Around 850 people attend a public talk ‘Awakening Health, Harmony, and Happiness’ by Sister Shivani.

Alok Kumar Srivastava, pseudonym Shaz Jahani, a poet, talks about his life and works.

The renaissance of Pakistani fashion is a sign of women’s growing independence. P4-5

Metro Boomin wants not to be predictable.

Feeling inferior in a good way: KJo.
**PRAYER TIME**

- Fajr: 4.30am
- Shorooq (sunset): 5.50am
- Zuhr (noon): 11.21am
- Asr (afternoon): 2.23pm
- Maghreb (sunset): 4.45pm
- Isha (night): 6.15pm

**USEFUL NUMBERS**

- Emergency: 999
- World Wide Emergency Number: 112
- Kahramaa – Electricity and Water: 901
- Local Directory: 180
- International Calls Enquires: 150
- Hamad International Airport: 40106666
- Labor Department: 44508111, 44406537
- Hamad Medical Corporation: 44392222, 44393333
- Qatar Airways: 44496000
- Mowasalat Taxi: 44588888
- Hamad Medical Corporation: 44466405
- Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation: 44845555, 44845464
- Qatar News Agency: 44594050
- Qatar Assistive Technology: 44593363
- Primary Health Care Corporation: 44593333
- Ministry of Interior: 40253371, 40253372, 40253369
- Ministry of Health: 40253368, 40253365
- Qatar Airways: 44588888
- Qatar News Agency: 44594050
- Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation: 44844555, 44844564
- Qatar News Agency: 44594050
- Qatar Assistive Technology: 44593363
- Ministry of Interior: 40253371, 40253372, 40253369
- Ministry of Health: 40253368, 40253365
- Qatar Airways: 40253374

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**RAJESHWAR**

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**Quote Unquote**

“Science is a beautiful gift to humanity; we should not distort it.” — A.P.J Abdul Kalam

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**Ralph Breaks The Internet**

- **DIRECTION:** Jason Bateman
- **CAST:** Jason Bateman, Nicole Kidman, Kathryn Hahn
- **SYNOPSIS:** Video game bad guy Ralph and fellow misfit Vanellope von Schweetz must risk it all by travelling to the World Wide Web in search of a replacement part to save Vanellope’s video game, ‘Sugar Rush’. In way over their heads, Ralph and Vanellope rely on the citizens of the Internet — the netizens — to help navigate their way, including an entrepreneur named Yesss, who is the head algorithm and the heart and soul of trend-making site BuzzzTube.

**THEATRES:** The Mall, Royal Plaza, Landmark

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**Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes Of Grindelwald**

- **DIRECTION:** David Yates
- **CAST:** Eddie Redmayne, Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler
- **SYNOPSIS:** The second instalment of the Fantastic Beasts series set in J.K Rowling’s Wizarding World features the adventures of magizoologist Newt Scamander. In an effort to thwart Grindelwald’s plans of raising pure-blood wizards to rule over all non-magical beings, Albus Dumbledore enlists his former student Newt Scamander, who agrees to help, unaware of the dangers that lie ahead. Lines are drawn as love and loyalty are tested, even among the truest friends and family, in an increasingly divided world.

**THEATRES:** Landmark, The Mall, Royal Plaza

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**Amplifying entertainment to the nation**

- **THEATRES:** Landmark, The Mall, Royal Plaza

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**The Grinch (2D) 2:45pm; Taxiwala (Telugu) 4:30pm; Robin Hood: Origins (2D) 7pm; Robin Hood: Origins (2D) 9:15pm; Robin Hood: Origins (2D) 11:15pm.
- **Landmark Cinema (1):** The Grinch (2D) 3pm; Robin Hood: Origins (2D) 5pm; Ralph Breaks The Internet: Wreck It Ralph 2 (2D) 7pm; Taxiwala (Telugu) 10pm.
- **Landmark Cinema (2):** Ralph Breaks The Internet: Wreck It Ralph 2 (2D) 2:30pm; Ralph Breaks The Internet: Wreck It Ralph 2 (2D) 4:30pm; Ralph Breaks The Internet: Wreck It Ralph 2 (2D) 6:30pm; Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes Of Grindelwald (2D) 8:30pm; Drama (Malayalam) 11pm.
- **The Mall Cinema (3):** Drama (Malayalam) 2:15pm; Kaatrin Mozhi (Tamil) 5pm; Bel Canto (2D) 7:30pm; Malicious (2D) 9:30pm; Malicious (2D) 11:15pm.
- **Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (1):** Cinderella And The Secret Prince (2D) 3pm; Ralph Breaks The Internet: Wreck It Ralph 2 (2D) 5pm; Robin Hood: Origins (2D) 7pm; Robin Hood: Origins (2D) 9:15pm; Robin Hood: Origins (2D) 11:15pm.
- **Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (2):** Ralph Breaks The Internet: Wreck It Ralph 2 (2D) 2:30pm; Ralph Breaks The Internet: Wreck It Ralph 2 (2D) 4:30pm; Ralph Breaks The Internet: Wreck It Ralph 2 (2D) 6:30pm; Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes Of Grindelwald (2D) 7pm; Malicious (2D) 9:30pm; Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes Of Grindelwald (2D) 11:15pm.
invites all cyclists, runners and walkers to train under the floodlights of Losail International Circuit every Wednesdays.

that illustrate the spread and evolution of ideas throughout the Arab and Islamic world, as well as document interactions between Arabs and the West over the past several centuries. The exhibition features books, manuscripts, historical photographs maps, globes and travellers’ instruments that tell the story of Qatar, along with the history of science, literature, writing, travel in the region, and much more.

The Colour Run
WHERE: QNCC
WHEN: January 26
TIME: 8.30am
Celebrate the hero in you in a realm where nothing is impossible and you are unstoppable. Soar to new heights in the all-new Super Zone and suit up in gear fit for only the most super of heroes as you collect your medal at the Finish Line! 2019 will also include the Foam Zone. Gates will open at 7 am on January 26 for our first Color Runners setting off at 8.30am.

After School Activities
WHERE: Atelier
WHEN: Ongoing
Music and arts Activities for students taking place after they finish their day in school includes Group Music lessons, Hip-hop, Ballet, Drawing and Painting, Drama Theatre & Taekwondo. Ages between 5 and 10 years old after school hours.

Hobby Classes
WHERE: Mystic Arts Centre behind Al Hilal Focus Medical Centre
WHEN: Wednesday – Monday
Mystic Art Centre, is a holistic performing arts institution and a one stop solution for adults as well as children looking to explore their talents in various art forms. We offer classes in Carnatic Music, Hindustani Music, Karate, Yoga, Zumba, Classical Dance, Salsa, Hip Hop, contemporary and Bollywood dance forms. For details, call 33897609.

Dance and instrument classes
WHERE: TCA Campus, Behind Gulf Times Building
WHEN: Wednesday – Monday
Learn the movements of dance styles in Bollywood, Hip Hop and also the musical instruments such as Piano, Guitar, Keyboard for adults as well kids and move in the world of music. For details, contact 66523873/31326749.

Compiled by Nausheen Shaikh. E-mail: gtlisting@gmail.com. Events and timings subject to change
Fashion statement

Fashion accounts for nearly 20% of Pakistan’s exports, and with social media influencers hungry for the next big thing, western stars are looking east for inspiration: supermodel Gigi Hadid recently hit the headlines when she wore a traditional Pakistani outfit, writes Alia Waheed.

Young women in Pakistan are more educated, well-travelled and independent than ever before. Middle-class women are very career-orientated and their spending power is very strong.

— Adnan Ansari, fashion entrepreneur

In the luxurious surroundings of a top hotel, a parade of glamorous, impossibly slim women walk with gazelle-like grace down the catwalk. Bare midriffs and legs are proudly displayed in intricately embroidered golden fabrics, and there’s a veil in sight. This is Pakistan Fashion Week, the jewel in the country’s haute couture crown and an unrivalled glimpse into a creative industry that has surged in recent years.

“The religious identity that is given to our country to some extent precedes the cultural identity. Many things that are beautiful in our culture are often suppressed and not prominent to their full extent at times,” says the fashion designer Fahad Hussayn.

“There is a clash between the religious right and the cosmopolitan youth.” In Pakistan itself, the location...
The renaissance of Pakistani fashion in the past five years has been the result of a seismic cultural shift where women are becoming more educated and independent with increased access to opportunities in the workplace, and many are expressing their new-found socio-cultural freedom and economic power through fashion.

The liberal attitude has filtered in advance and they are subject to strict security measures. The industry has become a battleground between the religious right, desperate to maintain its influence, and the growing strength of young people, particularly the burgeoning middle classes, with women at the forefront of the battle for Pakistan’s cultural identity.

“It’s sad to see the kind of image that Pakistan has in the west. It’s a country that’s full of art, music and creativity and there are lots of talented people here that nobody gets to hear about. All we hear about is the political turmoil and the religious issues. Everyone thinks it’s all bombs and burqas,” says Adnan Ansari, the celebrity make-up artist and fashion entrepreneur who eight years ago set up Pakistan Fashion Week.

“People think the women are very oppressed, but we have a very strong cultural identity which is represented by our clothes. It’s not so much about projecting a positive image, but more a case of projecting a real image of what we are.”

The renaissance of Pakistani fashion in the past five years has been the result of a seismic cultural shift where women are becoming more educated and independent with increased access to opportunities in the workplace, and many are expressing their new-found socio-cultural freedom and economic power through fashion. Much of this has been fuelled by the boom in social media — to the chagrin of the religious conservatives who feel they are being influenced by the Kardashians.

Fashion accounts for nearly 20% of the country’s exports, and with social media influencers hungry for the next big thing, western stars are looking east for inspiration: the supermodel Gigi Hadid hit the headlines in August when she posted a picture of herself on Instagram wearing a traditional Pakistani outfit from the brand Almirah.

“Young women in Pakistan are more educated, well-travelled and independent than ever before,” says Ansari. “Middle-class women are very career-oriented and their spending power is very strong. They are very influenced by western media like Netflix and what they see online.”

The liberal attitude has filtered from the catwalk into colleges via Instagram with many young women choosing to forgo the traditional Pakistani shalwar kameez consisting of tunic and loose trousers for jeans and western styles. Consequently, the fashion industry has attracted the ire of the increasingly vocal religious conservatives who see this cultural shift as a threat to their authority.

In the work place, and many are expressing their new-found socio-cultural freedom and increased access to opportunities, women are taking a stance and assert their power through fashion. "Fashion is criticised in our part of the world, where some parts of society are more conservative,” says the designer, Aisim Jola, who is considered the Pakistani equivalent of Gianni Versace, thanks to his regal and geometric embroidery. “Society is becoming more liberal and women are driving this. This change is reflected in our fashion, but it is going to be contentious for some conservatives because it shows their power is waning.”

Sometimes the clash in visions proves more than just contentious. Qandeel Baloch, a model who was regularly targeted for her controversial fashion choices, was killed by her brother in 2016. Her death came after she revealed that she had a flirtatious meeting with a cleric. “People want change to come because the religious extremists don’t allow you to feel safe. It is very scary and painful and there is a real divide. Everyone is sick of it,” says the model, Hira Shah, 25. “Pakistan is changing a lot though and if we are going to change mindsets, we have to be strong.”

The trend towards more cosmopolitan fashion is part of a cycle. “Pakistan fashion was very liberal in the 60s and early 70s, but there was a real crackdown under General Zia, who stamped a very religious identity on Pakistan. Women’s bodies were policed through Shariah law and through the media. This started to change in the 90s, but even today there is still the tension between the religious conservatives and the image of women,” said Amina Yaqin, a senior lecturer in post-colonial studies at SOAS.

“The tension you see now is that women are taking a stance and want the freedom to wear what they want, but it is not freely available to all women because of a complex network of systems such as class, economic mobility and honour issues. “The new generation from the middle classes are fed up and don’t want to be restricted, and as they become more visible it starts to matter to them. The question is whether this power is real or just being offered for consumption by the fashion industry.” — The Guardian
DMS organises a public talk by Sister Shivani

Around 850 people recently attended a public talk ‘Awakening Health, Harmony, and Happiness’ by Sister Shivani, India’s most sought after motivational speaker, at DPS-Modern Indian School (DPS-MIS). P Kumaran, Ambassador of India, was the chief guest at the event.

The event was organised by Doha Meditation Space, in association with the Embassy of India, to promote India’s ancient cultural and social heritage and practices to enhance one’s experience of the three Hs: including health, harmony and happiness.

Sister Shivani said that in order to improve our performance at work or at home, we take a pause, reflect and then change. Similarly, we also need to pause, reflect on our thoughts and look for improvement within. This, in simple terms, is meditation. “While situations may not be fully in my control, my thoughts and hence responses and emotions are always fully under my control,” she said. “Thoughts create my reality, thus I need to watch the frequency of my thoughts. I also need to watch the frequency of the words I use. Words including ‘problem’, ‘busy’ and ‘angry’ are low frequency and have to be transformed into words that reflect the outcome that we want, such as ‘I am successful’, ‘I have all the time I need’, and ‘I am peaceful’. This may seem wishful in the beginning, but as I begin using these words, and start believing in them, they will certainly become my reality. This way, I not only will begin the journey towards happiness and harmony but they also impact my health because every thought I create radiates through my body,” she said.

P Kumaran in his address commended the talks of Sister Shivani especially how she inspires and guides others to create a positive mindset.

Sister Jyoti, Adviser to Doha Meditation Space, encouraged everyone to take the opportunities available to lead a healthy and happy lifestyle through the meditation programmes being offered by DMS.

DPS-MIS students excel in Sirat-Un Nabi Competition 2018

The students of DPS-Modern Indian School (DPS-MIS) recenty participated in Sirat-Un Nabi Inter School Elocution and Holy Qur’an Recitation Competition 2018 hosted by MES Indian School. The competition was divided into categories, including Senior and Juniors. Eight schools participated in the competition. Jayeda Aziz, a student of Grade IX at DPS-MIS, bagged third position in the senior category of Elocution competition. She was felicitated with a trophy and certificate of appreciation. Asna Nafees, Principal of DPS-MIS, congratulated the winner.

HBKU Press publishes titles to launch at DIBF 2018

Hamad Bin Khalifa University Press (HBKU Press) recently launched a list of books for Doha International Book Fair (DIBF). The books also include children’s fiction and non-fiction.

HBKU Press has also acquired the rights to translate all eight books of Kazuo Ishiguro, Winner of 2017 Nobel Prize in Literature, into Arabic. In addition to the Arabic version of An Artist of the Floating World, which HBKU Press launched at last year’s DIBF, HBKU Press will launch the translations of books including The Remains Of The Day, When We Were Orphans, The Buried Giant and Nocturnes.

In the academics genre, the books that would be launched includes In The Architecture of Dead Cities, written by Nasser al-Rabat; Historians and Historical Writing in the Arabian Peninsula, by Dr Mohammed Abdullah al-Zareer; and The Experience of the Justice and Development Party in Governance, and The Presidential System and Political Reform in Turkey.

The books are scheduled to be launched at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Centre on 29 November 2018.
TRAQ organises Ladies Meet

Thiruvananthapuram District Residents Association Qatar (TRAQ) recently organised a Ladies Meet at Al Waab. The event featured recreational activities including a training session on crochet making. The session was conducted by Seena Manoj, Vidya Selvi and Meera Shaj.

Toastmasters District 116P conducts workshop

Toastmasters District 116P recently conducted a judging workshop at Ibn Khaled Hall of Qatar University. The workshop aimed at training the toastmasters who are keen on taking the role of judges in upcoming annual speech contests. Conducted under the aegis of Toastmasters Leadership Institute, the event was attended by over 100 members. Safeer Aziz, Veteran Toastmaster, gave an insight about the contest and the roles and responsibilities of the judges. Where Baburaj Parakkal spoke about international speech, humorous speech and table topics contests, Sivaprakasam spoke about the evaluation contest. They also explained the judging criteria for different contest categories.

The participants also got a hands-on experience by judging video recording of three international speeches from past semi-finals of World Championship of Public Speaking. The technical support was provided by Shyam Sundar. A panel of experts, including Virendra Nath, Vinod Pisharodi, Manzoor Moideen and Surya Narayanan provided further insights on judging.

In the last segment of the workshop, Philip Cherian highlighted the latest changes in the Toastmasters contest rules and procedures brought in by Toastmasters International and applicable for the 2019 contest cycle. The event was co-ordinated by Pavithra Philip and logistics support was given by Ravikumar. The event was anchored by Sudhanva Vijay.

QAK introduces student leadership programme

Qatar Academy Al Khor (QAK), part of Qatar Foundation’s Pre-University Education, recently launched a brand-new student leadership safety programme titled, ‘QAK Safety Officers’ Club’. The programme offers to students of Grade III-V. It aims to enhance students’ leadership skills, build better communication skills, promote safety awareness, and teach conflict resolution tactics.

As part of the initiative, students are trained by administrative staff and local safety and law enforcement officers. Once training is complete, a Qatari police enforcement representative swears candidates in during an official ceremony. While on duty, the participants wear safety vests and issue citations to those violating the school’s safety rules. The students serve for five weeks and then retire to serve as mentors for the new group. During the academic year, every student from Grade III-V will have the opportunity to be trained and serve as a QAK safety officer.
Heavenly Spa at The Westin Doha has recently bagged a prestigious award during the Ohlala Spa and Wellness Ceremony, which is held annually to select the best in luxury spas in Qatar through public voting, based on categories and services, including best facial, hammam, couples treatment, best spa brand, design, products, beauty and hair salons. According to a press release, among the categories this year, it has been awarded with Favourite Hotel Spa in Doha award, which indicates the importance of service excellence at The Westin. Gianrico Esposito, General Manager of The Westin Doha Hotel and Spa, said, “It is an honour to receive such a significant award which recognises our exceptional services. We would like to thank Ohlala Magazine for showcasing the great effort and service that our team provides.” He added, “Taking this opportunity, I would like to thank our associates who put their very best and our guests who appreciate the value we provide and we strive for more success in the future.”

Banana Island Resort launches the ‘I Love Qatar’ Friday brunch

As a build up to the country’s preparations to mark the Qatar National Day and to share joy on this happy occasion with members of the community, Banana Island Resort Doha has recently launched ‘I Love Qatar’ Friday brunch at its renowned Azraq restaurant. According to a press release, the brunch will be available on 30th November and 7th, 14th and 18th December from 1pm to 4pm. In addition, guests and visitors will experience a unique and exclusive cooking experience. Through the ‘I Love Qatar’ Friday brunch, diners will be treated with fresh produce from local farms. This initiative by the resort is to support local Qatari farmers. Furthermore, to live the unparalleled gastro experience, guests can enjoy the vibrant live cooking stations, a selection of seafood delicacies, marinated meats with herb infused vegetables, which reflect the authentic Qatari taste and the local hospitality, alongside a wide range of appetisers, freshly baked breads and garden greens, hot and cold Mezzeh and finally indulge in a long, sweet ending Qatari dessert. On this occasion, Andreas Haugg, Executive Assistant Manager Food and Beverage, said, “We are delighted to share with members of the community, both local and expats their preparations to celebrate the National Day. The ‘I Love Qatar’ Friday brunch at Azraq restaurant, will offer a unique experience reflecting the hospitality of Qatar to all our guests and visitors.” “The best way to celebrate the Qatar National Day and its accompanying preparations, is to recognise and to contribute in support of Qatari farmers, who play a pivotal role in this generous society, and are vital in securing the requirements of the Qatari market from vegetables to fruits, thereby contributing effectively to the local economic cycle,” he added.

Leminar Qatar organises sports day for blue collar staff

Leminar Air Conditioning Industries (LAI) and Leminar Global Distribution and Services (LGDAS) WLL, a joint venture of Dyarco International Group WLL, recently organised a sports day for their blue-collar staff members. Around 100 employees participated in the event and sports activities, including football tournament, relay and tug of war. Refreshments were provided to all the participants at the end of the event. The concluding ceremony was attended by Chaitra Kumar, General Manager of LGDAS, and Manohar Lal, Branch Manager of LAI. Team A won the football tournament. The teams were felicitated with trophies and medals.
Red Bull Curates is all set to feature Dhow Art. The initiative is dedicated to the appreciation of art and Qatar’s cultural heritage. Red Bull Curates: Dhow Art will be held in partnership with Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al-Thani Museum, Vodafone Qatar and Doha Fire Station.

As an essential aspect of Qatar’s history, the iconic dhow will become the unconventional canvas to a selection of talented artists in the country. Leading as the curator on the initiative Khalifa al-Obaidly, Director of Doha Fire Station, will lead the artists throughout Red Bull Curates: Dhow Art.

According to a press release, the curator has invited 25 artists from all backgrounds and disciplines, to take part in the initiative. Starting with an orientation at Doha Fire Station, the project was introduced to the invitees, giving them insight on everything to expect. The artists proceeded to submit the creative designs that would inspire their dhow art.

“We’re used to the canvas traditionally being an empty space, but now the canvas has transformed into a dhow, presenting a new challenge. Every artist will innovate to find their own way around this challenge as they implement their inspiring art to the boats. I look forward to this truly unique experience, changing the way effects are expressed through art”, said Khalifa al-Obaidly.

On the 23rd of November an announcement dinner was held at the City Centre Rotana Doha. The event was attended by multiple media outlets at which the curator and a jury selected six artists to bring their designs to life. The six artists, include Fahad al-Maadeed, Mubarak al-Malik, Jamila al-Ansari, Noor Abu Issa, Fatima al-Nuaimi and Muna al-Bader. During implementation, the artists will paint, spray and decorate the dhows down to every detail. The artists and their dhows will be showcased at the Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al-Thani Museum on the 14th of December.

Red Bull Curates: Dhow Art is in partnership with Creative Union, Hempel, official media partner I Love Qatar, community partners Qatar Living, What’s Going On Qatar, Qatar Events and hospitality partner City Centre Rotana Doha.

NU-Q announces ‘One Book, One NU-Q’ selection

Northwestern University in Qatar (NU-Q) recently selected Hala Alyan’s debut novel Salt Houses as the campus-wide read for the university’s ‘One Book, One NU-Q’ programme. The novel, which has won several awards, including the Dayton Literary Peace Prize and the Arab-American Book Award, is about a Palestinian family caught between present and past, between displacement and home. “The One Book, One NU-Q programme is a wonderful opportunity for everyone at NU-Q - faculty, students, and staff - to come together as a community to read the same book to celebrate common understandings and differences. This is an important book that speaks to the human condition at a time when migration and the displacement of refugees affects so many,” said Everette E Dennis, Dean of NU-Q.

The book was selected by a committee of faculty, staff, and students led by Haricke Zengos, Senior Associate Dean and the director of the NU-Q Liberal Arts Programme.
Attitudes toward algorithms

Americans express broad concerns over the fairness and effectiveness of computer programs making important decisions in people’s lives.

The percent of U.S. adults who say the following examples of algorithmic decision-making are ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
<th>Acceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal risk assessment for people up for parole</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automated resume screening of job applicants</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automated video analysis of job interviews</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal finance score using many types of consumer data</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Pew Research Center
Graphic: Staff, TNS
Styling for a Sunday brunch

Breakfast is usually a casual affair and often we meet friends and family to catch up with them over brunch. Thus, what you wear should be something that's comfortable and also makes you feel good about yourself. Often, men end up either being too formal or casual at brunches but not anymore.

A little fun fact: Well, if you’re attending a brunch with your friends or relatives, then atmosphere being super casual will let you experiment with different styles. Here, you can spork your cargo pants paired with a white crew neck T-Shirt and sneakers. The other look is to fold the hem of your pants and pair it up with a colour block T-shirt in blue, maroons or a conversational printed T-shirt with khadi pants would also look neat and cool enough to leave an impression amongst your colleagues.

Semi-formal combo: For the formal brunch outing, opt for a formal blazer with a pastel colour polo shirt, navy blue jeans and tassel loafers. A button down shirt with khaki pants is also a good option.

Go for prints: Well, if your friend has invited you over a brunch, then it is time to show the uber cool side of you. Don't keep it too casual to walk in slippers. Choose a half sleeved floral shirt paired with straight pants, throw on a bomber if you may like, put on your favourite shades and you’re good to go.

Layering: With the cold weather setting in, coats, cardigans are good options. They look different and are much more comfortable than blazers and dinner jackets. It’s a good season to layer up and finding good jackets is important for that. Experiment with not just colours and styles but also fabrics like terry, denim, fleece, etc.

Style with sweatshirts: Sweatshirts are a wardrobe staple but something to look out for this season is details, etc make for subtly interesting styles. They make the basics stand out and can be carried with ease.

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**ARIES**
March 21 – April 19

What do you have to lose, Aries? The planets are shaking you in the hopes of ridding you of your old objectives to make way for new growth. You feel doubt where once there was only certainty. When you consider the worst that can happen, it may help you to realise that what you're clinging to really isn't all that important. It’s time to let go and begin anew.

---

**TAURUS**
April 20 – May 20

You aren’t the only one who can solve your problems, Taurus. Trust that there are others who are capable of understanding. Those who want to help you are motivated only by love, with no ulterior motives. It’s in your nature to be skeptical, but these people do exist. And guess what? You could meet one of them today!

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**CANCER**
June 21 – July 22

Get outside and get moving, Cancer! If you can manage to take the day off, this would be a good time to release some energy. You used to enjoy competition when you were little. Remember how exhilarating it was to be the first to the top of the hill? You will find your life greatly enriched if you can find a way to rekindle similar feelings.

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**LEO**
July 23 – August 22

Devote the day to your children or partner, Leo. You may protest that it’s too hard to find the time to give them the attention they deserve. You don’t have time for yourself, much less anyone else. In any case, you will probably feel torn between what is expected of you and what you feel you can realistically give. If you want to dispel the inner tension, take care in the choices you make in the next few weeks.

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**LIBRA**
September 23 – October 22

You’ve been a social butterfly lately, Libra! The sociable phase you’re currently in demands a great deal of energy. You’re attracted to some of your new acquaintances but irritated by others. One in particular causes you real anxiety today. You have two choices. Either abandon your new group of friends entirely, or expel the person who’s causing you trouble.

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**SCORPION**
October 23 – November 21

Your thin skin feels even thinner than usual today, Scorpio. If you happen to witness a violent outburst in the street, at work, or on television, you suddenly become aware of your vulnerability. Don’t let it frighten you into hiding. As one of the few remaining guardians of the world’s dwindling reserves of kindness, you have a responsibility.

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**TAURUS**
April 20 – May 20

Have you noticed how delays seem to occur more often, Gemini? Today will be no exception. Something you’ve been waiting for has been delayed yet again. It may be that the order form got lost or that there was some unforeseeable delay in sending it to you. Even with your mild-mannered Gemini temperament, you’re beginning to be a little irked! Sit tight. All will be resolved shortly.

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**GEMINI**
May 21 – June 20

A friend or family member is slowly poisoning your relationship, Virgo. A misunderstanding between the two of you will ultimately prove beneficial in the long run. Why? It makes you realise how uncomfortable you are with vague, ill-defined relationships. Today would be a good day to write a letter to the person in question. You’re likely to find the results gratifying.

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**SCORPION**
October 23 – November 21

People sometimes say that you’re a little aggressive in your approach, Sagittarius. But today you feel a little tired of leading the charge on the battlefield. You can learn a lot from your friends who can teach you to think of things in relative terms without allowing yourself to become emotionally involved in every situation. Try to relax for a change!

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**CAPRICORN**
December 22 – January 19

You may be a bit oversensitive today, Capricorn. It’s possible that you will be irritable and conflicted as you begin to suspect that long-term projects may not be finished. The time has come to take stock. There is a likely a good reason that you’ve been unable to complete that project you undertook several months ago. Advice from others should steer you in the right direction.

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**CAPRICORN**
December 22 – January 19

There’s no point in trying to make sense of today, Aquarius. Much of what happens occurs on an unconscious level and defies any rational explanation. You may have had a dream last night worthy of professional interpretation. If you can bear turning off your intellect, this could be a very profitable day for you.

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**aquarius**
January 20 – February 18

This is a confusing period for all of us, Pisces. But no doubt you’ve noticed this. In such circumstances, some people become more rigid than ever because they resist dramatic change. They try to hold on to tradition. Your Pisces sensitivity makes you very receptive to the past, but current conditions should inspire you to let go of some of your convictions.
**Wordsearch**

```
G V S C O Y T A E R T B N D S
C A E X A L E R F Y T S E R
H A V E N H E V F R C M U E C
S O C L L E W I A G O A P B E
D R G T T H I U T G U O L O A
E A R M I S T I C E S O S M S
B F P F S C H R H E P V Y O E
M E G T N E E A A E F S L A F
X R V A D E R R R N H T G E I
F A S C R I C E U M Q B F C R
S G P C O P L A N C O U G N E
U I S O C C M T E E E N I E F
C T N R N Y E C M P N S Y L C
T C P D O W N A B E N M O I B
H T P Y C R L P Y A M D H S M
```

**Codeword**

Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once. Squares with the same number in have the same letter in. Work out which number represents which letter.

**Sudoku**

```
6 7 8 2
9 2 5
8 1 4
6 4 8 1
5 1 9
3 8 4 3
7 6 9
2 8
```

**GARFIELD**

```
L I F E H A S I T S
U P S A N D D O W N S
```

**BORDER**

```
C A N A D I A N
B O R D E R
```

**PEACE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accord</th>
<th>Haven</th>
<th>Sanctuary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accord</td>
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<td>Sanctuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Peace</td>
<td>Silence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calm</td>
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<td>Secure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ceasefire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>Relax</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dove</td>
<td>Repose</td>
<td>Treaty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmony</td>
<td>Rest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sudoku**

```
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6
7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7
8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8
9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9
```

**Codeword**

```
PEACE ACCORD
ACCORD PEACE
ARMISTICE RELAX
ARMISTICE RELAX
CALM CONCORD
CALM CONCORD
CEASEFIRE DOVE
CEASEFIRE DOVE
CONCORD DOVE
CONCORD DOVE
DOVE DOVE
DOVE DOVE
HARMONY HARMONY
HARMONY HARMONY
```

**Sudoku**

```
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6
7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7
8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8
9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9
```
Super Cryptic Clues

ACROSS
1. Either really great or absolutely awful (9)
6. Very little difference (5)
9. Tells one how old the fruit is? (5)
10. You must be, to have it (9)
11. Have a drink with the people getting off the boat: foreigners (10)
12. Said 'It’s as far up as you can go, pet' (4)
14. Fancy you’ll do better with the pudding (7)
15. On the day, teased about being so very keen (4,3)
17. Horses held in by servicemen (7)
19. New and not yet harassed? (7)
20. A quarter to a half inch apiece (4)
22. Pretty girl popular with search parties? (4-6)
25. Having a rival cheat one, getting sore (9)
26. Rocks are things fishermen know all about (5)
27. Go through the letters for a while (5)
28. Food for five, the last one gets (9)

DOWN
1. The sea-man’s award (5)
2. A sheet of music? (9)
3. Thanks to Sam, Ann is going out with Australians (10)
4. Late deliveries awaited (7)
5. Got mixed up with a revolutionary who’d gone to jail (7)
6. Position one inset wrongly (4)
7. Getting a line, called one on leaving (5)
8. Introduced as ‘The editor we now have’ (9)
9. What finally satisfied one’s hunger for knowledge? (4,6)
10. Begins making a scene, having caught mom out (9)
11. What the villain who fell into the vat of glue came to? (6,3)
12. Rose left one waiting at the rendezvous (5,2)
13. Endure but don’t overcome? (7)
16. Turning again to the gentleman on the stair (5)
18. Gracious me, it’s spring! (4)

Answers

Wordsearch

Codeword

Yesterday's Solutions

Across: 1 Roused; 4 Sprinter; 10 Bleated; 11 Letters; 12 Look; 13 Master-mind; 16 Earwig; 17 Barrage; 20 Bootees; 21 Strove; 24 Reflection; 25 Thus; 27 Furlong; 29 Captain; 30 Stocking; 31 States.

Down: 1 Rebelled; 2 Use your loaf; 3 Eats; 5 Palatial; 6 Interprets; 7 Tie; 8 Reside; 9 Ideal; 14 In good heart; 15 Little rock; 18 Pentagon; 19 Peasants; 22 Drifts; 23 Touch; 26 Spot; 28 Rio.
Metro Boomin wants not to be predictable

By Geoffrey Rowlands

ost record producers will freely admit their aspiration to be a performer before settling for production work. There are only a handful who quickly realise their special talent is in the studio rather than on stage.

St. Louis native Leland Tyler Wayne fits neatly into this category. The 25-year-old is better known now as Metro Boomin. As a child, young Leland found production was much more enjoyable than rapping.

“I got into the idea of being a rapper through Nelly’s Country Grammar album. Nelly was also from St. Louis and listening to his songs made me want to be the next big-name rapper from our city.

“I was already into playing music. I played bass guitar in seventh grade band class at school. I got into production after my mom bought me a computer for Christmas. Friends told me about this FruityLoops software which was a free download and could be used to create songs.

“The problem was I needed some beats to rap over and didn’t have the money to buy any. I started trying to make my own beats and found this was a much more interesting and fun way to spend my time rather than trying to rap.”

He soon realised there were far more people who wanted to rap than wanted to produce. These prospective rappers needed beats and he could provide them. In high school, he was creating four or five beats virtually every day.

“Everything was going well but my mom had an academic career planned out for me. I knew it wouldn’t be easy to convince her my future lay in music production. I put together a document filled with what I’d already achieved and the online research I’d done on the artists I wanted to work with. Mom gave me her blessing so long as I stayed in school.

“Atlanta’s hip hop scene had really taken off at that time. I’d used social media to connect with those southern rappers who were looking for beats. My mom could see I was really starting to make it in production and drove me between St. Louis and Atlanta, about 17 hours, so that I could work with these artists on weekends. I was in the studio on weekends with people like OJ Da Juiceman and Gucci Mane and then back in high school on Monday morning.

“It was OJ Da Juiceman’s enthusiasm for his work which effectively gave Leland his professional name.

“I’d called myself Metro. That came from the name of a bus line in St. Louis. But OJ kept saying my beats were booming. I liked the idea of having two names rather than just the one so I changed from Metro to Metro Boomin.

“In 2012, Leland gained a place at Morehouse College in Atlanta. He was now on hand to work with local artists but still emphasised his education by only working in the studio during his free time. Things came to a head when Karate Chop, his collaboration with Future, became a big hit.

“I made the beat when I was still in St. Louis. I didn’t particularly like it. Future actually did the rap for Karate Chop when I wasn’t in the studio with him.

“He played me the track and I still didn’t like it even with the lyrics. He kept playing it for everyone who came to the studio. It didn’t grow on me, no matter how many times I heard the song. I was very pleased that so many other people had a completely different view.”

The ever increasing demand for Leland’s beats prompted a difficult phone call to his mother.

“I’d go to the studio after class, not just at weekends. I would often be working long after midnight and then have to get up early to go to class. Add in all the homework and it was just too much.

“I knew I had to choose between college and music. I called my mom and told her I wanted to take a semester off. She was not happy. At the time, it was just going to be a semester rather than completely leaving college so that didn’t sound so bad. But mom has always been my biggest supporter and I’m so happy to able to give her all the things she deserves.”

“He is able to do so because, nearly six years later, Metro Boomin is acknowledged as hip hop’s premier producer. He has worked with almost every major name in the genre. Drake, Kanye West, The Weekend and Travis Scott are just a few of these artists.

He has also released music under his own name. But apart from the 2013 mixtape, IO & Boomin, everything has been in collaboration with other artists. He enjoyed a pair of massive hit albums on the Billboard 200 last year. But Without Wurking was a collaboration with Offset and 21 Savage while Double or Nothing was with Big Sean.

Now though, Metro Boomin has finally released his debut solo album. Not All Heroes Wear Capes has proved hugely successful. It debuted at number one on the Top Rap Albums chart, the Top R&B / Hip Hop Albums chart and the Billboard 200.

Although he has co-written and produced or co-produced every track, it does seem a little incongruous to describe the album as a solo record. As with so many other producers, Metro Boomin relies on a collection of artists to provide vocals for each song.

Not that he is concerned about how the album is described. His only objective is to keep producing quality material.

“I always want to keep moving forward. People probably won’t understand this but I’ve never really felt like I’ve made it. I just think I’ve made a good start to my career but there is still so much more to do. I always try not to be predictable. I try to be versatile and to keep breaking new ground in the field of production. I want to create songs which will live forever.”

Cardi B

Music stars can become extremely wealthy but it takes a while for the money to reach them when they start out in the business.

So, it is that only now has rap star Cardi B been able to enjoy what she described as the happiest day of her life. Her delight came about from buying a dream home in New York for her mother. Cardi shared her joy with fans by posting a video on her Instagram page showing a walk-through of her mother’s new house.

“I was so thirsty to buy a house for my mom last year,” she said. “But the kind of house I wanted her to have wasn’t in my price range at the time. I worked and worked to make the extra money and now I’m here. Thank you to everybody who supported me to make my childhood dream come true.

In other news, Cardi’s income received a considerable boost from the sales of her first clothing collection. She teamed with the Fashion Nova company to create 82 pieces which proved so popular that they sold out in minutes. The sales reportedly earned Cardi $10 million.

“Fashion Nova gave me the opportunity to design whatever I liked,” she stated. “I wanted people to look good and end but at an affordable price.”
Feeling inferior in a good way: KJo

Bollywood filmmaker Karan Johar, who is gearing up for the release of Tamil entertainer 2.0 as a film distributor, says the southern film industry has made Hindi movie makers feel inferior in a good way.

Johar was interacting with the media at a press conference on 2.0 along with film’s antagonist Akshay Kumar and director S Shankar here on Saturday.

South Indian cinema has been always ahead in terms of budget, scale and technology. Asked about how Bollywood needs to up its game, Johar said: “I think the great moves of many of the filmmakers in the south have encouraged that movement even in Hindi cinema. I think it is because there is a 2.0 and there was a Robot and a Bahubali, that there will be cinema spectacles which will actually follow them.”

“We had the gumption, glory and guts to make it because we have seen the success. In many ways, the southern film industry has pioneered this movement of meeting narrative and technology for, like, decades. They get their stories, emotions, scale and technology bang on.”

Johar said the southern film industry has made Hindi filmmakers feel inferior, but in a positive way.

“Some of us get stuck in a rut. We don’t get out of that rut. We believe that we are in a safe spot but the truth is that we are not. They have taught us and made us feel inferior in a good way. I say that with positivity because it encourages us to do much better. So far, we had very few big events in the last decade mainly by filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali who has given beautiful cinema spectacles. But now, you will see a flurry and a plethora of them and for that, thanks to the southern film industry.”

“So, more power. And may the force of technology, narrative, emotion and success always be with them.”

Men must change mentality for women to feel safe: Farhan Akhtar

Actor-filmmaker Farhan Akhtar on Sunday – the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women – launched a short film She, which takes a look at the various forms of violence perpetrated against women. He says a safer environment for women will be possible when men change their mentality and behaviour.

Farhan’s MARD (Men Against Rape and Discrimination), filmmaker Peroo Abbas Khan and Population Foundation of India (PFI) jointly released the three-minute short film online.

“For women to feel safe in our society, it is important that men change their mentality and behaviour. This short film She gives the other perspective – of how ignorant men are about this violence. It is imperative that men understand the humiliation that women go through. Only then will they truly make an effort to change,” Farhan said in a statement.

Khan, the film’s creative lead, added: “Men feel entitled to perpetuate violence against women. They feel it is their right. Director Ranjeeta Kaur exposes that entitlement in She.”

PFI Executive Director Poonam Muttreja said: “Though more women are now finding the courage to speak out and report abuse, a large part of society still normalises such crimes, until it reaches the point of really heinous forms of violence. Men need to recognise that the everyday forms of violence and violation faced by women are no less harmful.”

CANDID: Karian Johar says the southern film industry has made Hindi movie makers feel inferior in a good way.

VOCAL: Farhan Akhtar on International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women launched a short film She.
Urdu poetry attracts non-native speakers

By Mudassir Raja

Charms of Urdu poetry continue to spellbound millions of people around the world. The creative works in the language find its true expression in the countries and among people where Urdu is not the first language.

Alok Kumar Srivastava, pseudonym Shaz Jahani, is a poet who learnt the language primarily after falling in love with Urdu poetry. He also learnt Urdu transcript much later in his life only to understand and appreciate the poetry of classic Urdu writers. His enthusiasm and craving for the language and creative skills are recognised in India.

Alok is currently in Qatar and Community caught up with him to talk about his life and works.

Tell us about yourself

I’m 70 years old and come from Noida, Uttar Pradesh in India. My mother tongue is Hindi. I have a son who lives in London and a daughter in Qatar. I did my Masters in Physics from Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur. I joined the Indian Air Force in 1972 and worked in its meteorological branch. I retired as a Group Captain in 2005. After my retirement, I had stints as a registrar with a university, as a chief administrative officer in a private company, and then, as a consultant meteorologist at Indigo Airlines.

How and when did your love for Urdu poetry start?

I come from a Hindu background and I know Devanagari script. Like many other boys of my age, I was very fond of movies and songs. I could understand and appreciate the movie dialogues and songs as they were mostly in Urdu, but I did not know the Urdu script back then.

My first ever introduction to real and classic Urdu poetry was in 1966 when I completed my graduation from Jabalpur University. On one occasion, just to pass time during a train journey, I bought a copy of Devanagari script. I was totally unfamiliar with the words. Fortunately, the meanings of most of the words were available in the book, but I had to check the meaning of almost each word. I could cover only nine pages. However, this effort was so enjoyable and educative that I could not leave the book thereafter. Then, I regularly started buying Urdu poetry books in Devanagari script.

When did you start writing your own poetry?

After joining the air force, there was a lull in my life only to understand and appreciate the true essence of the poetry. I had a dictionary for Urdu synonyms and it was there when I started writing my own poetry. I started writing ghazals but I did not know Devanagari script. It made my search for Urdu words easier. I started writing ghazals but I did not know the Urdu script. I also had no idea of basic essentials of the Urdu prosody. Obviously, there were flaws in my initial writings.

I do not dislike modern thought and techniques, but my heart is in traditional and classical poetry. I have been active on different literary groups on the social media. The digital literary groups have given a fillip to Urdu poetry and its beauty.

What kind of poetry you like the most?

I belong to the school of classical Urdu poetry lovers. I enjoy and respect the works of poets like Ghalib, Dagh, Josh, Faiz, Iqbal, Jigar, Shakeel, Sahir etc. I have had the good fortune of sharing the stage with many poets belonging to the classical school.

I do not dislike modern thought and techniques, but my heart is in traditional and classical poetry. I have been active on different literary groups on the social media. The digital literary groups have given a fillip to Urdu poetry and its beauty.

What are your future plans?

I will keep writing poetry and reading classic poets. I enjoy social media groups that help me improve my work. It helps improve my verses. I do not have a plan to publish a book but I will, however, compile a digital book.

How do you see the future of Urdu poetry?

It has a very bright future. It is melodious and sweet. Many people are creating excellent works not only in India and Pakistan, but also in other countries of the world.

I have been visiting London and Doha regularly to see my children. I see lots of Urdu literary activities happening in both the cities. I have met some very good writers in Doha. The city is also known for hosting these literary gatherings. I love to be around here.