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5TH INTERNATIONAL MEDIA CONFERENCE
Atlanta | 2018 October 5 | 6 | 7 | 8

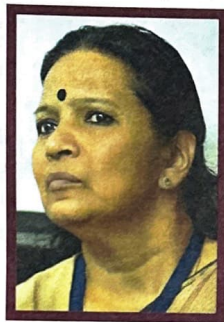
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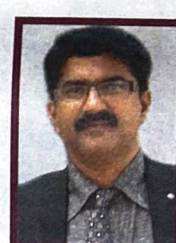
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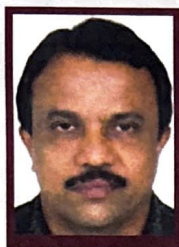


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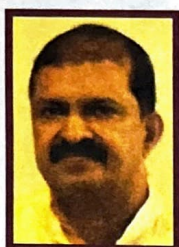
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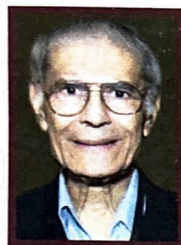
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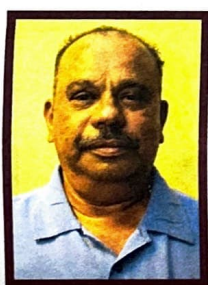
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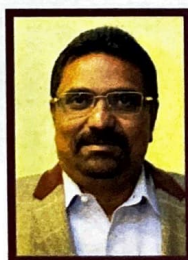


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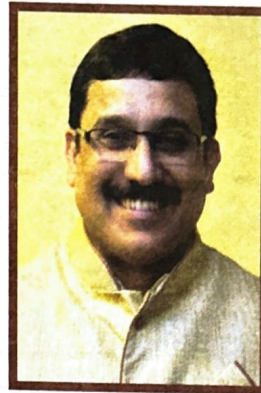
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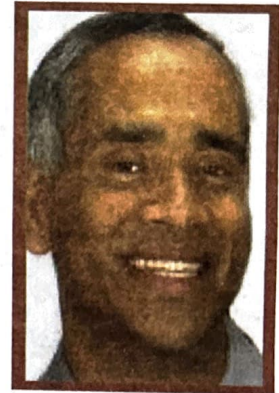
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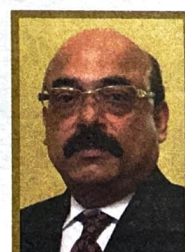
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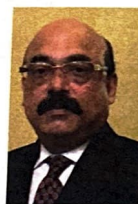
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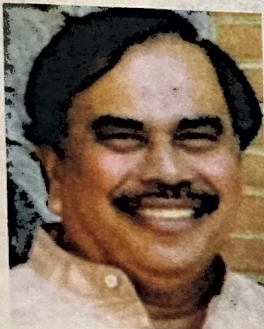


Roy Thomas Theodical

**IAPC awarded \$ 500 cash
for 30 students of Indian Origin in Atlanta**



chairman's message



I have fought the good fight
I have finished the course
I have kept the faith

For the past two years I have led this organization and we are five years young. IAPC now boasts 12 chapters and provides a common platform for media professionals around the world. We have successfully hosted annual media conferences for these five years. This fifth year will be my last as chairman.

Motivation, performance and participation from our members have been a key factor for our success, for this I am grateful to all members of IAPC. We have high quality members and dedicated individuals who have always impressed me by their depth of knowledge, understanding and willingness to help. I also salute their dedication and professionalism which have no equal anywhere.

We have made many triumphs during my term. We have the best representation and resources on the financial and legal front. We were able to award 30 students with \$500 scholarships. We have started to pave the way for the future.

I have been honored and humbled by the generosity of numerous individuals and thank them for their willingness to participate in our annual initiative, the International Media Conference. Among our guests from India are those who have shared the journey with us and those who will join us to advance forward.

I leave the IAPC feeling more optimistic about its future, but this does not mean that I do not see the major challenges that remain. This has been a very challenging and illuminating experience and as it comes to an end, it remains one I will treasure. I wish IAPC much success in the future.

*From the
Editorial Desk*



Thomas Mathew Joys

Welcome to the IAPC's International Media Conference

2018

“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together

is progress. Working together is success” said Henry Ford. That makes us to add that we as IAPC are future oriented. Thinking Local but strive globally- that makes us roll with a clear direction. We seriously work for ‘Preserving, Protecting and Defending’ the ideologies of free press, and stand for the rights and privileges of Indo-American media professional.

Many of the Press Clubs are known for over-promising and then figuring out how they can deliver some different features. This is where we the dedicated members of Indo American Press Club share their level best for organizing need based events of local importance and stand out for the public. Our British Columbia and Houston Chapters have excelled this year in organizing seminars and workshops of social

importance.

In general, almost all economic and regulatory policy affects or influencing freedom of speech and expression. Critics analyses the recent explosion of broad free speech rulings as evidence of increasing judicial activism, as the social media has no control over the illegitimate and manipulated reports to misguide the general public. On the other side we see the utter loss of shame among political leaders and sometimes religious celebrities caught in a lie and misconduct and they just double down and they repeat more lies to coverup. And while mainstream media industry is accused of losing its sacred motto, we at IAPC understand the need of the hour and concentrate on true spirit of journalism with its legitimate ethics and responsibility.

As a very busy businessman with too many social commitments, our eminent Chairman

Dr. Babu Stephen has also been diligently working behind the curtain with our founding members and the Committees without jeopardizing the stability of our organization as a whole. Without taxing many of our members, his help to orchestrate a complex effort to organize this IMC 2018, in collaboration with our Atlanta Chapter is much appealing and successful. His participation in the Kerala Lok Sabha and contribution of Rs. One Crore to Kerala Disaster Fund elevated his importance and the image of IAPC, he is leading. IAPC is dedicated in assisting the betterment of journalists and media professional; and of late our members have generously contributed to the Kerala Flood Relief Fund.

While we celebrate our Fifth Anniversary, the Souvenir Committee proudly welcome all the delegates to IMC 2018 and present this Souvenir 2018, proudly and looking forward indeed.

For IAPC SOUVENIR COMMITTEE
Chief Editor

KNOW OUR CHAIRMAN

DR. BABU STEPHEN

Dr. Babu Stephen is the current C.E.O of DC Healthcare Inc and the President of SM Realty LLC. An M.B.A graduate from Washington D.C. and a Doctorate since 2006, his modesty is an inspiration to the many. He has lived the life of entitlements, and his incisive and leadership capacities have helped, edify institutions of Indian and American communities where he served his term.

He was the President of Indian Cultural Coordination Committee (ICCC) for two years. He was a contributing member of The United States Congressional Advisory Board and served a two year term as the regional Vice President to the Federation of Indians in America (FIA). He was also the President of Association of Indians in America (AIA) and is the present Chairman to the Indo-American Press Club. These are notable mentions of his associations among the many.

A founding member of Kairali television, a leading channel with an impressive viewership around the world and the publisher of two newspapers, 'Express India' and 'India this Week', in the metropolitan DC area for the local Indian communities are part of his media engagements. He was the founding producer of 'Darshan Television' in Washington DC. He is a balanced player in US political system and has successfully hosted multiple fundraisers to candidates across 3 Decades in Washington DC and was part of the Washing DC Mayor's business delegation to China.

His eloquence is well cherished on subjects many, and he stays the most welcome and sought after speaker in all events, where he chaired. His words always leave impressions, in addition to the thought provoking statements and the good times, he gifts his audience. His eye for detail, the wisdom to see forth and the hankering for new ventures have

▶ continued on next page



Chairman Dr. Babu Stephen with President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama



Chairman Dr. Babu Stephen and his wife Gracy Stephen with President Bill Clinton and First Lady Hillary Clinton



Chairman Dr. Babu Stephen with Arun Jaitley, Finance Minister, India



Dr. Babu Stephen with Mr. Sitaram Yechury, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Politburo Communist Party of India



Dr. Babu Stephen with K. Muraleedharan who was 3 times Member of Parliament, an earlier President of KPCC and presently a member of the Legislative Assembly



Dr. Babu Stephen with the Editorial Director ITV Media Prof. M.D. Nalapati

KNOW OUR CHAIRMAN

DR. BABU STEPHEN

always kept his spirits on high.

He lives with his whole family wife, daughter, son-in-law and two delightfully sweet and talented grandkids in DC. A family that grew to complement his tastes and did acquire his niche for people management and guest hospitality, they stay his pride among all his possessions.

In all of his talks, he reserves a few words for enlightening all with the Patrik Payton's phrases, "The Family that Prays Together Stays Together".

He is very well respected and identified in the society for all right causes. He respects his motherland India and engages in activities that seek to emancipate the name of the nation. He respects his America Citizenship too with his participation and the very generous contributions for many causes including and not limited to the socio economic development in Washington DC where he resides. He works closely with the Washington DC Mayor's office.

For a person who have had multiple invitations to White House Dinners and personally interacted with 4 Presidents of United States including Clinton and Obama apart from Kings of a couple of countries, he has defined his life around



Dr Babu Stephen donated INR One Crore to Kerala Chief Minister's Distress Fund by handing over a Demand Draft to Hon. Chief Minister of Kerala, Mr. Pinarayi Vijayan

the saying, "Simplicity is the guideline behind great men", His life is a living mantra for the many.

Special Invitee at the 'Loka Kerala Sabha'

He was a Special Invitee at the 'Loka Kerala Sabha'. The Loka Kerala Sabha is an event hosted by the state government of Kerala to bring Keralites living around the globe under one platform by utilizing the expertise of Non-Resident Keralites for developing Kerala.

INR One Crore Donation to Kerala Relief

Our Chairman, Dr Babu Stephen donated INR One Crore to Kerala Chief Minister's Distress Fund by handing over a Demand Draft to the Hon. Chief Minister of Kerala, Mr. Pinarayi Vijayan. He was visiting Kerala at the time of the flooding and was a witness to the devastating effects of the nature's wrath and the carnage it caused. He has also committed to spend a minimum of INR One Crore each for the next 5 consecutive years in rebuilding his adoptive District of Idukki in Kerala, an initiative by the Chief Minister of Kerala.



with best compliments

Message from the President for IMC

Message from President of IAPC

As President of the Indo American Press Club, I would like to welcome members of our media fraternity to the fifth International Media Conference hosted in Atlanta, Georgia. IMC is a powerful tool that brings together prominent



Renee Mehra

journalists under one platform, providing professional development opportunities and innovative approaches and solutions in the challenging and dynamic media environment.

While we are here to celebrate academic and creative expression and the accomplishments of our fraternity, I urge you to put your

attention on the flood battered state of Kerala that warrants our compassion and generosity. The path to recovery from the devastation is arduous and I would like to appeal to all of you to open your hearts to the victims of nature's fury.

Once again, welcome to the conference and let us continue to deliver unbiased journalistic content with ethics and integrity which is the hallmark of good reporting

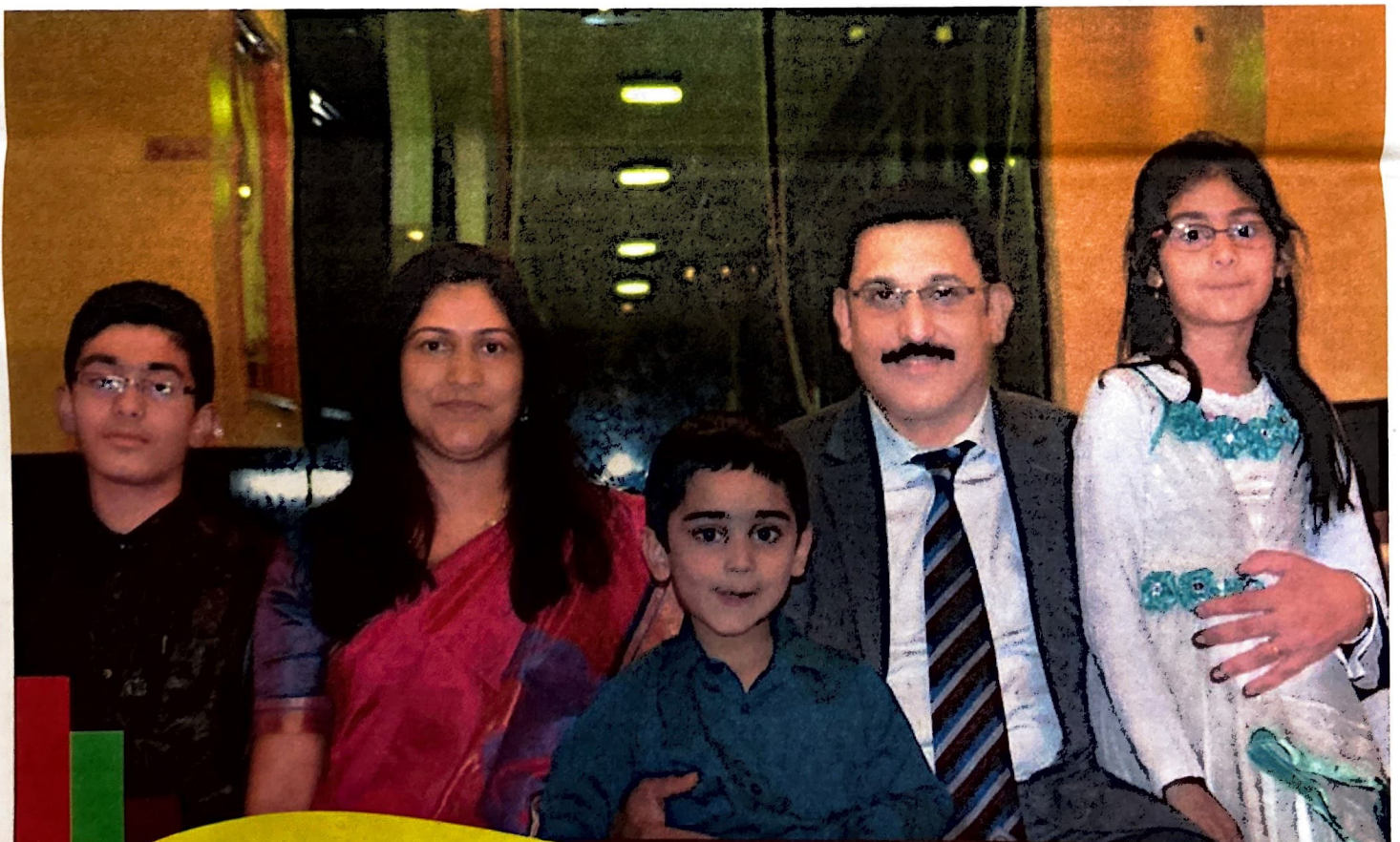
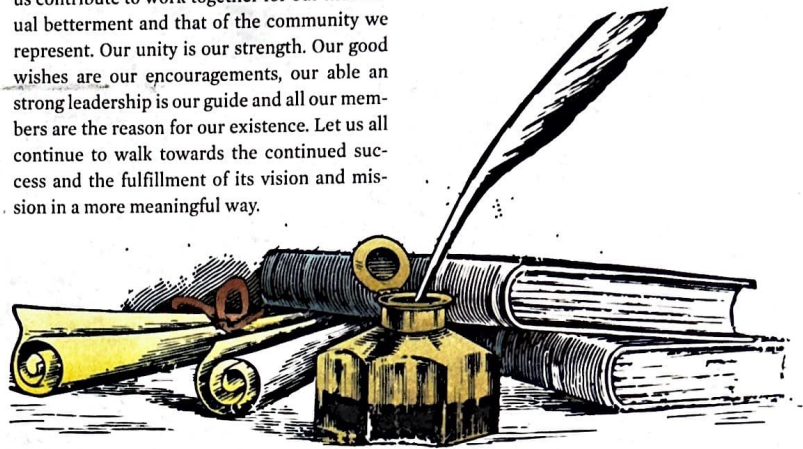
The Indo American Press Club is committed towards fostering partnerships and building bridges with the community for its enrichment and active involvement. This year we are proud to honor 50 outstanding high school stu-

Founder Chairman Ginsmon Zacharia

As IAPC continues its journey through the 6th year, has made its footprints by fulfilling at least some of its visions. The 5th media conference is an occasion to reflect on its past, make plans for the future, and consider changes that need to be made. IAPC strives to make its presence in the communities that we live in, at the same time help uplift the career of Indo American journalists. Our association and within IAPC will make us visible and our voices heard at all times especially in need. Let us contribute to work together for our individual betterment and that of the community we represent. Our unity is our strength. Our good wishes are our encouragements, our able and strong leadership is our guide and all our members are the reason for our existence. Let us all continue to walk towards the continued success and the fulfillment of its vision and mission in a more meaningful way.



Ginsmon Zacharia



with best compliments

Ginsmon P Zacharia & Family

Warm greeting to all my friends of Indo American press Club

It is my great pleasure and honor to extend to you all a warm welcome to attend and participate for our 5th International Media conference at Atlanta as the venue plays an important part in both the Civil War and the 1960s Civil Rights Movement. Atlanta History Center chronicles the city's past, and the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic site is dedicated to the African-American leader's life and times. It has been my honor to serve as the General Secretary of the Indo American Press Club for the past year. I learned a great deal, including many lessons that I believe will be of great benefit to serving you.

It is with that sense of pride that I come into this position of the Press Club. I follow in the footsteps of our past leaders and I believe every member of IAPC is a specialist in his or her fields.

I'd like to see more members engaged and participate in club activities. We also know that we need to keep reminding and showing you through our activities and events that your membership is valuable and worth your time and financial commitment. I know that the Press Club has had great times and challenging times. It should be our responsibility to help cultivate the next generation of journalists and



Thomas C. Mathew (Anil)

communications professionals by hosting a professional development event geared towards the development of young journal-

ists, timely programs for established journalists and the recognition of quality journalism.

Journalism is at a crossroads with technology and with the public. Journalists' livelihoods and yes, tragically many lives are also at stake and that's why we continue to partner with press, media fraternities and others that do a great job bringing in world class journalists for public forums to discuss and solve vital issues. With over nine regional operations, I truly hope this conference will provide a unique platform for networking across the streams of journalists, media fraternity from far and near and be able to create

new experiences by associating with other press clubs around the globe to serve our community and fellow members.

I hope to contribute to the lasting legacy of truth, transparency and trust about which journalism stands for and must continue. So many people, not all of whom I can name today, have worked tirelessly to bring the Press Club back and I look forward to welcoming you to an inspiring, educational, and enjoyable program in vibrant, beautiful and multicultural city of Atlanta.

Sincerely,
Thomas C. Mathew (Anil)
General Secretary

KNOW ATLANTA

Some Facts about Atlanta that you may want to know!

The author, based in Atlanta and part of the Real Estate industry, has provided an update and some interesting facts about this great city! The cities in close proximity or commutable distance to Downtown Atlanta is commonly called as Metro Atlanta. Since 2007, the real estate business has faced a slump but it has now revamped and picked up pace. In addition, home values have also gone up.

Atlanta is among the fastest growing Metropolitan areas in the country. Studies show that it is actually the third fastest

growing Metropolitan. Eleven Counties in Georgia have made it to the 100 fastest growing counties list in the nation.

When compared to the rest of the nation, Metro Atlanta in most aspects has been growing at an average pace. Cities like Seattle has grown about 12% compared to last year and Cities like Chicago about 2.6%, in comparison Atlanta has grown over 5% closer to the US National average.

Atlanta, in many ways, is closer to the average when compared to several factors like House prices, taxes, insurance, cost of living etc. It remains viable option for many and is not too high nor too low when

compared to most cities in the nation.

Another factor people consider while moving to Atlanta is the weather conditions. Atlanta enjoys moderate climatic conditions and has almost always escaped the harsh winters of the Northern states or the big storms that we hear in the south or midwest. If you are a tennis enthusiast, you will really enjoy the 12 months of ideal playing conditions- a real envy of the rest of the country!

A closer look at education and healthcare, it is noted that there are some very good schools here in Atlanta like the Emory University, Georgia Tech, UGA and

several others.

Atlanta has the busiest passenger airport in the world, the world's largest and biggest aquarium, is known for its' southern hospitality, is the home of the Braves, Hawks, and Falcons. Atlanta is also the birthplace of the Civil rights movement. Known as the peach state, Atlanta houses the headquarters of large corporations such as CNN and Coca-Cola. For South Asians, a pride is that Atlanta has the largest Hindu temple in the World outside of India.

Hope you found the facts about Atlanta interesting!



Prasad Philipose



Homecoming

The name on the boarding pass read Chris Nayar. Once, in the distant past he had been Krishnan Nair. Chris had hated that name as far as he could remember. It was so terribly old fashioned and on top of it, it reminded him that he was a Mallu. God forsaken land was what it should be called he told his friends when they planned a holiday to God's own country. He had hated the compulsory annual trip to his parents' hometown. The nosy relatives visited to gather as much news as they could. His broken Malayalam would be commented on and laughed at. The food was spicy and tasted terrible. He was disgusted at the way people ate rice and its accompaniments with relish. He missed his pyaaz, rotis, dal and the neat khatories. He longed for his favorite kebabs.

At the age of sixty when his father retired from work, his parents informed him of their decision to settle down in their tiny town in Kerala. Chris was appalled. "But why?" he asked his father. "You have lived here for thirty five years. You have your friends here. You have spent the best years of your lives here" "Our roots are there" his father had replied. "Not ours, yours probably" Chris had retorted in anger.

His visits to his parents' home were infrequent. This visit for instance was after a hiatus of five years. Chris sat in the cramped seat that he had paid a fortune for. His knees almost banged into the seat in front. His elbows poked into the protruding belly of his co-passenger. Fortunately he had landed a window seat. Chris looked out at the clouds flying by. He pulled out a notebook from his briefcase and started sketching. First the clouds. They were like his thoughts. They would darken and turn into rain any time. They would be blown away by the wind. They were

sometimes so translucent you could see through them. Sometimes so dense that you could be lost in their midst. The air hostess with uncouth make-up and a plastic smile jolted him from his musings. Chris refused the packed food. He knew what it would taste like and all he wanted was to get back to his clouds. But his neighbor had woken up and was determined to start a conversation. Chris murmured polite replies to endless questions. He was relieved when over the speaker came the muffled voice of the pilot. The plane was on time. Through the tiny window Chris looked down at the coconut trees and the Arabian Sea. From up above it looks nice Chris thought to himself.

The touchdown was bumpy and Chris fought his way out through the unruly crowd. He caught a prepaid taxi from the airport. There was now a long ride before him. The Rain Gods were on vacation and the weather was sultry. The roads were bad as always. The driver played some silly song and the car danced over each pothole. Chris leaned back and closed his eyes.

The house was alive with people. They stared as Chris emerged from the cab. He walked towards the open door and stepped inside. The lamp was lit and the incense sticks fumed. In the confines of a metal and glass container lay his father. The cold kept his body from rotting. Wrapped in rounds of white cloth, the frail frame of his father looked frailer. Uncles he hardly knew hugged Chris. Aunts held his hand and wiped tears from their eyes with the corners of their saris. Over a sea of faces Chris caught sight of his brother. They looked at each other for a moment. They had sprung from the same loins; those of the man who lay dead.

The women were cloistered inside the room. They kept the corpse com-

pany. They wore drab saris for the occasion but the gold bangles on their wrists gleamed and the thick chains around their necks hung heavy. Their chants filled the room and for once Chris was glad. The noise kept the deathly silence away. Chris could sense the restlessness of the crowd. They had been waiting for him. Chris was dressed in baggy shorts and a funky T shirt. He liked this kind that had innumerable pockets. He liked the way they could hold secrets and spring surprises at him. Sometimes when he put his hand into one of them he would come up with a piece of paper with a half finished poem that he had forgotten. Sometimes it would be a bindi whose red had dimmed.

Chris was ordered to take a bath and get appropriately dressed. Appropriate was torso bare and a dhoti around his waist. The water was cold and through his wet hair his otherwise carefully concealed baldness showed. Without a shirt, he who could enjoy a strip tease felt strangely embarrassed and naked. The dhoti hung precariously. It was in danger of coming undone any moment.

The cremation was scheduled for eleven in the morning and the men swung into action on cue. The body was lifted out of the mobile mortuary and laid out on the floor. Flowers were strewn and respects paid. When it was his turn, Chris knelt down and pressed his head to his father's feet. He felt the cold.

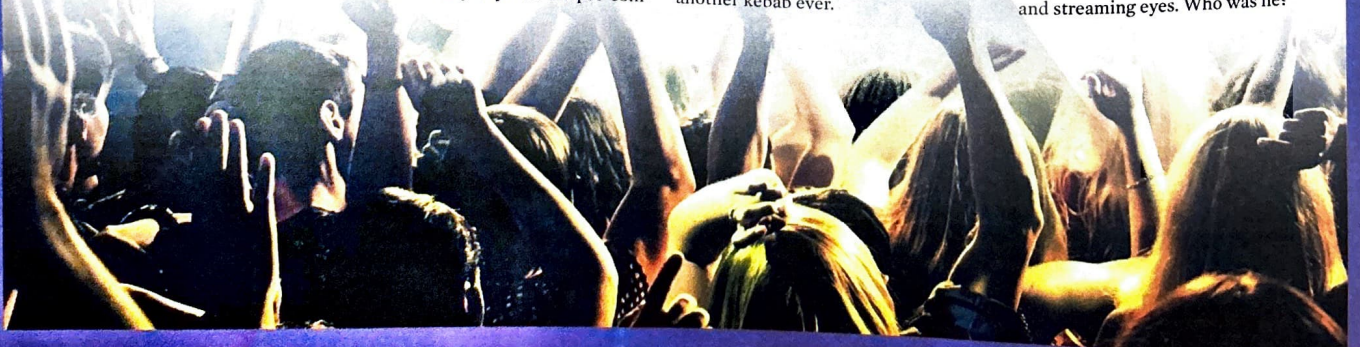
The body was to be cremated in the patch of land adjacent to the house. A pit had been dug. Under the white sand it was brown mud. A tree had been cut and the logs were laid out. The body was placed with precision. Chris set the logs ablaze. Smoke filled the air. The smell of roast flesh was overpowering. Chris knew he would not touch another kebab ever.



Meera Nair

Long after the mourners left, Chris stood alone looking at the remains of the fire. It had died down but deep within he knew it was still alive, would always be. An invisible umbilical cord seemed to arise from the embers. It bound him to that piece of smouldering earth. Chris walked towards the house that was now his. His father had chosen to leave it to the rebel among his sons.

On the walls of the living room hung three laminated photographs. In the centre stood his parents. He looked at the picture carefully. It had been taken the year his mother died. She had pleaded with him several times to get married. She had been so desperate that she had even asked him to bring any woman of his choice. His answer had always been no. Marriage was not an institution he believed in. Chris, Father and Mother, two people he had taken for granted. Two people like a pair of old comfortable sofas which were always in the background, which one assumed would always be there. To the right hung a picture of his brother, wife and their two sons. The picture on the left was his. Chris looked at the man in the picture. Hands folded across his chest, he was looking into the distance and smiling. The picture looked strangely incomplete. The man was all alone. He was lost. A wave of emptiness hit Chris. An ocean of tears flooded his eyes. Chris ran up the stairs to the bedroom on top and shut himself in. The mirror on the wardrobe stared at him. Funky T shirt, precarious dhoti and streaming eyes. Who was he?



SECOND PART

Being Human in the Digital Age

Technology is rapidly changing and overtaking us by leaps and bounds. As reported by Jaison Palmer in his article, 'Entangled Web' (The Economist, The World in 2018), the first significant milestone in quantum computing may be reached in 2018, by Google, IBM or others in the race for quantum supremacy. In 2016, China launched the first quantum-enabled satellite to beam messages securely to the earth and in interplanetary space. In 2018, China plans to build a quantum-signaling network that could launch a global quantum internet. The European Union and USA are close behind in the quantum gold rush.

Learning in the Digital Age

Emerging technologies are changing the face of education and ushering in a digital culture that is fascinating and alarming. The goal of education is primarily to acquire and transfer knowledge and to develop employable professional skills. Along with acquisition of technical and professional skills, education must help individuals to discover themselves, acquire individual and social values and life skills

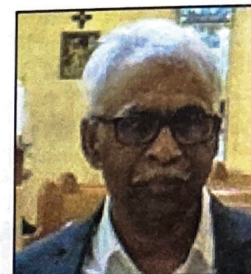
such as discipline, critical thinking skills, and skills to deal with adversity. An educated person is considered knowledgeable in some specific domain, can learn on the fly, and can take better or right decisions in life, and can communicate well his or her ideas. Education must help in developing an individual's innate talents, and in self-discovery and self-management. Education must focus on learning rather than teaching. Teachers must be enablers of learning for every individual. Education is a continuing process that continues throughout life and does not stop with acquisition of a degree or diploma. Education enables the shaping of culture individually and socially.

Technology can be leveraged to revolutionize the way we learn. Thanks to the Internet, on-line education is now possible. Anyone can learn anytime anywhere with courseware provided online by universities or by anyone. The learning process

can be personalized providing convenience and reducing costs, without even going to school or college. A virtual tutor can provide one-on-one classrooms. Robotic teachers are being experimented in China. Many universities have online courses.

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)

The idea of massive open online courses (MOOCs) for the masses has been gaining ground since 2006. Khan Academy (www.khanacademy.org) implemented this concept by video-streaming lectures. Salman Khan, an MIT and Harvard alumnus, founded Khan Academy in 2006, while working as a hedge fund analyst. According to him, technology makes learning personal and interactive, helping individuals learn anything at their own pace, to experiment, make mistakes, learn from mistakes, and then work towards the mastery of the subject. According to him, technology can humanize education and the classroom. It does not embarrass the learners. There are no teachers breathing down your neck or asking, 'do you understand?'. In 2011, about 160,000 students from 190 countries enrolled in a free online course on artificial intelligence taught by two experts at Stanford University.



Joseph Ponnolly

The five leaders in on-line learning are:

- » Coursera (www.coursera.org) founded in 2011 by two Stanford Computer Science Professors, Andrew Ng and Daphne Koller.
- » EDX (www.edx.org) founded in 2012 as a venture between MIT and Harvard.
- » Khan Academy (www.khanacademy.org): focused on Mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, finance, and history.
- » The Great Courses (www.thegreatcourses.com): Founded by Thomas M. Rollins. It is a private, for-profit online academy. Has about 400 courses across 10 subject areas taught by top professors.
- » Udacity (www.udacity.com): Founded in 2011 after the cofounders Sebastian Thrun and Peter Norvig offered their 'Introduction to Artificial Intelligence' course online to anyone for free. Cofounder Mike Sokolsky is a robotics researcher.

Digital Culture

Max Tegmark, Professor of Physics at MIT

» Continued on page 14

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Continued from page 13

and Director of the Future of Life Institute, in his book 'Life 3.0', has highlighted the issue of being human in the age of artificial intelligence (AI). AI will affect individuals and society in myriad ways. The focus must be to ensure that the impact of AI is beneficial to human beings and to society. We cannot rule out an arms race in 'lethal autonomous weapons'. Machines could outsmart humans.

SatyaNadella says, 'It is the people and organizations pushing the boundaries on innovation and applying technology to tackle big challenges that inspire me; technology on its own is just one piece of the puzzle - it's the people and passion behind the technology that bring it to life'. He points out the challenge ahead and says, 'Unlock the unimaginable and solve the impossible'. The impossible includes space elevators, asteroid mining, energy from nuclear fusion, colonies on Mars and the moon or even on Europa, humans connecting with intelligent life (not necessarily biological intelligence) in the universe, and a bio-engineered human. Think of a world using robotic construction workers or farm labor robots. We must also be prepared for a robot workers' union. Zach Weinersmith's cartoon in 'Soonish' depicts a future judge hearing 'the case of Jones vs. Self-configuring Polyoxymethylene glycol'!

SatyaNadella's vision can be fulfilled only if we merge art and humanities with science and technology. Knowledge will be everywhere at the press of a button and may be provided by machines. But what will differentiate humans from machines will be the imag-

ination, creativity, judgment, and the qualities of the heart and mind combined. In this interconnected world, networked intelligence and consciousness may help to dispel ignorance and prejudices, break down the walls that separate humans from humans, help to build bridges to promote world peace and collaboration everywhere, and help to evolve one humanity. Let this be the dawn of the age of wisdom and better digital collaboration around the world.

At the gateway to the quantum age, while focusing on the technologies, we must not lose sight of the immense opportunities that are opening from ideas and solutions emanating from innovative minds. Interplanetary space explorations may help us to understand and utilize human life and the resources on this planet in a better manner. The human spirit is ever trying to expand the limits of human knowledge in every sphere of human activity. The innovative ideas from creative humans are up for grabs by startups, entrepreneurs, and unicorns of the quantum age.

Beyond the horizon, we can see windows of opportunities unfolding to solve hitherto unsolved problems that face humankind -- poverty, disease, war, or climate change. Housing will be a major challenge around the world in the future. Think of a 3D-printed house that can be built in 24 hours and will cost 50% of the current cost. What if we could use a swarm of robots to build these houses to house the refugees displaced from war-torn areas like Syria or Iraq, or to house those whose houses were destroyed by cyclones,

hurricanes, or natural disasters around the world? While emerging technologies will usher in human progress and better life in certain pockets of the world, humans must use these technologies and intelligent machines to spread out the benefits of technology and improve human lives everywhere, while maintaining planet earth and its ecosystem. The benefits of technology must reach every corner of the globe to benefit human race as one. Technology must lead to better human collaboration.

Technology Risks

We cannot also forget the fact that technology is a double-edged sword. It can be the surgeon's scalpel or a butcher's knife. Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Auschwitz, and September 11, are grim reminders of how technology and technological progress can be used to destroy rather than build.

Ultimately the question is whether technology will humanize or dehumanize us. The choice is ours. We must consider the dangers that lie ahead—the cyber security risks and the unsafe use of technology or technological addiction. The greater danger is from the cyberwarriors that are looming on the horizon.

At least a few of us will be sipping our morning coffee and living on the red planet by 2035, hopefully as wiser humans, in peace and harmony with ourselves, with other creatures, with super-intelligent machines, with nature, with dark matter, dark energy, and with our own universe or with other universes, if any. It is continuing education that should transform us and shape our culture in this digital age.

Joseph Ponnolly is a technology and management consultant with over three decades of experience in IT, information security and information systems audit. He authored and published the book 'Gateway to the Quantum Age' (2018) dealing with emerging disruptive technologies and the knowledge economy.

WATCH YOUR TIME

**Bible teaches, how precious Time is so
Believe everything has its own time
Born on a precision time, another to die
Best time to love, worse time for hating.**

**Simply make the best use of time given
Science discovered gadgets saving time
Still complain we all having no time
Same time of hours, though all have.**

**All the time fiddling on smartphones
And wasting time lazy on social media
Avail, lest spoiled time never returns
Assure you utilize fullness of time.**

**Gladly mist appears for a little time
Goes vanishing the time faster then,
God teach us to number time of days
Greater are the time of evil approaching.**

**At right time Christ died for us ungodly
As the kingdom of God promised in time
Asking for repentance before time ends
And the God of Peace, get you in time.**

**At a time heaven and earth pass away
Angels nor His Son knows that time
And know that time will come for you
And only Heavenly Father knows the Time.**

**Are the Blessed One well managed time
Almighty Omnipotent appears on time
At the proper time manifested By Him
Ardently embracing all spent time well**



Dr. Mathew Joys



[Holy Bible teaches us that everything has its own destined Time, and we cannot make any change in its course, hence utilize it properly and efficiently]

About Dr. Mathew Joys

Dr. Mathew Joys though known for his expertise in financial commentaries, he is a versatile writer in international politics, Poetry, Stories and Spiritual articles. He has been writing in different newspapers and magazines and shares his service as Executive Editor of JaiHindVartta, Associate Editor of Express Herald, Malayalam and FM radio. Among his publications 'Oh My Beloved', a spiritual interpretation on Song of Songs, has wide recognitions. Being one of the founding members of IAPC, now he is a Director and Board Secretary of IAPC.

Media Bias: Whose Truth Is It Anyway?



Morley J. Noir

I have started with a question in the caption. And I will follow up with more questions.

Is it possible to have a truly unbiased media? When "bias" can be extremely personal and subjective, where does one draw

the line on biased and unbiased media? Or, is there a line of thinking that could be termed truly and totally impartial or independent - be it political, religious, social, or otherwise?

Another question: Are we mad at the bias of individual journalists or at the collective phenomenon brought about by the fourth estate in a more sinister way? Or is there a much bigger corporate/religious/political agenda behind the grand scheme of things that decide how news should be reported and disseminated?



I believe there are two kinds of media biases - one perceived and one actual. The perceived one essentially originates from one's own beliefs, bolstered by what one chooses to read, listen to, and watch. When one holds a strong

view on anything - political, religious, or otherwise - and sees the media coverage going contrary to his or her dearly-held positions, it is considered as media bias.

Then there is the bias that is actual, though unintended. But can

it really be called bias? Just an example: In the early days of my life in the US, I was surprised by the media "bias" here, i.e., the visual media's near-total blackout of the world outside the US borders, as if almost all of the news happened only in this country!

An instance from Indian history: After Prime Minister Indira Gandhi revoked the infamous emergency, the media that was bent on (and was forced to) supporting her turned against her overnight with a plethora of charges culminating in her

Continued on page 15

Let Your Voice Be Heard:

The Importance of Communication Skills in the 21st Century

“We speak not only to tell

other people what we think, but to tell ourselves what we think. Speech is a part of thought.”

Oliver Sacks, *Seeing Voices*

We live in day and age where conflict and disagreement are everywhere and nearly impossible to escape. One only has to turn on the news or open the newspaper to see this to be true. What is the source of this conflict? How do we address it? Why is so difficult for people at times to get along? These are but a few questions that people across the globe are raising and pondering about. The answer lies in people of all ages and cultures learning the benefit and power of using effective communication skills. At the root of many of our social ills, is miscommunication. Where there is miscommunication this is also misunderstanding, disrespect, and hurt feelings looming close behind. The quote above goes

even further by saying our speech and communication is part of our thought process and one way in which we shape who we are. In that vein of thought and in the space below, I would like to share a few tidbits on what constitutes effective communication:

- **Listening** – One might think about talking and speaking first when one thinks about communication skills, but one cannot underestimate the importance of developing good listening skills. By becoming a good listener, one better understands what others are saying and trying to communicate. This leads to more productive conversation and discussion, thus improving communication for everyone.

- **Use of Evidence and Explanation** – Good communicators seek additional information to assist in making more informed decisions and strengthen their own ideas and perspectives. Moreover, this the speaker with their explanation of their thoughts and ideas. In the age where many talk about fake news and alternative facts, everyone should seek out diverse points of view to come to a more holistic and accurate understanding of the world.

- **Looking at issues from other's perspective** – one greatly enhances their communication skills when one takes the time to think about and consider someone's point of view. We often rush to judgement without understanding what others might think or feel about the issue. Putting yourself in someone else's shoes is not to see if they fit, but how it might feel when you walk in them.

- **Develop**

- **Develop a desire to read and research** – great communicators see the importance of reading and research so they are in a position to have something of substance to share with others. When communicating one benefits greatly from seeing how others think and view the topic/issue. Reading and research also helps the speaker develop different ideas and examples to better communicate their thoughts.

- **Adapt to your audience** – one should give great consideration to who you are speaking to and their opinions and values. It will help you better shape your thoughts and ideas.

- **Practice, Practice, Practice!** – At the end of the day, to get better at communicating one has to practice communicating. You are more likely to get over your speech anxiety and nerves the more you practice. But now, when one practices you can refer to the items listed above.

Hope this is helpful and good luck at becoming a great communicator!

About James R. Roland III – Debate Director/Coach of The Young Leaders Academy, Atlanta (TYLA)

James R. Roland, III is one of the nation's foremost experts on the role of debate in urban education, and currently serves as the Director of Community Outreach and Engaged Scholarship for the Barkley Forum at Emory University. He has received many coaching and service awards from many Universities and organizations, including the recognition received from President Obama for the groundbreaking and tremendous work he is doing in Atlanta and around the country.

Continued from page 14

getting ousted from office in the ensuing elections.

Or take the example of the so-called Indian leftists. They always want more freedom of speech and extol the virtues of left-leaning or socialist regimes around the world, but they conveniently ignore the fact that little, if any, freedom of expression exists in those countries that they praise as ideal societies.

And how the media in Kerala attack, in a near-unanimous way, almost anything and everything that the Narendra Modi govern-

ment does in New Delhi. While reading major Indian newspapers in English published outside Kerala, I get the feeling that the media in Kerala focuses on news that shows the country's ruling party in a not-too-favorable light. So is Kerala's media biased? Or are the people biased in favor of a biased media that they do not even realize the bias?

Also, haven't we noticed the disparity in how the epoch-making events in recent history were reported by the US media and Indian media - the capture and execution of Saddam Hussein and

Osama Bin Laden, for example?

It is a common lament in India that the western media is against the country. But just pause and reflect on how the Indian media handled major international tragedies like 9/11. There was a sizeable section of the Indian media that relished a conspiracy theory. This writer was flabbergasted by the opinion of a well-respected journalist - he was confident and wanted everyone else to believe that the events of 9/11 were the creation of the US government as part of a western world-inspired grandiose agenda to reduce the

world population by 25 percent. Also, I remember reading articles by others echoing the same beliefs. There is a sizeable population in India, including the so-called intelligentsia, who readily buy such stories and propagate them with added spice.

Lastly, let us revisit a most recent memory: Candidate Trump was never billed by the media to win the US presidency, and almost all the opinion polls pointed to his possible loss in the elections. But then whose truth did prevail, that of the silent voters at large, or that of the media? And

look at how the media onslaught on President Trump continues!

So where is the truth? Or, whose truth is the truth?

There are several international bodies (or cosmetically called watchdog groups) that keep an eye on media bias. Do they work? If so, who do they favor?

When everything is not created equal and fair in the universe, isn't it a bit fallacious to insist on total neutrality in journalism when such journalism is aimed at individuals who are biased in one way or the other? I think the answer is no. No?



Social media affects all in unique ways

A generation ago, the likes of Walter Cronkite, Peter Jennings and Diane Sawyer were the heroes of television news in the United States. Now the biggest stars are arguably Sean Hannity and Rachel Maddow. Notice the difference? Cronkite, Jennings and Sawyer reported the news. Hannity and Maddow talk about the news, and occasionally make it. But you never doubt how they feel about it.

Evening newscasts on ABC, CBS and NBC gave straightforward accounts of the day's events, and morning shows told you what happened while you slept. Newspapers flourished, with sections clearly marked for news and editorial pages for opinion. The one cable network, in its infancy, followed the play-it-straight rules of the big broadcasters. There was no Internet, no social media feed, no smartphone with headlines flashing.

Today, many newspapers are diminished. People are as likely to find articles through links on social media posted by friends and celebrities. Three TV news channels, two with firmly established points of view, air an endless loop of politically laced talk. There's no easy escape from a 24-hour-a-day news culture.

The internet's emergence has made the media far more democratic — for good and ill. There are many more voices to hear. Exposure to different content and ideas on social media and TV affects each and every one of us differently. It helps every one of us form ideas, change our attitudes, beliefs and actions in so unique ways.

There are some positive aspects to social media. It's important to remember that teens are hardwired for socialization, and social media makes socializing easy and immediate. Teens who struggle with social skills, social anxiety, or who don't have easy access to face-to-face socializing with other teens might benefit from connecting with other teens through social media.

A recent study found that individual-based social networking is said to have grown at the expense of more traditional personal relationships. The research found this in some instances, but more commonly found social media being used to actually reinforce traditional groups, such as family, castes, and tribes, and to repair the ruptures created by migration and mobility.

Having been connected to social media also helps change our broader views on the world and the happenings. According to a study by Pew Research Center, 14% of the people surveyed stated that they have changed their views about a political or social issue in the past year because of something they saw on social media.

Certain groups, particularly young men, are more likely than others to say they've modified their views because of social media. Around three-in-ten men ages 18 to 29 (29%) say their views on a political or social issue changed in the past year due to social media. This is roughly twice the share saying this among all Americans and more than double the shares among men and women ages 30 and older (12% and 11%, respectively).

There are also differences by race and ethnicity, according to the new survey. Around one-in-five black (19%) and Hispanic (22%) Americans say their views changed due to social media, compared with 11% of whites.

In 2016, the Center asked social media users whether they had "ever modified" their views about a political or social issue because of something they saw on social media. Two-in-ten said yes and 79% said no, with more Democrats and Democratic leaners than Republicans and Republican leaners saying they had modified views.

Although most people have not changed their views on a political or social issue in the past year because of social media, those who have also tend to place a high level of personal importance on social

media as a tool for personal political engagement and activism.

Just over half whose views changed (56%) say social media is personally important in providing a venue to express their political opinions, compared with a third of social media users who have not changed a view in the past year (33%).

While Americans who haven't changed their views put less personal importance in social media, majorities see these platforms as helping give a voice to underrepresented groups; highlighting important issues that might otherwise go unnoticed; or helping hold powerful people accountable for their actions.

As President Donald Trump rewrites the rules of engagement to knock the media off stride, he's found a receptive audience among his supporters for complaints about "fake news" and journalists who are "enemies of the people."

"We don't have a communications and public sphere that can discern between fact and opinion, between serious journalists and phonies," says Stephen J.A. Ward, author of 10 books on the media, including the upcoming "Ethical Journalism in a Populist Age."

In an ideal world, Ward says, people would have an opportunity to learn media literacy. And he'd have fewer uneasy cocktail party encounters after he meets someone new and announces that he's an expert in journalism ethics. "After they laugh, they talk about some person spouting off on Fox or something," he says. He has to explain: That may be some people's idea of journalism, but it's not news reporting.

Income Inequality is most rising among Indian Americans: Pew Center Report

Indian Americans enjoy the highest levels of income among various Asian ethnic groups in the U.S., but wide economic disparities exist within the community, noted the Pew Research Center in a report re-

leased last month.

The report, titled "Income Inequality in the U.S. Is Rising Most Rapidly Among Asians," surveyed income levels of several Asian American ethnicities and found that Asians at the top 10 percent of incomes earned 10.7 times more than those at the bottom 10 percent.

The Pew report is one of a few such papers that disaggregate data for various Asian American communities. "Today, income inequality in the U.S. is greatest among Asians. From 1970 to 2016, the gap in the standard of living between Asians near the top and the bottom of the income ladder nearly doubled, and the distribution of income among Asians transformed from being one of the most equal to being the most unequal among America's major racial and ethnic groups," noted the authors of the study, Rakesh Kocchar, associate director of research at Pew Research Center; and Anthony Cilluffo, research assistant at the Pew Center.

Within the Indian American community, median household incomes vary widely, noted the National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development, in its response to the report's findings. For example, the organization noted, the median household income in San Jose, Calif., is \$157,036 — where incomes are driven by the tech community — compared to \$51,060 in Yuba City, Calif., where agriculture is the driver of the local economy. Education levels are also lower in Yuba City, said the organization, noting that Indian American residents of Yuba City come largely from a previous wave of migration, whereas Indian Americans in San Jose represent a new wave of migrants chosen largely for their technical skills.

Almost four million people of Indian origin live in the U.S., with a median household income of \$100,000, noted the survey. About 7.5 percent of the community lives at or below the federal poverty level, defined as

\$30,750 for a family of four in 2017.

Sri Lankan Americans, with population numbers of about 60,000, have median household incomes at \$74,000 with about nine percent of the community living in poverty.

More than half a million Pakistani Americans currently reside in the U.S., with a median household income of \$66,000; 15.5 percent live in poverty, according to the report. Around 188,000 Bangladeshi Americans have a median household income of \$49,800; almost one-quarter live at or below the federal poverty level. Similarly, Nepali Americans, who have a median household income of \$43,900, also have almost a quarter of their community living in poverty.

Burmese Americans have the highest level of poverty among Asian Americans, with one out of three living at or below the federal poverty line. The median household income is \$36,000, according to the Pew report. About 72 percent of Indian Americans hold bachelor's degrees or higher, compared with just nine percent of people from Bhutan.

Seema Agnani, executive director of the nonprofit National CAPACD, said in a press statement: "The Pew Research Center's report draws attention to the stark economic inequality in the AAPI population. The success of some of us has contributed to the marginalization of many of us."

"We must challenge the dominant assumptions of our success, and we need to build solidarity within the AAPI community. We need to encourage the idea that successful AAPIs have a social responsibility to learn about, support, and lift up lower-income AAPIs who are unduly set back by the success of their community members," said Agnani.

"Wealth that is dangerously inequitable is not sustainable and, thus, we all have a shared interest and benefit in lifting AAPIs living in poverty out of the margins," she said.

The full report can be found on the Pew Research Center's website.



Conference 2017



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Induction ceremony



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The Purpose of JOURNALISM

- 1 Be an eye-opener
- 2 Convey a theme or idea every time
- 3 Entertain viewers/listeners/readers
- 4 Bring forth the truth unadulterated
- 5 Promote beauty consciousness
- 6 Sustain peaceful co-existence
- 7 Inspire consistent effort to attain goals
- 8 Educate without judging
- 9 Help them to sort out right from wrong
- 10 Protect peace and harmony
- 11 Encourage friendliness among people
- 12 Promote principles values and fairness
- 13 Discourage evil and evil people
- 14 Promote progressive thinking
- 15 Always encourage developmental projects
- 16 Protect true history through documentation
- 17 Inform people of great opportunities
- 18 Save the public from superstitions
- 19 Protect people from scams and traps
- 20 Warn the public of dangers and destruction
- 21 Keep leaders accountable to the public
- 22 Protect people from religious craziness
- 23 Give face to victims of tragedies
- 24 Encourage efficient leadership
- 25 Verbalize public concerns
- 26 Strengthen people to attain their rights
- 27 Promote agriculture and industry
- 28 Introduce scientific developments
- 29 Sustain life with integrity and truthfulness
- 30 Protect nature and the environment.



Jacob Easo



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Where Are You?

Decision making is an art and a science. Art touches feelings, science deals with verifiable facts. In Decision-making both are involved. Long-term satisfaction must be a goal. Instant decisions may also have lasting impact. Understand your goal and purpose of any decision you make. Consider all relevant facts, possible results and consequences. Ask questions to expert advisors, not your ignorant friends or relatives.

Do not let anyone steal your dream!

Overcome the fear of decision making.

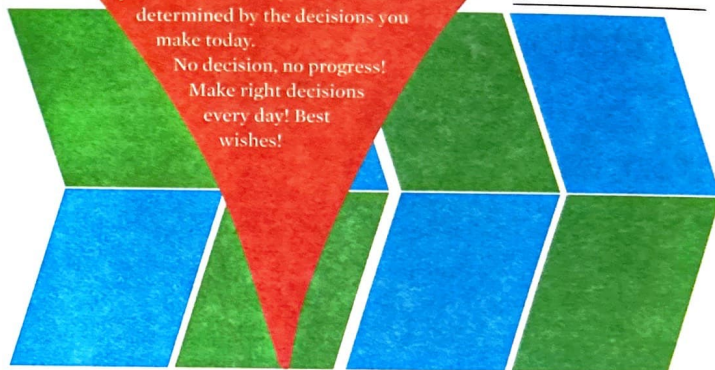
Remember, who you are and what you are, are the results of the decisions you took in the past.

Where you will be, how you will be, what you will be, and when it will be are determined by the decisions you make today.

No decision, no progress!

Make right decisions every day! Best wishes!

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with best compliments

Mathew Joys & Family

According to Plutarch 'Painting is silent poetry and poetry is painting that speaks'. A poet is an artist. Art is self-expression. It is a kind of alchemy. It transmutes the colorless, formless sensibilities of the soul into scripted golden words. Poets have the singular gift of gazing at life through images and metaphors. This provides them with a kaleidoscopic view of life, unique in each case. An artist's articulation of the inner musings is based on that uniqueness. That is why no two poets or artists are ever alike.

A poet often unhooks a word from its age old associations and wraps it in a new garb, giving it new dimensions. Once an idea grabs the poet, or the poet grabs an idea, he can never sit zip lipped. Like a bird, he has to sing, has to pour the very heart out. Like a song easing out of the throat of a song bird, a poem glides out of the quill of a poet. It flows not from the head, but from the heart. Inspiration may elbow him in the form of a word, an image, a metaphor, an emotion or a feeling. In whatever guise it comes, it sets off an explosion in the downy softness of his mind. The chemistry of the mind begins to act and the poet is forced to react. Silence gives way to words that in the choicest condensation articulate volumes in silence.

Sometimes the poet takes an irrational leap, but it will be a leap of faith. And the poet paddles off with a visual image, a complex idea or a simple truth. There are ways and ways of saying things. But a poet always has an alluring way of saying it. And what he articulates cannot be articulated in any other way, by any other poet. He can strip a word down to its core meaning, and present it in such a way

that the image he presents comes out in a distilled form. As W H Auden states, a poem 'must say something significant about a reality common to us all, but perceived from a unique perspective'. That unique perspective, conveyed with his heart on the pulse of words makes him a true poet.

At times a poet has to wait for a word to perch on the bough of his mind, a word with the right shade of meaning, igniting his creativity. As Mark Twain once remarked, 'the difference between the almost right word and the right word...is the difference between the lightning bug and lightning'. So he waits patiently, till it lands there. This patience comes like the patience that comes only in love, the love of words.

Once a poem reaches the reader's hand, he can tease or tear any meaning out of it; he may coax out of it a drop of joy or a drop of tear. The artist's moment of rare clarity or epiphany may not be the reader's. A poem becomes a totally new entity in the mind of a reader. The saying goes that beauty lies in the eyes of the onlooker.

The

meaning of a poem lies in the mind of the reader. A poem can unfold itself in various ways to various minds. But a poet is not goal-oriented. He distills his thoughts and pours them out for those who are alive to the experience of poetry.

Poetry is cadenced utterance that inspires various levels of responding. It opens up at levels emotional, intellectual, imaginative, aesthetic and sensual. A book is an ambassador that talks to strangers and establishes diplomatic relations with them. Some poems speak to the readers. A certain degree of intimacy with the readers is established by many poets. Robert Frost is well known for that, and so is Walt Whitman. Some poems speak for the readers. Whether the poet speaks to the reader or speaks for the reader, he houses his poems with diverse sensibilities. While some of them address certain zones in the soul, others address certain alcoves in the heart.

The origin of one poem differs from that of another. Sometimes an idea can summon a poem; at times an image or a thought can stir it into aliveness. But writing is always a special joy to the poet who is alert of mind and eye. Sometimes a poem might stem from pain. Art gives

dignity to our pain. It gives dignity to our hopes too. Sometimes a poet sinks roots into the social psyche. And he emerges with social and political poems. For most poets the felt urgencies emerge as poems. Poems can be autobiographical. They can be worked from the tears and smiles of others too. Every poem, whatever be the source of its origin, gives utterance to the impulses that pulse through the poet's conscious and unconscious psyche. A poem conceived in the mind, and matured in the gestation period, opens the gate and soars away. The poet ferries his fears and feathers his hopes while sculpting it. A well feathered poem emerges from the stirrings in the heart of the poet and ends in stirring sparks in the heart of the reader.

There is a whole new language of non-verbal communication out in the wide open world. Nature is a treasure house for us to haul out multitudinous images from. Watching nature we strike gold. A humming bird's language is its whir and purr. A butterfly's music is its fluttering. The dragon fly's diction is its dance. The ants read the language of smell. An aesthetically loaded mind can inhale nature's surprises in all sensory forms. Wordsworth's nature nurtured mind aptly divined:

'One impulse from a vernal wood
May teach you more of man,
Of moral evil and of good,
Than all the sages can.'

Poetry creates and translates from a strange silence. It shifts our whole awareness to a deeper wholeness, giving rise to moments that can be mythologized. A poet's etching of the poetic essence he pulls out from life's based on the kind of mirror he holds to it. It differs in each case. Most poets dip the pen into their hearts and write. What comes from the heart goes into the heart.

There is poetry lying scattered all around us; in the slant of the sun, in the waves of the ocean, in the blades of grass, in the chirping of a bird, in the smile of a babe, in a flake of snow, in a resting pebble or even in a fierce storm or spuming volcano. But as Thoreau says, 'it's not what you look at that matters; it's what you see'. Sometimes the best poetry flows out of the mind that gets in touch with the silence of the soul.

THE ART OF POETRY



Elsy Satheesan

Elsy Satheesan is a retired professor of English from Kerala, India. After settling down in the US she has been working with a bank for more than a decade. She resides in Charlottesville, Virginia, with her husband Satheesan Kochcheril, author of Pure Reason. She has authored two volumes of poems, *Random Musings* and *Summer Snow*, both available on Amazon. Poetry is her passion, and Nature, her religion. She can be reached at esatheesan@yahoo.com, with the subject line (Summer Snow)

ESSAy contest Winners

Children (Age 10-14)



Before talking about the importance of communication, what is communication? It is an art by which we share ideas, information, opinions and feelings. It is a two-way activity. That is the transfer of information and knowledge from a source to the receiver.

Communication occur between humans through speech, symbols, cave paintings, pictograms, ideograms and writing. Our first attempt to communicate were cave paintings, known to be 40,800 years old. Since then, people started creating their own language and tried different methods of communication. For example, the Egyptians invented their own picture language, which was called hieroglyphics.

Communication is the most important way of expressing any feeling towards any person or thing. There are various forms of verbal and non-verbal communication. Communication helps people relate, interact, understand and get connected to others. Communication is needed in business, personal life. Communication can be a one-way or a two-way process, depending on the way people react. For instance, sometimes while the parent

is trying to interact with the kids, when they don't respond, therefore, although it was to be a two-way communication, it has become a one-way communication process. Both the team involvement is required to make it as an effective two-way communication.

Now let's move out to the importance of communication skills in social life.

The importance of communication skills cannot be underestimated. Before language was invented people used hand gestures, body language etc. to converse with each another. Good communication skills are necessary in all walks of life. Powerful communication can create a positive impact on the social, personal as well as professional life of a person.

Professionally, if you are applying for jobs or a promotion with your current employer, you need to demonstrate good communication skills. To demonstrate good communication means you need to maintain good eye contact, vocabulary, present ideas appropriately and above all, listen effectively as communication can be a two-way process.

Communication helps us to understand others. The inability to communicate can lead to a lot of problems in socially,

personally and professionally. Can we imagine a day without communication! No talking, no writing, no signaling. We instantly feel the void it had created. Always recollect what makes us different from animals, it is the ability to communicate verbally. Communication glues us with other people and makes us social beings.

Marketing is another field where communication is the key to success. Marketers interact daily with large varieties of personalities, such as business managers, artists, computer scientists, magazine, and newspaper journalists and company executives. When discussing, marketers are open to give professional suggestions when possible. As a communicator, you need to be clear and concise. Successful marketers are experts in listening and understanding the needs of the personalities with whom they are communicating.

Communication can be face to face, as well. When communicating face to face there are lot of benefits. Meeting in person allows you to show your true personality, emotions, and reactions. It also helps you detect their body language, feelings, tone, and reactions. Face to face communication also boosts collaboration and creativity through the ability

to share ideas more freely. It also helps you build credibility, and establishes trust and loyalty. Another benefit of face to face communication is, the live feedback translated through body language and facial expressions. It also helps in expanding your network and building good relationships. Face to face communication is also a great form of engagement and leadership. Also, when you make the effort of actually seeing the other person, you show that you are listening, and make them feel that what they say is important.

Communication is equally important in your personal life as well. It helps you to build good relationship with your friends and family. Communication is the key to leadership and when we look into our history, we can clearly say that all our Great leaders were great communicators.

Personally, I like the quote from Jim Rohn on the Importance of communication skills- "Take advantage of every opportunity to practice your communication skills so that when important occasions arise, you will have the gift, the style, the sharpness, the clarity, and the emotions to affect other people.

So, let's take each and every

opportunity to practice good communication skills to lead a good social life.

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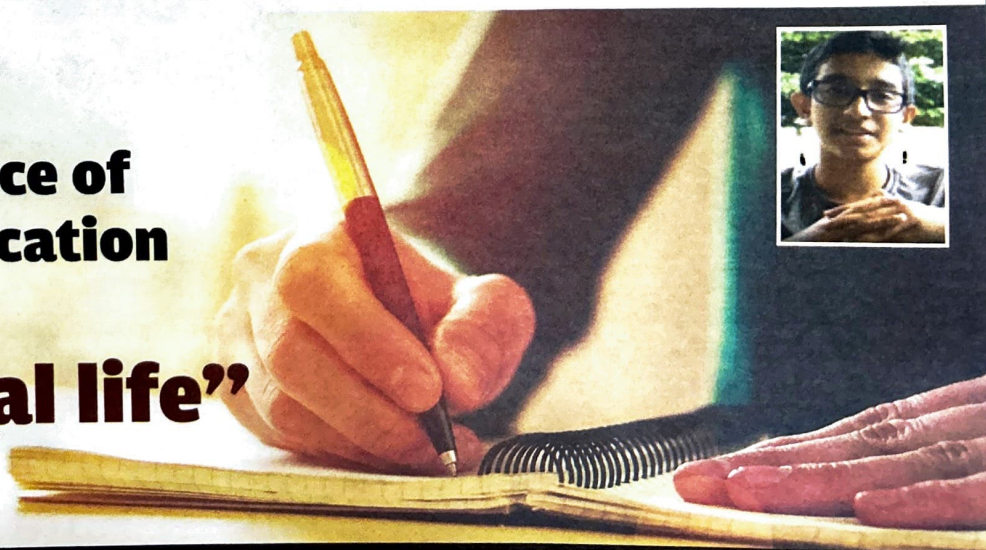
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"The importance of communication skills in social life"

Alan Stephen Saji, Charlette



skills

dently and assertively reciprocate to my counterpart by saying "Can't help my accent- I am born with it. My pronunciation is a hybrid of the five languages I speak." I sure get an astonishing appreciation from my counterpart who received an indirect cultural education from me! Our multicultural linguistic capabilities are our definite strength! Knowing multiple languages equips us for a versatile and better equipped social life advantage.

In these times when information or data is valued as the newfound currency to wealth, it is essential that possessing effective communication skills in all modes of communication **transmission is an important** factor of one's personality and an inevitable life-skill. Communication skill is a vital asset towards successful, comfortable social life and wellbeing.

1. The color of Silence, Blog
by Mr. Charles Macinnes.,
<http://www.charlesmacinnes.com/blog/files/2b76b-6cdb932da038ce5b5b540d-51cd8-31.html>

2. The nation has shut down the internet in various regions 20 times in the first five months of this year. "Internet Censorship in India Is on the Rise." CNNMoney, Cable News Network, money.cnn.com/2017/06/16/technology/internet-censorship-india-human-rights-watch/index.html.

3. Schwabach, Aaron. "Online Censorship." Issues: Understanding Controversy and Society, ABC-CLIO, 2018, issues.abc-clio.com/Search/Display/1548372. Accessed 26 Aug. 2018.

the discipline of communication by itself is an industry, from an individual's point of view there are two perspectives of successful relay of communication -

(Yes fake-news is unfortunately real!) among and ease of access of the medium of communication between them shall enable effective delivery of the message.

In both these perspectives being responsible and having effective articulation of thoughts mutually will ensure success in the venture of communication.

At a time when social media is so influential in our domestic lives; mastering the skill to communicate effectively online is not just a need, but a mandatory requirement of our contemporary times. Here again realizing that it does not take much time for the world to know our thoughts as well whatever goes online on so-

cial media is recorded forever should reinforce us to be responsible digital citizens!

The reality being what we are is what we converse and communicate! We understand and appropriate a person in our lives upon the communication relationship we mutually have among in our immediate relationships, community and society.

In an immigrant diaspora the capability to converse in the language of the land and acquiring the ethos of our adopted home certainly ease up our academic, professional, social and personal lives here in the United States. Our inevitable tongue is one thing that I am proud of. When I am questioned for my accent, I confi-

In the perspective of receiving a communication from an external source, what matters is the established trust level

In contemporary life where

ESSAy contest Winners

Children (Age 10-14)



Importance of communication

Adithya Karthik Upadhyayalu, Atlanta

What is communication?

As per my Taekwondo master, Master Burns, communication is the link between you and the outside world. Communication is a very important aspect of our everyday lives that can be easily overlooked. When we are in conversation with our friends, teachers, neighbors, co-workers, acquaintances, or with your family members, for fostering good relationships, healthy communication is the key.

Communication is the process in which you send and receive information by speaking, reading, writing using e-mail and text messages. Communication helps create and nourish the process of learning. Basically, communication is the basis for all human relationships. Communication



tion helps you express your thoughts and feelings, and helps explain your ideas. We can't share our ideas and thoughts effectively without good communication skills.

In the holy book of "Bhagavad

Gita", it is stated the importance of on effective communication. It starts with the verse, or sloka of the blind king of Hastinapur, Dhritarashtra, who is asking his minister Sanjaya for information,

as to what is going on in the war field of Kurukshetra.

Inter personal relationships are very important in making communication effective. The "Bhagavad Gita" itself is the per-



sonal interactions of Arjuna and Sri Krishna and it shows how they have communicated effectively on the war field.

Elements of communication skills:

Here is a list of essential elements of communication skills.

- Listening
- Non-Verbal Communication
- Clarity

▶ Continued on page 25



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Lukose Tharian & Family

ESSAY contest Winners

Importance of communication

Continued from page 25

- Friendliness
- Confidence
- Empathy
- Open-Mindedness
- Respect

The above skills help people stand out from the average people that cannot communicate well.

Importance of these elements in social life:

1. Listening:

Effective listening skill is nothing but actively listening - It helps us to comprehend the information given by the other person and also give us the information to give in return to the

other person.

2. Non-verbal Communication:

Body language, eye contact, hand gestures, facial expressions and tone of voice, personal appearance- These elements enhance the way we communicate to others.

3. Clarity:

Good verbal communication means saying just enough - not talking too much or too little. Good communicators convey their message in as few words as possible. They communicate, what they want clearly and directly.

4. Friendliness:

Friendliness is very much needed to make new friends. Through a friendly tone, a personal question, or simply a natural smile, you can convey the message effectively.

5. Confidence:

Confidence lets listeners know that you are ready to get your point across, in a way that the people would want to listen.

5. Empathy:

Empathy lets you experience other people's thoughts so you can craft a better argument that OPPOSES their thoughts.

6. Open-mindedness:

The definition of open minded is

a willingness to try new things or to hear and consider new ideas. An example of an open-minded person is one who listens to their opponents in a debate to see if the information makes sense to them.

7. Respect:

We should respect others point of views and feelings EVEN if we differ from their opinions. Showing respect for other's opinions is the key to communication.

Communication skills shape your life:

Now-a-days, many people are spending time with their iPads

or iPhone screens on Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter and other video games. Spending time on these internet applications does not help us socialize. People have put their energy and time onto smartphones and other electronic gadgets will not let us socialize. Now-a-days, we are having busy lives, but people are wasting time with technology and spoiling personal relationships with lack of integrity. If we spend time wisely, we can have a better social life.

In conclusion, communication skill is extremely important aspect to shape our lives.

ESSAY contest Winners

Category 2 : Age 15-20

Should the Government Regulate Internet

In the world of Internet, an open platform allows a level playing field for consumers, investors, and entrepreneurs to choose the best platforms and products and test competing business models. To further this growth, deregulation generally lowers barriers to entry, improving innovation, entrepreneurship, competition, and efficiency, leading to improved quality and resources for customers.

As defined in the Cambridge English Dictionary, "Government Regulation" is a law that controls the way that a business can operate. In that context, though regulation has forced some expansions to the society in general, it has not stimulated radical change. Based on the studies conducted, overall evidence suggests that the impact of regulation on moral, social, business, and economic innovation has been negative and

that regulation has delayed and hindered progress in a number of areas. Therefore my contention is government should not regulate the Internet. Any purported government regulation in the pretext of enhancing the access to information, or in the name of constitutional rights and protection of freedom and free speech that upends the openness is regressive.

In the book "Who Controls the Internet?" authors, Harvard professor Jack Goldsmith and Tim Wu, the Columbia law professor who coined the term "network neutrality", skillfully deliver a convincing argument that governments through regulations continue to exert their influence to control the Internet by citing prominent authorities, implying broad repercussions, and using stark contrast. They cite case studies on internet giants such as Google and Yahoo; and their struggles to do business in various parts of the

world including China. In the book, Goldsmith and Wu develop the idea that the internet can transcend borders and territorial rule. Any government regulation will negatively impact the Internet evolution.

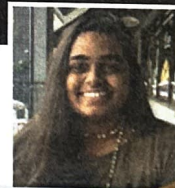
An in-depth look at the evolution of the Internet will reveal the way it transformed the world and its profound impact

to the society and world order. The idea of a 'resource-sharing' network first emerged in the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) in 1966. By 1981, newer advancements, such as the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) and the Internet Protocol (IP), were fully equipped to replace it, marking the beginning of the Internet

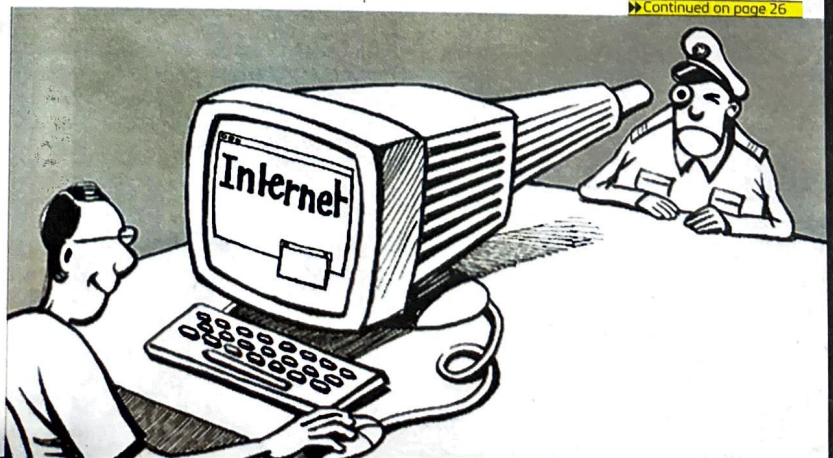
of today. The journey since then has been phenomenal and growing every day.

Internet has come of age. It has grown over four decades and is still growing with no government regulation. During this time, it influenced every aspect of human civilization. A day without Facebook, YouTube, WhatsApp, Amazon,

Continued on page 26



Nidhi Manikkoth, Atlanta



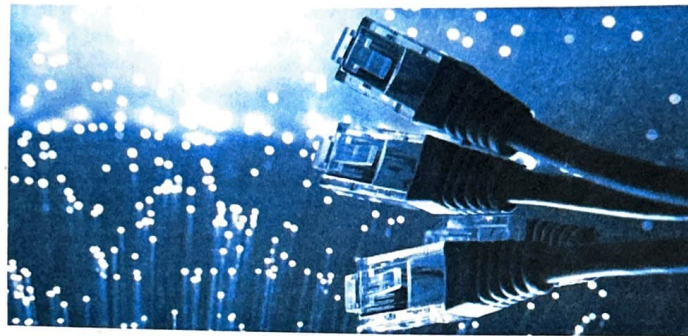
ESSAy contest Winners

Should the Government Regulate Internet

Continued from page 25

Twitter, Google, Netflix, Snapchat, etc. is unimaginable today. The internet has changed our social fabric, creating a new perspective and a culture. In its early days, in particular, it positively impacted the global telecommunication and commerce. It continues to grow even stronger as evidenced by the cutting-edge use of internet technologies are discovered and applied to all industry segments. My father used to tell me the agony he has to endure to communicate with his parents back in India during the nineties. It took over a month to reach the snail-mail from New York to Kerala, India. Those days, a phone call abroad costed him over 70 cents per minute. I could not even fathom as how he lived those days when compared to the advent of technologies and resources available at my finger tip. The invention that borne out of US department of defense is now mainstream.

The internet has created a new knowledge based workforce. As the Industrial Revolution was a catalyst to new manufacturing process-



es, the Internet Revolution created sweeping changes brought about by digital computing and communication technology. This forced the shift from mechanical technology to advanced digital electronics with the adoption of digital computers and digital record keeping that continues to the present day. Analogous to the Industrial Revolution, the Internet Revolution marked the beginning of the Information Age.

In the following sections, I will look at two

incidents that manifest the need for internet and its derivatives free of government regulation. The first is Arab Spring that began in December, 2010. This insurrection has a global impact, in particular, all Arab countries in the middle-east and in the North Africa. The second one is a recent natural disaster occurred in Kerala; heavy torrential monsoon rain that altered the lives of many throughout the state. In my view, these are quintessential examples of internet which is free from government

regulation that will help aid the common man when it is needed the most.

The Arab Spring was a series of pro-democracy uprisings in several largely Muslim countries, including Tunisia, Morocco, Syria, Libya, Egypt and Bahrain. The political and social impact of these popular uprisings remains significant today, years after many of them ended. The Pew Research has conducted studies on the role of social media and internet in the Arab Uprisings. The research confirms that social media played a significant part in the Arab uprisings and proves that the networks formed online were crucial in organizing a core group of activists, specifically in Egypt. Civil society leaders in Arab countries emphasized the role of "the internet, mobile phones, and social media" in the protests. Additionally, digital media has been used by Arabs to exercise freedom of speech and as a space for civic engagement.

Earlier this month, devastating rainfall followed by treacherous landslides have killed several people and displaced over a million in Kerala. India's National Disaster Relief Force launched its biggest ever rescue and relief operation in the state, evacuating over several thousand people. The Indian army and the navy were de-

ployed as well. The use of mobile phone technology and social media platforms mobilized relief efforts. Thousands of people from all over the world came together in assisting the operation by putting up websites, WhatsApp groups and other new media internet tools. This is happened purely because of the availability of internet to the public with no government regulation. The common men were familiar with these technologies and were able to deploy them when it was needed the most.

Furthermore, we can assess many such use cases and scenarios in the field of internet eco-system that positively helped mankind. Khan Academy helping a child in the remote village of Africa, crowd sourcing platforms that helps raises funds for various causes, and "Googling" for general answers to our curious questions are all a few such examples.

Internet is the pipe through which the information superhighway traffic flows. When governments regulate and control the flow of information travelled, it affect the overall value chain. An Arab Spring would not have been possible without the open internet. A mass rescue and relief operation of such size would not have been possible in Kerala, if the public wasn't able to freely use and spread information on the Internet.

It is also arguable that the right tool in the wrong hand can be potentially deadly. The Internet allowed people to communicate globally, changing the way business was conducted. Many hoped the accelerated communication would inspire greater international harmony. The reality was less idyllic; people found ways to use the new form of communication malevolently, for example delaying messages or hacking private communication. However the Internet's enduring influence on cultural impact is undeniable.

It is a common belief that evidence-based regulations that respect the fundamental role of free-market competition can help to remove these dangerous aspects of the Internet. However, despite their best intentions, government regulation still disrupts the marketplace or widens divisions between companies and technologies. When regulation is not thoughtfully applied, they invariably cause unintended damages; they can suppress and undermine innovation, growth, and job creation; misuse limited resources; and harm the society they are supposed to protect while destroying the public's trust in their government.

In 1848, Horace Mann, an American educator, succinctly states, "Education, then, beyond all other divides of human origin, is a great equalizer of conditions of men—the balance wheel of the social machinery." Similarly, arguably, in the present day you will find that open access to Internet with no government regulation is a great equalizer of conditions of men.

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ESSAY contest Winners

Category 2 : Age 15-20



Should the Government regulate Internet



Della Maret

The Internet is a world-wide network connecting millions of computers and other devices that exchange all sorts of data. It is also a place for creativity and knowledge building. It gives people more opportunities and it changes the way we work, communicate, learn, and so on. Today many educational facilities use the Internet for research purposes and to learn. Businesses use the Internet to promote their products and expand their connections. Individuals use the Internet to email others, shop online, play games, etc. The creation of the Internet was no doubt very exciting and helpful. The Internet has become so popular in today's world that people have become addicted to and dependent on it.

One of the controversial topics that a lot of people bring up is whether or not the government should regulate the Internet. Internet regulation is a process where the federal government can administer the internet and censor information. Even though both sides have logical arguments, the reasons for why the government should not regulate the Internet are greater than the reasons for why they should. The federal government should not regulate the Internet because it violates the First Amendment and each individual's right to privacy, reduces the educational value of the web, and prevents businesses from promoting new products. Not only that, if the government were to regulate the Internet, hackers and other criminals will always find a way to commit such heinous

crimes. It would also promote riots and disturbances in many places.

First of all, the First Amendment is very significant to the society. It gives citizens the freedom to say whatever they want, but to a limit. It also gives citizens the freedom to express opinions in printed and electronic media. This amendment allows citizens to have a say and stand up for what they believe. Since there are already limits to the freedom of speech and press, it would be unfair if the government controlled the internet. Regulating the Internet would be a direct violation to the amendment. Otherwise how are people supposed to voice their opinions if the government censors it? How will individuals make nationwide and worldwide problems

known so that others can help? With no regulation of the internet, people can freely express themselves and their opinions on the media.

Privacy is another thing that is most important to people. With privacy comes trust and respect. On a TeachPrivacy blog, Daniel J. Solove talks about the 10 reasons as to why privacy is important. One of the reasons Solove explains are about limit on power. Solove says, "The more someone knows about us, the more power they can have over us...in the wrong hands, personal data can be used to cause us great harm." What Solove says is true; a person's private information is what influences their deci-

sions and behavior. Privacy is important because it is easy for other people to take advantage. That's why some people say "none of your business" to others because they do not want others to know. When some individuals talk a lot about themselves, people also say "too much information" because they know it's none of their business and they could care less about what happens in someone else's life. In addition to that, one's reputation could be destroyed if others know personal information about others. If the federal government controls the Internet, then each citizen's right to privacy would be taken away.

Technology has extremely changed education. Before the inception of the internet, education was only for those who could afford it, and individuals often

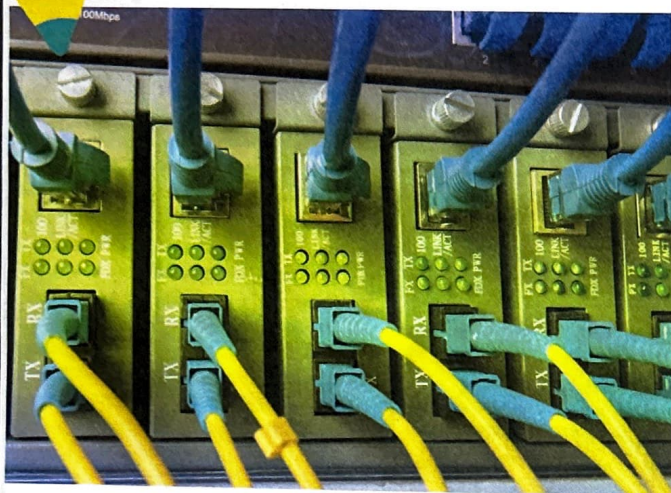
had to travel to other places just to buy books. Today, books can be read online. There are learning sites for K-12 students such as TedEd, Khan Academy, etc. Educational videos on different websites like YouTube are shown in classrooms to provide lessons and examples on different subjects. Corey Murray, editor of the EdTech magazine, described the results of a survey conducted by PBS LearningMedia, on the use of technology in schools. He wrote, "...74 percent of educators surveyed said technology is key to helping them expand on classroom content; the same percentage said technology is a motivational tool; and 73 percent said it helps teachers respond to different learning styles. Moreover, 69 percent said technology has helped do more than ever before for their students". There are also online databases like EBSCOHost for students that are a part of a research group. Unlike the small, isolated classrooms back then, there are bigger classrooms and multiple courses available everywhere, even on-

Continued on page 28

ESSAy contest Winners

Should the Government Regulate Internet

Continued from page 27



line. Online learning has become increasingly popular within the past few years. It is said to be more beneficial and efficient and exciting. Technology has transformed education in many ways, from providing teachers with new learning material to creating new ways for people to learn and collaborate. If Internet regulation existed, it would degrade the educational value of the web.

Besides education, technology has also impacted businesses. Before technology even existed, small businesses would barely make any money and could only sell products to local customers because they had no way of reaching out to people far away. Now businesses like Amazon or eBay sell products online, which is effective and beneficial. Customers are able to buy desired products from anywhere in the world,

which is better than going to a local store and not being able to find the best. In addition, companies use the Internet to communicate with others and exchange information. In a newspaper called Chron, K.A. Francis lists the impacts that the internet has made on businesses. Francis describes a recently new option for employees called telecommuting. This option allows workers to stay at their home and work using office equipment, rather than coming to the office building. Francis wrote, "According to the Suite Commute website, in 2008, 33.7 million employees telecommuted." The use of technology has improved the way businesses work and interact. If the Internet was administered, it would prevent the promotion and usefulness of technology and innovation.

that a virus has entered the computer and will destroy any data that is stored on the device. Companies like Equifax, Yahoo, and JPMorgan Chase have all fallen victim to multiple hacks. Data including names, passwords, phone numbers, etc. were all stolen. If a company has been hacked more than once, then it is obvious that hackers will always attack, even if the government can see what is happening. Therefore Internet regulation couldn't prevent any cyber crimes from happening because there will always be a way around it. Besides the local criminals, there are terrorists who are extremely familiar with the network and know how to prevent the government from tracking them down. Regulating the Internet would be a waste of the government's time if they were trying to track down criminals.

Briefly, there are far more serious problems than regulating the Internet, and it would be considered ridiculous if the government were to spend time and money on this initiative. There is no doubt that there would be a major backlash if the federal government regulated information on the Internet. People would think that the federal government was trying to turn into a dictatorship. Riots would erupt everywhere, and could even cause violence. Disputes in school and work offices and home would soon become a daily thing. Regulating the internet means violating the First Amendment and individual's rights to privacy, degrading the educational value of the web, preventing businesses from the promotion of products and usefulness of technology, causing debates everywhere, and so on. There are already enough problems going on in the world. Surely, the government has better ideas than to regulate the Internet. The Internet has become an essential part of everyone's day to day life and if the government were to take that away, then everything would just collapse.

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Category 2 : Age 15-20

Should the Government regulate Internet

"I took initiative in creating the Internet." Those seven words by then Vice President Al Gore became perhaps the most mocked and misunderstood words in the internet age. However, he was correct in some form. Gore supported the expansion of the internet "as far back as the 1970s" (Lee). This effort by Gore and other Congressmen eventually led to the expansion of the internet to a role that was previously unimagined. Today, in the age of the smartphone 89% of the United States pop-

ulation regularly uses the internet (Gordon) and naturally, a political divide has ensued. This time, the trifle that ensued was over the fundamental role of government in the role of regulating this fairly new technology.

The issue of governmental role in internet is multifaceted and it can be broken up into two fundamental questions. The first is, "Should the government have a level of control over what content is on the internet?" The second is, "Should the government control access to the internet?" The two issues are mul-

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faceted, however if the government follows the Constitution to the letter of the law the answers to these two questions are undoubtedly clear. The government should not have a say over what content is posted on the internet, and the government should ensure that all consumers of internet have equal access to all content on the internet.

The government should not have a say over what content is posted on the internet simply due to the fact that any regulation of content would be an infringement on the First Amendment rights of US Citizens. This is written clear and plain in the Constitution when it says that the United States should not "[abridge] the freedom of speech, or of the press." This freedom of speech and the press is extended to the internet. However, the most nuanced area, the grey area, occurs when fake news is concerned. By now everyone is aware that Russians, at the direction of the Kremlin attempted to interfere in the 2016 Presidential Election. In fact, recently, Facebook recently "removed 32 pages and accounts from Facebook and Instagram that were pushing American political stances and organising events" (Solon). However, the constitutional interpretation of this situation still remains clear. The United States government should allow the websites self-regulate. They should advise the companies to remove any pages that might be of conflicting interest, however, legally, they cannot and should not take any action.

However, limitations do apply in some regards. Similar to the application

of the First Amendment in the real world, the First Amendment in the digital world should and does have limitations. Any information that is sensitive to the government (classified government documents or other sensitive information) should not be allowed on the internet. The most pertinent example of this is the classified documents disclosed by then CIA contractor Edward Snowden. The United States government has every right to take down classified and unreleased information, simply due to the limitations of the First Amendment.

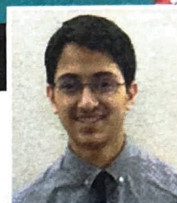
The other issue pertaining to government role in regulating the internet is whether or not the government should regulate access to certain websites or not. The answer there is yes. As noted before 89% percent of people use the internet extremely often in 2018. This has led to the internet being used to perform a wide variety of tasks including commerce and basic household management tasks such as paying the bills. This would classify internet service as a public utility. The public utility vs private commodity issue is the central issue in whether or not the internet should be regulated or not. The public utility view is espoused because basic sustainability of commerce and life in America is extremely difficult without basic access to internet.

With the internet being classified as a public utility, it should in fact, be regulated by the

government because access to public utilities is one of the basic functions of

government. In the recent "net neutrality" debate that was underway, people debated whether or not government should regulate internet service providers (ISPs) to ensure that they did not prioritize certain websites over others. In resolving this debate, it is important to utilize the public utility view of internet. Under the public utility view, the government has to ensure all consumers of the utility that all parts of the service (various websites) are flowing through the "internet pipe" at equal speeds. This is because the government cannot inherently prioritize certain websites and viewpoints over others. As the internet is defined as a public utility, the government cannot inherently discriminate. It all returns to the First Amendment.

In conclusion, the two distinct issues regarding government regulation of the internet can be solved with basic interpretations of the Constitution. Speech on the internet should not be regulated, just as it is not regulated in real life. Access to public utilities should be made equal and nondiscriminatory, simply because it would be illegal to promote one website over another according to the First Amendment.



ARNAV RAO, Atlanta



Report

IAPC Milestone 2018



PREPARED BY THE EDITOR

Laying a foundation stone to the IAPC Chapter in Russia.

The Chairman, Dr. Babu Stephen, during his trip to Russia, identified the potential and need for IAPC in the ethnic community there. Soon he was able to attract like-minded resources who were willing to partner together for the common cause of IAPC. The days are looked upon when a team from US National representation can travel to Russia and officiate this overseas chapter of IAPC that will border the European and the Asian countries.

IAPC Induction 2018 at the at the Indian Consulate of New York on April 10th.

The Executive office of the Indo American Press Club took official installation for 2018. Community leaders who attended the meet, where the Consul General of India Sandeep Chakravorty, Assemblyman David Weprin, Dr. Neeta Jain a Democratic District leader from 25th Assembly District, Shiv Dass the President of Jackson Heights Merchants Association and the businessman Darshan Singh Bagga.

The President Renee Mehrra as the President of Indo American Press Club received citations and congratulatory messages from community leaders and New York city representatives. Her perspective for more women to further democracy was well received by the audience.

The Bharatanatyam performance by the four year old Merry Augustine was a treat.

"JOURNALISM WORKSHOP", an endeavor was looked upon by the Press Club of Houston President and TV journalist Mike

O'Neill as productive enlightening session for writers, editors, reporters, publishers, as well as High School and college students, who have a passion for journalism. Authors and publishers had an opportunity to exhibit their books and publications, and to interact with other writers and authors.

Ten instructors for different 20 minutes sessions covering, opportunities and challenges in Print, Visual, Digital, and Social Media kept it going. Certificates were issued all to those who completed the course successfully. Instructors included Jawahar Malhotra, Publisher of Indo American News, Veteran Journalists Seshadri Kumar of India Herald, Dr. Chandra Mittal Voice of Asia columnist, Dr. Nik Nikam Nano News Network, TV Houston host Sangeeta Dua, Prof. Dr. Eapen Daniel, IAPC leaders and other seasoned Journalists as well as writers and publishers. The speakers wished many more young Indo Americans made use of this valuable workshop.

NAMOM Excellence Award at the Royal Albert's Place, New Jersey on April 28th.

NAMOM Excellence award is an annual initiative by the North American Malayalees and Associated Members (NAMOM) a group

that honors achievers in their respective fields of performances. Two of IAPC's most deserving members, the founding President of IAPC, Mr. Ajay Ghosh and the present Chairman of IAPC, Dr. Babu Stephen were honored at NAMOM 2018 event at New Jersey. Mr. Ajay Ghosh for his Media contributions for innumerable media houses and Dr. Babu Stephen for his achievement as an entrepreneur who had a 4 decade long making of history since coming to the United States of America. Mr. Ajay Ghosh continues to mainstream his life on a media career while Dr. Babu Stephen is on a fast pace of growth on his immovable asset management and medical home ventures in Washington DC. IAPC took a lot of pride in their achievements.

2018 Conference Kickoff at Kottayam Press Club

The First official Kickoff for the International Media Conference was hosted at the Kottayam Press Club in Kerala. The Indo American Press Club applauds Dr. Mathew Joys for going beyond par to take the initiative and execute a kick off at the Kottayam Press Club in Kerala.

The meeting was attended by

well-known journalists and individuals within the media and the political spectrum. They welcomed him with honor and facilitated the event and provided us with extended visibility. The Chairman has always called Dr. Mathew Joys the "cornerstone of the Indo American Press Club"

2018 Conference Kickoff in Atlanta at the Ashiana Banquet Hall on August 11.

The Kickoff was presided by Dr. Babu Stephen, the Chairman of the Indo American Press Club accompanied by IAPC officials of the Atlanta Chapter and participated by select community leaders and media representatives from local media houses. The 5th International Media Conference (IMC) scheduled to be hosted in Atlanta, GA on the 6th and 7th of October 2018 at the Atlanta Airport Marriott was officially announced. In addition IAPC's intention to award \$500 scholarship to 50 student residing in Atlanta Metro area and those upto High school age group for their academic and nonacademic accomplishments was also announced. The event had a fair participation of members of the Atlanta Chapter including the Chapter leaders like Prasad Phil-

lipose, Mini Nair, Lukose Tharian, Anil Augustine, Sabu Kurien, Joseph Varghese, Amritpal Singh, Harmeet Singh etc.

2018 Conference Kickoff in New York at the Tyson Centre on September 2.

Local community participation was an outlook for this Kickoff meeting which was a success in that scope. The attendees also took time and turns to convey their grievances for the flood victims of Kerala. They also took turns to voice their perspectives on the relief operations, the aftermath and the rehabilitation with a vision for a stronger better Kerala. The Founder Director of IAPC, Mr. Ginsmon Zacharia took the opportunity to congratulate the present IAPC Chairman, Dr. Babu Stephens decision to make a personal donation of INR One Crore to the Kerala Relief Fund. The announcement received a standing ovation.

IAPC Director Board Members like Mr. Sunil J. Koozhampala, George Kottaram and other leaders of IAPC, Mr. Anil Mathew, Biju George, Eapen George, Saji Thomas, Innocent Ulahannan, Philip Maret, Jinu J. Mathew, Cherian Chakkalapidikkal etc spoke at the event.



New York Conference Kickoff 2018



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