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of Bombay



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Andrea Kuhn
Details inside



December 16th

Christmas Brunch at
The Clearing House,
Ballard Estate.
Further details
soon.



Rtn. Farhat Jamal in conversation with Anant Goenka, Executive Director, The Indian Express Group on media & misinformation, fake news & propaganda

You appear to have come from a celebration.

Yes, I've come straight from a wedding and if my mother had not been with me, I would have changed and been late. But she made sure I came here straight.

We're addressing media, misinformation, fake news, and propaganda today. The challenge for many is discerning truth amidst a bombardment of news from various sources. These platforms offer diverse viewpoints but can sometimes obstruct straightforward reporting. Your views?

What you are saying is obviously 100% true and we all feel it. A lot has changed for the better after COVID-19. If you believe

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“We have 100,000 registered newspapers, 500 news channels, and a countless number of news websites, probably in the millions. Most of all of this is controlled by three companies who give you all that information onto your cell phone.”

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that COVID-19 was won by doctors and health specialists, the infodemic was won by old-school, old-fashioned journalists who hit the ground reporting. That there was an infodemic was largely to do with the number of sources of digital news and information and, obviously, the big platforms. But these are the realities of our time and we have to learn to live with them. But I do think that mainstream media also hasn't been very responsible. And there's a good reason for that.

We have 100,000 registered newspapers in India. That's an obscene number. We have 100,000 registered newspapers, 500 news channels, and a countless number of news websites, probably in the millions. Most of all of this is controlled by three companies who give you all that information onto your cell phone. I think the entire ecosystem is to blame because of these three, because 500 news channels, 100,000 newspapers, millions of news websites are all competing for not your attention but that of Google, Facebook, and Instagram. They're competing for those algorithms, and that

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makes them do crazy things. That's how you come to a place where people are struggling to figure out what they can trust because there's just so much that is coming at you.

To add to that, 137-odd million in 2012 and 600 million internet users in 2021. Whether it is social media, digital technology, or traditional platforms, they all add to it and they're all using the internet, by and large.

Absolutely. I don't think there's any medium that today can have an impact or reach a critical mass in isolation. Whether it's TV, print or radio, if there isn't a digital version of that medium or content, your impact is going to be significantly lowered.

Coming to The Indian Express (IE), how has it managed to protect its credibility as a news and information platform? One of the very famous taglines in journalism is 'Journalism of Courage,' and that's what The Indian Express stands for. And, I have to mention two-three notable series done by IE: 'Death by Breath' is a series IE carried on the levels of pollution in Mumbai which was even mentioned by the Bombay High Court; another notable report was IE's investigative journalism that brought about the return of 12 very pieces of smuggled artefacts from the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; and lastly, in the Nirbhaya case, IE reporting revealed that 46 vehicles that had been set aside to protect women were being used to protect our MLAs instead. Well done and we are very proud of you. So, how have you managed to



maintain this credibility?

You can be proud of me but I want to know how many people actually read it. Thank you for taking the time to make notes and remember some of our bigger pieces of work this last year. This differentiates us and why, in this mad environment of one lakh newspapers and 500 new channels, we are still relevant, we still pack a punch and we still have impact, because nobody else is doing investigative journalism anymore. Nobody else is doing the hard work of hitting the ground, finding uncomfortable stories and putting them out.

I don't know how many of you have tracked the Panama Papers. A friend in the CBDT (Central Board of Direct Taxes) told us that just after the Panama Papers, literally in less than a year after that, the Government of India collected Rs 12,000 crores just by sending notices to the people whose names got printed in The Indian Express. So, when I met the Finance Minister, I asked for a 2% commission. She said, "You're confusing the *bania* (businessman) with the journalist in you," so that didn't go very far.

One of the things that bothers me is why people don't seem very invested in the idea of civil liberties anymore?

Why is it that in the '40s and '50s, when we were

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dying by the age of 40, when we didn't have much food, we were apparently uneducated, we didn't have a lot of money, large chunks of the Indian population were putting their lives on the line to fight for civil liberties. And as we have turned more prosperous and as we have grown, faith in civil liberties, the investment and the interest in things that concern the country and society at large, things that concern not just your immediate family or your immediate job, are waning? I find people are not as interested as they used to be. And obviously that's our challenge: to convince you that you need to read the news about the chief information officer's election or that you need to read news about the environment; that's our job and it's getting tougher.

What frustrates me is that in spite of all the growth, education, economic development and prosperity, why are people complaining about free speech in India and then moving to Dubai? Why are people complaining about free speech in India and moving to Singapore?

Towards the end, we have a forum where our members will have the chance to put forth their

thoughts on this. Moving on to broadcast media, it is a powerful tool which shapes public opinion. And there have been many instances where the broadcast media has not been honest. There is a lot of noise on TV but are they close to the truth?

By and large, television news in India is a bit of a joke. I'm not saying it to sound sensational or be provocative, there are obviously exceptions, things you have to watch, read and believe. And there is some journalism happening on TV. But again, 500 news channels. Of the 500, I can assure you, not more than 493 are viable business models. So, you probably have the top seven news channels, seven news houses, which can be profitable, sustainable news businesses in India. The rest cannot be. It is not feasible. News television in India, because of the way it's structured, distribution costs, how it works, it is not possible to be a profitable business. And so why are they in it then?

There are obviously different reasons. The moment you believe that you know news as an industry, being an owner of a news organisation gives you a certain amount of power to get things done that will benefit other businesses, that core business loses its authenticity.. And so that's where you know that it's the other businesses that are funding that new space. It's a matter of time before audiences realise this and they reject, which I see happening. After COVID-19, most of the traditional news organisations like The Indian Express, The Times of India, Hindustan Times... those of us who have

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been genuinely doing news for almost a hundred years, we all saw significant growth in our digital audiences. I believe the industry has come to accept that audiences are asking the source of news and who they can trust when they consume news. That change has happened, if you believe that change has happened on digital at least comparing unknown anonymous blogs to traditional news trusted news outlets. The next step is of the trusted news outlets, who are you gonna trust more? I think we will see audiences rejecting those who are in it for the wrong reasons.

But how do we ensure that these news media follow ethical guidelines?

The answer isn't to put any rules on them by the Government. The thing about free press and free speech is that you have to be quite absolutist about it. I strongly disagree with a lot of things that happen on news television but you have to let them happen and you have to let audiences decide what they want to believe or not believe. Because, what is the alternative? The alternative is that somebody bigger than the news organisation or news industry comes and says this shouldn't be allowed. And that, I think we have seen all over the world, is a recipe for disaster.

Yes, the famous PizzaGate story of Hillary Clinton changed the course of the US elections, so to say. It eventually turned out to be fake news, but it was already too late by then.

Absolutely. People keep blaming news media and algorithms for fake news. I think algorithms are

more responsible than news media for fake news. Obviously, I would say that as a representative of the news media. But I think the biggest culprit as far as fake news is concerned is and has always been the Government. What is the biggest fake news that we have heard in this entire century? Colin Powell standing up in the UN and saying that they have discovered weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. It changed geopolitics forever. And generally, we have seen this as a global trend. I'm not pointing to any government, any political party or any part of the world. But it's a global trend, the stronger the Government, the more fake news. And this has been happening before digital was invented.

Again, the onus really does come down to audiences. Every time I get an opportunity, I like to keep reminding the audience that you have much more power than you ever had before. It is up to you to decide what works and what doesn't, what thrives and what fails.

It is very true that there has been a democratisation of news after digital, sure. But there's also been a commoditisation of news after digital.

And it's really made it a lot harder for young new

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readers to figure out what should or should not be trusted. It's up to you to take a call on what you believe is news and what you want to support and what you don't want to support.

Every time you hit a share button on a news item, it's a big expression of support to a particular news organisation. And every time you don't share something, it's an expression that you're not really sure this is something that you want to share around. The audience has never been so powerful.

But coming back to misinformation and disinformation, the kind of humanitarian crisis that some of this news misinformation and disinformation has led to globally is absolutely incredible. How does one go about preventing this? Because governments around the world actually have a role to play in it.

There is no answer for this. It is virtually impossible to stop misinformation. I'm a bit of a World War buff. In my view, the turning point of World War II was when the BBC began broadcasting in the German language so you had German audiences

listening to a counter narrative of Hitler. With war, the fog of war, beyond a point, you have no sense of what you can believe, what you can't believe. But whatever you share, talk about, that is the truth, because you're not going to believe the other perspective, you're going to discredit any other opinion.

This brings us to the responsibility of mainstream news, and this is the biggest problem of our times. I mean, I believe that the biggest problem of our times is polarisation for its profound impact on society.

When I was studying journalism in LA, I interacted a lot with journalists at The Los Angeles Times and other news organisations. I was always very surprised as to how firm they were in their opinions, and I've always felt that journalists need to be curious and open minded, otherwise you're not really doing journalism beyond a point. You have to have your convictions, but you have to have an open mind.

The New York Times famously and publicly fired its sitting opinion editor. The opinion editor of an American newspaper is a very powerful person. The opinion editor decides the editorial line that the newspaper will take on a particular issue; every day they do that. Then they invite columnists to write. The opinion editor in America doesn't report to the newspaper editor. The opinion editor in America reports to the publisher, the owner of the newspaper. The opinion editor of The New York

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Times was sacked for deciding to carry a column by a sitting American senator from the Republican Party.

I found that so shocking; most of us in the industry found it very shocking. Just because it's an opinion that you don't agree with, just because The New York Times has taken a very hard left turn doesn't mean that your audiences don't have a right to hear from somebody from the Republican Party. And I feel we're headed the same way in India.

Every now and then I do these things called The Indian Express Adda where I do interviews. I much prefer asking questions than being asked questions. So, I had an IE Adda with Yogi Adityanath. And I was shocked. Look, I'm not Rajdeep Sardesai; I'm not Arnab Goswami; I'm not on TV. I'm not somebody who will be asked for selfies when I walk out of the door. I'm not on TV. I'm not a famous anchor. I'm doing a few shows because I have a curious mind. But I have never in my life been trolled the way I was when I invited Yogi Adityanath for an Adda. And I was very surprised. I was like, look, please troll me after the Adda. I haven't asked him tough questions, that I'll totally accept. But to troll and to hate on The Indian Express and its publisher so aggressively just because I've invited him to speak is a big problem.

You have to have an open enough mind to hear from someone who is possibly the most popular state leader in the world. This was before the last election, so he was Merkel, Boris Johnson and Macron all combined in one state leader. Right?

Every UP chief minister is extremely influential in national politics. You have to hear from him. You have to want to hear from him. But if we are going to be so clear that we don't want to hear from him – you're just taking that position right from the get-go – then we're heading in a very dangerous place. I feel this is something we have to very consciously tackle and fight.

I'm going back to the fact that how do media houses put fact-checking mechanisms in place? Do you have fact-checking? Because fact-checking is a big problem for us today. And how do we separate fact from fiction?

That's what a newspaper does every day, we fact-check. In the digital space, fact-checking means a very real, instantaneous 'Is this real? Is this fake? Is this true?'

Yeah, but there's an international fact checking network now, so an organisation like that?

I think Google and Facebook have come together to create a small fund where they encourage and recognise outlets that have gone through a certain amount of training for a couple of years to be able to fact check. So when something is going viral which isn't correct, if they come out and they say, look, fact-check, this is false, fact-check, this is correct, they get incentivised to do that.

Google has also started a programme to train about 8,000 journalists. Google news is doing it,

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right? So that is a great service, I think.

No, absolutely. There's been a lot of pressure on platforms to do right by the news. And Google especially has made good efforts. They have put proper money on the table to help news organisations.

In Australia today, there is legislation that tells Google that 20% of its entire country's revenues, not just the news section of Google, but all Google's revenues in Australia, 20% of it has to go to news organisations. So, for now, every newspaper, all the large news organisations in Australia are actually doing very well. They're thriving because they've got subscription revenue. They've got the Google revenue. And they have the age-old ad revenue.

This legislation has happened now in Spain, happening in Canada, happened in France, happening in many places across Europe. So, I think we're seeing the light at the end of the tunnel for journalism as a business model also, as long as you're in it for the right reasons.

So, I want to talk about the increased interconnectedness in digital media. And that makes the whole system very vulnerable to cyber-attack and data breach. There was a big data breach recently where lots of Indians' data got exposed. So how are we going to protect all this?

Of course, it's a concern. Earlier, burglars came into your house and stole something. Now, this is the new theft. What's interesting is that any large digital company will, in the next one year, if not

two, have their own repository of their user data. So, everybody will have that whether they tell you, don't tell you, is a different point, but you cannot survive with a digital organisation today, especially if you're D2C (direct to customer). You cannot survive unless you have your own repository of user data. Literally every digital website is now a target for somebody who wants to steal IDs, so it's a very real problem.

I think the solutions will come like they came in the old world. You'll have CCTV footage, you'll have a watchman standing in front of the door. Sometimes a watchman will be the guy who will steal from your house. Very often the cyber-security company is the guy who's creating the tougher thing to back into their own setup.

So, it's just another avenue of theft, not a small problem, but there's a lot of work being done to make things better. I'll share a very cool thing. I was in Israel well before this war broke out and they are doing some of the most outstanding tech innovations in terms of security. I went to a company that eventually got acquired by American Express. I'm talking about five years ago and it still blows my mind today.

When you log into your bank account or anything that's very protected, you enter a password and you're in. You put a password, you think it's a one-step verification process, some people will send an OTP after you give your password, so it's a two-step

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verification process.

These guys silently behind the scenes, you not knowing, are doing a 60-point verification process. You just don't know about it. So, the amount of time you spend typing each letter of your password, they're tracking. The way your cursor has moved, the way you moved your mouse to get to that password, they're tracking. If you're entering from an iPad, the amount of pressure you're putting on the iPad, they're tracking. If you're entering from a mobile device, the direction of the mobile device when you enter, they're tracking. So, they've got 60 ways of figuring out whether this is a chance that it's not actually you logging in or somebody else.

It's outstanding, you know, the details they went through and AmEx bought them because they wanted to protect their user data and their account logins.

Thank you, Anant. Indeed, Israel is doing some amazing stuff in the technology space.

ROTARIANS ASK

News gathering is very expensive, Anant. How do you balance it? Is it advertising revenue and subscription?

Right now, it's only advertising revenue that supports it. Just 18 months ago we started our own digital subscription journey. Ram *bharose*, we started it. For a mainstream English news website

in India, we've already crossed 200,000 digital subscriptions.

So, people who are paying close to Rs 1,000 a year, I'm not at all unhappy with that number. I'm not just saying this because I have a mic in my hand, but we are the only English newspaper whose circulation has grown post COVID-19 compared to pre-COVID.

Most other people's circulation has dropped. I think that's because we're possibly the only mainstream newspaper that has no other business interests. We just do the news. It's a very tough business, but it brings authenticity to our profession. It helps us do news the way it should be done. We make a lot of enemies every couple of weeks. But that's what good journalism does, tell uncomfortable stories. I do believe that between five and 15 years from now, we should have a fairly healthy mix of revenue between advertising and subscriptions both.

We don't have free speech anymore. That's why the foreign media is not really looking at investing into India. Your comment?

I don't think we don't have free speech anymore. I just don't subscribe to this view. If there's no free speech in India, there's no Indian Express. The fact that we're thriving means there is free speech. The question is what we don't have in India. We don't have backbones anymore.

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I was a fat kid growing up. And my mother always taught me that if somebody bullies you in school and if you don't stand up, it's on you. We do very tough stories, yeah, against all governments, Centre, state, and, you know, they respect us for it in the long run. It's the audiences who are not speaking up, audiences who are not supporting. I'll share a small story.

I got very passionate and involved with the BMC-air pollution issue in Bombay over the last year. We kept reporting it but it fell on deaf ears. Nobody seemed to care beyond a point. It was very clear that our municipal bodies were just not doing anything about it. And it was a really easy solution.

70% of Bombay's waste used to be segregated in 2019. We're down to 30%. We used to treat 70% of our sewage. We're down to 40%. Why are we moving back in time? It's a very rich municipality. A little bit of pressure on the BMC would have made a lot of difference. But we kept publishing. We did a report on Deonar, our biggest landfill. Average life expectancy is 40 years. 70% of the garbage is organic waste, and that compost that creates fumes. But the fact is that there was a lot to be done and a lot was being reported.

But if you go and tell somebody to listen, speak out, share this story on Instagram, they won't do it. So, if you're going to be so afraid to talk, afraid to stand, it's very tough. You can blame the media as much as you want. But each person gets the government they deserve. You get the media you deserve. If you're going to be supportive of tough

questions, you're going to end up with some problems with authority. So, I don't think there isn't any free speech or free press. I think there's a lot of it. It's just that you're not, people are not supporting it.

Anant, thanks for being here and this is very insightful. In fact, I am a huge fan of Indian Express Adda and I particularly liked Ashwini Vaishnav's IE Adda. It was quite insightful on their policies. The question for you is, how do you see 2024 playing out?

I was waiting for a political question. Look, I think it's a bit of a walkover. I don't think there's much question about how 2024 will play out. I'll cite another expert, Ruchir Sharma, he said it very well. He said that 2024 is going to be Modi versus Modi. The question is with what majority does the Government come back? At least as of now, that's how I see it playing out.



TUESDAYS WITH THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY





BY students gain invaluable insight



Rotary Club of Bombay sent 45 students from Bhavishya Yaan to a Diversity Org programme held on November 7th, 2023. The Diversity Org, a global educational NGO, facilitates access for students to high-income careers in multi-billion-dollar companies. They connect students with leading companies such as Amazon, CNN, Cartoon Network, Google, DC Comics, Yahoo, Ernst & Young, HSBC, Versace, JPMorgan Chase, MTV, Colgate, and more.



This enriching programme was co-hosted by JPMorgan Chase. It offered the students a unique opportunity to interact and connect with industry leaders, fostering the development of their professional skills. The workshop, organised by JPMorgan Chase, focussed on networking, internships, and job opportunities. JPMorgan Chase, operating in over 100 countries, is a significant global player in finance.



Joshua Pierce, CEO and founder of The Diversity Org, engaged with our students, fostering a dynamic exchange of questions and answers. The event at JPMorgan Chase was an eye-opening experience. It broadened the children's horizons, connecting them with finance professionals and enhancing their networking skills, essential for their future careers.

The insights and personal stories shared by JPMorgan Chase employees were particularly inspiring, highlighting the non-linear nature of success and the importance of perseverance, adaptability, and a passion for learning. This experience was not only educational but also motivational, underscoring the unique journey each individual takes towards success.

BY alumni engage with industry leaders

Bhavishya Yaan alumni from our NMJ School recently attended the 'Voice of Change' event at Four Seasons Hotel, organised by the International Advertising Association (IAA).

The students had the privilege of listening to eminent and senior speakers from various industries, including Google, Amazon, UNICEF, Applause, Population First, and YouTube, among others.

Additionally, the event featured speakers who are activists, journalists, and from the entertainment industry, offering an exposure these students would not typically have. During the event, the NMJ students had the opportunity to meet with renowned Marathi actor Manasi Salvi.



A very short, inspirational story

There was a farmer who sold a pound of butter to a baker. One day the baker decided to weigh the butter to see if he was getting the right amount, which he wasn't. Angry about this, he took the farmer to court.

The judge asked the farmer if he was using any measure to weight the butter. The farmer replied, "I am primitive. I don't have a proper measure, but I do have a scale."

The judge asked, "Then how do you weigh the butter?"

The farmer replied; "Long before the baker started buying butter from me, I had been buying a pound loaf of bread from him. Every day when the baker brings the bread, I put it on the scale and give him the same weight in butter. If anyone is to be blamed, it is the baker."



BY has a Roald Dahl-themed Diwali



Meanwhile, at BY's GK Marg school, participating students made edible rings and ate their bracelets.

RCB's Bhavishya Yaan schools commenced their Diwali Literature Camp on November 2nd, 2023. The Bhavishya Yaan staff diligently prepared for the event while the students were engaged in their first-term exams.

This year's Literature Festival revolves around Roald Dahl's classic, 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. The festival continued until November 9th, paused for the Diwali break from November 10th to 15th, and then resumed from November 16th to 21st. Remarkably, over 75 students chose to participate in the literature camp over their Diwali vacations, dedicating 3.5 hours daily.

The grand finale is scheduled for November 22nd, coinciding with the school's reopening after the Diwali break.

The festival kicked off with a warm-up Q&A session, offering a twist: students were encouraged to ask the teachers questions, ranging from their

age to queries about the origins and operations of Bhavishya Yaan.

At NMJ this year, the 3.5-hour daily sessions were divided between chapter-by-chapter book readings and student interactions for one and a half hours, followed by activities like word searches, worksheets, bookmaking, and character posters.

The little ones made bookmarks inspired by the story while the secondary students created posters.

On some days, the readings transformed into role-playing sessions, with students enacting characters and teachers providing narration, and vice versa. These role-play readings, especially those led by the teachers, were a source of great amusement for the students.

Every day, the students were provided with biscuits and bananas.



Lighthouse’s Diwali camp lights up young minds

The annual Diwali camp at Rotary Club of Bombay’s Lighthouse Project, held from November 2nd to 8th, was a delightful learning experience for 50 children from Senior and Junior kg. This year, the camp focussed on ‘Animals and Garden Tales’, a theme that captivated the young attendees.

The children listened intently to stories brought to life with puppets and enthusiastically tried imitating various animal walks. Interactive games like ‘Pin the Tail’ and ‘Feed the Animals’ kept them both entertained and actively engaged. The camp culminated in lively performances to songs such

as ‘Animal Dance’, ‘Animals in Action’, and ‘Jungle Boogie Dance’.

Meanwhile, the Jr. kg group delved into ‘Garden Tales’, a topic that allowed them to revisit familiar concepts like fruits, vegetables, the monsoon season, insects, and flowers. They engaged in creative activities, such as making simple garlands and enjoying sewing, which was a big hit. Their appreciation also extended to the flower pattern game and floral painting. The children showcased their learning through performances on songs like ‘Fruit Juice’, ‘Bug Dance’, and ‘Drip Drop Rain’. Some children sang ‘Colours of Rainbow’, while others quizzed the audience on various fruits, vegetables, and flowers.

The unwavering support from parents continues to be a source of encouragement and motivation for everyone at Lighthouse.



RCB hosts a festive Diwali soiree



Rotary Club of Bombay's Fellowship committee organised its annual Diwali Nite on November 3rd, 2023. at Flamboyante, Cuffe Parade.

It was attended by 210 Rotarians and their partners who were dressed in traditional festive attire enjoying the spirit of Diwali. The venue was beautifully decorated with festive orange and yellow floral arrangements.

It was wonderful to have our members celebrate the festival of lights together and especially heartening to see many new Rotarians as well as Satellite Club members join in the festivities. All enjoyed the cocktails and music and several members let their hair down and danced as well. The highlight was a surprise dance by some enthusiastic Rotarian ladies.



The fabulous array of food which included lip-smacking chaat and a huge grazing table as well as other traditional and international dishes was much appreciated by all the attendees.

President Manoj and First Lady Nandita Patodia personally welcomed all the members and wished everyone a very happy Diwali. President Manoj thanked everyone for attending and the Fellowship Committee for organising this wonderful Diwali celebration.















RCHR brightens Diwali for AY



On November 7th, 2023, the Rotaract Club of H.R. College launched 'Dil Se Dil Tak', a touching initiative to spread joy during the Diwali festival. The project was aimed at celebrating with 55 ladies from Ananda Yaan, part of the Rotary Club of Bombay. A team of 25 enthusiastic members from our Club joined this heartwarming endeavour.



Throughout the day, our members engaged deeply with the ladies, creating a warm and inclusive environment. A highlight was the craft session where everyone created diyas from scratch using CDs, tealight candles, and decorative materials. This creative activity was particularly special for many of the ladies, as it was their first time participating in such an artistic venture.



The event concluded with a vibrant atmosphere filled with laughter, dance, and an abundance of fond memories. The Rotaract Club of H.R. College extends sincere thanks to Mr. Dilip from Dignity Foundation for his invaluable assistance during the session, and to both the Ananda Yaan and Rotaract Committees of the Rotary Club of Bombay for their guidance and support.

LET THE CELEBRATIONS CONTINUE...

save the date for

Rotary Club
of Bombay



DISTRICT 3141

Christmas

B R U N C H

SATURDAY



16 DECEMBER

THE CLEARING HOUSE,
BALLARD ESTATE

FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW...

ROTARY ON THE GO



Rtn. Dr. Sheela Kerkar and Rtn. Ptn. Dr. Prafulla Kerkar visited the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor.



Rtn. Tahera Mandviwala writes in:

“As many of you know, I was a Rotary International exchange student. A few days back I visited my Belgium host family and club after almost 25 years! It still felt like family and home.”

Congratulations to PP Dr. Rumi Jehangir: A legacy of excellence in ophthalmology

The medical community and aspiring ophthalmologists have much to celebrate as PP Dr. Rumi P. Jehangir, a distinguished figure in the field of ophthalmology, was honoured with the Best Medical Teacher Award by the Maharashtra Ophthalmic Association at the Kolhapur Conference on October 28th, 2023. This accolade is a testament to his unwavering dedication and significant contributions to medical education and eye care.

PP Dr. Rumi's journey in medicine is marked by outstanding achievements. As a student, he set a high standard, ranking first in all university examinations, a precursor to his remarkable career. His professional journey began in 1963 at KEM and Sheth G.S. Medical College, where he served in various capacities, from an undergraduate to the Head of the Department and Professor, for over four decades without a single day's break. This extraordinary commitment underscores his dedication to the medical field.

He is attached to hospitals such as B.D. Petit Parsee General, Conwest Jain, Saifee and Breach Candy as an honorary consultant.

As Professor Emeritus at KEM & Sheth G.S. Medical College since 2016, PP Dr. Rumi has continued to inspire and guide future generations of medical professionals. His private practice, spanning 51 years, reflects his deep-rooted passion for ophthalmology and patient care.

PP Dr. Rumi's influence extends beyond the classroom and clinic. He has played pivotal roles in various organisations, contributing as a founder member, secretary, president, and trustee. His involvement with notable institutions like Rotary Club of Bombay's PRVEC Talwada, ADMC Talwada, Lotus Eye Hospital, K.B.H. Bachooali Charitable Ophthalmic and E.N.T Hospital, and others, highlights his commitment to advancing healthcare services.

PP Dr. Rumi's professional excellence is evidenced by



a series of prestigious awards, including the Dr. V.K. Chitnis Oration, the Dr. C.S. Reshmi Award, and the Dr. Joao Ferreira Memorial Oration. His receipt of the Life-Time Achievement Award from the Vitreo Retinal Society of India and the Dr. B.T. Maskati Life Time Achievement Award from the Bombay Ophthalmologist Association further accentuates his impactful career.

Remarkably, PP Dr. Rumi has also excelled in sports, representing Seth G.S. Medical College in various disciplines and winning titles in tennis. His community service includes conducting free charitable eye camps in India and Kenya-Africa, aiming to make tribal regions cataract-free. His efforts in Talwada and beyond have left an indelible mark on countless lives. These camps have provided essential services like cataract and squint surgeries, keratoplasty, treatment of orbital tumours, and laser procedures.

PP Dr. Rumi's achievements are not just a reflection of his skills but also his humanitarian approach towards medicine. As we congratulate him on his latest accolade, the Best Medical Teacher Award, we also celebrate a career that has been a beacon of inspiration and excellence in medical education and ophthalmology.

ANANDRATHI
Private Wealth, uncomplicated

Rotary Club
of Bombay



Rotary
SAFGR



Rotary
India Literacy Mission

ANAND RATHI WEALTH ROTARY SAFGR ASIA GOLF CLASSIC, 2024



Swing to make India totally literate.

13, 14 & 15 JANUARY 2024

**ORGANIZED BY SAFGR MUMBAI CHAPTER
HOSTED BY ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY
SUPPORTED BY SOUTH ASIAN FELLOWSHIP OF GOLFING ROTARIANS**

As part of Rotary Club of Bombay's literacy initiatives, we have partnered with Rotary India Literacy Mission (RILM) and its T-E-A-C-H program. RILM, a National-level not-for-profit organization is working relentlessly towards total literacy and quality education in India. This comprehensive initiative has helped millions of children through its T-E-A-C-H program.

To fund its initiatives in literacy, we are organising the ANAND RATHI WEALTH ROTARY SAFGR ASIA GOLF CLASSIC, 2024.

Proceeds from the event will help make thousands of adults literate.

So far 1,46,266 adults have already been enrolled in the Adult Literacy Program. Our goal is to transform 50 lakh non-literate adults into literate individuals by 2024.

The ANAND RATHI ROTARY SAFGR ASIA GOLF CLASSIC, 2024 will be held from 13 – 15 January 2024 at the Oxford Golf and Country Club, Pune. We request you to enroll in large numbers - you do not need to be a golfer to attend the event and enjoy the fellowship.

The registration details: (for 2 persons):

1. Platinum Gold – Rs 150,000
2. Gold Patron – Rs 125,000
3. Golfer with Residence – Rs 80,000
4. Non-golfer with Residence – Rs 70,000
5. Golfer – non-resident – Rs 25,000 (individual)
6. Non-golfer non-resident – Rs 20,000 (individual)
7. Golfer with residence on single occupancy basis - Rs 60,000 (individual)

REGISTER NOW >

Click here to enroll and pay



Medical camp for CCI staff



RCB President Manoj Patodia at the CCI Club, Churchgate, with Rtn. Samina Khorakiwala of RC Bombay Bayview, during a medical camp organised by RC Bombay and Wockhardt Foundation. In all, 122 CCI staff benefitted from the camp.



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**The Clinic is now open
Monday to Friday from
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**New Case Paper: Rs. 100/-
Weekly Medicines: Rs. 50/-
Xray: Rs. 150/- per plate**

General Practitioner:
Monday to Friday: 10am to 6pm
Last paper will be issued at 5.45pm

Dental: Every day: 10am to 2pm
and 3.30pm to 6pm
Last paper will be issued at 5.30pm

Xray: Every day: 10am to 6pm

Paediatric: Monday: 11am to 1pm

Homeopathy: Thursday:
2.30pm to 4.30pm

Skin: Tuesday & Friday:
10.30am to 11.30am

Gynaecology: Tuesday:
12pm to 2pm

Senior Medical Consultant:
Once a month: 2.30pm

Pathology: Tuesday & Friday:
10am to 1pm



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Dental Department

Dental Case Paper: Rs. 100/-

Medicine: Rs. 50/-

Xray: Rs. 100/-

Scaling / Cleaning: Rs. 700/- to 900/-

Filling - GIC: Rs. 500/-

Composite: Rs. 700/-

Extraction: Rs. 400/600/800/-

Surgical Extraction:
Rs. 2,500/- to Rs. 5000/-

Root Canal: Rs. 2,000/-
Crown-Metal- Rs. 1,000/-
Half Ceramic- Rs. 1,500/-
Full Ceramic- Rs. 2,000/-

Post Obturat Filling:
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Temporary Filling:
Rs. 100/- to 200/-

Rotary Club
of Bombay



SPEAKER SESSIONS



ANDREA KUHN

CONSUL GENERAL OF SOUTH AFRICA IN MUMBAI
& DEAN OF THE CONSULAR CORPS OF MUMBAI

Growing Together -
India and South African Relations

THE BALLROOM

THE TAJ MAHAL PALACE HOTEL :: LUNCH AT 1 PM, MEETING AT 1.30 PM.
GUEST ATTENDANCE CHARGES APPLY

VISITING ROTARIANS - ₹300 GUEST - ₹400 (ADDITIONAL CHARGE FOR LUNCH)

TUES | 21 | NOV

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NEXT WEEK

Sifra Lentin is Fellow, Bombay History Studies at Gateway House: Indian Council on Global Relations, a foreign policy think tank based in Mumbai. She was a Visiting Fellow 2018 at the Herbert Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at University of Pennsylvania for a project on Karachi's Jews.

Her latest Gateway House policy report is on "Internationalising Indian Higher Education: Work Visas for Foreign Students" (October 2023). Her other papers are: "India and the SCO, Bound by Buddhism" (November 2020) proposed how India could leverage her soft power as the holy land of Buddhism in this multilateral grouping, and "Mumbai-Shanghai Sister Cities" report (May 2017), proposed recommendations on how sister city relationships between these two cities can be made to work.

She has also written a number of books, namely, Bombay's International Linkages (Gateway House, 2019); Our Legacy: The Dwarkadas Family of Bombay (2018), and A Salute to the Sword Arm – A photo Essay on the Western Fleet (Western Naval Command, 2007). Her work has also appeared in edited volumes: "The Jewish Presence in Bombay" in India's Jewish Heritage: Ritual, Art, & Life-Cycle (Marg Publication, 2002), "Shalom India" published in One India One People's book Know India Better (2006), "The Jewish presence in



Mumbai: their contribution to the city's economic, social and cultural fabric", in Mumbai—Socio-Cultural Perspectives: Contribution of Ethnic Groups & Communities (Primus Books, 2017).

Sifra graduated in English Literature from Elphinstone College, Mumbai, and went on to complete her Bachelor's in General Law (BGL) from Government Law College, Mumbai. Her earlier career was in journalism with a focus on Bombay and South Asian Jewish history. Most notably, she wrote a popular thrice-weekly column for Mid-Day "Vintage Mumbai" from 1995 to 1997 and a five-part Partition series for Reuters on the golden jubilee of Indian Independence in 1997. She is on the Board of Trustees of the Sir Jacob Sassoon School (Byculla, Mumbai).

Rotarian Member Birthdays



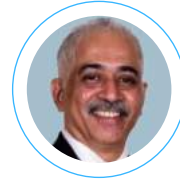
NOVEMBER 24
Rtn. Pratap
Padode



NOVEMBER 25
Rtn. Farokh
Balsara



NOVEMBER 25
Rtn. Anil
Goyal



NOVEMBER 25
Rtn. Leonard
Salins



NOVEMBER 27
Rtn. Sameer
Kaji

Rotarian Partner Birthdays

NOVEMBER 22

Rtn. Ptn. Pratiksha Mody

NOVEMBER 23

Rtn. Ptn. Priti Gupta

NOVEMBER 24

Rtn. Ptn. Cyrus Aga

NOVEMBER 25

Rtn. Ptn. Ushma Doshi

NOVEMBER 25

Rtn. Ptn. Kamal Katgara

NOVEMBER 26

Rtn. Ptn. Suresh Deora

NOVEMBER 26

Rtn. Ptn. Sandra Merchant

Anniversaries

NOVEMBER 24

Rtn. Ptn. Rakhee
& Rtn. Manish Reshamwala

NOVEMBER 25

Rtn. Ptn. Shreelekha
& PP Nandan Damani

NOVEMBER 25

Rtn. Ptn. Niloufer
& PP Nowroze Vazifdar

NOVEMBER 26

Rtn. Ptn. Sudha
& Rtn. Aziz Javeri

NOVEMBER 27

Rtn. Ptn. Poonam
& Rtn. Dushyant Dave

Rtn Ptn. Bharti
& Rtn. Ram Gandhi

Rtn. Ptn. Amisha
& Rtn. Pulin Shroff



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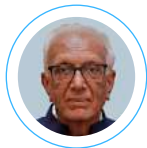
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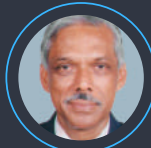
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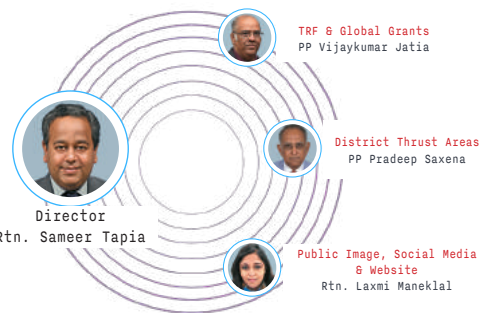
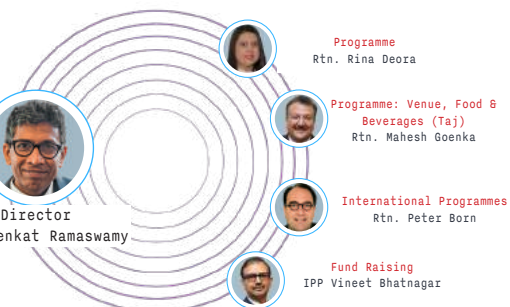
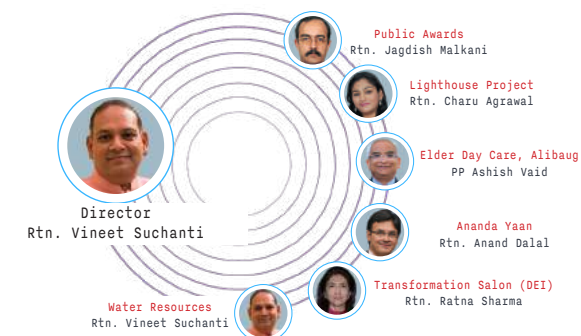
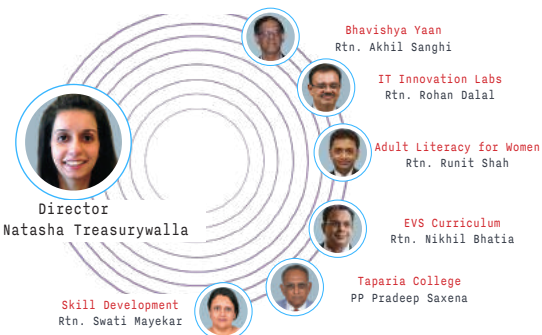
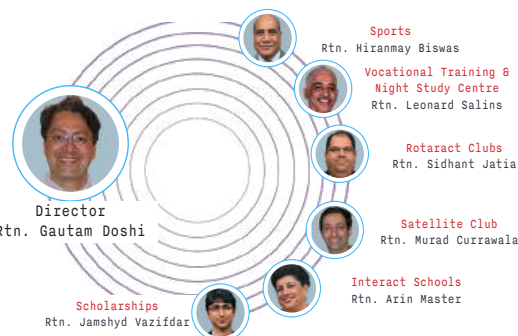
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Pradeep Gupta



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Sunny Pariyaram



Hon. Treasurer
Kirit Kamdar



Director
PN Bimal Mehta



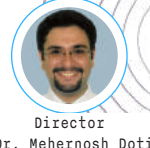
Director
Rtn. Rahil Shah



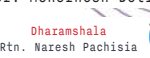
RCB Medical Centre, Talwada
Chairman Emeritus
PP Dr. Rumi Jehangir



RCB Medical Centre, Talwada
PP Framroze Mehta



Director
Rtn. Dr. Mehernosh Dotivala



Dharamshala
Rtn. Waresh Pachisia



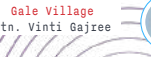
Cotton Green, IWA
Rtn. Dushyant Dave



Dialysis
Rtn. Swati Jajodia



Cancer Aid
Rtn. Farokh Balsara



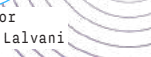
Paediatric Heart Surgeries
Rtn. Jaymin Jhaveri



Early Care of Neurodivergent
Children (CNC)
PP Shernaz Vakil



Integrated Village
Development/Panchatattva
Rtn. Mihir Mody



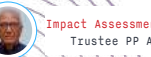
Gale Village
Rtn. Vinti Gajree



Gatesh Village
Rtn. Miral Shah



Urban Heritage
Rtn. Priyasri Patodia



Urban Nature Habitat
Rtn. Arnab Mallik



Animal Welfare
Rtn. Samir Chinai



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