



**INCREDIBLE  
INDO-CANADIANS**

---

# FAIRFAX

FINANCIAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

---



**WELCOME TO CANADA  
INDIAN PRIME MINISTER  
NARENDRA MODI**

---







# CONTENTS



7. Message from the Prime Minister of Canada
9. Message from the Prime Minister of India
13. भारत माता के चरणों में शत-शत नमन ! - डा० सरस्वती जोशी
15. माता हीरा बा - डा० साधना जोशी
17. श्री नरेन्द्र दामोदर दास मोदी - प्रोफ़ेसर देवेन्द्र मिश्र
19. श्री नरेन्द्र दामोदरदास मोदी : एक झलक - प्रोफ़ेसर देवेन्द्र मिश्र
20. Incredible Indo-Canadian : East has met West - Dr. Azad K. Kaushik
22. A New Beginning in Canada-India Relations - V. I. Lakshmanan and L. Prasher
25. PM Modi's visit: Energizing Canada-India Partnership - Dharma P. Jain
28. Strengthening the Indo-Canadian Bilateral Relationship - Nivedita Shori and Prashant Shori
29. Dreams - Meenakshi Raina
30. Why are Indo-Canadians Feeling Proud of Their Heritage? - Pradip Rodrigues
32. Achievements of Modi Government - Ram Kamath
36. The Message Shri Modi Brings to Canada and the World - Dr. Sitansu S. Chakravarti
38. Women Empowerment in India: Dreams to Reality - Swati Bhatt Vyas
41. Ups and Downs - Simran Joshi
42. Holi and Related Festivals - Dr. Sadhna Joshi and Dr. Saraswati Joshi
45. Diwali: A National Festival in Canada - Yogesh Sharma
46. Vaisakhi : A Religious Celebration of Joy - Prabhjot Singh
48. ਭਾਰਤ ਦੇ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਮੰਤਰੀ ਮੋਦੀ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਸਤਿਕਾਰ ਵਿੱਚ - ਹਰਚੰਦ ਬਾਮੀ
49. સ્વર્ણિમ ગુજરાત ! દિવ્ય ભારત ! - દર્પણ પટેલ
50. சகோதரத்துவ பாரம்பரியத்தினைக் கொண்ட நாடு பாரத தேசம் பார்த்தி கந்தவேல்
51. सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिन - धनेश्री भट्ट, दिशा ठक्कर च
52. प्रेरणा - मीनाक्षी रेना
53. सुमधुर भारत वर्ष हमारा - प्रोफ़ेसर सरन घई
54. प्रतिनिधि - प्रोफ़ेसर जगमोहन हूमर
55. दिया जलाऊँ उस धूली पर - इन्द्रा (धीर) वडेरा
56. NAIC Organizing Committee

**Editor-in-Chief**

Sadhna Joshi, Ph.D., D.Sc.  
E-mail: drjoshisadhna@gmail.com

**Editor**

Swati Bhatt Vyas  
E-mail: swatibhatt.vyas@gmail.com

**Editorial board**

Lata Champsee  
Nareshkumar N. Chavda  
Pankaj Dave  
Sharmishtha Joshi  
Azad K. Kaushik

**Advisory Board**

Ramesh Chotai  
Darpan Patel  
Santhosh Prabhu  
Deepak Ruparell

© National Alliance of Indo-Canadians, April 15, 2015



## Editor's Note

The National Alliance of Indo-Canadians (NAIC) is a not-for-profit organization working towards strengthening ties and promoting cooperation between Canada and India, while advancing the shared values of democracy, inclusive economic development and mutual respect that we all cherish. It aims to strengthen social bonds among Canadians, irrespective of religion, race and creed to generate oneness and brotherhood.

NAIC has organized a community reception on April 15, 2015, which will be held at the Ricoh Coliseum in Toronto to welcome the Honourable Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi to Canada. The presence of the honourable Prime Minister of Canada, Stephen Harper, who will preside the function, will enhance and glorify the atmosphere of this event. In honour of the Prime Minister's visit, the NAIC has published this magazine as a commemorative souvenir of this event. A special hard copy edition of the magazine will be presented to the Honourable Prime Ministers of India and Canada at the reception. In addition, over 10,000 copies of this magazine will be distributed to the attendees, as well as to key officials in India, Canada and other countries.

In May 2014, Shri Narendra Modi became the prime minister of India with an overwhelming majority win. Since then, he has visited numerous countries, including Australia, Brazil, Fiji, Japan, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, France, Germany, and the United States to foster trade relationship and friendship, which is also one of his primary reasons for visiting Canada. This is a historic event for all Indo-Canadians as this is the first bilateral visit of an Indian prime minister after over four decades.

India and Canada have a lot in common. Both are democratic nations who are home to a multicultural society. Similarly, the agriculture in both of these countries heavily contributes to their economy. English plays a key role for communication as it is one of the primary languages for both India and Canada. In addition, both of these countries are members of the United Nations. The Indian diaspora in Canada is approximately 3.8% with people of Indian origin settled all across Canada from Newfoundland and Nunavut to Toronto and Quebec. The community reception marks the recognition of Indo-Canadians who have enriched Canada in all walks of life. The Indians in Canada have established the backbone of various industries and have played key roles as industrialists, scientists, producers, professors, novelists, singers, philanthropists, businessmen, engineers, physicians and much more. Canada could help India in various sectors such as infrastructure, food, education and energy. Some of the core mutual benefits for India and Canada consist of agricultural profit, education, nuclear energy and security. The strong relationship and growing friendship between India and Canada set an example for the rest of the world with regards to economy and trades.

On behalf of National Alliance of Indo-Canadians, the editorial team and myself, I welcome the Prime Ministers of India and Canada.

Sadhna Joshi, Ph.D., D.Sc.,  
Editor-in-chief







*Message from Prime Minister Stephen Harper*

*Canada and India enjoy a special friendship founded on a mutual commitment to shared values of democracy, pluralism and the rule of law. Our relationship is also shaped by a mutual interest in expanding trade and commercial ties. Our Government has set ambitious goals to enhance bilateral trade and increase the flow of people, goods, services and investments between our two countries. I am proud to note that India is currently Canada's largest trading partner in South Asia and bilateral merchandise trade between our two countries reached a record high of \$6.33 billion in 2014.*

*As you enjoy this evening's exceptional cultural program, I know you will take great pride in welcoming Prime Minister Modi to our country. I am certain that this historic visit – the first by an Indian Prime Minister in more than 40 years – is a harbinger of even closer relations between our two countries.*

Sept 24

||||| INCREDIBLE INDO-CANADIANS ||||| 7







प्रधान मंत्री  
Prime Minister

New Delhi  
07 April, 2015

Friends,

Namaste! Hello! Bonjour! I am extremely happy about my Canada visit.

Canada is among the leading global economies and is blessed with rich natural resources. India's ties with Canada are robust and I see a scope for even further strengthening of our ties. The warm nature of the people of Canada is very well known. I am sure my Canada visit will enhance our ties in a wide range of issues.

Canada is home to several people of Indian origin, who have made a substantial contribution to public life in Canada. The accomplishments of the Indian diaspora have made both India and Canada very proud. I must acknowledge the role of the diaspora in bringing our Nations closer to each other.

I wish you all the very best!

Sincerely,



(Narendra Modi)

**National Alliance of Indo-Canadians**  
Toronto, Canada







The organizing committee of National Alliance of Indo-Canadians invited Honourable Prime Minister Stephen Harper to preside over the Community Reception to welcome Honourable Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Toronto on April 15, 2015 (L to R: Deepak Ruparell, Vikram Khurana, Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Dr. Azad K. Kaushik and Ramesh Chotai)





# भारत माता के चरणों में शत-शत नमन !

हम भारतीय, हम हिंदुस्तानी !  
हम भारत माता के बालक, उसके चरणों में शत-शत नमन !  
उस कर्म-भूमि औ तपो-भूमि से, स्नेहमयी प्रिय मातृ-भूमि से,  
हो न पाएँगे कभी उच्छ्वसन ।

हम दूर जा बसें या रहें पास, उर में माँ की मूरत का निवास ।  
उस भूमि-संस्कृति के पुजारी, वह जीवन, वह प्रेरणा हमारी ।  
हम अति भावुक सीधे-सरल, गीली आँखों को देख जाते पिघल ।  
पर गर लगे सम्मान को ठेस, तो बन जाते हैं रुद्र प्रबल ।

हम निर्धन हों या हों धनवान, कायम रखते हैं स्वाभिमान ।  
जीवन के सत्य से नहीं अनजान, हैं भव सागर की लहरों का ज्ञान ।  
विष-अमृत पीते सम मान, याद रखते स्वदेश की आन ।  
भूलते नहीं हैं मानव-धर्म, करते हर संस्कृति का सम्मान ।

हमारी साँस-साँस में बसा हुआ है, उसके शौर्य का इतिहास !  
जिसके कण-कण की गाथा, विश्व में फैलाती प्रकाश ।  
जो सिखलाती गीता का कर्मवाद, पढ़ाती अहिंसा परमो-धर्म का पाठ ।  
बहाती रहती जो दिन-रात, ज्ञान-भक्ति-वैराग्य की धार ।

हम आसक्त होकर भी अनासक्त, मोह युक्त होकर भी विरक्त ।  
हमारे मंत्रोच्चारण की गूँज, हमारे गरबे, हमारा रास,  
हमारी परंपरा की झनकार, हमारी चुनर और शृंगार,  
विभिन्न रंगों में घुल कर भी, रखते बनी अपनी पहचान ।

पर्वत पिता, नदियाँ माता, पूजित होता है हर सागर ।  
हरियाली भी शक्ति रूप में, सम्मानित होती है घर-घर ।  
रख ईश्वर में पूरा विश्वास, मन में रखते हैं आशावाद ।  
ज्ञान-वृद्धि के हैं पिपासु पर, "विद्या ददाति विनयम्," रखते याद ।

यह भूमि संत-जानियों की, जो करते रहते जप-आराधन ।  
होता शांति-शक्ति दोनों का पूजन । सकल विश्व के हित का चिंतन ।  
"सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः, सर्वे संतु निरामयाः ..." सदा यही चाहता है मन ।  
यहाँ "हीरा" सी माता, "नमो" से लाल, माँ के चरणों का करते वंदन ।  
सुन पड़ता है चारों प्रहर : "नमो-नमो" के नारों का गुंजन ।  
हम भारत माता के बालक, उसके चरणों में शत-शत नमन !

डा. सरस्वती जोशी, INALCO, पेरिस, फ्रांस





# माता हीरा बा

हे दामोदर की उपासिके ! हे भारत माता की शान !  
हे नरेंद्र जननी, माँ हीरा बा ! तुमको करें शत-शत प्रणाम !  
माँ या "सपूती" बनने का सही अर्थ तुमने समझाया ।  
अपने तपमय जीवन से तुमने ज्योतिर्मय प्रकाश फैलाया ।

कठिन अग्नि-परीक्षाओं में भी विचलित हुईं ना एक क्षण ।  
लाल चुनर ले, श्वेत वस्त्र दे, किया देव ने भारी परीक्षण ।  
किंतु डिगीं ना एक पग भी, बढ़ाती रहीं आगे चरण ।  
बन श्वेत-वसना, ले तुलसी की माला, प्रभु इच्छा का कर लिया वरण ।

था कंटक-मय मार्ग पर हे सती-साध्वी ! तुमको इक पल भी रोक न पाया ।  
जिस लक्ष्य हेतु जग में आई थीं, उसको न कभी तुमने बिसराया ।  
"श्रम करना मेरे हाथ, करूंगी साधना उस दुख-हर्ता की ।  
मैं मानवी मृत्यु-लोक की तो क्या ? मैं भी अंश जगत-कर्ता की ।"

हो जग से पूरी अनासक्त । क्षितिज को छूने का ले कर लक्ष्य ।  
"हाथ में काम, मुख में राम" का ले मंत्र तुम माँ ! कर्म-पथ पर बढ़ चलीं ।  
ले गोद में अपने लाल को, माँ भारत के नौ-निहाल को,  
तपस्विनी सी, दृढ़ संकल्प ले तुम माँ ! गंगा की धारा सी बह चलीं ।

सीता सी दृढ़ता, कुंती सा साहस, कौशल्या सी करुणामयी बन कर ।  
मारग में आते हर रोड़े को, रख साहस हटा रही थीं चुन कर ।  
जीवन जैसा भी दिया ईश ने, धारण कर मौन किया स्वीकार ।  
बिना विद्रोह, तप-श्रम को अपना, करती रहीं भव-सागर पार ।

कठिन था वह मार्ग देवी ! फिर उठ गया था पति का साया ।  
अश्रु-पूरित नेत्र थे, पर पुत्रों को दे दी आँचल की छाया ।  
हिंदू नारी के दिव्य रूप सी, रह कर परंपरा की पालक ।  
स्वयं बनीं सीता सी शिक्षक, रहीं धर्म-ध्वजा की रक्षक ।

भारत माँ की मातृ-शक्ति के ज्योति-पुंज की प्रखर किरण !  
दीप-शिखा सी शांत, ज्योतिर्मयी ! धन्य तुम्हारा मानव-जीवन !  
तुम हर हिंदू नारी के जीवन की, सदा रहोगी प्रमुख प्रेरणा ।  
माँ हीरा ! तुम्हारे दिव्य रूप की, करते हैं हम चरण-वंदना ।

*डा. साधना जोशी, टोरंटो विश्वविद्यालय*





## श्री नरेन्द्र दामोदरदास मोदी

विश्व गगन में चमके हो बन भारत का ध्रुव तारा ।  
दामोदर-हीरा सुत नरेन्द्र मोदी तुम गर्व हमारा ।

जब से सत्ता में आये भारत की शान बढ़ाई ।  
जापान अमेरिका आस्ट्रेलिया में ऐसी धूम मचाई ।  
बने अग्रणी नायक जग के गूँज रहा जयकारा ।  
दामोदर-हीरा सुत नरेन्द्र मोदी तुम गर्व हमारा ।

हिन्द-कनाडा संबंधों को सुदृढ़ सशक्त बनाना ।  
भारतवंशी हितों की रक्षा और सम्मान बढ़ाना ।  
आत्मबली साहसी विवेकी है व्यक्तित्व तुम्हारा ।  
शत-शत तुम्हें प्रणाम, नरेन्द्र मोदी तुम गर्व हमारा ।

तुमसे इतना प्यार हमें जितना सागर में पानी ।  
भारत माँ के सच्चे सपूत है नहीं तुम्हारी सानी ।  
सर्वांगीण विकास देश का अनुपम लक्ष्य तुम्हारा ।  
हो भारत के कर्णधार मोदी तुम गर्व हमारा ।

हुए प्रवासी हम लेकिन भारत को भूल न पाए ।  
जब-जब आई याद वतन की नयन अश्रु भर आये ।  
अपना भारत हो महान बस यह अरमान हमारा ।  
भारत माँ का उन्नत ललाट तुम मोदी गर्व हमारा ।

*प्रोफेसर देवेन्द्र मिश्र, टोरंटो*





एक झलक

१७ सितम्बर १९५० एक ऐतिहासिक दिन है क्योंकि इस दिन स्वतंत्र भारत में एक ऐसी हस्ती का जन्म हुआ जो इक्कीसवीं सदी के भारत में एक नवयुग के प्रणेता के रूप में उभरा है। "हज़ारों साल नरगिस अपनी बेनूरी पे रोती हैं, चमन में होता है तब "मोदी" सा दीदावर पैदा।" गुजरात के मेहसाना जिले के वाडनगर ग्राम में दामोदर दास मोदी तथा हीराबा मोदी दंपति के घर जन्मे नरेन्द्र बचपन से ही एक जिम्मेवार, होनहार, मेधावी छात्र थे। सत्रह वर्ष की आयु में नरेन्द्र आत्म-चिंतन तथा सांसारिक व्यावहारिकता की खोज में देशाटन हेतु निकले। करीब दो वर्ष की इस यात्रा ने उनके जीवन की दशा तथा दिशा दोनों को ही बदल दिया और जब वे लौटे तो उन्हें अपना लक्ष्य पता था। इसके बाद ही उन्होंने स्वयं को राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक संघ के हवाले कर दिया था और १९७२ में वे संघ प्रचारक बने। अगले दशक में उनकी अद्भुत संगठन-क्षमता को देखते हुए उन्हें गुजरात के भारतीय जनता दल का प्रधान सचिव बनाया गया। गुजरात में नरेंद्र मोदी की उपलब्धियों से भारतीय जनता दल का राष्ट्रीय नेतृत्व अति प्रभावित हुआ और उन्हें १९९५ में राष्ट्रीय सचिव बनाया गया और हरियाणा तथा हिमाचल प्रदेश में पार्टी प्रभारी की जिम्मेदारी दी गई। उन्होंने गुजरात के प्रांतीय चुनावों में बीजेपी को अपूर्व सफलता दिलाई।

इक्कीसवीं सदी का प्रारम्भ नरेंद्र मोदी के राजनैतिक जीवन में मील का पत्थर साबित हुआ, जब उन्हें तत्कालीन प्रधान मंत्री श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी ने गुजरात के शासन की बागडोर सौंप दी। मोदी जी एक दशक से ऊपर मुख्य मंत्री रहे और इस दौरान उन्होंने “वाइब्रेंट गुजरात” का सपना न सिर्फ देखा, अपितु उसे साकार भी किया।

भारतीय जनता दल ने २०१४ के लोकसभा चुनावों की सांध्य बेला पर उन्हें भावी प्रधान मंत्री पद के लिए मनोनीत किया। निडर, निर्भीक नरेंद्र ने अपना चुनावी अभियान अत्यंत कुशलता तथा अतुलनीय वाक्-शक्ति के द्वारा संपन्न किया और १६ मई २०१४ को भारतीय जनता दल को अभूतपूर्व सफलता दिलाते हुए पूर्ण बहुमत से चुनाव जीता। २६ मई २०१४ को राष्ट्रपति भवन में विशेष समारोह में नरेंद्र मोदी जी ने भारत के प्रधान मंत्री की शपथ ग्रहण की। इस समारोह की विशेषता थी : इसमें सार्क देशों के तकरीबन सभी राष्ट्राध्यक्षों की उपस्थिति। मोदी जी के एक साल से भी कम के शासनकाल में उनकी कुछेक उपलब्धियाँ उल्लेखनीय हैं। उन्होंने भारत की डगमगाती अर्थ व्यवस्था को एक नया आयाम दिया है। विश्व की शीर्ष वित्तीय संस्था के अनुसार आने वाले कुछ वर्षों में भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था चीन से आगे निकल सकती है। भारत के आधुनिकीकरण के क्षेत्र में "स्मार्ट सिटीज़" के निर्माण तथा यातायात के आधुनिकीकरण की योजनाएँ प्रशंसनीय हैं। मोदी जी के जापान, अमेरिका, ऑस्ट्रेलिया, भारत के पड़ोसी देशों तथा जर्मनी के दौरों ने भारत की शान में चार चाँद लगा दिये हैं। मोदी जी की "मेक इन इण्डिया" घोषणा देश में विदेशी पूंजी निवेश के द्वारा अर्थव्यवस्था को ज़बरदस्त उछाल दे सकती है। निकट भविष्य में सरकारी आर्थिक निवेशों के निजीकरण द्वारा स्थिति और मज़बूत हो सकती है। राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य, नारी-सुरक्षा तथा प्रदूषण-मुक्त भारत अभियान सराहनीय हैं। मोदी जी की प्रति मास आने वाली "मन की बात" रेडियो प्रस्तुति करोड़ों भारतीयों और भारतवंशियों के लिये अति मनमोहक कार्यक्रम है। नरेन्द्र मोदी जी एक अच्छे गुजराती कवि और "फैशन आइकोन" भी हैं और उनका आधी बाँहों वाला "मोदी कुर्ता" लाखों लोगों को पसंद है।

अंतमें यही कहना चाहूँगा कि : "ईश्वर नरेंद्र मोदी जी को राष्ट्र को समर्पित सभी शुभ कार्यों में अपार सफलता प्रदान करे ।"

जय हिन्द ! वन्दे मातरम् !

प्रोफेसर देवेन्द्र मिश्र





## INCREDIBLE INDO-CANADIANS EAST HAS MET WEST

DR. AZAD K. KAUSHIK

Certain events in the history of humankind cannot be explained by the theory of evolution highlighted by none other than the art historian and scholar Kenneth Clark in the landmark series 'Civilization', for example, sudden appearance of civilizations 3000 BC (Egypt, Mesopotamia and Indus Valley), miracle of Ionia and Greece in late 6 BC when philosophy, science, art and poetry flourished, and the outpouring of energy that led to the industrial revolution in first Century Western Europe. In this context, the spiritual enlightenment seen in India is unparalleled in the history of humankind that helped create an intellectual

order from wherein the famous Vedic scriptures originated (Rigveda being the oldest book available to humanity originally sustained through oral traditions), the source of knowledge, an experience of realization of soul and its relationship with the divine spirit that could lead one to sublime heights. Indeed, spirituality exists in the heart of all life and the laws governing spiritual growth are as exact as those discovered by science in nature, noted Lizelle Reymond, in her one of the books, 'My Life with a Brahmin family', in an attempt to experience spirituality. Such moorings allowed human mind to explore and question matters such as the origin

of universe and life, basis of health and longevity, underlying philosophy of yoga, creating a social order etc. and produced great thinkers, for example Chanakya, whose contributions found universal resonance. This ancient wisdom in simplified form got attention in the writings of British author Brian Hodgkinson who focused on essence of Shankara's 'Advaita Vedanta'. Such a tradition of thinking spread to American shores and produced 'Men of Letters' in 19th century that included Oliver Wendell Holmes, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and James Russell Lowell. In Canada, streaks of such thinking, among others, is so evident in the recent



philosophical writings of John Ralston Saul. An intellectual order with a spiritual inkling thrives to the day as a cornerstone of human thinking, aspirations and values and would continue to shape the future of humankind, as so far. So, East has met West.

The Indo-Canadians as a community are uniquely poised with the best of both East and West to be able to contribute towards the growth of a dynamic and vibrant Canadian society in a globalized and well-connected world today. It is not without reason that Indo-Canadians participate in all aspects of national life of Canada, be it politics, media, sports, business or education, and contribute towards a just society that all Canadians aspire for. Given their growing success in various fields by their

sheer virtues, Indo-Canadians are a shining example of those whose contributions to Canada, their adopted homeland, are so remarkable and obvious. Not the least, they continue to create new opportunities by fostering fruitful relationships with India, the unforgettable land of their origin and civilizational heritage, and the world at large. The Indo-Canadians do contribute their share towards 'World Thought' by helping raise the level of human consciousness for the betterment of humanity. Essentially, they have succeeded in promoting global citizenship based on universal values inherited from the civilizational awareness of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', meaning that the Earth indeed is a family, so are its inhabitants. Hundreds of organizations with diverse worship

places and practices characterize the Canadians of Indian origin reflecting the pluralistic traditions intrinsic to common thread of their civilizational and spiritual heritage. With simple traditions of tolerance, non-violence, Dharma and good Karma, Indo-Canadian's practice the values that strengthen the society and multicultural heritage of Canada.

Swami Vivekananda, the renowned spiritual Guru of the world, taught that peace depended upon social peace intricately linked to individual peace that is intertwined with spiritual awakening within an individual. For this reason, the peace or well-being of people cannot be sustained just by political reforms, economic regeneration or increased comforts of life but by the inner awakening alone. Similarly, advances in science and technology, supposed to usher prosperity has failed to sustain and promote unity of existence, simple because the divinity of the soul has been ignored. Given their determination, grit and civilizational roots together with newly occurring scientific and social transformations, it goes without saying that Indo-Canadians are truly 'Incredible' as they bring in 'change for the better' for entire humanity in 21st century. Thank you for being an incredible Indo-Canadian!

---

Azad K. Kaushik, D.Sc. (Paris) is an Immunologist and Inventor, President of National Alliance of Indo-Canadians, President, World Brahman Federation Canada.





# A NEW BEGINNING IN CANADA-INDIA RELATIONS

V. I. LAKSHMANAN AND L. PRASHER

After much anticipation following the election of the new government under Prime Minister Modi, the moment that Canada India Foundation and members of the Indo-Canadian community had been waiting for is finally here, the first state visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Canada in nearly four decades.

Admittedly Canada-India relations had settled into an uneasy lull after the heady days of the 60's when Canada and India were seen as the voices of reason in what was then a highly polarized world, and formed the core of many a peacekeeping missions around the globe. This was the period that saw Canada's then

Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson receiving the Nobel Peace Prize, the formation of the Shastri Institute named after India's then Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri and the CANDU nuclear reactor becoming Canada's brand identity in India. After those days, however, nearly four decades went by without a major diplomatic breakthrough. Ironically, during the same time, encouraged by Canada's newly enlightened immigration policies, hundreds of thousands of Indian citizens, along with their counterparts from countries around the world started making Canada their home. It turned out to be the best investment Canada has made, as the highly prosperous Indo-Can-

dian population is a ready, able and willing catalyst for the rapid blossoming of trade and other relations between Canada and India.

The formation of Canada India Foundation (CIF), as a non-partisan public policy organization, represented a natural evolution for the Indian diaspora community, moving from settling in, growing a family, pursuing careers, achieving economic stability and then prosperity, all the time retaining its cultural values, thanks to the spirit and practice of multiculturalism here, as well as its ties with India.

A milestone in Canada India relations was reached in 2008 when CIF, in the first of the many initia-



tives since its formation, facilitated a closed door meeting between Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper and India's former President, A.P.J Abdul Kalam, along with India's then High Commissioner to Canada, R.L. Narayan. Two CIF executives were the only privileged observers of the meeting where the breakthrough idea of civil nuclear cooperation was first mooted. So it was natural that, when CIF organized the first of its many theme forums on Canada-India relations, the Canada India Energy Forum 2009, the most significant recommendation coming out of the event was for a speedy conclusion of the civil nuclear treaty.

CIF has followed up its Energy forum with equally successful forums on Mining (2010), Agriculture and Food processing (2012) and Infrastructure (2014), each with 50-60 speakers from both countries presenting, discussing and recommending ideas, opportunities and action plans in each theme sector. This year, CIF will be organizing its fifth forum, the Canada India Healthcare Summit 2015, which will tackle both the business and social themes of healthcare, in particular, highlighting 'Make in India' opportunities for prescription drugs, and charting the path towards assurance of universal health and long-term care for citizens of India.

It is to the credit of Canadian democratic values that during the course of the lengthy negotiations with India on Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs continued to update CIF and other prominent Indo-Canadian organizations on the progress, seeking input and advice

as appropriate. Even as all of us are eagerly awaiting and anticipating the signing of CEPA during the visit of Prime Minister Modi to Canada,



it is important to recall what CIF executives said during a submission to the House of Commons Standing

only be easily achievable, but should force a rethink of the target to at least \$30 billion, especially with the breakthrough in the nuclear sector.”

As stated during its submission, CIF hopes that the final CEPA agreement will incorporate most, if not all, of



Committee on International Trade. They said, “With a comprehensive approach to addressing the top five areas of partnership reflecting both Canada's strength and India's need, i.e. Energy, Agriculture, Education, Mining and Infrastructure (including water), the current target of \$15 billion in bilateral trade should not

the following recommendations to realize a higher bilateral trade target:

- Facilitate the temporary entry and legitimate delivery of professional services between our two countries, such as to allow ease of temporary professional travel. A more progressive approach to enable hi-tech workers to come to Canada,

especially when they would form the core of a foreign investment initiative from India. This would also address the shortage of such workers here on a permanent basis.

- Removal of tariff barriers, which impede market access for Canadian exporters.

- Phase in the lifting of tariff barriers. For certain industries, longer transition periods will be needed for them to adapt to a new context of tariff-free Canada-India trade. One area, which has not realized its trade potential, due to excessive tariffs, is high-end textiles, and with lifting of tariff barriers, the trade volume would grow.

- Tackle non-tariff barriers. Regulatory approaches and standards differ across jurisdictions. CIF advocates regulations based on internationally accepted norms. Limits also need to be placed on the number and scope of regulations such that they not exceed what is necessary to achieve the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement.

- Canadian businesses, which are commercially or financially impacted by technical barriers or regulatory measures, should be permitted to be part of a transparent consultation process.

- Inclusion of services as part of CEPA, given that the same represent nearly 75% of Canada's GDP. Canadian financial companies in particular face significant restrictions on foreign direct investment in India's banking and insurance sectors.

- Ensure high standards of intellec-

tual property protection.

There is a tendency to view relations between two countries strictly through the eyes and statistics of trade. This, of course, is a simplistic tendency because trade by its very nature is subject to the uncertainties of market, and if not backed up by a strong and vibrant people-to-people and institution-to-institution relations, and strengthened by a common sense of political purpose and approach to global situations, the vision of strong relations could



turn into a mirage.

One of the important elements of the multi-dimensional matrix of country-to-country relations is that of political interaction, not just government to government, but also directly between its elected representatives. CIF was a catalyst in the formation of the Canada India Inter-parliamentary Friendship Group, made up of Canadian federal parliamentarians from all major political parties and has since continued to hold regular meetings with this group to express and emphasize the importance of ties with India, with specific recommendations for action. It has been the fondest hope of CIF that a similar multi-party

group made up of Indian parliamentarians be formed, as well as a joint group made up of parliamentarians from both countries, all to continue to identify and push their respective governments towards partnership for mutual gain in specific areas.

Interaction between Canada and India can take place at multiple levels and domains. The levels are federal, provincial and municipal and the domains are business, academic, cultural and social. CIF has supported Canadian initiatives at all three government levels, as well as academic, business and social interactions. CIF Members have joined Prime Minister's and Provincial Premiers' delegations to India and have advised municipal delegations as well. CIF members have also supported numerous academic institutions in either setting up India centres or in developing ties with Indian institutions.

With the buzz about Prime Minister Modi's visit, highlighted by the public event and hopefully by a formal conclusion of CEPA, it is tempting to recall the closing quote from the protagonist of the movie, Casablanca, "I think this is the beginning of a beautiful relationship". It is a relationship that Canada India Foundation will do its best to sustain and strengthen in its own small way.

.....  
V. I. Lakshmanan and L. Prasher are the Chair and National Convenor, respectively, of Canada India Foundation (CIF)





# PM MODI'S VISIT: ENERGIZING CANADA-INDIA PARTNERSHIP

**DHARMA P. JAIN**

**A**s Indian Prime Minister Modi arrives in Canada for a three-day visit, Indo-Canadians would like to think that the stars are favourably aligned for realising the vision of comprehensive economic partnership between Canada and India.

The recent visit of Ed Fast, Federal Minister of International Trade is indicative of Canada accelerating the conclusion of complex negotiations on Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

We in the Chamber believe that Canada and India has a lot of scope for working together in the sectors such as aerospace, education and skill development, energy, food security, infrastructure, information technology, railways, science and technology.

The ICCC report released in December 2014 on “Unlocking the Potential of Canada-India Partnership: Present Initiatives and Future Agenda” has come out with important recommendations that include bridge-building role

of Indian Diaspora, Small and Medium Enterprises. Some of the recommendations include:

- Building of stronger communication and linkages among industry, businesses and academia so as to reduce the perception gap about opportunity for developing trade and investment.
- Canadian SMEs considering investing in Special Economic Zones (SEZ) in India for setting up production units of goods in collaboration with partners in India for supply to India as well as export to other South Asian and South East Asian countries.
- Both national governments should strive to facilitate mutually beneficial exchanges between Canadian self-sufficient high tech small-scale industries and their Indian customers.
- Upgrading of credentials of students from India who have additional Canadian education and experience

should be exercised, as this would contribute to building of partnership in education and skill development.

- Substantial augmentation of scholarship programs.
- Canadian companies setting up more R&D centres in India and thereby profiting from availability of cost effective research talent in India.
- Academia, industry, business and government in both countries developing partnerships dedicated to the exploration of new agricultural techniques and technologies and for promoting food security in the overall context of bilateral trade relationship.

India has been recognized as a priority market in the Canada's Global Market's Action Plan 2013. To keep the



momentum of its India Centric activities and branding of India in Canada and of Canada in India, ICCC has been continuously working with various stakeholders in both the countries. ICCC was invited by the then Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs to be its partner in organising the historical 2011 Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Canada (PBD Canada 2011) in Toronto. This convention of Indian Diaspora in North America extensively debated the theme of "Building Bridges: Positioning Strategies for the Indian Diaspora." The deliberations generated useful information and knowledge about prospects and potential for strengthening Canada-India relations and Diaspora's role for building economic bridges. PBD Canada 2011 convention made some important recommendations such as:

- India's growth also happens as a result of the developments in the bottom of pyramid. Diaspora and business organisations and government of Canada need to make use of emerging opportunities from developments in rural areas and in tier two and tier three cities. Diaspora

networks are the key to developing people to people connections that are needed in this respect.

- Greater use may be made of social media for facilitating engagement and communication of Canadian youth, especially Indo-Canadians with their counterparts in areas of technology, culture, entrepreneurship, education and health care.
- Connections should be built through businesses and institutions. Developing these business networks could occur through various chambers of commerce and economic organisations. This is important for SMEs entering Indian market.
- Innovation as an instrument of change supports sustainable growth and better utilisation of the resources.



The two countries should enhance collaboration in key areas of scientific research that shows the potential of a nurturing relationship.

Following this highly successful event, Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce was bestowed the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman award, 2012 by the President of India.

The Canadian governments both at federal and provincial levels have acknowledged the Indo-Canadian contribution to the polity, economy and society of Canada. Further, the Indian Diaspora serves as a strong lobby for economic reforms and a source of valuable help for India to become the world's technology lab and promote 'Made in India' initiative.

The two governments have agreed on important policy frameworks to advance the bilateral relationship. In particular, the Nuclear Cooperation Agreement signed in June 2010 and the current negotiations of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) expected to conclude in near future constitute important develop-



ments in Canada-India relations.

Efforts have been continuing for developing areas for global partnership. The recent visits of Canadian PM Harper (2012) and Governor General Johnston (2014) to India and an earlier meeting between the then External Affairs Minister Salman Khurshid and then foreign affairs Minister John Baird for starting the inaugural Canada-India Foreign Ministers' Dialogue to discuss issues of mutual interest were important milestones.

Canada and India have many MoUs and agreements in place in fields of Health Research, Scientific and Technological Cooperation, Agriculture and Allied Sectors, Mines and cooperation in Earth Sciences etc. These agreements have laid a strong foundation for a comprehensive partnership. At the same time, they also raise important questions about the need to identify appropriate implementing mechanisms and the supportive role of the Indo-Canadian diaspora. It is expected that these matters will receive due attention during PM Modi's visit.

The visit by Indian Prime Minister Modi to Canada in April 2015 is projected to generate several ideas for exploring deeper two-way cooperation between the Canada and India, incorporating mining, energy and food security, studies on ocean and glaciers.

The two countries are also important international players engaged in global discourse in areas of energy, food security, health, water, terrorism and climate change. They need to find a way to work together in the United Nations and relevant multilateral organizations on these issues as that would be beneficial to the comprehensive partnership required between them as they progress towards knowledge-based societies.

Canada must take advantage of India's close relationships with other BRICS countries, membership in the East Asia Summit, its excellent relations with ASEAN. Similarly, India needs to factor Canada's membership in the G7, G8 and G20, NAFTA, APEC, and the Arctic Council, Canada's vast natural resources because of it being the second largest landmass and having the largest coastline in the world.

Moving Forward Together (Chale Sath Sath)

Long before any other foreign power took note of Prime Minister Modi's vision of rapid and inclusive economic development, Canada had the foresight for partnering in

the ambitious Vibrant Gujarat investment conventions in 2011, 2013 and 2015. ICCC made a distinctive contribution when it participated in Vibrant Gujarat events in 2013 and 2015. For these events, ICCC brought the largest Canadian delegation to the convention. It included several federal, provincial and metropolitan Canadian leaders. The Chamber has proactively supported four of the seven editions of the Vibrant Gujarat convention. This should pay good dividends now.

There has been an overwhelming response to ICCC's Annual India Mission initiatives in India from the governments at all levels and the private businesses. Such initiatives have contributed to building 'Brand Canada' in India and 'Brand India' in Canada. At the same time, it has enabled the Chamber to fulfill its other mandate of creating business and professional opportunities for its members.

The year 2015 marks the beginning of a new phase in Canada-India relations with the visit of Indian Prime Minister Modi, just a few months after the historic visit of the U.S. President to India. It is a sentiment that is shared by all observers of developments in Canada-India corridor. If CEPA negotiations get completed by the time of the visit of Prime Minister Modi, we may well witness the birth of a significant bilateral partnership.

.....  
Dharma P Jain is the president of the Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC).

A close-up photograph of several hands assembling wooden puzzle pieces. The pieces are in various colors: white, green, orange, and red. The hands are positioned around the pieces, with some fingers holding them in place and others reaching to connect them. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue-grey.

# STRENGTHENING THE INDO- CANADIAN BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP

NIVEDITA SHORI AND PRASHANT SHORI

**T**he very year in which India became an independent country, the golden 1947, it established diplomatic relations with Canada. This points to the history of collegiality between the two nations. While these countries are miles apart, there is a common binding thread that runs in the roots of each of these nations – cultural pluralism and democracy.

When primary school children in India are asked to write an essay or prepare a speech about their country, there is definite mention of ‘unity in diversity’. The rich and diverse cultures and customs of each of the states and union territories come together as one to shape

the identity of India. The annual exhibits at Republic Day parades are a wonderful example of this.

The same is true for Canada. This is a land where countless cultures find representation. The multicultural mosaic that is an essential feature of Canada’s identity spreads the message of love, harmony and togetherness in the world. Canada sets a global example of how it is possible to rise above mutual differences and become accepting of each other as humans and as global citizens.

Today, Canada is home to over a million Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs). Not only do these people enjoy Canadian privileges, but are

also heart-warmed to see that Indian culture is well represented in the personality of Canada. The strengthening ties between the two countries make it even more conducive for Indians living in Canada to experience pride and a satisfying sense of well-being. Immigration relations are particularly notable between Canada and India. In 2013, more than 33,000 Indian citizens became permanent residents in Canada. With the introduction of the Start-up Visa, Canada is targeting immigrant entrepreneurs to provide them with an opportunity to build innovative companies that can create jobs for Canadians and compete on a global scale. This holds immense potential for Indians.



India is Canada's largest trading partner in South Asia. There have been recent announcements about intentions of both countries to further expand trade. This is exciting for both India and Canada, as it will strengthen the already robust bilateral relationship. Bilateral trade between Canada and India totalled a record of \$5.8 billion dollars in 2013, and has more than doubled over the last ten years.

Being fellow members of the Commonwealth of Nations, Canada and India exchange high commissioners rather than ambassadors. In the Canadian parliament, Canada-India Parliamentary Friendship group runs strong and helps to maintain the ties between the countries. In January 2015, the Government of Gujarat hosted a biennial summit in India where a delegation from the Government of Canada highlighted the strong ties between the two countries.

The Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi's visit to Canada in April, 2015 will not only strengthen the bilateral relationship between the two countries but will also raise the confidence of the residents on both sides to continue to explore, enjoy and experience the mutual benefits of each other's culture and ideology.

---

Nivedita Shori, M.Sc. (Biophysics), M.A. (Education), Teacher, Peel District School Board, ON, Canada, Editor, *A Journey Within Ourselves*.

---

Prashant Shori, B.E., India, M.E., Australia, B.Social Work, York University, Toronto, Canada, YMCA, Toronto and Punjabi Community Health Services, Mississauga.

## **Dreams**

Dreams are dreams,  
Possibilities to discover,  
A cherished desire,  
A wish for the future,  
An aspiration, a goal,  
That stir mind and soul.

Believe in your dreams,  
Feel their power,  
Dreams are the hopes,  
That inspire to achieve,  
And whisk you away,  
On a colourful journey.

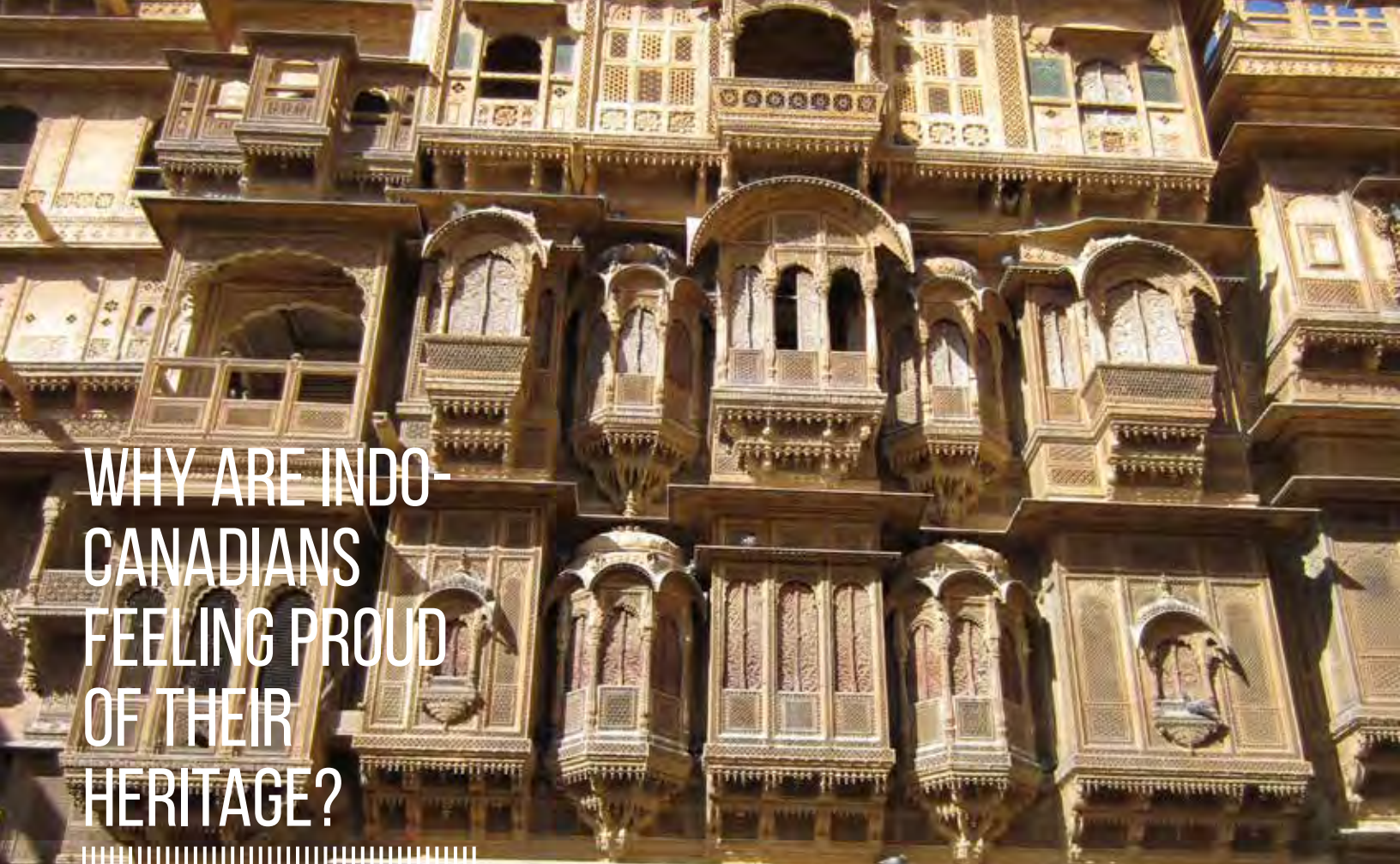
Pull dreams out of cradle,  
Slowly let them grow,  
Hold them, make them walk,  
And strive to raise them,  
It can happen, they may fall,  
But every step is vital.

Relentless you shall be,  
And nurture them again,  
Make them stronger,  
Stronger than before,  
Certainly they will be,  
A reality of your life.  
For anyone who dreams,  
Dreams to bring a change,  
Remember the change,

That you see today,  
Was someone's dream,  
A dream in yesterday.

---

Meenakshi Raina, MMS, Poet and Author of the historical fiction "The Divine And The Destiny"



# WHY ARE INDO-CANADIANS FEELING PROUD OF THEIR HERITAGE?

BY PRADIP RODRIGUES

When many of us immigrate to the Western world, we yearn to fit in, not stick out like sore thumbs. When we enter the corporate world we often intentionally or unintentionally hide aspects of our Indian-ness. Some try to distance themselves from their Indian roots, adopt mannerisms, put on fake Canadian accents and act 'not who they are'. The second-generation Indo-Canadian will often keep a distance from someone 'fresh off the boat'. They will prefer to socialize exclusively as though they are embarrassed to be seen with other Indo-Canadians. While it is important to integrate and fit in, one doesn't need to disown one's culture without

merit. We must feel comfortable in our skins and be confident as a people.

In recent years it has become easier to admit our culture and heritage because India is finally in the news for all the right reasons. The economy is doing well, the country is seen to be a stable democracy despite its many imperfections. There is change happening at every level, most importantly, Indians are becoming more global in their thinking.

Last year a visiting journalist acquaintance from Mumbai was in Canada on a short vacation, she met dozens of Indo-Canadians and shared her observations with me. The first-generation Indo-Canadians she remarked were living in a time warp. They

clung to customs and traditions that are neglected in today's India. They were so fearful of losing their culture that they did all they can to insulate their children from inappropriate influences. When they visited India, they were in for a culture shock, their relatives were more westernized, they didn't feel threatened by it. She found the first-generation more Indian than those living back in India. The second-generation she noticed often rebelled against their parents interpretation of Indian culture and for them Indian culture was Bollywood movies which are often shot in Europe or America and the stars act more like Hollywood wannabes. Their understanding of Indian culture is so superficial. Now she was generalizing



but I think she was onto something.

When I decided to immigrate to Canada 16 years ago, I have to confess I was not so proud of India. I was in fact angry that corruption and inefficiency had made daily living and commuting a living hell in Mumbai. It is what drove me to come here. I am not sure I would've made that decision today. The economy was stagnating, the outlook was bleak and pessimistic, as a country we didn't seem to be progressing on any level.

Ever since Prime Minister Narendra Modi took the reigns, a new sense of optimism has gripped India and the Indian diaspora around the world. His charisma, boundless energy and clear vision of India has given even the most skeptical and pessimistic Indo-Canadian a reason to believe in India again.

I have met so many Indo-Canadians now approaching retirement age who are considering spending winters in India. The popularity and demand for Visas-on-Arrival and OCI (Overseas Citizen of India) is testament to the pull India is now exerting on the diaspora. Hundreds of thousands of second-generation Indians who've been born and brought up in the West are now living and working across India, often to the chagrin of their parents who left in order to give their children a better life. As the Indian economy grows and more and more opportunities open up, don't be surprised to see thousands of Indo-Canadians begin their version of Ghar Wapasi. Suddenly we are not only more confident about admitting we are of Indian origin, we are also more open to the idea of living there.

---

Pradip Rodrigue, Editor, CanIndia News, Mississauga Ontario.



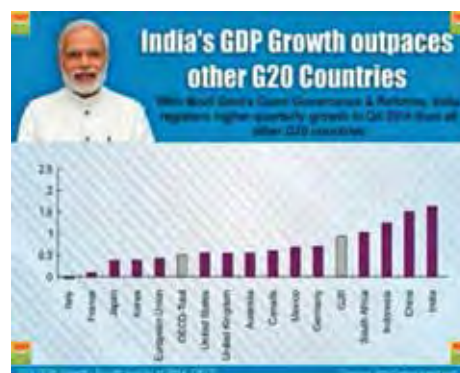
# ACHIEVEMENTS OF MODI GOVERNMENT

RAM KAMATH

Expecting Good Governance, 1.25 Billion Indians created history on May 16, 2015, when they elected BJP with an absolute majority in one of the largest peaceful and democratic process. A stable mandate to BJP-led NDA once again established that Truth Alone Triumphs. India's GDP growth outpaces that of other G20 countries making it the final destination for above normal returns at below normal risk.

**World Bank's Six Indicators for Good Governance:** 1. Voice and Accountability 2. Government Effectiveness. 3. Regulatory Quality 4. Rule of law 5. Control of Corruption. 6. Political Stability and absence of violence. As

one reads the list of achievements below, on each of the above indicators, the NDA Government has excelled. What is in it for an overseas Indian?



**Overseas Indian's Life Made Easier:** Visitors from 43 countries, instead of only 12 countries previously, can apply for their visas online and collect them at 10 major Indian airports.

Person of Indian Origin (PIO) and Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) schemes were merged, and both will now get life-long Indian visa. Hundreds of blacklisted Sikhs living in foreign countries can soon join their families back in India. The government has already started acting on the issue of NRI voting including e-ballot for NRIs.

**Economic Growth Accelerated and Inflation Tamed:** Using the new methodology that calculates GDP using market prices, the current fiscal year 2014-2015, GDP growth is likely to reach 7.4% and is expected to grow between 8% and 8.5% in 2015-2016. GDP growth outpaced that of other G20 countries and trade deficit fell to





a 17 month low.

Inflation rate in India had averaged 8.78% from 2012 until 2015, reaching an all-time high of 11.16% in November, 2013. To tame inflation, the government has established a Price Stabilization Fund of 500Cr Rupees while taking several measures to contain inflation. Minimum export price was increased so that supply of essential vegetables could be increased. State Governments were asked to establish Special Courts to speedily dispose cases of hoarding and black marketing. In one major step, government increased oil import 40 times in a ten-year agreement in exchange of payment in Rupees instead of US dollar. As a result, the inflation rate in India climbed down to 5.37% in February of 2015.

Credible investigations and analysis indicate that protests led by foreign funded NGOs against development projects had caused a presumptive loss of 2-3% to India's GDP. Such NGOs are now under scanner. These government actions have led to positive sentiments and acceleration of economic growth.

**Creation of Jobs, priority to Entrepreneurship and environment protection:** A separate ministry is created for the skills development of the youth. Make-In-India program is gathering momentum to speed up the pace of progress in the area of infrastructure.

India overtook US as third biggest steel producer. As a result of achievements such as these, foreign investments are flooding India resulting in huge job growth for 356 million 10-24 year olds. The government has started shaping plans to plant 200cr trees along the entire one-lakh km length of National Highways network criss-crossing the country. Under this scheme, employment will be generated for jobless youth. Government is acting on a similar scheme under MNREGA along state highways, village and district roads.

**Corruption exposed and exterminated:** E-revolution driven by Information technology is used to abolish corruption in a transparent. Rs one lakh crore will be spent in coming years for the same. Digital India Program is launched to accelerate the E-Revolution. The auctions of 67 of 204 coal blocks have generated Rs 400,000 crores making all Indians richer instead of few.

**Land Reforms unleash India's potential:** On December 31, 2014, the government promulgated the ordinance to amend some provisions targeting only projects of public good. Private Companies (hotels, real estate, factories) will have to purchase land directly from farmers at the price farmers want. Farmers stand to gain 4 times the market price of their land, and also entitled to 20% of the original land after development by just paying the development and acquisition cost. The amendment carves exceptions for which this complicated process of acquisition will not apply such as areas of the defense and security of India, rural infrastructure, road, highway, flyover, electrification and irrigation, affordable housing and housing for

poor, and industrial corridors. All this will benefit the people in rural areas, where infrastructure is inadequate.

Which farmer will not want colleges, hospitals, and railways to develop? Which farmer still wants his next generation to travel hundreds of kilometers every day for studies? Which farmer wants his family to live in eternal darkness without electricity and without water to improve their farm productivity? Reflecting ground reality, a survey conducted covering 50% of land and population with 64% participants from the rural areas, 71% agreed that the Land Bill must be passed in the Parliament and 68% believed that the Land Bill favoured farmers.

**Special Task Force created to bring back black money from abroad:** Within the first 100 days, BJP has initiated a series of actions to bring back black money. In the first meeting of the cabinet held next day after swearing in under the chairmanship of PM Modi, a Special Investigation Team was constituted. Soon after, the Finance Ministry sent a high level delegation to Switzerland. After identifying 427 people holding account in foreign banks 250 people accepted possessing accounts. BJP created an atmosphere on the black money issue across the globe and forced a consensus among various concerned nations to act on the terrible crime.

**Empowering States, Strengthening Democracy and National Integrity:** 10% Higher share to states in central taxes. Coal auction resulted in an Rs 50,000cr annual bonus for states. Embraced the states as equal partners in the process of economic growth. Government hands funds directly

to states. All these actions have led to stronger states causing greater bonding with the center.

**Minorities protected and respected:** "Government will not allow any religious group belonging to majority or minority to incite hatred against others overtly or covertly", PM Modi said, at Vigyan Bhawan celebrating the elevation of Kuriakose Elias Chavara and Mother Euphrasia to Sainthood on 17 February, 2015 in New Delhi.



**Policy weakness removed:** Group of ministers created under UPA government was unwound. Cutting red tape, the Prime Minister encouraged direct consultation with secretaries and bureaucrats to take decisions.

**Creation of 100 smart cities:** Rs7060 Cr was allocated in the general budget to create 100 smart cities. This helped in identifying 100 smart cities creating new demographic distribution.

**Clean India attracting all:** To create a clean India by 2019, Government launched a Clean India movement and created a Clean India fund. This has shaped into a national movement for cleanliness, and people are associating themselves in large numbers from all walks of life. Maharashtra BJP Government alone has decided to construct 56 lakh toilets in the state by 2019.

National      Judicial      Commission

**established:** The Government has ensured the passage of National Judicial Commission Bill 2014 in parliament for the appointment of Judges in Higher Courts. With this, the judiciary appointment process will accelerate and be more transparent.

**Urban facilities in rural areas and efforts made for welfare of senior citizens:** Government has initiated Aadarsh Gaon Yojna under which MPs adopt at least 3 villages by 2019 to cover 2500 villages. The government has started Jeevan Pramaan Yojna to provide financial aid to senior citizens for usage of unclaimed money lying in saving schemes. As a result, pension holders will not have to go to government office to give proof of life every year.

**Importance to attaining middle class aspirations and steps to raise agriculture profitability:** NDA raised the tax relief from Rs.2 lakh to Rs.2.5 lakh and this relief extends from Rs.2.5 lakh to Rs.3 lakh for senior citizens. Government has encouraged the Krishi Seenchai Yojana, soil testing laboratories and MSP and decreased in diesel prices to lower agricultural cost.

**BJP committed to clean Ganga:** Government created a separate ministry for Ganga and announced a project of Rs. 2,037 Cr. for Namami Gange in general budget. With this, the program has started to make Ganga pollution free. All industries are directed to install sensors by March

2015 for the same. This will help to prevent waste dumping in Ganga.

**Protection of Cows and ban on religious conversion:** Government has started Rashtriya gokul mission and allocated Rs. 500 cr for several programs for the protection of Cows and is working towards nation-wide ban. On religious conversion, government has initiated debate for total ban, as per the wishes of Mahatma Gandhi, whose 1935 statement reads as follows: "If I had power and could legislate, the first thing I would ban is conversions."

**Bank account opened for poor under Jan Dhan Yojana:** The Jan Dhan Yojana, the flagship programme of the NDA government, has opened 14cr new accounts across the country and is still counting. Of the new account holders, 41% have deposited more than Rs 14,000cr till April 2, 2015. Out of this 60% bank accounts are opened in rural area and 40% in urban.

**Make in India on firm footing:** PM Modi launched Make in India movement on Sep 25, 2014. The FDI limit in defence sector was increased up to 49% to make this movement successful. Besides this, the FDI in many other sectors has been simplified and is expected to create jobs.

**Big success achieved on diplomatic front:** Pakistan was given befitting replies on the issue of firing on the LOC. The felicitation of PM Modi



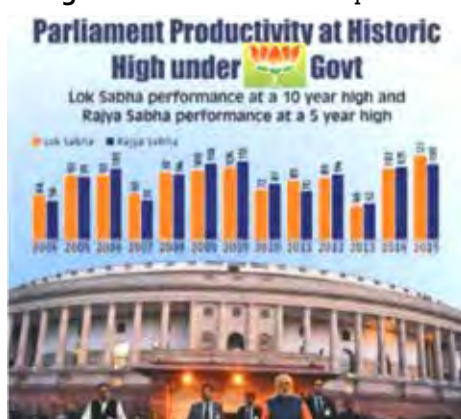


abroad has boosted the pride of Indians. Indians, who were held up due to crisis in Iraq and Yemen, were safely evacuated. Head of state of SAARC countries were invited on oath taking ceremony to improve relation and friendship.

**Interest of farmers and poor protected in WTO:** India refused to sign a simplification of business agreement of WTO in July 2014. India made it clear that its concern regarding food security and agricultural subsidy should be addressed first. Due to this stern stand of NDA Government, the US was compelled to support the Indian view. This is the biggest achievement of India in WTO.

**Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Shrameva Jayate Program for hard working:** The Government started this program in October 2014 for the welfare of hard working labourers and employees. Under this program, a minimum pension of Rs1000 was fixed. Along with it a universal number in PF was started and according to which employees could operate their account from any place. The unclaimed Rs 27,000cr in Employees Provident Fund Organization will be used for welfare of hard working labourers.

**Drastic change in working culture of the government:** Leadership of PM



Modi has brought drastic change in work style in the government. The decision making process in government has gained momentum. To improve timely attendance of government employees, steps were taken. This has also improved the productivity of Parliamentarians.

**FDI limit increased in defence sector, purchase speeded up:** While implementing economic reforms, the government has increased the FDI limit in defense sector from 26% to 49%. At present India imports 70% of its defense material. This increase in FDI limit will help in the manufacturing of defense equipment within India. The government has approved the purchase of defence equipment worth Rs. 80,000 cr. Along with the defense sector the FDI limit in railway and infrastructure has also increased.

**Round the clock electricity:** Government has approved Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana worth Rs.43000cr to fulfil the promise of providing round the clock electricity. Several other reforms in power sector have also taken shape.

**Achievements in Health and Yoga:** BJP government has decided to make diagnostics such as X-Ray, MRI and CT scans free of cost for the poor at government hospitals. The Health ministry has launched a mission "Indradhanush" assuring full immunization coverage by 2020 against seven vaccine preventable diseases. India has demonstrated global leadership with its new 85% pictorial health-warning rule. It is essential that these warnings appear on tobacco packets as soon as possible. A national campaign, covering 4041 statutory towns, to clean the streets, roads, and

infrastructure of the country and thus preventing disease and developing a healthier community, is launched. By elevating to the level of an independent ministry of AYUSH, encompassing Yoga, Ayurvedic Medicine, Homeopathy, Naturopathy, Unani and Siddha, the time-tested health culture has been honoured, as never before. At the sole initiation of PM Modi, June 21st has been declared as the International Day of Yoga by the United Nations General Assembly on December 11, 2014.

**National Integration, BJP becomes largest political organization on planet:** BJP is firmly in power sharing arrangement in Jammu and Kashmir with thrust on development, such as power generation, support to tourism industry and stability of peace in the region. Four stars general, General (Retd.) VK Singh is Minister of State (independent charge) for North East, shows importance to national integration. On March 30, 2015, BJP, has surpassed the Communist Party of China to become the world's largest political organization, with 88 million members. When the government produces its report card of 60 months, definitely the list of its achievement will be much longer. The largest democracy is all set to deliver fruits of Good Governance and lead.

(1 Crore=10 Million, Rs 62.6 Crore is about \$10 Million, 100 Lakhs=1 Crore, 8 KM = 5 Mile)

Ram Kamath with contributions from Nilima Madan, Anand Billava, Srikanth Reddy, Dr. Shuvendu Sen, Vilas Reddy, Arun Madan, and Dr. Sanjay Gupta.

# THE MESSAGE SHRI MODI BRINGS TO CANADA AND THE WORLD



DR. SITANSU S CHAKRAVARTI

Our beloved Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Damodardas Modi brings a very special message to Canada with his visit, a message indeed of economic prosperity for both countries, couched in a language expressing deep human values which India has striven to manifest in her way of living for millennia through yoga and meditation. The economic engagements considered do not succeed with calculation of profit and loss only in mind, however important it be, but through the process of building harmony around. Yoga ties itself to the state of harmony within, to use the language of the Gita, which imbibed to an extent spills over onto building harmony without. The seeds of an abiding success in action lie after all in the process of imbibing the virtue harmony within, a virtue so prominently, and uniquely, mentioned in the Indian literature. India has shared this wisdom with others in the past. This is what is called karma yoga (yoga of action) in the Gita. Our Modiji has come with this age-old, yet ever new, message of India here. He is a

karma yogi, and aspires for the good of all, and not just of India, for harmony does not have any inbuilt boundaries and limits to it. In pursuit of harmony around, India never colonized other countries in history, a rare feature she shares in common with Canada, although she suffered the humiliating and hurtful experience of being colonized herself in the name of 'civilization'.

The world today is in profound unrest, rife with geo-political, economic and religious conflict at several fronts. Corruption at various levels of government and society – in the West as well as the East –, violence, psychological instability and environmental calamity loom large around us. Frequent repeats of unprovoked massacres in public places aimed at innocent people are common news all over the world. The financial crisis of 2008, following on the heels of the Enron debacle in 2001, has thrust the global economy into turmoil. These events and their aftermath have been triggered by unchecked greed that defied legal measures. Continued world-wide violence, too, fails to be managed by security strategies,



as we can see. Here comes the relevance of India's message that Modi is carrying: Success lies in peace achieved with building harmony within, all the calculative measures in action need to be grounded at the base provided by karma yoga. This is not a religious message, as yoga is not a religious involvement, but a technique, secular indeed, to fruitful action, to borrow the words of the Gita. The technique is not only effective, but draws our respect, as is apparent while we observe Modi at work, it does not discriminate between the individuals and the peoples.

We do expect that Modi's visit leads to the emergence of the right image of India in its totality in the Canadian media and text books, an image that accommodates the proper portrayal of its religions, including Hinduism, at the Canadian universities. In Ethics today India has a lot to contribute at the academic level, especially in the field of Virtue Ethics, opening up new horizons, and indicating restructuring of courses in management studies as well as political theory. On our part, may we Canadians of Indian origin here reassure our very own Narendra Modi that given a proper channel we might succeed in sharing our ideas toward rebuilding of India and her culture so India prospers true to her tradition making the world a better place to live in for all, not excluding anybody out. We expect the national, secular motto of modern India emerging from the Vedas: Satyameva jayate (Truth only triumphs), be there in practice in India as well as the whole world, so Canada and India flourish together in company with the other countries around. We are fervently looking forward to this outcome of the leadership from the Prime Minister of India.

Om Shantih, Shantih, Shantih.

---

Sitansu S Chakravarti, Ph.D. (Philosophy) Syracuse, New York, Visiting Scholar, New College, University of Toronto, President, Cultural Understanding Everywhere, Toronto





# WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIA: DREAMS TO REALITY

SWATI BHATT VYAS

**T**here has never been a more urgent need to talk about women empowerment than in 21st century, where we want to have it all, but are still lurking to change the dream into reality.

As an economically developing nation, India stands on the cusp of a changing era. More than 800 million people in India are under the age of 35, well-educated, well-read, well-travelled, successful entrepreneurs, and ready for a change.

In May 2014, the country spoke with its mandate, and elected the three times Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi to lead the nation. PM Modi has always been an advocate of women empowerment and educat-

ing the girl child. Right from his early days as the Chief Minister of Gujarat, he analyzed and identified the issues of female feticide, lack of education, child marriages, dowry and bias societal rituals towards the girl child. Once, he sworn in as the Prime Minister, he has left no stone unturned to implement numerous campaigns encouraging and protecting the girl child. A sum of Rs 1000cr is allocated to 'Nirbhaya' fund, to prevent crime against women. The Vidya Lakshmi Yojana facilitates higher education for girls in foreign countries. In the recent Union Budget, several social security schemes have been announced to provide comprehensive benefits to women and to ensure housing for

women in rural areas. Rs 10,025cr have been sanctioned under the Indira Awas Yojana. His current cabinet has more than 25 percent of women ministers, including the key positions like the External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Minister of Human Resources and Development, Smriti Irani. He believes that women should be a part of the decision making process, be it a household or the government.

India is a country of strong moral and cultural roots, the religion we preach, the food we eat and the role we play in the family dynamics. As a nation we are no strangers to the strength of a woman, history holds magnificent references to women,



who have rose to the occasion and saved the day.

Historically Indian women are equal to men. In Mahabharata, women have been symbolized as Shakti, the central energy force that binds a family, nurtures it, and is mother of the universe and all things living. In Ramayana, Sita has been placed equal to Ram, and is epitome of womanhood. Rani of Jhansi, known as Lakshmi bai, ruled the Maratha state of Jhansi and led the Indian Rebellion of 1857. She became a symbol of Indian nationalists against the British rule. During India's Independence, Sarojini Naidu, Kasturba Gandhi, Vijay Laxmi Pandit, Indira Gandhi and many more women played a fundamental role in the country's freedom and growth. In the early 20th century with the rise of the National Movement, Mahatma Gandhi directed the abolishment of sati, prevention of child marriage, and removal of polygamy. The Act of Sati (abolish) 1829, the Child Restriction Act, Hindu Widow Remarriage Act' 1856, 1929, Women Property Right Act, 1937 were enforced.

The modern women in India are facing a tug-of-war between the old and the new. Today's generation of daughters and daughter-in-laws are still expected to nurture and look after the family, while they build their dreams and careers outside home.

During his trip to U.S. last year, in an interview to CNN's Fareed Zakaria, PM Modi showed concerned and urged for equal women's rights and education. PM Modi said "to give women their due respect and to protect their dignity is a collective

responsibility of the society."

Earlier this year, he launched the epic campaign "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Andolan" and "Sukanya Samridhi account." During his address in Haryana for the launch, he made an emotional plea to let the girl child live and attain worthy education. He compared female feticide to "mental illness." Further, he condemned the people for killing their own daughters and longing for a well-educated, well-learned daughter-in-law.

In his speech, he said, "We cannot call ourselves citizens of 21st century by practicing such a crime and we by our mindsets belong to 18th century when daughters were killed soon after they were born."

He also launched Sukanya Samridhi Yojna (girl child prosperity scheme), under which girl children below 10 years will have bank accounts with higher interest rate and income tax benefits.

Another milestone was achieved when the U.S. President Barack Obama visited India as a chief guest to the Republic Day Parade. The theme for this year's parade 'Nari Shakti' (woman power) was well proclaimed when a woman officer, Wing Commander Pooja Thakur, led the ceremonial Guard of Honour for the U.S. President at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. At the grandiose presidential palace, President Obama was given a 21-gun salute. Wing Commander Thakur later walked him for the inspection of the Guard of Honour. She is the first woman officer in India to lead the tri-services Guard of Honour.

Well, it comes as no surprise to me,

that Modiji has made it his prime pledge to fight for women's rights. I, myself, have been at the receiving end of women empowerment campaign led by then Chief Minister Modi. In year 2010, as one of the youngest female writers to write on self-help in India, I was privileged to have an opportunity to present my first book to Modiji. During our meet, he talked fondly about how he desires that each girl my age could fulfill ones dreams and how we should all have equal opportunity and rights. His passion for the cause was very evident. Our meeting left a lasting impression on me, I was not only in awe of the charismatic leader, who had penned several books himself, but I found a new respect for him. Let's not forget, PM Modi himself is an exemplary example of empowerment and how persuasion for one's dream can lead you to become one of the most powerful people in the world. Born to a poor tea seller, he set his sight on the highest elected office in the world's largest democracy. With a majority government, his chances to bring reform to the country are highest than ever.

Gujarat came into its own being under his leadership. Women were leading entrepreneurs, their skill was recycled to boost not only their personal economic growth and financial stability but also of the state as a whole. Girls would be out at night without fear of any violence or sexual harassment. Women in rural regions were given free education, access to banking and housing. Laws were put in place to empower them, such as the stamp duty waiver if property was registered in women's name and making the mother's name

mandatory in school records.

This was the time his Gujarat Model was bearing fruits and Global Business summit had become the toast of international business hub. Canada has been an active partner country to the Global Vibrant Gujarat Summits and in year 2011, I was fortunate to be a part of the delegation that went to India. As surreal as the entire event was for me, my meeting with him was unforgettable. I was the only female member of the delegation, and with all the courage I had, I went to him and reminded him about our first meet. To my surprise, he recollected the smallest of the details along with my name. He was curious to know about my whereabouts and whether or not I was still pursuing my dreams. He spent a good few minutes making sure, I was on the right path and happy with what I was doing. A little encouragement from him was more than I could fathom that day. I was reminded of his commitment to empower each and every woman, and give her right to equality. With his blessings, I was charged up and ready to conquer the world.

Prime Minister Modi's visit to Canada on April 15, 2015 is an historic milestone for the two countries and the Indian diaspora residing here. Along with the progressive bilateral talks and treaties the two countries will propose, I hope PM Modi takes his women empowerment campaign up a notch and promises a safe India to all women from around the globe, who wish to explore, document and spend their lives there.

---

Swati Bhatt Vyas, Masters in Journalism is an author, editor and digital consultant.





The background of the entire page is a photograph of a sunset. On the left, there are fishing nets or a pier structure extending into the water. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the center-left, casting a long, shimmering reflection on the water's surface. To the right, the silhouettes of palm trees and other foliage are visible against the orange and yellow sky. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

## UPS AND DOWNS

*One clap for the weak,  
one clap for the strong.  
Cheers for the right,  
and cheers for the wrong.*

*Smile for the happy,  
smile for the sad.  
Tears for the good times,  
and tears for the bad.*

*Ovation for the first ones,  
Ovation for the last.  
Strength for the future,  
and strength for the past.*

*Wishes for the better,  
prayers for the worse.  
Acceptance for the blessings,  
denials for the curse.*

*Counts for the heartbeats,  
counts for the breath,  
Happiness through lifetime,  
Happiness till death.*

---

Simran Joshi is a student at the University  
of Toronto. Author of poetry collection, "The  
Scream of Silence"

---



# HOLI AND RELATED FESTIVALS

DR. SADHNA JOSHI & DR. SARASWATI JOSHI

**H**oli is a very ancient festival of spring and colour, oblation, offerings and sacrifice (yagya and bali) to thank and honour all the deities, especially Agni (Fire) for the arrival of new crops and the Indian New-Year, is also associated to the death of:

(1) Kamdev (the "God of Love"), reduced to ashes by Shiva (2) Dhundhubhi (created by Kamdev's wife Rati, to destroy the world) (3) Putna (reincarnation of Ratnamala, King Bali's daughter) (4) Dhundha (killed by the "fire or power of voice and words", "shabdagni" produced by children) (5) Holika (Holasur's adopted daughter) (6) Holika (King-Demon Harinyakashipu's



sister) entered a blazing fire with her nephew Prahlad in her lap but, by



the miracle of Vishnu, his devotee Prahlad was saved and Holika paid by her life. The death of Holika is the most popular reason associated with Holi. We see that except for Kamdev, all the women immolated this day were believed to be demonesses.

But if we see the feminine festivals and rituals practiced by Indian women, Holi is associated with other reasons that are completely different. It is essential to see the rituals, feasts and fasts practiced by women.

- Before the immolation of Holika, women worship her with respect, and as soon as Holi is burnt, they run to put some water on the fire and bring "angare" (glowing coals) to their houses.
- Before immolation, every woman takes two and a half "kukri" (bobbins of cotton thread) in a piece of cloth



of an auspicious colour, and prepares a package, which is passed seven times upon the flames of Holi. These "kukri" that were passed on the flames of Holi represent goddess Dasha (goddess of prosperity and wealth, in fact she is Parvati) and her husband Darha-Shiva. From the next morning, the "kukri" (bobbins) receive a cult every day, for the duration of ten days. The tenth day is celebrated as a festival, destined to Dasha and Darha, and then every woman prepares two "vels" (sacred threads)

from these "kukri" (bobbins) and puts them around her neck. These "vels" (sacred threads) have almost the same importance for her as the sacred threads "yagyopavit" has for an Indian "dvij" (twice born).

- As soon as Holi is burnt, in every family "Agata" rules, associated with goddess Shitla (prohibition of sewing, washing clothes with soap, etc.) are imposed. Even the washer-men will not wash the clothes, and tailors will not sew/ stitch clothes for seven or eight days, until the Shitlashtami festival. Agata means, who has not gone or somebody whose last rites are not properly performed. Holi's next morning, they go to the place where Holi was burnt and to goddess Shitla's place of cult to offer some water, and they worship Holi and Shitla. They continue it for 7-8 days, and then the



7th or 8th day is celebrated as the main festival to honour Shitla. If there is no Shitla temple in their village, they may go to the place where Holi was burnt, consider it as Shitla's dwelling-place and do the rituals. In the prayers, songs and stories related with Shitla's cult and rituals, women do not describe her as Jamdagni's wife or Parshuram's mother. She is a goddess, associated with Shakti, who protects the children. She suffered a lot by Holi's fire and the hot elements offered by a king and his subjects (that's why she hates all hot

things and fire). Women in a garden saved her life.

- Holi's next morning, they go back to the place where Holika was immolated and prepare 16 "pindiyan" (oval-balls) from the "bhasma" (ashes) of Holi and take them to the place where Gangaur adoration will take place. These "pindiyan" (oval-balls) of Holika's "bhasma" (ashes) represent the goddess Gangaur-Gauran-Parvati. Every morning, during 18 days after Holi, these 16 "pindiyan" (ash-balls) and 16 "bindiyan" (dots), made by "kumkum" (red powder made principally from turmeric and lime), "kajal" (lampblack), and "mehandi" (henna) will receive cult. These 16 dots are also symbols of 16 "singer", adornment of a married woman "suhagan". Then they sow some barley grains for "javaras" (barley shoots) near the "bhasma ki pindiyan" (ash-oval balls).

During seven days, until the Shitla festival, there will be no statue or image, except these "bhasma ki pindiyan" (ash-balls) and "bindiyan" (dots). On the 7th day, after Shitla's final cult, they go to a potter's (kumhar / prajapati) house, bring statues of Gangaur / Gauran-Parvati and her husband Isar / Shiva, and place them near the "bhasma ki pindiyan" (ash-balls) for adoration. On the 18th day is the main festival of Gangaur and Isar. Isar is married with Gangaur, they are happy, according to the stories of Gangaur, satisfied, she distributes "suhag" (auspicious state of wifehood, or marital bliss) to all women, stays 2 or 3 days at their place, then the statues, "bhasma ki pindiyan" (ash-balls) and "javare" (shoots of barley), all are consigned in a river or lake for Gangaur's departure to her husband Isar-Shiva's home.



SHITLA'S CULT (SEVEN DAYS AFTER HOLI) FOR CHILDREN'S PROTECTION.



DASHA AND DARHA'S CULT (TEN DAYS AFTER HOLI) FOR PROTECTION OF WEALTH AND PROSPERITY.



GANGAUR'S CULT BEFORE SHITLA'S FESTIVAL (ONLY HOLI'S ASH-OVAL BALLS, AND DOTS).



GANGAUR'S CULT AFTER SHITLA'S FESTIVAL (GANGAUR AND ISAR'S STATUES, ADDED WITH ASH-OVAL CULT AND RITUALS DURING 18 DAYS AFTER HOLI FOR PROTECTION OF "SUHAG" (AUSPICIOUS STATE OF WIFEHOOD).

"Javare" and "dhub/ durva" (barley shoots and panicum dactylom), linked with goddesses Kali and Dubri (a form of Shakti) are both very important elements for Gangaur's adoration. She is the most important and popular goddess for Rajasthani women and this festival is celebrated by all married and unmarried women for attaining present and future "suhag-sukh" (happiness and auspicious state of wifehood).

These feminine festivals, their religious practices and rituals, associated closely with Holi's immolation and her "bhasma" (ashes), incite us

to think: "Who is Holika or the women immolated in the fire on the occasion of Holi?" Why a festival associated with immolation of some demonesses like Putna, Dhundha, Holika, or somebody else became so popular and important for Indian women? Gangaur is considered as a daughter of every family, and sister or friend of her devotees. According to Mahendra Bhanavat, Holika was Isarji's wife therefore Shiva's wife! In that case, this festival can be associated with Daksha's daughter Sati's or Kali's

auto-immolation too! Sati, reincarnated as Parvati or Kali as Gauri. Why the "pindiyan" (oval-balls), made by the "bhasma" (ashes) of Holika's "chita" (funeral pyre), normally avoided and considered as inauspicious by the "suhagans" (married women), have become a symbol of the most important goddess of "Suhag" (happy married life or auspicious state of wifehood or marital bliss), especially if she or they who was or were burnt in this "chita" (funeral pyre) were believed to be the demonesses. We see that according to the feminine festivals, associated with Holi, her "bhasma" (ashes), even her flames are closely related with goddesses Gangaur, Shitla and Dasha, who are honoured for the protection of : a) "suhag" (happy married life and husband's long life, marital bliss), b) children, c) wealth and prosperity, and Holika is not considered as a demoness, she is associated with Shiva's wives: Sati-Kali, Dasha-Gauri-Parvati, and with Shitla who is also considered as a form of Shakti, Adi-Bhavani (original goddess Shakti or Parvati), "Mata" or "Badi-mata" (Great-Mother or Devi).

Sadhna Joshi, Ph.D., D.Sc., Associate Professor, Dept. of Molecular Genetics, University of Toronto, Toronto Ontario, Canada.

Saraswati Joshi, Ph.D., "Chevalier" (Knight) dans L'Ordre des Palmes Academiques, nomées par le Govt. de France, Maitre des Conférences (Rtd.), de L'Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales, Paris, France.






# DIWALI: A NATIONAL FESTIVAL IN CANADA

## YOGESH SHARMA

For the first time, Diwali celebration on Parliament Hill was organized by MP Deepak Obhrai on October 26, 1998. Since then, Diwali has been celebrated every year in Ottawa, national capital, and other major cities like Toronto. The celebration is marked by lighting of the lamp by the Prime Minister where a large number of Indian community members participate. Given the significance of Diwali festival to Canadians, especially Indo-Canadians, cabinet ministers, and leadership of various political parties overwhelmingly attend the celebrations. Seven cities in Canada now have changed their bylaws so that Indo-Canadians could celebrate Diwali at home by playing firecrackers to mark the occasion. The Indo-Canadians believe that celebration of various festivals like Diwali is a good learning experience for the children to understand their heritage. Diwali celebrations not only bring together Indo-Canadians but Canadians in general who see this festival as an opportunity to celebrate the multiculturalism in Canada.



Yogesh Sharma, President of Rajasthan Association of North America (RANA), Canada



# VAISAKHI : A RELIGIOUS CELEBRATION OF JOY

PRABHJOT SINGH

Vaisakhi, after Diwali, has emerged as the biggest north Indian festival whose celebrations with fervor and gaiety are gradually gaining the tones of acceptance of a global event. It has given the overseas Punjabis, in general and the Sikhs in particular, a distinct socio-economic-cultural identity. Besides its religious significance - birth anniversary of the Khalsa, the pure - it has traditionally been correlated to the start of harvesting season (of wheat crop) in north India reflecting in the process great socio-economic strides the farming community of North has made. Besides, for many Indian communities, it marks the start of a New Year.

Vaisakhi is not only a Sikh festival but

it is celebrated in different parts of India as the start of a new Solar year. According to Sikh religious calendar - Nanakshahi - the first day of "desi" month of Vaisakh is observed as Vaisakhi. It was on this day that five devout had volunteered to sacrifice their lives in response to a call made by the 10th Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh. The five -m Bhai Daya Singh, Bhai Dharam Singh, Bhai Mukhan Singh, Bhai Himmat Singh and Bhai Sahib Singh - later had the distinction of baptizing Guru Gobind Singh after their own captivation at a special congregation held at Takht Sri Kesgarh Sahib. While people in Tamil Nadu celebrate Vaisakhi as Puthandu, the festivities are known as Vishu in Kerala. In Bengal, this seasonal

festival is celebrated as Naba Barsha (New Year). In neighboring Assam, it is called Rongali Bihu. In Bihar, celebrations are again connected to observation of start of a new solar year. It is called Vaishakha in Bihar in honor of the Sun God. While in Haryana, like Punjab, Vaisakhi continues to be a major religious and socio-economic festival. However, in the hill state of Himachal Pradesh, people make a pilgrimage to Jawalaji temple and take a holy dip in the hot springs there.

It was on this day in 1699 that the 10th Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, chose the historic town of Sri Anandpur Sahib for the launch of the Khalsa. Though main religious celebrations are held at Takht Sri Kesgarh Sahib



(Sri Anandpur Sahib), Golden Temple (Amritsar) and Takht Sri Damdama Sahib (Talwandi Sabo), the Sikhs all over the world mark the festivities not only by holding special congregations in gurdwaras but also in a global show of their progress in social, political and economic fields as followers of one of the most recent and modern religions.

Since Sikhism had its origin in Pakistan - Nankana Sahib, the birth place of first Sikh Guru, Guru Nanak Dev - groups of the devout also visit Sikh shrines there as part of Vaisakhi celebrations that are held in the second week of April every year. After almost 230 years of the birth of Guru Nanak Dev, Guru Gobind Singh had given the Sikhs new identity of the Khalsa by introducing the concept of Saint Soldier. Vaisakhi celebration's global significance can be measured from ever expanding number of cosmopolitan and metropolitan cities the world over that reverberate to the beats of bhangra and display of traditional martial art of gatka as part of "Nagar Kirtan processions" or Sikh Parades.

While Sikhs in India have Nagar Kirtan processions and special congregations on the Vaisakhi day, overseas Punjabis make it special with lavish celebrations. There,

Nagar Kirtan processions or Sikh parades alone do not mark the celebrations. They, in fact, come as a socio-cultural package comprising competitions in games, sports and cultural events besides holding of special religious congregations that continue for weeks together. Holding of community kitchens, illumination of the entire route of the procession and distribution of literature about Sikhism have come to stay as integral part of celebrations. One of the latest additions

to the event witnessed in some major North American cities has been the use of smaller aircraft for showering floral petals over the processions. Besides the major Commonwealth nations like England, Canada, Australia and New Zealand several other countries have accorded recognition to some of major Sikh festivals, in general, and Vaisakhi in particular. This year, for example, the Malaysian government has allowed Sikhs a day off on Vaisakhi day. In 1999, when the entire world celebrated the tercentenary of the Khalsa, Canada became the first country other than India to take out a commemorative stamp to mark the event.

In the United States and England, Nagar Kirtan processions or Sikh Parades are taken out in almost every major cities, including New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Yuba City, London and Birmingham. In fact, the concept of the Nagar Kirtan processions has proved to be an effective tool for the overseas Sikh community to introduce itself as a peaceful and hard working group. The first ever-Nagar Kirtan procession was organized on January 19, 1908 along Second Avenue in Vancouver. On August 28, 1912, Hardial Singh Atwal earned the distinction of becoming first Canadian born Sikh.

Each Nagar Kirtan Procession comprises among other things a tastefully decorated truck trailer that carries sacred Guru Granth Sahib in a golden or silver palanquin, five baptized Sikhs (Panj Pyaras) who carry Kesri flags (Nishan Sahibs), Gurbani reciting groups or "Parbhat Pheris" besides Bhangra and gatka players. The scale at which the Nagar Kirtan processions are now organized

in North America started in 1979 when the Canadian Sikhs organized a massive Nagar Kirtan procession to mark the 500th birth anniversary of Guru Amar Dass. Since then holding of Sikh Parade has become an annual feature. Success stories of young Sikh boys and girls are played up as a build up for the Vaisakhi supplements.

The Vaisakhi celebrations have now become a regular feature not only in Commonwealth countries but also in some European and African nations. The celebrations not only ensure holding of competitions, tournaments, folk events and religious congregations, but also organization of lavish feasts where the local populace is invited as a part of "know your neighborhood communities better" programme launched by some of the enterprising Overseas Sikh Organizations. This was necessitated more as a mode of defense and awareness to thwart growing incidents of hate violence witnessed in several parts of North America after the 9/11 terrorist attack.

---

Prabhjot Singh, Executive Editor, PTC News (formerly Bureau Chief of The Tribune group of newspapers).

# ਭਾਰਤ ਦੇ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਮੰਤਰੀ ਮੋਦੀ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਸਤਿਕਾਰ ਵਿੱਚ

ਭਾਰਤ ਦੇਸ ਅਸਾਡਾ ਜੱਗ ਤੇ, ਸੱਭ ਦੇਸਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਪਿਆਰਾ  
ਇਥੇ ਵਗਦੀ ਸੱਚੀ ਮੁੱਚੀ ਮਨੁੱਖਤਾ ਦੀ ਜੀਵਨ ਧਾਰਾ  
ਯੁਗਾਂ ਯੁਗਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਇਹਦੇ ਪੁਰਖਿਆਂ, ਸੁੰਦਰ ਰੀਤ ਬਣਾਈ  
ਸੱਚ ਅਹਿੰਸਾ ਤੇ ਧਰਮ ਦੀ, ਜੱਗ ਨੂੰ ਤਹਿਜ਼ੀਬ ਸਿਖਾਈ  
ਬੁੱਧ ਕ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਨ ਤੇ ਨਾਨਕ ਜੀ ਨੇ, ਐਸੇ ਸੁਖਨ ਸੁਣਾਏ  
ਧਰਮ ਕਰਮ ਦੇ ਮਾਰਗ ਵਾਲੇ, ਸੱਚੇ ਰਾਹ ਦਿਖਲਾਏ  
ਸਮੇਂ ਸਮੇਂ ਤੇ ਇਸ ਧਰਤੀ ਤੇ, ਆਏ ਪੁਰਸ਼ ਅਵਤਾਰੀ  
ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਕਰਨੀ ਕਥਨੀ, ਭਾਰਤ ਦੀ ਤਕਦੀਰ ਸੰਵਾਰੀ  
ਇਸ ਸਮੇਂ ਭਾਰਤ ਦੀ ਧਰਤੀ ਇੱਕ ਪੁਰਸ਼ ਹੈ ਆਇਆ  
ਜਿਸ ਦੇ ਬੋਲਾਂ ਕੋਨਾ ਕੋਨਾ ਦੇਸ਼ ਦਾ ਹੈ ਗਰਮਾਇਆ  
ਨਰਿੰਦਰ ਦਮੋਦਰਦਾਸ ਮੋਦੀ ਜੀ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦਾ ਨਾਂ ਪਿਆਰਾ  
ਮੇਕ ਇਨ ਇੰਡੀਆ ਵਾਲਾ, ਉਹਨਾਂ ਨੇ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਨਾਹਰਾ  
ਤਿੱਖੀ ਸੂਝ ਸਮਝ ਨਾਲ ਕਰ ਰਹੇ, ਭਾਰਤ ਦੀ ਅਗਵਾਈ

ਦੇਸ਼ ਦੇਸ਼ਾਂਤਰ ਤਾਈਂ ਜਾ ਕੇ, ਭਾਰਤ ਦੀ ਸ਼ਾਨ ਵਧਾਈ  
ਮੋਦੀ ਜੀ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਮੰਤਰੀ ਪਿਆਰੇ, ਮਿਲਣ ਅਸਾਨੂੰ ਆਏ  
ਅਸੀਂ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਰਾਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਅਪਣੇ ਨੈਣ ਵਿਛਾਏ  
ਸਾਡੀ ਇੱਛਾ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ, ਮੋਢੇ ਨਾਲ ਮੋਢਾ ਲਾ ਕੇ ਚੱਲੀਏ  
ਜਿਥੇ ਦੇਸ਼ ਨੂੰ ਲੋੜ ਅਸਾਡੀ ਵਾਂਗ ਸਿਪਾਹੀ ਖੜੀਏ  
ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਹਰ ਸਕੀਮ ਨੂੰ ਹੁਕਮ ਦੇ ਵਾਂਗ ਨਿਭਾਈਏ  
ਭੁੱਖ ਗਰੀਬੀ ਭ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟਾਚਾਰੀ ਦੇਸ਼ ਵਿਚੋਂ ਮੁਕਾਈਏ  
ਭਾਰਤ ਵਰਸ਼ ਨੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਮਨੁੱਖਤਾ ਦੇ ਧਰਮ ਸਿਖਾਏ  
ਕਨੇਡਾ ਦੀ ਭੂਮੀ ਉੱਤੇ ਅਸੀਂ ਕਰਮ ਕਮਾਵਣ ਆਏ  
ਇਹ ਧਰਤੀ ਵੀ ਸਾਡੀ ਉਹ ਧਰਤੀ ਵੀ ਸਾਡੀ ਹੈ  
ਇਹ ਕਰਮ ਦੀ ਭੂਮੀ ਤੇ ਉਹ ਮਾਂ ਭੂਮੀ ਸਾਡੀ ਹੈ  
ਜੁਗ ਜੀਵੇ ਐਸਾ ਰਹਿਬਰ ਜੋ ਜਨਤਾ ਦਾ ਦਰਦੀ  
ਹਵਾ ਨੰਦੀ ਜੋ ਲਿਆਵੇ ਦੇਸ਼ੋਂ ਬਾਸੀ ਉਹਦਾ ਬਰਦੀ

*Harchand Bassi*

*Secretary, Seniors' Club, President, Support Center Club*



# સ્વર્ણિમ ગુજરાત ! દિવ્ય ભારત !

મળતા મળી ગયી મોંઘેરી ગુજરાત, ગુજરાત મોરિ મોરિ રે ! ભારત ની ભોમ માં જાજેરી ગુજરાત, ગુજરાત મોરિ મોરિ રે ! ગુજરાત ! ... કવિ શ્રી ઉમાશંકર જોશી નું ઉત્કૃષ્ટ , સુંદર અને અનુપમ વર્ણન ! ગીરનાર , સોમનાથ , કચ્છના રણ, પાવાગઢ, મોઢેરા સુવર્ણ મંદિર, ધોળાવીરા અને લોથલ, અડાલજ ની વાવ, રાની ની વાવ, અરબી સમુદ્ર, અને ઘણું વધુ .. પૌરાણિક સમય થી ગુજરાત ની વિશેષતા રહેલી છે !

ધરતી પર નું સ્વર્ગ , સ્વર્ણિમ ગુજરાત !

ઐતિહાસિક ગુજરાત રાજ્ય આજે ભારત ની આર્થિક પ્રગતિ નું પ્રતિક છે અને સાથે વિશ્વ ને પણ આધુનિક અને અદ્યતન સ્તરે લઈ જવા માટે સતત પ્રયાસ કરે છે ! આજે આંદાજે લગભગ 40 લાખ થી વધુ ગુજરાતી ભારત ની બહાર વસે છે ! સાચું કહું છે - જ્યાં જ્યાં વસે ગુજરાતી , ત્યાં ત્યાં વસે ગુજરાત !

માનનીય શ્રી નરેન્દ્રભાઈ મોદી ની દૂરદ્રષ્ટિ અને પરીણામ લક્ષી ' Gujarat Model of Development ' થી કેવળ ગુજરાત જ નહિ પણ ભારત અને વિશ્વ ના ઘણા દેશો ને પણ ખુબજ લાભ થયો છે ! તેમના ગુજરાત ના મુખ્યમંત્રી ના તેર (13) વર્ષ ના સફળ કાર્યકાળ દરમિયાન ગુજરાત માં સાચેજ ' સુખ , શાંતિ અને સમૃદ્ધી ' ની પ્રતીતિ થઈ છે ! તેઓ

ગુજરાત ની પાંચ કરોડ જનતા નું એકસમાન વિકાસ થાય તેના માટે સતત કાર્યરત રહ્યા છે . "Vibrant Gujarat Summit Series" નું સફળ આયોજન થી ગુજરાત માં વિશ્વસ્તર ની કંપનીઓ એ ભાગ લીધો હતો અને મહત્વના દ્વિપક્ષીય કરાર પણ કર્યા હતા . Vibrant Gujarat ભારતના અન્ય રાજ્યો માટે પણ પ્રેરણા સ્ત્રોત રહ્યું છે ! ગુજરાત માં બધા માટે સમાન નીતિ અને કોઈ ના પ્રત્યે ભેદભાવ નહિ રાખવાની વિકાસની ની નીતિ એ સૌનું ધ્યાન ખેંચ્યું છે !

શ્રી મોદીજી યુવાઓ માટે પણ પ્રેરણાસ્ત્રોત છે ! સકારાત્મક વલણ , સતત મહેનત , લગન અને નિષ્ઠા થી લક્ષ્ય ની પ્રતીતિ થાય છે , અને સાથે દેશ નો પણ વિકાસ થાય છે ! અને એજ વાત મહાન કવિ શ્રી નાથાલાલ દવે ની પંક્તિ યાદ અપાવે છે ... "સોનાવરણી સીમ બની મેહુલ્યે કીધી મહેર રે ભાઈ મૌસમ આવી મેહનત ની.....રંગે સંગે કામ કરીએ અને થાય મલક આબાદ રે..."

એટલેજ સમગ્ર ભારત અને ભારત ની બહાર વસતા પ્રવાસી ભારતીય સમુદાય શ્રી મોદીજી પ્રત્યે એક પરિવાર ના પરિજન તરીકે ની ભાવના રાખે છે ! અને એજ કારણસર શ્રી મોદીજી 2014 ની લોકસભા ની ચુંટણી માં ઐતિહાસિક જીત સાથે ભારત ના લોકલાડીલા પ્રધાનમંત્રી બન્યા !

આશા છે કે મોદીજી ના સુશાસન માં ભારત ઘણી પ્રગતિ કરશે અને ભારત વિશ્વ શાંતિ અને વિશ્વ કલ્યાણ માં પોતાનું યોગદાન આપતું રહેશે !

ફરી મધુરી પંક્તિઓ સાથે,

એક વાર ગાયી તે કેમ કરી ભૂલવી , ગુજરાત મોરી મોરી રે !..... જય જય ગરવી ગુજરાત! જય ભારત!

*Darpan Patel,*

*IT/Management Consultant, B.Tech (DT), India CCP, Toronto, Ontario*



## சகோதரத்துவ பாரம்பரியத்தினைக் கொண்ட நாடு பாரத தேசம்

பாரத நாடு பல்லாயிரம் ஆண்டு காலமாக கலாச்சாரம், மதம், பாரம்பரியம், மரபு வழி உரிமை ஆகியவற்றில் ஆழ வேருன்றியுள்ள ஒரு நாடாகும். இவையாவும் இந்தியாவின் அடையாளத்தில் மிக முக்கிய பங்கினை வகிக்கின்றன. நாட்டின் பல்வேறு பகுதிகளிலும் வாழும் பல்வேறு இனத்தவர்களுக்கும் இவை நன்கு உணர்த்தப்பட்டு அவர்களினால் பேணப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. அத்துடன் சுவாமி விவேகானந்தர், காந்தி மகான், சுபாஷ் சந்திர போஸ் போன்ற மகோபுருஷர்களை பெற்றெடுத்த பெருமைக்குரிய நாடு பாரத நாடு. கர்மா, யோகா போன்றவற்றில் அசையாத நம்பிக்கை கொண்டு அவற்றைப் பேணி வந்ததினால் பாரத நாட்டின் பரம்பரைச் சொத்தான யோக கலை இன்று சர்வதேசக் கலையாகி பாரெங்கும் பரவியுள்ளது.

இரண்டாயிரம் ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்னர் தமிழ் குறள் தந்த தத்துவ ஞானியான திருவள்ளுவர் "யாதும் ஊரே யாவரும் கேளிர்" என்ற திருக்குறளின் மூலம் எல்லா ஊரும் ஒன்றே அங்கு வாழும் மக்கள் அனைவரும் சகோதரர்கள் என்ற மாபெரும் தத்துவத்தை வலியுறுத்தி உள்ளார். உன்னதமான இத்தத்துவத்தினாலும், மதக்கோட்பாட்டினாலும் பாரத நாடு பெருமை அடைகின்றது. காலாதிகாலமாக பாரத நாடு பல்லினத்தவர்களுக்கும், பல்வேறு மதத்தினருக்கும் அடைக்கலம் வழங்கிய நாடாகத் திகழ்ந்து வருகின்றது. சிக்காகோ நகரில் 1893ம் ஆண்டு நடைபெற்ற சர்வதேச மதங்களின் மகாநாட்டில் உரை ஆற்றிய சுவாமி விவேகானந்தர் "சகோதர சகோதரிகளே" எனக்கூறி உரையினை ஆரம்பித்தபோது மகாநாட்டில் கலந்து கொண்டிருந்த பல்வேறு மதங்களை சார்ந்த அத்தனை பேரும் பெரும் மகிழ்ச்சியுற்று எழுந்து நின்று கரகோஷம் செய்தனர்.

பல்லின மக்களையும் சகோதரர்களாகக் கருதும் சகோதரத்துவ பண்பினாலும், ஒற்றுமை உணர்வினாலும்தான் இந்தியா உலக நாடுகள் மத்தியில் தனித்துவம் மிக்க நாடாகப் பிரகாசித்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறாள்.

*Parthi Kandavel,*

*Trustee, Toronto District School Board, Ward 18,*

*Scarborough-Southwest, Teacher, Saihya Sai School of Canada*



# सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः।

धनेश्री भट्ट, दिशा ठक्कर च

संस्कृतभाषा देवभाषा, अमृतभाषा। अस्यां भाषायां काचित् दैवी शक्तिः अस्ति। संस्कृत् मन्त्रोच्चारणे अन्तस्त्रावि ग्रन्थिनः सक्रियाः भवन्ति तेषाम् कार्यक्षमता प्रभाविता भवन्ति ।

संस्कृतभाषा केवलम् वाङ्मयमात्रस्य भाषा न अपि तु अध्यात्मसंस्कृत्योः वाहिका भाषा अस्ति। अद्य विश्वे सर्वत्र आयुर्वेदः, वेदान्तः, योगः, ज्योतिषिक, वास्तुकला इत्यादयः विषयान् जनाः अनुसरन्ति। भगवद्गीता पठनं तु सर्वत्र भवति। भगवद्गीता विश्वग्रन्थः अस्ति। भगवद्गीता मूलरूपेण भगवदमुखे संस्कृतेन निःसृताः ।

माननीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी महोदय अपि एकदा यदा भारतस्य वर्णनम् कृतवान् ('My Idea of India' भाषणे) तदा संस्कृत् सूक्तयः उक्तवान् यथा :

- सत्यमेव जयते।
- वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्।
- अहिंसा परमो धर्मः।
- एकम् सद विप्राः बहुधा वदन्ति।
- सह नावतु। सह नौ भुनक्तु॥ सह विर्यं करवावहै। तेजस्वि नावधीतमस्तु मा विद्विषावहै॥
- न त्वाम अहं काम्ये राज्यं न स्वर्गं न च पुनर्भवम्। काम्ये दुःखतप्तानां प्राणिनामार्तिनाशनम्॥
- जननी जन्मभूमिश्च स्वर्गादपि गरीयसी।
- यत्र नार्यस्तु पूजयन्ते रमन्ते तत्र देवताः। यत्रैतास्तु न पुज्यन्ते सर्वास्त्राफलाः क्रियाः॥

वेदसूक्ति "आ नो भद्राः क्रतवो यन्तु विश्वतः" अनुसारेण सर्वे आगच्छन्तु, अद्य India-Canada देशयोः मेलनं हर्षोल्लासेण आचरयामः तथा च शुभसंकल्पं कुर्मः यत् - सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः। सर्वे सन्तु निरामयाः॥

*Dhaneshri Bhatt and Deesha Thakkar, Volunteers, Samskrita Bharati (Canada), a non-profit organization promoting Sanskrit as a spoken language whose motto is 'संस्कृतेन सम्भाषणं कुरु जीवनस्य परिवर्तनं कुरु' that is 'Speak in Sanskrit and Transform Life!'*

# प्रेरणा

जीवन के दर्पण में झाँका,  
पाया जीवन धुंधला सा ।  
जिस जीवन में कायरता हो,  
वह जीवन है निर्बल सा ।

जन्म-जन्म से अपना स्वार्थ,  
हर युग में देखा मानव ने ।  
हो निस्वार्थ हर इक प्राणी,  
यह प्रेरणा हो सब जन में ।

निर्दयता है जिस के मन में,  
वह क्या जाने परपीड़ा ?  
जिसने व्यथा को न सहा,  
मरहम कैसे बने किसीका ।

आज के इस कलियुग ने,  
सब को है बिखेर दिया ।  
न लक्ष्मण जैसा भाई रहा,  
न सहनशील, त्यागमय सीता ।

भय है कारण सब चिंता का,  
त्याग कर इसे विजयी बनो ।  
मानव हो, मानव बन कर रहो,  
मानवता के अनुयायी बनो ।

*मीनाक्षी रैना*



# सुमधुर भारत वर्ष हमारा

जाने कितने कवियों ने दोहराई होगी बात पुरानी,  
आज सुनाता हूँ मैं तुमको नव भारत की नयी कहानी ।

नई पुरानी सभ्यताओं का संगम भारत वर्ष कहाता,  
यहाँ कभी ना टूटा नई-पुरानी संस्कृतियों का नाता ।

यहाँ जुड़ी हैं कड़ियाँ कितने रस्मों और रिवाजों से,  
यहाँ मिली है धड़कन कितने धर्मों और समाजों से ।

बहता रहता सदा यहाँ अनथक गंगा-यमुना का पानी,  
कभी ना टूटी सागर की लहरों की अनथक-अथक रवानी ।

इसकी रक्षा करे हिमाला सागर इसके पाँव पखारे,  
देवताओं की भूमि यहाँ सारा जग इसकी ओर निहारे ।

वीर प्रसविता, धीर प्रसूता, दानवीर वीरों की माता,  
जन-गण इसको करे नमन, यह धरा हमारी भाग्य-विधाता ।

देती हमें दुलार बहिन सा, पत्नी सा सुख देती है,  
पिता तुल्य करती है रक्षा, माँ सम लोरी देती है ।

सब कुछ देती हमें लुटा, कुछ पास स्वयं ना रखती है,  
पर इस सबके बदले केवल इतनी आशा रखती है ।

बेटों सा हम बनें सहारा, भाई सा विश्वास बनें,  
पिता समान संभालें इसको, पति सम मृदु अहसास बनें ।

आओ करें संकल्प कि इसकी खातिर जान लुटा देंगे,  
मिट जाएँगे स्वयं शान पर इसकी और बढ़ा देंगे ।

सब देशों में सबसे ऊँचा परचम उड़े तिरंगा प्यारा,  
सकल विश्व में सबसे सुंदर, सुमधुर भारत वर्ष हमारा ।

प्रोफ़ेसर सरन धई,

संस्थापक 'विश्व हिंदी संस्थान, कनाडा',

संपादक - "प्रयास"

## प्रतिनिधि

तुम प्रतिनिधि हो उस धरती के, जहाँ पली संस्कृति मानव की,  
जिसका है इतिहास पुराना, कितनी ही सदियाँ गौरव की ।  
मूर्त जहाँ है सत्य, अहिंसा, धर्म-प्रेम के कितने साधक,  
जहाँ शिल्प है, जहाँ कला है, हुए जहाँ मानव के प्रेरक ।

हिम गिरीश का भाल चूमती, जहाँ बही गंगा है अविरल,  
सरल, शांत और सौम्य कभी, और कामिनी सी कुछ चंचल ।  
जो माधव का क्रीड़ा-स्थल थी, जिसकी गाथा से जग प्रेरित,  
देवी, कमला और सरस्वती, नारी जहाँ सदा थी वंदित ।

मार्ग तुम्हारा ले आया है, नये देश के इस प्रांगण में,  
है प्रशस्त पथ जहाँ तुम्हारा, लक्ष्य तुम्हारे जिस आँगन में ।  
चिर प्रतीक हो तुम भारत के, आरक्षक उसकी गरिमा के,  
उसकी संस्कृति के संरक्षक, ज्योतिपुंज उसकी आभा के ।

मातृभूमि और कर्मभूमि, दो वन्दनीय हैं, सदा रहेंगी,  
“कर्मक्षेत्र में सफल बनो तुम ।” जन्मदात्री यह सतत कहेगी ।  
“बनो प्रगति-पथ के तुम राही, जहाँ मंजिलें स्वयं पहुँचतीं,  
कर्मयोग के ऐसे साधक, जिसे विजय की किरण चूमती ।”

*प्रोफ़ेसर जगमोहन हूजर, कार्लटन विश्वविद्यालय, ऑटवा*



# दिया जलाऊँ उस धूली पर...

भारत माँ के लघु तरु की  
अल्प एक कोमल पत्ती सी  
बिछड़ गई अपने उपवन से  
मैं बाला नादान अकेली !

...लथ-पथ माँ की माटी में हो  
खेलूँगी बाला पत्तियों संग  
प्रेम प्यार से इस धरती पर  
विचरूँगी अपनी सखियों संग ।

...तन मेरे का छेद भले हो  
फ़िर भी माँ के गले पुँरूँगी  
एक पुष्प सी चाह थी मेरी,  
जन्म मेरा जब पूर्ण होगा...  
माटी के चरणों में लुट कर  
नमन करूँगी इस धूली को  
बस माटी सी चाह थी मेरी...

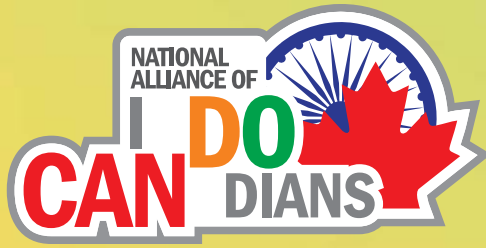
चाह मेरी अब यह कहती है  
लौटूँ मैं भारत उपवन को  
देश-भक्ति उभरे कण-कण से  
देखूँ मैं कभी उस भारत को !

चाह मेरी बस यह कहती है  
आत्मतत्त्व में डुबकी लगा कर  
लाखों 'अटल' 'नरेन्द्र मोदी' से  
कर्तव्यनिष्ठ पग धरें जहां पर  
लौटूँ ऐसे भारत उपवन को !

हाथ-जोड़ जब पूजा करती  
रूँधे गले और नम आँखों से  
दोहराती हूँ दिल से अक्सर :  
संरक्षण करते हो, जैसे तुम भगवन,  
गर्भ में पनप रहे बच्चे का  
सुरक्षित यूँ ही तुम पनपा दो  
देशभक्ति मेरे भारत के  
वृद्ध, युवक, और हर बालक की !

बाहें इतनी प्रभु लंबी कर दो  
दिल से फूट रही दुआ की  
जा छूएं भारत माता को  
फिर लौटूँ भारत भूमि को  
तिलक लगा कर उस धूली का  
दिया जलाऊँ उस धूली पर...

इन्द्रा (धीर) वडेरा



## COMMUNITY RECEPTION IN HONOR OF INDIAN PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI (RICOH COLESUM, 45 MANITOBA DRIVE, TORONTO, APRIL 15, 2015)

### **Organizing Committee:**

Organizing Committee:

Azad K. Kaushik, Chair

Deepak Ruparell, Co-Chair

Ramesh Chotai, Co-Chair

Pankaj Dave, Vice-President, NAIC and Convener, Fund Raising, Budget and Accounting

Vikram Khurana, Convener, Cultural Program, Government Relations

Nareshkumar N Chavda, Secretary General, NAIC and Convener, Registration, Souvenir and Office Management

Santhosh Prabhu, Convener, Event Logistics management

Kasi Rao, Convener, Communications, Publicity and Media Management

Anil Shringi, Convener, Security Management

Yogesh Patel, Convener, Volunteer Services

Vipin Sharma, Convener, Community Outreach

Naresh Patel

Haresh Mehta

Pranav Patel

Harsh Thakkar

Darpan Patel

Mukund Purohit

Surjit Babra

Aditya Jha

Mansoor Kaanchwala

Bhim Asdhir

Budhendranauth Doobay

V. I. Lakshmanan

Lajpat (Laj) Rai Prasher

Shivani Ruparell

Poonam Puri

Ajit Someshwar

Haresh Bhatt

Steve Gupta

### **Reception Committee:**

Prem Watsa

Bharat Masrani

Devinder Shory

Patrick Brown

Rajesh Shukla



Jagdish Chandra Sharda  
Beant Singh Dhaliwal  
Chandrakant Sachdev  
Sriram Iyer  
Shivendra Dwivedi  
Shiv Bhasker  
Aditya Tawatiya  
Prabhu Mishra  
Gary Comerford  
Dharma Jain  
Gurdev Singh Mann  
Janak Shah  
Usha George  
Sadhna Joshi  
Meenakshi Raina  
Vidya Dhar  
Lata Pada  
Menaka Thakkar

### **Government Relations Committee**

Vikram Khurana, Convener  
Mukund Purohit  
Deepak Ruparell  
Lajpat (Laj) Rai Prasher

### **Fund Raising Committee**

Pankaj Dave, Convener  
Ramesh Chotai  
Deepak Ruparell  
Vikram Khurana  
Shivendra Dwivedi  
Nareshkumar N Chavda

### **Budget and Accounting**

Bharat Chavda, Convener  
Shiv Bhasker  
Raj Sahani  
Dharma Jain

### **Registration and Website Management**

Nareshkumar N Chavda, Convener  
Santhosh Prabhu  
Darpan Patel

### **Event and Production Management**

Vikram Khurana, Convener  
Santhosh Prabhu, Co-Convener  
Shuvaloy Majumdar  
Neil McDermott  
Nareshkumar N Chavda

Naresh Patel  
Pranav Patel

### **Media Management and Communication**

Kasi Rao, Convener  
Aditya Jha  
Swati Bhatt Vyas  
Vipan Sharma  
Vipul Jani  
Shriram  
Mann Parikh

### **Souvenir Committee**

Sadhna Joshi, Convener  
Nareshkumar N Chavda  
Swati Bhatt Vyas  
Sharmishtha Joshi  
Lata champsee

### **Security Arrangements Committee**

Anil Shringi, Convener  
Santosh Coubey  
Deepak Ruparell  
Bachittar Singh Gill  
Ketan Mehta  
Birender Kaushik

### **Program Committee**

Vikram Khurana, Convener  
Kasi Rao  
Santhosh Prabhu  
Pankaj Dave  
Chintan Bhavsar  
Parthi Kandavel  
Kapil Kumaria

### **Hospitality Committee**

Harsh Thakkar, Convener  
Poornima Patel  
Shilpaben Patel  
Parth Pandya  
Bikramjit Singh Goraya

### **Volunteer Services Committee**

Yogesh Patel, Convener  
Kaushikbhai Patel  
Kaushik Radadia  
Vijay Pandya  
Vipan Sharma  
Daljit Singh

Bhavik Parekh  
Bhoomika Patel  
Pranav Patel  
Jyoti Mehta  
Sonalben Pandya

### **Transport Arrangement Committee**

Bharat Kapoor, Convener  
Nayan Brahmbhatt  
Kaushik P Patel  
Brijesh Pandya

### **Officer on Special Duty**

Keshav Agnihotri  
Ajay Singh  
Ashish Sachan

## National Alliance of Indo-Canadians Team



**Dr. Azad K. Kaushik**  
President & Chair,  
Organizing Committee



**Mr. Deepak Ruparell**  
Co-Chair,  
Organizing Committee



The NAIC volunteers ensure timely delivery of free entry tickets to 10,000 people attending the event



**Mr. Ramesh Chotai,**  
Co-Chair,  
Organizing Committee



**Mr. Pankaj Dave**  
Vice-President &  
Convener, Finance



The NAIC volunteers at work



**Mr. Nareshkumar N. Chavda**  
Secretary General & Convener,  
Organizational Management



**Mr. Santhosh Prabhu**  
Convener,  
Event Logistics





**Mr. Kasi Rao**  
Convener,  
Media Management



**Mr. Anil Shringi**  
Convener,  
Security Management



**Mr. Vikram Khurana**  
Convener, Program and  
Government Relations



**Mr. Yogesh Patel**  
Convener,  
Volunteer Services



**Mr. Vipin Sharma**  
Convener,  
Community Outreach



**Dr. Sadhna Joshi**  
Editor-in-Chief



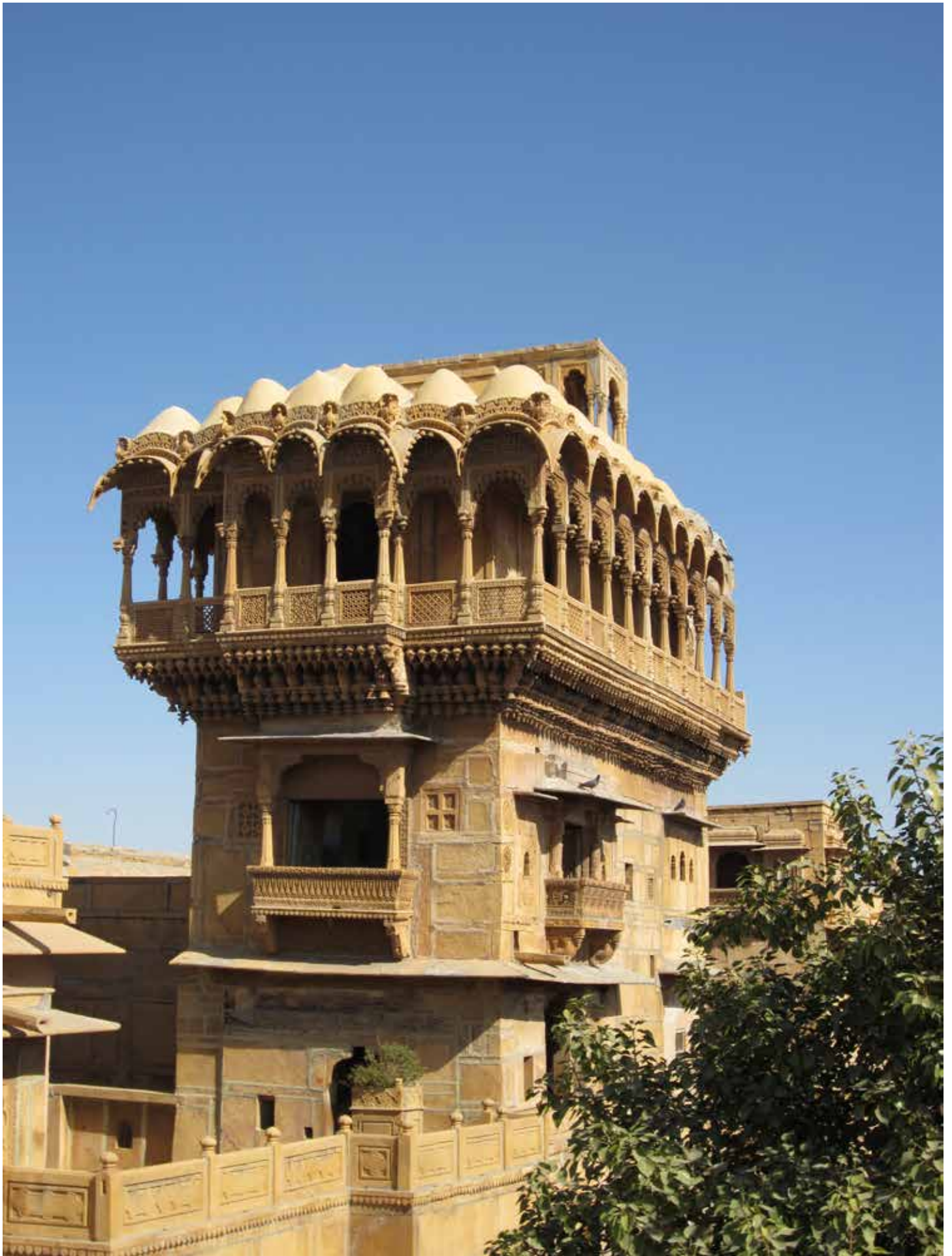
**Ms. Swati Bhatt Vyas**  
Editor



**Ms. Sharmishtha Joshi**  
Member,  
Editorial Board



**Ms. Lata Champsee**  
Member,  
Editorial Board







**AIR CANADA**



## Discover a world of financial solutions with ICICI Bank Canada

ICICI Bank Canada is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ICICI Bank Limited, the largest private sector bank in India. Established in 2003, ICICI Bank Canada is a full-service direct bank, offering a wide range of financial solutions for your personal and business needs.

### Choose from:

- High interest savings and investment accounts
- Low-fee chequing accounts
- International remittances to India and other countries
- Trade services that have a global reach
- Transactional banking and treasury products

### To know more about us:

 [icicibank.ca](http://icicibank.ca)  1-888-424-2422

### Visit any of our eight branches:

- Ontario (Brampton, Mississauga, Scarborough and Toronto)
- British Columbia (Surrey) • Alberta (Calgary)



All products and services offered by ICICI Bank Canada are subject to terms and conditions, which are available on our website at [icicibank.ca](http://icicibank.ca). The ICICI Bank name and logo are trademarks of ICICI Bank Limited and are used under licence.





# PROUD HISTORY. STRONG PRESENCE. BRIGHT FUTURE.

*It's our privilege to help customers around the world achieve lifetime financial security.*

This year, we're celebrating our 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. Over the years, Sun Life Financial has helped its customers in Canada, India and around the world make the most of today, so they can have a brighter tomorrow.

With a strong track record of providing protection and wealth solutions at home and abroad, we make the outlook brighter for everyone under the sun.

Life's brighter under the sun





**mazda**

CANADA



*Welcomes*

HON. INDIAN PRIME MINISTER  
**NARENDRA MODI**

*Best wishes from:*



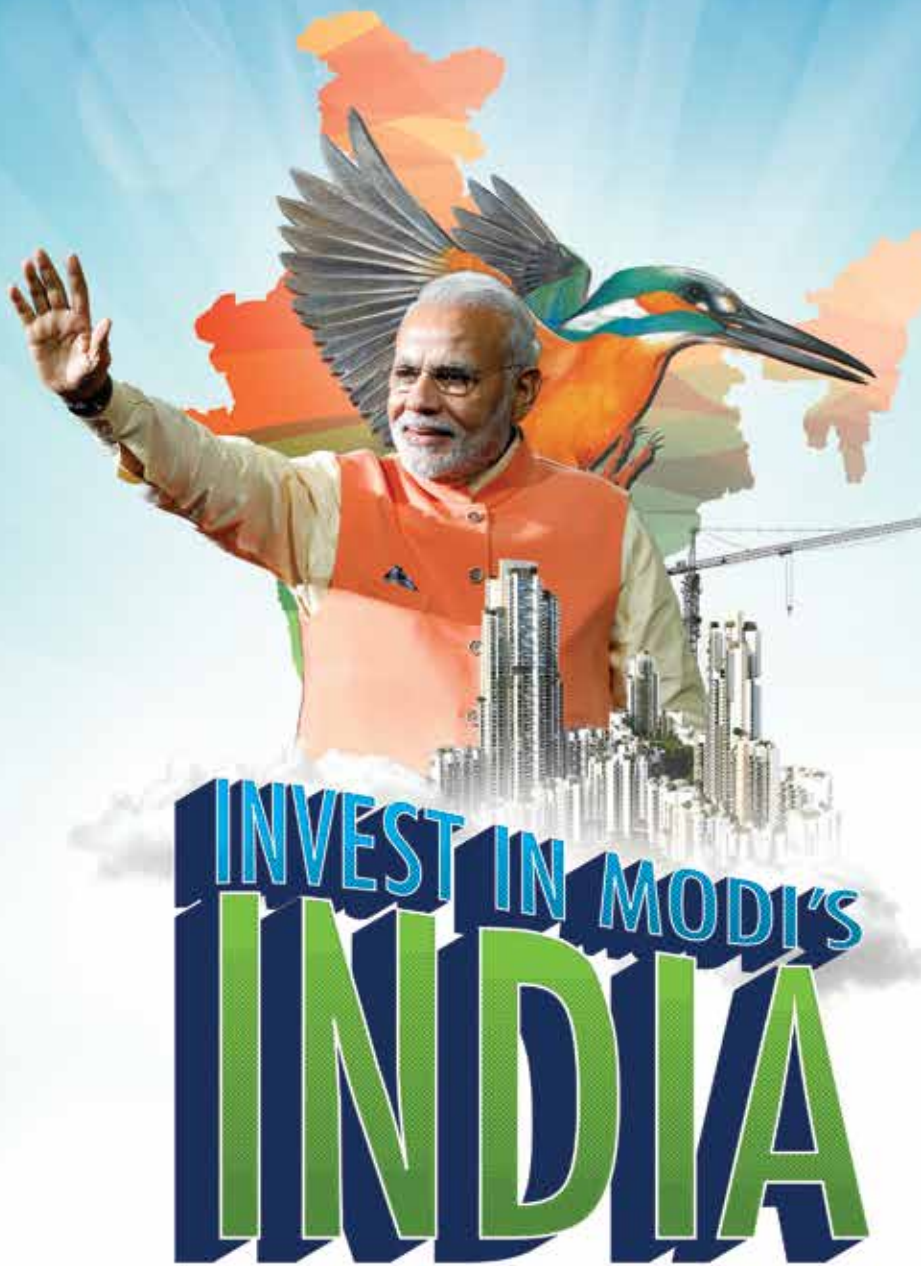
**Silver**  
Hotel Group

**Ruparell Family**



[www.mazda.ca](http://www.mazda.ca)





[excelfunds.com](http://excelfunds.com)

Tel: 905.813.7111 | Sales Toll Free: 1.855.392.3530 | Fax: 905.624.7531

2810 Matheson Blvd. East, Suite 800, Mississauga, ON, L4W 4X7



# Surjit S. Babra and Pradeep Sood Welcome Prime Minister Modi to Canada



Highbury Canco Corporation acquired operations of the Heinz plant in Learnington, saving 250 jobs and establishing its direction.

## A NEW CONVERSATION AT THE DINING TABLE INTEGRATED FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANUFACTURING WITH TURN-KEY LOGISTICS

Highbury Canco is an industry leader in processing, packing and third party logistics. Our 2.1 million square foot facility, 31 production lines, our semi-automated warehouse, turn-key research and development options as well as our experienced and results-oriented supply chain team have the capacity to manage large integrated manufacturing projects for food and beverage solutions. We partner with our customers throughout the new product development process with on-site engineering, research and development as well as flexible manufacturing and turn-key logistics. We drive innovation for today's market leaders. With our on-site quality assurance lab, we deliver the consistency that that brands deserve.



Sam Dlab, President (left), with  
Surjit Babra, Chairman of Highbury Canco



A WARM WELCOME TO  
**HON. PM SHRI NARENDRA MODI**  
FROM  
**AJIT SOMESHWAR**  
PRESIDENT AND CEO, CSI GROUP

---

On behalf of CSI Group of Companies  
**Ajit & Shylee Someshwar**  
Extend our Heartfelt Greetings & Welcome  
**Shri Narendrabhai Modi** (Hon'ble Prime Minister of India) to Canada  
We also Welcome **Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper**  
To the NAIC community meet.

---



CSI Group

CSI Consulting • CSI Networks • CSI eSecure • CSI America  
CSI Software Pvt. Ltd. • CSI Consulting (U.K.)  
Bates Project Management • Mentor Tech Source

# Building a better community starts with the right foundation.

Creating a vital, healthy community is a group effort. And at the heart of it, you'll find local organizations, fuelled by committed people who are passionate about building a better future for us all. That's why RBC® celebrates community-based organizations through the contribution of our resources, time and talents.

Together we can build the right foundation for our community.

To find out more, go to [www.rbc.com/responsibility](http://www.rbc.com/responsibility).







Scotiabank is  
proud to support the  
Indo-Canadian community  
and welcomes the  
Prime Minister of India.





# VISHNU MANDIR

विष्णु मंदिर

**Institution that nurtures families  
From Cradle to Golden Years**

Toddler's Program  
Montessori School  
Bal Vihaar  
Vishnu Mandir  
Peace Park & Memorial

Wall of Peace  
Guyana Dialysis & Cardiac Centre  
Canadian Museum of Hindu Civilization  
Mahatma Gandhi Statue  
Anand Bhavan (senior's home)

**8640 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, Ont 905-886-1724**

Livestream web broadcast of Puja service four times a week, Pl. logon to  
*[www.vishnumandir.com](http://www.vishnumandir.com) & like us on <https://www.facebook.com/vovcanada>*





Gunatitanand Swami Bhagwan Swaminarayan



Inspirer: Pramukh Swami Maharaj

## BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Toronto

The BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir encompasses: the Stone Mandir, the Wooden Haveli and the Heritage Exhibition.



Shri Neelkanth Varni  
(Bhagwan Swaminarayan)

"By offering abhishek to Shri Neelkant Varni with devotion and faith your inner wishes will get fulfilled and you will experience peace." - Pramukh Swami Maharaj

Open to visitors from 9:00am – 6:00pm daily throughout the year.

Aarti timings: 7:30 am, 11:15 am, 6:30 pm, 8:00 pm

### BAPS Children & Youth Activities:

- ♦ Music classes for children: Saturday, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
- ♦ Children Sabha: Sunday, 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm ♦ Youth Sabha: Sunday, 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
- ♦ Gujarati Classes: Sunday, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm ♦ Satsang Sabha: Sunday, 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm



### BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir

61 Claireville Drive, Toronto, ON. M9W 5Z7

T: 416-798-2277 | E: [info@canada.baps.org](mailto:info@canada.baps.org) | [www.toronto.baps.org](http://www.toronto.baps.org)

# *Welcome to Canada*



**BROADCONNECT**  
Telecom

**AVAYA**  
Platinum Partner

*Prasher Family*  
*Welcomes*



Prasher Family along with Hon. PM Harper,  
Hon. Deepak Obhrai MP, Patrick Brown MP, and Kyle Seaback MP,  
Welcomes Hon. Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi,  
to this great country, Canada

HON. INDIAN PRIME MINISTER  
**NARENDRA MODI**



CONNECT



COMMUNICATE



MANAGE



PROTECT



OPTIMIZE

Total Unified Communication  
Solutions, one stop for office  
communication needs

Canada's leading Alternative  
Telco Operator

Certified TL9000

*Solutions Built Around Your Business*



**BROADCONNECT**  
Telecom

[www.broadconnect.ca](http://www.broadconnect.ca)

Total Business Communication Solutions

**AVAYA**



Microsoft



Polycom

**BROADSOFT**  
Innovation calling.

**Citel.**





EASTON'S GROUP OF HOTELS  

---

A STEVE GUPTA COMPANY

We are honoured by  
Prime Minister Narendra Modi's  
visit to Canada and we wish the  
very best for the India-Canada  
relationship in the coming years.



***With Best Compliments from  
Process Research ORTECH Inc.***

*Process Technologies  
for  
Sustainable Development*



**SRINGERI VIDYA BHARATI FOUNDATION, CANADA  
80-84 BRYDON DRIVE, ETOBICOKE, ON M9W 4N6**

***SERVING THE COMMUNITY***



Warm Welcome to Canada  
Hon. Prime Minister  
Narendra Modi



**BROMED**  
PHARMACEUTICALS INC.

---

10 Barr Road. Ajax, Ontario, Canada L1S 3X9  
**Tel:** 905-427-4700. **Fax:** 905-427-0064. 1-800-426-6826 **Email:** nurani@bromed.ca



South Asian  
Dental Association

*Best Wishes and Congratulations to*

National Alliance of Indo Canadians

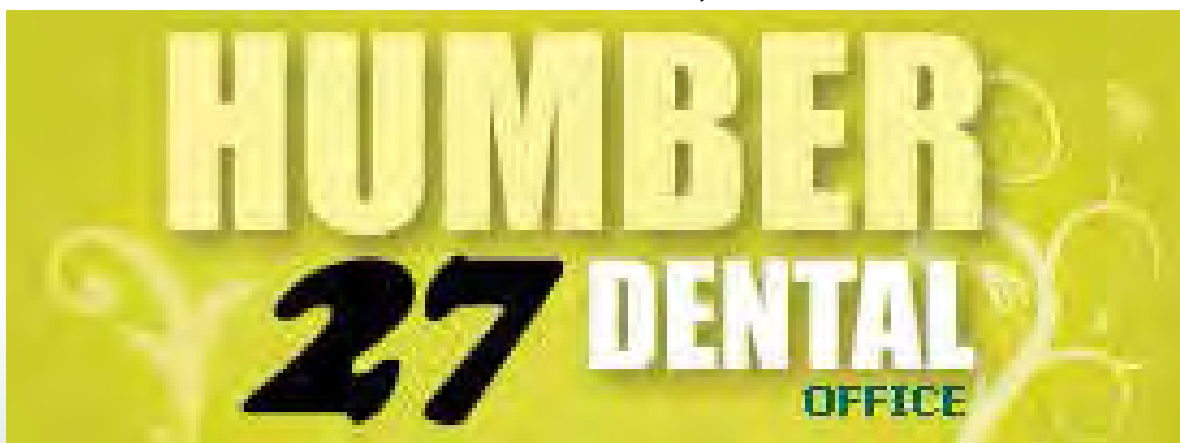
*In Welcoming*

**His Hon. Shri Narendra Modi**

*to Toronto.*

---

**Dr. Pravin Patel, DDS**



106 Humber College Blvd, # 206 Etobicoke, Ontario. M9V 4E4 Tel : 416-746-5519





As a leading Canadian owned healthcare company headquartered in Ontario, we are proud of our facilities, our 10,000 global employees and the ability to make healthcare affordable with quality generic medicines.

**APOTEX**  
**ADVANCING GENERICS**

[www.apotex.com](http://www.apotex.com)





New to Canada?



Get a credit card  
with no credit history  
and no deposit.\*



Get set up today.

At a branch • [cibc.com/newtocanada](http://cibc.com/newtocanada) • 1 800 465-2422

Proudly   
Canadian



\*To be eligible for the CIBC Welcome to Canada Package, you must have received Canadian permanent resident status within the past 36 months; any time period longer than 36 months does not qualify. Other conditions apply. To apply for the credit card, you must have either (a) another eligible CIBC personal banking product in good standing; such as a chequing or savings account, loan, line of credit, or mortgage (for details please visit [cibc.com/newtocanada](http://cibc.com/newtocanada)); OR (b) a certain minimum household income (depending on the card you apply for) and meet CIBC's credit criteria for that card. Available on new CIBC Everyday® Chequing Accounts only. A transaction includes cheques, withdrawals, transfers, pre-authorized payments, bill payments (including CIBC Credit Cards and CIBC Personal Lines of Credit) and debit purchases. Unlimited transactions and no monthly fee for the first year only. Additional fee(s) apply to withdrawals from non-CIBC bank machines, *INTERAC* e-Transfer® transactions and transactions in foreign currency (including cheques written in currencies other than the account currency). CIBC related marks and Proudly Canadian Design are trade-marks of CIBC. *INTERAC*® and *INTERAC* e-Transfer® are trademarks of INTERAC Inc.; CIBC authorized user of the marks.





WE WELCOME  
HON. PRIME MINISTER  
NARENDRA MODI

"MANGA HOTELS STRIVES TO DEMONSTRATE  
THAT EXCELLENCE GOES BEYOND MEETING  
EXPECTATIONS - WE GO THE EXTRA MILE TO  
EXCEED EXPECTATIONS."



SUKHDEV TOOR  
PRESIDENT & CEO



CFO Mortgages is a leading provider of Commercial Real Estate Capital across Canada. A Commercial Brokerage since 2004, we have built a team of former senior bankers with over 50 years of commercial banking experience. CFO's mission is to provide a "continuous flow" of competitive capital to the Commercial Real Estate industry.

With our in house underwriting team and access to over 75 lenders, we deliver innovative structuring and provide our clients with highly competitive financing options.

Competitive Strategic Capital

Mark Kay: 647.889.4809  
BROKER



"Experience You Can Bank On"

FIRST & SECOND MORTGAGES: High Performing Assets Transitional Assets Equity Take-out Construction

11 Allstate Parkway, Suite 203, Markham, Ontario Tel: 905.477.6542 www.cfogroup.com License 10210

WARM WELCOME TO CANADA.....towards becoming a world leader  
THE MOST POWERFUL INDIAN PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI



***SPONSOR***



**R-CHAD GROUP OF COMPANIES &  
R-CHAD GENERAL CONTRACTING INC. &  
R-CHAD DEVELOPMENT INC.**

**Raman Chaudhari Sharda Chaudhari**  
Dhishna, Lav & Kush



Establishing a loyal base of relation,  
business harmony and fair treatment.

**PRESIDENT: RAMAN CHAUDHARI, Civil Engineer**

(From Solaiya, Mansa, Gujarat, India)

8888 Keele Street, Unit 3, Concord, ON, Canada L4K 2N2

Cell: (416) 876-6267 | Tel: (905) 482-2541 | Fax: (905) 482-2542

**[www.rchad.ca](http://www.rchad.ca)**

**Leading Residential & Commercial Construction, Development and  
Project Management Company in Toronto, Canada**





## Pushtimargiya Vaishnav Samaj of Canada

Board of Trustees and Executive Board of  
shrinathji haveli  
welcome P. M. Modi to canada

58 Clark Avenue, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 1S5 Canada  
Phone : 905-771-3939 E-mail : [events@shrinathjihaveli.org](mailto:events@shrinathjihaveli.org)  
[www.shrinathjihaveli.org](http://www.shrinathjihaveli.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/ShrinathjiHaveliTorontoPmvsCanada>

### Daily Darshan Timings:

<b>Mangla</b> 7.30am-8.00am	<b>Rajbhog</b> 12.00pm-12.30pm	<b>Sandhya Aarti</b> 6.00pm-6.30pm
<b>Shringar</b> 10.30am-11.00am	<b>Utthapan</b> 5.30pm-5.45pm	<b>Shayan</b> 7.30pm-7.45pm

(NOTE: Darshan timings may vary on Utsav and special events)

For Program details or to become "Manorathi" Please contact:  
Haveli (Mukhiyaji) 905-771-3939

Pravin (PK) Shah (President) 416-918-5054  
Raju K. Shah (Vice President) 416-953-1846  
Sanjay Bateria (Secretary) 647-522-2782  
Jayantibhai Shah (Treasurer) 289-807-3265

A very warm welcome to  
Prime Minister Narendra Modi  
on the auspicious occasion of  
his visit to Canada.



## Sanatan Mandir Cultural Centre

9333 Woodbine Avenue, Markham, Ontario, Canada, L6C 1T5

Tel: 905-887-7777

[www.sanatanmandir.com](http://www.sanatanmandir.com)

# *Welcome to Ontario*

## Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi



**Hon. Michael Chan**  
Markham-Unionville  
905-305-1935



**Hon. Michael Coteau**  
Don Valley East  
416-494-6856



**Hon. Dipika Damerla**  
Mississauga East-Cooksville  
905-238-1751



**Vic Dhillon**  
Brampton West  
905-796-8669



**Hon. Brad Duguid**  
Scarborough Centre  
416-615-2183



**Hon. Dr. Helena Jaczek**  
Oak Ridges-Markham  
905-294-4931



**Monte Kwinter**  
York Centre  
416-630-0080



**Harinder K. Malhi**  
Brampton-Springdale  
905-495-8030



**Cristina Martins**  
Davenport  
416-535-3158



**Indira Naidoo-Harris**  
Halton  
905-878-1729



**Hon. Kathleen Wynne**  
PREMIER OF ONTARIO  
416-325-7200



**Dr. Shafiq Qadri**  
Etobicoke North  
416-745-2859



**Hon. Mario Sergio**  
York West  
416-743-7272



**Harinder S. Takhar**  
Mississauga-Erindale  
905-897-8815



**Glenn Thibeault**  
Sudbury  
705-675-1914



We Welcome  
Hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi



**Naresh Chavda**  
BE, PGDHRM, MBA, LL.M  
Immigration Consultant  
Commissioner of Oath, Ontario  
ICCRC Member# R506403



2100 Ellesmere Road, Unit 327A  
Toronto, Ontario, M1H 3B7 Canada.  
Tel: 647 692 6711 (office) 647 895 6790 (Direct)  
Fax: 647 776 7552  
Email: [globayan@gmail.com](mailto:globayan@gmail.com)  
[www.globayanimmigration.com](http://www.globayanimmigration.com)



valuable idea  
visible strategy | TM

**NICK LADANI**  
T: +1 - (647) 220 - 2300  
E: [nick@dnllcorporatedesign.com](mailto:nick@dnllcorporatedesign.com)



**Bharat Chavda**  
CPA, CGA, MBA, CA (India)



**Bharat Chavda**  
Professional Corporation

**Areas of Practice**

- Business Start-up and Incorporations
- Tax Planning and Returns (Individual, Corporate)
- Business Plans and Projections
- Small Business Loans and Lines of Credit
- Financial Statements and NTR
- GST-HST Returns, WSIB and Payroll
- Assist in CRA Audits

4255 Sherwoodtowne Blvd,  
Suite 104-E, Mississauga, ON L4Z 1Y5

Office: (905) 277-4236  
Cell: (416) 919-4236  
Email: [bharat@bharatchavda.com](mailto:bharat@bharatchavda.com)  
Fax: (905) 581-2052  
Web: [bharatchavda.com](http://bharatchavda.com)



## EXCEL INDIA FUND

### Series "A" Annual Compound Returns (%)

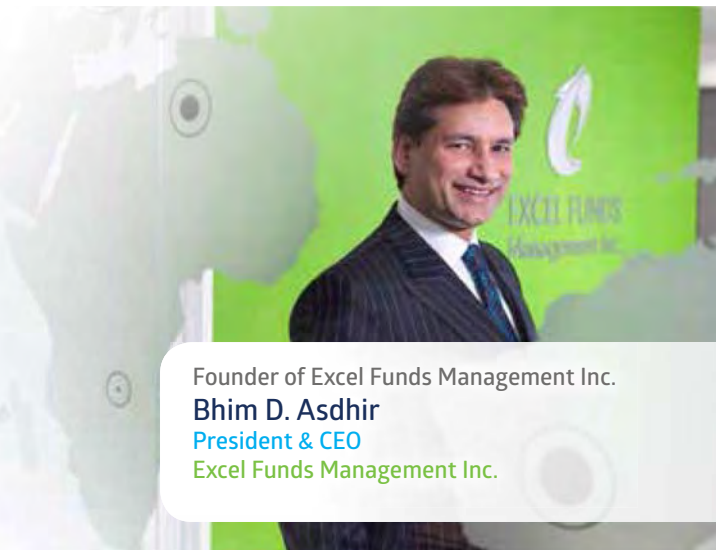
<b>54.7%</b>	<b>21.7%</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>12.2%</b>
<b>1 Year</b>	<b>3 Year</b>	<b>5 Year</b>	<b>10 Year</b>	<b>Since Inception</b>

Performance as at March 31, 2015.

Series "A" Inception date: April 14, 1998  
Source: Bloomberg

### Why Invest in the Excel India Fund:

- ▶ Largest and longest running India fund in Canada
- ▶ Excel Funds has a history of performance in India. The Excel India Fund, Series F, with a total return of 56.3%, as tracked by Morningstar Canada for the 1-year period ending March 31, 2015<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ Co-managed by Birla Sun Life AMC Limited, on-the-ground in India, one of the largest multi-award winning asset managers in India
- ▶ Expected to be the world's fastest growing major economy by 2016. Budget estimates that GDP growth will accelerate to 8.0% - 8.5% for the fiscal year 2015-2016 with a focus on increased infrastructure spending and economic reforms



Founder of Excel Funds Management Inc.  
**Bhim D. Asdhir**  
President & CEO  
Excel Funds Management Inc.



**Sales Contact**  
1-855-EXCEL30  
(392-3530)

[excelfunds.com](http://excelfunds.com)

1 © 2015 Morningstar Research Inc. All rights reserved. The information contained herein: (i) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (ii) may not be copied or distributed; and (iii) is not warranted to be accurate, complete, or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments and the use of an asset allocation service. Please read the prospectus before investing. Where used, the indicated rates of return are the annual compound total returns for the periods shown and, where applicable, the calendar year rates of return, including changes in unit value and assuming reinvestment of all distributions, do not take into account sales, redemption or optional charges or income taxes payable by any security holders, which would have reduced returns. The rate of return shown is used only to illustrate the effects of the compound growth rate and is not intended to reflect future values of the Excel India Fund, or returns on investment of the Excel India Fund. Mutual funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.



CONSIDER. EVALUATE.  
LEARN. ADJUST. ACTUALIZE.  
ACCOMPLISH. DEDICATE.  
ASSESS. ORGANIZE. HUSTLE.  
OBTAIN. ADAPT. SOLVE.  
ACHIEVE. COLLABORATE.  
SUCCEED. GRADUATE.

## Options matter.

---

There is more than one path to a rewarding career. Whether you know exactly where you want to go, are still deciding on your career direction or are looking to build on your education with a specialization, Seneca offers a full range of credential options to suit you. Whatever stage you're at, whichever path you choose, we'll help you achieve what matters to you.

[senecacollege.ca](https://senecacollege.ca)

### CREDENTIAL OPTIONS:

---

Degrees

---

Graduate Certificates

---

Diplomas

---

Certificates

---

University Pathways

**Seneca**  
Because it matters.



# *Jain Society of Toronto*

*welcomes*

*Prime Minister Narendra Modi*

*on the occasion of the  
Indo Canadian Reception into Canada.*



Artist's Rendering

441 Ellesmere Road  
(East of Warden Avenue)  
Toronto, Ontario



Artist's Rendering

This is a site for Jain Sikharbandhi Temple, in addition 50,000 sq.ft of Cultural Centre with Auditorium, Classrooms, Seniors Lounge, Library, Sports facility, Kitchen and Dining Room. Four acres of land with ample parking.

*Members of Jain Society of Toronto*

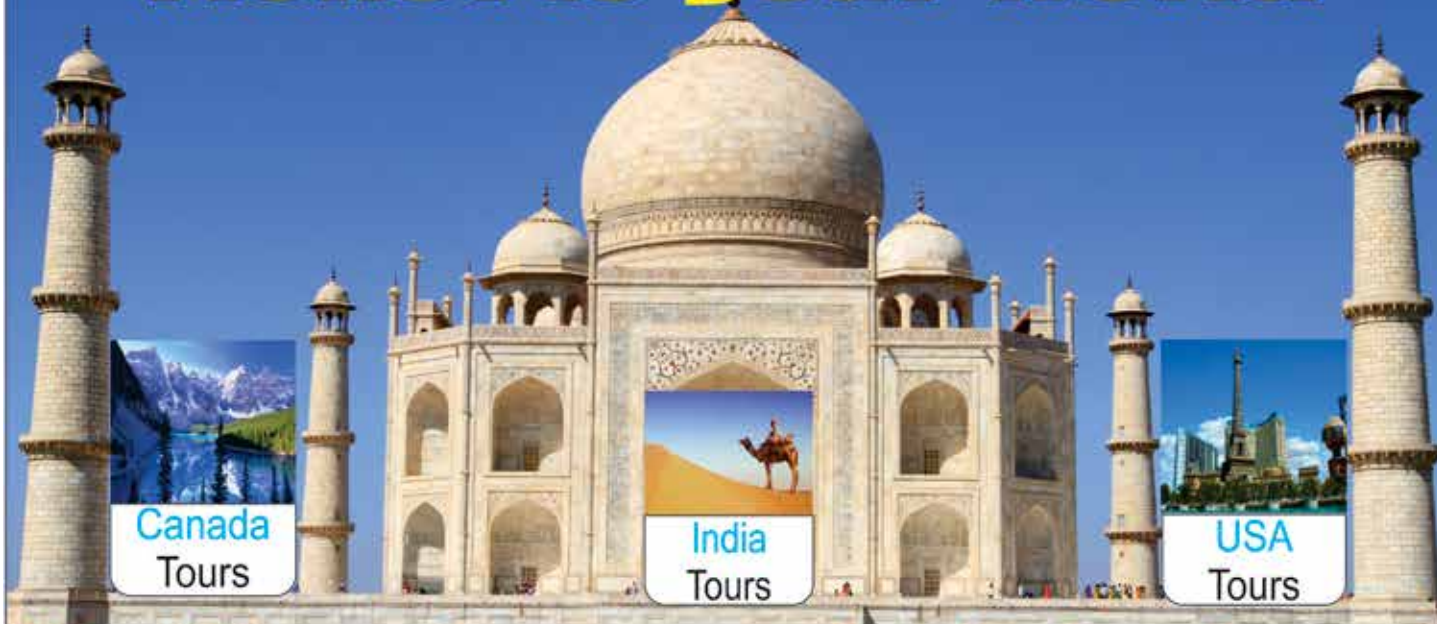


# **Prime Minister Narendrabhai Modi,** **with your visit to USA and Canada,**



**you have built a bridge of friendship, setting up an example  
to the coming generation to be proud of India.  
Our heartfelt congratulations and salute to you Sir  
from Ashok Travels.**

## **Ticket to your world**



### **We will fly you where ever your imagination takes you!**

**"Serving your travel needs for the past 40 years in Canada"**

238 Gerrard St E., Suite 100  
Toronto, Ontario CANADA  
M5A 2E8 tico # 1486999

## **Ashok Travels Ltd.**

Tel: 416-977- 9896  
Toll-free: 1-800-771-0561  
info@ashoktravel.com

**Thank you for your trust and confidence in our travel services.**



# OUR TEAM WELCOMES Mr. NARENDRA MODI - PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA ON HIS VISIT TO CANADA - 2015



**Don.R.B.Patel**  
"Your Lifetime Realtor"  
**Dir: 416-802-9042**  
Email: DonRBPatel@gmail.com  
**www.DonPatel.com**





**AASTHA LAWYERS, LLP**  
Your Lawyers for  
Real Estate &  
All Legal Matters!  
**905.564.8200**  
info@aasthalaw.ca  
**www.aasthalaw.ca**

**Sanjeev K. Chadha** M.A., LL.B.  
Barrister, Solicitor & Notary Public

**Nirav U. Bhatt** B.Sc., LL.B. (Hons.) LL.M.  
Barrister, Solicitor & Notary Public

**Sanjay Vora** CPA, CGA  
**Cell # 647-237-9151**  
**Off # 647-977-5105**  
Chartered Professional Accountant  
svoracpa@gmail.com  
2355 Derry Road East, Unit # 1  
Mississauga Ontario L5S 1V6





**Saurin Dave**  
**ASTROVIDYA**  
*Guide to Success*  
www.astrovidya.ca

Call today  
for  
complete  
Analysis of  
your Birth  
Chart

**647-403-0063 cell**  
**905-497-5148 office**  
saurin@astrovidya.ca  
**www.astrovidya.ca**



**JUST AS OUR BELOVED PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI WORKS 24 X 7  
SO DOES THIS TEAM WORK FOR ITS CLIENTS**



**Parth Naik**  
**JADOO ENTERTAINMENT**  
**www.jadooent.com**  
Email: parth.naik@gmail.com  
**Cell: 647-338-4404**

**Onkar Travels**  
**COMPLETE WORLDWIDE TRAVEL SERVICES**





**AIR TICKETS | CRUISES**  
**VACATION PACKAGE | TRAVEL INSURANCE**

415 The Westway, Etobicoke ON M9R 1H5 (Martin Grove & Westway)  
etobicoke@onkartravels.com  
**www.onkartravels.ca**



**JIGAR PATEL**  
President  
Call: 647-898-3340

**416-649-9999**



**Mihir Oza**  
Agent # M11000672, Brokerage # 10287  
Mortgage Planner - Mortgage Architects  
**Cell: 647-710-7374**  
**My Motto: Right Advice. First Time, Every Time.**



**AD PAGE SET-UP BY COURTESY OF: Quick Print Design - 647-836-4715**





**Jag Patel**  
Sales Representative  
416-671-5246  
buyanyestate@gmail.com



**Ajay Shah**  
Broker of Record  
416-747-9777  
homekey123@yahoo.ca



**Rakesh Modi**  
Sales Representative  
416-985-1674  
rakeshmodi07@yahoo.ca



**Homelife/Miracle Realty Ltd. Brokerage**  
Independently owned and operated.  

**RESIDENTIAL ■ COMMERCIAL ■ INVESTMENTS**

**Toronto Office**

5010 Steeles Ave. W., #11A  
Toronto, ON M9V 5C6  
T 416-747-9777  
F 416-747-7135

**Scarborough office**

22 Slan Ave.,  
Scarborough, ON M1G 3B2  
T 416-289-3000  
F 416-289-3008

**Brampton office**

470 Chrysler Dr, Unit 20  
Brampton, ON L6S 0C1  
T 905-454-4000  
F 905-463-0811

**Mississauga office**

1339 Matheson Blvd. E.  
Mississauga, ON L4W 1R1  
T 905-624-5678  
F 905-624-5677



**Port Hope Gas Station**

161 Peter St.  
Port Hope, ON L1A 1C7  
Phone : 905-885-0770



*With Best Wishes*

**Bhavika Patel  
& Family**

**Jasmin Parikh  
& Family**

**Seema Patel  
& Family**

**Pinakin Brahmhatt  
& Family**

**Devshree Modi  
& Family**



**canaroma**

BATH | TILE | LIGHTING

**canaroma** **OUTLET** next to main showroom  
7979 Weston Road, Vaughan ON L4L 1A6  
tel: 905.856.7979 | [www.canaroma.com](http://www.canaroma.com)



Justin Trudeau, Leader of the Liberal  
Party of Canada, welcomes Prime  
Minister Modi to Canada.

Canada is proud to be home to more  
than one million people who trace  
their heritage to India. We look  
forward to continuing our countries'  
longstanding friendship.

**We wish Prime Minister Modi a  
successful visit here in Canada.**

**Liberal**







# RAVAL LAW OFFICE



Serving the community for the last 30 years!



- ✓ Real Estate Law
- ✓ Criminal Law
- ✓ Immigration Law
- ✓ Power of Attorney

- ✓ Corporate Law
- ✓ Family Law
- ✓ Wills & Estate
- ✓ Document Notarizations

**Bhupendra N Raval**

Barrister, Solicitor & Notary Public

**Ph: 416-296-7200**

1200 Markham Road, Suite 118, Toronto, Ontario M1H 3C3 [www.ravallawyer.com](http://www.ravallawyer.com)

## **CANSEES**

Canadian Settlement, Educational & Employment Services  
Welcomes His Excellency Narendra Modi



Become a Medical Doctor,  
practice medicine world- wide.



### International Students in Canada

Studying to be a **Medical Doctor** is within the reach of all hard working and committed students. Do you believe you have what it takes to study **MEDICINE** and become a **DOCTOR**?



**CANSEES** is partnered with a leading university that provides a learning environment to enable serious students with the opportunity to acquire medical knowledge, competent skills and a compassionate attitude for the practice of medicine in the broad world community of physicians.



**Guaranteed  
internships in top  
rated American  
hospitals**



There are approximately **250,000** students from all countries of the world who choose to study in **Canada**. Expected to increase to **450,000** students by 2022

**CANSEES** specializes in helping international students from South Asia to come to Canada to study at leading Canadian Universities and Community Colleges.



Senior executives from **CANSEES** have recently visited over 40 colleges in India and are now assisting many students to come to Canada for enhanced learning opportunities.

**CANSEES** can help your friends and relatives to come to Canada to study, to work, and to become Canadian citizens

**Call for FREE consultation**



**647-340-7133**

[www.educationexpress.ca](http://www.educationexpress.ca)

## **CANSEES**

1200 Markham Road, Suite 301, Toronto M1H 3C3

Facebook: [canadianeducationservices](https://www.facebook.com/canadianeducationalservices)

Canadian Educational Services

[info@educationexpress.ca](mailto:info@educationexpress.ca)





**CIBC**

**2015**

**TASTE OF ASIA**  
www.tasteof-asia.ca  
CANADA'S LARGEST ASIAN FESTIVAL  
萬錦亞洲文化美食節

**Saturday June 27 from 11am to 11pm**  
**Sunday June 28 from 11am to 6pm**

June 27th Opening Ceremony at 4pm with Pan-Am Torch Relay  
**COME AND ENJOY 2 DAYS OF NON-STOP**  
Multicultural Performances- Over 150,000 Visitors Last Year

**Free Admission Everyone is Welcome**  
प्रवेश नः शुल्क सभी का स्वागत है

Feature Country for 2015:  
Thailand  
Over 150 Vendors  
Street Basketball Competition  
Kids Ride Zone  
"Spice it Up" Hot Sauce Competition  
Live Band Performances  
Lion Dance

**Supported By**










**Media Sponsors**

**Community Partners**

**Organizers**





**Kennedy Road and Steeles**  
Avenue East (North Side)



Sound and Lighting

For Retail Booth Reservation and Ticket/Show Information, Please visit [www.Taste-of-asia.ca](http://www.Taste-of-asia.ca). Program and Time is Subject to Change without Prior Notice

**Your #1 Source for Restaurant & Food Equipment!**





**Vijay Dhanrajani**

148 Norfinch Drive,  
Toronto, Ont., M3N 1X6  
Tel: 416-740-2424  
Fax: 416-740-9363  
E-mail: [vijay@nellacutlery.com](mailto:vijay@nellacutlery.com)  
[www.nellacutlery.com](http://www.nellacutlery.com)

*Full Line of Food Processing & Cooking Equipment*

**NELLA**  
**FOOD EQUIPMENT**  
(416)-740-2424  
Visit us online at [NellaCutlery.com](http://NellaCutlery.com)

➤ 148 Norfinch Dr, North York, Toronto, ON  
➤ 433 Queen St, E, Toronto, On

**VISIT**  
**OUR SHOWROOM TODAY**  
**TO MEET OUR FRIENDLY STAFF**

Email: [vijay@nellacutlery.com](mailto:vijay@nellacutlery.com)



# Introducing your local CIBC Mobile Mortgage Advisor.

As your local **CIBC Mobile Mortgage Advisor**, I can provide you with expert mortgage advice based on the neighbourhood you are considering to help ensure that it meets your lifestyle and borrowing needs.



For more information about mortgages, contact a CIBC Mobile Mortgage Advisor:



Neepa Patel

Call: 647-869-2909

Email: [neepa.patel@cibc.com](mailto:neepa.patel@cibc.com)

Languages spoken: English, Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi  
[cibc.com/mortgages](http://cibc.com/mortgages)



All mortgages are subject to credit approval. Certain conditions and restrictions apply.

**BEST INDIAN RESTAURANT IN GTA**  
DINE IN | TAKE OUT | BUFFET | CATERING

LLBO

**PUNJABI DELICACY**

**GUJARATI DELICACY**

**SOUTH INDIAN DELICACY**

**MINI MEAL**

**VEG/NON-VEG**

**BOMBAY**  
AUTHENTIC FINE INDIAN CUISINE *Buzz*

6620 Finch Ave (W), Unit # 1-2  
Toronto, ON M9V 5H7  
[info@bombaybuzz.ca](mailto:info@bombaybuzz.ca)  
(416) 740-1333  
[www.bombaybuzz.ca](http://www.bombaybuzz.ca)

# Home Life/Miracle Realty Ltd.

BROKERAGE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED



**BHAVESH BHATT**  
Real Estate Broker



**Dir: 416-452-0482**

- ★ RESIDENTIAL
- ★ COMMERCIAL
- ★ INVESTMENT PROPERTIES



[www.bhaveshbhatt.com](http://www.bhaveshbhatt.com)

Email: [realestate@bhaveshbhatt.com](mailto:realestate@bhaveshbhatt.com)

## Toronto

5010 Steeles Ave. West, Suite 11A  
Rexdale, Ontario. M9V 5C6  
Bus: 416-747-9777

## Brampton

470 Chrysler Drive, Unit #20  
Brampton, Ontario. L6S 0C1  
Bus: 905-454-4000

## Introducing your local CIBC Mobile Mortgage Advisor.

As your local **CIBC Mobile Mortgage Advisor**, I can provide you with expert mortgage advice based on the neighbourhood you are considering to help ensure that it meets your lifestyle and borrowing needs.

For more information about mortgages,  
contact a CIBC Mobile Mortgage Advisor:



**Falguni Devang Naik**  
Call: 647-618-2415  
Email: [falguni.naik@cibc.com](mailto:falguni.naik@cibc.com)  
[cibc.com/mortgages](http://cibc.com/mortgages)



All mortgages are subject to credit approval. Certain conditions and restrictions apply.





**Prakash Barbhaya**  
Real Estate Broker  
Mortgage Agent  
**416-525-7928**



**HomeLife/Leader Inc.**  
Brokerage  
Independently Owned and Operated



**WE WELCOME**

**HON. PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA  
AND  
HON. PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA**

**"LET ALL NOBLE THOUGHTS COME TO US FROM EACH SIDE"**



**BIMAL SHAH  
PROFESSIONAL  
CORPORATION**

Chartered Professional Accountant  
Licensed Public Accountant

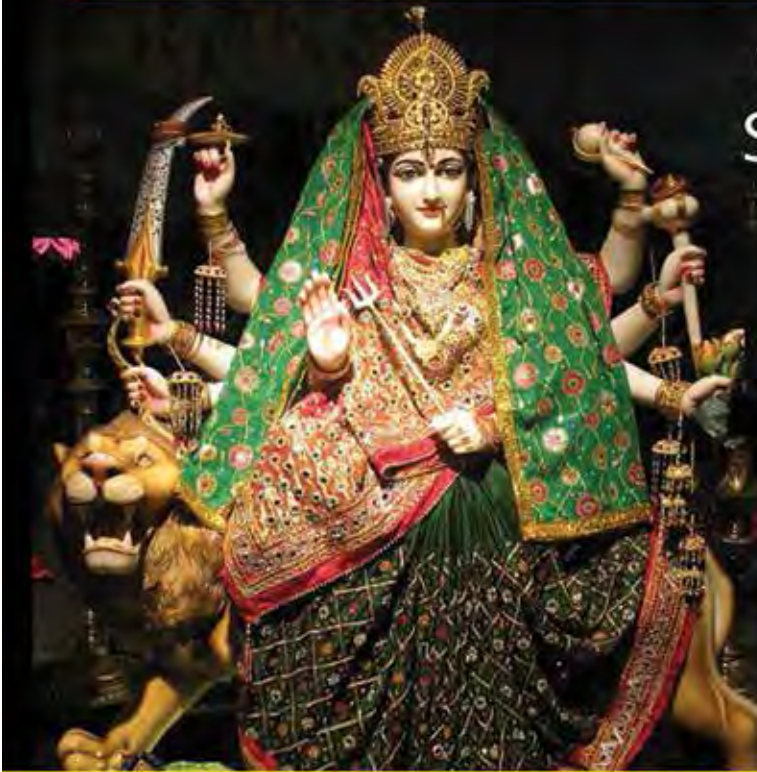
5484 Tomken Road, Suite 14  
Mississauga, Ontario L4W 2Z6

- AUDIT, REVIEW AND COMPILATION
- ACCOUNTING
- TAX
- CONSULTING
- BUSINESS PLAN AND PROJECTIONS

† 905 629 2653  
f 905 629 8701  
e [info@shah-cga.com](mailto:info@shah-cga.com)  
[www.shah-cga.com](http://www.shah-cga.com)

# VAISHNO DEVI TEMPLE OAKVILLE

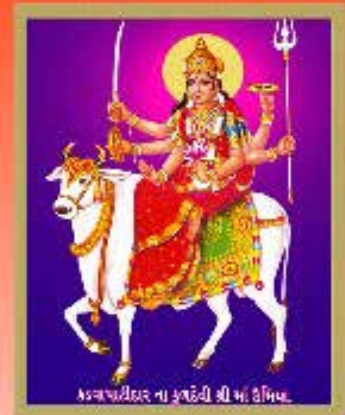
WELCOMES HONOURABLE  
**Sh. NARENDRA MODI**  
PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA  
ON HIS VISIT TO CANADA



[www.vaishnodevi.ca](http://www.vaishnodevi.ca) | (905) 825-4202 | [info@vaishnodevi.ca](mailto:info@vaishnodevi.ca)

## Welcome to Toronto

Honorable Prime Minister  
Shri Narendra Modi



Uttar Gujarat Kadva Patidar Samaj  
(UGKPS)  
Scarborough, Ontario  
Contact: 647-833-3154





INTERCHANGEABLE BOARD



RELIGIOUS STATUE



INDORE FOUNTAIN



WOODEN HOME TEMPLE

ALL KIND OF  
DISPLAY BOARDS &  
EXHIBITION  
EQUIPMENTS ARE  
AVAILABLE

## A. HIRJI & Co.

CONTACT PERSON : Mr. KIRIT DAVE

SHOW ROOM : UL-23/24, MAHARANA PRATAP COMPLEX,  
OPP. KAPADIA GUEST HOUSE, Nr. ELLISBRIDGE POST OFFICE,  
ELLISBRIDGE, AHMEDABAD - 380 006. GUJARAT (INDIA)

PH.: 079-26579676, FAX: 079-26586599, M.: 09909032897- 09327022897,

e-mail: 2ahirji@gmail.com, website: www.ahirji.com

CANADA CONTACT : C Shantilal Consultants, Ph.: 647 993 1043



Truly Yours<sup>SM</sup>



BY CHOICE HOTELS

## AFFILIATED BRANDS



Thakor Panchal - Owner  
Comfort Inn

68 MONOGRAM PLACE • TRENTON, ON K8V 5P8

613.965.6660



# हार्दिक अभिनंदन



Traffic Tickets  
Small Claims Court  
Landlord and Tenant Board  
Mediation

Accidental Benefits  
Immigration  
Affidavits  
Commissioning



Weekend Appointments Available



## A-ONE LEGAL SERVICES

1 Elora Street North, Unit 2, Harriston, On N0G 1Z0

Ph: (647)404 3732 / (226)336 5008 Fax: 1 866 536 2694

[www.aonelegal.ca](http://www.aonelegal.ca)



World Brahman Federation Canada

Welcomes

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Stephen Harper

on the occasion of

Community Reception by the National Alliance of Indo-Canadians

on April 15, 2015

at the

Ricoh Colesium, Toronto, Canada



Dr. Azad K. Kaushik  
President



Gyanesh Paliwal  
Vice President

[www.wbfcanda.org](http://www.wbfcanda.org)  
[www.wbfcanda.net](http://www.wbfcanda.net)



Best Compliments from:

# QUICK TRAVELS

TORONTO, CANADA  
(416) 291-2025  
ALKESH PATEL  
PARITOSH PATEL



VADODARA, GUJARAT, INDIA  
(0265) 2429402  
MANOJ PATEL  
BHUPESH PATEL



**MUKESH PATEL**  
Tax & Accounting Services  
Toronto Canada  
647-290-3103

## When You Buy...

- Will Arrange Pre-Approved Mortgages
- Will Arrange Home Inspection From A Professional Company
- Will Find You A Great Location
- Excellent Customer Service
- Will Help To Purchase An Investment Property
- And Much More!

## When You List...

- Free Market Evaluation
- 0.5% Listing Commission
- Free Advertising On Various Sources Through Social Media
- Sold Faster With Fair Market Value



**Niranjan Shah**

Sales Representative

**HomeLife/Bayview Realty Inc.\***

#1 Office in Canada for 24 Consecutive Years\*\*

Office: 905-889-2200 Cell: 647-381-6211

\*Brokerage, Independently Owned & Operated \*\*As Per HomeLife Organization Statistics 2012



# C SHANTILAL CONSULTANTS



***BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGIC ADVISORY  
MANAGEMENT CONSULTING***

**Member, Canada India Business Council**

**P: 647.993.1043**

**E: [info@theiim.ca](mailto:info@theiim.ca) \* W: [www.theiim.ca](http://www.theiim.ca)**

London office: i+ed (Infrastructure + Economic Development Ltd.)









## They Made the Difference

Jagdish Chandra Sharda (Shastri)  
Raj Kumar Sharma  
Jagdish Vijn  
Asha Sehagal  
Ashok Gautam  
Surendra Sharda  
Shambhu Gupta  
Dharmendra Dholakia  
Narendra Shah

Labhamal Sabherwal  
Kulin Mehra  
Satya Wadhwa  
Surinder Sikand  
Narayan Rao  
Daulat Mistry  
Narinder Bhalla  
Jammu Bansal  
Kamlesh Sharda

Azad K Kaushik  
Nareshkumar N Chavda  
Keshav Agnihotri  
Naresh Patel  
Col V K Sharma  
Parth Pandya  
Kaushik P Patel  
Purnimaben Patel  
Jyoti Mehta  
Chintanben Bhavsar  
Tarun Khanna  
Pranav Patel  
Jitendra Thakkar  
Nayan Bhrambhett  
Chandrakant Thakar  
Pravin Sharma

Pankaj Dave  
Anil Shringi  
Ramesh Aggarwal  
Vipin Sharma  
Vipul Jani  
Kaushikbhai Patel  
Bharat Kapoor  
Ketan Mehta  
Shilpaben Patel  
Sonalben Pandya  
Don Patel  
Bhupendra Raval  
Jignesh Patel  
Khanjan Patel  
J P Patel

**DISCLAIMER:** The content of the articles and poems published reflect the opinion of the individual authors and not of the National Alliance of Indo-Canadians. NAIC is not responsible or legally liable for the opinions expressed or artwork provided by the authors. The authors are solely responsible for any copyright violation.

**Designed by Nick Ladani, DNL Corporate Design - DNL Worldwide, [www.dnlworldwide.com](http://www.dnlworldwide.com):**  
DNL Corporate Design will not be liable for the content, artwork or photographs used to design this magazine, as these may be available in the public domain.

**Printed by Uday Modi, FifthFeb Design Studio, [www.fifthfeb.com](http://www.fifthfeb.com)**



# Made in India. For the World.



Clarity/PRD/042015

- Thermal & Nuclear Power Plant Equipment • Piping Systems • Process Plant Equipment
- Technology Services • Information Technology • Hydrocarbon Engineering

Tomorrow will be powered by human talent working in a world without boundaries. At Larsen & Toubro, we have a multi-cultural, transnational team of engineers and technology specialists who are setting new benchmarks, raising the bar of excellence and championing change.

Tomorrow begins today.

Regd. Office:  
L&T House, N. M. Marg, Ballard Estate, Mumbai - 400 001. INDIA



