



Ambedkar Times

Weekly

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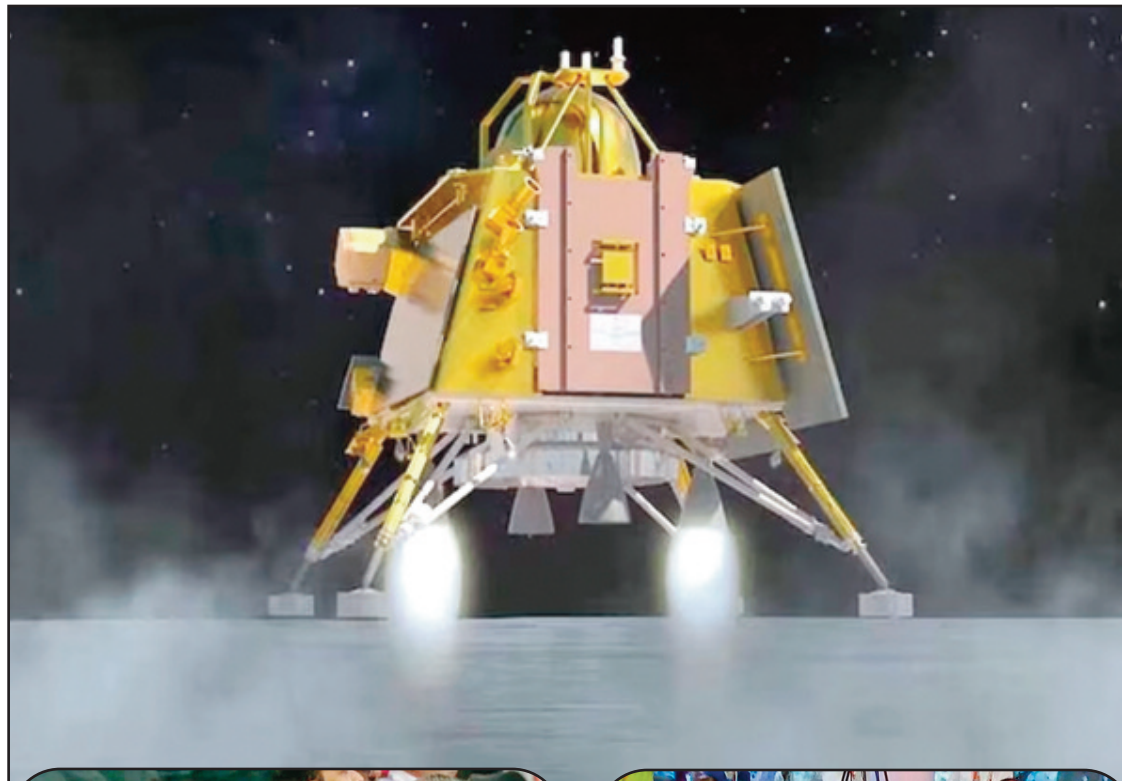
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Epic landing of Chandrayaan 3

India became the first proud nation to unfurl its flag on the Southern

India creates history as Chandrayaan-3 lands on Moon



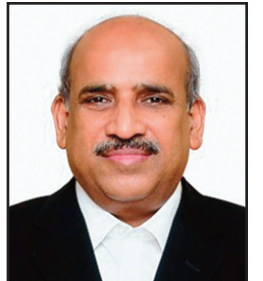
Architects behind Chandrayaan-3 SUCCESS



P Veeramuthuvel
Project Director



S Unnikrishnan Nair
Chief, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre



M Sankaran
Director, UR Rao Satellite Centre



New Delhi- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) today scripted history with its Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft successfully landing on the lunar south pole, making India the first country in the world to achieve soft landing on the water-rich region of the moon.

India ensured front-row seat in global space club

The successful touchdown of the Vikram lander on the moon is a testament to India's scientific and technological capabilities built over the decades, and it ensures India a front-row seat in the global space club, which is witnessing rapid changes.

After the glitch faced by Chandrayaan-2, which resulted in the loss of the lander a little over four years ago, ISRO scientists went back to the drawing board to design a near fail-safe mission. They incorporated several new features and redundancies in the crucial phase of 'power descent' of the lander — two cameras for hazard detection instead of one, improved algorithm (for control, navigation and guidance) to spot a perfect site for landing, changes in the central engine, etc. All this gave ISRO scientists the confidence to make the surprising claim that Vikram would land even if everything were to fail.

For any spacefaring nation interested in exploring deep space, achieving the technologically challenging soft landing capability is a critical milestone. Since 2019, when Chandrayaan-2 failed, missions sent by Japan, Israel, and the UAE (launched by a Japanese company) have failed to soft-land on the lunar surface. The latest to miss the moon was the Russian mission last week, though the erstwhile USSR and Russia have had many successful soft-landing and 'sample return' missions in the past. More flights — such as Japan's SLIM, or Smart Lander for Investigating Moon — are headed to the moon this year. Chandrayaan-3 has great significance for lunar science as this mission was designed to land in the

south pole region, which is thought to be rich in water-ice. While the region has been extensively imaged by orbiting missions, no probe has explored it on ground. With data from this mission, ISRO hopes to build upon the discovery of water-bearing molecules that was made by Chandrayaan-1.

The success of Chandrayaan-3 will boost ISRO's ambitions for future missions, including those capable of bringing back samples from the moon. It has no direct bearing on the manned Gaganyaan project.

'Sky's not the limit': PM lauds scientists

As India made history on Wednesday by becoming the first country in the world to land a spacecraft on the



lunar south pole, Prime Minister Narendra Modi described the success as "not just India's but entire humanity's", and said it testified that "we can all aspire for the moon and beyond".

"We took a pledge on the earth and accomplished it on the moon. India is now on the moon, as our scientists have said. Today we have witnessed India's new flight in space," a visibly elated Prime Minister said, terming the moment as "unforgettable, unprecedented and timeless, one that signals a bright start to Amrit Kaal leading up to 2047, the centenary of Independence". Congratulating ISRO scientists for their tireless striving through years leading to the making of history today, the PM said, "India's successful moon mission is not just India's alone."

Hemisphere of the moon and the fourth nation to reach its surface after Russian, The USA and China. Amazing precision, the space craft landed at the exact spot on the southern hemisphere of the moon selected by ISRO, and at dot 1804hrs, the scheduled time. Incredible!

We all are really proud as a nation on this stupendous accomplishment of our nation. Congratulations to all the Indians and the world community to pave the way for further exploration of our solar system. Many congratulations to our ISRO scientists whose years long hard work, intensive research and perseverance made this historic milestone happen in the ongoing scientific advancement of mankind.

"Ambedkar Times" and "Desh Doaba" Weeklies send its Heartiest Congratulations to all on this historic achievement of India.

Prem Kumar Chumber
Editor-in-Chief
Ambedkar Times
Desh Doaba

SB 403 IS HEADING FAST TOWARDS ITS GOAL



As observed from the progress the SB-403 bill is making, it seems evident that the proposed bill is nearing the end of its long journey very smoothly and successfully. Yesterday on the August 16th, 2023 we had a huge gathering in the California Assembly Hall in Sacramento, numbering around 150 people from all parts of California, supporting the passage of the bill in front of the Appropriation Committee. A bus load of about 40 supporters (both males and females) arranged by Shri Guru Ravidass Temple, Pittsburg represented the Pittsburg, Antioch, Concord and Dublin areas. The bill was passed by the Appropriation committee with a heavy majority. The successful navigation of this important bill focused on caste discrimination is definitely attributable to the strength and solidarity of its supporters and the untiring efforts of the honorable Senator Aisha Wahab, the architect of the bill and co-ordinated by Thenmozhi

Soundararajan from Google Enterprises. All the members and supporters of the bill were divided into various groups of 10 persons each who personally called upon the offices of most of the standing and elected members of the California Assembly, requesting them to vote for final passage of the Bill. It certainly had a very positive and significant impact on our campaign for steering through the bill to its successful end.

WHY SB-403 IS NEEDED:- Though caste discrimination has been a global problem for centuries but here in California state, a symbol of multiculturalism, it was never noticed as a big issue.

But with the influx of immigrants from India the caste discrimination follows along with them.

It has come to light only in recent times when reports came to surface from some female engineers from a group of High-tech US companies in

California.

The caste is not officially considered by law as a category of discrimination in the US. The reason is that caste discrimination was not a known phenomenon when the laws were written.

The Ambedkar king study circle collected testimonies of how caste consciousness and discrimination are practiced by Indian diaspora in various fields. This relates to various types of discrimination practices in schools, work places and social gatherings.

This is very unfortunate to state that this stigma of social exclusion emerges from the in-built notions and real untouchability in the social hierarchy of India and some other South Asian countries.

California law bars discrimination on the basis of Ancestry but it needs to be explicitly clarified in the new law that Ancestry includes caste. **CONCLUSION:** - In the end I must

make a fervent appeal to so called upper caste/sections of society to realize the futility of this practice of dehumanization which has been eating like a cancer into the very vitals of human civilization for centuries together. It has to be stopped before it assumes serious proportions.

I also appreciate the professional services of Mr. Prem Kumar Chumber Editor-in-chief, Ambedkar Times and Desh Doaba (Weeklies) for his incentive and portrayal of vital issues of social significance.



O.P. Bailey
Founder Member
Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha
Pittsburg (California)

Picture credit:
Prem Kumar Chumber
www.ambedkartimes.com



A community that doesn't have representation in the political power, that community is dead.

Sahib Shri Kanshi Ram

To get the power, there is a need of mass movement, converting that mass movement into votes, then converting votes into seats, further converting the seats into [power at] states, and lastly converting the [power at] states into [power at] center. This is the mission and aim for us.

Sahib Shri Kanshi Ram

We don't want social justice, we want social transformation. Social justice depends on the person in the power. Suppose at one time, some good leader comes to power and people get social justice and are happy but when a bad leader comes to power it turns into injustice again. So, we want whole social transformation.

Sahib Shri Kanshi Ram

How to save Himachal Pradesh from natural disasters?



Dr. Gurinder Kaur
001-408-493-9776

Himachal Pradesh has not yet recovered from the devastation caused by the heavy rains in July that it has been engulfed again by natural disasters. In Himachal Pradesh, the death toll in

the Himalayan mountains. It is important to get the opinion of geologists, environmental experts, and local people before any development project is undertaken here.

Nature has given abundant beauty to Himachal Pradesh. Its newly emerging high mountains, diverse flora, and cool climate attract tourists from far off places. Taking advantage of this natural beauty, the government of Himachal Pradesh started building four-lane roads to promote it as a

Pradesh has the fastest pace and magnitude of hydropower development. There are 53 hydropower projects planned in Kinnaur district, 17 of these projects are big. Out of 53 projects of various capacities, 15 are already operational. In 2021, the people of Kinnaur strongly opposed the installation of the Jhangi Tapovan Powari hydro-electricity project due to the adverse effects of these projects on the environment.

After the construction of Par-

couraging the tourism industry, disregarding the limited natural resources here. The population of Shimla increased to 1,69,578 in 2011 which is estimated to be 2,32,000 in 2023. To address the problems of Shimla's growing population, the state government has planned to build four satellite towns (Gandal, Faggu, Naldehra, and Chamiana) and one counter-magnet town.

According to the fifth and sixth reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, due to the increase in the global average temperature, the Himalayan states in the north and the coastal states in the south in India will be more affected by natural disasters.

According to a report by The Geological Survey of India, Himachal Pradesh has identified 17,120 landsliding zones. These sites have been found in the districts of Sirmour, Lahaul and Spiti, Mandi, Kinnaur, Kangra, Shimla, Solan, Bilaspur, Una, Chamba, Hamirpur, and some others. In many places in Himachal Pradesh, incidents of land subsidence are also coming to light like Joshimath in Uttarakhand.

The Himachal Pradesh government should not give permission for any development project in the state without taking the opinion of geologists, environmental experts, and local people. In order to save the natural beauty of Himachal Pradesh, the state government here should maintain the old roads properly and make them passable instead of constructing four-lane roads. The number of tourists coming to the hilly towns should also be determined so that hotels are constructed there according to the capacity of the hilly areas.

The government of Himachal Pradesh should also make arrangements to provide convenient public transport for tourists. By doing this, multi-storied buildings will not have to be built to park vehicles. Before constructing any building, the area should be examined by geologists and permission to construct the building should be given on their recommendation. Instead of constructing multi-storied buildings for tourists, to protect the beauty of the hilly areas and the lives and property of people there, the state government by following the slogan "Himachal Ka Har Ghar Kuch Kehta Hai" can save the environment as well as increase the income of the people. The government of Himachal Pradesh should also install hydropower projects in the state according to the environmental capacity of the state. If environmental protection is not given attention even now, then Himachal Pradesh may be hit hard by natural disasters.



tourist destination. To build these roads, heavy machinery and explosive materials were used to cut the mountains, due to which the natural balance of the place has started to deteriorate. As a result, the mountains have started sliding down from place to place. Forests have to be cut down before the mountain can be broken for any kind of development work in the hilly areas. Due to the absence of forests, the soil starts to erode. Due to over-cutting of mountains and soil erosion, mountains begin to slide down, resulting in loss of life and property.

Nowadays, many towns of Himachal Pradesh such as Shimla, Manali, Dharamshala, Mandi and some others come under the grip of so-called economic development and are hit by heavy rains as well as other natural disasters like flash floods and landslides. Since the construction of four-lane roads in Himachal Pradesh, the incidence of landslides has been increasing every year. In 2020 there were only 16 landslides, in 2021 the number increased to 100, and in 2022 to 117.

Apart from the four-lane roads, the hydropower projects in Himachal Pradesh are also increasing the depth of natural disasters. The Himdhara Environment Research and Action Collective has conducted a study on the impacts of hydropower projects. According to this study, among all the Himalayan states of India, Himachal

wanoo-Shimla four-lane road, the number of tourists in Shimla is continuously increasing. Many multi-storied hotels are being built to accommodate tourists. In the greed of higher earnings, business people have also built buildings in places where earlier there were seasonal rain drains or where rain water was collected naturally. The Shiva temple at Summer Hill was built on the banks of the Barsati Nala and Krishna Nagar is also situated on the Bawadi.

Himachal Pradesh also falls in the seismic zone. The Indian and Arabian plates are constantly pushing India towards the European plate due to which there is a constant threat of major earthquakes from the north-western region of Jammu and Kashmir to the north-eastern region of Mizoram state. Apart from this, the glaciers from the Himalayan mountains are melting rapidly due to the rise in temperature. Glacial lakes are forming in the mountains, due to which Himachal Pradesh may also experience an incident similar to the 2021 tragedy in Uttarakhand's Chamauli.

The British made Shimla the summer capital of India in 1864 during British rule. The city could easily meet the needs of a population of only 16,000 people. Moving forward in the race for economic development, the Himachal Pradesh government has given permission to erect multi-storied buildings in the form of hotels here, en-

"My social philosophy may be said to be enshrined in three words: liberty, equality and fraternity. My philosophy has roots in religion and not in political science.

I have derived them from the teachings of my master, the Buddha."

"The basis of my politics lies in the proposition that the Untouchables are not a sub-division or sub-section of Hindus, and that they are a separate and distinct element in the national life of India."

Bharat Rattan Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar



V.B. Soni
Ambassador (Retd.)

India's first Ambassador to Egypt:

A mystery dating back to tenure in Cairo resolved after 50 years

Egyptian civilization is often referred to as 'funeral' in nature. The great Pharaohs, their nobility and mighty generals would spend huge resources and riches preparing for death. They did not build palaces but tombs filled with every possible need that may be needed in the life after. Marilyn Monroe who is reported to have scribbled on a hotel stationery pad: "you must be alive-while looking dead", obviously had teenage King Tutankhamun in mind, while scribbling that.

A junior diplomat in a middle sized diplomatic mission abroad ends up doing a number of thankless routine, comparatively less important jobs. That was my fate when I landed up in Cairo, Egypt to assume charge as 2nd Secretary in the Embassy of India in May 1971.

A few months after joining the post, I was deputed to visit a specially designated quarter of Cairo, called 'City of the Dead' to pay floral tribute and respect to India's first Ambassador of India to Egypt, Mr. Syud Hossain, on behalf of the Embassy. It was an annual ritual followed by the Indian Embassy every year on the day of his burial, February 25.

I was informed that the caretaker, entrusted with the job of upkeep and maintenance of the tomb, would be on standby at the site to assist me in the ceremony. Embassy staff car and an accompanying local Egyptian employee of the mission led me to the burial site.

I tried to gather information about the background of the deceased Ambassador. The Indian Foreign Service cadre had not yet been formed, when he assumed charge of his post as Ambassador of India, Cairo on February 17, 1948. So he must have been specially picked up by the then Prime Minister of India Jawahar Lal Nehru to represent India's interest abroad, as he did in the case of so many other public personalities/academics/politicians/defence officers, at the time of independence in 1947.

Prominent persons in that list to serve India's diplomatic interests around that time included Nehru's own sister Vijay Lakshmi Pandit (U.S.), Krishna Menon (U.K.), Dr. S. Radhakrish-

nan (the then USSR) and K.R. Narayanan, who later became President of India. Among the retired defence service officers, was my then Ambassador in Cairo, Ashok Bhadkamkar, a naval officer. But I could not get many details in the case of Syud Hossain from the Embassy record or from those who may have been in the know but did not think it necessary to apprise me of it.

As instructed, I followed the orders faithfully. For reaching the site of the tomb, one had to meander through narrow, winding lanes in the specially demarcated enclave that housed tens of thousands of burial sites. My first impression on seeing the surroundings at Syud Hossain's tomb was that the structure could have been better maintained. The place gave the impression of having been hastily swept clean and washed. The poor quality coat of painting on the boundary wall and the passage leading to the tomb, under a canopy had been done unprofessionally.

The broken/missing bricks, with the peeling plaster, told its own story of neglect and poor maintenance. The caretaker had no explanation for that, dismissing it with the typical Arabic expression 'ma'alish' (never mind), challenging our own 'sab chaltahai' approach.

On return from the assignment, the state of the tomb's surroundings was duly conveyed to the Head of Chancery at the Embassy. But he could not be bothered, as he was under order of transfer back to headquarter. I suspect that the situation would have deteriorated a lot more subsequently. I forget all about it, when I moved on to other official assignments, till my superannuation in 2002.

Then suddenly last month I heard of a recently published book on the first Ambassador of India and his death in Cairo. My curiosity was aroused last week, when I chanced upon review of a book: "A forgotten Ambassador in Cairo: The Life and Times of Syud Hossain" by N.S. Vinodh. It provided me with the details I had wanted to know about this enigmatic for long. It made fascinating reading.

The review revealed that Syud Hossain was born on January 23, 1888 to a Nawab Syud Mohammed, based in Calcutta. He studied at Mohammadan Anglo Oriental College, which later became Aligarh Muslim University. After that he went to Inner Temple in London for doing law but he never entered

the legal profession. His calling instead was journalism. He wrote for many British, U.S. and Indian publications. For a period of time he taught at prestigious academic institutions/universities in the U.S. While being there he interacted with the Ghadar party activists on the West coast, learning about prevalent racist tendencies in the country. He wrote critical pieces on the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, which antagonised the establishment back home.

Hossain's life took an interesting twist, early in life when in 1919 he was commissioned by Motilal Nehru to be editor of the publication 'Independent', which functioned out of the Anand Bhavan premises in Allahabad. During that period he got romantically involved with the pretty daughter Vijay Lakshmi, eloping and secretly marrying her. That proved to be his undoing, after he was sacked from the job. To minimise damage to the Nehru family's political journey, Vijay Lakshmi was

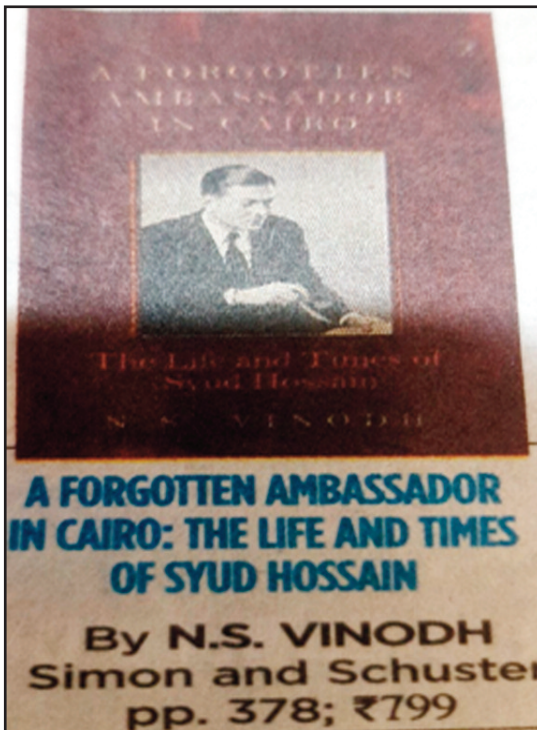
hastily married off to Ranjit Pandit. Hossain never married again. He went to England and Europe, and then on to the U.S. editing journals, writing books and lecturing on the academic circuit. During his foreign trips to Egypt, Palestine, Syria, China, Japan and South East Asia he pursued his work and gained deep insight on grass root ethnography.

Upon Hossain's return to India decades later, the partition of the country and the assassination of Gandhi proved to be a living nightmare for him. Under these circumstances P.M. Nehru deputed him as India's first Ambassador to Egypt, where he joined on 17.2.1948. His domain of responsibility was extended to include Transjordan and Lebanon. According to reports, Vijay Lakshmi Pandit visited and stayed at Hossain's official residence in Cairo during the period. But his stint in Cairo did not last beyond a year, when he passed away on 25.2.1949, after a heart attack at the age of 61 years. As a special gesture he was accorded a state funeral by the Egyptian government.

The book brings out that Hossain's writings and books give an insight of a well-informed Muslim, on important issues like the Khilafat movement, the Jallianwala massacre, racism against Indians in the U.S., the Ghadar movement, as well as Indian politics, immediately following the partition.

From the above it would appear that the curiosity aroused in my mind more than half a century back, to know about the personality of Ambassador Syud Hossain was well placed. The book brings out that, apart from his dashing good looks and a flashy lifestyle, he was a person with scholarly bent of mind, indeed a statesman and accomplished journalist. It was for this reason that despite the initial antagonism, P.M. Nehru gave due recognition to Hossain's contribution to India's struggle for freedom, by appointing him as India's first Ambassador to Egypt.

Sadly, Syud Hossain's diplomatic foray had to end abruptly, to find final resting place in Cairo, where his remains lie buried in the City of the Dead. He had obviously not prepared for the life hereafter, for during my visit to his tomb, I found no tell signs of any items lying around his burial site!



A FORGOTTEN AMBASSADOR IN CAIRO: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SYUD HOSSAIN
By N.S. VINODH
Simon and Schuster
pp. 378; ₹799

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Dr. Paramjit S Takhar, MD



Goodie Takhar, PhD

Assemblyman Hoover's Representative Report

Bill Signed to Highlight the Aerospace Museum

I am very excited to announce that my bill, AB 1320, has been signed into law to allow the Aerospace Museum of California in McClellan Park to place a highway sign on I-80 so visitors can more easily find this incredible local landmark.

If you haven't had an opportunity

to check out the museum yet, please visit their website to learn more. It is an amazing place for families and students to discover, explore, and be inspired.



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Care Packages for the Troops

I was very pleased that my staff was able to be on hand this week to help join as volunteers with Move

America Forward to prepare care packages for our deployed Armed Forces. Move America Forward is a nonprofit military charity based in Sacramento, California, dedicated to supporting the brave men and women of our Armed Forces.

Their mission is to provide emotional and tangible support to active duty troops deployed to combat



areas around the world. Over the years, they have sent over 900 tons of care packages to deployed troops, and their efforts have been supported by thousands of volunteers, veterans, and military families all across the nation who share in their unwavering support of the military men and women who are on the front lines of protecting our country.

Panel on Education in California

This week I had the privilege of participating on a panel put on by the Public Policy Institute of California to discuss education funding in California. I talked extensively about the need for decisions to be made at the local level so parents can have the most input in their child's educational jour-

ney. You can watch the full conversation here.

Twin Rivers Unified School District Events

What an exciting week in the Twin Rivers Unified School District! On Wednesday we celebrated a ribbon cutting at Highlands High School and a groundbreaking at Foothill High



community for decades to come.

Ribbon Cutting in Carmichael

On Wednesday my staff participated in the ribbon cutting of Food-Maxx, who are celebrating the opening of their grocery store. They are located at 4708 Manzanita Avenue in the Crestview Village Shopping Center, and are open 6am-midnight every day of the week.

Legislature Back in Session

The legislature is back in session this week after the annual summer recess.



There are still nearly 1000 bills for us to consider before we adjourn for the year on September 14th.

I still have two bills moving through the process. AB 1361, which would provide veterans greater access to homeownership, and AB 95, which expands access to healthy school meals.

New Podcast Episode

This week I was joined by Assemblyman Devon Mathis, where we



discussed a number of topics including the return of the Legislature, the importance of the Central Valley, homelessness in Sacramento, how we can reduce the cost of living in California, a recent decision on autonomous vehicles, a proposal to give unemployment benefits to striking workers, and frustrations with school closures during

the pandemic. You can watch, listen, and follow the podcast here.

Sunriver Neighborhood Association

I had a wonderful time this week attending the Sunriver Neighborhood Association meeting in Rancho Cordova and giving a legislative update.

The Sunriver Community Association is dedicated to the safety and beautification of Sun River/Larchmont, a small community situated within the city of Rancho Cordova along the banks of the American River.

District Business Tours

This week I attended four different industry tours to learn more about the issues impacting our community and what California can be doing to increase economic opportunity in our region.

On Wednesday I visited Sparkz Inc., a soon-to-be Zero Cobalt Lithium-ion Cell Manufacturing facility in Ran-



cho Cordova at the old Aerojet property.

On Thursday I toured Cummins, UPS, and Clean Energy with the California Renewable Transportation Alliance and the Problem Solvers Caucus to learn how they are using renewable fuels to power our economy and improve our environment.

Reliance MET Honors 61 retired Soldiers on 77th Independence Day

AVTAR SINGH BHANWARA

CHANDIGARH: Jhajjar district's tallest 105 feet tricolor was proudly hoisted by Model Economic Township and Reliance Foundation on 15th August at Sector 5 Office Dadritoi on the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence.

Colonel Rommel Rajyan, Chief of Security, MET, present as the chief guest on the occasion, extended best wishes to everyone on Independence Day and said that we all should celebrate this national festival with great pride. He said that we got freedom only because of the sacrifices of the soldiers, we should not forget the sacrifices of the soldiers as well.

On the occasion of 77th Independence Day of Amrit Kaal, Colonel Rommel Rajyan honored 61 retired soldiers from 18 villages by wearing tri-

color turbans and presenting shawls to them. Retired Subedar Rajkaran Yadav



of Khedigaon, present on the occasion, shared the experiences of the 1971 war with everyone and said that we express our gratitude to Reliance for the respect shown to them.

On this occasion, Subedar Surendra Singh Yadav, District Presi-

dent, Indian Veteran Organization HR, boosting the morale of the retired soldiers, said that we are the true sons of the country, who played an important role in getting freedom to the country.

Retired soldier Rajendra Singh District Councilor present from Badsa village appreciated the works of Reliance and termed the honor of the soldiers as a matter of great pride and expressed his gratitude to Reliance.

Cultural programs on patriotic songs were also presented by the students of government schools Pelpa, Mudakheda, Kheddiyat, Badli, Dadritoi and Yakubpur, MET security personnel and members of Reliance family in the Independence Day function.

Sombir Sukhala, Arvind Kumar, Lokesh Kapse Neelam Singh, Manish Raghav, Shivkumar Singh, Birender Singh, Satyawan, Deepak, Rajeev, Sanjay Gulati, Rajkumar, Akshay, Shiv Kumar Singh, Birender Singh, Karmbir Khatana and Other employees were present.



Assemblyman Hoover

The Lord's House

Feather River Temple in Yuba City

How God Changes His Children from The Inside Out

Feather River Temple in Yuba City, CA



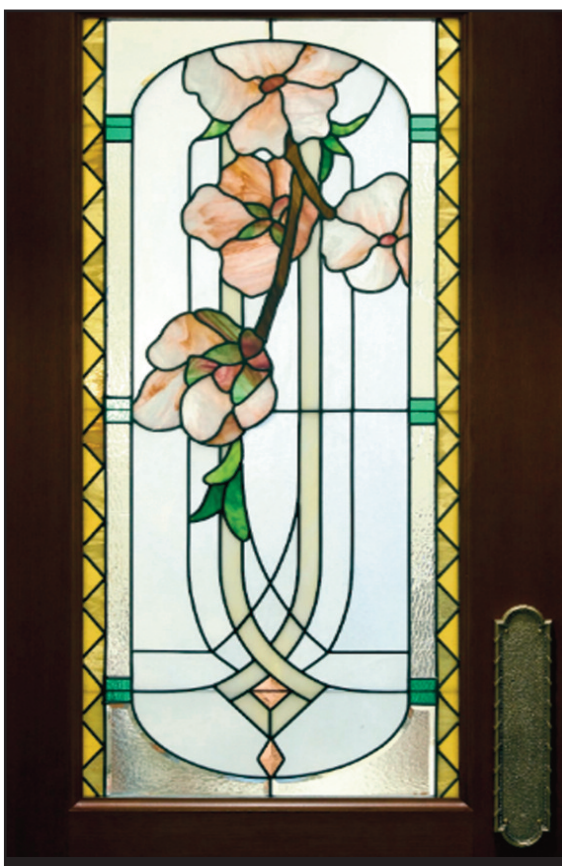
Within the walls of sacred temples, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints do not utter much more than a whisper. It is a place of reverence, a place of sanctity, a place of purity. Anyone who enters will feel God's love. God has always commanded His children to build temples. It is something that has occurred since the time of the Old Testament. The Feather River Temple, in Yuba City, California, is a fulfillment of this commandment.



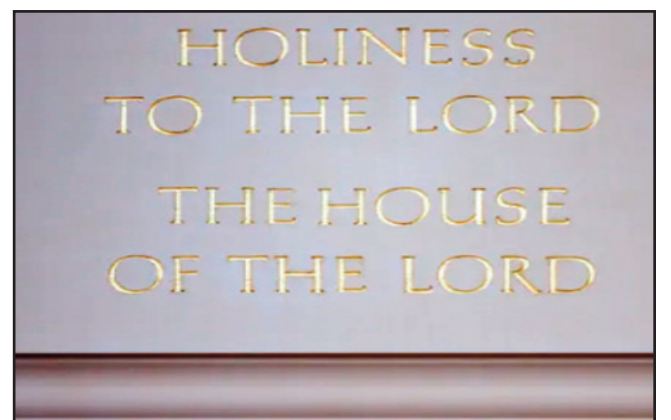
Tumber Family Photo

The Tumber Family

The land the temple is built on has a special history, which has brought a great friendship between Sikhs and members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. 50 years ago, a representative of the church approached Mehar Tumber, a devout Sikh, and asked if he was willing to sell the land he was using for his beautiful peach orchard. Although he had not planned on selling, he felt that it would bless the community and further God's purposes. The land was first used to build a church building that could hold multiple congregations simultaneously. This building was demolished and the land was repurposed for a building that is even more sacred, a temple. Stained glass windows with fruit and nut blossoms are featured in the temple that honor the rich agricultural land in the area, just like the Tumber family's peach orchard.



Art Glass in the Windows Honoring Local Fruit and Nut Blossoms



The Inscription Above the front door to every temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Saints, a reminder to prepare yourself before entering The Lord's House

The Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-Day Saints
Feather River California Temple

Contd. on next page

Feather River Temple in Yuba City

The House of the Lord A temple is different from a chapel.

A chapel is a church building that mainly serves as a meetinghouse. Members of the church attend on Sundays to gather as family and friends to renew their personal commitment to God, our Father in Heaven, and Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World. When they partake of the bread and water during the sacrament ceremony,

us to Christ.”

- **Elder Mark A. Bragg**, President of the North America West Area for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The Feather River Temple in Yuba City, California, will be dedicated on Sunday October 8, 2023, in two sessions.

The 41,655-square-foot structure is located at 1470 Butte House Road



Main Corridor and Reception Desk, decorated with California Poppies



Baptismal Font for Proxy Baptisms



Instruction Room

they reflect on how they are honoring their promises to God. A chapel is used for the sacrament, baptism, and sometimes for social events that help to unify neighborhoods and communities.

Temples are more sacred than a meetinghouse. Inside of a temple, you can make promises to God. These promises and blessings are available for anyone, but require sincere preparation.



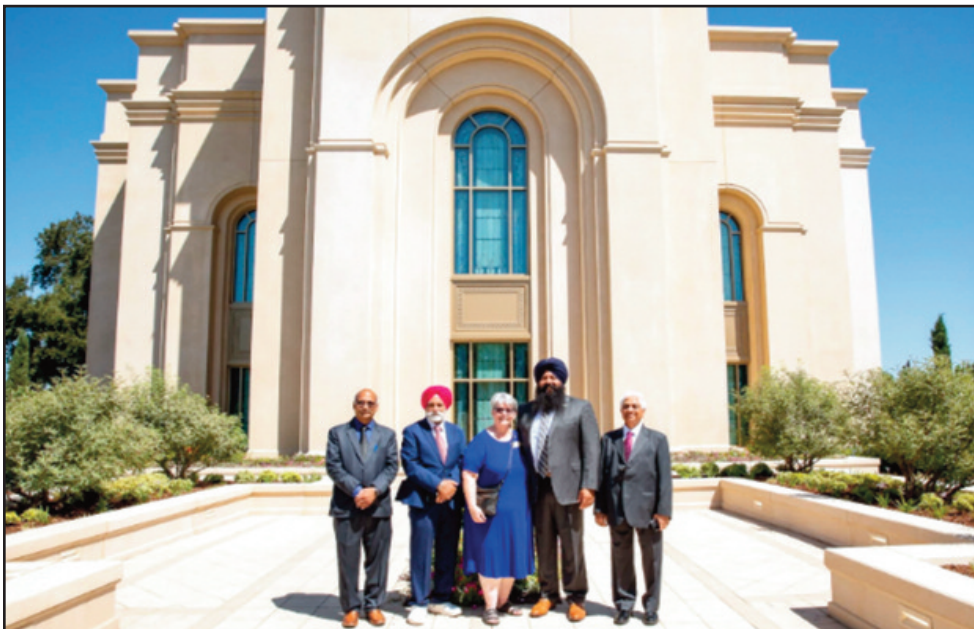
Celestial Room

Inside temples, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints participate in sacred ceremonies, learn about God’s plan of happiness, and find personal guidance for their families through prayer and scripture study. A man and a woman can be married for eternity. Families can be sealed together, and if they all honor their individual

covenants, they are promised they will be an eternal family. An eternal family is a family that lives together happily in the presence of God because they obey his laws willingly with love. Church members also perform proxy baptisms and other ordinances on behalf of loved ones who passed on without receiving these blessings. These proxy ceremonies can be accepted or rejected by ancestors, and are always offered out of love.

“The House of the Lord, you’ll see, is more than just a beautiful building. It is what happens inside that is really miraculous...It is an intersection between life here, and eternity. I’ve heard it described sometimes as ‘the knot that ties heaven and earth together.’ That’s what we hope you will feel.

In the world, we sometimes think the way to bless people is to change their circumstances, and it’s almost an outside-in approach. But God does things differently. He works from the inside out. And the temple, attempts to do that – works from the inside out, changes our hearts – so that we then have the capacity to change our circumstances. Everything that happens in The House of the Lord is to point



Local Community members enjoy a tour of the temple together
Prem Chumber, Gary Bagha, Lynne Takahashi, Karm Bains, Chemas Bhatti

in Yuba City.

A new meetinghouse has been built adjacent to the temple, and will be used to serve the members of the church and the community.

Before the temple officially opens for members to use it for its sacred purposes, the church wants to share it with the public. This opportunity is only avail.

Come and see. Come and feel. Come and belong.

“My plea to you this morning is to find rest from the intensity, uncertainty, and anguish of this world by overcoming the world through your covenants with God. ... Spend more time in the temple, and seek to understand how the temple teaches you to rise above this fallen world...[The Lord] is also making it easier for each of us to become spiritually refined. I promise that increased time in the temple will bless your life in ways nothing else can.” - President Russell M. Nelson, Prophet and President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

You are invited to tour the temple from Saturday, August 19, through Saturday, September 9, 2023, except Sundays.

**For more information
click here**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jOWYRf6pj02d6Yf3p99vQqFmH1kKW5jhYteTC3E_oCaE/edit#heading=h.xacc2shcmzpz

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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Bindeshwar Pathak – A Humble Tribute

Bindeshwar Pathak (April, 1943 – August, 2023), a man of sterling worth in the field of sanitation, health and environment, passed away on August 15, 2023. Pathak Sahib was a social reformer and a social entrepreneur particularly with regard to the vulnerable sections of the society commonly called the Safai Karamcharis belonging to lowest strata of the Hindu society in the caste ridden social order of India. The Wikipedia profile of Bindeshwar Pathak writes that he first came to understand the plight of scavengers in 1968 when he joined the Bhangi-Mukti (scavengers' liberation) Cell of Bihar Gandhi Centenary Celebrations Committee. During that time, he travelled throughout India, living with scavenger families as part of his Ph.D. research. Drawing on that experience, he resolved to take action, not only out of sympathy for the scavengers but also in the belief that scavenging is a dehumanizing practice that would ultimately have a destructive impact on the Indian society. He established the Sulabh International a social service organization in 1970. The organization worked to promote human rights, environmental sanitation, and non-conventional sources of energy, waste management and social reforms through education. He was the Brand Ambassador for Swachh Rail Mission of Indian Railways. His work is considered pioneering in social reform, especially in the field of sanitation and hygiene. He received various national and international awards for his work with this organization. He was presented with the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration, Academics and Man-

agement for the year 2017. He was conferred with Padma Bhushan, India's third-highest civilian award in 1991.

Bindeshwar Pathak was rightly called a social entrepreneur. The Tribune in its obituary to the departed soul said, "Sulabh reported a turnover of Rs 490 crore in the fiscal 2020. Not just toilets, Sulabh has set up a number of vocational training institutes. Here, liberated scavengers, their sons and daughters and persons from other weaker sections of society are given training in various vocations like computer technology, typing and shorthand, electrical trade, woodcraft, leather craft, diesel and petrol engineering, cutting and tailoring, cane furniture making, masonry work, motor driving. The purpose of imparting vocational training to them is to give them new means of livelihood, alleviate poverty and bring them into the mainstream of society. From setting up an English medium School in Delhi for children of manual scavengers to providing financial assistance to the abandoned widows in Vrindavan or establish a museum of toilets in the national capital, Pathak and his Sulabh have always worked towards the upliftment of the marginalized." The Obituary added, "A pioneer of public toilets in India, Bindeshwar Pathak came to be known as the "Toilet Man of India"

long before the Swachh Bharat Mission made toilets a part of public discourse, even as he was often ridiculed, including by his father-in-law, for the work he was doing."

Subsequently, PM Narendra Modi started the new project to address the issues dear to Pathak Sahib under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan also called as the Clean India Mission or Clean India drive, of course a laudable initiative. Swachh Bharat Mission, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, or Clean India Mission is a country-wide campaign initiated by the



Government of India in 2014 to eliminate open defecation and improve solid waste management. The program also aims to increase awareness of menstrual health management. An estimated 1.3 million Dalits (the lowest group in the Hindu caste hierarchy) in India eke out a living through the most degrading practice of manual scavenging, an occupation which involves cleaning open toilets and dry latrines and carrying human excreta with bare hands. In cities and towns, Dalit workers are often employed in the maintenance of sewer systems, sweeping of roads and collection of garbage. Apart from being employed to clean toilets in individual households, they are also engaged in cleaning community dry latrines, roadside open toilets, railway

stations, government hospitals and other public places. Pathak Sahib really did a great job in flagging an important issue of degraded human activity, the manual scavenging – experience which, to my mind, was wrongly called 'a spiritual experience' by Mahatma Gandhi and later by PM Narendra Modi – to Hell with such a spiritual experience.

I have had an occasion to meet and interact with Bindeshwar Pathak some years at a seminar on Guru Ravidass at the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in New Delhi. I was impressed by his clarity of thought and conviction to carry forward his lofty mission to empower the weaker sections of the society; particularly the Safai Karamcharis. Pathak Sahib, 80, died on August 15, Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav soon after unfurling the national flag, it has been reported in the media – a glorious departure. India needs a few more sons of the soil like Bindeshwar Pathak:

**Badi Mushkil Se Hota Hai Chaman
Mein Didawar Paida
And –
Jis Dhaj Se Koi Maktal Mein Gya;
Woh Saan Salammat Rahti Hai,
Yeh Jaan To Aani Jaani Hai; Is Jaan
Ki Koi Baat Nahin**



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