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DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
STELLA MARIS COLLEGE

FOREWARD

India celebrates 60 years as a Republic. This year we have come a long way since Nehru's Golden Words on "Tryst with Destiny". Nehru having set the tone for political leadership on the map of the world in a dominant position, then Prime Ministers Shastri, Smt Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi have led India to occupy an impressive place in military, economic, and nuclear position in the world. We are the envy of not only the developing but the developed countries too.

Our Scientists, sportspersons and artists have done the country proud. Though politically we may be with our forefathers, economically we have developed but with glaring inequalities in education, income and wealth distribution. The country has however seen remarkable technological growth- but at what cost?

Let's discover this India, Our India as we pay Samarpan to the legends that have created this country. Let the contribution of legends inspire the youth to say 'JAI HO!'

Dr. Patricia Gabriel

AMARTYA SEN



Amartya Kumar Sen was born on 3rd November 1933 in Santiniketan West Bengal. The university town established by the poet Rabindranath Tagore produced the Noble Prize winner. Sen's father was Ashutosh Sen and his mother Amita Sen were born at Manikganj Dhaka. Sen's maternal grandfather Kshitimohan Sen was a renowned scholar of medieval Indian Literature, an authority on the philosophy of Hinduism and a close associate of Rabindranath Tagore in

Santiniketan. Sen brought up his youngest children on his own. Indrani is a journalist in New York and Kabir teaches music at Shaely Hills School in Cambridge and has produced 3 of his own hip-hop albums. He was an Indian Economist, Philosopher and a Winner of the Bank of Sweden Prize in Economic Science in 1988, "for his contribution to welfare economics for his work on famine, human development theory, welfare economics, the underlying mechanism of poverty and political liberalism" From 1998 to 2004 he was Master of Trinity College at Cambridge University, becoming the Asian Academic to head an Oxbridge College. Among his many contribution to development economics, Sen has produced work on gender inequality. He is a trustee of Economists of Peace and Security. Sen's contributions to the literature was to show under what condition Arrow's impossibility theorems would indeed come to pass as well as to external and enrich the theory of social choice, informed by his interests in history of economic thought and philosophy. In 1981, Sen published *Poverty and Famines: An Essay on Entitlement and Deprivation*, a book in which he demonstrated that famine occurs not only from a lack of food but from inequality built into mechanism for distributing food. In addition to his work on the causes of famine. Sen's work in the field of Development Economics has had considerable influence in the formulation of the Human Development Report published by the United Nations Development Programme. He received the noble prize in economics for his work welfare economics in 1998 and a Bharat Ratna was awarded to him in

1999 by India. He has also received the life time achievement award by Bangkok - based United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).

Teckla Ann Coultrup.
06/HS/45.

A.R. RAHMAN

Born in Chennai on January 6, 1967 as A. S. Dileep Kumar, he came to known as A.R. (Allah Rakha Rahman) after he converted to Islam.

His father, who worked as a composer and conductor died when A.R. Rahman was young as a result of which he had a difficult childhood. When he was just 11, he joined the troupe of famous South Indian composer Ilaiyaraaja. He later graduated from the Trinity College at Oxford University, with a degree in Western classical music. His lucky break came when he was asked by Mani Ratnam to compose the music for his movie Roja in 1991. Roja's music went on to create waves and there was no looking back ever since.



His music was very different from the rest of the pack. He made his debut in Bollywood with the film Rangeela, directed by Ram Gopal Varma. He has worked with all the leading directors both in Bollywood as well as in the South Indian film industry. He has won international acclaim. He composed the score and soundtrack for the Chinese film Warriors of Heaven and Earth in 2003. The famous international composer Andrew Lloyd Webber hired Rahman to compose the music for his maiden stage production Bombay Dreams in 2002.

He is widely regarded as one of the greatest film composers ever, and his career is considered a turning point in the history of film music. Many credit him with having single-handedly revolutionized the standards of film music composition in India. He is also credited with re-energizing the popularity of Indian film music the world over.

In a career spanning over a decade, Rahman, by 2003, had sold more than one hundred million records of his film scores and soundtracks world-wide, and sold over 200 million cassettes making him one of the world's top 30 all-time top selling recording artists. The debut led Rahman to receive the Rajat Kamal award for Best Music Director at the National Film Awards, the first time ever by a first-time film composer. Rahman has since then gone on to win the award three more times (for his scores for Minsaara Kanavu in 1997, Lagaan in 2002, Kannathil Muthamittal in 2003, the most ever by any composer. His first movie album Roja was listed in TIME's "Top 10 Movie Soundtracks of All Time" in 2005. A.M. Studios is considered to be the most developed, equipped and high tech studio of Asia. In 2006, Rahman launched his own music label, KM Musiq.

Rahman has been involved in several projects apart from films. He made an album Vande Mataram (1997) on India's 50th anniversary of independence which had immense success. He followed it up with an album called Jana gana mana, a conglomeration of performances by many leading exponents/artists of Indian classical music. In addition to writing jingles for ads, he has composed several orchestrations for athletic events and T.V. and internet media publications, documentaries and short films.

In 1999, Rahman, along with choreographers Shobhana and Prabhu Deva Sundaram and a dancing troupe from the Tamil film industry performed with Michael Jackson in Munich, Germany, for his "Michael Jackson and Friends Concert." Furthermore, Rahman, along with the Finnish folk music band Värttinä, composed the music for The Lord of the Rings theatre production. He composed the piece "Raga's Dance" for Vanessa-Mae's album Choreography (2004).

In the last six years, he has performed in three successful world tours of his concerts to audiences in Singapore, Australia, Malaysia, Dubai, UK, Canada, the US (Hollywood Bowl and 3d tour) and India. Rahman's instant success is owed to his clever usage of Western instruments to invoke Indian sounds while his peers tried to invoke Western sounds through Indian instruments. A.R.Rahman came under harsh criticism by several Carnatic music veterans for drowning the lyrics with gadgetry. the Padma Shri award from the Government of India is granted to him as recognition to his achievement. The latest feather in his cap has been the oscar won by him for his music score in the film slumdog millionaire.

ARUNDHATI ROY



Arundhati Roy (born November 24, 1961) is an Indian novelist, activist and a world citizen. She won the Booker Prize in 1997 for her first novel "The God of Small Things."

Roy was born in Shillong, Meghalaya to a Keralite Syrian Christian mother and a Bengali Hindu father, a tea planter by profession. She spent her childhood in Aymanam, in Kerala and did her schooling in Corpus Christi. She left Kerala for Delhi at the age of 16, and embarked on a homeless lifestyle, staying in a small hut with a tin roof within the walls

of Delhi's Feroz Shah Kotla and making a living selling empty bottles. She then proceeded to study architecture at the Delhi School of Architecture, where she met her first husband, the architect Gerard Da Cunha.

The God of Small Things is the only novel written by Roy. Since winning the Booker Prize, she has concentrated her writing on political issues. These include the Narmada Dam project, India's Nuclear Weapons, corrupt power company Enron's activities in India. She is a figure-head of the anti-globalization/alter-globalization movement and a vehement critic of neo-imperialism.

In response to India's testing of nuclear weapons in Pokhran, Rajasthan, Roy wrote "The End of Imagination", a critique of the Indian government's nuclear policies. It was published in her collection "The Cost of Living", in which she also crusaded against India's massive hydroelectric dam projects in the central and western states of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. She has since devoted herself solely to nonfiction and politics, publishing two more collections of essays as well as working for social causes.

Roy was awarded the Sydney Peace Prize in May 2004 for her work in social campaigns and advocacy of non-violence.

In June 2005 she took part in the World Tribunal on Iraq. In January 2006 she was awarded the Sahitya Akademi award for her collection of essays, 'The Algebra of Infinite Justice', but declined to accept it.

ASHA BHONSLE



The living legend Asha Bhonsle, one of the Mangeshkar sisters was born on 8th September, 1933 in a small hamlet called 'Goar' in Maharashtra. Born to the renowned Maharashtrian, actor and singer Dinanath Mangeshkar, Asha like her other sisters and brother was introduced to music at a very tender age.

Asha gave her first playback for the movie 'Badi Maa' released in the year 1944/1945, though officially her first song was for the movie Chunaria (1948). Her first solo song was for the film Raat Ki Raani (1949). Reputed to have sung over 20,000 songs in more than 14 languages, Bhonsle's lively style knows no limits – it matched the fun dances to the numbers picturized on Helen in the film Chinatown, and Aiye meherbaan picturized on Madhubala in the film Howrah Bridge

At 60-plus she still dares to challenge the youngsters on the scene, Alka Yagnik, Kavita Krishnamurty, Sadhana Sargam in evocative songs 'Yai Re, Yai Re...' & 'Tanha Tanha...' both from Rangeela or 'Rang De...' from Takshak. She teams with Adnam Sami & 'Ghulam Ali' with the equal ease for private albums of Songs or ghazal.

Having started her career in her elder sister's shadow, she has outgrown every contemporary singer. Despite having sung varied styles and types of music, her forte is the bubbly and naughty songs. With the main songs of film going to Lata, Asha successfully managed to stamp her songs with her inimitable style.

O.P.Nayyar & R.D.Burman exploited her singing talent & experimented with her vocal cords to such an extent that it is difficult to imagine their music without her or Asha without them. Teesri Manzil, Ijazat,

Khushboo with R.D.Burman, Mere Sanam, Kashmir Ki Kali, Ek Musafir Ek Haseena, 'Pran Jaye Par Vachan Na Jaye' & many others with O.P.Nayyar have added unforgettable rare gems to film music.

Her exuberance & ease in qawali like 'Nighan Mila Ne Ko Jee Chahta Hai...', 'Raaj Ki Baat Kahdu To...' & 'Hum Kisise Kum Nahin...'; bhajan, 'Sun Le Pukar...'; gazal, 'Is Akhon Ki Masti Ke...'; Cabaret, 'Piya Tu Ab Aaja...', 'Duniya Mein...', 'Reshmi Ujala Hai...', stuns you out of your wits. Moreover she sings in more than twenty languages including English. History of Indian film music would never be complete without Lata, Rafi, Kishore & off course 'Asha Bhonsle'.

BABA AMTE

Muralidhar Devdas Amte, popularly known as Baba Amte, was born on 26 December, 1914 in Hinganghat, Wardha district in Maharashtra. He was the eldest son of his parents. His father was a wealthy Brahmin landowner of Wardha district, who owned over 450 acres of good cultivable land. The name 'Baba' was affectionately given by his parents. At a very young age, Baba Amte owned a gun and used to hunt wild boar and deer. Later, he went on to own an expensive sports car, cushioned with panther skin.

From a child born with a silver spoon in his mouth, Baba Amte later transformed his life into a social activist. He devoted his entire life to serve the downtrodden people of the society.

He studied Law and started a lucrative practice in Wardha, but was moved by the distressed condition of the poor and downtrodden classes of society. Then he relinquished his ceremonial dress and started working with the rag-pickers and sweepers for sometime in Chandrapura district. Later, he resumed practicing but as a "defence lawyer" for the leaders imprisoned in the 1942 Quit India movement.

Amte, like Vinoba Bhave was deeply influenced by the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi. Amte was a constant follower of Gandhiji and practiced various aspects of Gandhism for his entire life.

In 1946, Baba Amte married Sadhana Guleshastri. She was also a

believer of humanity and always supported Baba Amte in his social works. She was popularly known as Sadhnatai. 'Tai' in Marathi language means "elder sister". After pursuing a leprosy orientation course at the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine, Baba Amte set up 11 weekly clinics and started working for those struck by leprosy. Later in 1951, Baba Amte was given 250 acres of land by the state government on which Amte founded the Anandvan ashram. Inside the ashram premises, two hospitals, a university, an orphanage and a school for the blind were opened.

In 1990, Baba Amte left Anandvan to join Medha Patkar's Narmada Bachao Andolan (Save Narmada Movement). While leaving Anandvan Baba said, "I am leaving to live along the Narmada... Narmada will linger on the lips of the nation as a symbol of all struggles against social injustice." In place of the dams, the Narmada Bachao Andolan demanded for an energy and water strategy based on improving dry farming technology, watershed development, small dams, lift schemes for irrigation and drinking water, and improved efficiency and utilization of existing dams.

Baba wanted the youth to enlighten themselves with knowledge so that they can understand the meaning and importance of India's freedom. Baba had once said, "We must try to understand this power contained in the roots of trees. Only when you will understand this phenomenon, will you find the courage to embrace adventure and perform what needs to be done. Those who want to bring about creative revolution must fully understand this root phenomenon."

The work of Baba Amte, was unanimously praised by many national and international organizations. He was awarded with the United Nations Human Rights Prize, the Ramon Magsaysay award (1985), the Templeton Prize(1990), the Gandhi Peace Prize, and many other humanitarian and environmental prizes. The Ramon Magsaysay Award is often considered as the "Nobel Prize of Asia".

In 2007, Baba Amte was diagnosed with leukemia. After suffering for more than a year, Amte left his mortal body on 9 February, 2008 at Anandvan. Many renowned faces from across the world expressed condolences at the death of the great soul. Unlike Hindu rituals, the body of Baba Amte was buried not cremated

BIRJU MAHARAJ

One of the leading exponents of Kathak, Pandit Birju Maharaj is a renowned classical dancer of India. He was born on 4th February, 1938 as Brijmohan Nath Mishra. He hails from the legendary Maharaj family of Kathak dancers of Lucknow and is the son of Acchan Maharaj. His uncles Shambhu Maharaj and Lachhu Maharaj are also renowned dancers of Kathak. The life history of Pandit Birju is an interesting one. Read this short biography of Birju Maharaj that captures his life.

Birju Maharaj was trained by his father and uncles who were renowned dancers of that time. His first public performance was at the age of seven. Unfortunately, his father passed away when he was just nine years old. His family moved to Delhi after struggling in Lucknow. Once in Delhi, he started to teach Kathak at the Sangeet Bharti at the young age of just 13! After that he taught at Bharatiya Kala Kendra in Delhi and also at Kathak Kendra. He was made the Head of Faculty and Director there and he retired in the year 1998.

Pandit Birju Maharaj is not just a flawless dancer, but a fabulous singer too and has mastered Hindustani classical music as well. It is due to his constant efforts that Kathak has reached new heights of popularity and acceptance among a wider audience in the country. He has choreographed many Kathak dance dramas and has performed in numerous concerts. He has traveled extensively and has performed in many countries.

This flawless dancer has showed his talent by choreographing dance sequences for movies like Shatranj ke Khiladi, Devdas, Dil toh Pagal Hai, Gadar, etc. He has toured all over the world and has performed in countries like USSR, USA, Japan, UAE, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Burma, Ceylon, etc. He has trained many young students and has taken Kathak to new heights due to his determination and hard work.

Aswathi
06/HS/38

BISMILLAH KHAN



The legendary shehnai maestro, a man of tenderness, a man who believed in remaining private and who believed that musicians are supposed to be heard and not seen. The legend was born on 21 March 1916. His ancestors were court musicians in the princely state of Dumraon in Bihar and he was trained under his uncle, the late Ali Bux 'Vilayatu', a shehnai player attached to Varanasi's Vishwanath Temple. It was Khan Sahib who poured his heart out

into Raga Kafi from Red Fort on the eve of India's first Republic Day ceremony.

Where others see conflict and contradiction between his music and his religion, Bismillah Khan sees only a divine unity. Music, sur, namaaz is the same thing. His namaaz is the seven shuddh and five komal surs. Even as a devout Shia, Khan Sahib is also a staunch devotee of Saraswati, the Hindu goddess of music.

His honorary doctorate from the Benares Hindu University and Shantiniketan bespeaks of his fame. He has been bequeathed with the Sangeet Natak Academi Award, the Tansen Award of the Madhya Pradesh government and also the prestigious Padma Vibhushan.

He has played in Afghanistan, Europe, Iran, Iraq, Canada, West Africa, USA, USSR, Japan, Hong Kong and almost every capital city across the world. His music is an ocean and he feels that he has barely reached the shore after 81 years of his life and his search is still incomplete.

DADA SAHIB PHALKE, THE LEGEND OF INDIAN CINEMA (1870 – 1944)

The boy born in 1870 to Daji Sahib, a professor of Sanskrit, grew up as Dhundiraj Govind Phalke and later became a legend in the history of Indian Films as Dada Sahib Phalke. He made Raja Harishchandra, India's first indigenous silent movie and became the foster father of Indian moviedom by his contributions that continued for several years. For Raja Harishchandra, he played the lead role, wrote the script, coached up other actors, designed the costumes, operated the camera, took out the print, edited it.....from paper work to the final projection, all by himself. It marked the birth of one of the first feature films produced in India, and the birth of the film industry in the country.

Phalke evinced a keen interest in liberal arts from his younger days and joined a famous school of arts in Bombay in 1885, and then shifted to Baroda, the seat of arts in western India. He studied architecture and photography and grabbed a job as a still photographer and draftsman in the archeology department (1903). This life attracted him to the world of films. He went to Germany to get trained in colour processing (1909). He managed to set up a printing press in Bombay and brought out two pictorial magazines. His fascination for films was so intense that he made a short film called 'The Growth of a Pea Plant.' He went to England, managed to gather information about making films, and collected raw film stocks, and equipments for film making, before returning to Bombay.

It was with these new found equipments and ideas, that he made Raja Harishchandra, almost single-handed. On April 21, 1913 his film was exhibited before an invited audience at the Coronation Theatre in Bombay, and that was the beginning of commercial film industry in India.

Phalke set up a film studio, which included a chemical lab as also a distribution company. In 1913 he made another film, Bhasmasur Mohini, in which for the first time in India two women too acted. It was in 1932 that films in India became talkies. In the same year Phalke made his last silent movie, Sethubandhan. He had made more than hundred feature films and around twenty short films. In 1937 he made his last film Gangavatharan.

Though he made films and made history, his last days were miserable. When the silver jubilee of film making in India was celebrated in 1942, he too was invited, but his pioneering role in Indian filmmaking was not properly recognized. However, the film fraternity in Bombay collected a fund and purchased a house for him and it was in this house that he spent his final days before passing into history. Nation honoured his memory in many ways and one of those is the setting up of Dada Sahib Phalke Award, the highest award for a filmmaker in India.

DHANRAJ PILLAI

Dhanraj Pillai was born as the fourth son of Nagalingam Pillai and Andamma at Khadki in Maharashtra. A hockey enthusiast from childhood, Dhanraj moved to Mumbai as a young man, to join his elder brother, Ramesh. Ramesh was playing hockey, then, in the Mumbai League and had previously played for India in International matches. Under Ramesh's training and guidance, Dhanraj groomed himself to be a potent and speedy striker. He then moved to Mahindra and Mahindra where he was tutored by professionals.

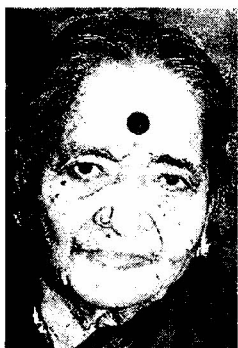
Dhanraj Pillai made his debut in International hockey in 1989 when he represented India in the Allwyn Asian Cup in New Delhi. He went on to play 339 international matches in a long and fruitful career that spanned fifteen years from December 1989 to August 2004. Unfortunately there are no official statistics as to the number of international goals he scored during this period. The estimates of statisticians place this anywhere between 120 and 170 - a great number and evidently the mark of a master hockey player.

Dhanraj Pillai is the only Indian to have played in four Olympics - 1992, 1996, 2000 and 2004. He has also played in four World Cups (1990, 1994, 1998 and 2008), four champions' trophies (1995, 1996, 2002 and 2003) and four Asian games (1990, 1994, 1998 and 2002). India won the Asian Games in 1998 and the Asia Cup in 2003 under his captaincy. He was also the highest goal scorer in the Bangkok Asian games and was the only Indian player to figure in the World Eleven sides during the World Cup at Sydney.

Dhanraj Pillai is the recipient of India's highest sporting honour - the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award in 2000. He was also awarded the

Padma Sri title in 2000. He is one of the most gifted forwards of his era. With a small and lithe frame and flowing locks he could wreak havoc in rival defenses and was a veritable annihilator. He was awarded the Player of the Tournament award in the 2002 Champions' Trophy games held in Germany. Pillai is currently involved in an effort to start a hockey team in Bombay. To raise funds for his academy, he is heading a drive to collect empty printer cartridges in Bombay.

DK PATTAMMAL



Damal Krishnaswami Pattammal took Carnatic music to new heights by blending traditionalism and trailblazing novelism, and defied tradition to become the first Brahmin woman to give public concerts. She challenged traditional attitudes, not by argument, but by talent. Thus, DKP, as she is popularly known, was the first woman to sing in concerts *ragam-talam-pallavis*, the rhythmic complexities of which call for great skill and demand a high degree of concentration.

And all this with no formal grounding in basics. Circumstances prevented her from learning in the *gurukula* system under one guru. But she trained under many *vidwans* to acquire a rich and varied repertoire of not merely the compositions of the Trinity - Thyagaraja, Muthuswami Dikshitar and Syama Sastri - but also the Tamil *kritis* of Muttuthandavar, Arunachala Kavi, Gopalakrishna Bharati, Subhramania Bharati, and hymns from such Tamil devotional anthologies as Tiruppugazh, Thevaram and Arutpa. Again, in a break with tradition, DKP was among the first woman playback singers in films where she is best remembered for her rendering of patriotic songs in *Naam Iruvar* and *Thookku Thookki*. Her special talent and musical sensibility were evident even when she was three.

DKP managed to break social shackles, nurture her talent and rise to become a major figure in the world of Carnatic music. And since 1933, when as a 14-year old she began her career in music, she has not looked back.

DKP's 65-year-old career has seen her winning innumerable awards and titles, including the coveted Sangita Kalanidhi conferred by the Madras Music Academy (1970), the Padma Bhushan (1971), the Kalidas Samman (1998-99) and the Padma Vibushan (1999) conferred by the President of India. For Pattammal, however, the most significant accolade is the one from one of the giants of Carnatic music, "Tiger" Varadachari, who described her as Gana Saraswati.

S. Panimalar
06/HS/44

Dr. RAJENDRA PRASAD

Dr. Rajendra Prasad was born on December 3, 1884 in Ziradei Village in Siwan District of Bihar near Chapra. His father, Mahadev Sahai was a Persian and Sanskrit language scholar. His mother, Kamleshwari Devi was a devout lady who would tell stories from the Ramayana to her son. At the age of five, the young Rajendra Prasad was sent to a Maulavi for learning Persian. Later, he was taught Hindi and Arithmetic. After that he was sent to Chapra Zilla School for further primary studies. At the age of 12 Rajendra Prasad was married to Rajvanshi Devi.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad was a brilliant student. He stood first in the entrance examination to the University of Calcutta at the age of 18. He joined the Presidency College in 1902. He passed with a Gold Medal in Master's in Law examination. He went on to complete his Doctorate in Law.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the first President of Independent India. He also was the President of the Constituent Assembly that drafted the Constitution. He had also served as a Cabinet Minister briefly in the first Government of Independent India. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was one of the foremost disciples of Gandhiji and he played a crucial role in the Indian Freedom Struggle.

The arrival of Mahatma Gandhi on the Indian National Scene greatly influenced Dr. Rajendra Prasad. While Gandhiji was on a fact-finding mission in the Champairan District of Bihar, he called on Rajendra Prasad to come to Champairan with volunteers. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was greatly impressed by the dedication, conviction and courage that

Gandhiji displayed. Gandhiji's influence greatly altered Dr. Rajendra Prasad's outlook. He sought ways to simplify his life and reduced the number of servants he had once. He started doing his life chores such as sweeping the floor, washing the utensils - the tasks he had all along assumed others would do for him.

After coming into contact with Gandhiji, Dr. Rajendra Prasad immersed himself fully into the freedom struggle. He played an active role during the Non-Cooperation movement. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was arrested in 1930 while participating in the Salt Satyagraha. He was in jail when on 15th January 1934 a devastating earthquake struck Bihar. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was released from the jail two days later and he immediately set himself for the task of raising funds and organizing relief. The viceroy also raised a fund for the purpose. However while Rajendra Prasad's fund collected over Rs.3.8 million, the viceroy could only manage one third of that amount. The way the relief was organized, it amply demonstrated the administrative acumen of Dr. Rajendra Prasad. Soon after this Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as the President of the Bombay session of the Indian National Congress. He was elected as the Congress President again in 1939 following the resignation of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

In July 1946, when the Constituent Assembly was established to frame the Constitution of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as President. Two and a half years after independence, on January 26, 1950 the Constitution of Independent India was ratified and Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as India's first President. As a President, he used his moderating influence silently and unobtrusively and set a healthy precedent for others to follow. During his tenure as president he visited many countries on missions of goodwill and sought to establish and nourish new relationships.

In 1962, after 12 years as president, Dr. Rajendra Prasad retired and was subsequently awarded the Bharat Ratna, the nation's highest civilian award. He spent the last few months of his life in retirement at the Sadaqat Ashram in Patna. Dr. Rajendra Prasad died on February 28, 1963.

S. Soosiammal
06/HS/11

FATHIMA BIBI

Justice M. Fathima Bibi was the first woman judge to be appointed to the Supreme Court of India (1989) and the first Muslim woman to be appointed to any higher judiciary. On her retirement from the court she served as a member of the National Human Rights Commission and as Governor in Tamil Nadu (1997-2001)

Fathima Bibi was born on 30th April 1927 at Pathanamthitta, Kerala as the child of Meera Sahib and Khadeeja Bibi She did her schooling in Catholicate High School, Pathanamthitta and degree B.Sc. at the University College, Trivandrum. She took her B.L. from Government Law College, Trivandrum. She was enrolled as Advocate on 14th November 1950. She began her career in the lower judiciary in Kerala. She was appointed as the Munsiff in the Kerala Sub-ordinate Judicial Services in May, 1958. She was promoted as the Sub-ordinate Judge in 1968 and as the Chief Judicial Magistrate in 1972 and as District & Sessions Judge in 1974. She was further appointed as the Judicial Member of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal in January, 1980. She was then elevated to the High Court as a Judge on 4th August 1983. She became permanent Judge of the High Court on 14th May 1984. She retired as the Judge of the High Court on 29th April 1989 but was further elevated to the Supreme Court as a Judge on 6th October 1989 where she retired on 29th April 1992.

She later went on to become Governor of Tamil Nadu on 25th January 1997. Appointing her as the Governor of TN and Justice S S Kang, formerly chief justice of Jammu and Kashmir high court, as Governor of Kerala, then President of India, Shankar Dayal Sharma said "Their experience of and insights into the working of the Constitution and the laws comprise valuable assets."

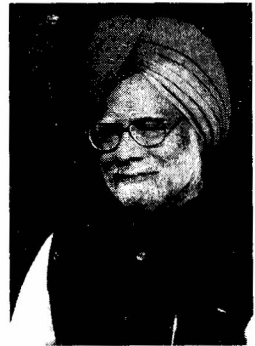
As the Governor of the state, She rejected the mercy petitions filed by the four condemned prisoners in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case. The prisoners had sent the mercy petitions to the Governor , pleading her to exercise her power under Article 161 of the Constitution (the Governor's power to grant pardon). As the Governor of the state she had also served as the Chancellor of Madras University. It was reported by university sources that the Vice-Chancellor, P.T. Manoharan, had decided to quit his office in the wake of the Chancellor allegedly withholding her approval to the Syndicate's decision to establish a new

department for contemporary Tamil literature. She had also served as the Chairman of Kerala Commission for Backward Classes(1993) and member of National Human Rights Commission (1993). She received Hon. D Litt and Mahila Shirōmani Award in 1990. She was also awarded Bharat Jyoti Award.

The left parties also discussed the nomination of the prospects of Fathima Bibi as the President of India , during which the NDA Government proposed the name of Dr.A P J Abdul Kalam. She currently resides at her ancestral house in Pathanamthitta, Kerala.

MANMOHAN SINGH

Manmohan Singh is the 17th and current Prime Minister of the Republic of India. He also serves as the Union Minister for Finance, succeeding P. Chidambaram. He was the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India from 1982 to 1985 and held the post of the Finance Minister of India from 1991 to 1996 under Narsimha Rao-led government. Singh belongs to the Indian National Congress party and took oath as the Prime Minister of India on May 22, 2004, becoming the first person of Sikh faith to hold the post. An economist by profession, Singh



has previously worked at organizations like the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations. During his tenure as the Finance Minister, he was widely credited for initiating economic reforms in India in 1991 that resulted in the end of the infamous License Raj system

Manmohan Singh was born on 26 September 1932, in Gah, Punjab (now in Chakwal District, Pakistan). After the Partition of India, he migrated to Amritsar. He then went to Punjab University to study Economics and attained his bachelor's and master's degree in 1952 and 1954 respectively, standing first throughout his academic career. He went on to get a Master's degree from St. John's College, Cambridge

University, where he won the Wright's Prize for distinguished performance in 1955 and 1957. In 1962, Singh completed his D.Phil from the University of Oxford Nuffield College. The topic of his doctorate thesis was "India's Export Trends and Prospects for Self-Sustained Growth". In 1997, the University of Alberta presented him with an Honorary Doctor of Law. The University of Oxford awarded him an honorary Doctor of Civil Law degree in June 2005. St John's College and the University of Cambridge honored him by naming a PhD Scholarship after him, the Dr Manmohan Singh Scholarship.

In 1991, India's then-Prime Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, chose Singh to be the Finance Minister of India. At the time, India was facing an economic crisis. Rao and Singh decided to open-up the Indian economy and change the socialist economic system to a capitalist economy. These economic reforms are credited with bringing high levels of economic growth in India, and changing the annual economic growth in the following years. However, in spite of these reforms, Rao's government was voted out in 1996 due to non-performance of government in other areas.

Singh was first elected to the upper house of the Indian Parliament, the Rajya Sabha, in 1995 and was re-elected in 2001 and 2007. After the 2004 general elections, the Indian National Congress stunned the incumbent National Democratic Alliance (NDA) by becoming the political party with the single largest number of seats in the Lok Sabha. In a surprise move, United Progressive Alliance (UPA) Chairperson Sonia Gandhi declared Manmohan Singh, a technocrat, as the UPA candidate for the Prime Minister post. Despite the fact that Singh had never won a Lok Sabha seat, his considerable goodwill and Sonia Gandhi's nomination won him the support of the UPA allies and the Left Front. During his tenure, Singh's administration has focused on reducing the fiscal deficit, providing debt-relief to poor farmers, extending social programs and advancing the pro-industry economic and tax policies that have launched the country on a major economic expansion course since 2002.

**FIELD MARSHAL S.H.F.J. MANEKSHAW -
PADMA VIBHUSHAN, PADMA BHUSHAN, MC -COAS,
07 JUNE 1969 - 15 JAN 1973 -INFANTRY, 8 GORKHA RIFLES**

Field Marshal Sam Hormusji Framji Jamshedji Manekshaw assumed charge of the Indian Army, as the 8th Chief of Army Staff, on 07 June 1969. Born in Amritsar, Punjab on 03 April 1914, he completed his schooling in Amritsar and Sherwood College, Nainital. He then joined the first batch of 40 cadets at Indian Military Academy (IMA), Dehra Dun on 01 October 1932. He passed out of the IMA in December 1934 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Indian Army. He held several regimental assignments and was first attached to the Royal Scouts and later to the 12 Frontier Force Rifles.

During World War II, he saw action in the Burma campaign on Sittang river and has the rare distinction of being honoured for his bravery on the battle front itself.

Manekshaw showed acumen for planning and administration while handling the issues related to partition in 1947, and later put to use his battle skills during the 1947-48 Jammu & Kashmir Operations. He commanded a Division in Jammu & Kashmir and a Corps in the North East, with tenure as Commandant of Defence Services Staff College (DSSC) in between. As GOC-in-C Eastern Command, he handled the tricky problem of insurgency in Nagaland and the grateful nation honoured him with a Padma Bhushan - India's third highest civilian honour - in 1968.

Manekshaw succeeded General Kumaramangalam as Chief of Army Staff (COAS) on 07 June 1969. His years of military experience were soon put to the test in the war in December 1971. During the military campaign, Manekshaw showed uncommon ability to motivate the forces, coupling it with a mature war strategy. The war ended with Pakistan's unconditional surrender. He was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 1972 and was conferred with the honorary rank of Field Marshal on 01 January 1973. He retired a fortnight later, on 15 January 1973, after completing nearly four decades of military service.

Antoinette Martina
06/HS/12

N. R. NARAYANA MURTHY

Nagavara Ramarao Narayana Murthy, better known as N. R. Narayana Murthy, is an Indian industrialist, software engineer and one of the seven founders of Infosys Technologies, a global consulting and IT services company based in India. He is currently the non-executive Chairman and Chief Mentor of Infosys. He was the CEO of the company for 21 years, from 1981 to 2002. After stepping down as CEO in 2002, he has broadened his scope of activities to social services as well as promoting India globally.

Murthy's corporate and social vision has been appreciated globally and he is the recipient of several awards including Padma Vibushan - India's second highest civilian award.

Born into a Kannada Madhva Brahmin family in Mysore, India on August 20, 1946, Murthy graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from the National Institute of Engineering, University of Mysore in 1967 after attending government school, and received his master's degree from IIT Kanpur in 1969.

His first position was at IIM Ahmedabad as chief systems programmer where he worked on a time-sharing system and designed and implemented a BASIC interpreter for ECIL (Electronics Corporation of India Limited).

After IIM Ahmedabad, he then joined Patni Computer Systems in Pune. Before moving to Mumbai, Murthy met his wife Sudha Murthy in Pune who at the time was an engineer working at Tata Engineering and Locomotive Co. Ltd. (Telco, now known as Tata Motors) in Pune. In 1981, he founded Infosys with six other software professionals. He served as president of the National Association of Software and Service Companies, India from 1992 to 1994. Mr. Murthy is the brother-in-law of serial entrepreneur Gururaj "Desh" Deshpande and the uncle of former NASSCOM Chairman and Mphasis chief Jerry Rao

Murthy served as the founder CEO of Infosys for 21 years, and was succeeded by co-founder Nandan Nilekani in March 2002. He is the chairman of the governing body of the International Institute of Information Technology - Bangalore, and was the Chairman of the Governing Body of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. In addition, he is a member of the Board of Directors of INSEAD,

Board of Overseers of the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, Cornell University Board of Trustees, Business Advisory Council of Great Lakes Institute of Management - Chennai, Singapore Management University Board of Trustees and the Board of Advisors for the William F. Achtmeyer Center for Global Leadership at the Tuck School of Business. Mr. Murthy also sits on the Board of Governors of the Asian Institute of Management (AIM), a graduate school of business located in the Philippines and is also the Chairman of the Board of Members of School of Management, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) located in Bangkok, Thailand. He is the chairman of the, Asia Business Council, an organization headquartered in Hong Kong.

He is also a member of the Advisory Boards and Councils of various well-known universities - such as the Stanford Graduate School of Business, the Corporate Governance initiative at the Harvard Business School, Yale University and the University of Tokyo's President's Council.

Murthy serves as an independent director on the board of the DBS Bank of Singapore. This is the largest government-owned bank in Singapore. He also serves as a director on the Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India, as the co-chairman of the Indo-British Partnership, as a member of the Prime Minister's council on trade and industry, as a member of the Asia Advisory Board of British Telecommunications plc. and as a member of the Board of NDTV, India. He also serves as an independent director on the board of the European FMCG giant Unilever. He is an IT advisor to several Asian countries. He is also an Independent Director on the board of HSBC.

He retired from his executive position at Infosys on 20th August, 2006. However, he continues as the Non-Executive Chairman of the board.

Murthy has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors. In 2008, he was awarded the Padma Vibhushan, and Légion d'honneur highest civilian award by France. In 2000, he was awarded the Padma Shri, a civilian award by the Government of India. He was the first recipient of the Indo-French Forum Medal (in the year 2003), awarded by the Indo-French Forum, in recognition of his role in promoting Indo-French ties. He was voted the World Entrepreneur of the Year - 2003 by Ernst & Young. He was one of the two people named as Asia's Businessmen of the Year for 2003 by Fortune magazine. In 2001, he was named by TIME / CNN as one of the twenty-five, most influential

global executives, a group selected for their lasting influence in creating new industries and reshaping markets. He was awarded the Max Schmidheiny Liberty 2001 prize (Switzerland), in recognition of his promotion of individual responsibility and liberty. In 1999, BusinessWeek named him one of the nine entrepreneurs of the year and he was also featured in the BusinessWeek's 'The Stars of Asia' (for three successive years - 1998, 1999 and 2000). In 1998, the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, one of the premier institutes of higher learning in India, conferred on him the Distinguished Alumnus Award, and in 1996-97, he was awarded the JRD Tata Corporate Leadership Award.

In December 2005, Narayana Murthy was voted as the 7th most admired CEO/Chairman in the world in a global study conducted by Burson-Marsteller with the Economist Intelligence Unit [4]. The list included 14 others with distinguished names such as Bill Gates, Steve Jobs and Warren Buffett. In May 2006, Narayana Murthy has, for the fifth year running, emerged the most admired business leader of India in a study conducted by Brand-comm, a leading Brand Consulting, Advertising and PR firm.

The Economist ranked him 8th among the top 15 most admired global leaders (2005). He was ranked 28th among the world's most-respected business leaders by the Financial Times (2005). He topped the Economic Times Corporate Dossier list of India's most powerful CEOs for two consecutive years - 2004 and 2005.

TIME magazine's "Global Tech Influentials" list (August 2004) named Mr. Murthy as one of the ten leaders who are helping shape the future of technology. In November 2006, TIME magazine again voted him as one of the Asian heroes who have brought about revolutionary changes in Asia in the last 60 years. The list featured people who have had a significant impact on Asian history over the past 60 years and it included others such as Mahatma Gandhi, Dalai Lama, Mother Teresa, Muhammad Ali Jinnah etc.

Narayana Murthy's trait of plain-speak and honesty has landed him in many altercations with local political leaders. While the political leaders insist that Narayana Murthy was eyeing India's presidential nomination, Narayana Murthy has repeated many times that he has no interest in politics.

The former President of India, Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam visited Infosys

campus on April 8, 2007 and during the event, the instrumental version of the Indian national anthem was played instead of a recital. When a newsreporter asked for explanation, Narayana Murthy replied that he didn't want to embarrass his foreign guests leading to protests from a wide section of politicians and social activists. Narayana Murthy quickly apologized for the incident but political parties insisted on action against him. While the lower courts issued summons to Murthy for explanation, the High Court of Karnataka quashed all proceedings on the case because of lack of any substance in the charges against Murthy. The controversy however deflected attention from the fact that Abdul Kalam thought highly of Narayana Murthy for the post of President of India.

Narayana Murthy was critical of the bandh call by politicians protesting against the decision of the Kaveri river water dispute leading to protests from political activists against Murthy. Earlier in 2005, Deve Gowda, former Indian PM, accused Murthy of "double-talk" when Murthy expressed his concerns on the state of Bangalore infrastructure. In response, Murthy resigned from the post of Chairman for the then upcoming greenfield International airport project (BIAL) taking offense to the assertion that he didn't spend adequate time in the project. Murthy also replied to every point raised by Gowda on land acquisition by Infosys leading the ex-PM to go silent.

As Chairman of The Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, Narayana Murthy spoke his mind on the Human Resource Development Ministry's action to reduce admission fee as well as the move to decline permission to the institute for setting up of a global campus. In both cases, the HRD ministers had to concede to Murthy. His most Quoted .

- "The real power of money is the power to give it away."
- "In God we trust, everybody else bring data to the table."

INDIRA GANDHI

Indira Gandhi was Prime Minister of the Republic of India for three consecutive terms - from 1966 to 1977 and for a fourth term from 1980 until her assassination in 1984. She was India's first, and to date, only female Prime Minister.

Born in the politically influential Nehru family, Indira grew up in an intensely political atmosphere. Her grandfather, Motilal Nehru, was a prominent Indian nationalist leader. Her father, Jawaharlal Nehru was a pivotal figure in the Indian independence movement and the first Prime Minister of Independent India. Returning to India from Oxford in 1941, Indira Gandhi herself took part in the independence movement.

In the 1950s, she served her father unofficially as a personal assistant during his tenure as India's first Prime Minister. After her father's death in 1964, she was appointed a member of a Rajya Sabha by the President of India and became a member of Lal Bahadur Shastri's cabinet as Minister of Information and Broadcasting.

The Congress Party President, K. Kamaraj was instrumental in making Indira Gandhi the Prime Minister after the sudden demise of Shastri in Tashkent in 1966. Gandhi soon showed an ability to win the hearts and minds of the Indian people. Though often criticized for her ultra-left wing economic policies such as the MRTP (Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices) Act and the Nationalization of Banks in 1969, Indira Gandhi showed a great capacity to govern the country and manage the fault lines in Parliament. Her achievements as Prime Minister lie in her encouragement of the Green Revolution and in that it was under her that India became a nuclear power. The decisive victory against Pakistan in the war of 1971 has also been greatly applauded.

Following a period of instability in the early 1970s, emergency was imposed. This had mixed results. On the one hand, basic rights such as the freedom of speech and expression, were largely suppressed as newspaper, radio and the yet inchoate Television were censored strictly to ensure there was no criticism of Indira Gandhi's government. On the other hand, however, corruption was reduced greatly and formerly non-functional government offices began to function efficiently as stringent measures were taken for inefficiency.

Indira Gandhi returned to office in the newly restored democracy in 1980. She however became involved in a bitter conflict with the separatists in Punjab and following the incendiary raid into the Golden Temple in Operation Blue Star to rid the Punjab of secessionist elements and secret militant organizations, she was assassinated by her own bodyguards in 1984.

JC BOSE



Physicist turned plant biologist Jagadish Chandra Bose was born on 30 November 1858 in Mymensingh, India (now in Bangladesh) to a well-to-do family. His father Bhagabanchandra Bose was a Deputy Magistrate. A distinguished student, he began attending St. Xavier's College, Calcutta in 1875 and received the BA degree from Calcutta University in 1877. In 1880 the twenty-two-year old Bose left India for England. For a year he studied medicine at London University, England, but had to give

it up because of his own ill health. Within a year he moved to Cambridge to take up a scholarship to study Natural Science at Christ's College Cambridge. One of his lecturers at Cambridge was Professor Rayleigh, who clearly had a profound influence on his later work. He graduated from there in 1884 with a Natural Science Tripos (a special course of study at Cambridge). That same year Bose also received the BS degree from London University. Just one year later Bose became a Professor of Physical Science at Presidency College of Calcutta, where for the next 30 years he taught and conducted research. As a teacher Bose was very popular and engaged the interest of his students by making extensive use of scientific demonstrations. Many of his students at the Presidency College were destined to become famous in their own right - for example S.N. Bose, later to become well known for the Bose-Einstein statistics.

In 1894, J.C. Bose converted a small enclosure adjoining a bathroom in the Presidency College into a laboratory. He carried out experiments

involving refraction, diffraction and polarization. To receive the radiation, he used a variety of different junctions connected to a highly sensitive galvanometer. He plotted in detail the voltage-current characteristics of his junctions, noting their non-linear characteristics. He developed the use of galena crystals for making receivers, both for short wavelength radio waves and for white and ultraviolet light. Patent rights for their use in detecting electromagnetic radiation were granted to him in 1904. In 1954 Pearson and Brattain gave priority to Bose for the use of a semi-conducting crystal as a detector of radio waves. Sir Neville Mott, Nobel Laureate in 1977 for his own contributions to solid-state electronics, remarked that "J.C. Bose was at least 60 years ahead of his time" and "In fact, he had anticipated the existence of P-type and N-type semiconductors." In 1895 Bose gave his first public demonstration of electromagnetic waves, using them to ring a bell remotely and to explode some gunpowder. In 1896 the Daily Chronicle of England reported: "The inventor (J.C. Bose) has transmitted signals to a distance of nearly a mile and herein lies the first and obvious and exceedingly valuable application of this new theoretical marvel."

During the years 1894-1900, Bose performed pioneering research on radio waves and created waves as short as 5 mm. Bose's work actually predates that of Guglielmo Marconi who is most often associated with the development of radio. Unlike Marconi who sought to commercialize his work with radio waves, Bose was purely interested in radio waves as a scientific endeavor. Bose also developed equipment for generating, transmitting, and receiving radio waves and used it to demonstrate conclusively the waves' properties such as reflection, total reflection, refraction, double refraction, and polarization. Bose also experimented with galena to form an early type of semiconductor diode, which may be used as a detector of electromagnetic waves. Bose's demonstration of remote wireless signalling has priority over Marconi; he was the first to use a semiconductor junction to detect radio waves, and he invented various now commonplace microwave components. Outside of India he is rarely given the deserved recognition. Further work at millimeter wavelengths was almost nonexistent for nearly 50 years.

J.C. Bose was at least this much ahead of his time. Research into the generation and detection of millimeter waves, and the properties of substances at these wavelengths, was being undertaken in some detail one hundred years ago, by J.C. Bose in Calcutta.

After about 1900, Bose began pursuing another longtime interest—animal and plant physiology. This included studies of the effects of electromagnetic radiation on plants, a topical field today. His contributions to this field were pioneering. He introduced many delicate and sensitive instruments, such as the Chrestograph, which was used for recording plant growth. It could magnify a small movement as much as a million times. Another device he developed demonstrated the effects of electromagnetic waves on living and nonliving matter.

Bose retired in 1915 and was appointed Emeritus Professor, Presidency College, Calcutta, for a period of 5 years. In 1917 he founded the Bose Research Institute in Calcutta which was the first scientific research institute in India. That same year a knighthood was conferred on Bose. In 1920 he became the first Indian scientist to be elected to Great Britain's prestigious Royal Society.

Bose traveled frequently to Europe and the United States on various scientific missions and gave lectures on electromagnetic waves, the effects of electromagnetic waves on living and nonliving matter, and plant physiology. On a personal level, Bose believed in the free exchange of scientific knowledge and strongly believed that knowledge grows by sharing it with fellow scientists. Bose died on 23 November 1937 at the age of 78.

KALPANA CHAWLA

Kalpna Chawla (17 March 1962 - 1 February 2003), was an Indian born American astronaut and space shuttle mission specialist. She was one of seven crewmembers killed in the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster.

Kalpna Chawla was born in Karnal, Haryana, India. *Kalpna* in Sanskrit means “imagination of the mind” and thus also “creation.” Her interest in flying was inspired by J. R. D. Tata, a pioneering Indian pilot and industrialist



Kalpna Chawla studied at Tagore Public School, Karnal for her earlier schooling and she pursued further studies aeronautical engineering at Punjab Engineering College in Chandigarh, India, in 1982 where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree. She was one of the three women in the college at the time. She moved to the United States in 1982 and obtained a Master of Science degree in aerospace engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington (1984). Chawla earned a second Master of Science degree in 1986 and a Ph.D. in aerospace engineering in 1988 from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Later that year she began working for NASA Ames Research Center as vice president of Overset Methods, Inc. where she did CFD research on V/STOL. Chawla held a Certificated Flight Instructor rating for airplanes, gliders and Commercial Pilot licenses for single and multiengine airplanes, seaplanes and gliders. She met and married Jean-Pierre Harrison, a flying instructor and aviation writer, in 1983 and became a naturalized United States citizen in 1990.

Dr. Chawla was hired by MCAT Institute, San Jose, California, as a Research Scientist to support research in the area of powered fin at NASA Ames Research Center, California, in 1988. She was responsible for analysis of flow physics pertaining to the operation of powered lift aircraft such as the Harrier in ground effect. She modeled and

numerically simulated configurations that include important components of realistic powered lift aircraft both in hover and landing mode, using Navier-Stokes solvers on Cray YMP. Following completion of this project she supported research in mapping of flow solvers to parallel computers such as the Intel iPSC-860, the Intel Paragon, and the TMC CM-2, and testing of these solvers by carrying out powered lift computations. In 1993 Dr. Chawla joined Overset Methods Inc., Los Altos, California, as Vice President and Research Scientist to form a team with other researchers specializing in simulation of moving multiple body problems. She was responsible for implementation of efficient techniques to perform aerodynamic optimization. Results of various projects that Dr. Chawla participated in are documented in technical conference papers and Journals.

She was selected by NASA in December 1994. After completing a year of training and evaluation, she was assigned as crew representative to work technical issues for the Astronaut Office EVA/Robotics and Computer Branches. Her assignments included work on development of Robotic Situational Awareness Displays and testing space shuttle control software in the Shuttle Avionics Integration Laboratory. In November, 1996, Kalpana Chawla was assigned as mission specialist and prime robotic arm operator on STS-87. In January 1998, she was assigned as crew representative for shuttle and station flight crew equipment, and subsequently served as lead for Astronaut Office's Crew Systems and Habitability section. She flew on STS-87 (1997) and STS-107 (2003), logging 30 days, 14hours and 54minutes in space.

SPACE FLIGHT EXPERIENCE: STS-87 *Columbia* (November 19 to December 5, 1997). STS-87 was the fourth U.S Microgravity Payload flight and focused on experiments designed to study how the weightless environment of space affects various physical processes, and on observations of the Sun's outer atmospheric layers. Two members of the crew performed an EVA (spacewalk) which featured the manual capture of a Spartan satellite, in addition to testing EVA tools and procedures for future Space Station assembly. STS-87 made 252 orbits of the Earth, traveling 6.5 million miles in in 376 hours and 34 minutes.

STS-107 *Columbia* (January 16 to February 1, 2003). The 16-day flight was a dedicated science and research mission. Working 24 hours a day, in two alternating shifts, the crew successfully conducted approximately 80 experiments. The STS-107 mission ended abruptly on February 1, 2003 when Space Shuttle *Columbia* and the crew perished during entry, 16 minutes prior to scheduled landing.

Posthumously awarded:

NASA Space Flight Medal

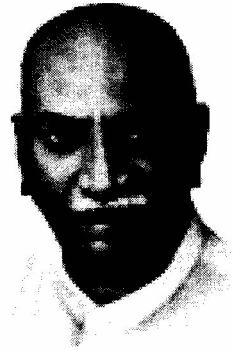
NASA Distinguished Service Medal

Defense Distinguished Service Medal (DDSM)

Congressional Space Medal of Honor

KAMARAJ

Kamaraj was born on 15th July, 1903, to Kumaraswamy Nadar and Sivakami Ammal at Virudhunagar near Madurai in Tamil Nadu. His parents were from a trading family. His real name was Kamakshi Kumaraswamy, but was affectionately shortened to Raja by his mother, Sivakami Ammal. His father, Kumaraswamy Nadar was a coconut merchant. Kamaraj dropped out of school when he was in the sixth grade. When he entered mainstream public life he felt handicapped and realized the importance of a good education. He educated himself during his periods of imprisonment.



At the age of 16, Kamaraj enrolled himself as full-time worker of the Congress. He invited speakers, organized meetings and collected funds for the party.

Kamaraj's political guru and inspiration was S. Satyamurti, orator and parliamentarian. In 1936, Satyamurti was elected as President of the Provincial Congress Committee and he appointed Kamaraj as the General Secretary.

On April 13, 1954, K Kamaraj reluctantly became the Chief Minister of Madras Province. Kamaraj removed the family vocation based Hereditary Education Policy introduced by Rajaji. He reopened the 6000 schools closed by previous government for financial reasons and also added 12,000 more schools. The state made immense strides in education and trade. Better facilities were added to existing ones. No village remained without a primary school and no panchayat without a high school. He came up with a plan which was called the "Kamaraj Plan". In 1963 he suggested to Nehru that senior congress leaders should leave ministerial posts to take up organizational work. Kamaraj succeeded C. Rajgopalachari, as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on April 13, 1957.

On October 2, 1975, Gandhi Jayanti Day, Kamaraj died in his sleep. He was honored with the highest Civilian Honor, the 'Bharat Ratna' posthumously in 1976. Kamaraj's life story had been stronger than fiction for its unbelievable incidents and turn of events, almost an illiterate with no formal education and born in a poor family in a remote village, he rose to great heights of eminence in the political arena.

H. Amul Jenitha
06/HS/23

KIRAN BEDI - A TOUGH LADY IN AN ALL MALE BASTION

“I’m here to do my best for the day” - Kiran Bedi



Inspirational true life stories are tagged as favorite celebrities for decades. One such well known celebrity around the globe who is recognized for her courage, welfare strategies and tag line ‘I Dare’ is Kiran Bedi. She dreamt and worked for a better world and she achieved it. She has always been an inspirational icon who has always worn a smile in the battle of life.

The first woman to join the coveted Indian Police Service (IPS) in 1972, Kiran Bedi was born on 9 June 1949 in Amritsar, Punjab.

Her father Prakash Lal Peshawaria, a landlord in Punjab was determined to educate his four daughters at a time when women were largely limited to doing household tasks.

While studying at the Sacred Heart Convent, Kiran joined the National Cadet Corps (NCC) and took up tennis, a game which her father used to play.

After school she went on to study Political Science at the Government College for Women, Amritsar. She loved the subject as she felt it taught her about her role as a citizen of the country.

Kiran excelled at sports particularly tennis. She won the inter-University women’s team title and bagged the national title as well as the Asian title in tennis. Bedi says the game taught her the value of hard work, the importance of staying fit and built in her the qualities of fair play, team work, concentration, and the ability to give in that extra bit under stress.

She began her career as a Lecturer in Political Science (1970-72) at Khalsa College for Women, Amritsar, India. In July 1972, she joined the Indian Police Service.

She served in a number of tough assignments ranging from Traffic



Commissioner of New Delhi, Deputy Inspector General of Police in insurgency prone Mizoram, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor of Chandigarh, Director General of Narcotics Control Bureau and also on a United Nations deputation, she served as Police Advisor in the United Nations peacekeeping department and was honored with the UN medal for outstanding service. She earned the nickname ‘Crane Bedi’ for towing away the then Indian PM Indira Gandhi’s car for parking violation. She was

last appointed as Director General of India’s Bureau of Police Research and Development.

She is well known for introducing a number of reforms during her stint as the Inspector General of Prisons of the Tihar Jail in New Delhi like detoxification programmes, yoga, meditation and redressal of prisoners’ complaints. For her effort to humanize the Tihar jail she was honored with the 1994 Ramon Magsaysay Award. She has won a number of awards both in India and abroad. The prominent ones among include the President’s Gallantry Award in 1979, the Asia Region Award for Drug Prevention and Control in 1991, the Joseph Beuys Award in 1997, the Mother Teresa Memorial National Award for Social Justice in 2005 and the Serge Soitiroff Memorial Award for drug abuse prevention by the United Nations.

She was last appointed as Director General of India’s Bureau of Police Research and Development.

In May 2005, she was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Law In recognition of her “humanitarian approach to prison reforms and policing”.

On 27th November 2007, she had expressed her wish to take Voluntary Retirement from job to take up new challenges in life. On 25th December 2007, Government of India decided to relieve Bedi, who was holding the post of the director general of Bureau of Police Research and Development, from her duties immediately.

Not everyone loves this gutsy woman though. Kiran Bedi has been often criticized for being “media-hungry” and controversial. Often, she has been transferred out of offices for trying to turn things around. But despite these minor complaints, Kiran Bedi remains one of the most inspiring Indian public figures.

KIRAN DESAI

Kiran Desai was born in India in 1971, she lived in Delhi until she was 14, then spent a year in England, before her family moved to the USA. She completed her schooling in Massachusetts before attending Bennington College; Hollins University and Columbia University, where she studied creative writing, taking two years off to write *Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard*.



Her mother is Anita Desai, author of many books, three of which have been short listed for the Booker Prize (*Clear Light of Day* (1980), *In Custody* (1984) and *Fasting, Feasting* (1999)). Anita Desai currently teaches writing at MIT. Her maternal grandmother was German, but left before the World War II and never returned. Her grandfather was a refugee from Bangladesh. Her paternal grandparents came from Gujarat, and her grandfather was educated in England. Although Kiran has not lived in India since she was 14, she returns to the family home in Delhi every year.

She first came to literary attention in 1997 when she was published in the *New Yorker* and in *Mirrorwork*, an anthology of 50 years of Indian writing edited by Salman Rushdie - *Strange Happenings in the Guava Orchard* was the closing piece. In 1998, *Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard*, which had taken four years to write, was published to good reviews. She says, "I think my first book was filled with all that I loved most about India and knew I was in the inevitable process of losing. It was also very much a book that came from the happiness of realizing how much I loved to write."

Eight years later, *The Inheritance of Loss* was published in early 2006, and won the 2006 Booker Prize. When talking of the characters in *The Inheritance of Loss*, and of her own life, she says, "The characters of my story are entirely fictional, but these journeys (of her grandparents) as well as my own provided insight into what it means to travel between East and West and it is this I wanted to capture. The fact that I live this particular life is no accident. It was my inheritance."

The Inheritance of Loss is set partly in India and partly in the USA. Desai describes it as a book that “tries to capture what it means to live between East and West and what it means to be an immigrant,” and goes on to say that it also explores at a deeper level, “what happens when a Western element is introduced into a country that is not of the West” - which happened during the British colonial days in India, and is happening again “with India’s new relationship with the States.” Her third aim was to write about, “What happens when you take people from a poor country and place them in a wealthy one. How does the imbalance between these two worlds change a person’s thinking and feeling? How do these changes manifest themselves in a personal sphere, a political sphere, over time?”

As she says, “These are old themes that continue to be relevant in today’s world, the past informing the present, the present revealing the past.

KISHORE KUMAR – THE LEGEND.



Kishore Kumar (August 4, 1929 - October 13, 1987) was an Indian film playback singer and comic actor. He also achieved notable successes as a lyricist, composer, producer, director, screenwriter and scriptwriter.

Kishore Kumar has sung in many Indian languages including Hindi, Bengali (his mother tongue), Marathi, Assamese, Gujarati, Kannada, Bhojपुरi, Malayalam and Oriya. Along with Mohammed Rafi, and Mukesh, he was one of the three leading male Bollywood playback singers

from the 1950s to the mid-1980s. He holds the record for most number of Filmfare Awards won for Best Male Playback Singer.

He was on the top of his singing career when tragedy struck the music world in October 1987. He passed away due to massive heart attack. By this time he and his talented son Amit Kumar were ruling the playback singing in Bollywood and Bengali films.

After Ashok Kumar became a Bollywood star, the Ganguli family used to visit Mumbai regularly. Abhas Kumar changed his name to Kishore Kumar and started his cinema career as a chorus singer at Bombay Talkies, where Ashok Kumar was a star. His first film as an actor was *Shikari* (1946), in which Ashok Kumar played the lead role. Music director Khemchand Prakash gave him a chance to sing the song *Marne ki duayen kyon mangu* for the film *Ziddi* (1948). After this, Kishore Kumar got many other assignments, but he was not very serious about a film career. In 1949, he decided to settle in Mumbai.

Kishore Kumar played hero in the Bombay Talkies film *Andolan* (1951), directed by Phani Majumdar. Although Kishore Kumar got some assignments as an actor with help of his brother, he was more interested in becoming a successful singer. He was not interested in acting, but his elder brother Ashok Kumar wanted him to be an actor like himself.

As an actor, Kishore Kumar worked with many notable directors. He played an unemployed young man seeking a job, in Bimal Roy's *Naukri* (1954) and Hrishikesh Mukherjee's directorial debut *Musafir* (1957). Salil Chowdhury, the music director for *Naukri* was initially dismissive of him as a singer, when he came to know that Kishore Kumar didn't have any formal training in music. However, after hearing his voice, he gave him the song *Chhota sa ghar hoga*, which was supposed to be sung by Hemant Kumar.

After some initial flops as an actor, Kishore Kumar achieved success as a comic hero with movies like *New Delhi* (1956), *Aasha* (1957), *Chalti Ka Naam Gaadi* (1958), *Jhumroo* (1961), *Half Ticket* (1962), and *Padosan* (1968). *Chalti Ka Naam Gaadi*, his home production, starred the three Ganguli brothers, and Madhubala (whom Kishore married later).

Music director S. D. Burman is credited with spotting Kishore Kumar's talent as a singer, and advancing his singing career. During the making of *Mashaal* (1950), Burman visited Ashok Kumar's house, where he heard Kishore imitating the singer K L Saigal in the bathroom. He complimented Kishore, but also told him that he should develop a style of his own, instead of copying Saigal. Kishore Kumar did not have a formal training in music. Initially, he used to copy K. L. Saigal. But, he kept Burman's advice in mind, and eventually developed his own style of singing.

S. D. Burman recorded with Kishore for Dev Anand's *Munimji* (1954), *Taxi Driver* (1954), *House No 44* (1955), *Funtoosh* (1956), *Nau Do Gyarah* (1957), *Paying Guest* (1957), *Guide* (1965), *Jewel Thief* (1967), *Prem Pujari* (1970), and *Tere Mere Sapne* (1971). He also composed music for Kishore Kumar's home production *Chalti Ka Naam Gaadi* (1958). Some of their initial hits included *Maana janaab ne pukara nahin* from *Paying Guest*, *Hum hain raahi pyar ke* from *Nau Do Gyarah* (1957), *Ai meri topi palat ke aa* from *Funtoosh*, and *Ek Ladki Bheegi Bhaagi Si* and *Haal Kaisa Hai Janaab Ka* from *Chalti Ka Naam Gaadi* (1958). When S. D. Burman was not in good terms with Lata Mangeshkar during 1957-62, he gave patronage to her younger sister, Asha Bhosle. The Asha Bhosle-Kishore Kumar duets composed by S. D. Burman also became very popular. Some of these include *Chhod Do Aanchal* from *Paying Guest* (1957), *Ankhon Mein Kya Ji* from *Nau Do Gyarah* (1957), *Haal Kaisa Hai Janaab Ka* and *Paanch Rupaiya Baara Aana* from *Chalti Ka Naam Gaadi* (1958), *Chhedo Na Meri Zulfein* from *Ganga Ki Lahren* (1964), and *Arre Yaara Meri Tuma Bhi Ho Gajab* from *Teen Devian* (1965).

C. Ramchandra was another music director who recognized Kishore Kumar's talent as a singer. One of the most popular C. Ramchandra-Kishore Kumar hits is *Eena Meena Deeka* from *Aasha* (1957). Kishore Kumar also gave a few hit songs with other music directors; for example, *Nakhrewaali* from *New Delhi* (1956 by Shankar Jaikishan), and *C.A.T.Cat Maane Billi* and *Hum To Mohabbat Karega* from *Dilli Ka Thug* (1958 by Ravi).

Kishore Kumar produced, directed, and acted in the film *Jhumroo* (1961). He wrote the lyrics for the title song, *Main Hoon Jhumroo*, and composed music for all the songs in the film. Later, he produced and directed the serious film *Door Gagan Ki Chhaon Mein* (1964). He also wrote the script and composed music for the film.

In the 1960s, as an actor, Kishore Kumar build up a notoriety for coming late for the shootings, or bunking them altogether. His films flopped frequently, and he also landed in income-tax trouble. As a singer, he had some hit songs to his credit, including *Zaroorat Hai Zaroorat Hai* from *Manmauji* (1961), *Gaata Rahe Mera Dil* from *Guide* (1964), and *Yeh dil na hota bechara* from *Jewel Thief* (1967).

In the late 1960s, S. D. Burman's son; Rahul Dev Burman also started patronizing Kishore Kumar. Their first notable success was the

soundtrack of the film *Padosan* (1968), in which Kishore Kumar sang popular songs *Mere Saamne waali khidki mein* and *Kehna hai. Padosan* was a comedy film starring Kishore Kumar as a dramatist-musician, Mehmood as a Carnatic music and dance teacher, and Sunil Dutt as a simpleton called Bhola. Kishore Kumar's character in the film was inspired by the personality of his uncle, Dhananjay Banerjee (a classical singer). The highlight of the film was a musical, comical duel between Kishore Kumar-Sunil Dutt and Mehmood, "*Ek Chaturnar Karke Singaar*".

In 1969, Shakti Samanta produced and directed the film *Aradhana*, for which the music was composed by S. D. Burman. S. D. Burman fell ill after recording some duet songs with Mohammed Rafi, Asha Bhosale, Lata Mangeshkar and Kishore Kumar. Afterwards, his son and assistant R. D. Burman took over the recording. R. D. Burman got Kishore Kumar to solo sing the songs *Mere Sapno Ki Rani* and *Roop Tera Mastana*, which became smash hits. Kishore Kumar won his first Filmfare award for the song *Roop Tera Mastana*.

Kishore Kumar sang for all leading actors in 1970s, including Rajesh Khanna, Amitabh Bachchan, Dharmendra, Sanjeev Kumar, Dev Anand, and Rishi Kapoor.

S. D. Burman and Kishore continued to churn out several hit songs together, including *Phoolon Ke Rang Se* and *Shokhiyon Mein Ghola Jaaye* from *Prem Pujari* (1969), *Aaja Madhosh Hua Jaaye Re*, *Khilte Hain Gul Yahan* and *O Meri Sharmilee* from *Sharmilee* (1971), *Meet na mila* from *Abhimaan* (1973), *Pyaar Ke Is Khel Mein* from *Jugnu*. In 1975, S. D. Burman composed his last song for Kishore Kumar. S. D. Burman went into a coma for the second time; soon after Kishore recorded the song *Badi Sooni Sooni Si Hai Zindagi* for the film *Mili*.

R. D. Burman considered Kishore Kumar his favorite singer, and recorded several hit songs with him in the 1970s. In the superhit Bollywood film, *Sholay* (1975), he asked Kishore Kumar to sing for both Amitabh Bachchan and Dharmendra. Some popular songs of Kishore Kumar-R.D.Burman include *O Maajhee Re* from *Khushboo*, *Yeh Shaam Mastaani* and *Yeh jo mohabbat hai* from *Kati Patang* (1971), *Kuchh to log kahenge* from *Amar Prem* (1972), *Raat Kali Ek Khwab Mein Aayee* from *Buddha Mil Gaya* (1971), *Musafir hoon yaaron* from *Parichaya* (1972), *Diye jalte hain* from *Namak Haraam* (1973), *Meree bheegee bheegee si* from *Anamika* (1973), *Zindagee Ke Safar Mein* from *Aap Ki Kasam* (1974), *Agar Tum Na Hote*, *Humein Tum Se Pyaar Kitna*,

Mere Naina Saawan Bahado, and *Chingari Koi Bhadke*.

R. D. Burman also recorded several hit duets with Kishore Kumar, and Asha Bhosle and Lata Mangeshkar. Some of these duets include *Panna Ki Tamana* from *Heera Panna* (1973), *Neend Chura Ke Raaton Mein* from the film *Shareef Badmash*, *Kya Yehi Pyaar Hai* from Sanjay Dutt's debut film *Rocky* (1981).

Apart from the Burmans, Kishore Kumar worked with other major music directors as well. The composer duo Laxmikant-Pyarelal (L-P) also composed many hit songs sung by Kishore Kumar. Kalyanji-Anandji recorded several hit songs with Kishore Kumar including *Zindagi Ka Safar* from *Safar*, *Pal Pal Dil Ke Paas* from *Black Mail*, *Apne Jeevan Ki Uljhan* from *Uljhan*, *Mera Jeevan Kora Kagaz* from *Kora Kagaz*, *O Saathi Re* from *Muqaddar Ka Sikander*, *Khaike Paan Banaraswala* from *Don*, *Neele Neele Ambar Par* from *Kalakar* and *Pal Bhar Ke Liye* from *Johnny Mera Naam*.

The new composers such as Rajesh Roshan, Sapan Chakravarty (who had earlier worked as R. D. Burman's assistant), and Bappi Lahiri also worked with Kishore Kumar. Rajesh Roshan's first hit film *Julie* featured hit songs sung by Kishore Kumar, *Bhool Gaya Saab Kuch* (duet with Lata Mangeshkar) and *Dil Kya Kare Jab Kisise*. Their other hits include *Chhookar mere man ko* from *Yaarana* and *Tune abhi dekha nahin* from *Do Aur Do Paanch*. Bappi Lahiri also recorded many popular songs with Kishore Kumar, including *Pag Ghunghroo* from *Namak Halal* (1982), *Manzilen Apni Jagah Hai* from *Sharaabi* (1984) and *Chalte chalte* (1976).

During the Indian Emergency, Sanjay Gandhi asked Kishore Kumar to sing for a Congress rally in Mumbai, but Kishore Kumar refused. As a result, the Government put a ban on playing Kishore Kumar songs on the All India Radio or television. But Kishore Kumar refused to apologize. Finally, the ban was lifted after some prominent producers and directors lobbied against it.

Kishore Kumar produced and directed some movies in the late 1970s and early 1980s, such as *Badhti Ka Naam Daadhi* (1978), *Zindagi* (1981) and *Door Wadiyon Mein Kahin* (1982). But none of these films did well at the box-office. His last appearance as an actor was in *Door Wadiyon Mein Kahin*.

With patronage from R. D. Burman and Rajesh Roshan Kishore Kumar's son Amit Kumar also became a leading Bollywood singer in the 1980s.

Kishore Kumar also continued singing for several actors. In mid-1980s, Kishore Kumar sang for Anil Kapoor in his Kapoor's debut film, *Woh Saat Din* and also recorded for his first superhit *Mr. India*. He also recorded some popular songs for the film *Saagar* with R. D. Burman. By this time, he had decided to retire and was planning to go back to his birthplace, Khandwa. However, on October 13 1987, he died of a heart attack in Mumbai. His body was taken to Khandwa for cremation. He recorded his last song a day before he died. The song was *Guru O Guru*, a duet with Asha Bhosle, for the film *Waqt ki Aawaz* (1988) composed by Bappi Lahiri for Mithun Chakraborty.

Kishore Kumar's voice inspired many upcoming Bollywood singers, including Kumar Sanu, Abhijeet, Vinod Rathod and Babul Supriyo. After his death, many of his songs have been remixed and re-sung by several artists.

Kishore Kumar's song *Pal Bhar Ke Liye* from the film *Johny Mera Naam* (1970) was used in an episode of *The Simpsons* titled *Kiss Kiss Bang Bangalore*. His songs have also been featured in several films, including *Such a Long Journey* (1998) and *Side Streets* (1998).

Ruchi M Jain
06/HS/26

LATA MANGESHKAR



Lata Mangeshkar is one of the best-known playback singers in the Hindi movie industry. Mangeshkar's career started in 1942 and has spanned over six and a half decades. She has sung in over 980 Bollywood movies and in over twenty regional Indian languages. She is the elder sister of the equally accomplished singer Asha Bhosle and lesser-known singers Hridayanath Mangeshkar, Usha Mangeshkar and

Meena Mangeshkar.

Lata is the second vocalist ever to have received the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honour.

Lata Mangeshkar was born in a Konkani family in Sikh Mohalla, Indore, which then used to be in Central India Agency and is now in the State of Madhya Pradesh. Her father, Pandit Deenanath Mangeshkar, was a classical singer and theater actor. Her mother, Shudhhamati, was Deenanath's second wife. The family's last name used to be Hardikar; Deenanath changed it to Mangeshkar in order to identify his family with his native town, Mangeshi in Goa. Lata was named "Hema" at her birth and she was later renamed Lata by her parents after a female character, Latika, in one of her father's plays, *BhaawBandhan*. Lata is the eldest child of her parents. Hridayanath, Asha, Usha, and Meena are her siblings in sequence.

Lata took her first music lessons from her father. At the age of five, she started to work as an actress in her father's musical plays (*sangeet naatak* in Marathi). Her father's recitals and lessons left a strong impression on her, as did the songs of K.L. Saigal, who was her favorite singer and idol. Her formal education was limited to one day in the school. On the first day in the school, she started teaching songs to other children. When the teacher stopped her, she was so angry that she stopped going to the school.

In 1942, when Lata was 13, her father died of heart disease. Master Vinayak (Vinayak Damodar Karnataki), the owner of Navyug Chitrapat movie company and a close friend of the Mangeshkar family, took care of them. He helped Lata get started in a career as a singer and actress.

Lata moved to Mumbai in 1945 when Master Vinayak's company moved its headquarters there. She started taking lessons in Hindustani classical music from Ustad Amanat Ali Khan Bhendibazaarwale. Following the Partition of India in 1947, Ustad Amanat Ali Khan Bhendibazaarwale migrated to newly formed Pakistan, so Lata started to learn classical music under Amanat Khan Devaswale. Pandit Tulsidas Sharma, a pupil of Ustad Bade Ghulam Ali Khan, also trained her.

After Master Vinayak's death in 1948, music director Ghulam Haider mentored Lata as a singer.

Initially, Lata imitated Noor Jehan, who was then the most popular singer, but later she developed her own style of singing. In that period, lyrics of songs in Hindi movies were primarily composed by Muslim poets and contained a higher proportion of Hindustani words. Actor Dilip Kumar once made a mildly disapproving remark about Lata's Maharashtrian accent while singing Hindi/Hindustani songs; so for a period of time, Lata took lessons in Hindustani from a maulavi, Shafi.

"Aayega Aanewaala," a song in the popular movie *Mahal* (1949) proved a turning point for her. Salil Chowdhury was among Lata's favorite composers during the 1950s. She won her first Filmfare Best Female Playback Award for Chowdhury's composition "Aaja Re Pardesi," from *Madhumati* (1958).

In 1961, Mangeshkar took the first step on the road to reconciliation with S. D. Burman, as she recorded a bhajan, *Allah Tero Naam*, for Burman's assistant, Jaidev. In 1962, she bagged her second Filmfare Award for the song *Kahin Deep Jale Kahin Dil* from *Bees Saal Baad*, composed by Hemant Kumar.

On June 27, 1963, with the backdrop of the Indo-China war, Lata Mangeshkar sang the patriotic song *Ae Mere Watan Ke Logon* (literally, Oh the People of my Country) in presence of Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India. This song, composed by C. Ramchandra and written by Pradeep, is said to have brought him to tears.

In 1963, Mangeshkar returned to collaborate with S. D. Burman, mainly as a result of a truce brokered by Burman's son and assistant (and her future brother-in-law) R. D. Burman. She recorded several popular songs for S. D. Burman, including *Aaj Phir Jeene Ki Tamanna Hai*, *Gata Rahe Mera Dil* (duet with Kishore Kumar) and *Piya Tose* from *Guide* (1965), and *Hothon Pe Aisi Baat* from *Jewel Thief* (1967).

In 1973, she won the National Film Award for Best Female Playback Singer for the song *Beeti Na Bitai* from the film *Parichay*, composed by R. D. Burman, and written by Gulzar. In 1975, she again won the same award, this time for the song *Rootho Rootho Piya* from the film *Kora Kagaz*, composed by Kalyanji-Anandji.

From 1970s onwards, Lata Mangeshkar has staged many concerts in India and abroad, including several charity concerts. Her first concert overseas was at the Royal Albert Hall, London, in 1974. She also released an album of Mirabai's bhajans, *Chala Vaahi Des*, composed by her brother Hridayanath Mangeshkar. Some of the bhajans in the album include *Saanware Rang Raachi* and *Ud Jaa Re Kaaga*.

In late 1970s and early 1980s, she worked with the children of composers she had earlier worked with. Some of these composers included Rahul Dev Burman (son of Sachin Dev Burman), Rajesh Roshan (son of Roshan), Anu Malik (son of Sardar Malik), and Anand-Milind (sons of Chitragupt).

In 1990, Mangeshkar launched her own production house for Hindi movies. In 1999, *Lata Eau De Parfum*, a perfume brand named after her, was launched. In 1999, she was nominated as a member of Rajya Sabha. However, she did not attend the Rajya Sabha sessions regularly, inviting criticism from several members of the House, including the Deputy Chairperson Najma Heptullah, Pranab Mukherjee and Shabana Azmi. She stated the reason for her absence as ill-health; it was also reported that she had not taken a salary, allowance or a house in Delhi for being a Member of Parliament. In 2001, Lata Mangeshkar was awarded Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honor. In the same year, she established the Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital in Pune, managed by the Lata Mangeshkar Medical Foundation (founded by the Mangeshkar family in October 1989). In 2005, she designed a jewellery collection called *Swaranjali*, which was crafted by Adora, an Indian diamond export company. Five pieces from the collection raised £1,05,000 at a Christie's, and a part of the money was donated for the 2005 Pakistan earthquake relief.

DHYAN CHAND

Major Dhyan Chand Singh (Aug 29, 1905 - Dec 3, 1979) was a former Indian Hockey player.

Dhyan Chand was born to a Rajput family in Prayag in Uttar Pradesh. His Hockey career had humble beginnings. Dhyan and other youngsters used to cut off branches of a date palm tree and remove the leaves. This would be their improvised hockey stick. From old rags, they would make a ball.

After an early education, he joined the army at the age of 16 in 1922 as a Sepoy of the 41st Punjab Regiment and soon took to hockey despite a childhood fascination for wrestling. He quickly came to acquire dribbling skills and soon his coach gave him the name "Chand" because he predicted that Dhyan would one day shine like a "Chand" (Moon). He was also known as the "Hockey Wizard".

It was during his career as a hockey player that the Indian Hockey team was feared by other teams. He was part of the Gold-medal winning team in 3 Olympic games - 1928, Amsterdam; 1932, Los Angeles and 1936, Berlin. India's gold medals in Olympic games came only from the hockey team for many years until the recent success of other athletes.

During the Berlin Olympics (1936), Hitler was very much impressed by Dhyan Chand and in fact offered him the position of "Field Marshall" in the German army. Dhyan Chand, however, turned down the offer.

In 1956, at the age of 51, he retired from the army with the rank of Major. The Government of India honoured him that year with the Padma Bhushan (India's 3rd highest civilian award). After his retirement, Dhyan Chand earned a diploma in coaching from the National Institute of Sports in Patiala, Punjab. He died on December 3, 1979 at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Hospital after a brief illness.

Austria honoured him by erecting a statue of him in Vienna with four hands and four sticks depicting his control and mastery over the ball. His other statues are at the National Stadium near India Gate, New Delhi and at Medak in Andhra Pradesh. The Indian Postal Service issued a commemorative stamp in his honour after his death. Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi is named in his honour. His

birthday (29th August) is celebrated as the National Sports Day in India. The President gives away sports awards such as the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award on this day. To commemorate him, the Government has instituted the Dhyan Chand Award which is presented to those sportspersons who not only contribute while playing actively but also after their retirement.

Though Indian hockey is in dire straits today, it was Dhyan Chand who single-handedly created for the sport and for India, a great name in the international arena. He is to be honoured as one of India's most talented personalities.

Rajkumari Barbina
06/HS/24

MF HUSAIN

A self-taught artist, Muqbool Fida Husain was born in 1915 in Maharashtra. At an early age he learnt the art of calligraphy and practiced the Kulfic khat with its geometric forms. He also learnt to write poetry while staying with an uncle in a madrasa in Baroda, an art that has stayed with him through his life. His early education was perfunctory but Husain's love for drawing was evident even at this stage. Whenever he got a chance he would strap his painting gear to his bicycle and drive out to the surrounding countryside of Indore to paint the landscape. In 1937 he reached Mumbai determined to become an artist, with hardly any money and lived in a cheap room in a by lane inhabited by pimps and prostitutes. Initially Husain apprenticed himself to a painter of cinema hoardings which he would paint with great dexterity perched on scaffolding sometimes in the middle of traffic.

Husain was noticed for the first time in 1947 when he won an award at the annual exhibition of the Bombay Art Society. Subsequently he was invited by Souza to join the Progressive Artist's Group. A great deal of experimentation in the early years led to some remarkable works *Re Between The Spider And The Lamp*, *Zameen and Man*. By 1955 he was one of the leading artists in India and had been awarded the Padma Shri. He was a special invitee along with Pablo Picasso at the Sao Paulo Biennial in 1971. Along with several solo exhibitions he had major retrospectives in Mumbai in 1969, in Calcutta in 1973 and in Delhi in 1978. He has participated in many international shows which include *Contemporary Indian Art*, Royal Academy of Arts, London 1982; *Six Indian Painters*, Tate Gallery, London 1985; *Modern Indian Painting*, Hirschhorn Museum, Washington 1986 and *Contemporary Indian Art*, Grey Art Gallery, New York 1986.

In 1967 he won the Golden Bear at the International Film Festival at Berlin for his documentary *Through the Eyes of a Painter* and has made several short films since then. Husain was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 1973, the Padma Vibhushan in 1989 and was nominated to the Rajya Sabha in 1986. One of the most charismatic artists in India today, he is known for his emphatic understanding of the human situation and his speedy evocation of it in paint. The early evolution of his painterly language was overtaken by adventurous forays into installations and performance art. His experimentations with new forms of art are both unexpected and pioneering.

Husain has studios in several cities in India but lives mainly in Mumbai.

SANIA MIRZA

Mirza was born to a sports journalist Imran Mirza and Nasima in Mumbai. She was brought up in Hyderabad. Mirza began playing tennis at the age of six, turning professional in 2003. She was trained by her father, as well as her other family members. She went to Nasr school in Hyderabad and later graduated from St. Mary's College.

In April 2003, Mirza made her debut in the India Fed Cup team, winning all three singles matches. Mirza won the 2003 Wimbledon Championships Girls' Doubles title, teaming up with Alisa Kleybanova of Russia. Mirza is the highest ranked female tennis player ever from India, with a career high ranking of 27 in singles and 18 in doubles. She holds the distinction of being the first Indian woman to be seeded in a Grand Slam tennis tournament. Earlier in 2005, she had become the first Indian woman to reach the fourth round of a Grand Slam tournament at the 2005 U.S. Open, defeating Mashona Washington, Maria Elena Camerin and Marion Bartoli. In 2004, she finished runner-up at the Asian Tennis Championship. By winning, the Mixed Doubles event at the 2009 Australian Open with Mahesh Bhupathi. She became the first Indian woman to win any grand slam event. In 2005, Mirza reached the third round of the Australian Open, losing to eventual champion Serena Williams. On February 12, 2005, she became the first Indian woman to win a WTA singles title, defeating Alyona Bondarenko of Ukraine in the Hyderabad Open Finals. As of September 2006, Mirza has notched up three top 10 wins; against Svetlana Kuznetsova, Nadia Petrova and Martina Hingis. At the 2006 Doha Asian Games, Mirza won the silver in the women's singles category and the gold in the mixed doubles partnering Leander Paes. She was also part of the Indian women's team that won the silver in the team event. In 2006, Mirza was awarded a Padma Shri, India's fourth highest civilian honour for her contribution to Tennis. Mirza had the best results of her career during the 2007 summer hardcourt season, finishing eighth in the 2007 U.S. Open Series standings. She reached the final of the Bank of the West Classic and won the doubles event with Shahar Pe'er, and reached the quarterfinals of the Tier 1 Acura Classic. At the 2007 U.S. Open, she reached the third round before losing to Anna Chakvetadze for the third time in recent weeks. She fared much better in the doubles, reaching the quarterfinals in mixed with her partner Mahesh Bhupathi and the quarterfinals in the women's doubles

with Bethanie Mattek, including a win over number two seeds Lisa Raymond and Samantha Stosur. She represented India at the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, in the women's singles and doubles events. In singles, she retired in the round of 64, while she was trailing 1-6, 1-2 against Iveta Benešová of Czech Republic. She teamed up with Sunitha Rao for the doubles event. They got a walk-over in the round of 32, but lost to Russia's Svetlana Kuznetsova and Dinara Safina by 4-6, 4-6, in the round of 16. Mirza received an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters from MGR Educational and Research Institute University in Chennai on 2008-12-11.

Sania picked her maiden Grand Slam title in the 2009 Australian Open. Partnered with Mahesh Bhupathi, she won the mixed doubles title beating Nathalie Dechy (France) and Andy Ram (Israel) 6-3, 6-1 in the finals in Melbourne. She then entered the Pattaya Women's Open Tournament in Bangkok where she reached the finals after a string of good performances. She lost the finals to Vera Zvonareva 7-5, 6-1. She made the semis in doubles in the same tournament.

M.K. GANDHI



Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was born on October 2nd, 1869 in India. He became one of the most respected spiritual and political leaders of the 1900s. Gandhiji helped free the Indian people from British rule through non violent resistance. He is honoured as the Father of the Nation. The people around him titled Gandhiji “Mahatma”, meaning Great Soul.

At the age of 13, Gandhiji married Kasturba. He studied law in London and returned to India in 1891 to practice. Soon, he took a one year contract to South Africa, to do legal work for Indians settled there. At the time, the British controlled most of South Africa. When he attempted to claim his rights as a British subject, he was abused

and he soon saw that all Indians suffered similar treatment.

Gandhiji, therefore stayed in South Africa for 21 years, working to secure rights for the Indian people. He developed a method of Action, based on the principles of courage and non-violence called Satyagraha. He believed that the way people behaved was more important than what they achieved. Satyagraha promoted non-violence and civil disobedience as the most appropriate methods for obtaining political and social goals. In 1915, Gandhiji returned to India. Within years, he became the leader of the Indian Nationalist movement.

The most important element that Gandhiji added to the Indian freedom struggle was that of mass participation. His Non-Cooperation, Civil Disobedience and Quit India movements were all movements that involved everyone from the poorest peasant to the richest barrister. Gandhiji was arrested many times during this period. He believed it was the honourable thing to go to jail, if one's conscience could not bring itself to obey a law set down by the government.

More than once, Gandhiji also used fasting to impress upon others the need to be nonviolent. During the period of Indian Freedom struggle, the physical, spiritual and mental person of Gandhiji underwent great change as he shed his barrister's clothing for that of the simple peasant, and took ill very often owing to his fasts and jail terms. His spirit, however, only grew as the presence of Gandhiji spread reassurance and hope all over India and shook the foundations of the British Empire.

Gandhiji's fasts increased especially in the last days of freedom struggle when the demand for Pakistan became very strong, as riots and murders had begun to occur very often in most cities in the North West and Bengal. Gandhiji, an advocate for a peaceful India where Muslims and Hindus lived together in peace, spent his time traveling from village to village, trying to calm down mobs and prevent further slaughter.

On 30th January 1948, at the age of 78, Gandhiji was assassinated by Nathuram Godse, a Hindu fundamentalist, who had been enraged by Gandhiji's equal support for the Muslims. As Nehru said, "a light had gone out". Gandhiji's legacy, however remains and continues to be a guiding force in modern India.



Third Year batch 2006 - 2009
Trip to Delhi, Agra, Kulu Manali November 2008



Present Third Year batch 2007 - 2010
Trip to Delhi, Agra, Jaipur November 2009



**Inaugural of Ticketing Classes for Illrd BA History
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Students of the History Dept. Overall Winners at the Loyola, Ethiraj History Dept. Culturals. December 2009

MRINALINI SARABHAI

Mrinalini Sarabhai is a celebrated dancer and choreographer and has achieved an international reputation that is unmatched by any contemporary Indian classical dancer. The syntax of her creativity mediates between a moral commitment to traditional form and the desire to claim one's own experiments as unique, unrepeatable. The creative anarchy of her essentially modern style is convincingly disciplined by the taut orthodoxy of her classical technique, learnt from her guru Sri Meenakshi Sundaram Pillai. The result is an exalted visual statement combining almost fanatical purity of vision with modish formal experiments.

She is the founder-director of the Darpana Academy of Performing Arts, Ahmedabad, which came into being in 1949. She has traveled extensively all over the world and has received many distinguished national and international awards and citations for her contribution to the preservation of Indian classical dance. Called 'the High Priestess of Indian dance' by dance critics, she is a pioneer in creative work and has given new concepts to traditional dance forms with fresh perspectives and new mysteries.

She is the first Indian woman to receive the medal and Diploma of the French Archives Internationales de la Danse. She was awarded the title of Natya Kala Sikhamani in Madras in 1960 in recognition of her artistic eminence and her unequalled performances of Bharatanatyam.

In 1965, she was awarded the Padma Shri by the Government of India. In 1968 she was honoured with a gold medal by the Mexican Government for her choreography for the Ballet Folklorico of Mexico. In 1969, Gujarat's first State Award for dance was awarded to her for her unique contribution to the art. She is the first and only woman to receive a Veera Shrinkala for her contribution to the Kathakali dance form. In 1979 Mrinalini was awarded the D.Litt. degree for her eminence in dance and literature by the Rabindra Bharati University of Calcutta. She was honoured with the coveted Vishva Gurjari award in 1984 for achieving a unique international reputation as a contemporary Indian classical dancer and for her contribution to Indian classical dance. She was awarded the prestigious Desikottama (D.Litt. Honoris Causa) degree, the highest honour of the Vishva-Bharati University.

She was nominated to the Executive Committee of the International

Dance Council, Paris in 1990. She was presented the Honor Summus Award by the Watumull Foundation, Honolulu, Hawaii in 1991 in recognition of her outstanding success as a dancer, for her creative dance-dramas, and for her revival and preservation of Indian dance, drama and puppetry forms. The first Hall of Fame Award for life-long service to dance was given to her by Dynasty Culture Club in 1991. The same year the Gujarat Government honoured her by presenting the Pandit Omkarnath Thakur Award for valuable contribution in the field of performing arts. She was presented the Raseshwar award by the Sur-Singar Samsad, Bombay in 1992.

She was awarded the Padma Bhushan by the President of India in 1992 and the Scroll of Honour by the Vice-President of India in 1995 in recognition of decades-long research, experimentation and presentation of Indian classical and creative dance choreographic creations. She was awarded the Kerala Kalamandalam Fellowship in 1995 and the Kalidas Samman by the Madhya Pradesh Government in 1996 for her contribution to Classical Dance.

She was honoured with the Degree of Doctor of Letters, honoris causa (D.Litt) by the University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK in 1997.

She has choreographed more than three hundred (300) dance dramas. Some are The Life of Man, Matsya Kanya, Silapadikaram, Meghaduta, Gowri, Abhisarika, Valli Kalyanam, Prahalada Charitam, Ashwatthama, Stree Priyadarshini, Nataraja Vandanam, Bhakti, Mohini Bhasmasura, Sampoorana Ramayana, Shakuntala, Atma, Revelations and Surya. Her latest dance dramas, Krishna the musical, Krishna-Gopala and This Mahabharata mirror today's world.

VISWANATHAN ANAND

Viswanathan Anand was born on December 11, 1969 in Madras, He is the Indian chess grandmaster and the current world chess champion. Anand won the FEDE World chess champion in 2000, at a time when the world title was split. His win in the world chess championship 2007 has made him the undisputed world champion since 2007. In a 2008 article for Times Magazine, Anand expressed satisfaction that the world championship title had come back to India, the country where chess originated.

Anand has been top of the world rating list since April 2007, is one of four players in history to break the 2800 mark on the FEDE rating list and has been among the top three ranked players in the world continuously since 1997.

Early career

Anand's rise in the Indian chess world was meteoric. National level success came early for him when he won the National Sub-Junior Chess Championship with a score of 9/9 in 1983 at the age of fourteen. He became the youngest Indian to win the International Master Title at the age of fifteen, in 1984. At the age of sixteen he became the national chess champion and won that title two more times. He played games at blitz speed. In 1987, he became the first Indian to win the World Junior Chess Championship. In 1988, at the age of eighteen, he became India's first Grandmaster.

In the World Chess Championship 1993 cycle Anand qualified for his first Candidates Tournament, winning his first match but narrowly losing his quarter-final match to Anatoly Karpov.

Chess titles

1983 National Sub-Junior Chess Champion - age 14

1984 International Master - age 15

1985 Indian National Champion - age 16

1987 World Junior Chess Champion

1988 Grandmaster

2000 FIDE World Chess Champion

2003 FIDE World Rapid Chess Champion

2007 FIDE World Chess Champion (Undisputed)

Awards

Anand has received many national and international awards.

- Arjuna award for Outstanding Indian Sportsman in Chess in 1985
- Padma Shri, National Citizens Award and Soviet Land Nehru Award in 1987 at the age of 18.
- The inaugural Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, India's highest sporting honour in the year 1991-1992.
- British Chess Federation 'Book of the Year' Award in 1998 for his book My Best Games of Chess
- Padma Bhushan in 2000
- Jameo de Oro the highest honour given by the Government of Lanzarote in Spain on 25 April 2001. The award is given to illustrious personalities with extraordinary achievements.
- Chess Oscar (1997, 1998, 2003, 2004 and 2007)
- Sportstar Millennium Award in 1998, from India's premier Sports magazine for being the sportperson of the millennium
- Padma Vibhushan in 2007

S.Dharshana Priya
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P.T USHA

Pilavullakandi Thekkeparambil Usha (born June 27, 1964), popularly known as P. T. Usha is an Indian athlete from the state of Kerala. Regarded as queen of Indian track and field, P. T. Usha has been associated with Indian athletics since 1979. Her initials stand for her family/house name, according to tradition in many parts of Kerala. She was nicknamed Payyoli Express.

Early Life :-

P. T. Usha was born in the village of Payyoli, Kozhikode District, Kerala. In 1976 the Kerala State Government started a Sports School for women, and Usha was chosen to represent her district.

Career

In 1979 she participated in the National School Games, where she was noticed by O.M. Nambiar, who coached her throughout her career. Her debut in the 1980 Moscow Olympics proved lacklustre. In the 1982 New Delhi Asiad, she got silver medal in the 100 m and the 200m, but at the Asian Track and Field Championship in Kuwait a year later, Usha took gold in the 400 m with a new Asian record. Between 1983-89, Usha garnered 13 golds at ATF meets. She finished first in the semi-finals of the 400 metres hurdles in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, but faltered in the finals. In almost a repeat of Milkha Singh's 1960 feat, there was a nail-biting photo finish for the third place. Usha lost the bronze by 1/100th of a second. She became the first Indian woman (and the fifth Indian) to reach the final of an Olympic event by winning her 400 m hurdles Semi-final.

In the 10th Asian Games held at Seoul in 1986, P. T. Usha won 4 gold and 1 silver medal in the track and field events. Here she created new Asian Games records in all the events she participated. She won five golds at the 6th Asian Track and Field Championship at Jakarta in 1985. Her six medals at the same meet is a record for a single athlete in a single international meet.

Usha has won 101 international medals so far. She is employed as an officer in the Southern Railways. In 1985, she was conferred the Padma Shri and the Arjuna award.

Achievements - Medal Record

Women's Athletics

Asian Games		No.of Medals
Silver	1982 New Delhi	2
Gold	1986 Seoul	4
Silver	1986 Seoul	1
Silver	1990 Beijing	3
Silver	1994 Hiroshima	1

World Record

During the 1985 Asian Track & Field Meet at Jakarta, Indonesia, Usha secured 5 gold medals in the 100, 200, and 400 meter sprints, the 400 meter hurdles, and the 4 x 400 meter relay. She also earned a bronze medal in the 4 x 100 meter relay. This is the current record for most gold medals earned by a female in a single track meet.

Awards and Honors

- v Recipient of Arjuna Award, 1984.
- v Greatest women athletes, in 1985 Jakarta Asian Athletic Meet
- v Padma sree in 1984
- v Best Athlete in Asia Award in 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, and 1989.
- v 1986 Seoul Asian Games, won the Adidas Golden Shoe Award for the best athlete.
- v Thirty International awards, for her excellence in Athletics.
- v Kerala sports journalist award for the year 1999.
- v World Trophy for best Athlete 1985, 1986.

PRATIBHA KUMARI PATIL

Pratibha Patil was born on Dec 19, 1934 in Nadgaon, Maharashtra. She is the daughter of Narayan Rao Patil. She studied at R.R. School at Jalgaon. She received her M.A. from Mooljee Jaitha (M.J.) College, Jalgaon and obtained a law degree from the Government Law College, Mumbai. During her college days she excelled in table tennis, winning various inter-college tournaments. In 1962, Pratibha Patil was voted "College Queen" of M.J. College. The same year, she won an assembly election from Edlbad constituency on the Indian National Congress ticket.

She married educator Devisingh Ramsingh Shekhawat on July 7, 1965. The couple have a son and daughter.

She is the current president of India, the 12th person and first women of hold the office. She was sworn in as president of India on July 25, 2007 succeeding Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

Patil a member of the Indian National congress (INC) was nominated by the ruling United Progressive Alliance and Indian left. She won the presidential election held on July 19, 2007 defeating her nearest rival Bhairon Singh Shekhwat by over 300,000 votes.

Patil represented Edlbad constituency in Jayalan District, Maharashtra as a member of the Maharastra legislative Assembly (1962 -1985) and was deputy chairwoman of the Rajya sabha (1986 -1988), member of Parliament from Amravati in the Lok sabha (1991 -1996) and the 24th and the first women governor of Rajasthan (2004 -2007).

K.R. NARAYAN



K.R Narayanan was the tenth president of the Republic of India. He is the first Dalit and the only Malayali to have been President. Born in Perumthanam, Uzhavoor village, Kottayam district, Kerala, and after a brief stint with journalism and then studying political science at the London School of Economics with the assistance of a scholarship, Narayanan began his public service career in India as a member of the Indian Foreign Service under the Nehru administration. He served as ambassador to

Japan, United Kingdom, Thailand, Turkey, People's Republic of China and United States of America and was referred by Nehru as "the best diplomat of the country". He entered politics at Indira Gandhi's request and won three successive general elections to the Lok Sabha and served as a Minister of State in the Union Cabinet under former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Elected as Vice-President in 1992, Narayanan went on to become the President of India in 1997.

Early life and His Family

He was born in his Tharavaadu (ancestral home), a small thatched hut at Perumthanam, Uzhavoor, as the fourth of seven children of Kocheril Raman Vaidyar, a physician practicing the traditional Indian medical systems of Siddha and Ayurveda, and Punnaththuraveetil Paappiyamma. His family belong to the Paravan caste. and they were very poor, but his father was respected for his medical acumen. He was born on October 27, 1920, but his uncle, who accompanied him on his first day in school, did not know his actual date of birth, and arbitrarily chose October 27, 1920 for the records; Narayanan later chose to let it remain official. Narayanan had his early schooling in Uzhavoor at the Government Lower Primary School, Kurichithanam and Our Lady of Lourdes Upper Primary School, Uzhavoor (1931-35). He walked to school for about 15 kilometres daily through paddy fields, and was often unable to pay the modest fees.

He matriculated from St. Mary's High School, Kuravilangad (1936-37). He completed his intermediate at C. M. S. College, Kottayam (1938-

40), aided by a merit scholarship. Narayanan obtained his B. A. (Honours) and M.A. in English literature from the University of Travancore (1940-43) standing first in the university. With his family facing great difficulties, he left for Delhi and worked for some time as a journalist with The Hindu and The Times of India. While working in Rangoon, Burma (Myanmar), K. R. Narayanan met "Ma Tint Tint", who he later married in Delhi on 8 June 1951. Ma Tint Tint had been active in the YWCA, and on hearing that Narayanan was a student of famous person had approached him to speak on political freedom in front of her circle of acquaintances. Ma Tint Tint adopted the Indian name Usha and became an Indian citizen. K. R. Narayanan was elected to the Presidency of India (17 July 1997) with 95% of the votes in the electoral college.

This is the only Presidential election to have been held with a minority government holding power at the centre. He was sworn in as the President of India (25 July 1997) by 1997 chief Justice J.S. Verma in the central hall of parliament

Subsequent life

After his retirement as President, K. R. Narayanan, along with his wife Usha, lived his remaining years in a modest bungalow in Delhi. K. R. Narayanan died on 9 November 2005 at the Army Research and Referral Hospital, New Delhi, after being briefly ill with pneumonia and consequent renal failure.

RUKMINI DEVI

Rukmini Devi was born on 29th February 1904. Her parents were Neelakanta Sastri and Seshammal. It was only after her family moved from Chengalpet to Chennai that Rukmini began attending regular school. She spent most of her time on the grounds of the theosophical society slowly, Rukmini was drawn to art, nature and animals.

She had occupied a niche in the arena of Indian culture. Her powerful personality, her contribution to the renaissance of Bharatanatyam and her creation of Kalakshetra, the world - renowned temple of arts in Chennai earned for her great admiration. Less widely known is her work for animal welfare and vegetarianism long before either of these causes became fashionable. Interestingly, after the controversial marriage to George Arundale when she was 16, it was western ballet that first caught Rukmini's fancy. She turned to Indian dance only when the ballerina Anna Pavlova advised her to look at the native arts of India for inspiration. Rukmini was introduced to Bharatnatyam by E. Krishna Iyer, founder - secretary of the Madras Music Academy. During the 1930's he taught a successful battle to save the dance which seemed likely to be buried along with the disfavoured devadasi system. It has been a shibboleth among the region of Rukmini's admirers that it was she was saved Bharatnatyam from oblivion. The dance had been revived and most of the dark clouds of social prejudice had been blown away by the time Rukmini gave her first performance in 1935. Given her upper-class Brahmin background Iyer had rightly anticipated that Rukmini's entry into Bharatnatyam would further dilute social ostracism of the community of dancers. Rukmini herself gave credence to the view that she had "reconstructed" the dance of the devadasis by making it respectable.

Nonetheless, she should be remembered for her contributions that she made to her presentation and propagation of Bharatnatyam. She set up kalakshetra which provided an institutional setting for the students of music and dance. Hundreds of students found it as a heaven of opportunity to learn the traditional arts. She pioneered the use of the dance-drama formed for persecuting Bharatnatyam and sophisticated versions of folk and devotional dances.

In her last year she worked unflaggingly for the institution. Her vision to build a theatre modeled on the Kerala Koothambalam had been

fulfilled. She was a motivator who encouraged her students to learn in order to continue the process and become teachers. She stands out as a personality, rare as an exotic orchid in the 20th century history of Indian performing arts.

She passed on February 23rd 1986 at the age of 82.

DHIRAJIL HIRACHAND AMBANI

Early Life

Dhirajil Hirachand Ambani was born on 28th December 1932, at Chorwad in Gujarat. His father was a teacher and he was from an ordinary Indian family. He was the founder of Reliance Industries. He was a man who started from zero and built his own empire. He should be an acceptable example of hard worker and a winner. He used to say “growth has no limit at Reliance. I keep reversing my vision. Only when you dream it you can do it”. His famous quotes includes “Give the youth a proper environment. Motivate them. Extend them the support they need. Each one of them has infinite source of energy. They will deliver. At the age of 16, he started working as a dispatch for a company called A. Besse & Co. After completing two years he was promoted as the manager for their oil filling station at Aden. He returned to India in 1958 to launch his first business venture a spice trading company named Reliance Commercial Corporation.

Growth of Ambani

In 1962, Dhirubhai identified an emerging opportunity in yarn trading and shifted to the new business. Three years later he changed the name of his company to Reliance Textile Industries limited. In 1966, he purchased land in Baroda, Gujarat, to set up a textile mill. A technical team from the World Bank recognized the Baroda mill as one of the best composite textile mills in India and certified it as excellent even by developed country standards’. In 1977, the company went public. At the time of the Reliance Textiles IPO, participation in the Indian capital markets was largely limited to a small but influential elite which dabbled in a handful of stocks. The great majority of

India's middle class chose to stay away. Dhirubhai's decision to prefer the capital markets over banks as the primary source of funding for his ambitious expansion plans was as daring as it was unprecedented.

Dhirubhai managed to convince a sufficiently large number of sceptical middle class investors to put their money, and faith, in what was then a small, relatively unknown company. It was one of Dhirubhai's great dreams in life to see ordinary Indians enjoy the enormous economic benefits of being able to access affordable yet world class telecommunications infrastructure. He wanted Reliance to spearhead a communications revolution that would dramatically cut down the cost of connectivity and propel India into the digital age.

Dhirubhai's Companies

Anil Dhirubhai Ambani's companies are Reliance Communications, Reliance Energy, Reliance General Insurance, Reliance Life Insurance, Reliance Mutual Fund, Reliance Capital, Reliance Health. Today, Reliance communications is India's largest information and communications services provider with over 20 million subscribers and offers the full range of integrated telecom services - at prices that are by far the lowest anywhere in the world.

Awards and Recognitions

- v June 1998 - Dean's Medal by the Whatron School, University of Pennsylvania for setting an outstanding example of leadership.
- v Selected by Asia week magazine for its list of 'Leaders of the Millenium in Business and Finance' and was introduced as the only "new hero" in Business and finance from India - June 1999.
- v November 2000 - conferred 'Man of the Century' award by Chemtech Foundation and Chemical Engineering World in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the growth and development of the chemical industry in India.
- v August 2001 - The Economic Times Award for corporate excellence for Lifetime Achievement.
- v Dhirubhai Ambani was named the Man of 20th century by the Federation of Indian chambers of Commerce and Industry.
- v A poll conducted by the Times of India in 2000 voted him "Greatest Creator of Wealth in the country"

Our founder, the legendary Dhirubhai Ambani, gave us a simple mantra for entrepreneurship: “Think big. Think fast. Think Ahead”.

We will think bigger. We will think faster. But, most important of all, we will think better to stay ahead of competition and of our times.

MADURAI SHANMUGAVADIVU SUBBULAKSHMI

M.S. Subbulakshmi was born in the temple town of Madurai on September 16th 1916. Her tiny home was close to the Meenakshi temple. She has vocally rendered some of the rare and singular gamakas and ‘prayogas’ on both veena and nadaswaram. The family was rich only in music. That was all the wealth they had. Mother Shanmugavadiyu wanted to start a formal training for M.S in vocal music. Her formal schooling was stopped in the 5th grade, but she practiced music for long hours, lost in the vibrations of the Thambura, which she would tune reverently. She had a fascination for mridangam, which she learnt to play from brother Sakthivel. She released her first disc at the age of ten. The songs were ‘Marakata Vadivu’ and ‘Oothukuzhiyinile’ in an impossibly high pitch. Infact it was through the Columbia gramophone company records she was first noticed in the city of Madras before she was in her teens. The voice had a childish treble, but there was no hesitation.

By 1932, MS had already become a sort of cult figure to a whole generation of young singers. Young MS learnt music from her mother and her first guru was Madurai Srinivasa Iyengar the great musicians of her time. Women musicians were not taken seriously in those days. There was a feeling, until then, that women sang principally to attract male attention. She essayed into serious elaborations of Ragas without appropriately being aware that she was breaking fresh ground as a female vocalist. An exposition of dance and music was arranged in 1993 at Kumbakonam. Magazines especially like Ananda Vikatan had reviewed her performances regularly as Nightingale. M.S married Sadasivam who was a fairly known figure in Madras Congress circle and also a protege of Rajaji. M.S acted in four movies such as

Sevasadanam, Sakunthalai, Savithri, & Bakthameera. In 1944 M.S Started conducting benefit performances to collect funds for a variety of social and religious causes. In 1947, Mahatma Gandhi, had sent word to M.S. to sing 'Bhajans' for him. She sent him a recorded version of ' Hari Tuma Haro' She became an accepted and integral part of the Madras elitist society. M.S gave a concert at the Edinburgh festival and at the United Nations. M.S has traveled all over the world. She was awarded the Magsaysay Award in the year 1982. M.S was a great philanthropist. M.S.has a saintly image, which will probably endure long after this century, just as in the case of "Meerabai". M.S. links her art with the spiritual quest, where modesty and perseverance assures the 'sadhaka' of grace.

MANORAMA (ACHI MANORAMA)

Manorama was born on 26th May 1943. Her birth name is "papa" Manorama was fondly called as "Achi" and she acted in more than 1200 films. She has acted in a variety of roles for which she is very popular. She has acted in all 4 Indian languages. Her landmark south films include Thillana Mohanambal, Patti Sollai, Thattathe.

She has a son, Bhupathi" who acts in T.V. serials. Manorama holds the record for being the most prolific actress. She acted in her 1000th film in 1985 and has done about 1200 films by 2003. The thespian Manorama is more than five decades old in kollywood. She started off as a theatre person before plunging into film. Gifted with robust voice and good sense of humour her acting potentials are showcased in various movies. She is affectionately called as "Achi" because she hails from chettinad. She is good in singing also. She is a good human being. Manorama has paired with comedians and heroes and people look forward for a comedy track of Achi in the movies.

She calls Sivaji" as her brother and cried uncontrollably when he died. She can emote well, which is her forte. Manorama is synonymous with humor and has taken Tamil movies to great heights.

She has acted with four Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu and one Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. She is still going strong with the younger generation of actors. She also acted with Super Star "Rajini Kanth" in many films. She remains an evergreen artiste. Totally dedicated to

the profession and extremely humble at heart, this woman's life is a tale of triumph over several obstacles.

Manorama said, acting is a passion for her and she cannot be without acting. She has acted with everyone during the last 56 years of her career in the film industry. She got the opportunity to even act with actor Sukumaran's son Prithiviraj. She would love to even act with the children of actors in the present day generation. She is like a mother to the Tamil industry.

KAPIL DEV

Kapil Dev, also known as the "Haryana Hurricane", was born on 6th January 1959 in Chandigarh. Kapil Dev played his first competitive game of cricket at the age of 13. In Chandigarh he used to be a regular spectator to watch the inter - sector matches. One Sunday the sector 16 team fell one player short and Kapil who had gone to watch the match was taken in as a replacement. The sector 26 team boasted of 3 players who had played Ranji Trophy cricket for Haryana. The young Kapil Dev impressed them with his attitude and talent and became a regular member of the side.

His family noticing his passion for the game encouraged him to take up the game seriously. His elder brother gave him lots of encouragement and at age 24, Kapil started playing for Dav School. He was coached by Desh Prem Azad, a well known cricket coach in Chandigarh. At the age of 15, Kapil Dev was invited to attend a line-in coaching camp in Bombay. The camp held at the cricket club of India was conducted by Hemu Adhikari who also was an ex. India test cricketer.

Kapil Dev made his first class debut in November 1975 at the age of 17. He played for his home state Haryana against neighboring state of Punjab. His performance in this match was very impressive as he got 6 wickets for just 39 runs. In another top class performance he picked up 8/36 against Jammu and Kashmir. His 7 for 20 against Bengal and 8 for 38 against services are considered to be one of the best bowling performances in the Indian domestic cricket.

Kapil Dev made his Test debut on 16th Oct 1978 at Faisalabad against Pakistan. His bowling in the first innings was disappointing as he had figures of 0/71 from 16 overs. In the second innings he bowled better and got his first test wicket that of Sadiq Mohammad. India was comprehensively beaten in that services but it saw the emergence of kapil Dev as a talented fast bowler and an all rounder. He learned a lot in this series and modified his action on the advice of Sunil Gavaskar and started bowling from close to the stumps to make his out swingers more effective and lethal. He also performed creditably with the bat and made some useful scores in the middle order. His best batting performance was the innings of 59 in 48 balls, which included two sixes and eight fours in the third test at Karachi.

Till he retired in mid 90's kapil Dev was one of the leading all rounder in the game. He held the record for the most number of test and one-day wickets for quite a long time till Courtney Walsh and wasim Akram took over respectively. Captaining India to win the world Cup in 1983 was the high light of his illustrious career. Other highlights include leading India to a 2-0 services win against a strong England in 1986.

His unbeaten innings of 175 against Zimbabwe in the world cup in 1983 when India were tottering at 17/5 and his 4 successive sixes of Eddie innings in the first innings of the lords test in 1990 to get the 24 runs needed to avoid the follow on are now part of cricketing folk lore. His super human match wining efforts with the ball in the Melbourne Test of 1980 against Australia in which he bowled non stop for 3 hours with injections for a torn hamstring and a pulled groin muscle is still remembered about this hero.

RABINDRANATH TAGORE

Greatest writer in modern Indian literature, poet, novelist, undoubtedly one of the educator, and an advocate of early Independence for India. Tagore won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913. Two years later he was awarded the knight hood, but he surrendered it in 1919 as a poets reaction against the massacre of Amritsar, where the British troops killed over 400 Indian demonstrators. Tagore's influence on Gandhi and the founders of modern India was enormous, but his reputation in the west as a mystic has perhaps mislead his Western readers to ignore his role as reform and critic of colonialism

“When one knows thee, then alien there is none then no door is shut. Oh, grant me my prayer that I may never lose touch of the one in the play of the many” Gitanjali.

Rabindranath Tagore was born in Calcutta into a wealthy and prominent family. His father was Maharishi Rabindranath Tagore, a religious reformer and scholar. His mother, Sarada Devi, died when Tagore was very young. Tagore's grandfather had established a huge financial empire for himself. His philanthropy led him to help a number of public projects, such as Calcutta Medical college.

Rabindranath Tagore, who died in 1941 at the age of eighty, is a towering figure in the millennium- old literature of Bengal. Anyone who becomes familiar with this large and flourishing tradition will be impressed by the power of Tagore's presence in Bangladesh and in India. His poetry as well as his novels, short stories, and essays are very widely read, and the songs he composed reverberate around the eastern past of India and throughout Bangladesh.

Tagore tried to combine traditional Indian culture and Western ideas. In “My Reminiscences” Tagore mentions that it was not until the age of 10 that he started to use socks and shoes. And servants beat the children regularly. Tagore, the youngest, started to compose poems at the age of eight. Tagore's first book, a collection of poems, appeared when he was 17; Tagor's friend who wanted to surprise him published it.

Tagore received his early education first from tutors and then at a variety of schools. Among them were Bengal academy where he studied history and culture. At University College, London, he studied Law but

left after a year as he did not like the weather. In England Tagore started to compose the poem 'Bhagna Hridaj'

In 1883 Tagore married Mrinalini Devi Raichandhuri, with whom he had two sons and three daughters. Between 1893 and 1900 he wrote seven volumes of poetry, including SONAR TARI (The golden Boat), 1894 and KHANIKA, 1900. This was highly productive - period in Tagore's life. More important was that Tagore wrote in the common language of the people.

Tagore was the first Indian to bring an element of psychological dualism to his novels. Between 1891 and 1895 he published forty four short stories in Bengali periodicals, most of them in the monthly journal Sadhana, Tagore's short stories became famous.

In 1901 Tagore founded a school outside Calcutta, Visva-Bharathi; which was dedicated to emerging western and Indian philosophy and education. He produced poems, novels, stories, a text on the history of India, text Books and treatises on pedagogy. Tagore's wife died in 1902, next year one of his daughters died, and in 1907 Tagore lost his younger son. Tagore's reputation as a writer was established in United States and in England, after the publication of GITANJALI: SONG OFFERINGS, about divine and human love.

Tagore wrote his most important works in Bengali, but they were often translated into English. At the age of 70 Tagore took up painting. He was also a composer, setting hundreds of poems to music. Many of his poems are actually songs, and inseparable from their music. Tagore's 'Our golden Bengal' became the national anthem of Bangladesh. Only hours before he died on August 7, in 1941, Tagore dictated his last poem. His written production, still not completely collected, fills nearly 30 substantial volumes.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

Jawaharlal Nehru was a major political leader and pivotal figure in the Congress Party, and the first and longest-serving prime minister of independent India, serving from 1947 to 1964. As one of the founders of the Non-aligned Movement, he was an important figure in the international politics of the post-war era. He is also referred to as Pandit Nehru

Nehru was born in the city of Allahabad, situated along the banks of the Ganges River. He was the eldest child of Swarup Rani and the wealthy barrister Motilal Nehru. The Nehru family descended from Kashmiri heritage and belonged to the Kashmiri Saraswat Brahmin caste of Hindus. Training as a lawyer, Motilal had moved to Allahabad and developed a successful practise and had become active in Indian national movement by joining the Indian National Congress. Nehru and his sisters—Vijaya Lakshmi and Krishna—lived in a large mansion called Anand Bhavan and were raised with English customs, mannerisms and dress.

Nehru became a leader of the left-wing of the Indian National Congress at a remarkably young age. Rising to Congress President under the mentorship of Mahatma Gandhi, Nehru was a charismatic, radical leader, advocating complete independence from the British Empire, and was eventually recognised as Gandhi's political heir. A life-long liberal, Nehru was also an advocate for Fabian socialism and the public sector as the means by which long-standing challenges of economic development could be addressed.

Nehru raised the flag of independent India in New Delhi on 15 August 1947, and served as Prime Minister. Nehru's appreciation for parliamentary democracy coupled with concerns for the poor and underprivileged enabled him to formulate policies that often reflected his socialist leanings. Both as prime minister and as Congress president, Nehru pushed through the Indian Parliament, dominated by members of his own party, a series of legal reforms intended to emancipate Hindu women and bring equality. These reforms included raising the minimum marriageable age from twelve to fifteen, empowering women to divorce their husbands and inherit property, and declaring illegal the ruinous dowry system. His long tenure was instrumental in shaping the traditions and structures of independent India. His daughter Indira Gandhi and grandson Rajiv Gandhi served as the Prime Ministers of India.

PANDIT RAVI SHANKAR



The sitar maestro was born on 7 April 1920 in Varanasi, UP, India. In his early years he joined his elder brother, Uday Shankar and his troupe and went to Paris in 1930 to experiment with the stage by playing small roles in ballets for the next three years. Pandit Ravi Shankar was trained in sitar under Ustad Allauddin Khan of Maihar for six years (1938-44), a court musician and a disciple of Swami Haridas of the Tansen Gharana.

Pandit Ravi Shankar joined the IPTA and composed music for several ballets, started Renaissance artistes in 1947 and was in charge of Vadya Vrinda at the All India Radio in 1949. He took part in UNESCO Music Festival in Paris and performed with Yehudi Menuhin and David Oistrach in 1958. In 1967 he started the Kinnara school in Los Angeles and was made the head of the Indian Music section in California Institute of Arts in 1970. He is a fellow member of the Sahitya Natak Akademi and his publications include *Music Memory*, *My Music*, *My Life*, *Rag Anurag* (Bengali) and *Ravi* which was an autobiography in 1995.

Pandit Ravi Shankar has been awarded the degree of Doctorate of Fine Arts by the Regents of University of California in the year 1968, has been honoured by the Doctorates of Music University, Khairagarh and Rabindra Bharati University in 1973, Deshikoltama by Vishwa Bharati University and is also the recipient of the Padma Vibhushan.

Pandit Ravi Shankar founded the Research Institute for Music and Performing Arts in Varanasi in 1976. He is also a member of the International Music Council and has been nominated as a member of the Indian parliament.

PRANNOY ROY



Prannoy Roy is the founder and president of New Delhi Television (NDTV). He is one of the pioneers of Indian television journalism. He was born on October 15, 1949. He is the cousin of well-known Indian novelist and activist Arundhati Roy.

Roy attended The Doon School in Dehradun and graduated in Economics from the University of London's Queen Mary College in 1973. He completed his Ph.D in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics. Roy started his career as a Chartered Accountant for Pricewater

houseCoopers, London. He has been involved with the television media as a commentator on elections since 1980. He is also a well-known economist and has served as an economic adviser to the Indian Ministry of Finance from 1985 to 1987.

Roy is married to Radhika Roy. She is the director of NDTV.

Roy has won several awards such as:

- Dynasty Culture Club Hall of Fame Award for Best Anchor Person in 1991.
- TV & Video Award for Best Anchor Person in 1993.
- B. D. Goenka Award for excellence in Journalism in 1994 and 1995.
- Maharana Mewar Foundation Award for contribution to Journalism in 1996.
- Runner-up for Best News Presenter / Anchor in the Asian television Awards in 1997.
- Goodwill Tour Award from Habib Public School, Karachi in 1997.
- Indian Dance theatre "Best Personality of the Year" Award in 1998.
- Screen Videocon "Lifetime Achievement" Award in 1998.
- Limca Book of Records "Person of The Year" Award in 1998.
- Ernst & Young - Entrepreneur of The Year Award (Media).

RAHUL DEV BURMAN

Rahul Dev Burman commonly known as **R. D. Burman** and nicknamed **Pancham da**, was one of the greatest music composers of Bollywood. He was the only son of singer and Bollywood music composer Sachin Dev Burman and his wife **Meera**. He is credited with revolutionizing the music in Hindi films, and his style and techniques continue to be followed by the composers of today.

Rahul Dev Burman was born in Calcutta. After coming to Mumbai, he learnt Sarod from Ustad Ali Akbar Khan . When he was nine years old, he composed his first song, *Aye meri topi palat ke aa*, which his father used in the film *Funtoosh* (1956). The tune of the song *Sar jo tera chakraaye* was composed by him as a child. His father loved the tune and included it in the soundtrack of Guru Dutt's *Pyasa*. As a child, Pancham also played the mouth organ in the famous song *Hai apna dil to aawara* (from film *Solva Saal* - 1958, starring Dev Anand). Pancham began his music career as an assistant to his father. His first film as a music director was *Chhote nawaab*.

Music career

He started independent music composing before long. Out of his 331 released movies, 292 were in Hindi, 31 in Bangla, 3 in Telugu, 2 each in Tamil & Oriya and 1 in Marathi. RD also composed for 5 TV Serials in Hindi and Marathi. He also scored a large number of non-film songs in Bangla, which are available in different albums. He did a song for a small documentary film called *Maa Ki Pukaar* too, in 1975.

R D Burman did playback in eighteen movies composed by him. He was famous for unique, grunting bass singing style. He also acted in the film *Bhoot Bungla* (1965) and *Pyar Ka Mausam* (1967).

He also used some of the popular western songs to compose his own tunes. His one of the super hit song "Mehbooba Mehbooba" is inspired from the song "Say You Love Me" by the Greek singer Demis Roussos.

After his death, in the late 1990s, the remix versions of R D Burman's hits continue to rule the Indian music scene. Even today, most of the Indian remix songs are his tunes remixed.

Jhankaar Beats (2003 movie) starring Sanjay Suri, Rahul Bose, Juhi

Chawla & Rinkie Khanna was sort of a tribute to RDB, wherein Sur & Bose play musicians who revere RDB and his music and whose music is influenced by Burman. There was a remixed version of Burmans popular Kishore Kumar number “Humein tumse pyaar kitna” which was integral to the film.

Foreign collaborations and private albums

In a rare feat, noted lyricist, Gulzar, R.D. Burman and Asha Bhosle, came together in 1987, to create a double album, titled, *Dil Padosi Hai*, which was released on September 8, 1987, Asha Bhosle’ birthday. R D Burman also produced private albums, including one based on the samba, and also collaborated with Boy George. He has also composed music for an album called *Pantera* produced by Pete Gavankar in 1987 whose lyrics were written by Jose Flores.

Music style

Pancham was comfortable with all types of music, be it the romantic *Raat kali* from *Buddha mil gaya* (1971), the sexy cabaret *Piya tu ab to aaja* from *Caravan* (1971), the ultimate hippie anthem “Dum Maro Dum” from *Hare Krishna Hare Rama* (1972) or the classical *Raina beeti jaaye*. It is said that Dev Anand did not include the complete version of *Dum Maro Dum* in *Hare Rama Hare Krishna*, as he was worried the song would overshadow the film. At times, R D doubled up as a singer too. His most famous song as a singer was “Mehbooba” from *Sholay*. This song is inspired from the song “Say You Love Me” by Demis Roussos.

Pancham was a very creative person. His percussion included a spoon against a glass (*Chura liya hai* from *Yaadon Ki baraath*), desks (*Masterji ki aa gayee chitthee* from *Kitaab*) a bamboo whistle with a balloon (*Abdullah*) and bottles filled with water at different levels (*O maajhi re* from *Khushboo*).

Some of Pancham’s songs were inspired from popular western tunes. For example, *Aao twist karein* (Bhoot Bangla) was a direct lift of *Come lets twist again* by Chubby Checker while *Tera mujhse hai pehle ka naata koi* (*Aaa Gale Lag Ja*) is said to be a copy of *The Yellow Rose of Texas* by Elvis Presley. There are many such other examples available at itwofs. “Bhali Bhali Si Ek Surat” (from *Buddha Mil Gaya*) is inspired by “Jump in the Line” (by Harry Belafonte). Another example is *Mamma*

Mia by ABBA which inspired 'tere liye zamana tere liye' in Hum Kisi Se Kam Nah

Pancham also adapted folk music from eastern Europe in some of his tunes, such as the songs in the movie *Satte Pe Satta*. There have been discussions regarding the influence of the communist block of the eastern Europe on Pancham's music.

Pancham has also directed music for some regional films, including Bangla, Oriya, Tamil, Telugu and Marathi. He also acted in one of the Bengali film named *Gayak* (starring Amitkumar and Debasri Roy), where RD plays himself and 'discovers' Amit singing on a beach. Pancham's non-filmi music comprises few albums, including *Pantera* - the international album for which he shares credit with Latin American composer Jose Flores. In the only experiment of its kind he recorded the light version of "Hume tumse pyar kitana" in the voice of playback singer kishorekumar while the classical version in the voice of "Parvenn sultana".

RAJNIKANT

Shivaji Rao Gaekwad (Rajnikanth) was born on December 12, 1949 in Bangalore (India) he was the son of a police constable. He was a bus conductor during which time he reportedly caught the fancy of the bus travellers with his mannerisms and style of issuing tickets and blowing the whistle and so on. Wanting to become an actor, he moved to Chennai and joined the film institute. It was here that he caught the eye of K. Balachander, a director known for introducing talented, new faces into the Tamil film industry. Balachander gave him a small role - as the no-good husband of Srividya - in *Aboorva Raagangal* and the rest, as they say, is history. Rajnikanth soon graduated to playing villains and his style, swagger and casually unique brand of villainy draw the movie-



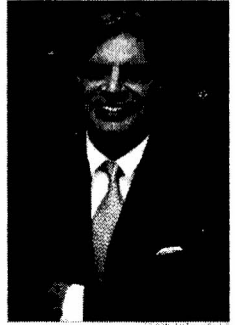
going public. Be it the sadistic husband of Sujatha in *Avargal* or the wolf in sheep's clothing in *Moondru Mudichu* or the lust-filled village rowdy in *Bharathiraja's 16 Vayadhinile*, Rajnikanth was the villain the people loved to hate. From here, it was a small step for Rajni, playing the anti-hero and finally, the hero in *Bhairavi*. Rajnikanth firmly captured the vacant, action-hero slot in Tamil movies with a series of movies where he routinely bashed up the bad guys who had done him injustice in one way or the other. Once in a while he did movies like *Aarulirundhu* *Arubadhu Varai* or *Johnny* which gave us glimpses of his acting potential. But action was what the fans expected from a Rajni movie and action was what he gave them. He has been superstar for the past 25 years.

The Tamil megastar of the 80s and 90s he was one of the highest earning actors at his peak. He has also worked in Hindi, Telugu and Kannada and even a English film. He made his debut in *Katha Sangama* (1975) and became a star with *Apoorva Raagangal* (1975). His unique acting style is characterised by a trademark gesture: flipping a cigarette in the air and catching it in his mouth. His dark skin and heavy-lidded eyes have made him the hero of the lower classes. His fans conduct pujas on huge cutouts of Rajnikant just before the launching of his films to ensure his success. His fans collect opening day ticket of his movies and even buy them at exorbitant prices. Directors cannot 'kill off' his character in the movie for fear that the theatre will be burnt down to prevent future runnings of the movie by his 'crazed' fans who consider him almost a God. He is said to "explode like a tiger on screen".

As the tradition of films and politics continues in Tamil Nadu, his immense popularity on screen has opened the doors of a political career.

RATAN TATA

Mr Tata holds a B.Sc. (Architecture) degree with structural engineering from Cornell University, USA and has completed the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School, USA. He joined the Tata Group in 1962. As Chairman of Tata Industries Limited since 1981, he was responsible for transforming the company into a Group strategy think-tank and a promoter of new ventures in high technology businesses. In 1991, Mr Tata was appointed Chairman of Tata Sons Limited, the holding company of the Tata Entities and currently holds the chairmanship of major



Tata companies. During his tenure, the Groups revenues have grown over ten-fold to annualised Group revenues of \$62.5 billion. Mr Tata is on the Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India, a Member of the Prime Ministers Council on Trade and Industry besides being a member of various global councils. He is also the chairman of two of the largest private sector promoted philanthropic trusts in India. Mr Tata is associated with various organizations in India and abroad. The Government of India honored Mr Tata with its second highest civilian award, the Padma Vibhushan, in 2008. Earlier, in 2000, he had been awarded the Padma Bhushan. He has also been conferred an honorary doctorate in Business Administration by the Ohio State University, an honorary doctorate in technology by the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, an honorary doctorate in science by the University of Warwick, and an honorary fellowship by the London School of Economics. Mr Tata has been on the Company's Board over 19 years including 13 years in an executive capacity and is actively involved with product development and other business strategies pursued by the Company. One of his achievements include designing and developing an indigenous Indian car - Indica which besides creating a record of sorts, is one of the leading products in its category in the car market.

SACHIN RAMESH TENDULKAR



Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar (born 24 April 1973) is an Indian cricketer. He holds several batting records, including the most Test centuries and the most one-day international centuries, and was rated in 2002 by Wisden as the second greatest Test batsman ever, after Sir Don Bradman. He received the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, India's highest sporting honour, for 1997-

1998, and the civilian award Padma Shri in 1999. Tendulkar was a Wisden Cricketer of the Year in 1997.

EARLY DAYS

Born in Mumbai (then Bombay) into a middle-class family, Sachin Tendulkar was named after his family's favourite music director Sachin Dev Burman. He went to Sharadashram Vidyamandir School where he started his cricketing career under coach Ramakant Achrekar. While at school, he was involved in a mammoth 664 run partnership in a Harris Shield game with friend and team mate Vinod Kambli. In 1988/1989, he scored 100 not-out in his first first-class match, for Bombay against Gujarat.

DOMESTIC CAREER

On December 11, 1988, aged just 15 years and 232 days, Tendulkar scored 100 not-out in his debut first-class match for Mumbai against Gujarat, making him the youngest cricketer to score a century. His first double century was for Mumbai while playing against the visiting Australian team at the Brabourne Stadium in 1998.

Tendulkar is the only player to score a century in all three of his Ranji Trophy, Duleep Trophy and Irani Trophy debuts. In 1992, at the age of 19, Tendulkar became the first overseas born player to represent Yorkshire (Craig White, although borne in Yorkshire was the first player to be signed as an overseas player by Yorkshire. He had to be listed as an overseas player as he had already played for Victoria in Australia). Tendulkar played 16 first-class matches for the county and scored 1070 runs at an average of 46.52

INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

Tendulkar was made the icon player and captain for his home side, the Mumbai Indians in the inaugural Indian Premier League Twenty20 competition in 2008. As an icon player, he was signed for a sum of US\$1,121,250, 15% more than the second-highest paid player in the team, Sanath Jayasuriya.

INTERNATIONAL CAREER

Sachin played his first international match against Pakistan in Karachi in 1989, facing the likes of Wasim Akram, Imran Khan, Abdul Qadir, and Waqar Younis. He made just 15 runs, being bowled by Waqar Younis, who also made his debut in that match. It was an inauspicious start, but Tendulkar followed it up with his maiden test fifty a few days later at Faisalabad. His One-day International (ODI) debut on December 18 was equally disappointing, where he was dismissed without scoring a run, again by Waqar Younis. The series was followed by a non-descript tour of New Zealand in which he fell for 88 in a test match, John Wright, who would later coach India, pouching the catch that prevented Tendulkar from becoming the youngest centurion in Test cricket. The long anticipated maiden Test century came in England's tour in 1990 but the other scores were not remarkable. Tendulkar truly came into his own in the 1991-1992 tour of Australia that included a brilliant century on the fast and bouncy track at Perth. He has been Man of the Match 11 times in Test matches and Man of the Series twice, both times in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy against Australia.

His first ODI century came on September 9, 1994 against Australia in Sri Lanka at Colombo. It had taken Tendulkar 79 ODIs to score a century.

Sachin Tendulkar is the only player to score a century while making his Ranji Trophy, Duleep Trophy and Irani Trophy debut. Wisden named Tendulkar one of the Cricketers of the Year in 1997, the first calendar year in which he scored 1,000 Test runs. He repeated the feat in 1999, 2001, and 2002.

Tendulkar also holds the record for scoring 1,000 ODI runs in a calendar year. He has done it six times - 1994, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000 and 2003. In 1998 he made 1,894 ODI runs, still the record for ODI runs

by any batsman in any given calendar year.

INDIVIDUAL HONOURS

- Padma Vibhushan, India's second highest civilian award, 2008.
- ICC World ODI XI: 2004, 2007
- Player of the tournament in 2003 Cricket World Cup
- Wisden Cricketer of the Year: 1997
- Padma Shri, India's fourth highest civilian award, 1999. Arjuna Award, by the Government of India in recognition of his outstanding achievement in Cricket, 1994.
- Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, India's highest honour given for achievement in sports, 1997-98.

In September 2007, former Australian leg-spinner Shane Warne published his list of 50 greatest cricketers ever, in which Sachin had secured the number 1 spot. In January 2008, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown suggested that Sachin should be conferred with an honorary knighthood for his contribution to international cricket.

Fan following

Sachin Tendulkar's entry into world cricket was very much hyped up by former Indian stars and those who had seen him play. By scoring his first half-century in his second match and his first century aged 17, Tendulkar's consistent performances earned him a fan following across the globe, including amongst Australian crowds, where Tendulkar has consistently scored centuries. One of the most popular sayings by Sachin's fans is "Cricket is my religion and Sachin is my God". At home in Mumbai, Tendulkar's fan following is so great that he is unable to lead a normal life. Ian Chappell has said that he would be unable to cope with the lifestyle Tendulkar was forced to lead, having to "wear a wig and go out and watch a movie only at night". In an interview with Tim Sheridan, Tendulkar admitted that he sometimes went for quiet drives in the streets of Mumbai late at night when he would be able to enjoy some peace and silence.

SATYAJIT RAY

Satyajit Ray, an Indian filmmaker and among the dozen or so great masters of world cinema, is known for his humanistic approach to cinema. He made his films in Bengali, a language spoken in the eastern state of India - West Bengal. And yet, his films are of universal interest. They are about things that make up the human race - relationships, emotions, struggle, conflicts, joys and sorrows.

Satyajit Ray, the master storyteller, has left a cinematic heritage that belongs as much to India as to the world. His films demonstrate a remarkable humanism, elaborate observation and subtle handling of characters and situations. The cinema of Satyajit Ray is a rare blend of intellect and emotions. He is controlled, precise, meticulous, and yet, evokes deep emotional response from the audience. His films depict a fine sensitivity without using melodrama or dramatic excesses. He evolved a cinematic style that is almost invisible. He strongly believed - "The best technique is the one that's not noticeable".

Though initially inspired by the neo-realist tradition, his cinema belongs not to a specific category or style but a timeless meta-genre of a style of story telling that touches the audience in some way. His films belong to a meta-genre that includes the works of Akira Kurosawa, Alfred Hitchcock, Charles Chaplin, David Lean, Federico Fellini, Fritz Lang, John Ford, Ingmar Bergman, Jean Renoir, Luis Bunuel, Yasujiro Ozu, Ritwik Ghatak and Robert Bresson. All very different in style and content, and yet creators of cinema that is timeless and universal.

Awards

In 1978, the organizing committee of the Berlin Film Festival ranked him as one of the three all-time best directors. In 1992, Satyajit Ray received the honorary Academy Award - Lifetime Achievement - "In recognition of his rare mastery of the art of motion pictures and for his profound humanitarian outlook, which has had an indelible influence on filmmakers and audiences throughout the world." Other honors include "Lègion d'Honneur", France and "Bharatratna" (Jewel of India).

SD BURMAN

The famous music director S.D.Burman was born in Tripura. He was in classical music by his father, sitarist and dhrupad singer Nabadwipchandra Dev Burman; later he trained under Ustad Badal Khan and Bhishmadev Chattopadhyay. His early works for the radio were based on east Bengali and north-eastern folk music.

In early 1930s, S.D.Burman made a reputation for himself in Bengal as singer of folk and light classical music, for example at the Allahabad Sangeet Sammelan (Music Conference) in 1935. His first record was of a Nazrul Islam composition and leading to a long and productive relationship with the writer/composer. He made his debut in films singing for Pankaj Mullick in Atorthy's *Yahudi Ki Ladki* (1933) but the songs were scrapped and re-sung by Pahadi Sanyal.

So his first film as singer was Tinkari Chakraborty's *Sanjher Pidim* (1935); he also acted in Dhiren Ganguli's *Bidrohi* (1935). He was Music director from 1939 onwards in Calcutta. He moved to Bombay in 1944 and worked at Filmistan (*Eight Days, Shabnam*), Navketan (*Afsar, Taxi Driver, Funtoosh, Guide*) and for Guru Dutt (*Baazi, Jaal, Pyaasa, Kagaz ke Phool*). He remained Dev Anand's key composer for several years (*Paying Guest, Tere Ghar ke Saamne, Jewel Thief, Prem Pujari*). He also worked on films for Bimal Roy (*Devdas, Sujata, Bandini*).

S.D.Burman's compositions often influenced by his huge repertory of folk-tunes from the Bengali Bhatiali, Sari and Dhamaail traditions of the North East. As a singer, his thin but powerful, accented voice was often used as a bardic commentary: for example the *Wahan kaun hai tera musafir* in *Guide*, *Safal hogi teri aradhana* in the hit Rajesh Khanna movie *Aradhana*. He also wrote an autobiography: *Sargamer Nikhad*.

SHABANA AZMI

Besides being an intense actress, she is also a social and political activist. She is a feminist who has fought for women's causes and for slum dwellers. These activities may have led to many controversies, but she knows what is right and what she is doing. She is a self-made person.

Shabana Azmi was born to eminent parents in 1953. She is the daughter of communist Urdu poet and lyricist Kaifi Azmi and actress Shaukat Azmi. She comes from a family of talented people and has immense talent in every drop of her blood. This talent was at first exploited by noted filmmaker Khwaja Ahmed Abbas in *Faasle*. But as her debut film was consuming a lot of time, she was allowed to do other films as well. This enabled her to do films with other great directors like in Shyam Benegal's *Ankur*. She was so appreciated that she became a regular in his other films like *Nishaant*, *Junoon*, *Mandi* and *Susman*. Shabana also had the opportunity of working with Satyajit Ray in films like *Shatranj Ke Khiladi*. She was such a good actress that all the top art directors wanted her in their films. So Shabana continued doing films like *Khandhar* with Mrinal Sen, *Albert Pinto Ko Gussa Kyu Aata Hain* with Saeed Mirza, *Paar* with Gautam Ghosh, *Sparsh* and *Disha* with Sai Paranjpe, *Sati* with Aparna Sen and *Arth* with Mahesh Bhatt. But it would be wrong to say that she only concentrated in art cinema. She has also had a few good commercial movies like *Amar Akbar Anthony*, *Lahoo Ke Do Rang*, *Parvarish*, *Fakira* and *Jwalamukhi* mostly with Vinod Khanna. Her heart though remained in doing more of art films.

Married to noted storywriter and lyricist Javed Akhtar, she continues appearing on the silver screen. Of late, she has done a few chosen movies like *Fire* which brought a lot of controversy because of traces of lesbianism in it. Then it was *Godmother* which was felt to be inspired from a real life story. This film took a lot of time to get released but once released, it won a whole lot of awards and critical acclaim. Yet another film of hers which saw the light of controversy was Deepa Mehta's *Water*. Though she shaved off her head for this film, it finally had to be shelved because of staunch followers of Hinduism. Controversy and Shabana seem to be running parallel to each other.

Namrata M Shah

SIR CHANDRASEKHAR VENKATA RAMAN

The Indian physicist Sir Chandrasekhar Venkata Raman (1888-1970) was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1930 for his work on the scattering of light and his discovery of the Raman effect, which has to do with changes in the wavelength of light scattered by molecules.

C. V. Raman was born on November 7, 1888 at Trichinopoly, Madras, where his father taught physics in a church college. A few years later the family moved to Vizagapatam when the father was appointed as lecturer in the local college. Raman received his early education there until he entered Presidency College in Madras in 1902. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1904, standing first in his class and winning the gold medal in physics. By the time he completed his master's degree in physics in 1907, he had already done original work in optics and acoustics, but since at that time there was little scope for scientific research in India, he took the competitive examination for a post in the Finance Department of the Government of India. Again he won first place and as a result was appointed Assistant Accountant General in the central government offices in Calcutta.

During the next 10 years, while working in the Finance Department, Raman continued his scientific researches on his own in the laboratory of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science. The importance of his work was recognized by his appointment in 1917 to the first endowed chair in physics at Calcutta University. He kept this post until 1933.

Raman's years at Calcutta University were marked by great creativity and intellectual excitement, although by western standards his laboratory facilities were meager. Many honors came to him as the significance of his work was acknowledged in India and abroad, as in 1929, when he was invited to do research at the California Institute of Technology. The most tangible evidence of this recognition came in 1927, when the British government conferred a knighthood on him, and in 1930, when he was awarded the Nobel Prize.

The Raman Effect

Raman's early scientific interests were centered on phenomena associated with the scattering of light, the most familiar example of which is the effect created when light enters a darkened room through

a small hole. The beam of light is then clearly seen because the light is scattered by the particles of dust in the air. That scattered light contained wavelengths in different proportions from the wavelengths of the main beam of light had been known since Tyndall's experiments in 1868, but a fully satisfactory analysis of the phenomenon had not been made.

It was this and related problems that Raman was studying at Calcutta when he discovered that when an intense light was passed through a liquid and was scattered by the molecules in the liquid, the spectrum of the scattered light showed lines not in the spectrum of the incident light. This discovery was the Raman effect, which had such great influence on later work on molecular structure and radiation that Raman was recognized as one of the truly seminal minds in the history of modern physics.

After Raman retired from Calcutta University, he became director of the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, where he remained until 1948, when he became head of the new Raman Research Institute in the same city. Here he continued to guide research and to inspire his students and coworkers. They spoke of his intense enthusiasm and volcanic energy and of his great generosity in acknowledging the contribution of others. According to one former student, he would "give away whole lines of research which lesser men would be tempted to keep for themselves."

Raman's attractiveness as a person was rooted in his aesthetic approach to science, with his choice of subjects for investigation reflecting his love of music, color, harmony, and pattern. He told how his great discovery of the Raman effect was stimulated during a voyage to Europe in 1921, when he saw for the first time "the wonderful blue opalescence of the Mediterranean Sea" and began to think that the phenomenon was due to the scattering of sunlight by the molecules of water.

Raman influenced Indian scientific development through the Indian Journal of Physics, which he helped found and which he edited. He was also a gifted popularizer of modern scientific ideas, and he lectured widely to lay audiences. He died in Bangalore on Nov. 21, 1970.

VIKKU VINAYAKARAM

Thetakudi Harihara Vinayakaram, known to the musical community and to the world as “Vikku” is known for his immense talent and imaginative playing of the *ghatam* - an instrument vital to Carnatic music concerts.

Son of the famous Kalaimani T.R. Harihara Sharma, who had himself played the *mridangam*, *morsing*, and *gottuvadhyam*, Vinayakaram began his career at the tender age of thirteen, and made an impression on the musicians of the time as a child prodigy. Soon, he began to accompany singers like M.S. Subbulakshmi and Semmangudi Srinivasa Iyer and G.N Balasubramaniam.

“Vikku” Vinayakaram shot into fame when he began to play for the international musical troupe, Shakti in 1970, along with John Mac Laughlin and Zakir Hussain and at this point, first tasted international fame. “Vikku” with his long hair, and nimble fingers, not to mention his innovative ways of playing the traditional *ghatam* for a diverse international audience soon captivated large numbers of music lovers all over the world and the *ghatam*, in his able hands, shot into fame.

The *ghatam*, literally meaning “pot” is simply a mud pot that is played by pressing the narrow mouth over the abdomen and tapping on the curvature of the pot with the fingers, at different spots, to produce sounds of different tones. In Vikku’s hands, the Ghatam became, not simply a stationary instrument but a dynamic one as he was known for throwing the *ghatam* up in the air during his *tani avartanam* (solo performance, usually the finale of a concert), and catching it without missing a beat.

Vinayakram has a number of titles and awards to his name, including: *Astana Vidwan of Karachi Kama Koti Peetam*, “*Ghatam Nagamani*” given by Sri Sri Sri Jayendra Saraswathi, “*Kalaimamani*” given by the Government of Tamil Nadu, India, and the first Sangeeth Natak Academy Award for Ghatam in 1988.

In addition to these attainments, Vinayakram became the first South Indian artist to ever receive a Grammy Award in 1991 for Best World Music Album for his participation in Mickey Hart’s “Planet Drum” in which he played *ghatam* and *morsingh*. It is noteworthy that Vinayakram donated all of the royalties he received from this Grammy Award to

Kanchi Kama Koti Peetam. In addition, Vinayakram was a nominee for the 38th Annual Grammy Awards for Best World Music Album for his participation in 'Raga Aberi' along with L. Shankar on the ten string double violin and Zakir Hussain on the tabla (the piece on this album is a *ragam-tanam-pallavi* in *raga aberi* set in a *tala* cycle of 4 3/4 beats). Vinayakram is also noted for his accompaniment in the first Carnatic concert given at the United Nations in New York by M. S. Subbulakshmi in 1966. Currently, T.H. Vinayakram is the principal of his Sri Jaya Ganesha Thala Vadya Vidyalaya Percussion School in Madras.

Sneha Krishnan
06/HS/42

VIJAYALAKSHMI PANDIT

She was born on August 18, 1900 as Swarup Kumari Nehru at Allahabad. The elder daughter of Shri Motilal Nehru and Swarup Rani.

At the time when Vijayalakshmi came into this world Jawaharlal, her elder brother, was about 11 years old. He had long nourished a secret grievance at not having any brothers or sisters when everybody else seemed to have them, and the prospect of having at least a baby brother or sister all to himself was exhilarating.



She was born not with silver but a diamond spoon in her mouth as her father had earned distinction, name and wealth, and the costliest luxuries of life by the time she was born.

At a very early age, when she was just four or five years old, she accompanied her father and mother on a tour to Europe. It was then that her father appointed a European governess named Miss Hooper, who was known to be a very fine governess with extremely good qualifications. She came from a very good family.

Vijayalakshmi was taught to be very regular and punctual in her childhood days in the company of Miss Hooper. Lessons, play and other activities went on with strict regularity under the careful supervision of the governess and teachers in the spacious and beautiful gardens of their magnificent residence.

As her father had become a great political leader, their family home at Allahabad, Anand Bhavan, became the venue of the meetings for the eminent personalities of India. In 1915 she accompanied her father to the annual session of the Indian National Congress at Bombay (now Mumbai).

In 1919 the tragedy of Jallianwala Bagh occurred. The same year the Nehru family came in contact with Mahatma Gandhi. It was beginning of the 'conversion' of the Nehru family and as such, of the 'conversion' of Vijayalakshmi too.

Ranjit Pandit, when she was about 21 years old, Vijaya fell in love with a cultured literature, aristocrat, and barrister from Kathiawar. Vijaya and Ranjit married on May 10, 1921.

The birth of three children - Chandra Lekha, Nayantara and Rita Vitasta added to the fulfillment of her life. But for the untimely death of her husband and other occasional disruptions., which the family had to bear for the cause of the country, theirs was a happy, integrated family.

Pandit Motilal Nehru used to tell his daughters that patriotism was in their blood. In December 1931, when Gandhiji returned from England after having attended the Round Table Conference, the most tumultuous scenes in the history of Indian political struggle were witnessed - the Civil Disobedience Movement of 1932 started.

Vijayalakshmi responded to the call of the hour. She joined the ranks of surging millions in demonstrating to the Government the resentment of the Indian people against foreign rule. She delivered speeches, led processions and organised *hartals* (strikes) at different places. As a result a notice was served on her prohibiting her from taking part in such movements for a period of one month.

She did not abide by the government order and was arrested on January 27, 1932, along with her sister, Krishna. Thus, all members of the Nehru family were in jail, except their frail mother.

Vijayalakshmi was tried and sentenced to one year of rigorous imprisonment with fine. During that year she was kept in Lucknow Jail. Her youngest child at the time was only 2 ¹/₂ years old.

In 1935 she contested for the Municipal Board membership in Allahabad and was elected with an overwhelming support of votes. Her period of stay in the Board was, however, uneventful. During that period she was also elected as the Chairperson of the Education Committee of the Board. In that capacity she worked for about 18 months and gathered considerable experience of the civic and educational life of the people around.

Then came the General Elections of the year 1937. She stood as a candidate for the Provincial Assembly of the United Provinces from Cawnpore (Kanpur) Bilhaur constituency, opposing Lady Srivastava, the wife of the then Minister of Education in the United Provinces (now Uttar Pradesh) Government. She won convincingly. On Thursday, the July 29, 1937 at 11 a.m., the United Provinces Assembly met at the Assembly Hall, where Vijayalakshmi took her oath as the Minister of Local Self Government. She became the head of the Local Self-Government department, covering health and sanitation. When Vijayalakshmi Pandit took charge of the department, she had several problems to tackle and many obstacles to overcome. At many places, especially in some rural areas, drinking water facilities did not exist. and people were hard-pressed for pure drinking water. Maternity and child welfare facilities from the Government side were almost non-existent.

With the start of the Second World War in 1939, the Congress Ministry resigned. Gandhiji gave the slogan of "Do or Die" to the masses of India, and to the British, "Quit India". Vijayalakshmi Pandit with other soldiers of freedom took to her duty and played her role in the struggle for freedom of the motherland. In the face of indiscriminate firing, she rushed to crowds, helped the wounded and arranged to carry them to hospitals. She was arrested on August, 12, 1942 and was lodged in Naini Jail.

After about nine months imprisonment she was released on June 11, 1943 on grounds of ill-health. In spite of her weak health, however, immediately after release from Naini Jail, she took up the famine relief work, became president of the "Save the Children" Fund Committee started by the All-India Women's Conference, and devoted

herself whole-heartedly to other public welfare activities.

After Independence, Vijayalakshmi Pandit became free India's first ambassador to the Soviet Union. She had a distinguished innings in the field of foreign affairs. She headed the country's delegation to the United Nations during 1947-49. When she returned to India in 1952, she contested the first general elections in independent India and won a Lok Sabha seat.

It was the year 1953 which saw her at the peak of her popularity as the first woman elected president of the UN General Assembly where she spoke against apartheid and in favour of world peace.

Her differences with Mrs. Indira Gandhi came to the fore during 1975-77. She opposed the imposition of Emergency tooth and nail. She decided to retreat to Dehradun. She came out of her self-imposed exile when she campaigned actively for the Janata Party in 1977. The fall of the Janata Party left her a sad and bitter person.

Her health took a turn for the worse when she suffered a stroke. She made a quick recovery, and returned to Dehradun. Her 90th birthday on August 18, 1990 was celebrated as a major event, with many members of the Nehru clan taking time off to spend the day with her. Arun Nehru, Maneka Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi were all there to make it a special family affair. She died on December 1, 1990.

ZUBIN MEHTA

Zubin Mehta was born in 1936 in Bombay and received his first musical education from his father Mehli Mehta, the founder of the Bombay Symphony Orchestra. After a short period of pre-medical studies in Bombay, he left for Vienna in 1954 where he eventually entered the conducting programme under Hans Swarowsky at the Akademie für Musik. Zubin Mehta won the Liverpool International Conducting Competition in 1958 and was also a prize-winner of the summer academy at Tanglewood. By 1961 he had already conducted the Vienna, Berlin and Israel Philharmonic Orchestras and still retains close ties with these orchestras.

Zubin Mehta was Music Director of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra from 1961 to 1967. He also became Music Director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra in 1962, a post he retained until 1978. In 1969 he also became Music Adviser to the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and was made Music Director of that orchestra in 1977. In 1981 he was made Music Director for Life. Zubin Mehta has conducted over two thousand concerts with this extraordinary ensemble including tours spanning five continents. In 1978 he became Music Director of the New York Philharmonic, commencing a tenure lasting 13 years, the longest in the orchestra's history. Since 1985, he has been chief conductor of the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino in Florence.

Zubin Mehta made his debut as an opera conductor with *Tosca* in Montreal in 1963. Since then he has conducted at the Metropolitan Opera New York, the Vienna State Opera, the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, La Scala Milan, and the opera houses of Chicago and Florence as well as at the Salzburg Festival. Between 1998 and 2006 he was Music Director of the Bavarian State Opera where he conducted more than 400 performances. Since 2007 he is the President of the Festival del Mediterrani of the Palau de les Arts in Valencia.

Zubin Mehta's list of awards and honours is extensive and includes the "Nikisch-Ring" bequeathed to him by Karl Böhm. He is an honorary citizen of both Florence and Tel Aviv and was made an honorary member of the Vienna State Opera in 1997. In 1999 Zubin Mehta was presented the "Lifetime Achievement Peace and Tolerance Award" of the United Nations. In 2001 he was bestowed the title of "Honorary Conductor" of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra and in 2004 the Munich Philharmonic Orchestra awarded him the same title, as did the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino in 2006. At the end of his tenure with the Bavarian State Opera he was named Honorary Conductor of the Bavarian State Orchestra and Honorary Member of the Bavarian State Opera. In October 2006 he opened the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia in Valencia with Ludwig van Beethoven's *Fidelio*, followed by a three year project of Richard Wagner's *Ring des Nibelungen* cycle in the production of the *Fura del Baus* of Barcelona in Valencia and Florence.

In December 2006 he received the "Kennedy Center Honor". The *Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde Wien* appointed him in November 2007 honorary member. In October 2008 Zubin Mehta was be honoured by the Japanese Imperial Family with the "Praemium Imperiale".

EARTH'S OWN - MEDHA PATKAR

When Indian environmentalism is spoken about the one name that stands out is that of Medha Patkar, a fearless social leader whose courage and conviction has been inspirational. She was born on 1st December 1954 and was raised by politically and socially active parents. While her father was a freedom fighter, her mother was a member of the Swadar, an organization that helped women who were in difficult circumstances.

After obtaining a masters degree in social work from the Tata Institute of Social Studies. She worked for seven years with various voluntary organizations in Bombay and Gujarat. She later became a faculty at TISS and worked towards PhD. She remained at TISS for three years and left her PhD in midst to get totally involved in agitations begun by the tribes of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, which eventually paved the way for the formation of the Narmada Bachao Andolan(NBA).

The Narmada Bachao Andolan, which was founded by Madha Patkar, has a mass base of tribal and peasant communities. In the name of progress and development it has always been the rights of the illiterate and poor tribes that have been exploited. Dams in India have always been in the eye of the storm and the cause for creating millions of eco refugees. Evicting marginalized people was never a heart burner for successive governments but in the case of the Sardar Sarover dam with Medha Patkar being around to thwart their plans, the situation turned ugly. Medha Patkar has always held that raising the height of the dam would benefit only the wealthy landowners of Gujarat and not the poor water starved farmers of Kutch as the prodam -activists have claimed. The Supreme court verdict favour of raising the height only vindicates the fact that money still talks.

The NBA is essentially an NGO that mobilized, tribals, adivasis, farmers, environmental and human rights activists against the Sardar Sarovar Dam. It originally focused on environmental issues related to trees that would be submerged under the dam and later refocused on enabling poor citizens, especially the oustees, to get full rehabilitation facilities from the government.

Medha Patkar along with Baba Amte was also a prime mover in the National Alliance of People's movement-an alliance opposed to policies based on globalization. Medha was also part of the agitations in Singur, West Bengal. She also served as commissioner to the World Commission on Dams.

Medha Patkar has been universally applauded for her role in protecting the environment and for taking up the cause of the unnamed, unwanted and unimportant Indian. She received the Right Livelihood Award in 1991, The MA Thomas National Human Rights Award in 1999, Deena Nath Mangeshkar Award, Mahatma Phule Award, Goldman Environmental Prize, Green Ribbon. Best International Political Campaigner, BBC, Human Rights Defenders Award by the Amnesty International.

Dolly Thomas
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LALGUDI G. JAYARAMAN

The world of music has produced several stalwarts and one among them is Sri Lalgudi G. Jayaraman, a well-known Carnatic Violinist. He was born on September 17th 1930. His father was Sri Gopala Iyer, who was his Guru as well.

He started his music career as an accompanying violinist at the age of 12. He rose to eminence very rapidly due to his quick grasp, rich imagination and adaptability to individual styles of leading maestros in Carnatic music. He revolutionized Indian classical music by establishing a unique style that came to be known as 'Lalgudi bani'. He has accompanied several vocal maestros on the violin like Ariyakudi Ramanuja Iyengar, Chembai Vaidyanatha Bhagavathar, Semmangudi Srinivasa Iyer, G.N. Balasubramanian, M. Balamuralikrishna, Maharajapuram Santhanam, T.N. Seshagopalan and many others. Apart from this he was the first to bring international attention to the violin in Carnatic style and produced a music ensemble with the violin, flute and veena in 1966.

He has represented the country in a number of concerts abroad. The Government of India sent him to Russia as a member of the Indian Cultural Delegation and to the Festival of India in the USA, London, Germany, and Italy. He gave both solo and Jugalbandhi concerts. Sri Lalgudi has traveled to Singapore, Malaysia, Manila and East European countries. In 1984 he toured the west Asian countries like Oman, UAE, Qatar and Bahrain. Impressed by Lalgudi's technique, Yehudi Menuhin the renowned violinist, presented him with his violin at the Edinburgh festival in 1965.

Sri Lalgudi's achievement include compositions of several '*kritis*',

'*tillanas*' and '*varnams*', which have in them a rare blend of raga, bhava and lyrics. He has also composed the music and lyrics for a ballet '*Jaya Jaya Devi*' for an Opera that premiered in the US in 1994. His other composition a dance drama titled '*Pancheswaram*' which was staged under the auspices of Shruthi Laya Seva Sangam was a huge success. Some of the *Varnams* the maestro has composed include 'Chalamu Seyanela' in raga 'Valaji', 'Neeve Gatiyani' in raga 'Nalinakanthi', 'Devi Un Paadame' in raga 'Devagandhari' and 'Unnaiyandri' in raga 'Kalyani'. His compositions are in four languages Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Sanskrit. It is noteworthy that the genius has also composed music for the movie *Sringaram* - 'Dance of Love' a theme on the devadasi tradition that has won 3 national awards for 2005 including Best Music Director.

Titles and awards conferred on Sri Lalgudi Jayaraman:

1. 'Padma Shri' (1972) and 'Padma Bushan' (2001) by the Government of India.
2. 'Nada Vidya Tilaka' by 'Music Lovers Association' of Lalgudi in 1963.
3. 'Nada Vidya Ratnakara' by East West Exchange, New York.
4. 'Vidya Sangeetha Kalaratna' by Bharathi Society, New York.
5. 'Sangeetha Choodamani' by Federation of Music Sabhas, Chennai, in 1971 and 1972.
6. State Vidwan of Tamilnadu by the Government of Tamilnadu.
7. Sangeetha Nataka Academy Award in 1979.
8. Received honorary citizenship of Maryland, USA in 1994.
9. Life Time Achievement Award by the Music Academy as a part of the 80th anniversary celebrations in 2008.

Sri Lalgudi's children have inherited the musical genes of their illustrious father. His son Sri. G. J. R. Krishnan and daughter Vijayalakshmi Lalgudi are also famous following in the footsteps of their father.

Gayathri.S
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AMY CARMICHAEL (1867-1951)

Early Life

She was born in Ireland in 1867, the first of seven children to Christian parents David and Katherine Carmichael. Her parents were deeply devoted to Christ and raised their children to love and serve the Lord. She was deeply influenced by her mother's teaching about Christ during her early days. Initially Carmichael travelled to Japan for fifteen months, but after a brief period of service in Sri Lanka, she found her lifelong vocation in India.

In India, she worked for the liberation of widows. One of the biggest challenges that Amy had to tackle was the eradication of corrupt ritualistic practices (the devdasi system) that was prevalent in the society. This involved rescuing and protecting young girls who were offered to deities in temples. They were considered property of the temple and were abused shamelessly by the temple priests. Most of the girls were sold to the temple due to poverty. Many girls have tried to evade this shameless ritual and one girl of particular mention is Preena. She escaped from the Perumkulam temple and took asylum in the mission bungalow of Amy Carmichael at Pannavilai on March 7, 1901. Later, she served as a social worker.

Dohnavur Fellowship

Hindu temple children were young girls dedicated to the gods and forced into prostitution to earn money for the priests. Much of her work was with young ladies, some of whom were saved from forced prostitution. The organization she founded was known as the Dohnavur Fellowship. Dohnavur is situated in Tamil Nadu, thirty miles from the southern tip of India. The fellowship would become a sanctuary for over one thousand children who would otherwise have faced a bleak future. Amy Carmichael attended temple festivals in disguise as a Brahmin lady to learn more about temple prostitution. There she personally witnessed the selling of beautiful girls to these temples. In an effort to respect Indian culture, members of the organization wore Indian dress and the children were given Indian names. She herself dressed in Indian clothes, dyed her skin with dark coffee, and often travelled long distances on India's hot, dusty roads to save just one child from suffering.

These shameful rituals provoked Amy to resort to some method by which the exploited girls can be rescued. She constructed a house at Dohnavur for hapless girls who would have otherwise been sold to these temples. She officially registered the Dohnavur Fellowship in 1927. She purchased a piece of land at Puliurkurichi and constructed a church for daily prayers. She affectionately called those girls "lotus buds". In 1908 she opened a school for their education. She petitioned to the government about the plight of these exploited girls. As a result of her commendable effort, the government passed an Act in 1947 which made the dedication of girls to the temple illegal.

Due to poor medical facilities at Dohnavur, the children were taken in bullock carts to Neyyur in Kanyakumari district for medical treatment. It took 1 ½ days to reach Neyyur and many of them died on the way. To remove this handicap she founded a dispensary at Dohnavur and Dr. M. E. Powell was its first doctor. With an increase in the number of patients the dispensary was upgraded into a hospital in 1929.

She was a prolific writer, producing thirty-five published books including *Things as They Are: Mission Work in Southern India* (1903), *His Thoughts Said . . . His Father Said* (1951), *If* (1953), *Edges of His Ways* (1955) and *God's Missionary* (1957).

Legacy

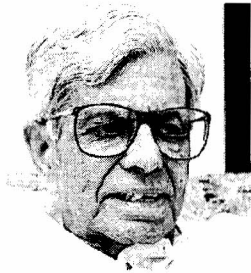
In 1931, Carmichael was badly injured in a fall, which left her bedridden much of the time until her death. She died in India in 1951 at the age of 83. She asked that no stone be put over her grave; instead, the children she had cared for put a bird bath over it with the single inscription "Amma", which means mother in Tamil.

Her biography quotes her as saying:

"One can give without loving, but one cannot love without giving."

Vimala Stephen
Faculty

C SUBRAMANIAM (1910-2000)



Shri.C.Subramaniam the Architect of The Indian 'Green Revolution' was born on January 30, 1910 at Pollachi in Coimbatore district of Tamilnadu. He received his early education in Pollachi before moving to Chennai where he studied B.Sc Physics at Presidency College. Later he obtained a degree in Law at the Law College, Chennai.

As a student he became deeply involved in the freedom struggle which led to his imprisonment. His involvement in politics deepened further as he took part in the "Quit India Movement" in 1942 during which he was jailed again.

C.S as he was fondly known, was largely influenced by Rajaji's simplicity, sharp wit and benevolent wisdom and he became his protégé in the political arena. He became the president of the Coimbatore district Congress Committee and member of the Working Committee of the State Congress Committee. He was elected to the Constituent Assembly of India where his contribution to the framing of The Constitution in 1946 and as a member of the Provincial Parliament till 1952.

In 1952 Shri Subramaniam was successfully elected to the then Madras State Legislative Assembly for 10 years from 1952 to 1962 while concurrently holding the portfolios of Finance, Education and Law in the State.

Elected to the Lok Sabha in 1962, he was appointed minister for Steel and Mines and the Heavy Industries under the premiership of Nehru in the early 60's where he initiated several steps for improving the working of the existing Industrial Units and for setting up new ones.

It was as Minister for Food and Agriculture in the Lal Bahadur Shastri Ministry that he played a decisive role in the introduction of high yielding varieties of seeds and more intensive application of fertilizers which increased food production and the country was able to achieve

self sufficiency in food grains during times of food shortage and rising population. About his contribution Dr. Norman E. Borlaug the Nobel laureate wrote: "The vision and influence of Mr. Subramaniam in bringing about agricultural changes and in the very necessary political decisions needed to make the new approach effective, should never be under emphasized. The groundwork for the advance (in the production of wheat) was solidly laid during that period (1964-67) when Mr. Subramaniam was the guiding political force instituting change."

Among his protégés who are notable in their own right are M.S. Swaminathan, the Agricultural Scientist, who played a major role in translating the dream of "Green Revolution" into reality, Agriculture Secretary B. Sivaraman who along with Subramaniam and Swaminathan formed the three "S's instrumental in heralding the Green Revolution along with Verghese Kurien, Chairman of the National Dairy Development Board

Shri Subramaniam was the Chairman of the Committee on the Aeronautics Industry set up by the Government of India. He became the Interim President of the Indian National Congress during the critical days of July- December 1969 and he continued to be a member of the Working Committee of the National Congress and of the Central Parliamentary Board of the Party.

In 1970, Shri Subramaniam became the Chairman of the National Commission of Agriculture. In recognition of his contribution and interest in solving some of the problems of agricultural development policies and programmes, he was elected to the Board of Governors of the International Rice Research Institute, Manila, which position he held for six years.

In 1971 he joined the Union Cabinet as Minister of Planning and also as Deputy Chairperson of the National Planning Commission. The Department of Science and Technology was assigned to him. In 1972, C.S took charge of the ministry for Industrial Development and was invested with additional responsibility of the Department of Agriculture from 1974. He also headed the Finance Ministry from 1979 to 1980. In 1990 he was appointed the governor of Maharashtra where he is said to have transformed the Raj Bhavan into an active forum by holding

frequent meetings with leading academicians, industrialists, NGOs and prominent citizens on critical issues affecting the community.

Integrity, simplicity and excellence being his forte, he left his indelible stamp on every ministry and official position that he held during the four decades of his political career.

Moved by steadfast commitment to improve the Nutritional standards of children in developing countries, C.S prepared a strategic statement for fighting protein hunger in the developing countries at the invitation of the then secretary general of the United Nations. In 1971 he headed a panel of experts that drew up recommendations for action by the General Assembly.

His rich experience and keen observation culminated in his writings -“War on Poverty”, “The new Strategy in Indian Agriculture”, “Some Countries which I visited round the World” and “The India of my Dreams”

In recognition for his “Dedicated Life in building Moral and National Character”- C.S. was awarded the ‘Anuvrat Award’ instituted by Jai Tulsi Foundation of New Delhi in February 1988 and was awarded the Nations’ highest Civilian Honour - the Bharat Ratna in 1988.

Always robust in health and infectious in spirit, all his efforts were directed to the cause of the people and society. Simple food habits, regular practice of Yoga and a disciplined life enabled him to live past 90 years. A multi-faceted person-Statesmen, Administrator, Thinker, Speaker, Writer and foremost-a Patriot, his mission was development of the country and his passion was preservation of its rich cultural heritage

May the dream of his life “Resuscitation of Human Values” be realized in our country.....

Dr. Patricia Gabriel
Faculty, Dept of History

P. Chidambaram



Paliappa Chidambaram, better known as P. Chidambaram, is the Home Minister of India and one of its most well-known politicians.

P. Chidambaram began his political career as one of the group of comparatively young and very highly-educated people inducted into the government by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1985. He began as a Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce, and later took charge as Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions. His party, the Congress, lost the 1989 elections. When it came back to power in 1991 elections, Chidambaram was appointed as Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce. He, along with Manmohan Singh and Montek Singh Aluwalia, was one of the architects of the LPG (liberalization-privatization-globalization) reforms. In 1996, he quit the Congress and joined G.K. Moopanar's Tamil Maanila Congress (TMC), and became Finance Minister in the coalition government led by Narasimha Rao. Later he left the TMC to found the Congress Jenanayaka Peravai, but chose to merge this party with the Congress before the 2004 elections.

He was initially appointed Finance Minister in the UPA government by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, but was given charge of the Home Affairs portfolio after Shivraj Patil's resignation following the Mumbai attacks of November 2008. Chidambaram, it was hoped, would bring competence, efficiency, and honesty to the Home Affairs Ministry.

Chidambaram has been continuously reelected from the Sivaganga constituency in Tamil Nadu (of which he is a native) to the Lok Sabha (in 1989, 1991, 1996, 1998, 2004, and 2009).

In politics, Chidambaram has been known as a strongly secular person and as a champion of economic liberalization. But some of Chidambaram's decisions as Finance and Home Minister have been controversial. For example, critics said the Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme he introduced in 1997 rewarded tax evaders. He also represented the American energy company Enron.

Professionally, Chidambaram is a trained lawyer. He has been practicing since 1969, and was designated Senior Advocate in 1986. He practices in the Supreme Court and High Courts and also abroad.

Chidambaram was born in 1945 to an affluent Chettiar family in Sivaganga, one of the former royal families of Tamil Nadu. He studied at the Madras Christian College Higher Secondary School in Chennai, and later at Presidency College and Madras Law College. He went on to get a Master's degree in Business Administration from the prestigious Harvard Business School. He is married to Nalini Chidambaram, a lawyer, and they have one son, Karti P. Chidambaram.

Dr. Susan Paul
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