

In the heart of England for a unique reunion to remember their expulsion from Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania

UK East African Asians

Diasporan Asians Expelled From East Africa:



Hundreds celebrate half a century of success in the UK: BIG TIME FUN AS UK EAST AFRICAN ASIANS BEAT THE DRUM WITH MUSIC AND DANCE

By: Shamlal Puri
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& Senior Editor – UK
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Thousands of miles away, oceans apart half a century on, diasporan Asians expelled from East Africa met recently in the heart of England for a unique reunion to remember their expulsion from Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania.

Fifty-one years ago, on 4 August 1972, the self-proclaimed Field Marshall Idi Amin 'Dada', the brutal and maverick Ugandan leader who stole power from democratic President Milton Obote, ordered Asians to leave the



Drumbeats for the guests at UA50 to herald history, times past and the bright future ahead for those expelled from East Africa half a century ago.

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The Thin Line Between Music And Poetry

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House of Representatives to open Biden impeachment inquiry



"The Diaspora Times Global"

My Uzbekistan

When we talk about new Uzbekistan, first of all, new economic relations and a new economic outlook are embodied before our eyes.

People who know the ups and downs of the world can tell what to expect from the year. But 2020 rushed everyone. It was difficult for

our compatriots and for the nations of the world. In fact, the events that took place in front of our eyes, the worries that befell our country rushes a person's mind and does not allow him to concentrate his thoughts. What we have seen and experienced is, figuratively speaking, similar to

the tragedies given in textbooks, that is, the tragedy of the coronavirus that happened in 2020 robbed all of us of peace and made our hearts sleepless.

Based on our mentality, even in any difficult situation, the environment in the family depends on the adults. We overcame these and pre-

vious trials and difficulties under the leadership of First President Islam Abduganiyevich Karimov and Honorable President Shavkat Miro-

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Mourners flock to funeral of divisive Zulu leader

Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi

South Africa



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King Mohammed VI announces housing for 50,000 displaced earthquake victims

Africa



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The Symbol Of Elegance In Indian Poetry - Divyangana Nath

Winner reel contests & anthologies

Poetry

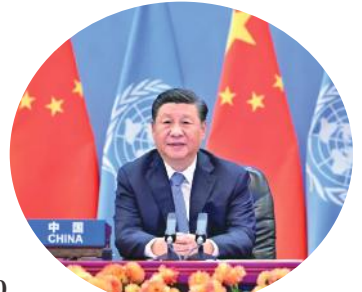


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China issues proposal on reform and development of global governance

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Aathika The Dedicated Indian Poet



By: Abigirl Phiri
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- My inspiration would be “Myself “ because as a girl, I believe that I am able to crack anything with my spirit and God has given me a great power that I can able to handle any situation bravely with hard work, knowing my responsibilities. As we know that every problem has a solution so if we consider the problem as creative art then it will become friendly and easier than you might think upon it.
- I believe that if I have determination then I can do anything either it might be a task or race. And yes, I have a super girl inside myself who motivates me even if I am let down. Without the strong mind, it's difficult to move our legs forward.



Aathika

Please tell us your name and how your journey started in poetry?

Hey beautiful people, I'm Aathika here, an Indian poetry writer for more than 25 books. I love to learn English even though my mother tongue is different, so I started reading books and poems in order to excel my vocabulary levels during Covid. There were competitions I participated in to show my poetry piece in front of the people plus I won as well. At that moment I felt proud that I can be able to write anything without the need of any prior experience towards it. Thus, I started participating as co- author for few books on poetry, story writing and became an author as well. This is the

stepping stone that my reading hobby has turned as, “MY WRITING Hobby. “Hope this journey will give a glimpse of amazing things in my life.

Have you won any major accolades for yourself in poetry? Are you a published poet?

I got the third prize for my poetry piece conducted by “Drunken Poets.“ I am the published poet for the few books as listed below:

- THE FLYING BUTTERFLY
- THE SHADES OF SPARKLES
- MY LIFE MY RULES
- SCRIBBLES AT SUNSET
- THE LACONIC TALES
- SUNSHINE

- HEARTLESS LOVE
- AT COFFEE TABLE
- LIFE TODAY IS AN ADVENTURE...

And many more but haven't published them yet. I have worked on more than 25 books but just a few have not yet been released. So it is great being a poet.

Who is your inspiration?

My inspiration would be “Myself “ because as a girl, I believe that I am able to crack anything with my spirit and God has given me a great power that I can able to handle any situation bravely with hard work, knowing my responsibilities. As we know that every problem has a solution so if we consider the problem as creative art then it will become friendly and easier than you might think upon it. I believe that if I have determination then I can do anything either it might be a task or race. And yes, I have a super girl inside myself who motivates me even if I am let down. Without the strong mind, it's difficult to move our legs forward. So just spend time on yourself definitely and you will see the magical person inside you. Have a happy and successful life.

Where do you see yourself in the near future?

My goal would be to become a well-known writer around the world. I hope my write-ups will inspire the young minds as to reach the same level soon. This will relieve the mental sadness from an individual and will be their inspiration in life. But I won't make it as my full time profession rather it's my hobby to be the solution for all the issues in the world. I hope I will touch the sky one day and I will see the sparkles out of the darkness.

What problems have you faced as a poet?

As a poet we face a lot up until you write a perfect piece of poem. When I started writing a poem the biggest part would be, “How to begin a line from scratch. That would be the major thing where I used to spend a lot of time towards it. Once I started a poem then it will become easier for me to decide a concept and end it smoothly.” I won't say it would be the issue that I

face now though. Once if you know how to start a poem then it will end perfectly as you think. So think before you start anything in your life just like when it comes to writing.

Share with us one of your best poetry piece:
TOPIC: MAH OWN GLITTER'S!!!

Live as ace with our desire,
Brings some hearty reflection,
Never mind about different eras
What we had now – But
Moving with stuff is great!!
Our life is extravagant – where
The stipulated moment realized ;
But -we are as eloquent as stars!

Looking the glaze around us –
Make a sense to be?
It's a life with our own destiny
As reading books without limit!!
Live what we had with –
Our own emotions;
Our own vogue, And -
Our unique fragrance!!!!
Which makes the shade glows inside;
That's What I would be –
With Mah own glitters!!

Kindly share your social media handles

Instagram: Smirk_of_Shadow
Twitter: @Beyond_sky_754

Any word of advice to others who would want to venture into poetry:

Every big thing has small beginnings. So whatever we decide work yourself towards the goal. If you want to become a poetry or story writer or anyone else just start from scratch as if doing a hobby.

For example: if you are interested in music then start listening to English songs or watching English movies. This will help you to do further what you desire.

If you want to be an expert writer only you have to be an imaginary person either by your dream or by your arts. Hope this helps and motivates you to become a writer one day.

Wish you all the best.
Thanks

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Motivation

Dark Light



By: Alex Nduati
xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Worth Noting:

- You're at an age where your peers have achieved for themselves, their children and grandchildren. When did the rain start beating you? You don't have a roof over your head for your family, no investments, simply nothing to show for your existence. Pure thick darkness all around.
- Even Jesus faced this darkness when He hang on the cross and felt all forsaken by His Father. Maybe that's where you are. The LORD is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid? Psalms 27:1 NIV

You may be wondering what that is. I am to. Just random thoughts I'm having. We know light as bright. You have experienced a blackout at some point and you felt crippled or limited in your daily errands. In some places, generators kick in. Back at home if the sun has gone down, candles are lit and lanterns go on. Phones go off and it's a slow world where others take advantage of it. Pillow fights, conversations, laughter, early going to bed. Muggings on dark street corners when up above the starts twinkle away in silent beauty.

How have you handled your darkness? I got stuck with a few people in an elevator once and it wasn't a pleasant experience. Panic on one end, a hand banging the door in another. Until a silent listener put on their phone light and there was a glimmer of hope. Another spoke on the emergency intercom on the elevator. It was so reassuring to hear a voice from the other end, giving everyone hope and calmness. We got out after a short while. It was hilarious to see some jump out hurriedly but all in relief of a near death scare.

What do you do when all the walls are closing in on you and even your loved ones are no where to be seen? You doubt your very existence and endless questions flood your mind? You're at an age where your peers have achieved for themselves, their children and grandchildren. When did the rain start beating you? You don't have a roof over your head for your family, no investments, simply nothing to show for your ex-

istence. Pure thick darkness all around.

Even Jesus faced this darkness when He hang on the cross and felt all forsaken by His Father. Maybe that's where you are. The LORD is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid? Psalms 27:1 NIV

The flicker of light in the dark elevator I was stuck in, dispelled the darkness. Jesus, the Light of the world, slept in a boat that was caught in a storm that filled darkness in the hearts of the disciples. They could hardly see the light among them.

One day Jesus said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side of the lake." So they got into a boat and set out. 23 As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger.24 The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!"He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. 25 "Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples. Luke 8:22-25 NIV

Jesus is right there to light up every darkness around you. Cry out and only believe. May He strengthen your faith!

Alex Nduati (Husband. Father. Pastor. Musician. Author)



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Zambia to upgrade ties with China, its biggest creditor

BBC News

Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema Friday met his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping in Beijing for bilateral talks.

The two leaders agreed to upgrade their ties to a “comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership”.

China has significant stakes in Zambia’s mining sector while the southern African nation seeks to restructure its mounting external debt with its leading creditor.

President Xi said China and Zambia’s friendship had “withstood the test of international storms and changes” and encouraged more imports from the African country.

President Hichilema said Zambia appreciates the guiding concepts and principles of Chinese-style modernization, and hopes to learn from the Asian country’s development experience.

Zambia defaulted on its \$18.6bn (£17bn) foreign debt in 2020 at the height of the Covid-19 outbreak, becoming the first country on the continent to default on its external debt since the start of the pandemic.



Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema

DRC

DRC opposition politician sentenced to seven years for insulting president



JBBC

Jean-Marie Kabund, an opposition figure in DRC, was on Wednesday sentenced to seven years in jail for slandering the president as pre-electoral tensions sharpen in the Central African nation.

A former head of the Union for

Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS), the party of Congolese President Felix Tshisekedi, Jean-Marie Kabund is a deputy and former vice-president of the National Assembly.

Jean-Marie’s arrest came a month after he quit the ruling party to join the opposition.

He had quit on the allegations that the government “was incompetent and institutionalized mismanagement and predatory behavior at the apex of the state.”

Kabund appeared at the Court of Cassation for his trial on Wednesday, where he was given a sentence of seven years in jail for insulting the

president.

“This is a very severe sentence,” Kadi Diko, Kabund’s defense lawyer, said. He added that the verdict pronounced by the Court of Cassation in the first and last Instance is not subject to appeal.

The Court of Cassation ruled that “all the offenses for which Kabund was prosecuted were established.”

The offenses were insulting the head of state and the institutions of the Republic and propagation of false rumors.

During the hearing, Kabund reiterated his position on the management of the country by the regime in power.

For him, “DRC is in danger,” believing that Felix Tshisekedi, “everything is done no matter what.”

“I ask the people to do everything possible to ensure that Tshisekedi is sidelined in the next elections because I consider that the country is in danger with him at the helm. The danger is the misery of the people, it is the insecurity in the east of the country, it is the insecurity in Kinshasa, urban banditry, kidnappings,” said Kabund.

Before the judges, Kabund presented Tshisekedi’s power as an “unjust,

anti-social power which organized predation.”

To support his accusations, the former interim president of the ruling party(UDPS) asserted that “those at the top share the money.”

Relatives and members of Kabund’s party considered his hearing as a “political trial” when the general elections are scheduled for December 20.

President Tshisedeki, in power since January 2019, is a candidate for a second five-year term.

Arrests of opposition figures and journalists have increased in recent months.

Another opponent, Salomon Kalonda (under arrest since May 30), a close advisor to presidential candidate Moise Katumbi, was transferred Tuesday evening from the Ndolo military prison to a health facility, according to his lawyer.

Accused of “spreading false rumors,” journalist Stanis Bujakera, a correspondent for Reuters news agency and Jeune Afrique, has been detained since Friday in Kinshasa.

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Music And Poetry

The Thin Line Between Music And Poetry



By: Abigirl Phiri
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- It started when I was in high school. I started writing prose which I later strung along to become lyrics. I have always loved music from the time when I was young then I went on to do literature which honed in these skills of mine.
- I see myself as an established poetess, known all over the world. I want to be able to recite my poems to hordes of people.
- A dearth in financial constraints was a pain in the neck that is exorbitant data bundles disabled me to send my poems on the internet or social media.

This turned out to be the most interesting poetry interview that I have ever done on this face of earth. Yes you might be wondering what I am driving at but the crux of the matter is my own blood sister Memory Phiri is the one who is gracing our poetry section. The truth of the matter is I practically grew up in Memory’s pockets. This is because we were thick as thieves and up to now we are still close.

Despite sharing similar interests, unlike the biblical brothers Cain and Abel we do not harbor bad blood instead we are each other’s top fan. Indeed, we do promote our individual endeavors so that we get what rightfully is due to us in terms of propelling our inherent talents to greater heights.

My highest hope is in that people would realize how important family is. Undoubtedly, blood is thicker than water. If you have your siblings that you are at odds with please talk things out and iron your differences. Remember treasured readers we only live once in this lifetime for we are surviving on borrowed time soon all this will be in the past as we will meet our maker. Indeed, it is a blessing to have a sister who is also you best friend. For that reason, poetry runs in the family for us.

In addition, we have compiled and done collaborative poems in unison as we are a force to be reckoned with. Henceforth for this newspaper interview we get close and personal with this lovely songstress cum poetess who is also a travel consultant by profession.

In the same vein, the iconic Tupac Amaru Shakur was and still reigns as a poetry and music legend. This alludes to the thin line between music and poetry since both have verses and a rhythmic flow. To this effect, for Memory I can safely say dynamites comes in small packages is the right expression to describe her.



Memory Phiri

Welcome Memory, please tell us your full name giving us a brief background?

My name is Memory Phiri, I am a poetess, songwriter and musician. I am outgoing, humble and a book worm.

How did your poetry journey start?

It started when I was in high school. I started writing prose which I later strung along to become lyrics. I have always loved music from the time when I was young then I went on to do literature which honed in these skills of mine. Thus, I became a polished writer and at some point all this turned to poetry.

Who inspired you?

As for poetry I think it was always ingrained in me but my sister Abigirl cajoled me into collaborating poems with various poets. She has become my source of inspiration in addition to God above all.

Where do you see yourself in the near future?

I see myself as an established poetess, known all over the world. I want to be

able to recite my poems to hordes of people.

What are some of the challenges you faced particularly in the COVID-19 era?

A dearth in financial constraints was a pain in the neck that is exorbitant data bundles disabled me to send my poems on the internet or social media.

Are you a published author?

Yes we recently compiled a poetry anthology “Cupid’s arrow” in collaboration with Pakistanis.

How many anthologies have you participated in?

I have participated in over 10+ anthologies up to date.

What do you think must be done to promote poetry in Africa?

Allow me to say that I taught myself poetry so I’m urging the education system in Zimbabwe to include poetry as a subject in all schools. In fact the schools should promote more poetry competitions.

TOURISM FETISH POEM

You are the talk of the ton
Everyone craves to see
You have no privacy
Every economy thrives on
You are the center of attraction

From Europe to Asia
It’s now a topical issue
From Africa to America
Tourism has become a Trail Blazer
Indeed news travel fast

Touring those eye catching sites
Tourists end up cash strapped
For they want to see all the attractions
Tourism will be the death of me
Cherish I will my wanderlust streak

Add in all your social media handles and contact details?

Facebook -Memory Phiri or Memory Blekgumz
Phone number – +263-779 125 852
Email – phirimemory491@gmail.com or chopparo10@gmail.com

Do you have any interesting information that you want our readers to know about you?

I studied Travel and Recreation and I am very passionate about Sustainable Tourism. As a demo holder I’m planning to do an album with God’s grace.

Your word of advice to aspiring poets, writers and musicians

To all aspiring artists, I say keep on pushing. Do not despair for one day you will be known for your penmanship because it’s all about sending life changing messages to the populace. Thanks.

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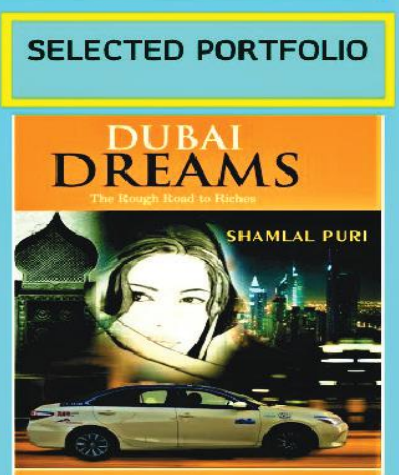
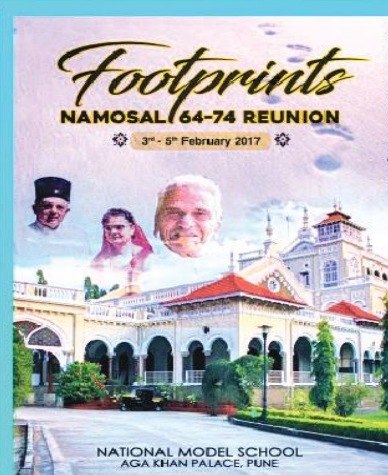
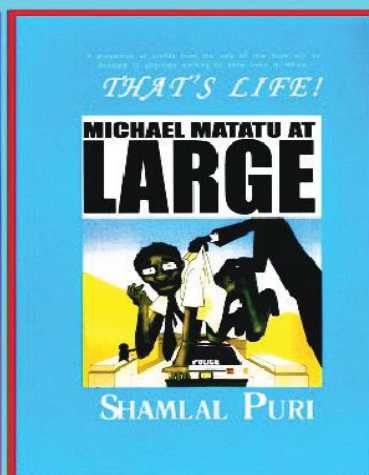
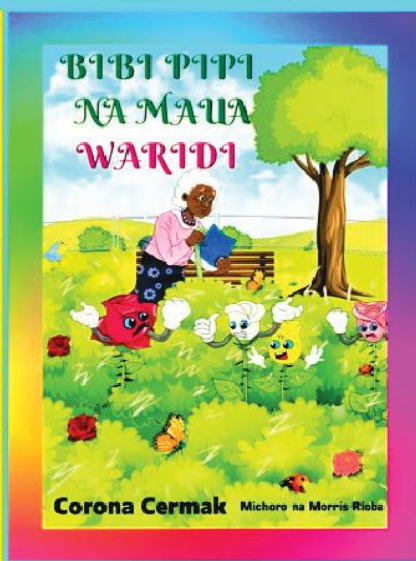
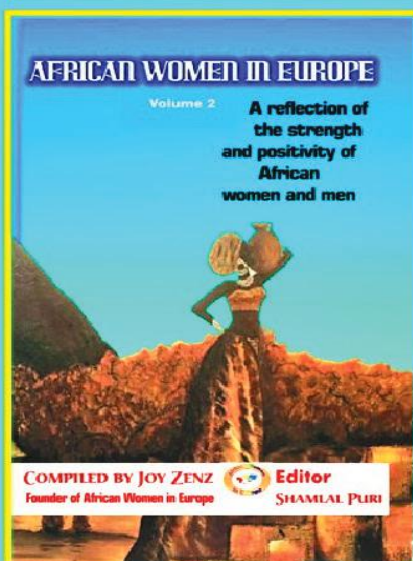
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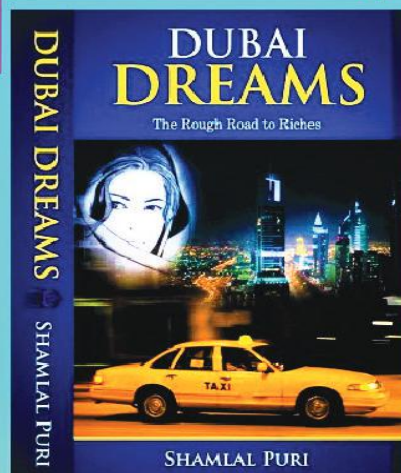
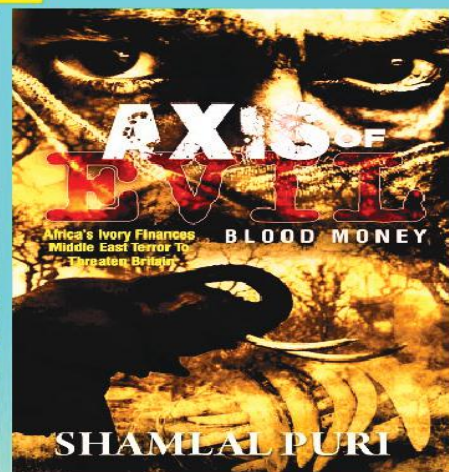
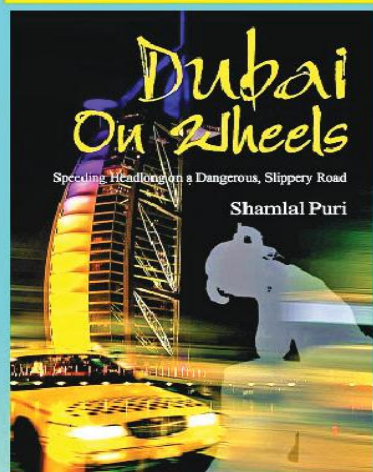
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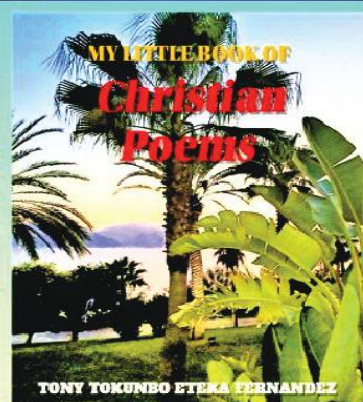
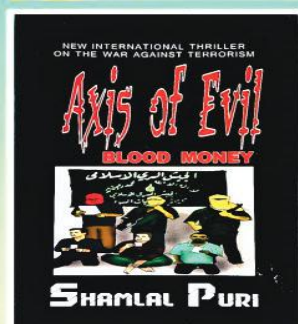
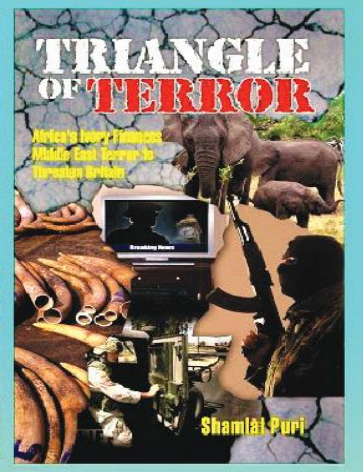
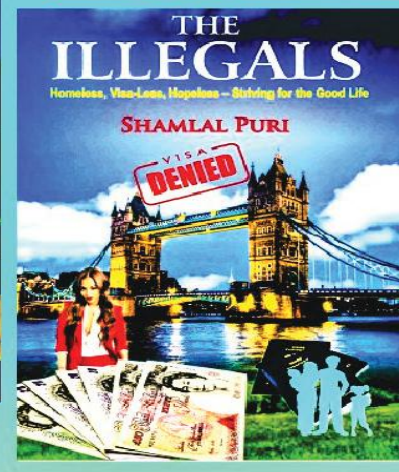
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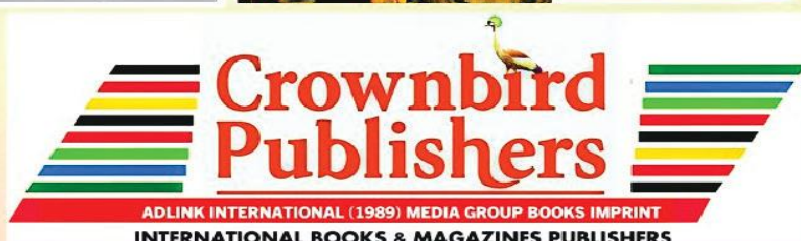


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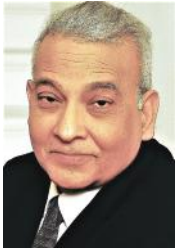
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UK News

Hundreds celebrate half a century of success in the UK: BIG TIME FUN AS UK EAST AFRICAN ASIANS BEAT THE DRUM WITH MUSIC AND DANCE



By: Shamlal Puri
Associate publisher
& Senior Editor - UK
shamlalpuri4@gmail.com

Contd from Page 1

Worth Noting:

- They were forced to leave the country with just £50 and a suitcase. Some 30,000 UK passport holders and a handful of stateless Asians were admitted to the UK at the time despite the political outcry and open warnings from cities such as Leicester asking the newly arrived refugees to stay away.
- More than 50 years on, at the end of August, a group of 200 from all over the United Kingdom travelled to the West Yorkshire city of Leeds, 195 miles from London, for a gathering that marked not only their expulsion from Entebbe to England in the case of Uganda Asians, but also Nairobi and Dar es Salaam to recall those days of distress and share the nostalgia of the good old days they spent in that beautiful part of the world.

country in 90 days or face the consequences. He called them bloodsuckers and accused the affluent community of discrimination, exploitation, stealing business opportunities from local Africans, tainting their reputation with a 'mafuta mingi' slur.

He also accused Asians of turning Kampala on a Sunday into a suburb of Bombay as these residents went about socialising in the commercial capital.

Over 70,000 Asians who had made Uganda their home were forced to leave the country, many penniless after losing belongings, including houses, savings and businesses.

Their fears, anger and disbelief were fathomable after they were turned from affluent traders to refugees.

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The expulsion of Ugandan Asians sent jitters in the East African Asian community, and many, suspecting Kenya and Tanzania could follow suit, packed their bags, too. They sold their businesses to anyone willing to buy even below the market rates.

The 1968 Kenyanisation policy of Kenya under President Jomo Kenyatta had already shaken the foundations of the non-citizen Asian business community. Tanzanians were already panicking following the 1967 Arusha Declaration, in which the Julius Nyerere government nationalised assets owned by non-citizens, including second homes.

Recently, those who turned up at the Engine Shed in the lush green area of Wetherby, 12 and a half miles from

Leeds city centre, included those expelled initially 50 years ago or younger family members who represented their forebears who are no longer alive. Fifty years is a very long time in people's lives.

They went down memory lane to remember the good, bad, and ugly days in East Africa, culminating in their en-masse expulsion over half a century ago.

Organised by the Leeds-based Abracadabra Media, the event attracted a galaxy of former East African Asians who left that part of the world after their expulsion half a century ago to resettle in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world, including the USA, Canada, Australia and of course their native India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The event's Guest of Honour was Lord Mayor of Leeds, Cllr Al Garthwaite.

The guests were entertained by an action-packed programme of music, dance, a fashion show, and contests that led the way to an exciting day of entertainment.

The UA50 event has been created after 50 years of the exodus to bring people together, share stories, reminisce, reunite and also share the experience of not only the expulsion but the life and times in East Africa, rebuilding of lives in the UK and their success stories.

Headed by Mr Taib Q Meer, an old BBC hand, Abracadabra Media provided opportunities for businesses to promote their products and services, showcasing talent from the Indian and African music, dance and fashion industries by creating a platform for local communities to engage and be involved. Abracadabra worked tirelessly and collaborated with local organisations such as MAP Leeds City Council, Uprooted Stories and Uganda York50, providing diversity and community cohesion.

The Zulu traditional attire has survived colonisation and continues to make waves on the front page of fashion magazines.

The Afro-Cat Walk formed part of the UA50 Anniversary with striking costumes by Hawadal. It was a multi-national event with the Af-



Guest of honour, Lord Mayor of Leeds, Al Garthwaite, graced the event which she described as the pride of the city and Yorkshire



The colourful venue of the event where guests enjoyed the event. Stalls were available on the day for visitors to look at or buy.



Happy guests enjoying the event.

Contd Page 11.

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ro-Cat Walk fashion show involving models from Tanzania, Nigeria, Ghana, Jamaica, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe and India, celebrating the African International Festival in Leeds.

Vanessa Tendo Naddamba, Miss Uganda UK 2022/23, was the official Judge for the Afro-Cat Walk show.

There was also an online African Art Contest involving children designing, painting, and model-making. It was judged by Dr. Rose Nimubiru Kirumira, Ugandan sculptor, artist and senior lecturer at Makerere University.

The Lord Mayoress Councilor Al Garthwaite presented the winners with a certificate.

Distinguished guests at the event reminisced about past times and shared their stories. They included Noreen Nasim, author of *Expelled from Uganda*, Shamim Eimaan of Uganda York50 and Pragna Hay, of *Uprooted Stories*. They shared their stories of the 1972 expulsion.

Prominent diasporan Jaffer Kapasi OBE AFA NDI Consul General of the Republic of Uganda, said, "In British and Ugandan history, it is impossible to forget the shock of Idi Amin's blatant and cruel expulsion of the Ugandan Asian community in 1972. One can go through the feeling of despair and frustration of being forced to flee from the Pearl of Africa in the most terrible conditions.

"It gives me immense pleasure and pride by participating in celebrating and commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the East African Exodus aiming to bring communities together by promoting community cohesion and diversity via African arts, culture and history."

He congratulated Mr Meer and Pragna Hay for organising this historical and memorable event.

"This event will not only foster better relations with British people but will educate the young born of Ugandan Asian parents in the UK. As Consul General of Uganda appointed by President Yoweri Museveni, I must offer my thanks to the British people by offering to us a home in we have thrived and made immense contribution to the economy and the national GDP."

When under President Mu-

seveni, Asians started re-turning to Uganda to resettle, local Ugandans excitedly said, "Bahindi bame Rudi..." (Asians have returned).

Pragna Hay, UA50 Ambassador, said, "In recent times, the announcement by Idi Amin in 1972, regarding the expulsion of all Asians from Uganda, has now gained more attention.

"As we mark the 50th anniversary, we have taken the initiative to document numerous memories, revealing that the trauma endured during that period still lingers.

"Recognising the history of our ancestors enables us to develop a deeper comprehension of the obstacles they confronted, ultimately shaping who we are today.

By sharing our stories with future generations, we have the potential to facilitate the healing process for the wounds of the past. It is truly an honour for me to collaborate with TQ Meer in orchestrating yet another remarkable event that aims to unite and strengthen our communities."

The audience was transported back in time, foot-tapping songs from yesteryears sung by Bollywood singer Aidan and supporting artists.

This Drive-In show was hosted by popular radio presenter Devendra of Akaash Radio.

The opening act involves young, talented performers, who will perform a traditional African song and music piece on the Kalinga, leading onto a solo guitar performance by Robert Ezizima (Ticha-Organic Vibes). A stage-play displayed the final days of expulsion titled '90 Days at Entebbe', the story of how families were stopped at checkpoints by Idi Amin's soldiers, narrated by Pragna Hay and Baldev Singh.

Some of those expelled still remember with horror how drunken soldiers robbed them of money and jewellery at gunpoint at checkpoints.

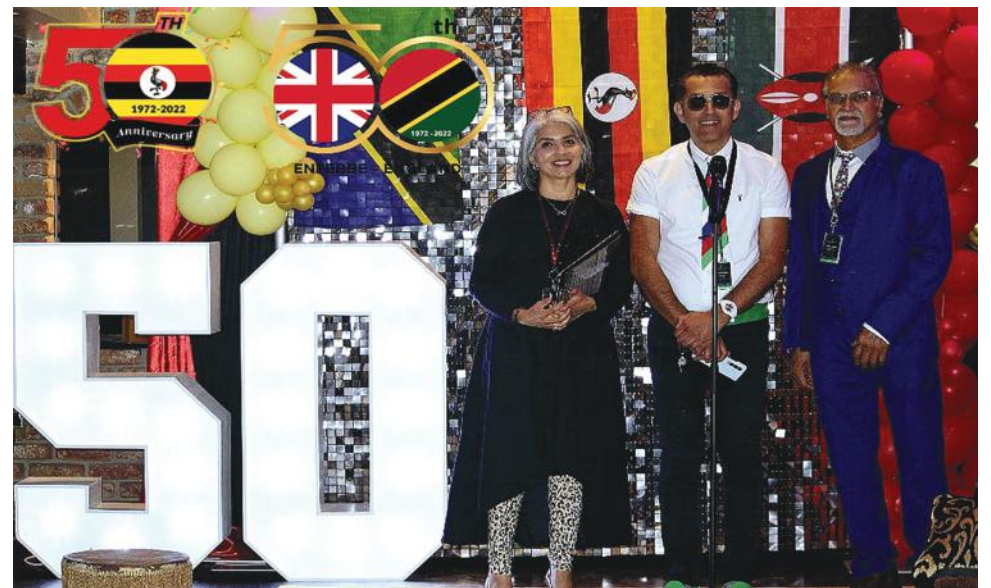
Special lifetime achievement awards were given to Asian Video and Bobby's Take Away for their outstanding contribution and service to the community over 50 years.

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Black Panther Mascot showcased a traditional African oil can guitar commissioned by Township Guitars, Cape Town, South Africa for the UA50 Afro Cat Walk.



Tireless organisers of the UA50, left to right Pragna Hay, Taib Q Meer and Baldev Singh



Guests at the UA50 shared the nostalgia of the days gone past in East Africa.



CatWalk Fashion show models from Nigeria, Ghana, Zimbabwe, and Jamaica added colour to the UA50.

South Africa

Mourners flock to funeral of divisive Zulu leader

Worth Noting:

- Prof Kealeboga Maphunye, head of African politics at the University of South Africa, acknowledges Buthelezi was “a respected traditional leader who made a contribution in history in ensuring that the dignity of black people, particularly Zulus, was not trampled on by the apartheid regime”.
- Yet it was what happened during the transition to multi-party democracy in the early 1990s, when an estimated 20,000 people died in violence between the ANC and IFP, that has drawn criticism and opened up old wounds.
- “We cannot forget that Buthelezi’s supporters were involved in acts that undermined his legacy,” Prof Maphunye told the BBC.
- The City Press newspaper editor-in-chief Mondli Makhanya was more forthright in his front-page editorial, a day after Buthelezi’s death, calling him a “murderous apartheid collaborator who was behind hit squads linked to his organisation”.



BBC

Mourners have descended on the town of Ulundi to attend the funeral of veteran South African politician and Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

He has been granted a state funeral in honour of his contribution to the fight against white-minority rule. As a mark of respect, the national power firm has also agreed Ulundi will not be subject to the national rolling electricity cuts during the events.

But his death at the age of 95 has opened up a debate about his legacy.

Born into the Zulu royal family, he remained their traditional prime minister until his death. However, it was his role in politics that has split opinions.

He founded the Zulu nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) after becoming disillusioned with the African National Congress (ANC) in 1975 at the height of apartheid. He opposed the ANC’s stance on armed action and sanctions, arguing that they harmed black South Africans.

For this, his supporters believe he deserves all the accolades being showered on him – and the hundreds of people who lined the streets on Friday leading to the Kwa-Phindangene Palace in Ulundi, along with praise-singing Zulu regiments clad in traditional attire, see him as a man of peace.

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the University of South Africa, acknowledges Buthelezi was “a respected traditional leader who made a contribution in history in ensuring that the dignity of black people, particularly Zulus, was not trampled on by the apartheid regime”.

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Makhanya went on to describe positive tributes about him as “the culmination of the greatest whitewashing of history that South Africa has seen”.

Thokoza township in the east of Johannesburg is one of many areas that experienced political violence by those determined to derail the road to the country’s first democratic elections in 1994.

A monument to the 600 people who died there now stands on Khumalo Street, once the dividing line between two warring commu-

nities.

On Thursday people gathered at the memorial determined that their relatives who died would not be forgotten at this time.

“I lost my uncle during the violent clashes. He was bludgeoned to death,” a man, who asked not to be named, told the BBC.

He had called on Buthelezi to “humble” himself and apologise for the atrocities that were committed in his name. “But instead of apologising, he denied involvement till his death,” he said. The IFP has dismissed these criticisms, saying neither Buthelezi nor his party can be blamed for planning the violence. After Nelson Mandela won the country’s first democratic elections, he and Buthelezi buried the hatchet and the IFP leader went on to serve two terms as home affairs minister in the ANC government.

Buthelezi’s son, Prince Zuzifa, said: “The IFP shares our pain in seeing long-discredited propaganda revived by a few individuals who have no sense of humanity but we will not be drawn into their spiral of hatred... history will vindicate our father”.

Events to commemorate the Zulu leader began on Wednesday in Ulundi with a memorial service organised by the IFP and addressed by dignitaries and politicians of all parties.

But this too has become overshadowed by accusations that some are using the commemorations to play politics ahead of elections next year, with politicians

accused of being prepared to revise history with votes in mind.

This criticism has particularly been levelled at the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), the country’s second-largest opposition party launched 10 years ago.

Its head of political education, Mbuyiseni Ndlozi, took to the stage to praise the IFP founder: “Never be shaken by the negativity of ill-informed, ignorant people.

“Never be shaken by opportunists, hypocrites who want to educate us about our own history and the leadership that stabilised this country into a politically peaceful environment,” he told the crowd of mourners.

For the IFP the funeral is also a good opportunity to canvas for votes and for other parties to woo a possible coalition partner in Kwa-Zulu-Natal province, homeland to the country’s largest ethnic group.

Buthelezi retired from active politics five years ago, but recently won praise for

the overseeing the peaceful installation of the recently crowned Zulu monarch Misuzulu ka Zwelithini, amid a battle for the throne among his brothers.

Although it was reported that he and the king were at loggerheads recently over the running and management of the Ingonyama Trust, a body with the role of managing communal land in KwaZulu Natal province.

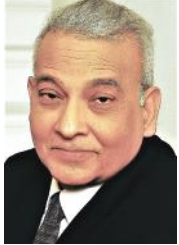
Buthelezi regarded the trust as one of his great successes – and its creation did pave the way for the IFP to participate in the 1994 elections – although it has come in for criticism, with some seeing it as unconstitutional, as it leaves millions of people in rural areas under rule of the king.

But for historian Mphumeli Ngidi, Buthelezi’s nearly 70 years of service show an unflinching dedication to preserving Zulu customs and rituals at a critical juncture in South Africa’s history – and for this alone there is no doubt he will be revered.



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- When under President Museveni, Asians started returning to Uganda to resettle, local Ugandans excitedly said, “Bahindi bame Rudi...” (Asians have returned).
- Pragna Hay, UA50 Ambassador, said, “In recent times, the announcement by Idi Amin in 1972, regarding the expulsion of all Asians from Uganda, has now gained more attention.
- “As we mark the 50th anniversary, we have taken the initiative to document numerous memories, revealing that the trauma endured during that period still lingers.

Guests were fascinated to see the Ugandan Equator ring in the heart of England – recreated to remind them of the natural beauty and the unique phenomena of that East African nation.

Finally, many guests entered a raffle draw for £1 to win a chance for an exciting prize, visit the stalls, take selfies at the Equator Ring, experience the Exodus Exhibition, and take part in East African trivia.

The organisers have been interviewing people about their personal experiences, which will form part of the UA50 Voices on the portal. This digital archive will be a reference point for the future and part of the precious exodus history.

Baldev Singh, CEO at BSmart Autos, Project Assistant, said, “The benefit of businesses in participating in community events not only provides support to the organisers but also integration with the public and service providers. It’s offered me the opportunity to target a new audience via sponsorship advertising and



Miss Uganda UKJ, Vanessa Tendo Naddamba was the official Judge for the AfroCat Walk at the UA50.

puts it in more of a human perspective.”

Mr. Meer, Project Manager and Creative Director of Abracadabra Media, said, “This was not the first time we have promoted an event. We have been regular promoters for significant events in West Yorkshire.

“We are constantly seeking the best partners within the UK and working with community and charity groups nationally and internationally.

“As the UK Government begin to appreciate the importance of business development within the community



Equator Ring created by St Paul's CE School children and displayed as a selfie point for guests

and support groups, especially from disadvantaged background, we seek to increase community cohesion and break down barriers to promote education, entertainment and engagement by providing opportunities to up-coming talent and businesses.

The UA50 project began in April 2023, and after 1,026 texts, 249 calls, 242 emails and 79 meetings, the idea turned into a reality.

“Our intention of the extravaganza in Leeds was to take the audience back to East Africa that time forgot but not the people and their hearts. They still love to see the River Nile, the Mountains of the Moon without a Lunik – and with this anniversary, we felt The East Africans thousands of miles away from that part of the world have landed.”

Taib Meer and his UA 50 and Abracadabra Media team worked very hard. They went beyond their remit, spending long hours to plan the event.

Mr Meer thanked members. He dedicated this event to his parents, Capt A.Q. Meer and B.Q. Meer and the original pioneers - Uganda Asians Association Metro Leeds.

The guest of honour, The Lord Mayor of Leeds Al Garthwaite, was very impressed with the event.

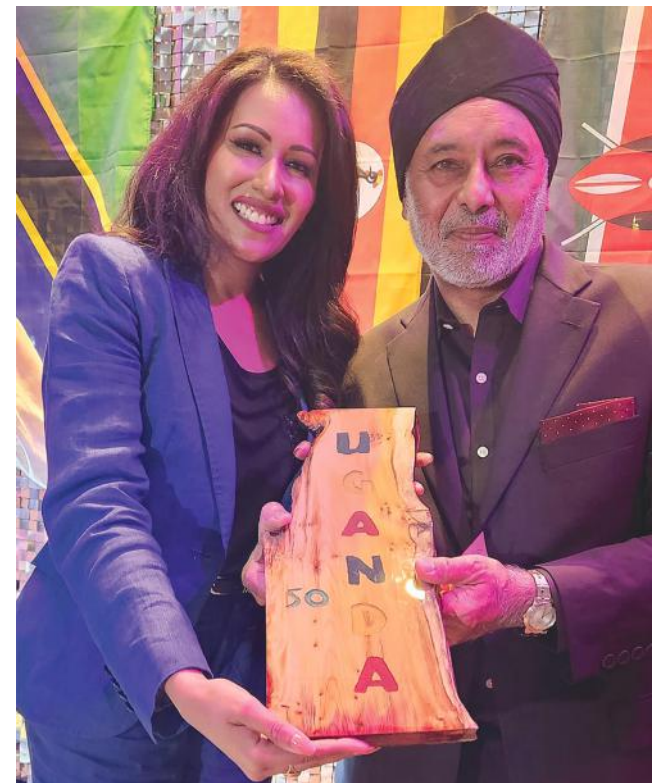
She said, “It was a great event, and it was good to meet so many people and learn about their experiences. I was very impressed with the exhibition.”

She said she would promote this exhibition to schools in Leeds when an opportunity arises.

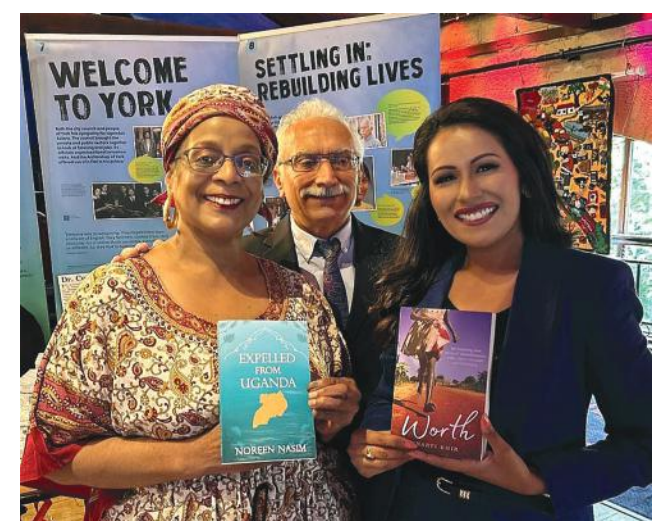
The Lord Mayor of Leeds Al Garthwaite presented certificates to the winner of the children's art competition.



Pragna Hay discussing the East African Exodus in 1972 and Uprooted Stories Project



UA50 Gateway Plaque for the 50th anniversary created by Michael Turner and presented to Paj Riyat by Noreen Nasim



Noreen Nasim (left) and Bharti Dhir, authors of Expelled from Uganda and Worth displayed their books at the event.



The premier event attracted a lot of nationwide interest which supported the UA50 Day enthusiastically.

Uzbekistan

My Uzbekistan

By: Norsafarova Nilufar Boybori
xxxxxxxxxxxxx

Contd from Page 1

Worth
Noting:

- **Renewing Uzbekistan: history is created by the strong. It is an indisputable fact that Bani Bashar has repeatedly tested humane and inhumane policies based on several theories. But the simple fact is that only if the policy of the state is just, generous and good, people will be satisfied with it, and the world community will recognize it.**
- **In this regard, we should also pay attention to my work, which I read with love, "Timur Tuzuklari".**
- **"The rule of administration of the kingdom. Whichever country I conquered, I respected the dignitaries of that place, I paid obeisance and respect to their sayyids, scholars, fuzalo and mashoyikh, I gave them suurgol, tasks, and fixed their salaries; I saw the elders of that region as my brothers and sisters, and their youth and children as my children.**



monovich Mirziyoyev, and we have reached these days... Of course, our nation has a great past and a glorious history. This holy land was the cradle of many brave and heroic boys. These brave, brave and patriotic leaders have written the name of our nation in golden letters in the history. Hard days are over. The kindness and kindness shown to each other always brings light and joy to our hearts.

Language is the tool that most vividly expresses and determines the ethnic identity of each nation. In this sense, the President's speech in Uzbek for the first time from the podium of the UN is one of the greatest victories we have witnessed in the years of independence. It is the first foundation stone laid in the establishment of new Uzbekistan. Because today language is a political issue for us as well as a spiritual one. Independence Day, which is widely celebrated in our country every year, is also a historic day for us. Because our language, which has gone through many troubles, was humiliated and humiliated, and which brought up the great Navoi, Timur, Jalaluddin-u Babur, is regaining its passion. Uzbek is coming back to the world, New Uzbekistan is taking its place on the

world stage! I would like to quote Qudratilla Rafikov's thoughts right here:

In his speech, the President used a folk phrase very aptly: "A flowing river flows." This saying, which has been proven over the years and has become almost wisdom, says that the Third Renaissance will definitely happen in our dear land, some scholars say that "Uzbeks or people living in this region are only suitable for black labor and wealth, science and calculation. - it is not surprising that the book soon swells up like a line drawn to insulting exclamations "you can't trust them". The people who look at us with disdain, in fact, are constantly hiding the fact that they have learned and learned about development. In this regard, Ismoilbek Gasprali, a mature thinker of the All-Turkic world, a spiritual leader of our modernist intellectuals, who made a real revolution in the spiritual life of Eastern peoples, in particular, in school education, went down in history under the name of "usuli jaded" and started "usuli savtiya" - very appropriate. For example, he said: "If one of your people does not acquire morals, it is born from talent and intelligence. Acceptable morals and manners cannot be born from a defective

mind," he writes. In these same thoughts of the great thinker, we can once again witness the knowledge and enlightenment, the cornerstone of development. It is a mirror-like reflection of how difficult and difficult, at the same time, the path of honorable development is being followed, and how it is building a new state of Uzbekistan with its own strength and potential. makes

Renewing Uzbekistan: history is created by the strong. It is an indisputable fact that Bani Bashar has repeatedly tested humane and inhumane policies based on several theories. But the simple fact is that only if the policy of the state is just, generous and good, people will be satisfied with it, and the world community will recognize it. In this regard, we should also pay attention to my work, which I read with love, "Timur Tuzuklari". "The rule of administration of the kingdom.

Whichever country I conquered, I respected the dignitaries of that place, I paid obeisance and respect to their sayyids, scholars, fuzalo and mashoyikh, I gave them suurgol, tasks, and fixed their salaries; I saw the elders of that region as my brothers and sisters, and their youth and children as

my children. The door of the shrine was open for the people of these countries. I turned the subject towards me." Why are we linking "Temur tuzuk lari" to the phrase "New Uzbekistan"?! After all, our country is following the same path that our grandfather Timur took in order to achieve such development. Amir Temur says, "I bowed to his nobles and masters." It is precisely in our country and in our New Uzbekistan that I bow to science and enlightenment today. After all, as Qudratilla Rafikov said: "The path of nationalism is the path of development."

In one of his speeches, the Honorable President emphasized the following words: "All of us must deeply understand one fact: supporting entrepreneurship is the most effective way to increase the welfare of citizens, our people, to build a new Uzbekistan is the ultimate goal. I believe that further liberalization of the life of our country, expansion of the environment of openness and transparency, public control will play an important role in solving the existing shortcomings and defects in this field.

At the initiative and demand of the President, the works aimed at pleasing people have penetrated into

every neighborhood and household. Not a single person was left out. Effective systems such as "Temir Daftar", "Women's Daftar", "Yoshlar Daftar" have been introduced for low-income families. Based on the noble principle that "the people should serve the people, not the state agencies, the state agencies should serve our people."

It was a period of unprecedented changes, especially for entrepreneurs and farmers. Unreasonable inspections were stopped, exporters were encouraged. At the same time, the tasks defined in the "Strategy of Actions" on the five priority directions of the development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021 are being consistently implemented. This program document paved the way for the transition of our country to a completely new stage of development. At the same time, the fourth initiative - the "Young Reader" republican competition, which was organized to attract young people to reading, was awarded with the Presidential gift car "Spark", and this also brought back to life artistic works that are disappearing among young people. contributing to the return.

Also, within the frame-

Uzbekistan

My Uzbekistan



By: Norsafarova Nilufar Boybori
xxxxxxxxxxxx

Contd from Page 14

Worth
Noting:

- To ensure the physical and spiritual well-being of the young generation in our country, to strive for a healthy lifestyle and to develop love for sports, to create a material base for children's sports in local areas, to create a material base for children's sports in populated areas, and to provide sports equipment and supplies In 2002, the Children's Sports Development Fund of Uzbekistan was established in order to further activate its activities.
- The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan was elected as the chairman of the Foundation's patronage board. Chairman of Dzhokori Kenges of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, mayors of regions and Tashkent city were appointed as chairmen of patronage councils of regional branches. All these are the first steps in building New Uzbekistan.



work of the "Prosperous Village" program, the noble initiative that started in the village of Manas has reached the villages in the most remote areas.

Such opportunities given to us young people are proof that important initiatives await each of us in the future. The first way to achieve progress and renew our New Uzbekistan is to pay attention to science and enlightenment! Big changes are taking place in our country precisely in science. In the conditions of the development of modern society, the need for non-standard thinking creators is increasing.

After all, attention to education is the foundation of the future. Expenditures on education are one of the main indicators of social development, because they reflect the level of attention paid to the education of citizens by the state and society. Investments in education are not only an important way to increase the human capital of the country and improve the prospects of economic

development, but they also have their own value, because education expands people's worldview, provides opportunities for self-realization and contributes to the creation of their own materials, well-being and is directly related to a healthy lifestyle. In this case, direct changes also apply to the field of sports.

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regions and Tashkent city were appointed as chairmen of patronage councils of regional branches. All these are the first steps in building New Uzbekistan.

The desire to share with the world.

Knowledge of every language is a life for a person. Language is a universal tool. Try a foreign language, young people

The development of science and crafts is obvious.

These verses were written by our enlightened grandfather Avaz O'tar a century ago. This speech of our grandfather is a vivid example of the fact that even in those times, which we are used to seeing as extremely backward, language learning was considered an important means of development and understanding the world. Now, in today's modern postmodern world, where cultures are mixing, and the distances between values and concepts of national identity are shrinking, the language factor has again emerged as an important and main factor in inte-

grating into the world.

As a citizen, as a pedagogue, I would like to make a proposal in this area for the further renewal of our New Uzbekistan. Since the majority of non-state educational centers for foreign languages in our republic are located in Tashkent, the most remote rural areas of each province are also like this. Training centers should be established. May all our citizens be fluent in their own and foreign languages. So, science, language, innovation, development, renewal are interrelated and inseparable concepts, and in my eyes, New Uzbekistan is in science!!!

After all, as the President said, "New Uzbekistan is, first of all, a new economy relations means a new economic worldview" Norsafarova, daughter of Nilufar Boybori, was born on April 24, 2004 in Dehkanabad district of Kashkadarya region. At the moment, he is a student of the Uzbek language and literature department of the Shahrizabz State Ped-

agogical Institute, Faculty of Languages. Norsafarova Nilufar has been an active participant in many international and national competitions. In 2023, he became the owner of the "Innovative Promoter" badge.

In addition, he is currently actively involved in volunteer work at the institute. He is the author of such articles as "History of the formation of proverbs", "Palindromes or words of the heart", "Specific features of an epic work", "The role and importance of connected clauses, separated clauses, impulses and introductions in a sentence". These articles were published in foreign publishers and in the prestigious publishing houses of our republic.

*Norsafarova is the daughter of Nilufar Boybori Shahrizabz State Pedagogical Institute
2nd stage student of Uzbek language and literature*

King Mohammed VI announces housing for 50,000 displaced earthquake victims

Dismas Otuke

King Mohammed VI has announced emergency rehousing programme for over 50,000 victims displaced by the earthquake that struck Morocco early this month.

The King made the announcement on Thursday afternoon after chairing a meeting with senior government officials at the Royal Palace in Rabat.

The meeting was the latest following a series of measures ordered by the King Mohammed VI as an urgent measures of mobilizing resources, to help the affected families.

This first phase of rehousing program presented to the Sovereign, and which was prepared by the inter-ministerial commission set up pursuant to the High Royal Instruction, will cover 50,000 people whose homes were either totally or partially collapsed in the five affected provinces.

The emergency temporary rehousing measures, will adopt on-site accommodation formulas in structures designed to withstand cold and bad weather; or in reception sites equipped with all the necessary amenities.

In addition, the State will grant emergency aid of 30,000 dirhams to each victims concerned.

The King ordered authorities in charge of the programme to prioritise fairness and needy cases basis.

In addition the King directed disbursement of a further 140,000 to each family whose houses were completely destroyed and 80,000 to each house that was partially destroyed to rebuild.

In addition to repairing the damage caused by the earthquake, these measures will also involve launching a well-thought-out, integrated and ambitious program for the reconstruction and general upgrading of the affected regions, both in terms of infrastructure reinforcement and improving the quality of public services.

This multi-faceted program will primarily mobilize the State's own financial resources and those of public bodies, and will also be open to contributions from private players and associations, as well as from brotherly and friendly countries that so wish, and to whom His Majesty the King reiterates, on this occasion, the Kingdom of Morocco's most sincere thanks.

During the meeting, His Majesty the King, may God assist Him, also raised the equally crucial issue of immediate care for orphaned children, who today find themselves without family or resources.



The meeting was attended by the Head of Government, Mr. Aziz Akhannouch, Advisor to HM the King, Mr. Fouad Ali El Himma, the Interior Minister, Mr. Abdelouafi-Lafit, the Endowments and Islamic Affairs Minister, Mr. Ahmed Toufiq, the Economy and Finance Minister, Ms. Nadia Fettah, the National

Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy Minister Ms. Fatima Ezzahra El Mansouri, the Minister Delegate to the Minister of Economy and Finance, in charge of the Budget, Mr. Faouzi Lekjaa, as well as Lieutenant General Mohammed Berrid, Inspector General of the FAR and Command-

er of the Southern Zone.

The devastating earthquake of 6.8 magnitude left over 3,000 people dead with an equal number of casualties and over 50,000 homeless.

Turkey's deepest caves

Mark Dickey: US explorer freed from one of Turkey's deepest caves

BBC News

A US citizen trapped in Turkey's third deepest cave for more than a week has been pulled to safety, rescuers say.

More than 150 people were involved in efforts to save caver Mark Dickey after he developed stomach problems in the Morca Cave on 2 September.

Organisers say it was one of the largest and most complicated underground rescues ever mounted.

The lowest point of the Morca Cave, in a remote part of the south, reaches nearly 1.3km (0.8 miles) below ground.

Dickey said he thought he would not survive the ordeal after his condition worsened.

"The only feeling that I think I have is this curve of 'Will I live?' It literally went through my head, I was like 'This is a bell curve'. Like seriously, I'm insane that way," he told reporters.

"It's like 'This isn't that serious, I'm not going to die', this is 'ok, like I've got some blood going on here but it's bacterial, it's an infection, whatever'. 'Then I start throwing up blood and

blood is coming out in more quantity that you're going to live with if it keeps happening... I kept throwing up blood. Then my consciousness started to get harder to hold on to and I reached a point where I said, 'I'm not going to live,' he added.

Dickey had been co-leading a team to map a new passage in the cave when he began to suffer from gastrointestinal bleeding.

His condition improved after he was given a blood transfusion. He was then strapped to a stretcher and was slowly carried out.

Dickey, who hails from New Jersey, is said to be a hardened caver with over 20 years' experience.

He has been an instructor with the US National Cave Rescue Commission for 10 years, teaching a variety of cave rescue classes. He is also listed as the body's International Exchange Program Co-ordinator on its website.

He had been co-leading the expedition to the Morca Cave since the end of August, according to the Hungarian Cave Rescue Service, who have also been assisting with the operation.



Ex-Secret Service agent reveals new JFK assassination detail



Texas Governor John Connally is seen adjusting his tie in the foreground as John F Kennedy Jackie Kennedy sit in the back seat

Worth Noting:

- **Conspiracies over how many gunmen were involved, who was ultimately responsible, and how many bullets actually struck the president have abounded in the decades since the assassination.**
- **The idea that the true facts of the case differ from the official version is modern America's original conspiracy theory, and according to some historians, the killing instigated the nation's decaying trust in its government.**
- **Depending on how one looks at it, Mr Landis's story either changes nothing or everything.**
- **His book *The Final Witness* is guaranteed to add more kindling to the never-ending national obsession with the assassination.**
- **"This is really the most significant news in the assassination since 1963," said James Robenalt, a historian and Kennedy expert who worked with Mr Landis to prepare him for his public revelations.**

BBC News

Six decades later, new details are still coming to light in one of the most scrutinised events in American history: the assassination of President John F Kennedy.

Paul Landis, an 88-year-old former Secret Service agent who witnessed the president's death at close range, says in an upcoming memoir that he took a bullet from the car after Mr Kennedy was shot, and then left it on the former president's stretcher at the hospital.

It might seem like a minute detail in a case that has been pored over since the 1960s, but to individuals who have spent decades looking at every shred of evidence, Mr Landis's account is a major and unexpected development.

Conspiracies over how many gunmen were involved, who was ultimately responsible, and how many bullets actually struck the president have abounded in the decades since the assassination.

The idea that the true facts of the case differ from the official version is modern America's original conspiracy theory, and according to some historians, the killing instigated the nation's decaying trust in its government.

Depending on how one looks at it, Mr Landis's story either changes nothing or everything.

His book *The Final Witness* is guaranteed to add more kindling to the never-ending national obsession with the assassination.

"This is really the most significant news in the assassination since 1963," said James Robenalt, a historian

and Kennedy expert who worked with Mr Landis to prepare him for his public revelations.

New details in an old case The primary facts of the Kennedy assassination are, by this point, well known and established.

On 22 November 1963, a convertible carrying President Kennedy, First Lady Jackie Kennedy, and Texas Governor John Connally Jr and his wife was driving through Dealey Plaza in Dallas when a series of shots rang out.

Mr Kennedy was struck in the head and neck, and Mr Connally was hit in the back. Authorities rushed both to nearby Parkland Memorial Hospital, where Mr Kennedy was declared dead. The governor survived.

The Warren Commission report, the result of a government inquiry into the killing, identified Lee Harvey Oswald as the sole gunman. Ballistics evidence helped confirm this conclusion. He was shot and killed shortly after the assassination while in police custody.

The report also concluded that a single bullet travelled through Mr Kennedy and hit Mr Connally, striking both in several places, which helps explain how one gunman carried out the attack. The finding became known as the "single bullet theory" or "magic bullet theory".

The commission partly relied on the fact that a bullet had later been found on Mr Connally's hospital gurney.

At the time, nobody knew where it had come from. But the committee ultimately concluded that the bullet had become dislodged as doctors raced to treat Mr Connally.

Some sceptics of the official report have long fixated on the single bullet, finding it difficult to believe that it could have caused as many injuries as it did to two separate men.

Mr Landis's account has landed like a bombshell not only because it provides a new firsthand testimony but because, in some views, it complicates the theory of the single bullet.

What Paul Landis remembers

On the day of the assassination, Mr Landis, then 28, was detailed to Jackie Kennedy.

When the violence began, he was just feet away from President Kennedy and witnessed the gruesome blow to his head.

Then came absolute pandemonium. What Mr Landis did next, he told no one but a few confidants for decades. In an interview with the New York Times, Mr Landis said that after the motorcade arrived at the hospital, he spotted a bullet lodged in the Kennedy's car behind where the president had been sitting.

He picked it up and pocketed it. Shortly after, in his recollections, he was in an emergency room with President Kennedy, where he said he placed it on the president's gurney so the evidence would travel with the body.

"There was nobody there to secure the scene, and that was a big, big bother to me," Mr Landis told the Times.

"This was all going on so quickly. And I was just afraid that – it was a piece of evidence, that I realised right away," he continued. "Very important. And I didn't want it to disappear or

get lost."

Mr Landis apparently never came forward with this evidence, and the Warren Commission never interviewed him. He never wrote it down in any official report.

"He was totally sleep deprived and was still required to work, and was suffering from severe PTSD," Mr Robenalt told the BBC.

"He forgot about the bullet," said Mr Robenalt, who spent significant time interviewing Mr Landis about his recollections and recently wrote a Vanity Fair piece deconstructing the revelation. "He was totally absorbed in the enormous stuff that was going on."

For years, he avoided reading about the assassination or the conspiracy theories it sparked – until he decided he was ready to tell his story to the world.

The mystery bullet

Those who have read Mr Landis's account have taken different conclusions from it – and the story raises as many questions as it potentially answers.

Mr Robenalt told the BBC that he believes this account undermines the "single bullet" theory.

Mr Landis now believes the bullet he had found in the car was the one that turned up on Mr Connally's gurney. He believes the bullet had embedded shallowly in Mr Kennedy's back and fallen out in the car.

If he is right, Mr Robenalt said, Mr Connally and Mr Kennedy may not have been struck by the same bullet.

He even believes it could re-open scepticism about whether Mr Oswald acted alone.

If it had not been one bullet

that caused both men's injuries, Mr Robenalt asks in his extensive Vanity Fair piece, could Oswald have possibly fired both shots in such rapid succession with the rifle he used?

Mr Landis does have very serious sceptics, however, including a colleague who was also a direct participant that day.

Clint Hill, the agent who famously jumped onto the back of the Kennedy's car to protect the president, does not believe Mr Landis' account.

"If he checked all the evidence, statements, things that happened, they don't line up," Mr Hill told NBC News. "It doesn't make any sense to me that he's trying to put it on the president's gurney."

To Gerald Posner, an investigative journalist and author of *Case Closed: Lee Harvey Oswald and the Assassination of JFK*, Mr Landis's story actually supports the "single bullet" theory.

"People would now know how the bullet wound up on Connally's gurney," he said.

Mr Posner said "his account has to be taken seriously", but also had doubts about the certainty of Mr Landis's memories after nearly six decades had passed.

For example, Mr Posner pointed toward interviews from people inside the emergency room with Mr Kennedy at Parkland hospital. No one mentions Mr Landis's presence there, he said.

And the fact that Mr Landis never came forward raises questions about his conduct that day, Mr Posner said.

"That being said, he could say things that are wrong but the underlying fact that, 'I saw a bullet, I grabbed it, put in my pocket, and left it at the hospital before I left': that either is true or not," Mr Posner said.

Whether or not Mr Landis opens a new mystery or simply confirms existing fact is almost beside the point.

This is the Kennedy assassination, after all, and his revelation will ensure continued years of debate and dissection of one of America's greatest national traumas.

"Are you going solve it to anybody's 100% satisfaction? No," Mr Posner said. "It's a case that will never be closed, for most people."

Poetry

The Symbol Of Elegance In Indian Poetry - Divyangana Nath



By: Abigirl Phiri
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- My name is Divyangana Nath. I am from Prayagraj, uttar-pradesh, which is popularly known as the 'Triveni-Sangam-Nagari where the holy river ganga, yamuna and saraswati meets. It is also famous for Kumbh mela which is organized once in 12 years.
- Talking about my inspirations I would say that, I'm not a very dedicated reader but there are some amazing idols which actually inspired me to get into this field.
- During my initial years of the writing journey it was quite difficult for me to foresee where do I stand but now with the passing years I would say that in the near future I will continue to learn more and perform more to polish my skills and the entire cycle of these combinations will never stop.

When you converse with Divyangana you can't help but feel a certain level of maturity in her words. This is the same scenario she portrays in her prose and poetry pieces. Having had come from afar, she understands that the writing journey is not a walk in the park. Instead, you have to fight for your dreams especially if poetry arms you with the ability to advocate for what is right. Thus, this is what she had to say in greater detail.

Please tell us your name and how your journey started in poetry

My name is Divyangana Nath. I am from Prayagraj, uttarpradesh, which is popularly known as the 'Triveni-Sangam-Nagari where the holy river ganga, yamuna and saraswati meets. It is also famous for Kumbh mela which is organized once in 12 years. Being an introvert and the elder offspring it has always been a struggle for me to convey about my emotions and notions. Even though whenever I tried to communicate or tried to convey people always misinterpreted leaving me despaired. So, from that particular time I decided to go for writing to share my suppressed emotions and notions the way I wanted.

Have you won any major accolades for yourself in poetry? Are you a published poet?

Yes, I do have accolades in the form of certificates from writing contests, reel contests and the anthologies I worked for.

Yes, I am a published poet who has shared her writings as a co-author in many well decent anthologies and has

received certificates which have ISBN numbers.

Who is your inspiration?

Talking about my inspirations I would say that, I'm not a very dedicated reader but there are some amazing idols which actually inspired me to get into this field. One of them is Mr. Harivansh Rai Bachchan ji who was an Indian poet, Rabindranath Tagore and Shakespeare. Their writings are so soothing to read and listen to, that I can't resist myself to start my writing journey and to convey my notions in a poetic format.

What problems have you faced as a writer?

During my initial years of the writing journey it was quite difficult for me to foresee where do I stand but now with the passing years I would say that in the near future I will continue to learn more and perform more to polish my skills and the entire cycle of these combinations will never stop. This will motivate me to gain new knowledge, more accolades and more recognition. Every field has its own struggle which demands good time, patience, rejections, intellect and a proper and clear vision and writing is one of them. After penning on pages for a long period I decided to share my pieces on social platform but got no response and appreciation even from the people I knew. I even tried to narrate my pennings in the groups but had to stop in between as the faces used to seem bored and disinterested. Some of pieces even got rejected which left me full of despair and sometimes hopeless.

Share with us one of your best poetry piece

[Evidence of my presence]

I wonder if I could be the seasons that change drastically leaving no evidence behind, still we create memories out of them but not all memoirs are decent to keep. So, searching for the evidence of my presence.

My solitary soul is standing under the galaxy pretending to be visible with a questionnaire, though they don't seem interested to answer, but I am nosy to know whether my existence is valuable or the human existence of mine will vanish before time leaving no clue even to examine or the soul of mine is sent to experience disdain. So, still searching for the evidence of my presence.

My mind encompasses the notion that I am a goblin in the human face who is intimidated and trying to search for the inner peace to be free from the pain of the wounds which are still fresh. Addressing myself as a solitary soul of a goblin who is standing alone under the massive universe all tired with the burden of the loneliness, disappointment and eagerly wanting to quit the game of life but still trying to search for the evidence of my presence.

Add in your social media handle

Khwahishein23

Any word of advice to others who would want to venture into poetry

The only piece of advice I would like to share is that the journey is not going to be easy because you will face rejections which will leave you in despair. Your performance and achievements will not be appreciated and you will feel like quitting everything most of the time



Divyangana Nath



Divyangana Nath



Zimbabwean Raving Beauty Nomagugulethu Aisha Dube



By: Abigail Phiri
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- My name is Dube Nomagugulethu Aisha. I started my modeling career in 2023, it's not easy but I have to push myself, work hard for my goals and my achievements.
- My inspiration behind my modeling career is my culture, the girl child and my mother. I would like to preach to people about my culture in a fashion way, so that we our culture will be known outside Zimbabwe, and my inspiration also involves the girl child because I know there are a lot of girls out there that need help on fashion
- I have faced different challenges in my career life, sometimes people can take advantage of you because you are quiet. Also some other people are being taken as low people. No full respect and being judged by outside people.

Zimbabwean Raving Beauty Nomagugulethu Aisha Dube

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder but in Nomagugulethu's case, a Zimbabwean treasure it's plain for all to see. This is why she decided to venture into modeling in a bid to showcase poise, elegance and confidence to the other hordes of women. In this time and age, modeling has evolved to encompass more than the physical attributes but the intellect of the individual as well. No wonder beauty pageants and photo shoots are now even being used to empower young women to embrace their femininity. Below is what Nomagugulethu had to say with regards to maneuvering the tumultuous journey of modeling. Suffice to say, no pain no gain in this lifetime.

Please tell us your name and how you started your modeling career?

My name is Dube Nomagugulethu Aisha. I started my modeling career in 2023, it's not easy but I have to push myself, work hard for my goals and my achievements.

Have you participated in any major contests?

No I haven't participated in any major contests so far. I am only focusing on fashion shoots for now but my goal is to participate in fashion modeling shows one day.

What is the inspiration behind your modeling career?

My inspiration behind my modeling career is my culture, the girl child and my mother. I would like to preach to people about my culture in a fashion way, so that we our culture will be known outside Zimbabwe, and my inspiration also involves the girl child because I know there

are a lot of girls out there that need help on fashion, how to present themselves to people through fashion and what we wear. Also, my mother is behind my career because I know every mother will be proud to see his or her child being a leader for other children.

Where do you see yourself in the next 5 years?

I see myself in the next 5 years as a well know female model, young CEO, one of the ambassadors in Zimbabwe.

What are your hobbies that you partake in when on your free time?

I am a chef. Singing

Who is your role model that you look up to?

Cindy Makhatini is my role

Is the notion modeling doesn't put food on the table realistic in your own opinion?

Right now am not yet looking for big things or payments. Right now I need to make sure my name is out there and be known.

What are some of the major challenges being faced by models?

I have faced different challenges in my career life, sometimes people can take advantage of you because you are quiet. Also some other people are being taken as low people. No full respect and being judged by outside people.

Any words of advice to other aspiring models?

My words of advice to other aspir-



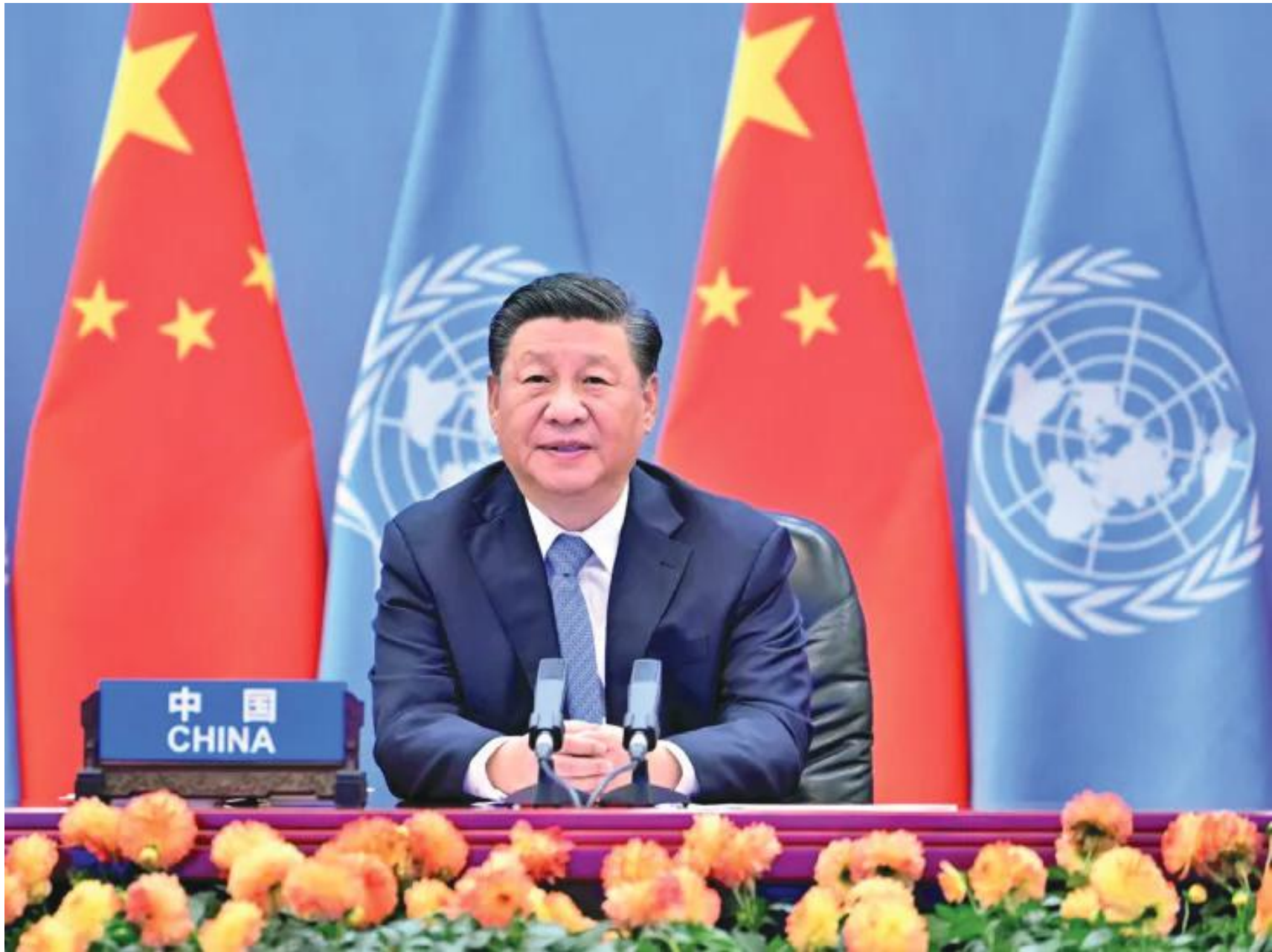
Dube Nomagugulethu Aisha

CHINA - GLOBAL

China issues proposal on reform and development of global governance

Worth Noting:

- The Global Security Initiative (GSI) advocates a commitment to the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security and a commitment to peacefully resolving differences and disputes between countries through dialogue and consultation, according to the proposal.
- China firmly supports a political settlement of the Ukraine crisis, it said, adding that no one gains from conflicts and wars and imposing sanctions, exerting pressure, or adding fuel to the fire will only escalate the situation.
- It urged efforts to maintain mutual respect, abandon the Cold War mentality, stop ganging up to stoke camp-based confrontation, and work to build a balanced, effective and sustainable European security architecture.



CGTN

The Chinese Foreign Ministry on Wednesday issued the Proposal of the People's Republic of China on the Reform and Development of Global Governance.

Over the past decade, the concept of a community with a shared future for mankind has grown from an idea to action and a vision to reality, said the proposal, adding that China calls on the international community to act on true multilateralism, uphold the international system with the United Nations (UN) at its core, support the UN in playing a central role in international affairs, and further develop and improve the global governance system.

Detailing the proposal at a regular press briefing, Mao Ning, a spokesperson for the ministry, said the international community expects the UN to play an active role in international affairs and continuously reform and improve the global governance system.

The proposal comprehensively elaborates on China's stance and proposition on

key areas of global governance such as peace, security, development, human rights and society, as well as on institutional reform, she said.

Enhancing global security governance

The Global Security Initiative (GSI) advocates a commitment to the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security and a commitment to peacefully resolving differences and disputes between countries through dialogue and consultation, according to the proposal. China firmly supports a political settlement of the Ukraine crisis, it said, adding that no one gains from conflicts and wars and imposing sanctions, exerting pressure, or adding fuel to the fire will only escalate the situation.

It urged efforts to maintain mutual respect, abandon the Cold War mentality, stop ganging up to stoke camp-based confrontation, and work to build a balanced, effective and sustainable European security architecture.

China strongly condemns all forms of terrorism and extremism, it said, adding that China supports the UN in playing a central and coordinating role to help developing countries build capacity for fighting terrorism, form greater synergy worldwide against terrorism, and address the challenges brought by emerging technologies.

Pursuing global sustainable development

With the implementation of the Global Development Initiative (GDI) as a main focus, China will push for international efforts to consolidate and expand consensus on development and keep development front and center on the global agenda, according to the proposal. China calls on developed countries to deliver on their commitments on official development assistance and climate financing, address the uneven distribution of global development resources, pay attention to development knowledge sharing, and provide capacity-building support to developing countries.

Noting that this year marks the 10th anniversary of the proposal of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the proposal called for higher-level cooperation, better cost-effectiveness, higher-quality supply, and stronger development resilience in Belt and Road cooperation.

China supports efforts to make economic globalization more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all, it said, urging efforts to stick to cooperation as a driving force, pursue extensive consultation and joint contribution for shared benefits, and promote mutually beneficial cooperation.

Advancing global human rights and social governance

In proposing the Global Civilization Initiative, China aims to promote the exchange and mutual learning between civilizations, enhance mutual understanding and friendship between people of all countries, build international consensus for cooperation and advance the progress of human civi-

lizations, it stated.

Calling for respecting the diversity of civilizations, the proposal urged the need to uphold the principles of equality, mutual learning, dialogue and inclusiveness among civilizations and let cultural exchange transcend estrangement, mutual learning transcend clashes, and coexistence transcend feelings of superiority.

In advancing human rights, countries should put the people front and center, make the people's aspirations for a better life their starting point and ultimate goal, and keep making efforts to resolve the most practical problems that are of the greatest and most direct concern to the people so that people can lead a good life.

Stressing that education is an important force for the progress of human civilization, China stands ready to work with countries around the world for more educational exchange, enhance openness in education and actively support other developing countries in advancing education, it said.



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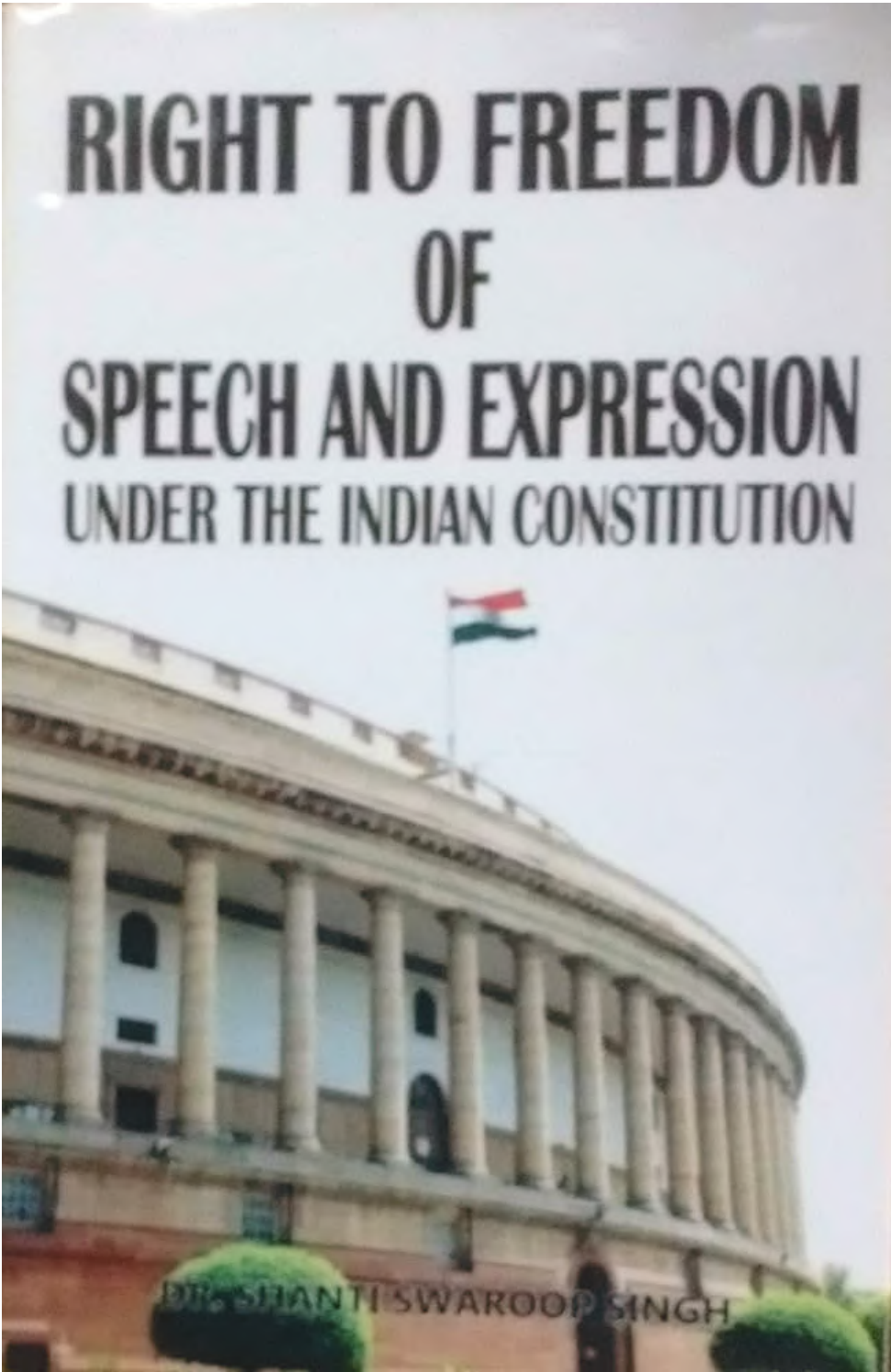
Indian Constitution & Freedom Of Speech

By: Saurabh Jadhav
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Worth Noting:

- The Indian Constitution, which came into effect on January 26, 1950, guarantees its citizens the fundamental right of freedom of speech and expression. This right is enshrined in Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution, which states that all citizens have the right to freedom of speech and expression.
- However, this right is not absolute and is subject to certain reasonable restrictions. Article 19(2) of the Constitution empowers the state to impose such restrictions in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign states, public order, decency and morality, or in relation to contempt of court, defamation, or incitement to an offense.



→ Preface:

The Indian Constitution is a remarkable document that sets out the fundamental principles and values of the Indian nation. One of the most important of these principles is the freedom of speech, which is enshrined in Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution. This fundamental right is essential for the functioning of a democratic society and allows citizens to express their views and opinions freely and without fear. However, the right to freedom of speech is not absolute, and there are limits on what one can say or express. The Indian Constitution provides for reasonable restrictions on freedom of speech under Article 19(2), which include restrictions related to public order, decency and morality, and national security. The interpretation and application of these restrictions by the courts have been crucial in defining the contours of freedom of speech

in India. In recent years, the rise of social media and the internet has posed new challenges to freedom of speech in India. The Indian government has sought to regulate online speech, leading to debates about the scope and limits of this fundamental right in the digital age. In this article, we will examine the various dimensions of freedom of speech in India, including its constitutional framework, evolution, limits, the role of the judiciary in protecting this right and impact of social media. We will also explore the challenges and debates around online speech and censorship in India. By doing so, we hope to provide a comprehensive understanding of the complex issues involved and contribute to the ongoing discussions on this crucial topic.

The Constitutional Framework for Freedom of Speech in India:

The Indian Constitution, which came into effect on January 26, 1950, guarantees its citizens the fundamental right of freedom of speech and expression. This right is enshrined in Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution, which states that all citizens have the right to freedom of speech and expression. However, this right is not absolute and is subject to certain reasonable restrictions. Article 19(2) of the Constitution empowers the state to impose such restrictions in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign states, public order, decency and morality, or in relation to contempt of court, defamation, or incitement to an offense. Furthermore, the Constitution of India recognizes the right to life and personal liberty as a fundamental right under Article 21. This right has been interpreted by the Indian judiciary to include within its

ambit the right to free speech and expression. Thus, the Constitutional framework for freedom of speech and expression in India is a combination of Articles 19(1)(a), 19(2), and 21, which collectively provide citizens with the right to express themselves freely, subject to reasonable restrictions imposed by the state. In conclusion, the Indian Constitution provides a robust framework for the protection of freedom of speech and expression, which is an essential component of a democratic society. While the state is empowered to impose reasonable restrictions on this right, it is the duty of the judiciary to ensure that such restrictions are not arbitrary or excessive and do not unduly curtail the freedom of speech and expression of citizens.

The Evolution of Freedom of Speech in India:

The evolution of freedom of speech in India is a fascinating and complex topic, shaped by historical, political, and social factors. The constitutional provisions on freedom of speech were developed in the context of India's struggle for independence from British colonial rule, which was characterized by widespread civil disobedience and protests against repressive British laws. The Constituent Assembly of India, which was tasked with drafting the Constitution of India, recognized the importance of freedom of speech and expression as a fundamental right that must be protected in a democratic society. The assembly deliberated extensively on the scope and limitations of this right, and ultimately enshrined it in Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution. However, the interpretation and application of the constitutional provisions on freedom of speech have evolved over time, shaped by changing social, political, and legal contexts. In the early years of India's independence, the government-imposed restrictions on freedom of speech and expression through laws such as the Preventive Detention Act and the Press (Objectionable Matter) Act, which were criticized for being overly broad and repressive. In conclusion, the evolution of freedom of speech in India reflects the complex interplay between constitutional provisions, historical and political factors, and judicial interpretation. While the right to

freedom of speech and expression is a fundamental right enshrined in the Constitution of India, its protection has required ongoing vigilance and advocacy by civil society and the judiciary.

Limits on Freedom of Speech in India:

While the Constitution of India guarantees the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression, this right is not absolute and is subject to certain restrictions. Article 19(2) of the Constitution allows the government to impose reasonable restrictions on the right to freedom of speech and expression in the interest of national security, public order, decency and morality, and contempt of court. One of the key limitations on freedom of speech and expression in India is related to national security. The Indian government has the power to impose restrictions on speech that is deemed to be a threat to the sovereignty, integrity, and security of the country. This includes speech that incites violence or promotes terrorism, as well as speech that is critical of the government's policies on national security. Another important limitation on freedom of speech and expression in India is related to public order. The Indian government can impose restrictions on speech that is likely to cause public disorder or disturbance. This includes speech that incites violence or hatred, as well as speech that is likely to provoke communal or caste-based tensions. Decency and morality are also factors that can limit freedom of speech and expression in India. The government can impose restrictions on speech that is deemed to be obscene, vulgar, or offensive to public morality. This includes speech that is sexually explicit or promotes discrimination based on gender, caste, or religion. In conclusion, while the Constitution of India guarantees the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression, this right is subject to reasonable restrictions in the interest of national security, public order, decency and morality, and contempt of court. The Indian Penal Code and the Contempt of Courts Act provide the legal framework for imposing these restrictions, although the in-

Indian Constitution & Freedom Of Speech

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Worth Noting:

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Freedom of Speech

terpretation and application of these laws by the judiciary can sometimes be controversial and subject to debate.

The Role of the Judiciary in Protecting Freedom of Speech in India:

The Indian judiciary has played a crucial role in protecting and interpreting the constitutional provisions on freedom of speech. The courts have issued several landmark judgments that have shaped the contours of this fundamental right in India.

One such landmark judgment is *Romesh Thapar v. State of Madras* (1950), where the Supreme Court held that the freedom of speech and expression is an essential component of a democratic society and cannot be curtailed except in cases where the speech poses a clear and present danger to public safety or order.

In *Shreya Singhal v. Union of India* (2015), the Supreme Court struck down a provision of the Information Technology Act, 2000 that criminalized online speech that was deemed to be "grossly offensive" or "menacing." The Court held that this provision was unconstitutional because it was overly broad and could be used to stifle legitimate speech.

The judiciary's role in interpreting and applying the constitutional provisions on

freedom of speech is essential to safeguarding this fundamental right in India. Through its landmark judgments, the courts have sought to balance the need to protect free speech with the need to maintain public order and prevent harm to individuals or communities. As a result, the judiciary has played a vital role in shaping the legal landscape of freedom of speech in India.

Freedom of Speech and Internet Censorship in India:

With the rapid growth of the internet in India, the government has become increasingly concerned about the spread of misinformation, hate speech, and other forms of online content that could threaten national security or public order. As a result, the Indian government has sought to regulate online speech through laws and regulations, including the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.

The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, which were introduced in February 2021, impose several new obligations on social media platforms, digital news organizations, and other intermediaries that operate in India. These rules require these entities to appoint a grievance officer to handle

complaints about content, to remove certain categories of content within 24 hours of receiving a complaint, and to provide the government with information about the origin of certain content upon request.

Critics of the new rules have argued that they could be used by the government to stifle dissent and restrict freedom of speech online. For example, the rules give the government broad powers to order the removal of content that is deemed to be illegal, without providing a clear definition of what constitutes illegal content. Additionally, the rules require intermediaries to remove content that is "defamatory," "obscene," "hateful," or "disparaging," among other categories, which could be interpreted broadly to include a wide range of speech.

Despite these concerns, the Indian government has defended the rules as necessary to combat the spread of fake news, hate speech, and other harmful online content. Supporters of the rules argue that they will help to promote greater accountability among intermediaries and ensure that they are held responsible for the content that they host or distribute.

The Impact of social media on Freedom of Speech in India:

As social media platforms have become increasingly popular and influential, they have also become an important battleground for debates around freedom of speech in India. This subheading can explore the various ways in which social media is affecting freedom of speech, including:

The challenges posed by hate speech, fake news, and misinformation on social media platforms. The role of social media in amplifying voices and enabling greater participation in public discourse. The tensions between individual expression and the responsibilities of social media companies to regulate content on their platforms. The legal and regulatory frameworks governing social media in India, including the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, and their implications for freedom of speech. By examining these issues, we can gain a better understanding of the complex and evolving nature of freedom of speech in the digital age and the role of social media in shaping public discourse in India.

Conclusive Points:

The Indian Constitution guarantees the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression, which is subject to reasonable restrictions

under Article 19(2).

The Constitution recognizes the right to life and personal liberty as a fundamental right under Article

21, which includes the right to free speech and expression.

The evolution of freedom of speech in India has been shaped by historical, political, and social factors, and its protection has required ongoing vigilance and advocacy by civil society and the judiciary.

The limitations on freedom of speech and expression in India include national security, public order, decency and morality, and contempt of court.

The rise of social media and the internet has posed new challenges to freedom of speech in India, leading to debates about the scope and limits of this fundamental right in the digital age.

It is the duty of the judiciary to ensure that the restrictions on freedom of speech and expression are

not arbitrary or excessive and do not unduly curtail the freedom of speech and expression of citizens.

A comprehensive understanding of the complex issues involved is crucial in contributing to the ongoing discussions on freedom of speech and expression in India.

House of Representatives to open Biden impeachment inquiry

Worth Noting:

- Hunter Biden is currently under federal investigation for possible tax crimes related to his foreign business interests.
- Mr McCarthy, a California lawmaker, also alleged that the president's family has received special treatment from Biden administration officials investigating allegations of misconduct.
- The White House has denied any involvement in the Hunter Biden case, and said that President Biden has no ties to his son's business operations.
- This inquiry will give congressional investigators greater legal authority to investigate the president, including by issuing subpoenas for documents and testimony that can be more easily enforced in court.
- The US constitution states a president can be impeached for "treason, bribery, or other high crimes or misdemeanours", a process which can end in them being removed from office.



US President Joe Biden

BBC News

The US House of Representatives will open a formal impeachment inquiry into President Joe Biden, its most senior Republican has said. Kevin McCarthy said the inquiry would focus on "allegations of abuse of power, obstruction and corruption" by Mr Biden. Republicans have been investigating the president since they took control of the House in January. The hearings have found no concrete evidence of misconduct by Mr Biden. They have, however, shed more light on business dealings by the president's son Hunter Biden – which Republicans say are questionable – and on Mr Biden's knowledge of his son's activities. In a brief statement at the US Capitol, Mr McCarthy said there were "serious and credible" allegations involving the president's conduct. "Taken together, these allegations paint a picture of a culture of corruption," he said. The White House was quick to condemn Mr McCarthy's decision. "House Republicans have been investigating the President for nine months,

and they've turned up no evidence of wrongdoing," White House spokesperson Ian Sams wrote in a social media post. "Extreme politics at its worst." Hunter Biden is currently under federal investigation for possible tax crimes related to his foreign business interests. Mr McCarthy, a California lawmaker, also alleged that the president's family has received special treatment from Biden administration officials investigating allegations of misconduct. The White House has denied any involvement in the Hunter Biden case, and said that President Biden has no ties to his son's business operations. This inquiry will give congressional investigators greater legal authority to investigate the president, including by issuing subpoenas for documents and testimony that can be more easily enforced in court. The US constitution states a president can be impeached for "treason, bribery, or other high crimes or misdemeanours", a process which can end in them being removed from office. However, any effort to remove President Biden would

be unlikely to succeed. The House of Representatives, where Republicans hold a narrow 222-212 majority, would need to vote in favour. It would then need to proceed to a Senate trial and vote. Democrats have a majority in the Senate, and would almost certainly shoot down the proceedings if it gets that far. Mr Trump, the only US president to have been impeached twice, was acquitted both times by his fellow Republicans. Mr McCarthy, who as Speaker leads Republicans in the House, has been lobbied for weeks by right-wing members to open an impeachment inquiry. Congressman Matt Gaetz of Florida, a close ally of former President Donald Trump, called the announcement "a baby step following weeks of pressure from House conservatives to do more". He had previously threatened to force a vote to remove Mr McCarthy from his leadership position if the Speaker did not start an impeachment investigation. Mr McCarthy's hold on power in the House has been tenuous ever since he won the top job in January after 15 rounds of voting in

the chamber – a modern record. He is currently trying to shepherd a series of spending bills through the House. These measures must be approved by Congress by the end of September to avoid a partial shutdown of the US government. Mr McCarthy's move to back impeachment could be viewed as an attempt to curry the favour of right-wing House Republicans ahead of the budget battles. Such a strategy comes with risks, however. Centrist Republicans in competitive districts have expressed unease with an aggressive impeachment push, worried that it will alienate the independent and moderate voters who carried them to victory. Mr McCarthy has a 10-seat majority in the chamber, so if even a handful of these Republicans have cold feet on impeachment, it could ensure its failure. Some vulnerable House Republicans told reporters on Tuesday that they are focused on the ongoing congressional investigations into Mr Biden, rather than an impeachment inquiry. Democratic Senator Chris Coons said in an interview with the BBC, said that "Speaker McCarthy shows

that he's being held hostage by the most extreme elements of his Republican majority." Already Democrats are pointing out that Mr McCarthy sharply criticised Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi in 2019, when she announced an impeachment inquiry into Mr Trump without holding a formal vote. While Mr McCarthy has only said he is approving an impeachment inquiry at this point, pressure will build for a formal authorising vote in the House to set the rules for impeachment hearings. Such a vote would put those centrists on the record – and provide fodder for Democratic attacks during the November 2024 general election. That is a next-year problem for Mr McCarthy, however. For the moment, he is trying to keep unruly conservative members of Congress from openly rebelling – and forcing a vote on whether to remove him from his job. Impeachment – or at least a movement toward it – could buy him the political breathing room to survive the coming months.