**New version**

How the *Aladdin* remake redefines a Disney princess with Naomi Scott's Jasmine. **P4-5**

**Cover Story**

Pop Spot

Whitesnake's *Flesh & Blood* soars to No. 7 on UK chart.

Page 11

Back Page

A kind gesture in Ramadan.

Page 16
PRAYER TIME

Fajr 3.16am
Shoroq (sunrise) 4.46am
Zuhr (noon) 11.32am
Azr (afternoon) 2.57pm
Maghreb (sunset) 6.20pm
Isha (night) 7.50pm

USEFUL NUMBERS

Emergency 999
Worldwide Emergency Number 112
Kahramaa – Electricity and Water 901
Local Directory 180
International Calls Enquires 150
Hamad International Airport 40106666
Labor Department 44508111, 44406537
Mowasalat Taxi 44988888
Qatar Airways 44490000
Hamad Medical Corporation 44392222, 44393333
Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation 44454955, 44454664
Primary Health Care Corporation 44453333, 44453363
Qatar Assistive Technology Centre 44594050
Qatar News Agency 44490205, 44490206
Q-Post – General Postal Corporation 44464444

Humanitarian Services Office
(Single window facility for the repatriation of bodies)
Ministry of Interior 40253371, 40253372, 40253369
Ministry of Health 40253370, 40253364, 40253365
Hamad Medical Corporation 40253364, 40253365
Qatar Airways 40253374

Quote Unquote

“If we open a quarrel between past and present, we shall find that we have lost the future.”
—Winston Churchill

Community Editor
Kamran Rehmat
E-mail: community@gulf-times.com
Telephone: 44466405
Fax: 44350474

Neeya 2
DIRECTOR: Suresh
CAST: Jai, Varalaxmi Sarathkumar, Raai Laxmi
SYNOPSIS: A sequel to the hit 1979 film of the same name, by Dr Andre Mason are looking to perfect a drug which will allow its users to make contact with the other side, thus hopefully confirming life after death. The researchers set up shop in a rundown home in the Los Angeles outskirts and prepare to experiment on themselves.
THEATRE: Royal Plaza

Discarnate
DIRECTOR: Mario Sorrenti
CAST: Thomas Kretschmann, Nadine Velazquez, Bex Taylor-Klaus
SYNOPSIS: A neuroscientist’s obsession with a drug that expands the human mind inadvertently unleashes a deadly supernatural force on his team. A group of scientists, headed
THEATRE: Royal Plaza

THE MALL CINEMA (1):
Chandigarh Amritsar Chandigarh (Punjabi) 3pm;
Aladdin (2D) 9pm; Neeya 2 (Tamil) 11:15pm.

THE MALL CINEMA (2):
Aladdin (2D) 2:30pm;
Aladdin (2D) 8:30pm;
Aladdin (2D) 11pm.

THE MALL CINEMA (3):
Sita (Telugu) 2:15pm; Ishq (Malayalam) 8:30pm;
Avengers: Endgame (2D) 11pm.

LANDMARK CINEMA (1):
Muklawa (Punjabi) 3pm;
De De Pyaar De (Hindi) 9pm;
Ishq (Malayalam) 11:30pm.

LANDMARK CINEMA (2):
Aladdin (2D) 2:30pm;
Aladdin (2D) 8:30pm;
Aladdin (2D) 11pm.

LANDMARK CINEMA (3):
Lisaa (Tamil) 3pm; Aladdin (2D) 9:15pm;
Muklawa (Punjabi) 11:30pm.

ROYAL PLAZA CINEMA PALACE (1): Aladdin (2D) 2:30pm;
Aladdin (2D) 8:30pm; Aladdin (2D) 11pm.

ROYAL PLAZA CINEMA PALACE (2): Lisaa (Tamil) 3pm; Aladdin (2D) 9:15pm;
Muklawa (Punjabi) 11:30pm.

ROYAL PLAZA CINEMA PALACE (3): Ishq (Malayalam) 2:30pm;
Discarnate (2D) 9pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 11pm.
Cultural similarities between Qatar and India.

**MATF: Arab Museum of Modern Art**
- **Event:** Ongoing till July 31
- **Time:** 9am – 7pm
- The museum presents Hussain’s pluralist approach to the divine and cosmic aspects of being, articulated through the myths, symbols and narratives of the world’s religions and philosophies. M. F. Hussain: Horses of the Sun bears witness to a recurrent motif in his art, a personal symbol of self-renewal and vitality.

**Katara Drive Thru Festival**
- **Where:** Katara – the Cultural Village
- **When:** Ongoing till June 10
- **Time:** 5pm – 2am
- Join us at Katara – the Cultural Village and enjoy the diverse cuisines at your car step! From first day of Ramadan until Eid holidays starting from 5pm till 2am.

**India to Qatar – Symbiosis of Cultures**
- **Where:** FBQ Museum
- **When:** Ongoing till July 31
- Under the context of cultural exchange, FBQ Museum brings together the treasures of the museum owned collection in order to promote mutual understanding, recognition and appreciation between Qatar and India. Composed of five main topics, including community, trade, arts, food and incense, the exhibition takes one on a journey to explore the rich and diverse Indian cultures, the long historic links between Qatar and India, and cultural similarities between Qatar and India.

**Ballet Lessons**
- **Where:** Music and Arts Atelier
- **When:** Ongoing
- **Time:** 4pm – 8pm
- For more info e-mail at registration@atelierqatar.com or call on 33003839.

**Career Guidance**
- **Where:** Right Track Consultants, Al Sadd
- **When:** Sunday – Thursday
- **Time:** 6pm – 8pm
- Career guidance for course, country, college and entrance for students of Grade IX-XII, of all curriculum. Career assessments administered for stream preference, career test, branch preference, personality, multiple intelligence and learning styles and productivity. For more information, 55448835.

**Arabic Calligraphy Workshop**
- **Where:** Mamangam Performing Art Centre
- **When:** Saturday – Wednesday
- **Time:** 6pm
- Arabic Calligraphy workshop is back. Come and learn the artistic practice of Arabic handwriting and calligraphy at Music and Arts Atelier. The lessons will take place every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday at 6pm. For more information, contact registration@atelierqatar.com.

**Hobby Classes**
- **Where:** Mamangam Performing Art Centre
- **When:** Wednesday – Monday
- Mamangam Performing 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 contemporary, Bollywood, hip hop, Indian classical dance, music (Hindustani and Carnatic), arts and craft, karate, yoga, percussion (Chenda, Thimila, Elathalam and Madhalam), violin, harmonium, public speaking. Additional services include dance education, choreograph music videos and dance cover albums, choreograph dance musical projects, corporate workshops and events, choreograph events for schools, colleges, alumni meets and corporate and choreography events. For details, call 33907609.

**Dance and Instrument Classes**
- **Where:** Theatre & Taekwondo. Ages between 5 and 10 years old after school hours.

**Mataf: Arab Museum of Modern Art**
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**Sunset Desert Safari with Iftar**
- **Where:** Sealine Beach
- **When:** Ongoing
- **Time:** 2pm – 10pm
- Enjoy a day out in the relaxing singing sand dunes of Mesaleed along with a thrilling dune bashing experience. This 8-hour getaway takes you all the way to the breath-taking inland sea beach aka Khor Al Adaid to watch the Sunset. Break your fast with lavish Iftar at the resort. Only for QR280 per person.

**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 and productivity. For more information, 55448835.

**Summer Camp for Special Needs**
- **Where:** Step by Step Centre for Special Needs
- **When:** June 30 – August 1
- **Time:** 8:00am – 12:30pm
- During this time, all therapists and teachers will be working together, running individual, peer and group sessions within classes. The children will continue learning age-appropriate concepts, work on social skills, life skills training, arts and crafts, music, and fun activities such as water play.

**Artistic Gymnastic Classes**
- **Where:** Qatar Academy Msheireb
- **When:** Ongoing
- **Time:** 3:15pm – 4:15pm
- The olympic sport using horizontal bar, rings and floor exercises on mats for the children from age 4 till 10.

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Living the dream

Naomi Scott, who wasn’t even born when 1992’s Aladdin hit the theatres, finds herself bringing three-dimensional life to a character she once pretended to be as a child, writes Josh Rottenberg

In the original movie, as great as it is that she’s fighting for the choice of who she wants to marry, that’s where her ambition kind of stops. In this movie, she’s more ambitious and she looks outside herself. — Naomi Scott

Growing up in England, Naomi Scott, like so many other young girls, fell in love at an early age with Disney’s animated heroines – particularly Mulan, Pocahontas and Jasmine from Aladdin. But while those three are officially part of Disney’s juggernaut princess line of media franchises and toys, alongside the likes of Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Belle and Ariel, it wasn’t their ostensible princess-y trappings that enthralled Scott. It was something deeper.

“I just gravitated toward the characters as opposed to the princess side of it,” Scott said on a recent afternoon in a Beverly Hills hotel suite, wrapped in a white bathrobe at the end of a long day of interviews to promote Disney’s new live-action remake of Aladdin, in which she plays Jasmine. “At the end of the day, that’s what girls will gravitate towards: that person, that human.”

The 26-year-old Scott wasn’t even born when 1992’s Aladdin hit theatres, one of a string of hits that fuelled Disney’s ’90s animated renaissance. Now the actress and singer finds herself bringing three-dimensional life to a character she once pretended to be as a child,
This is a Jasmine for the era of female presidential candidates and the #MeToo movement, reflecting broader societal shifts in gender norms and expectations over the past 27 years.

According to a 2016 study by linguists at Pitzer College and North Carolina State University that analysed the gender breakdown of dialogue in numerous Disney movies, male characters delivered some 90% of the lines in the original Aladdin. (Much of that disparity was no doubt accounted for by Robin Williams’ famouslymotor-mouthed performance as the Genie.)

To help address that imbalance and further flesh out Jasmine’s more empowered character, Aladdin composer Alan Menken, in collaboration with the songwriting duo of Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, wrote a song for Scott to perform, a soaring power ballad called Speechless in which Jasmine expresses her desire to unleash her voice.

“We were really inspired by a line in the original movie where Jafar very misogynistically says, ‘You’re speechless, I see. A fine quality in a wife,’” said Pasek. “In the world that we live in, so many people need to reclaim their voice — or claim it for the first time — and be outspoken about who they are and what they believe in. It was a really exciting opportunity to put that message into the voice of Jasmine.”

Crafting the song’s lyrics in mid-2017, months before the Harvey Weinstein sexual misconduct scandal broke, Pasek and Paul couldn’t have foreseen how they would soon resonate with the zeitgeist. “The song was written before the Time’s Up movement,” said Paul. “I think it’s just confirmation that this has been an age-old struggle for people who have felt marginalised and continue to be.”

Highlighting the perils of reimagining a beloved classic, the new Aladdin has faced multiple criticisms on the road to the screen. After the film’s first trailer dropped, many faulted the look of Will Smith’s Genie, while others complained about the casting of Marwan Kenzari as the villainous Jafar, deeming the actor too menacing. The casting of Scott as Jasmine has not been free of controversy either. Though Agrabah is a fictional country, some took to social media to decry the casting of Scott, arguing that the actress, who is of Gujarati-Indian and British descent, was taking a role that should have gone to a Middle Eastern actress.

“Aladdin is being criticism from all sides — it’s a good learning curve.”

“You have to just be comfortable with knowing in yourself what you’re doing and not allow outside voices to get into this part,” she said, pointing to her heart. “I’m very proud of this movie and how diverse our cast is and what it represents and the message of the movie. Everyone is entitled to their opinion. I didn’t look too much to the left or right or listen to what people were saying. You can’t get into that habit, can you?”

Even as she waits to see what audiences make of her fresh take on Jasmine, Scott is already looking ahead to another breakout role later this year as one of the stars in Elizabeth Banks’ Charlie’s Angels reboot and cultivating a parallel career as a singer-songwriter. Not unlike Jasmine, she has ambitions that won’t be stifled or contained.

“I love the breaking down of walls that someone like Donald Glover does,” Scott said. “I’m definitely not someone who wants to stay in a box. If you put me in it, I’m probably going to break it down anyway. So you might as well just let me run free.”

—Los Angeles Times/TNS
IAP celebrates Garangao Festival for kids

Ibn Ajayan Projects (IAP) recently celebrated Garangao Festival for Kids at Asian Town. Over 100 children of various nationalities participated in the celebrations. The event featured various competitions, including drawing, painting, and story telling competition. This is the fifth time IAP organised Garangao Festival. The young winners were awarded certificates and traditional Garangao bags. The competition was held in three categories. The Junior Category included participants from age group 3 to 6. Sofia Shereen Shaikh won the first prize, which was followed by Bhubi Menhar, second; and Zaida Zara Rasik with second and third positions, respectively. The winners in the Sub Junior Category, included Viha Banath, first position; Shamitha Adiga, second and Ziya Fatima Rasik, third position. The winners in the Senior Category, included Jhalak Akthi_Akthi Banat, first position, Marina Minar, second, and Pranav Sai, third. Ziya Fatima Rasik bagged first position in Storytelling Competition, which was followed by Asfa Zoey Shahid and S Varsha with second and third positions, respectively. The event also featured face painting, photography booth, henna art and cartoon show.

CISD named as one of Newsweek’s ‘IB Noteworthy Schools of 2019’

Compass International School Doha (CISD) has recently been named as one of Newsweek’s ‘International Baccalaureate (IB) Noteworthy Schools of 2019’. This is the third year in a row that Compass International School Doha has been named in the prestigious category by premier news magazine Newsweek. Celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2018, the IB is taught to over 14 million students at over 5,000 schools in 153 countries. The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) is highly valued by universities for its capacity to develop a student’s academic and personal potential. IBDP prepares students for 21st century skills including global mindedness, cultural sensitivity, leadership, teamwork, problem-solving and critical thinking. Dr Terry Creissen OBE, Executive Principal of Compass International School Doha said, “I am delighted that Compass International School Doha has been recognised as one of Newsweek’s ‘International Baccalaureate Noteworthy Schools’ for the third time in succession. This programme offers our students the best possible international education and inspires them to continue to be ambitious in their studies at leading universities around the world.”

Georgetown Professor retires after 12 years of service

After a twelve year tenure at Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q), Abbas al-Tonsi, Senior Language Instructor, will retire home to Cairo, Egypt this year, leaving behind an innovative and thriving Arabic programme tailored to the needs of Arab students. Abbas al-Tonsi came to GU-Q in 2007, already the co-author of some of the most globally recognised Arabic language text books for non-native speakers. At the time he had little idea that he would soon be developing a whole new system for teaching Arabic to Arab students. When the Doha campus opened in 2005, it offered the same Arabic courses as those offered at the main campus in Washington, DC. However, al-Tonsi quickly realised that many enrolled Arab students attended foreign international schools and think in English, having to translate their thoughts in order to speak Arabic. In addition, white they may speak a dialect of the language, they cannot use professional-grade Modern Standard Arabic, or MSA. Furthermore, many of their teachers were specifically trained in teaching non-native speakers. Recognising the need for a whole new approach to teaching and learning tailored to heritage Arabic speakers, al-Tonsi worked with his colleagues to transform the curriculum, developing a separate learning track called the Program Learners Program— a groundbreaking Arabic language initiative that includes lessons in Arabic culture and the arts, and addresses the unique native speaking profile of many Arabic language students in Qatar. According to al-Tonsi, the gaps addressed by the Georgetown curriculum also plague Arab education across the Arab world. “In the past, members of educated society have been able to speak and extemporise fluently in MSA. But now lawyers speak using the colloquial and judges make mistakes in the MSA when reading the texts of rulings,” he adds. “All of us, to a varying degree, are heritage learners. Most of us think in dialects and then translate into MSA.”

Dr Yehia Mohamed, Associate Professor of Arabic at GU-Q, worked on the project with al-Tonsi from the beginning. “During his leadership the programme has expanded to become one of the most important Arabic education programmes in the region and the world,” says Yehia. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Ahmed Dalal, Dean of GU-Q, said, “I was honoured to be a member of the selection committee that appointed him to GU-Q in 2007. We are proud to have had him lay down solid foundations of such a notable educational programme.” Al-Tonsi said, “Today, there is no other place that offers the study of Arabic for heritage learners consistently, as part of the standard course offering each semester. We started with only two professors and now we are at nine. We started with one class and now we have multiple classes focused on content for advanced levels, conversational speech, literature, culture, cinema, and linguistics.”

Post retirement, al-Tonsi plans on continuing working on the Arabic textbooks used in classrooms all over the world. “Abbas is a treasure of Arabic language instruction. He still has so much to offer, and I am sure that his intellectual production will continue and will benefit future generations,” says Dr Hana Zabarah, Assistant Professor of Arabic at GU-Q.

GULF TIMES Tuesday, May 28, 2019
Best Buddies Qatar marks Garangao festival

Best Buddies Qatar, in co-operation with Ooredoo, Commercial Bank of Qatar and Behavioural Health Support Centre, recently marked Garangao festival for its 180 members from primary schools, Centres for Persons with Disabilities and Medical Corporation Education Centre.

The celebration of this event was initiated to revive Qatari heritage and remind the younger generations about the customs and traditions, as a folklore, that strengthened the social and moral relations within and outside of families and to instil the spirit of affection and warmth among them.

Speaking on the occasion, Laalei Abu al-Fain, Executive Director of Best Buddies Qatar, said, “Each year we are keen to celebrate this heart-warming event with the persons with disabilities, because our beloved country, Qatar, has a prominent and rich heritage. Moreover, we are pleased to enlighten the heritage and to contribute to its constant revival.”

Laalei added, “We have partnered with many organisations in celebrating this occasion in order to reassure the community participation in Best Buddies Qatar programmes to asset to its mission and objectives and to engage more entities and volunteers to support the aim of enhancing life of persons with disabilities through social integration and one-to-one long lasting meaningful friendships.

We express our highest appreciation to Ooredoo, Commercial Bank of Qatar, Behavioural Health Support Centre and the schools for making the event a success."

Manar Khalifa al-Muraikhi, Director PR and Corporate Communications at Ooredoo, highlighted, “Garangao is a special time for children during the holy month of Ramadan. We are delighted to support Best Buddies Qatar to make sure this event is a success and that children from across Qatar’s communities can enjoy a great traditional night. We are always happy to engage in such events as part of our social responsibility to contribute in keeping Qatar traditions alive for future generations.”

Rashid Mohammad al-Naemi, Director of Behavioural Health Support Centre, said, “The Centre believes in the importance of social responsibility of public entities towards Qatari community to provide opportunities for all its members, to participate in national, religious, social celebrations. We are glad to collaborate with Best Buddies Qatar in celebration of Garangao to maintain the traditions which we inherited and pass on to younger generations from year to year. We are glad to bring joy to children with intellectual and developmental disabilities.”

Sara al-Ali, Employee Engagement Officer at Commercial Bank, said, “Today, on behalf of Commercial Bank, I would like to thank Best Buddies Qatar for hosting us in Garangao celebration. Commercial Bank focuses on such social and humanitarian initiatives especially in the holy month, which aims to plant the seeds of well-being and love. It is one of the leading institutions in the field of charity and humanitarian contributions. We have many programmes under the initiative of the bank, including visiting hospitals and distributing Garangao to children by the team of Commercial Bank.”

Former Pakistani cricketer visits NIS

Former Pakistani cricketer Shahid Mahboob recently visited Noble International School. Mahboob featured in a clutch of Test matches and ODIs for Pakistan, but notably in the 1983 World Cup. Shibu Abdul Rasheed, Principal of NIS, welcomed Shahid in the presence of Robin K Jose, Vice Principal of NIS, Shihabudeen & Indira Menon, Head of Sections, Sanj Ray, Head of Physical Education and Antony German.

Speaking on the occasion, Mahboob spoke about his career alongside current Prime Minister and World Cup winning captain Imran Khan, Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis. He shared his experiences with NIS cricket enthusiasts.

GET-TOGETHER: Udhayam, a socio-welfare organisation, recently conducted an Iftar get-together for its members. Ali Kunji Mannil, Vice President of Rayyan Zone, spoke about Ramadan and its significance on the occasion. The event was chaired by Azeez Maryiyi, President. Abdul Jaleel MM, Vice President, welcomed the gathering. Fida Mukhtar and Muhammed Sahil, who won public exam recently among Udhayam locality, were facilitated on the occasion by Sharafu Hameed and Ali Kunji Mannil, respectively. The event was attended by over 250 people.
ISC launches Annual Event Calendar

P Kumaran, Ambassador of India, recently formally launched the Annual Event Calendar of Indian Sports Centre during his meeting with the ISC Managing Committee on the embassy premises. Nilangshu Dey, President ISC informed that ISC has formed 10 separate games sections, including Football, Cricket, Volleyball & Basketball, Athletics, Golf, Aquatics and Water Sports, Table Tennis, Tennis and Badminton. Yoga and Fitness, and ladies games consisting of various events in those sections during the year. Total 35 major sports events have been announced along with its schedule planned to be conducted in 2019. Dey also highlighted that this year Sports Excellence Day is planned for September 21 to recognise the achievements in sports and games excelled by boys, girls, men and women of different age groups of Indian community. The ambassador appreciated the initiative taken by ISC in publication of Sports Event Annual Calendar which will encourage more community members and community organisations to participate in events of their interest.

ISL Qatar organises blood donation drive

As part of the Global Citizenship and Community Action (GCCA) programme, the Student Council of the International School of London (ISL) Qatar, in collaboration with Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), recently organised a blood donation drive. Over 50 members of the school community signed up for the donation. The initiative of the drive was to raise awareness on the significance of blood donation and to save lives. It is an indication of the sense of social responsibility towards the community that the students at ISL Qatar hold.

Hamad Medical Corporation appreciated the initiative and enthusiasm of the students and staff who contributed, as well as the demonstration of compassion and empathy.

The Global Citizenship and Community Action programme at ISL Qatar encourages students to become caring, compassionate, responsible and knowledgeable global citizens, capable of making this a better world for all. GCCA offer opportunities to apply concepts, skills and knowledge, as students explore the complex global community, gain personal insight, develop existing and new skills, and grow in confidence and responsibility as they engage in the ‘real world’ beyond school.

McDonald’s Qatar announces ‘Share a Story’ winners

As part of McDonald’s Qatar effort to further connect to the community, as well as support and empower the young writers in Qatar, McDonald’s Qatar recently launched a writing competition to help children further hone their talents as well as expand their creativeness and resourceful thinking to express themselves freely, stated a press release.

The ‘Share a Story’ initiative has inspired, encouraged and trained children’s creativity to think outside the box and reached their full potential. McDonald’s Qatar received over 60 original thought-provoking stories since the initiative was launched. Judges of the contest were captivated by the imagination of the young authors. The 10 winners were announced at the special ceremony at McDonald’s Qatar Al Sadd branch and awarded with gift packs, Happy meal vouchers, and recognition certificates.

Louis Jancee Agustine won first position for his story about his selfless mom who sacrificed career for the love of her family.

To commemorate the huge success of the Share a Story drive, McDonald’s Qatar hosted a storytelling through puppetry show to the youngest audiences in Al Sadd area that drove the curiosity of the children. Together with their parents children were thrilled by the show using shadow puppets, hand puppets, wide mouth puppets, human arm puppets, and live actors that added more interaction with the audience who portrayed to life the winning story about a mom’s love and care for their children.

Ghada Kamal, Marketing Manager of McDonald’s Qatar (Al Mana Restaurants & Food Co) said, “We are so proud of all the young authors who participated in this activity. It’s also an honor for McDonald’s Qatar to host this kind of activation that promotes the advancement of children’s reading ability that expands their imagination, confidence and writing skills. We acknowledge all the youngster for sharing their great stories. We would like also to thank the parents who continue to spend quality time with the children and remain to be their inspiration while reading the books.”
FNJ all set to organise a concert

Federation of Nepalese Journalists — Qatar (FNJ) is all set to organise a concert ‘Udaya Mania Sotang Cultural Night 2019’ featuring Udaya Sotang and Manjala Sotang. Nepali singing couple, at Al Dalla Driving Centre Theatre Hall. Udaya Sotang and Manjala Sotang are one of the most successful singing couple in Nepal. Udaya Sotang, originally from Darjeeling India, came to Kathmandu in the late 1980s to pursue a musical career. He has over 200 songs to his credit. The pair has released over ten albums together. They have produced many albums under the name U ani Ma. The husband-wife musical couple have contributed to Nepali modern music for two-and-a-half decades.

The programme will start at 3pm. The event is supported by Nepalese Art Centre, Indonesian Embassy Society and Nabodit Literary Library.

- Text by Usha Wagle Gautam

Rolls-Royce unveils Wraith Eagle VIII Collection

Rolls-Royce Motor Cars recently unveiled its latest Collection Car, Wraith Eagle VIII, on the shores of Lake Como at this year’s Concorso d’Eleganza Villa d’Este. May 24-26, stated a press release. Created by the Bespoke Collective at the House of Rolls-Royce, a collection of just 50 Wraith Eagle VIII motor cars will tell the epic tale of one of the most pivotal moments of the 20th century. Captain John Alcock and Lieutenant Arthur Brown established a legend and gained a place alongside Sir Donald Campbell in the most select pantheon of heroes, the fascia represents a modern-day abstraction of Alcock and Brown’s compelling night time journey that brought unfathomable advancement to 20th century society.

Alcock and Brown’s compelling night time journey. Executed in a contemporary fashion, the material populates key areas throughout the vehicle. A flash of brass complements the navigator door paniers, onto headrests. The exterior of the Wraith Eagle VIII Collection Car is evocative of Alcock and Brown’s compelling night time adventure. Swathed in Gunmetal with a Selby Grey upper two-tone, the colours are separated by a brass feature line, a hint at the detailing that lies within. The black grille vanes draw immediate reference to the Rolls-Royce Eagle VIII engine cowling on the Vickers Vimy aircraft, the vanes draw immediate reference to the Rolls-Royce Eagle VIII engine cowling on the Vickers Vimy bomber aircraft. The bi-plane was powered by twin 20.3 litre, 350bhp, Rolls-Royce V12 engines. It is from this remarkable engine that this Collection takes its name. Rolls-Royce marks the 100 year anniversary of this feat with a highly contemporary Collection that speaks to today’s adventurers, whilst honouring those who changed the course of history.

I do not know what we should most admire - their audacity, determination, skill, science, their aeroplane, their Rolls-Royce engines - or their good fortune”, said Sir Winston Churchill, following the perilous journey that emerged from the cloud and using Brown’s extraordinary skill as a navigator, flew by the stars to the coast of Ireland.

Torsten Müller-Ötvös, Chief Executive at Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, said, “Wraith Eagle VIII is at once an object of desire, an homage to heroes and a protagonist to today’s visionaries. This Rolls-Royce Collection demonstrates the extraordinary skill of our Bespoke Collective at the Home of Rolls-Royce in Goodwood, West Sussex. Bespoke remains the jewel in the crown of the marque, creating luxury items that defy the trend of mass luxury manufacturers using `tick-box’ options to answer customer demand.”

BPS organises felicitation ceremony

Birla Public School (BPS) recently organised a felicitation ceremony to appreciate and encourage all board examinees of Grade X and XII. The ceremony was attended by the management of BPS along with teachers, parents and students.

Out of first six positions in Doha in Board examination, five were bagged by the students of BPS. The top marks were 96.8 percent in Senior Secondary School Results, accomplished by Sarthak Behal of the Commerce Stream. The top marks were 98 percent in Secondary School Results were achieved by Pragati Biswal, who is also the second rank holder in the Gulf region.

Students were appreciated in three different groups: Those who attained above 95 percent, those who received above 90 percent and students who had shown significant increase of above 40 percent in board examinations when compared with their First Mock internal exam.

Pareesh Biswal and Girish Kumar, parent representatives, appreciated A P Sharma, Principal of BPS, for the hard work and dedication. They also expressed gratitude towards teachers and recognised their dedicated hard work. They encouraged and blessed all the students for their future endeavours.

Results were achieved by Pragati Biswal, who is originally from Darjeeling India, came to Kathmandu in the late 1980s to pursue a musical career. He has over 200 songs to his credit. The pair has released over ten albums together. They have produced many albums under the name U ani Ma. The husband-wife musical couple have contributed to Nepali modern music for two-and-a-half decades.

The programme will start at 3pm. The event is supported by Nepalese Art Centre, Indonesian Embassy Society and Nabodit Literary Library.

- Text by Usha Wagle Gautam


text by Usha Wagle Gautam
Let’s rise with the sunrise

Sunrise represents a new day. This is the time when birds start chirping, people wake up with new dreams and perhaps, fuel a few resolutions. Simply put, it is one of the most beautiful sights of nature. It is perhaps, rightly assumed that the mere sight of a sunrise induces calmness in the beholder.

The darkness of the night gives way to greyish-bluish sky on a clear day, which then begins to lighten up.

Soon an egg-yolk-like sun starts to make its presence felt, illuminating everything around it. As one poetic description suggests, “the sun broke forth triumphantly, warmed the earth, spreading its gleaming tendrils to every corner of the world, and chased away the dreadful night. Like a symbol of joy itself, the beams hound out the last of the shadows which used to haunt the land.”

Every sunrise brings new hope. If you get up at sunrise, you will be healthy, wealthy and wise. It is a time when nature is at its best. Sunrise is a time when there is calm and quiet, the atmosphere is pure and fresh and there is no dust, smoke, or noise. We can inhale a lot of pure oxygen. He who goes out for a walk at sunrise is doing his health a huge favour.

The rising sun gives us light and warmth. It gives new life to withering plants and a new lease of life to all living creatures.

— Text and photos by Ziyan Humji
Whitesnake’s Flesh & Blood soars to number 7 on UK chart

Adam Lambert

Adam Lambert will release Velvet, his fourth studio album, later this year. Out now though is his latest single, New Eyes. The song’s lyrics explore dark subject matter. They reflect personal struggles Adam has undergone in the recent past. He wrote about some of these issues in an open letter to fans last February. “I’m coming out of a dark period of second-guessing my own artistry and having my mental health suffer because of it. I started to wonder if all the hustle was really worth it. I put all my focus on work and started to feel detached in my personal life. I was lonely and becoming depressed. “Luckily, I have also been touring with Queen which recharges me with tons of positive energy. The fans we perform for are so full of love. Brian May and Roger Taylor are also a joy to play music with and always remind me of my value. Together, we have collaborated creatively on our tours and this helped me to reaffirm my confidence in my artistry.

“With a bit of professional help, and the support of colleagues, friends and family, I pulled myself out of the darkness. I decided to begin my new album on my own so I wouldn’t be influenced by anything but my passion for music. I wanted to make the music I wanted to make and get in the headspace I was in when I first dreamed of being a singer.”

Although New Eyes is the first official single taken from Velvet, Adam released another track, Feel Something, as a gift to his fans earlier this year. That song is the emotional starting point of my album. It deals with me climbing out of the low period, defying my disillusionment, reshaping me as a person away from music.” The album did not self-release, despite Lambert’s fans’ efforts but it reinvented David’s interest in writing, recording and performing. He re-formed Whitesnake in 2002 and, with personnel changes, which now sees the band run to more than 40 musicians, the outfit have been going strong for the last 17 years. Only David’s health issues have derailed their career. A severe vocal fold edema and a left vocal fold vascular lesion in 2009 threatened David’s ability to ever sing again. More recently, his energetic stage performances have finally taken their toll on his croaking knees.

“I’ve suffered degenerative arthritis in both knees for more years than I care to remember. I’d had painkilling tablets, painkilling injections in my knees and all kinds of knee supports. It reached a point where nothing worked anymore. I had two choices, either have both knees surgically replaced or end up in a wheelchair.

“I definitely didn’t see the wheelchair in my future so I had the operations. My right knee was replaced in January, 2017, and my left knee four months later. I got through all the physiotherapy and rehab work but I never imagined how painful it would be. “Unwilling to commit to a new album and subsequent world tour, Whitesnake performed a two-month tour with Foreigner last year as a kind of test-drive for David’s new knees.

“I had the fear that I maybe couldn’t perform physically the way I have always enjoyed performing. But eventually I knew I’d be able to give fans the kind of show they’ve come to expect.”

With his confidence fully restored, while other 67-year-olds might be putting their feet up and collecting their old age pension, David maintains they are now the process of performing their Flesh & Blood world tour. Having effortlessly received a new lease on his performing life, it seems likely that fans can look forward to more Whitesnake tours in the future.
**Wordsearch**

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.

```
SSANASOHNLASWK
WRHJNILBOGBOWZC
JEUCEBLBMDHTA
BZTHWVRHBYVOYUB
QTTNGEBUIDLHBF
GIPHTPTUEYYJO
SWAHOBBYHORSEFH
EOLKXHPHOBNOBG
RHPAMZOSUYRTIOH
BCOTHHEKYTNKVET
MHOARSEHUEKIUOM
OOGHOROBKOKHZMPU
HAHOEDOWNAXCTOK
FRHISLLCCTPGXOOG
HKDOCYHLOHYVHC
```

**Puzzles courtesy: Puzzlechoice.com**

**Codeword**

```
HOAGY
HORSESHOE
HOLLYHOCK
HOBO
HOAX
HOWITZER
HOOPLA
HOOPBACK
HORGOILIN
HOARD
HOSANNA
HOMBRE
HOCKEY
HOBBIT
HORNOB
HOOPOE
HORUM
HOMINY
HOARSE
HOTBOT
HOMIE
HOEDOWN
HOBBYHORSE
```

**Sudoku**

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

```
Sudoku is a puzzle based on a 9x9 grid. The grid is divided into nine 3x3 boxes. You are given a selection of numbers to complete the puzzle. Your goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains each of the digits 1 to 9 exactly once.
```

**Garfield**

```
A-HEM
OH, SORRY
```

**Bound And Gagged**

```
FRED WAS SHAVING WHEN THE EARTHQUAKE HIT.
```

**Sudoku Book**

```
Sudoku is a puzzle based on a 9x9 grid. The grid is divided into nine 3x3 boxes. You are given a selection of numbers to complete the puzzle. Your goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains each of the digits 1 to 9 exactly once.
```
Super Cryptic Clues

Across
1 Careless hit-and-run (8)
5 Cold sweets provided in police station (4)
8 Dud Moore, the famous lover? (5)
9 Small boat from County Clare, possibly (7)
11 Disorder when grenade goes off (7)
12 Excellent quip (5)
13 Buff from Gdansk, possibly (6)
15 Right to support the Queen (6)
18 Heading for the championship (5)
20 An ass somewhere in Belgium (7)
23 English in shelters? I am surprised! (7)
24 Put up beams in the auditorium (5)
25 Comfortable home in suburban estate (4)
26 Painless treatment for dogs (8)

Down
1 The game is up for a valuable violin (5)
2 Almost venerate a large naval officer (7)
3 Unhappy with river in flood (5)
4 Small container designed for ash etc. (6)
6 Chanel with a drink (5)
7 Orator needing hi-fi component (7)
10 Come back again about dog (5)
13 Do your bit with sales talk at home (5,2)
14 Material moved to and fro, so we hear (5,2)
19 Master almost changed sides (5)
21 Change direction, skirting one city in Italy (5)
22 Some people assume they are heard in court (5)

Colouring

Yesterday’s Solutions

Wordsearch

Codeword
Ditch difficult diet for healthy living

Fitness is very important. But any drastic change you make in your lifestyle will not be sustainable. According to celebrity nutritionist Pooja Makhija, it is important to give up a difficult eating pattern as a difficult diet will not help.

“If you need to make permanent change, small tweaks will help you attain the goal. Only small tweaks and lifestyle hack will actually show the change. Keeping in mind the basic diet and healthy eating habits will help. Eating less doesn’t help but eating right does,” added Makhija, who came in support of the anthology Healthy Binge which will air in June on Sony BBC Earth.

She has shared some basic fitness tips:
- Never eat large meals in large gaps. Eat every 2 hours and in small quantities.
- Don’t do extreme physical activity. Do timely exercise and periodically.
- Never compromise on eating as it differs from person to person. The quality of the food is extremely important but the quantity is not.
- Consume water. Eating food is important but ignoring water will ruin all the efforts. Having water time to time is very important for the proper working of your body.
- Having a balanced diet is extremely important. Don’t go with trends but learn to eat balanced food that will help in the long run.

At the moment, she is working on her third book which “describes what to eat and what not to because a millenial should know their diet at very early stage”. – IANS

ARIES
March 21 – April 19

Control issues in your home are apt to be of concern today, Aries. Be careful about feeding into others’ misconceptions of the situation. You’re dealing with powerful, opinionated forces that aren’t going to want to budge. Someone may have a warped view of the true issue at hand. Lay all the facts on the table before you start drawing any conclusions.

CANCER
June 21 – July 22

If you’re experiencing emotional upheaval, Cancer, you may take heart in knowing that other people are going through their own emotional turmoil as well. You will know that you aren’t alone in your quest for emotional stability. Share your feelings with others instead of shutting them up inside. It will help you feel better.

LIBRA
September 23 – October 22

Most of the time you deal with the facts, Libra. Facts are things you can grasp, categorise, and make rational sense of. Unfortunately, today some of your facts may be challenged by one of the things you fear most - intense emotions. The ensuing friction is like dealing with apples and oranges. You may find it hard to find any common ground from which to negotiate.

CAPRICORN
December 22 – January 19

You’re in a difficult position. Things aren’t exactly what they seem, Capricorn. Your emotions run the show today, and you may jump from one extreme to the other. There’s a good chance that much of what you experience is based on misinformation. Don’t get so caught up in the drama that you fail to recognise the truth of the situation.

TAURUS
April 20 – May 20

You may feel nostalgic as you look through photo albums, rearrange furniture, and remember past times, Taurus. Your mind will touch on emotional events that you may not have fully dealt with at the time they happened. Old feelings that you thought were gone could well come up and bring tears to your eyes. Honestly face these feelings now instead of stuffing them back down for another decade.

GEMINI
May 21 – June 20

You could be operating based on an assumption that’s only a partial representation of the truth. In your effort to think about only the good side of the situation, Gemini, you may not see the entire truth. There’s a downside to everything. Feelings of anger, frustration, and even loneliness may go along with it.

LEO
July 23 – August 22

You may feel like someone’s giving you the third degree, Leo. You sense that you’re being accused of something and that you need to defend your feelings and actions. Try not to fall into this trap. Don’t let self-doubt sneak into the situation just because someone else questions your way of life. No one but you fully understands your situation.

VIRGO
August 23 – September 22

Today may be filled with “I told you so!” You could find fault with others who haven’t dealt with the truth of a situation. Be careful about accusing someone of the very thing that you’re guilty of, Virgo. Penetrating emotions will cut to the heart of the matter, and there will be no way to escape the hole you dig for yourself. Don’t criticise others when until you take an honest look at yourself.

SCORPIO
October 23 – November 21

It will be hard to deal with emotional issues that arise. A strong misleading force is feeding the illusion that things are fine when they really aren’t. Stop pretending that everything is going well, Scorpio. The sooner you face the truth, the sooner it will stop plaguing you. Confront the deception directly.

SAGITTARIUS
November 22 – December 21

Don’t automatically assume that people are going to understand your needs, Sagittarius. Your emotions may be powerful today, and you could end up scaring people away instead of drawing them closer simply because you act irrationally and emotionally instead of reasonably and civilly. Be careful about targeting your frustration at the people who can help you the most.

AQUARIUS
January 20 – February 18

When faced with an emotionally intense situation, you’re likely to flee, Aquarius. You’d rather change the subject to something more lighthearted. This form of escapism is doing nothing to solve the problem. In fact, by avoiding the emotional topic, you’re only creating more friction than if you just approached the problem directly.

PISCES
February 19 – March 20

With your psychic abilities, you’re liable to shed some light on issues in which the truth has been unclear for quite a while, Pisces. You can use your sensitivity to cut to the heart of the matter and expose the truth. This kind of behaviour probably won’t come without friction from others. You can almost guarantee that it will. Don’t let it faze you. It’s important to reveal the truth.
Ramadan is a training season for our spiritual renewal and internal transformation!

Mentally
Ramadan increases our mental strength and unleashes our true inner potential by training our focus to strive for our goals despite being physically challenged.

Physically
Ramadan pushes us to do more on less energy and sleep, thus training us to shed unproductive patterns and create new, more productive habits.

Socially
Ramadan trains us in patience, in forgiveness, in the purification of our hearts, in developing empathy, in tightening relations amongst family, and in contributing to the community and Ummah.

Spiritually
Ramadan strengthens our iman and increases us in taqwa (God consciousness). Insha Allah, Ramadan helps us achieve this through training the connection between deen and dunya by making us aware that every intention, action and deed – be it mental, physical, social or spiritual – is aligned to our ultimate purpose of serving Allah (Subhanahu wa Ta’ala) and seeking His pleasure.

Fill the hearts of your children with faith

Ramadan is a great opportunity to instil faith in our children’s hearts. Some of these values are:

1. Patience: By enduring hunger and thirst while fasting, a child learns to be patient.
2. Fearing Allah The Almighty
   No one sees the child except Allah The Almighty, but he abstains from eating and drinking as he knows that Allah The Almighty sees him.
3. Love for the mosque
   Accompanying the father during Taraweeh prayers to the mosque and participating in the activities of the mosque are memories that become engrained in the child’s heart. When he grows up, he will remember all these incidents and this will have a great effect in encouraging him to repent and return to Allah The Almighty if he deviates or becomes a victim of bad companions.
4. Love for the Qur’an
   When the child sees his parents and siblings devoted to the Qur’an, he will naturally imitate them and he will recite the Qur’an and may even try to finish reciting it.

When parents follow the model of the Messenger of Allah, sallallaahu ‘alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention), as he was the most generous during the month of Ramadan, and pay charity and Zakat al-Fitr (obligatory charity in Ramadan, paid before the Eid prayer), the children get used to giving charity – especially if the parents are keen on this. Once, I saw a mother giving her little child money and asking him to give it to a needy person. This has a great effect on the child and it will teach him to be generous and give charity.

Some practical means to make our children love the month of Ramadan:

- Decorations
  Decorating the streets and homes at the advent of Ramadan, has a great positive effect on children, especially if they participate in these activities.

One might also write some slogans such as “Welcome Ramadan”, “Welcome the month of fasting” or “Welcome the month of forgiveness” so that the child feels that Ramadan is a feast and that people celebrate its advent.

- Presents and toys
  At the beginning of the month, buy some presents, toys and Fanoos (lanterns) so that the child would have a competition for your children, to fast the whole day if he is still under-age. You may also make a competition for your children by telling them that the one who fasts the most will get the best prize, or whoever prays Taraweeh until the end will get a prize and so forth.

- Buy your child new clothes before Ramadan
  Tell your children that these new clothes are for acts of worship. For instance, if you have a boy, you can buy him a new garment, a Mus-haf (copy of the Qur’an) and Thikr beads. If you have a girl, you can buy her a new Abayah (cloak), a scarf and a Mus-haf so that she would be prepared for going to the mosque and reciting the Qur’an.

- Switch off the television
  Prepare your own programmes for education and entertainment at home, such as:
  - A competition for memorising the Qur’an.
  - A daily gathering where the family studies the Hadeeths of the Messenger of Allah, sallallaahu ‘alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention).
  - To recite the whole Qur’an with the family once with the participation of all the family members.
  - The entire family should go for Taraweeh prayers together.
  - Visiting one’s relatives and maintaining kinship ties.
  - Making a competition for finishing the recitation of the Qur’an more than once in Ramadan.

These activities will keep them busy all the time and enable them to give up watching television. They will also make children develop a love for Ramadan and acts of obedience.
A kind gesture in Ramadan

Filipino expatriate Mega Cervantes and his friends distribute food for Iftar

By Mudassir Raja

One of the key practices by Muslims during the holy month of Ramadan is organising Iftar parties and distributing food among those who fast.

This has been a distinct feature of Ramadan in Qatar where even non-Muslims distribute food to show their respect and love for those who observe fasting. A bunch of enthusiastic Filipino expatriates recently carried out an Iftar drive and distributed Iftar packets among cab drivers and commuters at a busy intersection.

The Iftar drive may be a small drive compared to big Iftar parties thrown by big companies at grand hotels of Ramadan tents run by the affluent people. However, the volunteers vindicated genuine enthusiasm and generosity as they reached out swiftly to the motorists and gave away the food packets at Ramada signal at C-Ring Road, considered to be one of the busiest junctions in Doha.

Though the majority of volunteers were the Filipino expatriates, there were people from other countries as well. They started distributing the food items at about 5:30pm when the weather was still hot. The perspiring volunteers ran from one signal to another in the bid to reach out the maximum vehicles as they stopped at the red light.

Mega Cervantes, a Filipino expatriate, and his friends manifested great eagerness for their drive to share the spirit of charity and love with their Muslim sisters and brothers. “Actually, we are not a group of friends. There are some volunteers to support different campaigns. We carry out not only the Iftar drives but also beach clean-ups, dog walks, tree plantation and other charity works,” said Mega.

Sharing the motivation behind the Iftar drive, he said: “To be honest, we feel that each one of us has the responsibility to share love, respect and kindness during Ramadan irrespective of nationalities and religion. We are giving away the food packets to everyone. This is actually our way of giving back to the community.

“Each packet contains water, dates, bananas and cakes. I along with my friends am carrying out this drive for the first time.

Earlier I used to support other people in such activities. We have a group of friends who have sponsored the Iftar packets. This is our first day drive for Ramadan. We are planning to do the drive again next week in Industrial Area. “I think we need to keep sharing and showing compassion with other people, no matter who you are and where you are. I believe if you give love to the world, it will return the love.”

“I am a part of the drive because it is the time of giving away. It is good to share food with others during Ramadan. It is a period of time when people sacrifice. They do not have food in order for them to dedicate time to God. "I think [Iftar drive] is a kind gesture that can brighten someone’s heart. If someone gives me food, it will definitely brighten my heart.

It is a nice gesture. I think in Ramadan, people should share a lot with others. Ramadan is all about sharing and caring each other.”

GROUP: Volunteers pose for a group photo during the Iftar drive.

Photos by Ramchand

Food Tips: What to eat?

By Nimmi Afzal

Gingery Pineapple-Strawberry Lemonade

Servings: 3 people

Ingredients:
- Pineapple- 1/2 (chopped without skin)
- Strawberry- a handful (chopped)
- Lemon- 1 medium sized (Remove the skin and keep it)
- Sugar / honey – as per required

Method:
1. Add the pineapple pieces, strawberries, ginger, lemon with 2 cups of water along with enough sugar or honey in the blender. Give it a toss and make a good smoothie out of it.
2. Strain this smoothie twice or thrice to a container until you get a thin watery kind of consistency.
3. Now mix this liquid along with the normal lemonade which we have already prepared and give a nice stir.
4. Serve it chill along with some chopped fruits and ginger, ice cubes and mint leaves.

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