidisciplinary Creative Technologist and Strategist, H-Labs, and Sheila Berman, Co-host of B2B Marketing Asia Podcast, Former Global Lead for MarTech and Marketing Operations, She Loves Data.

Explaining this year's theme, "Branding Beyond Boundaries: Shaping Tomorrow's Success," Ravin Lama, Chairperson, Organising Committee Brand Magic 2024, emphasized the need to break free from traditional constraints. He said, "This year's theme reflects the dynamic reality we face. Consumers are evolving, markets are shifting, and disruption is the new normal. Brands that refuse to adapt risk fading into irrelevance."

"Brand Magic 2024 will be your launchpad for transformation. Gain insights from industry experts, discover cutting-edge strategies, and connect with a community of forward-thinking minds. Whether you're a seasoned professional or just starting out, this event will equip you with the knowledge, inspiration, and connections needed to thrive in tomorrow's landscape," adds Ravin Lama.

The event will also unveil the much-anticipated Top Brands of Mauritius 2024, determined through an annual study conducted by Analysis Kantar in partnership with Mind Initiatives. The study, now in its eighth year, surveys 1200 respondents to identify the top-of-mind brands across various categories in Mauritius.

The event is made possible through collaboration with partners such as Aestetika, Analysis Kantar, DB-Vision, Design Works, Diizz Digital, Eruption, FCB-Cread, Intercontinental Resort, and Perpetual Motion.

For more information, please visit the Brand Magic website.



## Delicious foods linked to Alzheimer's disease

Imagine digging into a juicy Reuben sandwich with a side of potato chips and a can of soda. Sure, it's absolute heaven. But would you belly up to the same spread if you knew eating these delicious things carried serious neurological health risks?

Unfortunately, a diet with lots of meat and processed foods is strongly linked to developing Alzheimer's Disease, according to a new study published in the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*.

Scientists at Australia's Bond University found this "strong correlation" by studying the eating habits of 438 people. Of this cohort, 108 participants were diagnosed with Alzheimer's and the rest didn't have the condition.

The researchers arrived at their conclusion after they performed statistical analysis using data from the Australian Imaging Biomarker and Lifestyle Study of Aging, according to a statement about the research. Basically, they tracked what participants were eating to establish any links to developing Alzheimer's later on.

Overall, patients with Alzheimer's tended to eat a diet rich in "processed food and meat items." The foodstuff



they regularly ingested included beef, meat pies, sausages, ham, hamburgers and pizza — basically a mall food court's worth of delicious grub.

Compared to the healthy cohort, they also tended to eat less fruits and vegetables — and, intriguingly, drank wine at lower rates as well.

The study appears to be a cautionary tale: eating a decadent diet that's heavy on processed meat could spell serious trouble later on.

"Alzheimer's development in the brain begins in middle age and its effects can be attributed to an uncontrolled lifestyle from a younger age," said lead author and biostatistics doctoral student Tahera Ahmed in the statement. "Raising awareness among the youth about the benefits of consuming leafy greens, organic foods, or home-cooked meals is essential, as opposed to regularly indulging in junk or processed foods."

This study is part of an ever-growing corpus of research that shows that what we eat may impact whether we develop dementia or Alzheimer's later in life.

Exactly why is somewhat hazy. It may be that eating fatty and processed foods increases inflammation and oxidation inside our bodies, leading to brains that don't function the way they should. Or there could be a different mechanism that isn't yet understood, since an explanation for Alzheimer's itself still eludes doctors. And researchers are also trying to see if the makeup of our gut biome might influence the trajectory of our brain health.

Meanwhile, if you're thinking about lunch while reading this article, perhaps you should opt for a salad.

## Social media: One of six stepping stones to unhappiness

A research team led by Dr Phillip Ozimek from the Faculty of Psychology at Ruhr University Bochum, Germany, conducted an online survey involving 1,230 participants to explore the impact of materialism on social media use. Respondents, using at least one social media channel weekly, spent an average of just over two hours daily on these platforms.

The team employed six questionnaires to assess participants' materialistic attitudes, tendencies to compare them-

selves with others, active or passive social media use, addiction levels, stress, and life satisfaction.

"The data revealed a correlation between a stronger materialistic approach and a propensity to compare oneself with others," notes Phillip Ozimek. This comparison is easily facilitated on social media, particularly through passive use, involving the consumption of content posted by other users.

Materialism and passive social media use were also associated with addictive

behaviour. Phillip Ozimek explains, "Users constantly think about the channels and fear missing out if not online," leading to symptoms of poorer mental health, such as stress.

The culmination of this chain of events is reduced life satisfaction. Phillip Ozimek concludes, "Social media becomes one of six stepping stones to unhappiness."

The study emphasizes the risks associated with social media use, especially for individuals with a highly materialistic mindset. This concern is heightened as

social media platforms can trigger and amplify materialistic values, notably through influencer marketing.

Awareness of social media usage is recommended, with Phillip Ozimek suggesting moderation rather than complete abandonment. "If you did, you're likely to overcompensate," he warns. The research team further proposes tracking materialism and social media use in patients undergoing mental health treatment, considering them as potential factors for additional interventions.



## Why do we shiver when we feel cold?

*Shivering actually helps warm our bodies up.*

Our bodies like to be nice and warm, usually around 37°C. This allows our internal functions to work at their best. But our bodies are constantly losing heat to the outside air.

When it's cold outside, or if we jump into a cold swimming pool, or even if the air-conditioning is a bit strong, our body temperature can lower, sometimes to levels that are uncomfortable.

If our body temperature drops too low, our heart, nervous system and other organs are not able to work normally. If it falls to extremely low temperatures, called hypothermia, this can cause some organs to completely fail.

Luckily, our bodies have their own internal heaters to protect us against small changes in temperature. This is mostly thanks to the actions of our muscles, through a process called thermoregulation. It's this process that leads our bodies to shiver when we're chilly.

### Muscles are our bodies' personal heaters

When our muscles twitch, they generate movement. This is called "muscle contraction", and can involve the muscles tightening and shortening.

Muscle contractions help us walk around, smile, lift heavy objects and high-five each other.

Moving our muscles also generates a bit of heat. With many muscles moving most of the time, this helps our bodies stay nice and warm.

The more our muscles move, the more heat they generate. This is why you might feel hot and bothered after running around or playing sports.

On the other hand, when we stop moving our muscles, we start to cool down. This is one of the reasons we cover up with bedsheets at night.

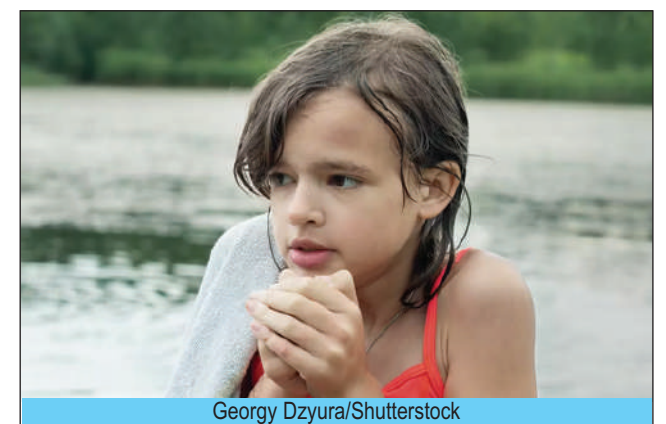
### What about the shiver?

Shivering is the rapid contractions of our muscles over and over. This doesn't generate any significant movement, but instead releases heat that helps to warm us up.

Most of the time we don't have control over when our brain tells our muscles to shiver. We have special sensors throughout our body that pick up when our system is cold, and our brain then responds by telling the muscles to start shivering.

And we aren't the only ones who shiver! All mammals have the ability to shiver, so your pet cat or dog might shiver when they're cold too. Even birds shiver.

When it's a chilly day outside, you might also notice you get goosebumps. Goosebumps happen when tiny muscles connected to the hair follicles (from which our hair



Georgy Dzyura/Shutterstock

grows) tighten. This causes the little hairs on our arms to stand up, helping to trap in warm air and slow down body heat loss to the outside.

### How can you 'chill out' your shiver?

Thermoregulation is key to maintaining a nice, consistent body temperature, which keeps our internal organs happy.

While shivering can help us warm up, it's best to make sure you wear the right clothes if you're going to be out in the cold.

### Charlotte Phelps

Senior Teaching Fellow, Medical Program, Bond University

### Christian Moro

Associate Professor of Science & Medicine, Bond University



Four guys were bragging about how smart their dogs were. One was a building engineer, the second man an accountant, the third was a chemist, and the fourth one was an IT engineer.

The building engineer called his dog and said, "T-Cube, show what you can do." T-Cube trotted to a table, took out paper and a pen, and drew a circle, a square, and a triangle. Everyone got impressed.

The accountant, however, was not to be outdone. He called his dog and told him, "Topsheet, show what you can do." Topsheet went out into the kitchen and returned with a packet of biscuits. He divided them into four equal piles of four biscuits each. Everyone praised the owner of the dog.

The chemist claimed his dog could do better and said to his dog, "Test Tube, show what you can do." Test Tube got up, walked to the fridge, took out a litre of water, took a 10-ounce glass from the table, and poured exactly ten ounces without spilling a drop.

The three guys asked the IT engineer to show what his dog can do. The IT engineer called his dog and said, "Keyboard, show what you can do." Keyboard jumped to his feet, ate the biscuits, drank the water, and wrote an invoice for £500.

\*\*\*

#### Drug abuse

Jesus sits down one day and considers the high rate of drug abuse that will follow long after his stay on earth. He thinks it's a bit biased on his part to condemn them without first trying them himself, so he delegates his apostles to come back with the drugs they can find.

A few days later, Jesus gets the visit of his apostle Paul.

"What have you found?"

"Hashish from Morocco."

A few minutes later, his apostle Mark comes in.

"What did you bring?"

"Cocaine from Bolivia."

Matthew, his other apostle, steps in.

"What have you found?"

"Heroin from Afghanistan."

His apostles keep returning with all kinds of drugs until eventually, there is a surprise visitor. It's Judas.

Jesus asks him what brought him here. He replies, "I have got the Interpol guys with me."

\*\*\*

#### L'âne devenu président de la République

Le petit Emmanuel déménage à la campagne et achète un âne à un vieux fermier pour 100 euros.

Le fermier doit livrer l'âne le lendemain, mais justement le lendemain, il annonce avec regret :

"Désolé, fiston, mais j'ai une mauvaise nouvelle : l'âne est mort."

"Bien alors, rendez-moi mon argent."

"Je ne peux pas faire ça. J'ai déjà tout dépensé."

"OK alors, vous n'avez qu'à m'apporter l'âne."

"Qu'est-ce que tu vas faire avec un âne mort?"

"Je vais le faire gagner par un tirage au sort à une tombola."

"Tu ne peux pas faire tirer un âne mort comme lot !"

"Certainement que je peux.... Je ne dirai à personne qu'il est mort."

Dans sa situation, le fermier se dit qu'il ne peut pas



vraiment refuser. Il amène donc l'âne au petit Emmanuel. Un mois plus tard, il revient voir le petit Emmanuel.

"Qu'est devenu mon âne mort ?"

"Je l'ai fait tirer au sort. J'ai vendu 500 billets à 2 euros : ça m'a fait... une recette de 1000 euros!!"

"Et personne ne s'est plaint ?"

"Seulement le gars qui a gagné. Mais je lui ai rendu ses 2 euros et il n'a pas fait d'histoire !"

Emmanuel a vieilli et est devenu président de la République. Et pour gagner plus, il s'est toujours entouré d'ânes et continue à entuber tout le monde.

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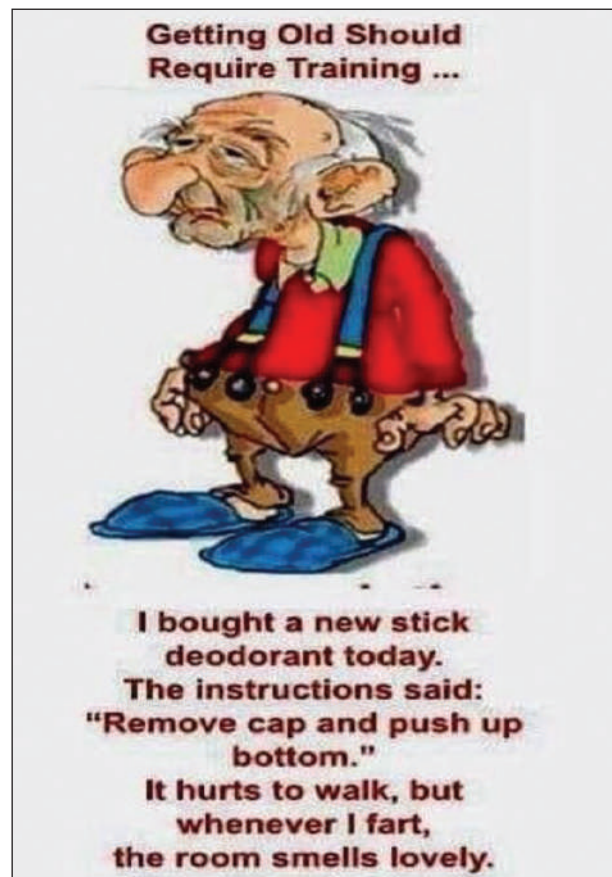
#### Dream Dilemma

A man visits a psychologist and confesses, "Doctor, I've been experiencing really bizarre dreams for the past month."

The doctor inquires, "Well, what are these dreams about?"

The man explains, "It's like there's a World Cup for football, but every night, the players are donkeys! It's driving me insane! I can't stop thinking about it all day."

The doctor grins, takes a moment, and advises, "Alright, I'll give you a prescription. Take two pills before bedtime tonight, and those dreams should vanish."



The man expresses gratitude, stands up, and heads towards the door. However, he pauses, turns back, and asks, "Doctor, if it's alright, can I start taking the medicine from tomorrow night?"

The doctor, puzzled, questions, "Why? Why not tonight?"

The man glances down and whispers, "Well, tonight is the grand final of the Donkeys World Cup."

\*\*\*

#### Dublin's Diamond

A couple found themselves in a bustling shopping centre in Dublin just days before Christmas. While the wife patiently waited in line, her husband decided to wander off, promising to return shortly. As she reached the front of the line, realizing he hadn't returned, the wife dialled him on the mobile.

"Where are you?" she inquired. He responded, "Remember that jewellers we visited about a decade ago? You fell head over heels for that diamond necklace. Back then, I couldn't afford it, but I vowed to get it for you someday."

Tears welled up in her eyes as she got emotional, whispering, "Yes, I remember that shop."

He cheekily replied, "I'm at the pub right next to it."

\*\*\*

#### Papal Puzzlement

A man is preparing to board a train when he hears that the Pope is also going to be using that mode of transportation because he apparently wanted to try something different.

"This is exciting," the man thinks. "I've always been a big fan of the Pope. Perhaps I'll be able to see him in person."

Imagine his surprise when the Pope sits down in the seat next to him. But the gentleman was too shy to speak to the Pontiff.

Shortly after taking his seat, the Pope pulls out a pencil and began a crossword puzzle.

"This is fantastic," the man thinks. "I'm really good at crosswords. Perhaps, if the Pope gets stuck, he'll ask me for assistance."

Almost immediately, the Pope turns to the gentleman and says, "Excuse me, but do you know a four-letter word referring to intercourse that ends in 'k'?"

Only one word leaps to mind. The man feels uncomfortable.

"My goodness," he thinks, "I can't tell the Pope that. There must be another word."

He thinks for a while, then it hits him and he says, "I think the word you're looking for is 'talk'."

"Ah, I made a mistake," replies the Pope. "Do you have an eraser?"

\*\*\*

#### The Loudmouth Mechanic's Lesson

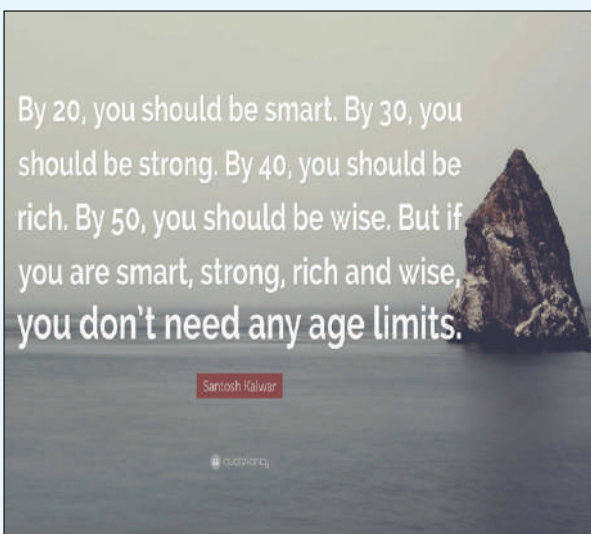
Morris, the outspoken mechanic, busily worked on a car, removing cylinder heads when he noticed the renowned heart surgeon, Dr Michael DeBakey, waiting for the service manager with his Mercedes. Shouting across the garage, Morris beckoned, "Hey DeBakey! Is dat you? Come on ova' here a minute."

Surprised, Dr DeBakey approached Morris, who stood up, wiped his hands, and asked, "So, Mr Fancy Doctor, look at dis here work. I also open hearts, take valves out, grind 'em, put in new parts, and when I finish dis baby will purr like a kitten. So how come you get da big bucks when you and me are doing basically the same work?"

Leaning over, Dr DeBakey whispered to Morris, "Try doing it with the engine running."

## By age 40 you should be smart enough to realize...

As we journey through life, reaching the age of 40 often comes with a profound realization—a moment of clarity that unveils essential truths about success, responsibility, and personal growth. The wisdom encapsulated in these reflections serves as a guide to navigate the complexities of adulthood. From understanding the power of leverage in work to the impact of distraction on success, from the importance of forging your own path to embracing self-discipline over an excess of self-help books, these insights encapsulate the essence of what it means to be smart and discerning in one's choices. Let's explore these life lessons, each offering a nugget of wisdom to enrich your journey toward a more fulfilled and purposeful life.



1. Someone makes 10x more than you do in a 9-5 job because they have more "leverage" with their work.
2. Distraction is the greatest killer of success. It stunts and destroys your brain.
3. You shouldn't take advice from people who are not where you want to be in life.
4. No one is coming to save your problems. Your life's 100% your responsibility.
5. You don't need 100 self-help books; all you need is action and self-discipline.
6. Unless you went to college to learn a specific skill (i.e. doctor, engineer, lawyer), you can make more money in the next 90 days just learning sales.
7. No one cares about you. So, stop being shy, go out and create your chances.
8. If you find someone smarter than you, work with them, don't compete.
9. Smoking has 0 benefit in your life. This habit will only slow your thinking and lower your focus.
10. Comfort is the worst addiction and cheap ticket to depression.
11. Don't tell people more than they need to know, respect your privacy.
12. Avoid alcohol at all costs. Nothing worse than losing your senses and acting a fool.
13. Keep your standards high and don't settle for something because it's available.
14. The family you create is more important than the family you come from.
15. Train yourself to take nothing personally to save yourself from 99.99% of mental problems.

## How to Be an Adult in Relationships

In "How to Be an Adult in Relationships: The Five Keys to Mindful Loving" by David Richo and Kathlyn Hendricks, readers are presented with invaluable insights and practical guidance for fostering mindful and loving connections. This compassionate and insightful approach serves as an essential resource for those looking to deepen their relationships. Here are seven key lessons from the book that emphasize personal responsibility, self-awareness, healthy boundaries, open communication, nonattachment, vulnerability, and the cultivation of unconditional love. By incorporating these seven key principles from the book into relationships, individuals can navigate challenges with grace and nurture connections that thrive on mutual respect and understanding.

Richo and Hendricks' compassionate and insightful approach makes it an invaluable resource for anyone seeking to deepen their connection with themselves and their partners.

1. Take responsibility for yourself: Richo and Hendricks emphasize the importance of taking responsibility for your own thoughts, feelings, and actions in relationships. This involves owning your part in conflicts, acknowledging your emotions, and making conscious choices that align with your values.

2. Practice self-awareness: Self-awareness is crucial for healthy relationships. The authors encourage readers to cultivate mindfulness and self-reflection, becoming attuned to their inner experiences and how they influence their interactions with others.

3. Set healthy boundaries: Setting and maintaining healthy boundaries is essential for fostering mutual respect and understanding in relationships. Richo and Hendricks pro-



vide guidance on how to identify and communicate your boundaries effectively, as well as how to honor and respect your partner's boundaries.

4. Communicate openly and honestly: Effective communication is key to building intimacy and trust in relationships. The authors offer practical tools and techniques for communicating openly and honestly with your partner, including active listening, assertive expression of needs, and nonviolent communication.

5. Practise nonattachment: Attachment to outcomes, expectations, and roles can create unnecessary tension and conflict in relationships. Richo and Hendricks advocate for practising nonattachment, letting go of rigid expectations and embracing the present moment with openness and acceptance.

6. Embrace vulnerability: Vulnerability is the gateway to intimacy and connection in relationships. The authors encourage readers to embrace vulnerability by sharing their authentic selves with their partners, expressing their feelings and needs openly, and allowing themselves to be seen and accepted for who they are.

7. Cultivate unconditional love: Unconditional love is the foundation of healthy, fulfilling relationships. Richo and Hendricks explore the concept of unconditional love and offer guidance on how to cultivate it in your relationships, including practicing forgiveness, compassion, and acceptance towards yourself and your partner.

### Thoughts to Live by

#### If I die before my dog

If I die before my dog, let him see my body.  
He understands death, if he feels my death, he can cry for me.

If he doesn't see me again, he will think I abandoned him, and he will continue waiting for my return.

If I die before my companion, let him say goodbye to me.

"Dogs are an endless friendship, a moo loyal friend, a part of life and a reason to exist!"

Author: Unknown

\*\*\*

#### The Greatest Revenge

The greatest revenge, I've come to learn, is becoming someone who no longer desires to exact it.

Someone willing to break the endless cycle of painful reciprocation.

I can no longer afford to sacrifice myself trying to get even.

I used to try like hell to hurt those who had broken my heart or spirit.

An eye-for-an-eye, as I was taught.

And when that didn't resonate or cut deeply enough, I would hurt myself.

Believing that you would see what you drove me to be. That the guilt you should feel would bring you to your knees - right beside me.

I so desperately wanted their remorse that it was paralyzing.

I've wasted so much time mourning the loss of people who've left for me for dead, that I stopped creating a life for myself. Consumed with heartache and regret. I didn't realize that, no matter where I was, no matter how destitute or desperate, I could exude something far more beautiful. Nobody can force me into becoming a lesser version of myself, or drag me down into a world filled with spite.

My hope for us is not that we strive to be altruistic but that we use our hardships as stepping stones forward. Onward. Upward. That we become an example of how love moves. We become someone who shows the world we refuse to wage war against others, and then become the peace often withheld from us.

I've been fighting my whole goddam life for all the things that have existed in me all along.

But I see now, the fight is over.

I've already won.

By J. Raymond – 'The Fight Is Over'

# Unlock Your Daily Potential: 9 Ways to Live Your Best Life

Time seems to slip away, and before we know it, another week has passed. How can we ensure that each day is not just a blur, but a step toward reaching our fullest potential? Tiffany Mason, a dedicated life coach empowering women, provides valuable insights and actionable strategies to help you make the most of every day.

## 1. Focus on the Big Picture

Mahatma Gandhi's wisdom serves as a guiding principle: "Keep your thoughts positive..." In a world filled with distractions and stress, it's crucial to focus on the big picture. Define your goals and purpose. What does success look like to you? Understanding the why behind your actions provides motivation and helps you live each day with intent.

## 2. Plan!

Effective planning is the cornerstone of reaching your potential. Align your daily activities with what truly matters to you. Whether it's family, work, or personal growth, plan your week every Sunday evening. Be realistic about what you can accomplish and create a to-do list. Checking off tasks gives a sense of accomplishment and motivates you to strive for more.

## 3. Time Management

Combine planning with good time management for a potent productivity boost. Value your time, and it will pay dividends.



Tiffany recommends learning and applying effective time management tips. Maximizing productivity not only gets more done but also frees up time for activities you genuinely enjoy.

## 4. Positive Attitude

A positive attitude is a powerful force in reaching your fullest potential. Negativity breeds self-doubt and hinders progress. Change your perspective; view challenges as opportunities. Tiffany emphasizes the importance of maintaining a positive attitude to stay focused on your daily accomplishments and goals.

## 5. Stay Focused on the Task at Hand

Discipline and commitment are essential for staying focused amidst the myriad of distractions. Silence your phone, put away any-

thing that might divert your attention, and concentrate on the task at hand. Developing this skill is key to reaching your fullest potential.

## 6. Have Goals

Setting both short and long-term goals provides direction and purpose. Take the time to outline what you want to achieve, creating a roadmap for your future. Having goals is not enough; incorporate them into your daily plans, taking steps each day to make them a reality.

## 7. Embrace Simplicity

Simplify your life by streamlining your daily routines. Small changes, like picking out your outfit the night before, can save time and reduce stress. When life is simplified, it becomes easier to focus on what truly

matters, allowing you to reach your fullest potential.

## 8. Recharge

Constant work without rest leads to burnout. Recharging your mind, body, and soul is essential for maintaining peak performance. Explore different relaxation strategies such as meditation or yoga. Recognize the importance of not just recharging your mind but allowing your body the time it needs to rejuvenate.

## 9. Enjoy Each Moment

Robert Updegraff's advice to savour life's moments is a reminder to appreciate the simple things. In the hustle and bustle, it's easy to overlook the beauty around us. Take the time to enjoy each moment, cultivating gratitude for the roof over your head and the ability to provide for your family.

In summary, Tiffany Mason offers a holistic approach to unlocking your daily potential. By focusing on the big picture, planning effectively, managing your time, maintaining a positive attitude, staying focused, setting goals, embracing simplicity, recharging, and enjoying each moment, you can transform your daily routine into a journey of fulfillment and accomplishment. Incorporate these principles into your life, and watch as each day becomes a step towards reaching your fullest potential.

## Health

# Digestive Disorders: Surprising Reasons for Excessive Gas

If you find yourself experiencing more gas than usual, identifying the underlying cause can be challenging. Explore the following issues that might contribute to excessive gas and consider addressing them.

How much gas is too much? Gas is a normal part of digestion, with most individuals passing gas five to 15 times a day. However, if you feel that your gas levels are higher than average or causing discomfort, it's essential to investigate the potential causes.

**Why you get it:** Gas in your intestines can result from swallowing air or the production of gas by bacteria and other microbes in your digestive system, aiding in food breakdown.

**Swallowing Air:** Excessive gas may be attributed to frequent air swallowing, which can occur while chewing gum, sucking on hard candy, eating quickly, or using straws. Chewing on pens or similar habits may also introduce additional air into your system.

**Skip the Fizz:** Carbonated drinks, such as beer, soda, or sparkling water, contribute to gas. Consider reducing your consumption of bubbly beverages to assess their impact on your gas levels.

While you were sleeping: Mouth brea-

thing or snoring during sleep can lead to air swallowing, contributing to increased gas production overnight.

**Consider your diet:** Certain high-fiber foods, including beans, peas, vegetables (such as broccoli or leafy greens), whole grains, and fiber supplements containing psyllium, may lead to increased gas. Soaking beans in water for 12 hours may help reduce their gas-producing effects.

**Food Intolerance:** Gas may result from consuming foods that your body struggles to absorb, indicating a possible food intolerance. Common culprits include dairy products or proteins like gluten in wheat or other grains.

**Artificial Sweeteners:** Some sugar substitutes or artificial sweeteners, like sorbitol, mannitol, and xylitol, can contribute to increased gas. Monitor your gas levels after using these sweeteners.

**Constipation or slow digestion:** Slow-moving food through the digestive tract, as seen in constipation, allows more time for gas to accumulate. Aging and certain medications can also contribute to slower digestion.

**Too Many Bacteria:** An overgrowth of gut bacteria or microbes might lead to increased gas. While this doesn't always



indicate an infection, antibiotics may help in certain cases.

**Medical Conditions:** Excess gas can be a symptom of various gut or intestinal disorders, including diverticulitis, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), diabetes, scleroderma, thyroid dysfunction, and intestinal blockage.

**When to See a Doctor:** While occasional gas is normal, persistent or severe symptoms warrant medical attention. Consult a doctor if gas interferes with your

daily life, causes pain, discomfort, bloating, diarrhea, constipation, frequent vomiting, unexplained weight loss, blood in stool, or if you suspect you need medical treatment. Seek immediate medical help for severe belly or chest pain.

Medically Reviewed by Minesh Khatri, WebMD.

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## Vicky Kaushal says he has become more mature and patient after marriage

Vicky Kaushal has opened up about his relationship with his wife, Katrina Kaif and revealed that he feels "absolutely content" with her. Speaking with GQ India, Vicky shared that he has become more mature and patient after marriage. Heaping more praises on his wife, Vicky called Katrina Kaif "home", and being with her makes him feel "this is right". He, however, teased that he is more stubborn, while Katrina is the emotional one.

### Vicky feels "absolutely content" with Katrina

Talking about how he feels with Katrina, Vicky said, "I'd go so far as to say that the amount I've matured in the last two and a half years [post marriage] is way more than I did in the first 33 years of my life. And 8 out of 10 times I've realized, 'Oh, there was a different perspective to this but I was too stuck on mine'. From the silliest things, like what food to order online to where to vacation to more serious subjects, we have elaborate discussions on everything and only when it works for both of us do we decide what to do.

"Imagine it's your day off. It's raining outside. A beautiful calm has taken over and there's nothing, absolutely nothing that is making you fear a future or regret the past. You're just present. You feel absolutely content. When I'm with her, that's what happens."

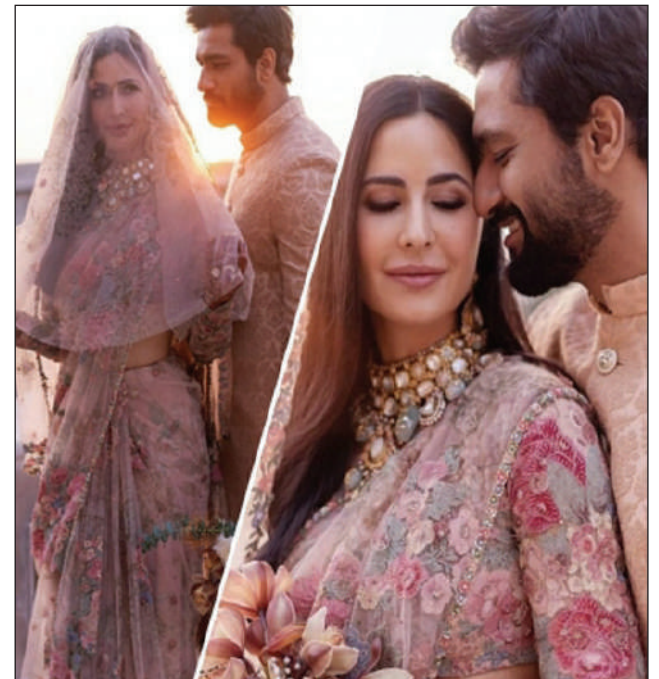
### Vicky says with Katrina he doesn't feel like "rushing anywhere"

Vicky revealed that he feels 'this is right' when he is with Katrina. He said, "I don't feel like rushing anywhere. It's simply the best feeling. I used to think the day I met the person who I could sit silently with for hours and not feel the silence, that was going to be my person. With Katrina, it's that feeling. She's home....The feeling of being loved, being taken care of, and in return, caring and loving someone deeply, I just love that aspect of love. Emotionally, rationally, when I'm with her, I feel, *ye sahi hai* (this is right)."

### Katrina is the romantic one, says Vicky

Vicky said that from the initial days of their dating when there was "heady excitement every time we met" to two and a half years later now after marriage, "that feeling hasn't changed". He added that he is somebody who hasn't "ever been overtly romantic" but Katrina "makes me one".

He also shared that he is the more stubborn one, while Katrina is more emotional. Katrina made him a lot more patient and made him see things differently, said Vicky. Katrina and Vicky tied the knot on December 9, 2022 in Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan.



Vicky Kaushal said that when he is with his wife Katrina Kaif, he doesn't feel like "rushing anywhere"

## Must-watch movies

### Underrated movies that turned out to be great

The cinematic world is full of surprises, and Bollywood seems to excel at pulling the rug from under our feet. There's nothing quite like randomly stumbling upon a movie, with no expectations, only to be blown away by its excellence. Here's a list of such movies that made us sit up and take notice. These gems are the unsung heroes of Bollywood that deserve more recognition, comments U. Shekhar of iforher.com.

#### 1. Qarib Qarib Singlle

*Qarib Qarib Singlle* is a 2017 rom-com starring the late Irrfan Khan and Parvathy Thiruvothu. It's an entertaining and witty take on modern-day dating that explores the complexities of finding love in the digital age. The chemistry between the two leads is electric, and the film's music adds to its charm.

#### 2. Uunchai

*Uunchai* is a heart-warming tale about three elderly friends who embark on a journey to Everest Base Camp to fulfil the final request of their late friend, Bhupen. Along the way, they are joined by Mala, Bhupen's long-lost love, who laments not fighting for their love. What begins as a simple excursion becomes a psychological, emotional, and spiritual adventure as they find the true meaning of freedom.

#### 3. Thursday

*Thursday* is a gripping crime thriller that takes place over a single day. The direction, screenplay, and performances by the cast elevate it to another level, making it a must-watch for fans of the genre.

#### 4. Dasvi

*Dasvi* is a political satire that follows the story of a 10th-grade dropout who becomes a politician. The film's dialogues and performances by the cast, especially Abhishek Bachchan, making it a hilarious and insightful commentary on Indian politics.

#### 5. Raat Akeli Hai

*Raat Akeli Hai* is a gripping murder mystery that keeps



you guessing until the very end. The direction and performances by Nawazuddin Siddiqui and Radhika Apte make it a must-watch for fans of the genre.

#### 6. Badla

*Badla* is a suspense thriller that revolves around a woman accused of murdering her lover. The direction, screenplay, and performances by Amitabh Bachchan and Taapsee Pannu make it a gripping and intense watch.

#### 7. Photograph

*Photograph* is a heartwarming film that explores the themes of love and companionship. The direction, cinematography, and performances by Nawazuddin Siddiqui and Sanya Malhotra make it a poignant and beautiful watch.

#### 8. Love Sonia

*Love Sonia* is a hard-hitting film that exposes the dark world of human trafficking. The direction and performances by the cast, particularly Mrunal Thakur and Richa Chadha, make it a powerful and gut-wrenching watch.

#### 9. Sharmaji Ki Namkeen

*Sharmaji Ki Namkeen* is a posthumous release featuring the late Rishi Kapoor in his last role. The film explores the themes of ageing and regret and is a heart-warming and emotional watch.

#### 10. Jogi

Last but not least, *Jogi* is a period drama film directed by Ali Abbas Zafar, starring Diljit Dosanjh in the lead role. The film received mixed-to-positive reviews from critics, with praise for the performances, direction, cinematography, background score, editing, production design, and themes.

#### 11. Meri Pyari Bindu

*Meri Pyari Bindu* is a coming-of-age love story that subverts Bollywood's traditional happy endings. It's a nostalgic trip down memory lane, chronicling the lives of Abhimanyu Roy and Bindu, childhood sweethearts who meet as neighbours. The film captures the essence of their relationship, and the music adds a sense of melancholy to the story.

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Vendredi 1 mars - 20.30



Samedi 2 mars - 20.30



dimanche 3 mars - 20.30



# Programme TV



SERIAL



## vendredi 1 mars

### MBC 1

05.30 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
06.00 Serial: Seal Team  
07.00 Film: Retour Vers Le Futur 2  
08.50 Serial: Falling Water  
09.30 Tele: Amour A Mort  
10.28 The Gardener's Daughter  
10.50 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
11.13 Tele: La Reina Del Flow  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.35 Tele: Barbarita  
13.25 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.50 Tele: Pasion Y Poder  
14.13 Le Livre Perdu Des Sorti...  
15.21 Film: Dr Strange Love  
17.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya  
18.55 Serial: Swaran Ghar  
20.30 Film: Perfect Wedding  
22.20 Tele: Barbarita  
22.45 Tele: The Gardener's Daughter

### MBC 2

07.05 Local: Konkour Slam  
08.54 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer  
10.20 Local: Generations J  
10.46 Local: Artizan  
12.15 Local: Les Grandes Lignes  
12.45 La Journee Sous Le Regard  
12.51 Local: Konkour Slam  
13.51 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer  
14.17 Local: J'ai Faim  
14.42 Local: Rodrig - Sa Lavi-La  
18.00 Tele: Pasion Y Poder  
18.29 Tele: Amour Secret  
19.25 Mag de L'emploi...  
20.00 Local: Animalia Nos Amis...  
21.00 Local: Come On Let's Dance  
22.00 Local: La Sosiete  
22.58 Journal Kreol  
23.20 Local: Voyage Au Feminin  
23.48 Local: Rodrig - Nou La Ter  
00.12 Local: Itinerer Rodrig

### MBC 3

07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama  
08.00 Local: Amrit Vaani  
08.46 Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek  
09.12 Hunarbaaz  
10.00 Serial: Agniphera  
11.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
12.00 Film: Payal Ki Jhankaar  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.30 Serial: Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man Bhave  
16.00 Serial: Ishaaron Ishaaron...  
16.44 Serial: Bhakharwadi  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Local: Mati Ke Mol  
19.02 Local: Shiv Bhajans On The Occasion Of Maha Shivratrie  
20.00 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka  
20.30 Serial: Vidrohi  
21.03 Film: Bhojpuri Film  
22.26 Serial: Mere Sai

### Cine 12

06.00 Mag: SADC  
06.26 Mag: Shift  
07.00 Mag: Border Crossing  
07.32 Mag: Tomorrow Today  
08.19 The Language OF Whales  
10.30 Doc: Tsunamis  
11.12 Mag: Eco India  
11.38 Mag: Shift  
12.38 Doc: Tomorrow Today  
14.16 Bitcoin In Latin America  
14.58 D.Anime: Tut! Tut!  
15.12 D.Anime: Baby Einstein  
15.23 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole...  
15.47 D.Anime: The Treasure...  
17.36 Mag: Garnet De Sante  
18.00 Doc: Deep Sea Greed  
18.52 Student Support Prog  
19.30 Mag: Vous Et Nous  
20.00 Tele: Amour A Mort  
20.30 Live: News  
20.50 Doc: Ultimate Countdown

### Bollywood TV

14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan  
15.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.26 Film: Kya Kool Hain Hum  
Starring: Tusshar Kapoor, Ritesh Deshmukh, Anupam kher, Isha Koppikar, Neha Dhupia, Bobby Darling  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.31 Kundali Bhagya  
19.01 Udaariyaan  
19.31 Serial: Fanaa  
20.01 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
20.30 Radha Krishna  
21.01 Anupamaa  
21.30 Mere Sai  
22.01 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
22.31 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey  
22.59 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani  
23.30 Film: Kya Kool Hain Hum

## samedi 2 mars

03.59 Tele: Supercopier  
05.01 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
06.40 Tele: Amour A Mort  
07.05 Serial: Briarpatch  
07.50 Serial: Rookie Blue  
08.30 Serial: NCIS: New Orleans  
09.15 Serial: Hooten & The Lady  
09.59 Serial: Supercopier  
10.50 Serial: S.W.A.T  
11.35 Tele: Amour A Mort  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Serial: Madam Secretary  
13.16 Tele: Sublime Mensonge  
15.20 Film: Dolphin Island  
17.15 Tele: Tour De Babel  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.31 Dance India Dance Little...  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.30 Film: Backtrack  
22.00 Serial: The Bionic Woman  
22.48 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis

06.04 Local: 13 Minit Natir Rodrig  
06.56 Local: Itinerer Rodrig  
08.16 Local: Animalia Nos Amis...  
08.47 Local: Zanford Nou Pei  
09.04 Rodrig: Ala Nou Vini  
09.32 Local: La Sosiete  
11.01 Local: Come On Let's Dance  
12.16 Enn Semenn Dan Lafrik  
12.59 Local: Voyage Au Feminin  
13.32 Animalia Nos Amis Les Animaux  
13.58 Local: Zanford Nou Pei  
14.37 Local: Toile De Fond  
15.00 Local: La Sosiete  
16.00 Mon Jardin Ma Maison  
16.33 La Journee Sous Le Regard...  
18.00 Tele: Gout De L'Amour  
19.44 Mag De L'emploi...  
21.36 Local: Glwar Dantan  
22.47 Local: La Journee Sous Le Regard Du Seigneur  
23.20 Local: Lavi Zoli An XXL

07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama  
08.26 Local: Mati Ke Mol  
10.35 Bade Acche Lagte Hai  
12.00 Serial: Dikri Vahalno Dariyo  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.30 Film: Kaali Topi Lal Rumaal  
Starring: Mithun Chakraborty, Zeenat Ibrahim, Kamal Sadanah  
18.00 Live From Ganga Talao  
20.00 Local: Shiv Bhajans On The Occasion Of Maha Shivratrie  
21.04 Film: Marjaavaan  
23.03 Filler: Radha Krishna  
23.09 Local: Shiv Bhajans On The Occasion Of Maha Shivratrie  
00.09 Film: Marjaavaan  
Stars: Riteish Deshmukh, Sidharth Malhotra, Tara Sutaria

06.24 Serial: Rainbow Rangers  
06.46 D.Anime: Anna Et Ses Amis  
09.06 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier  
09.39 Mag: Lab 360  
11.16 Doc: Deep Sea Greed  
14.05 Doc: Algorithms  
15.00 D.Anime: Tut! Tut!  
15.07 D.Anime: Les Nouvelles Aventures De Caillou  
15.45 The Treasure Island  
16.11 D.Anime: Yo Yo  
16.26 D.Anime: Shezow  
16.45 D.Anime: The Adventure of Puss In Boots  
17.10 D.Anime: Akili And Me  
17.36 Mag: Shift  
18.30 Mag: Japan Video Topics  
18.48 Serial: Kojak  
20.05 Tele: L'Amour A Mort  
20.30 Live: News  
20.50 Tele: La Reina Del Flow  
21.40 Film: Contre-Jour

08.00 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey  
10.00 Gadget Guru Ganesha  
10.18 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
12.16 Udaariyaan  
14.02 Anupamaa  
16.00 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise..



18.33 Film: Jab Pyar Kisise Hota Hai  
Starring: Salman Khan, Twinkle Khanna, Johnny Lever  
21.01 Gadget Guru Ganesha  
21.13 Serial: Porus

## dimanche 3 mars

04.40 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
06.30 Tele: Amour A Mort  
07.00 Film: Backtrack  
08.19 Serial: The Good Doctor  
09.20 Film: Dolphin Island  
10.50 Serial: S.W.A.T  
11.35 Tele: Amour A Mort  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.35 Film: L'Homme De Nulle Part  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.21 Film: Hero Dog  
16.55 Tele: Tour De Babel  
18.31 Enter: Sa Re Ga Ma Pa  
19.16 Sayings Radha Krishna  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.30 Film: Camping, Love And Therapy  
Stars: Amy Acker, David Arquette  
22.00 Serial: The Bionic Woman

06.44 Local: Aktiv  
07.40 Pran Kont Ou Lasante  
08.50 Local: Les Petits Genies  
09.54 Local: Glwar Dantan  
11.03 Local: Nu Rasinn  
12.28 Local: Les Petits Genies  
13.59 Local: Elle  
15.01 Festival Kiltir ek Langaz...  
16.31 National Sketch Competition  
17.17 Local: Aktiv  
17.34 Local: Glwar Dantan  
18.03 Tele: Gout De L'Amour  
19.00 Journal Kreol  
19.20 Local: Elle  
20.30 Tita Tita Nou Avanse  
21.00 Local: Le Challenge  
21.15 Local: Les Klips  
22.14 Local: Clin D'Oeil  
23.00 Journal Kreol  
23.31 Local: La Journee Sous Le Regard Du Seigneur

07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama  
07.32 Serial: Selfie With Bajrangi  
08.11 Local: Hamar Fitness...  
08.46 Local: Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek  
12.00 Film: Bezubaan  
14.59 Live: Samachar  
15.30 Shiv Bhajans On The Occasion Of Maha Shivratrie  
16.00 Live From Ganga Talao  
18.00 Live From Kashi Viswarnath Temple, Ganga Talao  
20.00 Shiv Bhajans On The Occasion Of Maha Shivratrie  
21.00 Serial: Porus  
21.20 Serial: Crime Patrol  
22.05 Serial: Naagin Season 4  
22.50 Serial: Bahubali  
23.34 Bhaag Na Bachhe

07.34 D.Anime: Les Aventures Du Petit Pingouin  
09.06 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier  
09.35 Mag: Lab 360  
11.27 Mag: Ultimate Countdown  
14.24 Doc: A Mediterranean...  
15.17 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole...  
15.41 D.Anime: The Treasure Island  
16.07 D.Anime: Yo Yo  
16.21 D.Anime: Shezow  
16.45 D.Anime: The Adventure of Puss In Boots  
17.10 D.Anime: Akili And Me  
17.42 Mag: Choices  
18.03 Doc: Step Aside Panda!  
18.40 Serial: Kojak  
20.05 Tele: Amour A Mort  
20.30 Live: News  
20.50 Tele: La Reina Del Flow  
21.40 Film: Lost Highway

00.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
02.11 Udaariyaan  
04.01 Anupamaa  
06.00 Kuch Rang Pyar Ka Aise...  
08.04 Tenali Rama  
08.16 Patiala Babes  
10.10 Kundali Bhagya  
12.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
14.00 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
16.08 Wagle Ki Duniya  
18.39 Film: Doli Saja Ke Rakhna  
Starring Akshaye Khanna, Jyothika  
21.20 Serial: Tenali Rama  
21.35 Enter: Dance India Dance Little Masters  
22.24 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
00.48 Serial: Patiala Babes

## lundi 4 mars

04.59 Tele: L'Amour A Mort  
05.23 Tele: Pasion Y Poder  
08.45 Serial: Kojak  
09.30 Tele: L'Amour A Mort  
10.04 Tele: Amour Secret  
10.23 The Gardener's Daughter  
10.45 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
11.10 Serial: La Reina Del Flow  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Entre Justice Et Vengeance  
13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.45 Tele: Pasion Y Poder  
14.10 Serial: Kojak  
15.21 Film: Camping, Love And Therapy  
17.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
18.30 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya  
18.55 Serial: Swaran Ghar  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.25 Serial: Briarpatch  
21.15 Serial: Rookie Blue  
22.00 Serial: NCIS: New Orleans

07.08 Local: Tita Tita Nu Avance  
09.32 Local: Elle  
10.51 Local: Le Challenge  
12.02 Local: Nu Rasinn  
13.13 Local: Clin D'Oeil  
13.27 Local: Rodrig - Komanter  
14.25 Local: Fer Roule  
16.01 Local: Les Klips  
18.00 Tele: Pasion Y Poder  
18.30 Tele: Amour Secret  
19.25 Rodrig - Feminin Pluriel  
20.00 Local: Voyage Au Feminin  
20.30 Local: Business Connect  
20.45 Local: Tous Egaux  
22.31 Local: Itinerer Moris  
23.20 Le Rendez Vous Avec Kiltir...  
00.14 Entrepreneurait Au Feminin  
00.44 Local: Rodrig - Saver Lokal  
01.31 Local: Feminin Pluriel  
01.52 Local: Voyage Au Feminin

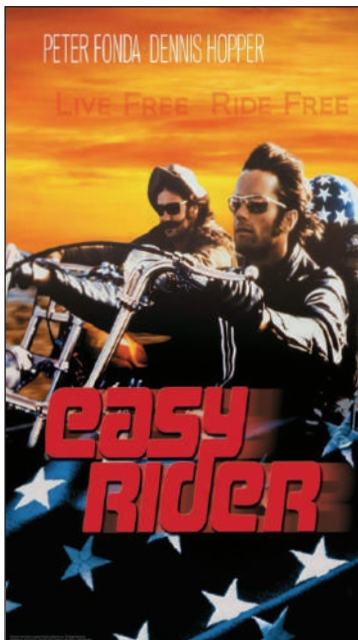
07.12 Serial: Tik Tak Tail  
08.26 Local: Tohar Rashi  
08.40 Local: Tohar Farmaish  
09.20 Local: Yaadein  
09.57 Serial: Bahubali  
10.33 Koshish Se Kamyabi Tak  
11.30 Radha Krishna  
12.00 Film: Bhagwan Parshuram  
Starring: Abhi Bhattacharya, Jayshree Gadkar, Helen  
15.30 Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man...  
16.00 Serial: Kundali Bhagya  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.31 Local: Ved Ki Shikshayen  
19.00 Local: Ayush  
20.01 Local: Vaad Vivaad  
20.40 Film: Suraj  
Starring: Vyjayanthimala, Rajendra Kumar, Ajit, Mumtaz  
23.14 Serial: Mere Sai  
23.58 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya

07.13 Mag: Art Unveiled  
08.21 Doc: Stop Filming Us  
09.49 Doc: Rwanda And The Price...  
10.34 Doc: The Great Meat Debate  
11.30 Mag: Ultima Countdown  
12.19 Mag: Art Unveiled  
15.01 D.Anime: Tut! Tut!  
15.12 D.Anime: Patamuse  
15.22 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole...  
16.10 D.Anime: Yo Yo  
16.27 D.Anime: Shezow  
16.51 D.Anime: The Adventure Of Puss In Boots  
17.14 D.Anime: Kids' Planet  
18.00 Mag: Eco At Africa  
19.00 Student Support Prog...  
20.00 Tele: Amour A Mort  
20.30 Live: News  
20.50 Mag: Ultimate Countdown  
21.42 Film: 90 Feet From Home  
23.50 Mag: Tomorrow Today

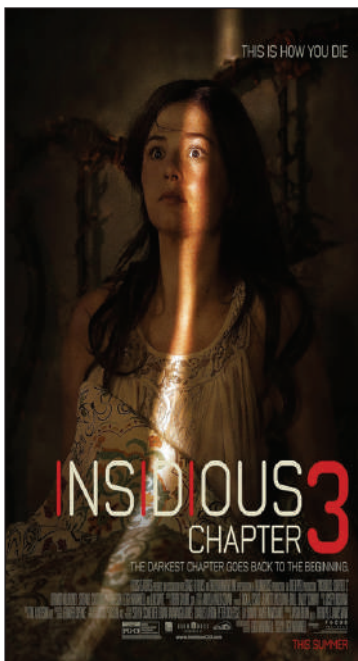
14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan  
15.00 Serial: Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.30 Film: Uuf Kya Jadoo Mohabbat Hai  
Starring Akshay Anand, Nitin Arora, Sammir Dattani  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.31 Serial: Kundali Bhagya  
19.00 Serial: Udaariyaan  
19.31 Serial: Fanaa  
20.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
20.30 Radha Krishna  
21.00 Anupamaa  
21.30 Mere Sai  
22.00 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
23.00 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani  
23.43 Film: Uuf Kya Jadoo Mohabbat Hai



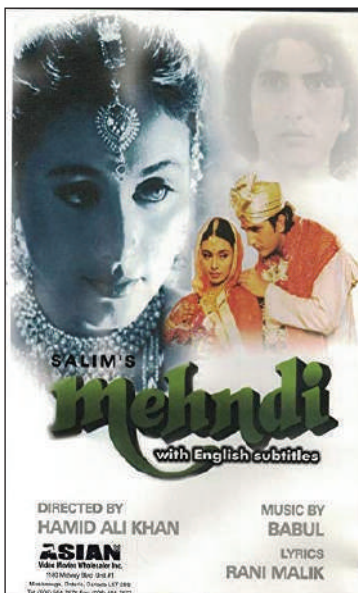
Mardi 5 mars - 20.30



Mercredi 6 mars - 21.57



Mercredi 6 mars - 15.30



# Programme TV



	MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	MBC 5	Bollywood TV
<b>mardi 5 mars</b>	04.15 Tele: Amour Secret 05.10 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 05.33 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 06.00 Serial: Seal Team 07.15 Serial: Briarpatch 08.45 Serial: NCIS 09.30 Tele: Amour A Mort 10.21 The Gardener's Daughter 10.45 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 11.10 Tele: La Reina Del Flow 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Entre Justice Et Vengeance 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.45 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 14.10 Serial: Gout De L'Amour 15.25 Film: La Vengeance La Peau 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter 17.59 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 20.30 Film: Easy Rider	07.33 Local: Rodrig Mo Pei 08.35 Local: Itinerer Moris 10.22 Local: Rodrig: Saver Lokal 11.04 Local: Le Rendez Vous 12.00 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel 12.31 Local: Voyage Au Feminin 14.22 Local: Itinerer Moris 15.06 Local: Rodrig: Zenn Aktif 15.21 Local: Saver Lokal 15.47 Le Rendez Vous Avec... 17.55 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 18.29 Tele: Amour Secret 19.00 Journal Kreol 19.20 Le Magazine De L'Emploi... 19.25 Local: Plat Du Chef 19.40 Local: Son Ladan Mem 20.30 Local: Priorite Sante 22.17 Local: Mots & Ecrits 22.44 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.00 Journal Kreol	07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama 07.30 Serial: Selfie With Bajrangi 09.32 Local: Vaad Vivaad 10.21 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 12.00 Film: Shama (1961) 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.30 Badki Malkaain 16.00 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 17.28 Radha Krishna 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.36 Local: Tark Vitark 18.59 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka 19.38 Local: Theatre 20.00 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya 20.28 Film: Padosan 22.42 Serial: Mere Sai 23.20 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 00.06 Local: Tark Vitark 00.28 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka 01.10 Local: Theatre 01.32 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya	08.33 Mag: Tomorrow Today 09.03 Mag: Washington Forum 09.32 Doc: Forgotten By The Crown 11.00 Mag: Eco At Africa 12.00 Mag: Africa 54 12.37 Mag: In Good Shape 13.46 Mag: Tomorrow Today 15.00 D.Anime: Tut! Tut! 15.12 D.Anime: Patamuse 15.23 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole D'Helene 15.46 D.Anime: The Treasure Island 16.13 D.Anime: Yo Yo 16.53 The Adventures Of Puss In Boots 17.16 D.Anime: Akili And Me 18.30 Mag: Healthy Living 19.00 Student Support Prog... 19.31 Mag: Global Us 20.02 Tele: Amour A Mort 20.50 Tele: La Reina Del Flow	14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan 15.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 15.30 Film: Antim Nyay Bajayenge Hum Band Starring: Jackie Shroff, Neelam Kothari, Kulbhushan Kharbanda 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 19.03 Udaariyaan 19.33 Serial: Fanaa 20.06 Sasural Simar Ka 2 20.38 Radha Krishna 21.08 Anupama 21.30 Mere Sai 22.08 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se 22.29 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey 22.55 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 23.30 Film: Antim Nyay
<b>mercredi 6 mars</b>	05.15 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 07.15 Film: Dr Strange Love 08.50 Serial: Kojak 09.30 Tele: Amour A Mort 10.20 The Gardener's Daughter 10.45 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 11.15 Tele: La Reina Del Flow 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Entre Justice Et Vengeance 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.45 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 14.10 Serial: Kojak 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.21 Film: Dolphin Island 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 18.55 Serial: Swaran Ghar 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.30 Serial: Stan Lee's Lucky Man 21.15 Serial: Billions 21.57 Film: Insidious: Chapter 3	07.11 La Barre De Recherche 09.00 Local: Profil 10.20 Local: Koze Zom 11.00 Local: Music Tour 2022 12.22 Local: Son Ladan Mem 12.39 La Barre De Recherche 13.14 Local: Priorite Sante 13.36 Local: Paroles Agricoles 15.56 Local: Glwar Dantan 17.09 La Journee Sous Le Regard 17.31 Local: Rishi Bodh 2024 18.01 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 18.33 Tele: Amour Secret 19.00 Journal Kreol 19.20 Le Magazine De L'Emploi... 20.32 Local: Toc Toc Doc 20.47 Local: MRA: E-Invoicing 21.11 Local: Agir Ensemble 21.37 Local: Les Klips 22.50 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.20 Local: Come On Let's Dance	07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama 08.26 Local: Shiv Bhajans 10.20 Local: Prodig 10.11 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 11.41 Serial: Radha Krishna 12.00 Film: Kisan Aur Bhagwan 15.11 Live: Samachar 15.42 Serial: Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man Bhave 16.12 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana 17.41 Serial: Radha Krishna 18.11 Live: Samachar 18.39 Local: Yatra 19.18 Local: Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek 20.02 Local: Virasat 21.03 Film: Ram Milaye Jodi Starring: Ajay Yadav, Archana Singh, Baleshwar Singh 23.36 Serial: Mere Sai 00.35 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya	06.26 Mag: Healthy Living 07.23 Mag: Global US 09.44 Doc: Hot Times 10.25 Doc: Antarctica 12.37 Mag: Global Us 13.45 Mag: Business Africa 14.11 Doc: I Want More 15.08 D.Anime: Les Nouvelles Aventures De Caillou 15.23 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 16.28 D.Anime: Shezow 17.15 D.Anime: Akili And Me 18.00 Mag: Afrimaxx 19.00 Student Support Programme 19.30 Doc: A Mediterranean... 20.00 Tele: Amour A Mort 20.30 Live: News 20.50 Mag: Ultimate Countdown 21.40 Film: Backtrack 23.14 Mag: Close Up 23.42 Mag: Focus On Europe	14.25 Radha Mohan 14.58 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 15.27 Film: Mehndi Starring: Faraaz Khan, Rani Mukerji, Ushma Rathod 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 19.00 Udaariyaan 19.30 Fanaa 20.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2 20.30 Radha Krishna 21.06 Anupama 21.36 Mere Sai 22.05 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se 22.00 Kismat Ki Lakiron se 20.31 Swaran Ghar 23.00 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 23.26 Film: Mehndi 02.05 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 02.30 Serial: Udaariyaan
<b>jeudi 7 mars</b>	04.49 Tele: Amour Secret 07.15 Serial: The Good Doctor 08.09 Serial: Stan Lee's Lucky Man 08.58 Serial: Hooten & The Lady 09.31 Tele: Amour A Mort 10.25 The Gardener's Daughter 10.50 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 11.15 Serial: The Inbetween 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Entre Justice Et Vengeance 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.40 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 14.05 Tele: Gout De L'Amour 15.25 Film: Backtrack 17.15 The Gardener's Daughter 17.59 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 18.55 Serial: Swaran Ghar 20.30 Film: Brahmastra: Part One Starring: Ranbir Kapoor, Alia Bhatt, Nagarjuna Akkineni	08.00 Local: Agir Ensemble 09.32 Local: Come On Let's Dance 10.35 Rodrig Prog: Komanter 12.00 Local: Rodrig Spor 15.41 Local: Kot Nou 16.51 Local: Aktiv 18.06 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 18.33 Tele: Amour Secret 19.20 Le Magazine De L'emploi... 19.25 Local: Li Bon Ou Konnin 20.00 Femmes Cineastes Du Monde 21.15 Local: Le Mag 23.00 Journal Kreol 22.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.25 Local: Groov'in 00.14 Local: Rodrig: Sa Lavi-La 01.06 Local: Generations J 01.51 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer Nou Rises 02.19 Local: J'ai Faim	07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama 07.12 Serial: Tik Tak Tail 07.36 Serial: Selfie With Bajrangi 09.28 Local: Bhakton Ka Utsah 10.00 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana 11.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 12.00 Film: Do Phool Starring: Ashok Kumar, Vinod Mehra, Mehmood 15.30 Serial: Badki Malkaain 15.58 Serial: Agniphera 17.31 Radha Krishna 18.00 Live From Ganga Talao 20.00 Local: Shiv Bhajans 21.00 Local: Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek 22.06 Yashmati Maiyya Ke Nandlala 21.28 Mag: Dharam Yatra 23.03 Serial: Mere Sai	07.25 Doc: A Mediterranean... 09.29 Doc: Better Brain Health 10.54 Doc: Beneath The Waves 11.28 Mag: Afrimaxx 12.46 Doc: A Mediterranean 13.12 Mag: Ultimate Countdown 13.55 Mag: Close Up 14.24 Mag: Focus On Europe 15.00 Les Nouvelles Aventures... 15.11 D.Anime: Patamuse 15.28 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 15.41 D.Anime: The Treasure... 16.06 D.Anime: Yo Yo 17.07 D.Anime: Akili And Me 18.00 Mag: Eco India 18.30 Mag: Shift 18.45 Mag: Carnet De Sante 19.00 Student Support Programme 19.30 Mag: Tomorrow Today 20.00 Tele: Amour A Mort 21.40 Film: Cripple Creek	14.25 Radha Mohan 15.21 Film: Aa Ab Laut Chalen Stars: Rajesh Khanna, Akshaye Khanna, Aishwariya Rai... 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 19.00 Udaariyaan 19.30 Fanaa 20.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2 20.30 Radha Krishna 21.02 Anupama 21.30 Mere Sai 22.01 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se 22.31 Swaran Ghar 22.59 Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 23.30 Film: Aa Ab Laut Chalen Stars: Rajesh Khanna, Akshaye Khanna, Aishwariya Rai...



Jeudi 7 mars - 15.28

Stars: Rajesh Khanna, Akshaye Khanna, Aishwariya Rai...



Jeudi 7 mars - 20.30

Stars: Ranbir Kapoor, Alia Bhatt, Nagarjuna Akkineni





Nita Chicooree-Mercier

# Le Corps des Femmes

**L**a lutte contre la violence faite aux femmes au sein des ménages est menée à l'échelle internationale par les instances onusiennes depuis des décennies, au même titre que d'autres combats pour les droits humains, la protection des enfants et des personnes âgées, la lutte contre les maladies infectieuses, le Sida, etc. Ces fléaux rongent la société à travers le monde. Colloques, débats et interventions sur les ondes des radios et de la télévision suscitent une véritable prise de conscience visant à protéger les cibles potentielles dans de nombreux pays. Ces efforts laissent espérer que le recours à la violence suivra une courbe régressive dans le long terme.

À en juger par les rapports de presse, les cas de féminicide sont en recul à Maurice, tout comme la délinquance et la criminalité en général. Ou alors, nous traversons une période d'accalmie après un déchaînement sporadique de coups et blessures infligés par conjoints, ex-conjoints et autres mâles dominants dans des liaisons malheureuses qui aboutissent au meurtre des femmes. Il reste encore un long chemin à parcourir pour civiliser le comportement masculin en proie à une montée d'adrénaline.

Autrefois, l'homme faisait payer à la femme le poids de tout le fardeau d'un père de famille qui devait assurer seul le gagne-pain de toute la fratrie, la femme devenant ainsi le *punching bag* de toutes ses frustrations. Ce fardeau étant désormais partagé de nos jours par la femme moderne qui assure un emploi rémunéré dans la société et, de retour au foyer, elle se met derrière les fourneaux. Là où leur grand-mère faisaient profil bas et recevaient des coups quand même, ces dernières années, la femme s'est affirmée et refuse la maltraitance.

Et c'est cette affirmation de la personnalité de la femme qui pose problème lors des prises de bec et des disputes exacerbées que les mâles - en pleine crise identitaire dans une société en transition - peinent à encaisser et ils règlent le problème en reprenant le passe-temps favori de leurs aïeux, la *wife-beating*.



“L'homme faisait payer à la femme le poids de tout le fardeau d'un père de famille qui devait assurer seul le gagne-pain de toute la fratrie, la femme devenant ainsi le *punching bag* de toutes ses frustrations. Ce fardeau étant désormais partagé de nos jours par la femme moderne qui assure un emploi rémunéré dans la société et, de retour au foyer, elle se met derrière les fourneaux. Là où leur grand-mère faisaient profil bas et recevaient des coups quand même, ces dernières années, la femme s'est affirmée et refuse la maltraitance...”

On ne sait pas si le travail de sensibilisation fort louable entrepris par de jeunes volontaires auprès des collégiens se poursuit à Maurice. En attendant que les hommes s'émancipent de la facilité qui consiste à abuser de leur force physique, les jeunes femmes gagneraient, en plus d'être financièrement indépendantes, à s'initier aux techniques de défense ou aux arts martiaux pour parer aux coups.

Au lieu de verser des larmes et de subir le martyre, il est plus efficace d'infliger une bonne raclée au mari violent, lui rendant coup pour coup. C'est une stratégie qui fonctionne avec toutes les brutes de ce monde ! Soyons réalistes. Que ce soit entre personnes, groupes sociaux et/ou entre pays différents, le discours civilisé se comprend entre civilisés. Si ce discours passe comme l'eau sur la brède songe sur d'autres individus ou pays, ils méritent une forte dose du traitement qu'ils infligent aux autres pour les pousser à la réflexion.

À Maurice, il y a eu une tendance parmi les féministes, les représentantes de certaines formations politiques et quelques voix de la presse de citer un pays tiers, notamment un pays démocratique comme l'Inde, pour exprimer leur indignation sur le viol, cette forme de violence la plus barbare commise sur le corps de la femme, utilisée comme punition par quelques arriérés de village. Cette approche sélective est tout sauf anodine.

Par facilité ou lâcheté, certaines voix féminines se jettent sur les cas indiens pour assurer leur sécurité, tandis que d'autres, viscéralement rompues à voir les défauts chez les autres, se gardent bien d'exposer la violation rétrograde des droits de la femme dans d'autres contrées pour protéger leur clan de toute critique. Certaines font pour ainsi dire un devoir d'inviter les personnes bien intentionnées dans le pays à aborder la question de la violence contre les femmes avec honnêteté et proposent de se défaire d'une approche sectaire sur un sujet aussi grave.

**S**i nous croyions que les femmes comme butins de guerre entre tribus, royaumes et pays rivaux appartenaient au passé, ce premier quart du 21<sup>e</sup> siècle nous rappelle que cette barbarie primitive est toujours d'actualité et que ceux qui la commettent reçoivent l'ordre de souiller les femmes de l'ennemi par le viol collectif, suivi de meurtre. Et en filmant ces scènes de crime abject avec délectation, ils entendent perpétuer l'humiliation de l'ennemi à l'échelle internationale.

Ce réveil brutal à la sauvagerie dont sont capables ceux qui adhèrent à une idéologie haineuse devrait nous interpeller tous à l'ère des tensions croissantes qui menacent la paix dans le monde. Frappées de cécité et de surdité, les organisations féminines les plus bruyantes se sont cantonnées dans un silence assourdissant. A-t-on entendu MeToo et consorts crier leur indignation? À l'ONU, les instances pour la défense des femmes ont tergiversé pendant un mois avant de reconnaître les actes criminels dont les femmes ont été victimes.

Nous savons tous pourquoi les Amazones de la cause féminine ont gardé le silence. Et c'est en raison de ce silence coupable que les consciences éclairées devraient porter leur voix haut et fort pour dénoncer que le corps des femmes soit pris en otage et soumis à la barbarie en temps de guerre. D'autant plus qu'au lieu d'être condamné, le viol des femmes a été applaudi et célébré sans scrupules par des milliers d'autres femmes. C'est une première dans l'histoire de l'humanité.

Ce défi à toute décence et loi morale devrait interpeller les bonnes consciences. L'illusion d'être à l'abri des actes monstrueux dans certains pays est vite dissipée dès lors que l'idéologie qui en est la source est très répandue, d'où la nécessité de se mobiliser au niveau du ministère de la Femme sur le plan national, dans la zone africaine, et de se joindre aux représentantes d'autres pays du monde pour mener un combat aux Nations Unies contre la barbarie que les guerres des hommes font subir aux femmes.

## Tree of Knowledge

Madisyn Taylor



**A**s much as most of us wish we could exist in harmony with the people we encounter throughout our lives, there will always be individuals we dislike. Some simply rub us the wrong way while others strike us as deliberately unaware. We may judge others as too mean or abrasive for us to interact with them comfortably.

Yet no person should be deemed a villain because their beliefs, opinions, mannerisms, and mode of being are not compatible with your own. You need not embrace the rough traits they have chosen to embody. There may be times in which the best course of action involves distancing yourself from someone you dislike. But circumstances may require that you spend time in the company of individuals who awaken your aversion. In such cases, you can ease your discomfort by showing your foe loving compassion while examining your feelings carefully.

The reasons we dislike some individuals are often complex and, at first, indecipherable. Often, we are automatically averse to people who are different because they compel us to question our values, spirituality, culture, and ideologies, threatening to undermine our self-assurance.

Realistically, however, those you dislike have no power to weaken your life's foundations. In fact, your aversion to specific individuals may actually be your response to your fear that specific qualities you see in them also exist within you. Their presence may force you to face internal issues you would rather not confront.

If you meet someone who inspired an intense, largely negative response in you, ask yourself why your reaction is so laden with powerful emotions. Remember that you control your feelings and, if necessary, you can minimize this individual's impact on your well-being by choosing how you will respond to them.

Though you may not have an immediate breakthrough, your willingness to consider your dislike rationally can help you better understand the root of your feelings. Your aversion to certain individuals may not wane over time, yet the comprehension you gain through reflection can help you interact with them sympathetically, benevolently, and with a greater degree of kindness.

There is nothing wrong with recognizing that you are incompatible with some people. You may never achieve a shared harmony with those you dislike, but you can nonetheless learn to modulate your reactions to these individuals and, ultimately, to coexist peacefully with them.