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Rotary

Volume 88. No. 12 Editor: Rtn. Samiran Sen

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### **TODAY'S GUEST SPEAKER**



Jai Madaan

Dr. Jai Madaan is a renowned name in the field of astrology and Vastu consultancy. she is a well-known motivational speaker, transformational life coach, corporate trainer, relationship counsellor, spiritual healer, graphologist and face reader. Over the course of last 12 years she has helped many individuals, industrialists and corporate with her specialized counselling for problems related to health, wealth, job, career, marital issues and material success.

Dr. Jai Madaan participates in panel discussions on many News channels and has been featured in various programs on TV Channels. She has been featured in leading magazines and have written articles for magazines & newspapers. She conducts regular seminars and motivational talks for various corporates and institutions like Ted-Talks, FICCI, CII etc.

Awards & Recognitions:

"Gem of India" & "Indian Icon" award by All India Achievers Conference.

Felicitated for "Iconic Motivational & Spiritual Thought Leader" presented by Women Economic Forum.

Award for "Excellence in Vastu" by Indian Council for UN Relation.

"Super Achiever of India" Award by the Association of Tarot Vedic Astrology and Numerology.

"Most Prominent Wedding Astrologer" award by Ravishing magazine.

"Humanity excellence award" by We Welfare Society.

"Women Super Achiever" award by Femina.

"Women Super Achiever" by The Golden Global Tigers award.

"Nari Shakti Samman" award, "Jyotish Vibhushan" award and "Savvy Honours" award.

## REMEMBERING



The nation and the world celebrated the 151<sup>st</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on 2 October.

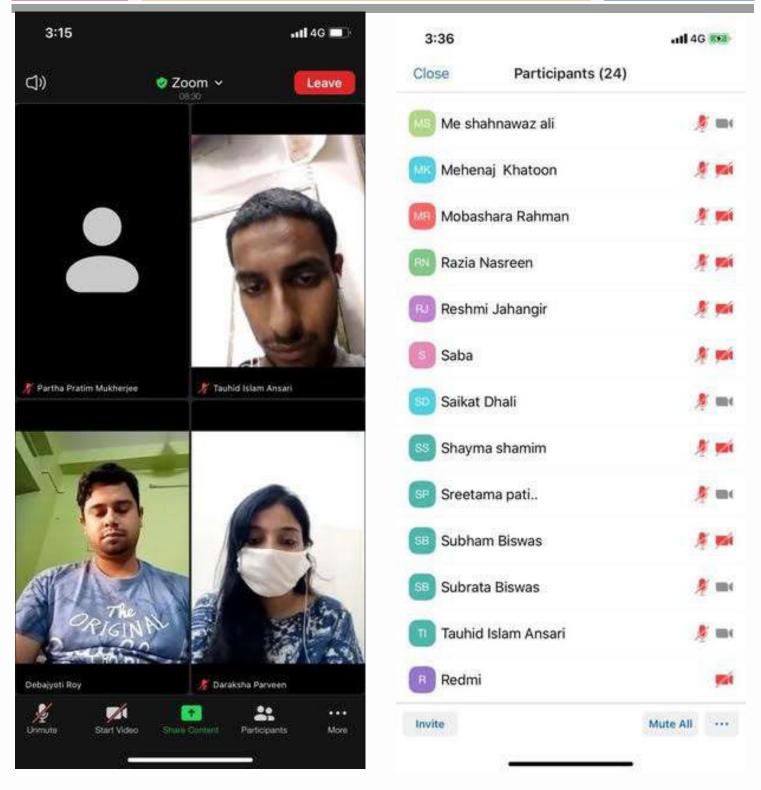
BAPU

The Club joined in paying tribute to the Father of the Nation with reverence and humility.

We Meet Every Tuesday At 1 p.m. At ROTARY SADAN www.rotacal.org E-mail: rota2573@dataone.in

## The CHAKA

Tuesday, 6 October 2020



## **HOUSEKEEPING TRAINING PROGRAMME**

Vocational Services Committee started online Housekeeping Training Programme in association with Taj Bengal, Kolkata from 19th September, 2020. Eligible candidates were selected after an initial interview by 4 trainers Mr Subrata Biswas, Ms Sonali Das, Ms Babi Murmu and Mr Debjyoti Roy from Taj Hotel, Kolkata on 18 th September along with Chairperson Vocational Services Rtn Shampa Ghose and Rtn Partho Mukherjee. Around 20 shortlisted Candidates from NGO Ektara are participating via Zoom platform from 3pm to 5 pm every alternate days. Duration of the programme is from 19th Sep - 5 th Oct. At the end of the session an online examination will be conducted and certificates from Taj would be awarded to the students.

## Rtn Shampa Ghose,

Chairperson, Vocational Services Committee

## **RECENT EVENTS HELD**



**VOCATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE INITIATIVE (02/10)** 

**YOUTH SERVICE COMMITTEE INITIATIVE (3/10)** 

## **NEXT WEEKLY MEETING (Virtual)** 10 October 2020

The next RWM (virtual) will be held on 10 October 2020 in the evening at 5:30 p.m. instead of 13 October 2020

Speaker: Mr. Barkha Dutt, senior journalist, founder editor – Mojo & founder, We the Women in conversation with Anuvab Pal.

## There will be no RWM on 13th October

## Happy Birthday

8th Oct Hirak Ray 8th Oct Prem Kumar Agarwalla Kasturi Raha

# 8th Oct

## Wish you many happy returns of the day

| ATTENDANCE REPORT<br>(29.09.2020) |   |     |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----|--|--|
| Total Members                     | : | 239 |  |  |
| Members Present                   | : | 51  |  |  |
| Exempted Members                  | : | 75  |  |  |
| Visiting Rotarians & Guests       | : | 5   |  |  |

## RESIGNATION

The Board accepted the resignations of following Rotarians with effect from September, 2020:

- i) Dr. S.K. Basu Roychaudhury
- ii) Dr. Abhijit Chatterjee
- iii) Om. Prakash Tulsian



## WHEN NC LAHARRY MET JFK

The First Rotary International President from India in 1962-63 Nitish C. Laharry met US President John F Kennedy during his tenure.

PRIP N C. Laharry, member of our own Club, gave us the most inspiring mantra "Kindle the Spark Within"

# THE GREAT ESCAPE The Climax

Contributed by Rtn. Samiran Sen

[Recap from last installment: I was returning to Kolkata from an ONGC oil-well site with two senior colleagues in an Ambassador on an April afternoon in 1987, when a cyclist came in the way of our car. In trying to save the cyclist, the driver of the car, Madhab steered away from the road and sent the car flying]

Madhab had steered so hard to the right that the car left the road and was flying into a large pond, which was situated right next to the road verge and the bank of which had a vertical face having been shored up by 'ballah piling', a very common method of bank protection in Bengal.

The vision and the feeling of flying through the air and into the pond with no road underneath will forever be etched in my mind. The



next thing I remember is that it was all darkness around me and I was immersed in deep water upside down because somehow the car had turned turtle in the course of its flight into the pond. I could feel my hands pressing against the ceiling of the car and the legs hitting the floor of the car. I was inside an Ambi, submerged completely in water and I did not know how to swim. The inescapable truth hit me hard - I was doomed to drown in a pond. Paradoxically, the situation seemed so comic: is this my ultimate fate - to drown in a pond like this? (To quote from Wilfred Owen: "Was it for this the clay grew tall?") At the same time, I don't know for how long, my entire life - all of 32 years - passed through my mind like a movie.

Amazingly, all this while, the engineer in me was prompting me to hold my breath and not to gulp in water at any cost. By the grace of God and because of the added buoyancy, I suddenly found myself out of the car and shooting up to the surface. Once above the water, I took a deep

breath and then again realized that, since I didn't know how to swim, I would again go down. Desperately I looked for something hold on to only to find one of the wheels of the upturned car. I grabbed it with both hands but it started free-wheeling and I was again going down into the water along with the turning wheel. One of the many advantages of a densely populated country is that there is never any dearth of people around to come to your rescue. The screeching brakes, the splashing noise of the car plunging into the pond and the general commotion must have drawn the attention of people of Karbala (that's the name of the village where the accident happened) to come out of their afternoon siesta to the pond side.

While bobbing up and down, I recall managing to shout "I can't swim, I can't swim!" while gasping for air. I could see some of the villagers diving into the water; and, in no time, one of the Good Samaritans was by my side and dragged a pale, limp and panting me to the bank. When I looked back, the car had completely disappeared under water.

Even to this day, I cannot understand how I survived the freak accident when I consider the odds:

- ¥ All the doors were locked; so all of us must have popped out through the narrow window spaces difficult to believe how three full-grown men could do that.
- ¥ If one recalls, I was sitting sandwiched between the two burly drillers much older than me. If they had lost consciousness, I could not have escaped but ended up in a watery grave. Fortunately, they also got out through the windows without getting stuck.
- ¥ The pond could have been dry quite possible in the middle of April. In that case, it would have been certain death from the impact of the fall seat belts were unheard of in those days.
- ¥ The pond was full to the brim-that cushioned our fall-but the cushion itself almost killed me.
- ¥ I would like to believe that the contribution of the good old Ambassador in my survival on that day was not insignificant.

I had lost my father a few months before and, according to my mother, was in that inauspicious 1-year 'kaal asouch' period when the departed soul tries to pull a beloved one from the family to his/her side. This superstition nearly proved right.

*Enigma*: How did the car land on its roof with the wheels pointing skyward? Did it do a corkscrew manoeuvre in the air while flying to the pond? Answer is not blowing in the wind.

Concluded

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## WELCOME GREEN BADGERS

## The Club recently inducted the following as members of the Club



#### Anjali Saraogi

Diagnostic Clinic Date on induction : 31 st August,2020 Date of Birth : 17th October,1973 Office : Director Medstar Clinics Pvt. Ltd 39, Shakespeare Sarani Kolkata – 700 017 Tel : 2283-7407 / 7408 Mob : 9830043348 E-mail : anjalisaraogi1@gmail.com

| Residence | : | 7-C, Lower Rawdon Street |
|-----------|---|--------------------------|
|           |   | Kolkata — 700 020        |
| Wedding : |   | 27th November            |
| Spouse :  |   | Arvind                   |
| Hobbies : |   | Marathan Runner Spouse   |
| Hobbies : |   | Reading & Painting       |
| Children: |   | One Girl                 |
|           |   |                          |



#### **Indrajit Banerjee**

| Education — Foreign Trade<br>Date on induction : 31st August, 2020 |                                    |  |
|--|------------------------------------|--|
| Date of Birth  | : 28th September, 1969             |  |
| Office   | : Director                         |  |
|  | Export Import Business Platform    |  |
|  | Rose House , 2, Gobinda Khatic     |  |
|  | Road Circus Avenue, 2, Tangra 2nd  |  |
|  | Lane , Kolkata — 700 46            |  |
|  | Tel : 4044- 2494 / 8910863115      |  |
|  | Mob: 9831749637                    |  |
|  | E-mail:8888ib@gmail.com            |  |
| Residence :  | Rose House , 2, Gobinda Khatic     |  |
|  | Road, Circus Avenue, 2, Tangra 2nd |  |
|  | Lane , Kolkata — 700 46            |  |
| Wedding :  | 6th December, 1996                 |  |

Wedding : Spouse : Hobbies : Children : Road, Circus Avenue, 2, Tangra Lane , Kolkata – 700 46 6th December, 1996 Haimanti Reading , Watching Movies One Girl



#### Dr. Saswati Mukherjee

Education – University Teaching Date on induction: 26th September, 2020 Date of Birth : 1stSeptember,1975

Office : Assistant Professor, School Education Technology Jadavpur University 118, Raja S.C. Moulick Road Kolkata – 700 032 Tel: 2414 6129; Mob: 9836330803 E-mail :saswatimuk@gmail.com

Residence: "AISHANI", AD -05, Sector – I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata – 700 64

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# MINUTES OF THE 4781st MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY,29TH SEPTEMBER, 2020 at 12 Noon on ZOOM

- 1 President, Rtn. Debashis Mitra welcomed all members and guests and called the 4781st regular weekly meeting of the Club to order.
- 2 National Anthem was led by Rtn Sonal Worah
- 3 Minutes of the 4780th meeting of the Club held on 26th September, 2020 on zoom
- 4 President welcomed CA, Dayaniwas Sharma, the guest speaker of the day and all visiting Rotarians and guests in the usual Rotary manner.
- 5 President Reported :
  - a. President informed members that on 26th September, the Club celebrated its 101st Foundation Day where Ms. Renuka Chowdhury, Former Union Minister; RIPE Shekhar Mehta and DG Sudip Mukherjee addressed as honoured guests.
  - b. Following three important programmes were organised:
    - ii Centenary Year Book released by RIPE Rtn Shekhar Mehta.
    - iii Condolence was expressed and 1-minute silence was observed in memory of Past President, Late Rtn. Partha Sadhan Bose.
    - iv Induction of one new member, Rtn. Dr. Saswati Mukherjee
  - c. 19.09.2020 to 05.10.2020 Vocational Services Committee started online Housekeeping Training Programme on Zoom in association with Taj Bengal Hotel, K o I k a t a, between 3 p.m to 5 p. m every alternate days. Around 20 shortlisted candidates from NGOs were participating. At the end of the session an online examination would be conducted and certificates from Taj Bengal Hotel would be given to the students.
  - d. The Club donated and installed two portable Emergency Ventilators (costing about Rs. 1.3 lakhs each) to Humanity Hospital, Hanspukur, Joka. The President thanked the donar Rtn.Ashish Kumar Bagla for his kind gesture.
  - e. Community Service donated biscuits to our RCCs for the underprivileged students. Total cost of the project donated by Rtn Krishna Kumar Kothari. On behalf of the Club, the President thanked to Rtn. Krishna Kumar Kothari for his donation.

- 6 At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary, Rtn Bodhi Brata Das thereafter conducted the Club business :
  - a. Hony. Secretary welcomed all members and guests.
  - b. He read out the names of Rotarians celebrating their birthdays and wedding anniversaries during the week ending 5th October and conveyed best wishes to them.
  - c. He announced that the next Weekly Meeting of the Club would be held on Tuesday, 6th October at 12 noon .on zoom .
- 7 At the request of the President, CA, Dayaniwas Sharma addressed the audience on "Impact of Digitization" through a informative presentation. It was followed a lively Q&A session.
- 8 At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary, Bodhi Brata Das proposed a formal vote of thanks to CA Dayaniwas Sharma on behalf of the Club.
- 9 The Club remembered with Good wishes Club of Vellore, India , R I Dist. 3230
- 10 The meeting was adjourned at 1.00 p.m.

Rtn Debashis Mitra President Hony. Rtn. Bodhi Brata Das Secretary

## **ONE WORLD**

We remember with good wishes Rotary Club of Gwalior, India, R I Dist. 3050

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