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Message from President

Greetings from the President.....

In Hinduism, the goddess Durga, also known as Shakti or Devi and by numerous other names, is the protective mother of the universe who protects all that is good and harmonious in the world. She is the warrior goddess who combats evil and demonic forces that threatens peace, prosperity and dharma of the good. In fierce form of the protective mother goddess, she unleashes her anger against violence for liberation & destruction to empower creation.

Like her consort Shiva, the goddess Durga is also referred to as Triyambake (the three-eyed goddess). Her left eye represents desire, symbolized by the moon; her right eye represents action, symbolized by the sun; and her middle eye stands for knowledge, symbolized by fire.

Durga is sometimes referred to as Durgatinashini, which literally translates into "the one who eliminates sufferings." As per Shaktism tradition of Hinduism, she is equated with the concept of ultimate reality called "Brahman". When powerful demon Mahishasura threatens to destroy the creation, she slays him to save the universe and restore peace and harmony.

On behalf of the Hong Kong Bengali Association, with a great joy I cordially invite you all to forget our differences and enjoy this auspicious occasion of Durga Puja. During the five day long Maha puja we would ensure that our bonds with friends and kin strengthen through interactions and activities together. Not to mention that this Bengali Association belongs to it's each member, so all of us must come forward whole heartedly to make this occasion a grand success. The purpose of this great occasion is to have good thoughts prevail over the evil ones. This can only be possible if we can get rid of our devil forces within.

My sincere thanks to all the members, patrons, volunteers, stage performers and above all the ladies for their hard work and devotion to make this Maha Puja a grand success.

Let's pray to Goddess Ma Durga, to give us courage, perseverance and serenity to overcome internal and external devil forces and help us to build up a mind set in bringing up those who are way behind in our society. It is our duty and responsibility to help those needy persons to stand up in their life. So we must continue our good work and use this auspicious occasion as a grand opportunity.

Wishing you, your families, friends and relatives, a very happy Durga Puja. Enjoy and keep laughing with an open heart.

Warm regards,

Prasenjit Sen

Message from Vice President

Dear HKBA members,

It is a matter of privilege and honor to be asked to pen my thoughts for the annual magazine of this August organization.

I have tried to be associated closely with the local Bengali clubs in whichever country I have lived in irrespective of the capacity I have served and the enthusiasm of our fellow Bengalis everywhere have always amazed me. It is the time when all other activities take a back seat and the priority is to turn up at the Puja Mandap and bow to our beloved Durga Maa, join the Anjoli and be a part of the entertainment programs and showcase whatever talents we have either on the stage as a performer or in the audience with hilarious comments and enthusiastic clapping. The tempo is built up slowly till it culminates on the Vijaydashami day amid great fanfare. For the four days when the puja is celebrated there is an air of passionate festivity.

It is a great pride indeed to be associated closely as the Vice President of the Hong Kong Bengali Association for the past 3 years and the scale of the puja celebration here is one of the best amongst all my previous experiences. I take this opportunity to thank all the founder members who have taken the initiative to form the Bengali Association in Hong Kong. They laid the first brick and it is our dream as office bearers to take it to greater heights.

We have got a vibrant Bengali community here in Hong Kong and we thank all those who have worked tirelessly, making different arrangements and joining meetings after office to ensure a flawless celebrations in spite of the rigors of their own professions and the job pressures Hong Kong is so (in) famous about. We should continue to be able to rise above our individual differences and egos to work together. Even a small gesture like making the timely contribution to the membership fees or getting a sponsorship can contribute to making a greater success if same done by each and every member.

I pray for Maa's blessings for all of us. Hoping all of you have a great time!!

Wishing all a Blissful Sharadiya Shubechha!!

Warm regards,

Alok Roy



Special Acknowledgements

The Hong Kong Bengali Association wishes to express its heart-felt thanks to all friends, supporters, sponsors and well-wishers for the help they have rendered to the cause of our Association. For this year's Durga Puja, we especially acknowledge the contributions of the following persons:

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Durga Puja 2017 Program Schedule

Venue:
INDIAN RECREATION CLUB, 63 CAROLINE HILL ROAD,
Sookunpoo Valley, Causeway Bay, HONG KONG
Tel: (852) 2576 6583 (Office)

26th Sept Tuesday - Sashti

1800 - 1930 Hrs Bodhan /Sandha Arati

27th Sept Wednesday - Shaptami

0930 Hrs - 1230 Hrs Maha Shaptami Pujo
1800 - 1930 Hrs Sandha Arati

28th Sept Thursday - Ashtami

0930 -1230 Hrs (Anjali from 1100 On wards) Maha Ashtami Pujo
1800 -1930 Hrs Sandha Arati
2100 - 2215 Hrs Sandhi Pujo

29th Sept Friday - Nabomi

0930 -1100 Hrs Maha Nabomi Pujo
1100 - 1230 Hrs Home
1800 - 1930 Hrs Sandha Arati

30th Sept Saturday - Dashomi

0930 -1100 Hrs Maha Dashomi Pujo/Bisorjan
1530 - 1700 Hrs Baron / Sidur Khela / Santi Jal

Laxmi Pujo: 5th October 1700 - 1900 Hrs

Priest: Shri Sakti Prasad Mukherjee of Kolkata



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Rays of Ray

By Mr. Chiradeep De

Bengali people worship their icons as demi-gods. Right from Tagore to Ganguli, Netaji to Salil Chaudhuri, the god can do no wrong! While Tagore's influence is more pervasive, the person whose life and work culturally influenced educated middle-class Bengalis the most after Tagore, is undoubtedly Satyajit Ray. Bengalis admired Ray as a person no less than his amazing body of work. Bengalis never seem to get enough of Ray. His height (6'4"), baritone, command of English, circle of international friends and admirers, sense of humor, his polymath like abilities, are all part of Bengali folklore now. It is impossible to write about Ray within the confines of few pages, but there is a shortcut. There are hundreds of anecdotal stories about Ray, narrated by his close associates. This write-up is intended to throw some rays of light into Ray by way of few such stories.

Dhani Lanka- Ray's ability to spot talent in new comers is almost as legendary as his craft. In 1962-63 Ray was about to start a new film after completion of his masterpiece "Abhijaan". For the new film, Ray started looking for somebody to play the role of "Bani" who would be the sister of the male protagonist "Subrata". Some screen tests were taken but none were up to Ray's liking. One day, great comic actor Rabi Ghosh, who was by then into Ray's inner circle, recommended a small 13 year old girl. Rabi had known the girl's family and had seen her in plays. On Rabi's recommendation Ray called the girl for a screen test. That screen test left even Ray himself awestruck. He said to Rabi "Rabi, kakey anechish re, a je dhani lanka!!", meaning "what a find Rabi!, this tiny girl is a powerhouse of talent". That girl was casted in the film, and eventually came to be regarded as one of the finest actresses India has ever produced. That "Dhani Lanka" was Jaya Bhaduri (Bacchan) and the film was Mahanagar, Jaya's debut in film industry.

Kamu and Ray- Ray was a great observer of human behavior. He took keen interest in quirky characters in real life, and often casted these people in his films with brilliant effect. None of Ray's quirky finds probably were as interesting as Kamu Mukherjee, the actor with a North Kolkata accent, villain like looks and impeccable comic timing. Kamu's sense of humor made him one of the few actors who dared to make weird comments in Ray's presence and get away with it. It is said that Kamu had walked up to Ray one day without knowing him, and demanded to work with him. It was probably Ray's great intuition that he saw potential in Kamu. Kamu ended up being a regular in the Sunday "adda" at Ray's home apart from acting in his films. One day while munching a dampened biscuit which Ray's wife had served with tea to the guests, Kamu quipped "Boudi, why did you apply silencer to the biscuit?.....no sound at all" ! Everybody in the room burst into laughter.

Kamu once told Ray, "Manikda" (Ray's pet name), "you have cleverly hidden your name in one of your films". Ray was puzzled, "which one?", he asked. Kamu said "Ghare Baire". Ray was still not clear. Kamu explained, "its simple, Ghare By Ray!!". Ray's son later gave this talented actor the role of his lifetime in the film "Fatikchand", whose story and screenplay was written by Ray himself.

Nargis on Ray – Ray received his fair share of criticism, from film pundits like Mrinal Sen, Chidananda Dasgupta (Aparna Sen's father) and others, but none as unexpected and blunt as the one from late famous actress Nargis Dutt. While others mainly criticized Ray's films, Nargis chose to criticize Ray himself. Nargis was elected to Rajya Sabha in 1980 after a successful career in films. In a Rajya Sabha debate Nargis once alleged that Ray unnecessarily projected Indian poverty to Western audiences. Later Nargis also gave an interview to a magazine where she accused Ray of creating a negative image of India as that's what the West wanted to see. She also said that Ray did it all to win recognition at film festivals. On being asked, what Ray should ideally showcase, she replied "India's developments like Dams, Roads etc.". While her comments raised a furore in film circles, she also found support from few corners. Ray found a strong supporter in another legend, Utpal Dutt, however himself maintained a dignified silence. Journalists who expected a juicy war of words between Ray and Nargis were disappointed by Ray's nonchalance and the controversy soon died down. All that Ray did to respond to Nargis was draw a cartoon of her. When she died years later of cancer, Ray also paid tributes to her. Modern directors could take a leaf or two out of Ray's books in dealing with criticism.

Honesty- Ray was straight forward and honest about his films. He expected his critics to do their homework before judging his films (or any film, for that matter), just like he did while judging others. Even when he received praises for his films, he would speak out if he knew that he did not deserve the praise. He was glorified for his

usage of camera in one of his early films, and the media went gaga over how Ray found an innovative camera angle. When he was asked to speak about his philosophy behind shooting that particular scene, at a press conference attended by eager media, he said "oh, that one was not intentional, it's just that my main camera was not working, so I had to use an alternate one"! In the film "Mahanagar", the last scene was a panning shot of Kolkata's evening skyline with a lamppost in the foreground, in which only one bulb was shown to be working, the other one broken from the socket. Critics felt that this sublime shot philosophically meant that despair and hope coexist in our lives. The broken bulb represented despair and the good one was a symbol of hope. Ray was asked how could he conceive such a deeply poetic scene. He said that the credit goes to Calcutta Municipal Corporation (CMC) who do not maintain their street lights properly. The lamppost, he said, I chose to work with was not repaired by CMC, and there is no other philosophical implication of that shot.

Uttamkumar, Ray and a pen – No Bengali actor reached the dizzy heights of stardom as the great Uttam Kumar. After 37 years of his death he still remains more popular than any of modern Bengali actors. However, even during his heydays, Uttam Kumar was not particularly favored by a section of neo intellectual Bengalis. Here he lost out to another legend, Soumitro, who was seen as more urbane, educated and dedicated to realism. That's why when Ray decided to cast Uttam in his film "Nayak" in year 1966, the news was greeted with surprise among serious Bengali film buffs. Ray was accused of surrendering to the demands of commercial cinema. Ray as usual would listen to none of it, as he once said that "the director is the only person who knows what a film is about"! "Nayak" later turned out to be one of Uttam's finest performances.

Years later Ray said in Uttam Kumar's obituary that Uttam was an instinctive actor. Ray said that he worked with cerebral actors too, the one that likes to take a part to pieces and probe into background, motivations etc. in order to 'get beneath the skin of the character'. But Ray felt that, there is no guarantee that a cerebral actor will make a more substantial contribution than an instinctive one.

There was a scene in Nayak where Uttam Kumar had to pull a pen from his pocket and sign an autograph to Sharmila Tagore. When the camera started rolling Uttam Kumar started his dialogues and pulled out the pen from his pocket. However, the pen wouldn't write because the ink at the tip had dried out. As Ray was about to say "cut" to retake the scene Uttam Kumar did something unexpected. Without batting an eyelid, he naturally dipped the tip of the pen in a glass of water in front of him, made the tip moist, and completed his signature, all while continuing his dialogue. Ray retained that scene because the impromptu act appeared as if it was all in the script. Ray later said that only an instinctive actor of the highest order could pull off a situation like that!

Hong Kong connection- Ray was a master story teller. Millions of teenagers have grown up with and inspired by Ray's "Feluda" and "Shonku" series. The Feluda stories were not just detective novels, but travelogues too, which was one of the reasons behind their enormous success. Ray travelled far and wide for shooting films and attending seminars. He observed the places he visited in details, and later many of these places would turn out to be the backdrop of a Feluda novel.

He shot "Kanchenjunga" in Darjeeling in the year 1962, and three years later he wrote the first "Feluda" story, "Feludar Goendagiri" based in Darjeeling. His experience in Jaisalmer during shooting of the iconic film "Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne" resulted in his writing the equally iconic story (and later film), "Sonar Kella". Ray's extensive tour of Kashi/Benaras during shooting of "Aparajito", helped him write "Joi Baba Felunath". The list goes on, "Goopy Byne Bagha Byne"'s snow clad shooting locale set in Kufri region of Shimla, partly inspired later half of the novel "Baksho Rahashya"; and Ray's travels while shooting "Kanchenjunga" and "Sikkim" led to the story "Gangtok a Gondogol" etc. etc.

In 1982 Ray's fictional hero, Feluda travelled abroad for the first time when Ray wrote "Tintoretto Jishu" partly in the backdrop of Hong Kong. Feluda had been to Kathmandu couple of years back, but it was not considered a "foreign" location in true sense. Ray's vivid description of Hong Kong, including roads, shops, neon lights, Victoria harbor and the peak roads, caught the imagination of his readers (including yours truly) who made a virtual trip to the city through Ray's descriptions. How did Ray know Hong Kong so well? Well it seems that he was invited to the 3rd Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF) in the year 1979, three years before writing "Tintoretto Jishu". In 1979, he not only participated at a HKIFF seminar, but his film "Joi Baba Felunath" also

won the best feature film award at HKIFF. Hong Kong Bengalis can take pride that their city is a prominent part of one of the best fictions written by Ray.

Quotes- The last section will be devoted to memorable quotes about Ray by famous personalities

Not to have seen the cinema of Ray means existing in the world without seeing the sun or the moon- *Akira Kurosawa*

The work of Satyajit Ray presents a remarkably insightful understanding of the relations between cultures, and his ideas remain pertinent to the great cultural debates in the contemporary world, not least in India- *Amartya Sen*

I don't believe Mr Satyajit Ray cannot be criticised. He is only a Ray, not the Sun- *Nargis Dutt*

Satyajit Ray is among the world's greatest directors, living or dead – *James Ivory*

His work is in the company of that of living contemporaries like Ingmar Bergman, Akira Kurosawa and Federico Fellini- *Martin Scorsese*

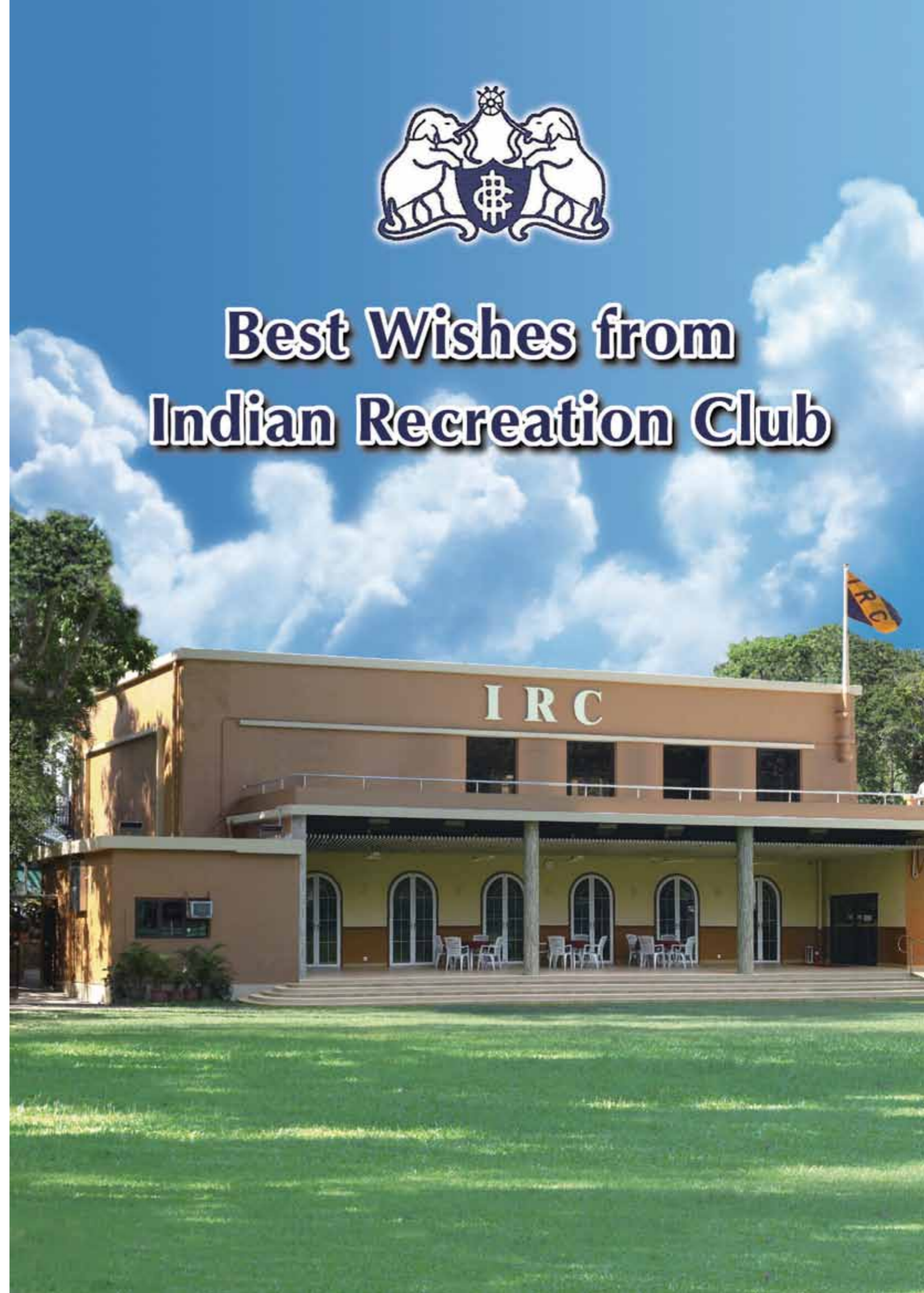
I have no qualms in admitting that Spielberg's E.T. was influenced by Ray's Alien ("Bankubabu r Bondhu"). Even Sir Richard Attenborough pointed this out to me- *Martin Scorsese*

He never treated his child artistes like kids. That's why they were always comfortable in front of the camera. Manikda became their friend after a few days of shooting – *Sharmila Tagore*

Satyajit Ray, I salute you. The greatest of our poets of the cinema- *Ben Kingsley*



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“Which camera do you use?”

“Which camera do you use?” my colleague asked me looking at one of my color prints. I wanted to ask him which brand of frying pan helps him to cook finger licking dishes which he shares with me during the lunch. But I refrained myself from such audacity and politely shared the brand and model of the camera I use.

I was not at all surprised as this is a very common question a photographer is asked every time he shares his work. No offence though, but I find people like to discuss more about the gear rather than the photograph itself. To take a photograph one needs a camera obviously, but even before that one needs to have a vision and understanding of representing a three dimensional scene in a two dimensional space. Once the photographer has got a clear idea of the scene then the camera becomes merely a tool to capture the light on the sensor or on the film. Good photographs are created in the mind of the photographer first and later the image is saved on the sensor / film. It is never a hit and trial of the shutter release or left on the camera’s sensor capability. In today’s world, the most basic and decent entry level cameras do the job if the scene has been envisioned properly. The rest of the things are all technicalities which again are handled quite well in most of the cameras available in the market.

So, what should we consider while buying a new camera or an upgrade? Shall we pay a lot of attention to the megapixels or those fancy features like Wi-Fi or Bluetooth etc.?

While buying a new camera, a novice could consider the following –

1. Digital - It makes learning easier and faster. Film is fun but there few hurdles associated with it as one needs to have access to the dark room. Although the experience of darkroom processing is totally different from having the photo ready at the back of the LCD. Darkroom gives much more pleasure.
2. Manual operation – The camera should be able to provide basic light control mechanism like shutter, aperture and ISO (speed on film)
3. Interchangeable lens (SLR or Mirror less) – once a camera is bought later lenses can be added, but the first few years should strictly be on one or maximum two fixed lenses. Zoom lens slows down the learning process as it confuses the novice on learning the perspective of different focal lengths
4. Megapixels – A crop sensor, 8 megapixels, is more than enough to print a photograph 24 inch wide. One doesn’t need a full frame 24 megapixels camera to be able to capture a good photograph. Its more for those who wish to sell their work to the advertisement agencies for billboard size prints
5. Budget - How big one can make the whole in his pocket for the expensive hobby?

Anything else apart from the points mentioned above is considered as bonus or extra.

Experienced photographers use those extra features to make the photographic condition much favorable but that doesn't contribute to the image quality.

Can a camera upgrade make me a better photographer? I believe not. After all, a camera cannot make my skills better. To take better photographs I need to sharpen my skill level rather than upgrading the camera. If I am learning the craft and have limited resource, then I would spend the money first on the learning and would try to make the most out of the existing tools in my box rather than cribbing for not being able to buy the latest version of a camera or lens. I would

join webinars, workshops, would buy books, participate in photography salons rather than falling in the trap of “Gadget Acquisition Syndrome”.

Long story short, which camera should you buy? The answer is simple. First understand your requirement and then fix your budget. Go to the nearest shop and buy the best possible specs within your budget. You will not regret if you know how to use all the features of your camera. All plastic body entry level DSLRs and entry level mirror less cameras are doing fabulous job.

Obviously, the suggestion is for those who are on limited money but insanely love the craft of making images and want to seriously learn something. This article is not at all valid for the rich kids, they can buy anything under the sun and completely ignore my point.

The below photographs (1) and (2) are shot with a fixed lens point and shoot camera, got featured in the National Geographic online. Photograph number (3) shot with a mid range DSLR has won few awards from international photo salons.

The writer is an amateur photographer. He has showcased his work in several international photographic salons, has won a few awards, received distinctions from Federation of Indian Photography; Federation of International Art and Photography, Paris and Royal Photographic Society, UK. Couple of his works has also been accepted by National Geographic Your Shot assignments. To follow Raja's work please visit <https://rajamahanta-photos.blog/blog/>





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from: SIUMI TAM

Associate Professor, Anthropology Department

Associate Head, New Asia College

Associate Director, Institute of Future Cities

Co-Director, Gender Studies Program

Co-editor, Asian Anthropology

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Namaste! Greetings to my Bengali friends in Hong Kong.

Durga Puja is a great social and religious event for the Bengali community in Hong Kong, and one which helps to pass down cultural practices and ethos to Bengali youth who grow up in Hong Kong. It is also a wonderful occasion that allows the public to get a glimpse of Bengali culture and Hindu religion, and to get to know the Indian community here.

Since 2013 I have have started the Multiculturalism in Action Project that aims to enhance awareness of cultural diversity and positive ethnic relations in Hong Kong. The new intercultural program in 2017 is entitled "ICONIC Mums Program" which brings women of different ethnic backgrounds to learn and work together, and to genuinely enjoy intercultural friendships. In the long run they will use their talents to bring about social innovation through community projects.

The annual celebration of Durga Puja reminds us how lucky we are in Hong Kong, to be able to partake in a multicultural space in which everyone can enjoy and learn about each other's cultures as equals.

On this auspicious occasion I would like to wish the Hong Kong Bengali Association great success and all the members of the Association health and happiness.

With best wishes,

Prof. Siumi Maria Tam

‘Ka’

Debasis Roy Mahapatra

G has a very powerful vocabulary of one word – ‘Ka’. I do not remember exactly how he acquired it, but I vaguely remember that once I took him to the Snake Hill Park where he saw a crow, actually a small size raven. He was very amused and ran towards it with his wobbly gait, but the bird made its “cawing” sound and flew away. I think that is how he gained a liking for that word that imitates the call of a crow.

His vocabulary may be a single word, but it is a powerful one. He communicates with me throughout the day using that single word, starting from the early morning when his mother brings him to my bed with his breakfast milk bottle, till he goes to sleep at night around eight.

He is usually very hungry in the morning. His sole attention at that time remains on the milk bottle till it is finished. When his tummy feels happy, he gets up from the bed and starts surveying the surroundings. Usually the room door remains closed to prevent him from escaping into the living room. He looks out of the window. He says ‘Ka’ in a low voice to ask me to join him in watching the birds, usually sparrows, on the balcony outside the room. ‘Ka’ uttered in a querying tone means ‘where are the birds’? Two birds have made a nest in the bathroom window of a neighbouring apartment. When G sees the birds flying into their bathroom nest or away from it, he exclaims ‘Ka’!

A little later I go to the kitchen to make my morning cuppa. G follows me. The refrigerator is an attractive room full of interesting things. He knows what I need. As I open the fridge door he points to the milk jar and he goes – ‘Ka’ as if to say ‘here it is, go get it’. I put my coffee mug in the microwave and turn it on with a timer. Then I move away from it. He follows. A little later the microwave beeps. If I am in the bathroom at that time, he comes rushing – ‘Ka’, he declares – ‘the milk is done, go get it.’

When I am in the kitchen busy doing something, G plays with his toys in his pen. Suddenly I hear ‘Ka’ ‘Ka’ – which means many birds have come to the balcony. At times I throw some puffed rice on the balcony to attract the birds so that G gets some excitement.

Sometimes he is woken up from his afternoon nap by the birds chirping outside and as he wakes up he says ‘Ka’, which means he can hear the birds on the balcony and I should take him there.

Are you wondering who we are?

G is my ten months old grandson and I am his grey-haired grand dad enjoying his divine company! Perhaps this is the closest that I can hope to be with God in life.

My Childhood Pujo Memoirs

This Mahalaya morning I did not wake up to the tunes of it but played it on YouTube, after I woke up. However, that was not a deterrent in bringing back the myriad of childhood memories. Waking up at the wee hours of the dawn, tuning in the big radio set in thakuma’s boro ghor and waiting for Birendra Krishna Bhadra to start working his magic at 4 am was the beginning of the unadulterated fun for five days! We would glue to the radio to hear the story again and again every year and in between the recitations, when the songs kept playing we would go running to the *Thakur Dalan* to validate the story, to check if Ma Durga is really disembarking on earth. By then the major painting was done, the ekchala structure and the idols were ready for the last layer of gloss, called *gham-tel* in the *kumor-para* terminology and *chokkhu daan* – giving life to the idol.

Mahalaya morning was also a perfect time for me and my sister to sit down with a notebook and pen and designate new outfits to 9 Pujo mornings and evenings we had in hand! Oh yes, planning the accessories for each attire was not an easy job either. I remember how generous ma used to be during our mom-daughters accessories shopping trip to New Market. No amount of brand shopping these days perhaps can match the happiness quotient of that! Essentially we both sisters wanted to be as organized as possible to avoid messing up on looking good, as we knew during the five days of Pujo, every morning and evening baba would call out to us, surpassing the *dhaker awaz* in a hurried voice – “come to *thakur dalan*, *pujo shesh hoye gelo*”. This call used to come at least an hour before the pujo even started for the day but we excitedly ran to the *dalan* in our new outfits and never stopped feeling on top of the world!

The meal planning for pujo days used to start from this point on, ma busied herself with producing all the nadus, murkis and other delicacies with perfection and baba, procuring all the ingredients in abundance. We used to plan endlessly for our indulgences in the street food, with all restrictions waived off and the expert accomplice in this crime used to be none other than my brother. He does this very lovingly till date! The debate on chicken or lamb, prawn or Ilish was so engaging that we wouldn’t even notice how the few days in between had passed and it was already time for *bodhon*!

I vividly remember how much we begged to our elder cousins to take us with them for ‘*phool churi*’ adventures. At that time the flowers for pujo used to come from neighborhood gardens and not from the flower shops like in recent time. The younger generation used to set out at 4 am to sneak out flowers from the gardens in the locality. We used to make a lot of noise while shaking the *Shiuli* trees with all our might, that inevitably woke the old *dadus* up from their slumber and they made it a point to shoo us away with a loud “*ke re Bagane*”. Can understand now, that was the whole point of it and the biggest fun element. I am sure Ma Durga didn’t mind the *pushpanjali* with the stolen flowers; the kids had poured their souls in it after all.

The Maha Ashtami pujo was always the biggest event in our family – running errands for ma and the aunts who tirelessly worked at the *pujo ghor* felt like a huge responsibility. Wearing saree for the pushpanjali was the highlight of the day and we never cheated on fasting until then. The vegetarian *luchi torkari* fair on Ashtami always tasted like heaven. The carrom competition was no less than a world championship; the fights, the screams, the cheers and the anguish were overwhelming! We were passionate supporters of baba and our first cousins. The pujo was truly colourful and slowly made its way to Dashami. On this last day when it was time to say goodbye to Ma Durga after *sindur khela*, we felt an excruciating pain, as if we lost a loved one. For immersion, our family tradition was to carry the whole *ekchala* on shoulder to river Ganga - which was a couple of kilometers away. Seeing baba and later my brother along with other uncles and cousins carrying the structure always generated a sense of pride. During the rest stops, the street dance to the beats of *dhak* and the art of spurting out kerosene from mouth to make fire on a stick never failed to entertain us. After the *bisorjon* we used to look forward to the *shantijol* and then visiting each household in the neighbourhood for *shubho bijoyar pronam*. The sweets and innumerable delicacies in return were the brownie points for sure.

This is what pujo meant to me, this is how I would love to remember it, through the eyes of a child. On this day, every year, our family pujo gets the fresh lease of life and continues to pull us towards our roots. I am counting days to be part of this frenzied fun, happiness, family bonding and camaraderie once again. Ma Durga and baba ma are waiting for us to land in the city of joy, and we, to be pampered like the kids we were once upon a time.

#BarirPujo #MahalayaAnecdote

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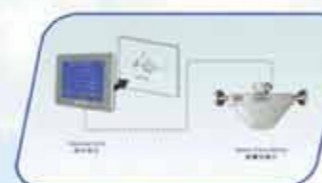
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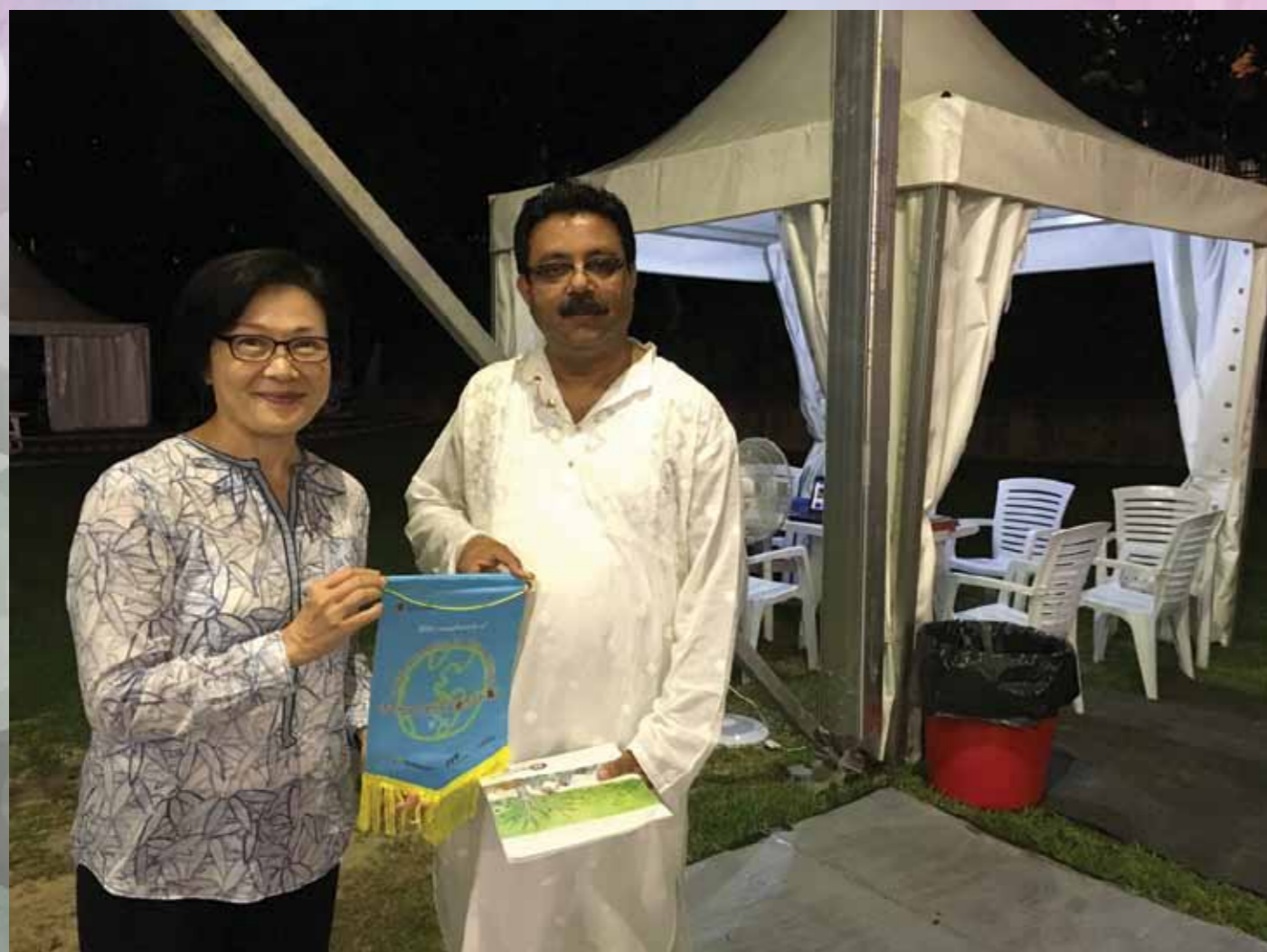


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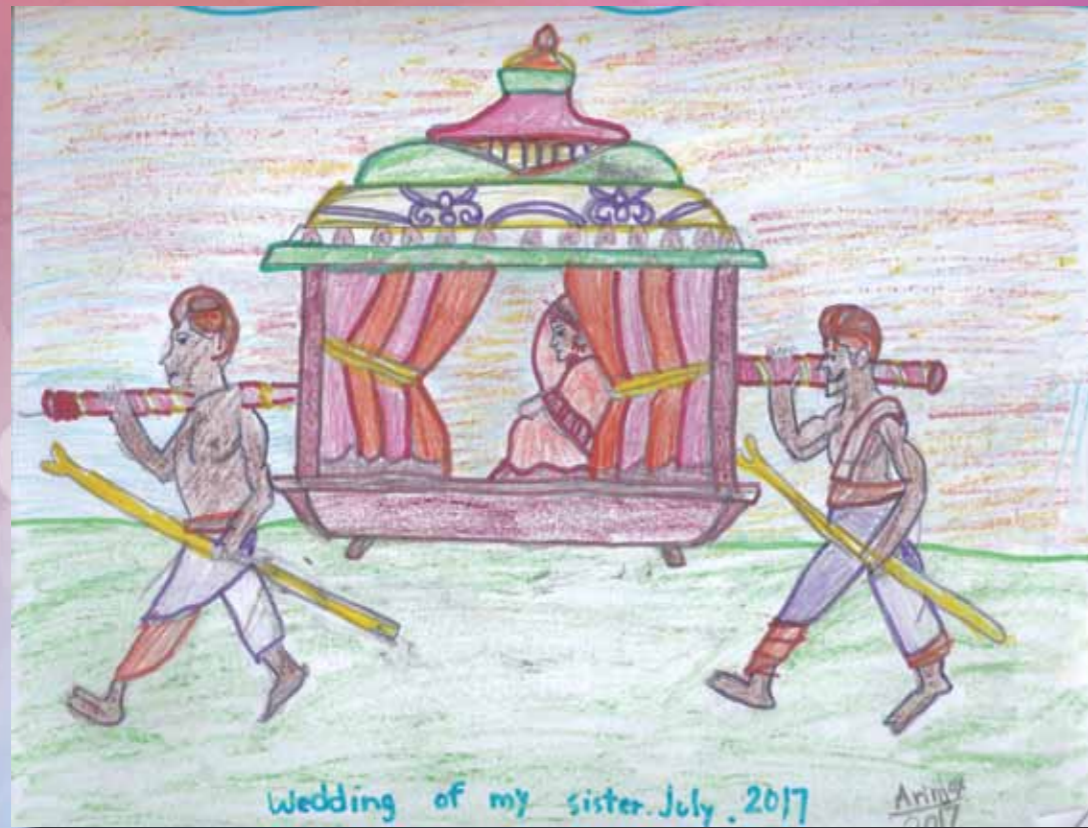


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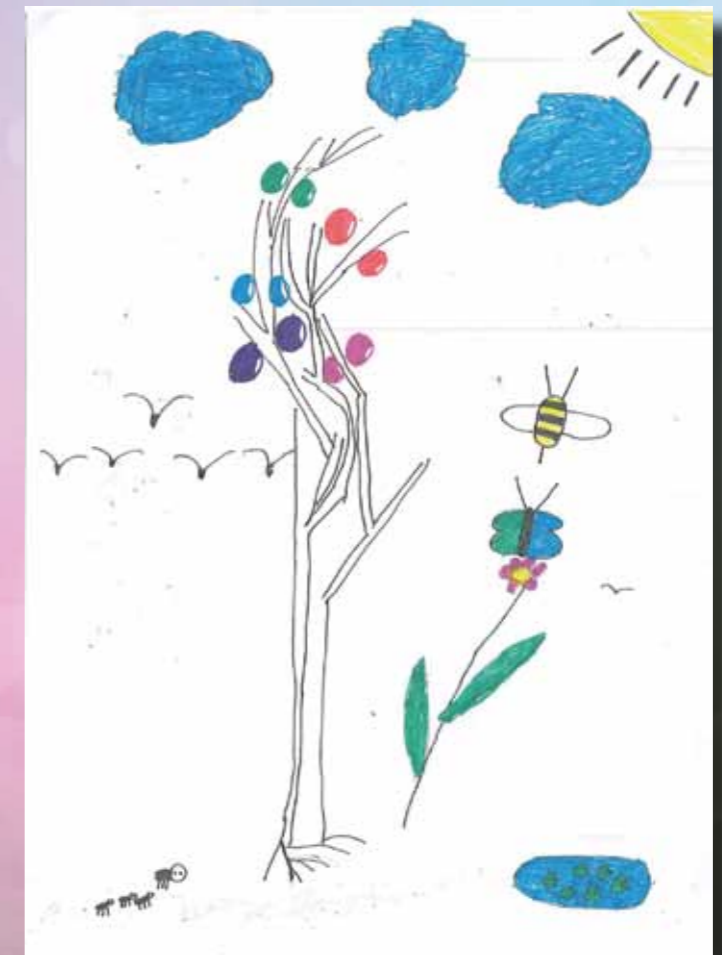
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Since late 2014, the bunker market has seen the emergence of 0.1% ULSFO, as a lower cost alternative to MGO for use in ECA. These ULSFO vary considerably in their compositions, from supplier to supplier, and region to region.

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As suspected, the most concerning feature of these fuels is their compatibility. Mixing, or comingling any marine fuels is bad practice, but in reality is unavoidable in many cases. Some ULSFO are particularly sensitive if mixed, even in the smallest of proportions. The concern is not only if mixing with a ULSFO from a different supplier, but also sometimes one from same supplier in the same location.

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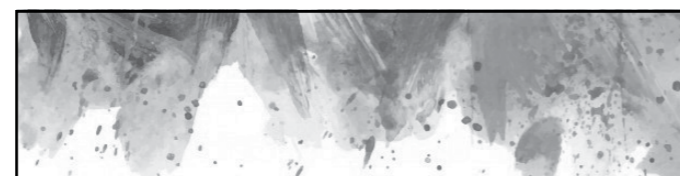
   

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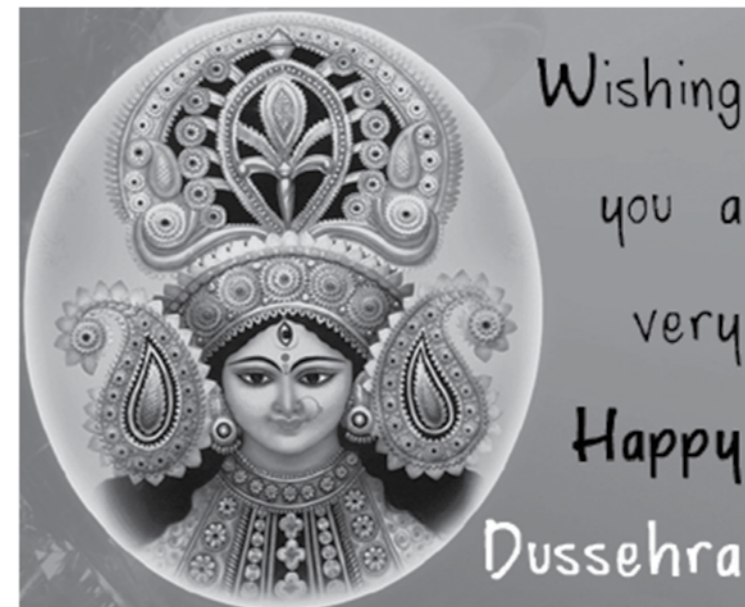
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HRDD



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Contact Details

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- **Tel No.:** +86 – (0)755 – 2683 6343
- **Mobile No.:** +86 – 159 2006 8600 / 138 2523 6552
- **Email:** admin@starocean.cn; ops@starocean.cn



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Contact Us

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