

Midtowner

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF RAJKOT MIDTOWN • CLUB 31287 • R.I. DISTRICT 3060

rotaryclubofrajkotmidtown
/RotaryClubofRajkotMidtown

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2024 - 2025

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1. WE ARE CREATING A DIRECTORY TO HELP FOSTER BETTER CONNECTIONS AND STREAMLINE COMMUNICATION AMONG ALL MEMBERS. REQUEST EVERYONE TO UPDATE THEIR DETAILS THROUGH THE GOOGLE FORMS.

2. PLEASE APPLY FOR ROTARY DISTRICT 3060 MEMBERSHIP ID CARD. DETAILS BEING CIRCULATED IN THE WHATSAPP GROUPS.



MEETING DETAILS

DATE : 16th May 2025

DAY : Friday

TIME : 8:30pm Onwards

VENUE : D.P.M.C Lalitalay

PROGRAM : "Is peace possible with Pakistan?" 4 participants, including annets, 5 minutes each. Watch, as our Midtown masterminds try to unravel the intricacies and complexities of the Indo Pak relations and its global implications. The participants are: Annet Devanshu Dadia, Dr. Ketanbhai Thakkar, Ashokbhai Bhatt and Dr. Niranjanbhai Parikh. As a special addition, we will also be felicitating Mr. Dilipbhai Sakhiya, for water conservation work. (We are the sponsors for check dam project). Rotarians, Anns and annets are welcome for this meet.



ANNIVERSARY WISHES - Wishing wonderful years of togetherness and happiness!!

Neha and Sanjay Maniar
16th May

Dr. Sejal and Dr. Darshan Bhatt
18th May

Asha and Bhavbhuti Nathwani
19th May

Sheetal and Divyesh Aghera
19th May

Kalpna and Bharat Mithani
20th May

Nidhi and Mitul Kadvani
20th May



CLUB NEWS

1. MEETING MEIN:

There was no meeting last week.

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Dr. Nishant Rathod

Consultant Pediatric Neurologist
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ROTARY MIDTOWN LIBRARY

OUR LIBRARY IS HOSTING TWO WORKSHOPS:

1. French Language workshop is going to be held on 15th, 16th and 17th of May 2025.

Resource person is Ms. Benitaa. Age criteria: 8 years plus.

2. Math- a- Magic workshop by Rtn. Rita Chauhan. Learn fun tricks that make Maths magical.

The date is 14th May 2025, 10:30 am to 11:30 am. Age criteria: 8-16 years.



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ROTARIAN BRINGS HOME MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

When Ugandan village elders meet with Stuart Raymond Kasule about supporting people with mental health struggles, they volunteer ideas to show more empathy.

They want to know, for example, how to open a conversation with a person who is suffering. "That shows you that the people are crying out to say, we need help, we need support," Kasule says. He travels from his adopted home of Australia to his Ugandan homeland about twice a year to share his training on mental well-being and suicide prevention, skills that are part of his job with a counseling firm in Canberra.

He started the campaign Hope for Life in 2023 to increase mental health awareness in Uganda, one of about two dozen countries where suicide is a crime. Kasule, a member of the Rotary E-Club of Brindabella, Australia, says cultural taboos prevent people from seeking mental health care.

Kasule, 30, who grew up in the capital of Kampala, says pressures weighed on his mental well-being when he moved to Australia nearly a decade ago to study. He felt lonely in a new country trying to complete coursework, cover tuition, and support family in Uganda, leading to thoughts of suicide. A teacher who worked with international students provided support, reminding him that he would want to see his brother in Uganda again. "It was a turning point in my life," he says.

He urges Ugandan leaders to make systemic changes and is heartened that Parliament is backing the African Summit on Suicide Prevention. Kasule works with Rotary members in Uganda and Australia to try to expand training for police, health teams, and Rotary members.

He asks himself, "What can I do here in Australia to support my people in Uganda?"

This story originally appeared in the June 2025 issue of Rotary magazine.



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ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACCOLADES

A huge welcome to Mr. Viyaybhai Dobaria of Sadbhavna Vruddhashram to our Rotary family. His incredible dedication to planting so many trees is truly inspiring and makes a real difference to our planet. Proud to have you as an honorary member in our Rotary Midtown family.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

This Mother's Day let's Pay a Tribute to 'Bharat Mata' who once again reminded us we are INDIANS FIRST!

Ahana Bhattacharya

Following almost three weeks of bilateral tension, India and Pakistan finally declared a ceasefire on the evening of May 10, Saturday. India and Pakistan agreed to a ceasefire, with both sides agreeing to stop all firing and military action on land, air, and sea. However, Indian authorities confirmed that Pakistan violated the ceasefire shortly after it commenced.

As the world celebrates International Mother's Day on May 11 to honour our mothers and maternal figures in our lives, let us take a moment to honour 'Mother India' or 'Bharat Mata', who once again rose to shield her children like a mother all throughout the past few weeks of escalating bilateral tensions with Pakistan. Who once again reminded us that we are Punjabi, Bihari, Assamese, Maharashtrian, Kashmiri, Tamil or Odia later and INDIANS first.

Why Bharat Mata is relevant today?

The concept of Mother India or Bharat Mata is deeply rooted in Indian culture. Mother India symbolises the unity as one nation despite India's diverse cultures, languages, and traditions. According to an observation by the Madras High Court in 2022, "Bharat Mata evokes a deeply emotional veneration in a very large number of Hindus. She is often portrayed carrying the national flag and riding a lion. She is to many Hindus a Goddess in her own right."

Historically, Mother India has been revered by freedom fighters and nationalists, as a mother figure instilling patriotism and national pride. However, even in the present day Bharat Mata remains highly relevant because she symbolises the nation's unity, strength, and nurturing spirit.

In the recent period of crisis when the nation was endangered by an external enemy, Indians from Kashmir to Kanya Kumari, from Bengal to Gujarat stood together shoulder to shoulder chanting "Bharat Maata Ki Jay" (Hail Mother India!) praying for the country to defeat external threats and emerge victorious.



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In the last few weeks we forgot to fight on trivial issues like “When in Maharashtra you should speak Marathi!” or “If you don’t speak Kannada why are you living in Bengaluru?” and came together as one nation, as an Indian first praying for the safety of our soldiers, praying for the security of our nation.

Operation Sindoor – Did Bharat Mata avenge her daughters’ snatched vermilion?

Bharat Mata (Mother India), who symbolises the nation, has taken various measures to protect its citizens against recent threats and military escalations from Pakistan.

Following the ghastly attack claiming the lives of 26 innocent civilians, India launched Operation Sindoor— a series of targeted strikes at terrorist launchpads in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), in retaliation.

The Pakistani attack followed India’s Operation Sindoor early on May 7, where Indian Military conducted missile strikes on nine locations in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK). India stated that these strikes targeted terrorist infrastructure linked to groups like Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed, in retaliation for an April 22 terrorist attack in Pahalgam that killed 26 Indian and one Nepali citizen. In Pahalgam on April 22, a group of Pakistani-origin terrorists killed Indian men in front of their wives, which symbolises the vermilion being wiped off a married Hindu woman’s forehead. Through Operation Sindoor, as if Mother India avenged the removal of sindoor or vermilion from the forehead of her daughters.

Neutralising Pakistan’s Missiles and Drone Threats – Mother shields her children On the night of May 8-9, India repelled a massive wave of over 50 drones launched by Pakistan in what appeared to be a coordinated attempt to target at least 15 Indian military installations. Major areas affected included Udhampur, Samba, Jammu, Akhnoor, Nagrota, and Pathankot, where the Indian Army responded with a massive counter-drone operation using advanced air defence systems like S-400 ‘Sudarshan Chakra’, L-70 guns, Zu-23mm, Schilka platforms, and counter-UAS equipment.

The Indian Armed Forces successfully neutralised Pakistan military’s attempts of a large-scale drone and missile attack on multiple Indian military installations across Northern and Western India during the night of May 7-8 and an Air Defence system at Lahore was neutralised.

While the nation resisted the attacks with efforts of the government, military and civilians combined, the mother stood firm behind her children reminding them to never lose hope, courage, determination, unity and patriotism.

Extracts from: CSR Journal (Published By Ahana Bhattacharya)