



India Association of Minnesota:  
Association Records

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# India Club donates food, cash

The India Club, a Twin Cities organization, joined Honeywell in raising food and cash for the annual FoodShare Drive.

The club joined Honeywell partly in appreciation for a grant received from the Commercial Aviation Division (CAvD) in 1985 to hold an India Day celebration at the St. Paul Landmark Center.

"Helping Honeywell seemed an appropriate opportunity to express the club's appreciation and to take part in a worthy and important cause," said CAvD

Honeyweller Sudan Misra.

With the cooperation of Hindu Mandir, Geeta Ashram, School for Indian Languages and many individuals, the India Club raised a total of 480 pounds of food and \$85 in contributions.

Misra, along with Honeywellers Rakesh Agarwala, Corporate Information Management and Anoop Mathur, Technology Strategy Center, spent many hours collecting food, selling ice cream and promoting FoodShare within the Indian community.

HONEYWELL CIRCULATOR  
APRIL 28, 1986

# India Assoc. of Minnesota's fundraiser for Earthquake Relief

**S**T. PAUL - "We, Indian-Americans, have a significant role to play in the days to come. Our role is more relevant than ever, in the context of both countries. In addition to being a great professional force in many realms as well as a highly educated society, Indian-Americans have also become a strong voting force in the U.S. With the increased visibility and stature, come responsibilities as well. The responsibility is to make sure that the ideals upon which

by Haridas Gori

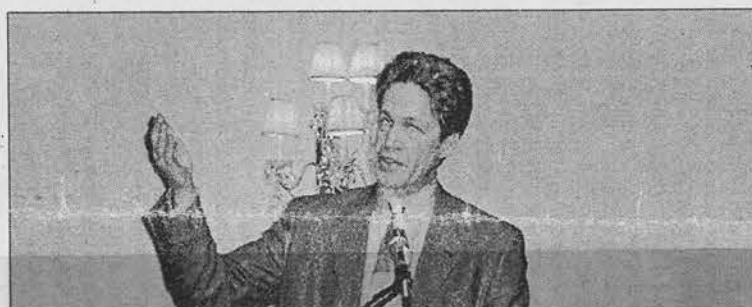
India. It is truly an Indian tragedy. On behalf of IAM, I share the grief of the people of Gujarat at this time of suffering, shock, and loss. Along with Gujarati Samaj and other community organizations, IAM is working to raise funds for the India Earthquake Relief Fund." Stressing the urgency of it he said, "We are collecting funds from individuals



State Senator Satveer Chaudhary receiving the IAM 2000 Achievement Award from Mr. Vipin Gopal, President of IAM.



Mr. Coleman with Mr. Gopal, Ashok Mandal, Senator Satveer Chaudhary, Senator Randy Kelly, and Dr. Bruce Corrie.



Mayor of St. Paul, Mr. Norm Coleman, addressing the audience.

these two great nations are built on, will continue to thrive and prosper," said Vipin Gopal, the President of IAM at the annual dinner held on Feb. 18 at Hotel Airport Marriott.

Vipin Gopal gave a brief history of IAM. He said that IAM and its predecessor organizations have been serving the community for the last 28 years. It is an umbrella organization representing about 20,000 people of Indian origin in the state of Minnesota. It primarily has to fill two roles: one, to organize activities that are of interest to the Indian community, and two, to represent the Indian population to the community at large. Welcoming the large turnout of community members, Gopal introduced the keynote speaker, Norm Coleman, Honorable Mayor of the City of St. Paul; State Senator, Satveer Chaudhary; State Senator, Randy Kelly; and Dr. Bruce Corrie, Professor of Economics at Concordia University in Saint Paul.

Gopal commented, "While we talk about growth and prosperity, I am also saddened by the recent earthquake in India. This is perhaps the worst natural calamity to hit

and corporations and our aim is to raise \$1 million. This effort would go towards the reconstruction of a village of about 500 houses, assuming that each house costs about \$2,000." Gopal appealed to all to contribute generously and to spread the word among their friends.

Regaling the audience with his unique sense of humor, Norm Coleman, the Mayor said, "India and U.S. are the world's largest democracies and they have shown that it is the power of people and not necessarily the government that makes the economy move forward. We have a great opportunity to build from our family values. The strength in our communities lies in our diversity, but to tap the power and the resource you have to get involved. If there are opportunities, there are responsibilities. Recognize their values and reach out." Coleman also conveyed his profound grief over the terrible loss of lives and property of the people of Gujarat. He pleaded with the people to come forward and contribute their might towards this worthy cause of helping those affected people rehabilitate.

The youngest state Senator of

Indian Origin, Satveer Chaudhary, was honored with the "2001 Achievement Award." Thanking the community for their support, Chaudhary said that had it not been for the hard work of friends and well-wishers, he would not have been standing here to receive the award. "As your representative, it will be my constant endeavor to work on matters that are of utmost

importance to the community." He further stated, "Economically and socially we have made our presence felt, but in the political arena we have to make our voices heard. More and more Indians should therefore participate in political debates and activities." He also pleaded with everyone to come together and help out in the recent Indian tragedy.

as a viable option for the region. Dr. Corrie was appointed by Governor Jesse Ventura to Chair the Governor's Working Group on Minority Business Development. This Group produced the first comprehensive report on strategies to tap into the emerging domestic markets in Minnesota.

Senator Kelly, who has been taking an active interest in Asian-Indian affairs, expressed his anguish over the devastation from the Indian earthquake and offered to help in whatever way possible to rehabilitate the displaced people of Gujarat. The function ended with Ashok Mandal, the IAM Secretary, giving a vote of thanks to the honored speakers, donors, and guests.

## Gupta and Vilanilam are members of MLK Commission

by Ajay Ghosh

**N**EW YORK - Mangal Gupta of Old Bridge, New Jersey and Alex Koshy Vilanilam of Newark, New Jersey were recently sworn in as members of the Martin Luther King (MLK) Commission of State of New Jersey by the Secretary of State, DeForest Soaris. They were appointed to the position by the former Governor of New Jersey, Christine Todd Whitman. The Commission was established in the Department of State, N.J. to develop, coordinate, and advise the Governor on statewide activities in honor of King, a press release said.

to educate the people about the vision and mission of the civil rights leader. Its mission includes commitment to preserving the constitutional freedoms of all Americans, celebration of the diversity of American society, and helping young people to make a difference. Gupta was an Executive Director of the National Federation of Indian Associations (NFIA) and has a record of three decades of community service. He was twice appointed to the Ethnic Advisory Council by Whitman.

third time as a Commissioner of Human Relations in Old Bridge by the city's Mayor, Barbara Cannon. He was also the Founding President of Sankat Mochan Hanuman Temple.

An engineer by profession, Vilanilam is principal planner (environmental) with the city of Newark, N.J. He was the first General-Secretary of the World Malayalee Council, an umbrella organization of the Malayalees with regional committees worldwide, and Executive Director of the Institute for Scientific and Academic Collaboration (IISAC), a nonprofit organization that helps students in developing countries.

### Save \$\$\$

**CALL**

India	49¢
Pakistan	55¢

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First time only to activate your line.



# SHARING-OF-THE-FESTIVALS



Diwali

Festival of Lights



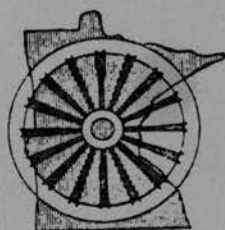
Thanksgiving

Come and Celebrate with us at Dinner

**Foods of America and India**

**Friendship and Sharing**

Saturday, November 18th



**THE INDIA CLUB** 4:00 p.m. or 6:00 p.m.

OF MINNESOTA

Seniors' Place

1801 Central Avenue N.E.

SPONSORED BY: India Club of Minnesota

ADMISSION: By Invitation

SEE: Receptionist at Sr. Place (ESNS Staff) for Invitation.  
East Side Neighborhood Service, Inc.

Help the victims of the Indian Earthquake

# Race for the Quake

## 5K Fun Run/Walk



Over 35,000 People Killed  
Over 1 million people left homeless  
Losses in excess of \$5.5 billion

**When:**  
**Where:**

Saturday, May 19th

Lake Calhoun -

Thomas Beach, South End

**Time:**

**Line-up by 9:45 am**

Race starts promptly at 10:00

**Cost:**

\$10.00 per participant

All donations are 100% tax deductible

Register at [www.raceforthequake.bigstep.com](http://www.raceforthequake.bigstep.com)

or

Day of Event, May 19th, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Lake Calhoun

**Announcement: July 6, 2001**



## **INDIA EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND**

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### **IERF will hold news conference about plans to rebuild quake-hit Indian village with funds raised in Twin Cities**

**When:** July 16, Monday. Time: 4:30 p.m.

**What:** The India Earthquake Relief Fund (IERF) committee will hold a news conference to inform news media representatives and community members of its plans to use more than \$275,000, the amount collected in the Twin Cities, to help rebuild a quake-hit village in India. The village of Vijaypar was destroyed when a powerful earthquake struck the Indian state of Gujarat in January.

**Why:** To explain to individuals and corporations in the Twin Cities how their donations and grants will help rehabilitate quake victims in an entire village in Gujarat, India.

Everyone is invited to attend this event and witness the ground breaking ceremony that was performed in Vijaypar on June 20<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** The International Institute of Minnesota, 1694 Como Ave., St. Paul.

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For more information, contact:

**Bhavesh Damania, IERF committee chair: (763) 557-5160**

**Bhupat Desai, IERF committee member: (651) 777-7991**

## News Release



## INDIA EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND

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For release after July 16, 2001

For more information, contact:

Bhavesh Damania: (763) 557-5160

Bhupat Desai: (651) 777-7991

### **Local fund for India earthquake relief will help rebuild village**

The India Earthquake Relief Fund (IERF) committee, a Twin Cities volunteer group, announced that it would channel more than \$275,000, the amount raised in a fundraising drive, to rebuild a village destroyed when a powerful earthquake struck the Indian state of Gujarat in January.

IERF was set up in the wake of the earthquake to raise funds for rehabilitation efforts in Gujarat. To explain how the funds collected in the Twin Cities area will help earthquake victims in the village of Vijaypar, the IERF committee will hold a **news media conference July 16 at 4:30 p.m. at the International Institute of Minnesota**. The institute is located at 1694 Como Ave. in St. Paul.

"The news conference will give us an opportunity to tell the Twin Cities community how we will use the individual donations and corporate grants received to help people in an entire village rebuild their lives," said Bhavesh Damania, IERF committee chair. "Rather than spreading the money thin in several affected areas, we decided to use all the funds raised to rebuild houses in a single village that suffered heavy damage," Damania said.

The IERF committee has chosen CARE, an international non-governmental organization (NGO) involved in the Gujarat earthquake rehabilitation efforts, to undertake the housing reconstruction project in Vijaypar, a village of 214 houses in the Rapar district of Kutch, the hardest hit region.

--more--

## **India earthquake relief (add 1)**

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"After considerable deliberation, we've chosen CARE because it is a non-religious organization and one that has been operating in India for over 50 years," Damania said. "Also, CARE was judged to have the best track record on delivery of funds to the most affected people in devastated regions."

The IERF fundraising drive, a communitywide volunteer effort, was conducted through a variety of activities over six months. Among the volunteers were school children, who placed collection boxes in schools and community grocery stores in the metro area. Other activities included music concerts, dance performances, a food event, a walkathon and collections at religious and community centers. In addition, IERF received funds from Minnesota corporations and foundations, including a \$40,000 grant from 3M.

The fundraising drive was led by the Gujarati Samaj Cultural Association of Minnesota, in conjunction with the India Association of Minnesota, a Twin Cities organization representing the Asian-Indian community in the state.

The ground breaking ceremony was performed in the Vijaypar Village on 20<sup>th</sup> June by Bhikalal Patel (V.P of Gujarati Samaj of Minnesota) and Tom Alcedo (Country Director CARE India) in presence of the more than 200 families gathered.

The earthquake that shook Gujarat on Jan. 26 measured 7.9 on the Richter scale, causing widespread destruction and death. The quake killed more than 35,000 people, left more than 1 million homeless and caused property damage exceeding \$5.5 billion.





Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights

presents a community forum

## Violence in Gujarat, India: A Human Rights Perspective

◆  
with panelists:

- Angana Chatterji** ~ Professor of Anthropology,  
California Institute of Integral Studies
- Muqtedar Khan** ~ Professor of Political Science, Adrian College
- Smita Narula** ~ Senior Researcher, Human Rights Watch
- David Weissbrodt** ~ U.S. Representative to the UN Sub-Commission on Human Rights;  
Professor, University of Minnesota, Law School

◆  
**Monday, October 21, 2002**  
**7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

University of Minnesota  
Law School  
229 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue South,  
Minneapolis

◆  
**For further information:**  
**[www.mnadvocates.org](http://www.mnadvocates.org)**

Co-sponsored by: The Human Rights Center and the  
College of Liberal Arts/Human Rights Program of the  
University of Minnesota



501(3C)

**Jammu & Kashmir**  
**- Why we are where we are -**  
Minnesota Indo-American Education Forum  
(MIEF)

**Outline**

- Jammu and Kashmir (J&K)
  - Geography
  - Ethnic, religious, linguistic makeup
- Kashmir history
  - 1846 – 1931: Dogra kingdom
  - 1931 – 1947: Creation of political opposition; Sheikh Abdullah
  - 1947 – 1952: Partition of India; Indo-Pak conflict; LOC defined; UN resolution
  - 1952 – 1989: Relative peace in Kashmir; Simla agreement
  - 1989 – 2002: Dramatic rise in terrorism; ethnic cleansing of non-Muslims from Kashmir
- What's the desirable outcome?
- What actions must be taken

**J&K Geography**

**J&K Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic Makeup**

- Main languages: Kashmiri, Dogari, Pahari, Gujar, Punjabi, and Ladakhi
- Of the three main regions of the state, i.e. Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh, only Kashmir (7% of original J&K) has a Muslim majority
- The Muslims of Jammu & Ladakh are not Kashmiris
- Population of the Kashmir valley is slightly over 50% of the entire state

**Kashmir History**

**What's the desirable outcome?**

- State sponsorship of terrorism by Pakistan has to end
- Ethnic cleansing of non-Muslims from Kashmir must stop
- Solution to the dispute must be arrived at through mutual dialog in the framework of the 1972 Simla agreement

**What actions must be taken?**

- Link aid to Pakistan to verifiable evidence of stopping state sponsorship of cross-border terrorism
- Stanch the flow of international funds and arms to terrorist groups operating in Jammu and Kashmir
- Encourage India and Pakistan to recognize the present day LOC as the permanent international border
- Provide aid and support for the resettlement of hundreds of thousands of displaced Kashmiri refugees

opinions

## 1846

- Gulab Singh was a Dogra Rajput who supported the British against the Sikhs
- As a reward, Gulab Singh was made the Raja (king) of Jammu
- In 1846 Raja Gulab Singh bought lands from the British, consolidated them into what became Jammu and Kashmir, and became the Maharaja (emperor)
- Signing of the Treaty of Amritsar between Gulab Singh and the British

## 1931

- Sheikh Abdullah was a Kashmiri Muslim, educated at the Aligarh Muslim University in India – a masters in science
- In 1931 Sheikh Abdullah started protests against Dogra rule
- In 1932 Abdullah established the All Jammu & Kashmir Muslim Conference with Mirwaiz Yusuf Shah, the chief religious leader of Kashmiri Muslims
- In 1939 Sheikh Abdullah forms the National Conference, to have more secular appeal

## 1946

- Sheikh Abdullah's National Conference launches the "Quit Kashmir" movement
- Demands abrogation of the Treaty of Amritsar, and abdication by Hari Singh, the grandson of Gulab Singh, and the current maharaja
- Sheikh Abdullah arrested by the British

## 1947

- Partition of India; creation of Pakistan
- J&K given option to join India or Pakistan
- Raja Hari Singh ceded to India; Pakistan supported tribals infiltrated J&K and occupied the portion Pakistan controls today
- Territorial control frozen at what is presently called the Line of Control (LOC)
- Subsequent Indo-Pak wars have not substantially changed the LOC

## Partition of India

- Year: 1947
- 563 princely states/kingdoms; under overall British rule
- Two countries formed
  - India: democratic, secular nation
  - Pakistan: Islamic nation
- Choice for each princely state/kingdom

- Join India or join Pakistan
- Kashmir originally decided to stay independent; later acceded to India (see Kashmir history)

## 1948

- India takes Kashmir issue to the United Nations
- UN establishes a commission to study the issue
- Commission prepares a (non-binding) resolution, referred to as the 'UN resolution', which establishes the framework for settling the Jammu and Kashmir issue between India and Pakistan

## UN Resolution

- India approached UN in 1948
- UN appointed commission suggested a 'non-binding' resolution
- UN resolution clauses
  - 1: Pakistan must withdraw forces and relinquish control of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK)
  - 2: India should maintain forces only to the level required to maintain law and order
  - 3: Once conditions 1 and 2 have been met, a plebiscite must be held to determine the will of the people of Kashmir
- Resolution accepted by India in \_\_\_\_ of 1948, and by Pakistan in \_\_\_\_ of 1948

## 1949

- Ceasefire between Indian and Pakistani forces takes effect on January 1
- Position of ground troops as of January 1 becomes the Line of Control (LOC)
- Maharaja Hari Singh moves to exile in Bombay

## 1952

- Jammu Praja Parishad launches campaign for full accession of Kashmir into India
- Interim constitution for Jammu and Kashmir comes into effect in November
- In July 1953, Sheikh Abdullah enters into an agreement with India for limited autonomy of J&K

## 1965

- Pakistani infiltrators cross over into Indian Kashmir
- Indo-Pak war
- Ceasefire takes effect on September 23<sup>rd</sup>

## 1971

- March 1971 Pakistan starts ethnic cleansing war in East Pakistan
- By November 1971 the influx of East Pakistani refugees in India becomes an immense crisis – over 10 million East Pakistanis have crossed over to India



- December 3 – December 17: Indo-Pak war
- December 17<sup>th</sup>: Birth of Bangladesh as a nation

## 1972

- Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, and Zulfikar Ali Butto, elected PM of Pakistan (father of Benazir Butto) meet in Simla
- Simla agreement signed
  - Mutual agreement to resolve Kashmir issue through peaceful dialog
  - Mutual agreement to refrain from violent means

## Simla Agreement

## 1989

- Soviet occupation of Afghanistan ends, freeing up a lot of Mujahideen fighters
- Rubaiya Saeed, daughter of India's home minister (a Kashmiri Muslim) is kidnapped; exchanged for 5 jailed militants
- 1990: Mass ethnic cleansing of non-Muslims from the Kashmir valley begins
- 1991: Pakistani-funded militant groups persecute civilian population
- 1994: Militant movement takes on the character of 'jihad' (Islamic holy war)

## 1996

- Elections held in Kashmir
- Farooq Abdullah – son of Sheikh Abdullah – comes to power as chief minister
- 1998: India and Pakistan explode nuclear devices

## 1999

- Indian prime minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, visits Lahore on a 'friendship tour'
- Pakistani troops, lead by General Pervez Musharraf, cross LOC in Kargil sector – in violation of Simla agreement
- Nawaz Sharif, elected prime minister of Pakistan, orders withdrawal of troops under intense US pressure
- Military carries out a coup-de-etat to oust Nawaz Sharif's government; Musharraf declares himself president; Sharif and Bhutto exiled to Dubai

## 2000

- Indian Airlines plane hijacked and taken to Kandahar
- 3 militants released in exchange for the passengers
- Sheikh Omar Saeed was one of the released
- One passenger beheaded

## 2001

- Kashmir violence continues

- General Musharraf walks out of Agra summit
- September 11<sup>th</sup> attack on World Trade Center
  - Led by Osama-bin-Laden
  - Supported by Pakistan created Taliban
- December 13<sup>th</sup> attack on Indian Parliament in New Delhi
  - Carried out by Pakistan based terrorist organizations Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM)

## 2002

- India asks for terrorist extradition; Pakistan refuses
- India moves forces to Pakistan border
- Jan 13<sup>th</sup> – Under US pressure, General Musharraf issues statement denouncing terrorism
- Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> – Journalist Daniel Pearl is kidnapped
- February 6<sup>th</sup> – Musharraf visits US and assures that Pearl is safe
- February 20<sup>th</sup> – Tape is released showing brutal beheading of Daniel Pearl
- March 3<sup>rd</sup> – US asks for extradition of Sheikh Saeed; Pakistan is waffling on that

## Changing Demographics