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45th Anniversary of Independence celebrations with Chief Guest Indian President Pranab Mukherjee

(a) separate electoral list

(b) reserved seats for the minorities

(d) non-acceptance of independence.

(c) integration of Mauritius with Great Britain

The Union Jack making

This year, Mauritius celebrates the 45th anniversary of its independence on March 12 at Anjalay stadium at Belle Vue in the north. The President of the Republic of India, Pranab Mukherjee, will be the Chief Guest.

the organization of activities. A committee, chaired by the journalists, specially invited for the occasion

Political Development on 'The Road to Independence' $(19\overline{6}1-1968)$

Mauritius could have celebrated the 50th anniversary of its independence in 2014 'The Road to Independence' is the title of Moonindra Nath Varma's book (1976) devoted to the significant social, political and constitutional developments since the mid-1930's up to the advent of independence. This book, which has become a classic on the issue of the independence of Mauritius, reveals that the first formal demand for independence was submitted at the Third London Constitutional Conference in June-July 1961 by the Mauritius Labour Party – as a matter of fact, the request was for 'complete independence in 1964'.

The MLP was encouraged to make this bold demand after the sweeping victory it obtained at the 1959 General Election, acquiring 31 seats together with its ally, the Muslim Committee of Action (MCA), against 6 seats for the Independent Forward Bloc (IFB) and 3 seats for the Parti Mauricien (later, Parti Mauricien Social Démocrate or PMSD).

It is notable that, at this stage, the IFB that would later throw its weight on the side of the 'independentists' in the 1967 General Election, preferred to concentrate on immediate general election and the appointment of a high-powered tribunal. A contrario, the Parti Mauricien mainly dwelt on the following:

Minister of Arts and Culture, Mookhesswur Choonee has as members representatives of various ministries and public bodies.

The 45th anniversary celebrations will include the opening of The news was confirmed by the Ministry of Arts and Culture. the new terminal of the SSR International Airport. It is an The government has approved a sum of Rs 30 million for the Airbus A380 of Emirates Airlines, which will land on the celebration and has already set up two committees to look into tarmac. This flight will also carry a group of VIPs and foreign

> objective in view, efforts towards the constitution of an all-party government were made, and these were crowned with success in March 1964. It was agreed to have 14 ministries and 3 offices of



Constitution of an allparty government to ease tension

As the year 1964 targeted by the MLP for "complete independence" was approaching, it became apparent that such a major political and constitutional change could not be achieved without some sort of consensus. With this

Parliamentary Secretary to be shared as follows: Labour Party: 6 ministries and 2 offices of Parliamentary Secretary

Parti Mauricien: 3 ministries I.F.B.: 2 ministries and 1 office of Parliamentary

Secretary C.A.M.: 2 ministries

Independent: 1 ministry

"It was believed that the All-Party-Government would build up a proper climate to initiate talks on the independence of Mauritius." This was like wishing for paradise in the communal hell that



Mauritius has been and is up to now.

A fourth constitutional conference to decide the issue

Indeed, with the issue of independence taking ethnic and communal overtones nurtured during political meetings and rallyes and in the press, the initial date targeted for independence had to be postponed. A fresh constitutional conference had to be called in London as Mauritians could not agree on the question of independence. That fourth constitutional conference was held from 7 to 24 September 1965, and asserted that "following a general election if the majority party would make a request then independence should be granted to Mauritius.

So the dice was cast and the general election which was going to decide the issue of independence was held on August 7, 1967. The Independence Party won the election with 39 seats against 23 for the Parti Mauricien. So independence was in the pocket. A new constitution was granted on March 12, the day Mauritius officially acceded to independence within the Commonwealth. This status could have been obtained earlier in 1964, and the island would have celebrated tis 50th independence anniversary next year.

DODO



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TITBITS by Ahmad Macky

PAY INCREASE FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS

PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC AND PRIME MINISTER WILL EARN AROUND Rs 285,000 MONTHLY

At the end of January, it was not only the wages of civil servants and employees of parastatal institutions which had been reviewed for a pay rise, but equally those parliamentarians (MPs and Prime Minister) and their advisors as well as other political nominees.

If the comparison of 2008's wages between civil servants and MP's is maintained, the monthly wages of the President of the Republic will reach Rs 285,000 monthly and those of the Prime Minister will be around Rs 275,000. For the Vice-President of the Republic and for the deputy prime minister it will be Rs 198,000 monthly.

Ministers and Speaker will earn Rs 192,000 monthly. The Leader of the Opposition will be earning Rs 155,000. Government whip will earn Rs 130,000. Parliamentary Private Secretary (PPS) and Deputy Speaker will draw salaries of Rs 125,000 monthly. The opposition whip will get Rs 100,000. Deputy Chairman of committees, deputy GM chief whip and chairman public account committee will all get Rs 90,000 monthly. Members of Parliament (MP's) will draw a monthly salary of Rs 75,000.

On the side of Public Service, as from this month, the 84,000 wage earners and the 25,000 retired civil servants will benefit of the salary review and as approved by the government. The augmentations vary between Rs 329 monthly (4.2%) for the General Worker recruited in 2012 and Rs 48,000 (+ 31.6%) for the Chief Justice.

Seeing that a great number of low graded civil servants earn between Rs 15,000 and Rs 48,000 monthly, the salary review could increase from Rs 2,130, that is 13.9% to Rs 8,180 that is 20%.

DIALYSIS PATIENTS THREATENING TO GO ON HUNGER STRIKE

The Renal Disease Patient's Association (RDPA) has announced its intention to go on a hunger strike, a sit-in in 2 or 3 weeks' time in case their demands are not taken into consideration by the Ministry of Health.

During a recent press conference at 'Centre Sociale Marie Reine de La Paix', this association has protested against certain missing medical items that are not being provided by the Ministry of Health despite lots of demands made. This in fact is affecting the good maintenance and efficiency of the dialysis centres of the country.

According to Bose Soonarane, Secretary of the RDPA, these missing medical items are causing serious problems. In Mauritius more than 10,000 people suffer from renal diseases and about a 1,000 of them are put on dialysis. However, we only have 2 specialists in nephrology for these 1,000 patients. The shortage of qualified doctors makes it difficult for the patients to benefit from a medical follow-up regarding their dialysis problems which are not respected at all.

Another problem is the transfusion of blood. This practice brings some undesirable secondary effects "It exists other options to transfusion such as Vintor injections which is sold at Rs 275. The cost seems quite reasonable. The authority seems to spend more than Rs 800 for a dose of methadone" said Bob Soonarane. "We must not play game with people lives" declared Mrs Faeza Hosany, the President of the Association.

REVISED FORMULA FOR LAUREATES

The suspense is over for 13,098 students whotook part in the HSC exams 2012. The result was out on Monday the 4th February 2013. This year there is a great change for the laureates.

The number of laureates has increased from 30 to 68. Moreover, 24 scholarships will be awarded on a social criteria basis. In this category, those who wish to study abroad would be given an allowance of Rs 300,000 annually for duration to a maximum of 4 years. For those who choose to study in Mauritius, they will get an allowance of Rs 96,000 and the expense of the courses up to Rs 150,000 annually.

Life is a Dodo Race

by Gladys Lamy

As a little girl my favourite book was, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, by Lewis Carrol. The part I loved reading the most was about the dodo race. The dodo is an extinct bird native to the island of Mauritius. In the book, this exotic bird proposes a unique race where everyone runs round in a circle and can stop at any point and join in again at any time. The result, a race where everyone is a winner.

When I look back on my life I feel it is not unlike the dodo race. Stopping at times and starting at others, moving forward at times, standing still at others.

Growing up, I had three wishes. To own my home, to have my own business and never to retire. This was in the late 60's and the reality was that most people lived in rented accommodation, very few women had their own business and everyone looked forward to the day of their retirement.

After I qualified as a teacher, I fell in love with a wonderful man. In this day and age of a quickie divorce, that we celebrated our 58th wedding anniversary two years before my beloved passed away, shows how right we were for each other.

By the time I was 26 years' old, I was the mother of three children. I took dodo time out to spend quality time with them. During those years I got interested in law. I asked myself, how can I nurture this new interest? Easy. I went to evening classes to study land law and after burning the midnight oil for many years, I qualified as a legal executive, also known as a conveyancer. My dodo was on the move again.

I believe when you have a vision, chances and opportunities present themselves and then it is up to you to seize the day. Carpe Diem.

I went back into the work force and with my new found legal knowledge buying our first home became a reality. I was employed in the legal field for over three decades working under the umbrella of a solicitor. Then in 1985 there was a change in the law that stated conveyancers could branch out on their own. It was just the breakthrough I needed. I passed the required exam and became the first woman Licensed Conveyancer in the UK. I was now a business woman and a home owner. After I retired, my husband who had been my pillar of strength passed away and my world crumbled. The dodo race came to a stop.

Life has given me so much and I wanted to put something back in the community. As an advocate I help and guide senior citizens



with their difficulties. An eternal student, at the youthful age of 76 years, I am now an accredited hypnotherapist.

Life is full of ups and downs. Just remember the dodo-race. You start, stop, start again, stand still even. Never lose sight of your goal, be motivated and keep your nose down to the grindstone.

After all, perseverance is strength and there are only winners in the dodo race.

This article was first published in the February 2013 issue of Mature Times

TRIAL OF SOMALI PIRATES IN MAURITIUS

Twelve Somali pirates have been brought to Mauritius recently to stand trial for piracy in the Indian Ocean. They were arrested some while ago. These days, the Indian Ocean is no longer safe and secure for ships. Many have been hijacked by Somali pirates.

According to a report, at least 25 Vessels and 434 crew members are currently being held by Somali pirates who hail from a lawless nation strategically located at the junction of Red Sea and the Indian Ocean.

The EU anti-piracy flotilla Atalante has extended patrols in the Indian Ocean and is still handling over the pirates it arrests to Courts in Kenya and the Seychelles. According to report, there are 300 pirates operating in the Indian Ocean area and their activities are linked to human trafficking, terrorism and money laundering.

Mauritius has called for a rapid development of a regional plan against piracy in the Indian Ocean.

St GERAN HOTEL SACKED 18 EMPLOYEES DUE TO ECONOMIC CRISIS

18 employees of St Geran Hotel in Mauritius were sacked on the 4th February for reason of economic crisis. These sacked workers have solicited the Ministry of Work for assistance and help. They reckon that their dismissals are unjustified and unfair. According to the ex-employees, these vacancies as a result of their dismissals, have already been replaced by new employees who have got no experience.

Among those 18 sacked are four duty managers, four cashiers, five supervisors, four secretaries and one driver who have between 16 and 37 years of services in that hotel. They have received only one month notice and were paid for the month of February. The hotel refused to pay them their due compensation for their years of services.

Une aire géante de transit à l'aéroport de Dubaï pour les Airsbus A380 d'Emirates

Début Janvier, la Compagnie Emirates a mis en service à Dubaï un terminal uniquement réservé à ses Airbus A380, un hub géant pouvant accueillir jusqu'à 20 superjumbos. Une stratégie de croissance pour les décennies à venir qui attend 15 à 20 millions de passagers par an dans l'aérogare. Aucune autre compagnie n'a autant misé sur ce gros-porteur européen d'Ăirbus avec une commande record de 90 exemplaires dont 30 A380 ont déjà été livrés. Elle a investi également dans le Boeing 77 une commande de 50 appareils et 20 autres en option. Faisant d'Emirates une des 5 premières compagnies mondiales. La Compagnie arabe a réussi à promouvoir Dubaï comme lieu de correspondance pour des millions de voyageurs : des passagers en partance pour l'Asie, l'Australie, la Nouvelle Zélande et à l'inverse faire venir des voyageurs d'Asie voulant se rendre en Europe ou en Afrique. Les destinations offertes



De Gilles Berger, Paris

sont de plus en plus nombreuses dans les grandes villes de la planète et dans les métropoles régionales. Tim Clark, le Président d'Emirates vise loin « en 2020 nous desservirons 150 destinations contre 122 aujourd'hui ». L'attrait d'Emirátes réside dans ses prix compétitifs et ses avions tout neufs équipés des derniers systèmes de divertissement et ses cabines confortables en 1ère et en classe affaires. Les « suites » de sièges privatisés, ses fameuses douches en 1ère classe et les bars à l'étage font de l'A380 un avion exceptionnel. La croissance de la Compagnie dépasse 15% par an. Les autres Compagnies ne peuvent rivaliser et ont amorcé des rapprochements. Le succès tient dans les destinations asiatiques que les autres Compagnies ont délaissées se concentrant sur l'Amérique expliquera le Président d'Emirates. Et puis l'emplacement de Dubaï, sur la route de la soie...s'élève au rang de mythe ...

News Digest

march 2013



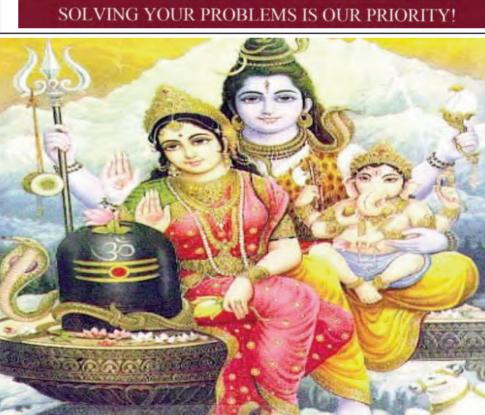
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Ceremony by pUNDiT s Um Bh OO 9 March at St Aldhelm's .Church Hall, 2 Windmill Road, Edmonton London N18 1PA From 4.00 pm to 8.30 pm. Dinner, refreshments and prasad will be served.

Raja Rajesh wa Ree Devi Temple

De a R De v OTe e s

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<rajarajeshwaree@gmail.com>

Emirates to Operate Special A380 Flight to Mauritius

Flight to mark the Island's 45th Anniversary of Independence

Emirates, one of the world's fastest growing airlines, will showcase one of its fleet of 31 Airbus A380s during celebrations which will be held to mark the 45th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Mauritius in March. This is the first commercial A380 flight that will have landed on the island.

Emirates has been flying to Mauritius since 2002 and usually operates the route using a Boeing 777-300 aircraft. In December 2012 the airline increased its timetable to Mauritius from 12 flights a week to a double daily service in response to growing demand.

The special flight is due to touchdown on 12th March 2013 as flight number EK 701 at 09.40. In addition to customers, it will also carry a specially invited group of VIP and media guests who will experience Emirates' unique A380 inflight product and service to the island for the first time. Later that evening the return flight will depart at 23.20 as flight EK702.

"The A380 is the flag-ship of the Emirates fleet. We felt the by arranging this special flight it was a fitting way to support the official celebrations of the island's independence," said Ahmed Khoory, Senior Vice President - Commercial Operations, West Asia and Indian Ocean, Emirates." "Emirates believes in connecting people and so on this special day for the Mauritian people, it is pleasing to be able to bring even more visitors to the island."

Emirates is the largest operator of the A380 with 31 aircraft in its fleet and 59 on order. In January 2013 it opened the world's only dedicated and purpose-built A380 concourse at Dubai International Airport. With 528,000 m2 spread across eleven floors and the capacity to handle 15 million passengers a year, the concourse offers Emirates customers a seamless and unrivalled experience in terms of comfort, convenience and choice of facilities. Part of the airport's Terminal 3 complex, Concourse A will become the "home of the Emirates A380", from where passengers will be able connect to more than 20 Emirates A380 destinations around the world.

Further announcements about this unique Emirates flight will be made over the coming weeks. Seats are still available to purchase via your preferred travel agent and emirates.com.

Emirates Doubles A380 Capacity to New York and Paris

Emirates has doubled its A380 capacity to New York's John F. Kennedy and Paris' Charles De Gaulle airports with a twice daily A380 service from Dubai now operating into both cities. Upgrading capacity into New York by 1848 seats per week, flights EK203 and EK204 will now be operated by the Airbus A380-800. EK203 departs from Dubai at 0225hrs, arriving at JFK at 0745hrs. The return sector EK204 leaves JFK at 1040hrs arriving in Dubai at 0810hrs the next day. In Paris, an additional 2198 seats per week will be added; EK 075 leaves Dubai at 1500hrs and arrives in Paris at 1930hrs. The return flight, EK 076 departs Paris at 2110hrs and gets into Dubai at 0640hrs the next day. "The decision to commit a second A380 to both New York and Paris is a clear indication of customer demand, for the state-ofthe-art aircraft and these two popular destinations," said Thierry Antinori, Emirates' Executive Vice President, Passenger Sales Worldwide. "New York and Paris are both important routes for Emirates and its customers. Adding larger capacity aircraft is central to helping us meet growing passenger demand and will also boost economic support for American and French international commerce."

With the world's largest fleet of A380 aircraft at 31 and another 59 on order, Emirates continues to set the pace for A380 deployment. In the four years since the Emirates A380 has been it peration over 11.5 million passengers have flown on the aircraft, covering 169 million kilometres. In 2012 alone, Emirates added 11 A380's to its fleet.

¹¹Emirates has redefined air travel and we look forward to offering the unique A380 experience to even more of our passengers on the Paris and New York routes with the exceptional and innovative features we offer on-board including the industry first Shower Spas, the First and Business Class On-Board lounge and an award-winning inflight system offering 1400 channels of ondemand entertainment. Combine this with our gourmet cuisine as well as a network spanning six continents, and you have a product which has become extremely popular with our global travellers." Despite its size at over 24 metres high and with a wing span of nearly 80 metres, the A380 is the quietest long range aircraft and uses the very latest fuel-efficient technology. Passengers in the First Class cabin can freshen up in one of two on-board Shower Spas before joining fellow premium class travellers in the On-Board Lounge where they can enjoy complimentary beverages and canapés.

The Emirates A380 fleet currently serves 21 destinations with new cities to be announced in the coming months. Emirates has the largest number of A380's on order which will total 90 by 2017. In January 2013, the world's first purpose-built facility for the Emirates A380 will open at Dubai International Airport, allowing faster boarding and smoother connections. From the direct boarding from the lounges for First Class and Business Class bassengers, to the expanded duty free shopping, dining options from cafes to fine dining, a full service Timeless spa, two hotels and other amenities, the new concourse represents another first from Emirates in providing innovative products and services that give customers an unsurpassed travel experience.



Concourse A is the world's first dedicated A380 hub and will become the "home of the Emirates A380".



EK003 before departure at Concourse A

Emirates, one of the world's fastest growing airlines, achieved another first with the inaugural departure in January of an A380 flight from the new and world's only dedicated and purpose-built A380 concourse at Dubai International Airport. Part of the airport's Terminal 3 complex, Concourse A is now the "home of the Emirates A380", from where passengers will connect to more than 20 Emirates A380 destinations around the world, including A380 flights to Europe on Australian airline, Qantas, in terms of the global partnership announced recently which is pending the approval of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

The departure of flight EK003 at 14h30 to London Heathrow marked the start of flights from four gates which opened at Concourse A. This also forms part of on-going operational trials and testing to ensure a smooth and seamless passenger experience before it officially opens and becomes fully operational during the first quarter this year.

More than 500 passengers across First Class, Business Class and Economy Class became the first travellers to experience boarding through the unique double decker air contact bridges connected to the aircraft, one of the key features of the facility.

"This is an historic and momentous occasion, marking another world first from Emirates. The new A380 hub is another example of Emirates being a leader in providing innovative products and services that give customers an unsurpassed travel experience," said His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of the Dubai Department of Civil Aviation, Chairman and Chief Executive, Emirates Airline and Group and Chairman of Dubai Airports. "We are confident that our customers will find the new concourse to be a remarkable world class facility befitting of our flagship Emirates A380 aircraft." "I would also like to congratulate Dubai Airports on achieving this major milestone in the development of Concourse A."

With 528,000 m2 spread across eleven floors and the capacity to handle 15 million passengers a year, the concourse offers Emirates customers a seamless and unrivalled experience in terms of comfort,

convenience and choice of facilities. From direct lounge boarding for First Class and Business Class customers to an expansive duty free shopping area, food courts, cafes and fine dining options, a Timeless Spa and the largest First Class and Business Class lounges in the world. The concourse also offers a dedicated hotel floor with both a four and five star offering. Passengers are transported between Terminal 3 and Concourse A by underground trains and shuttle busses from where they can depart through 20 gates when the facility becomes fully operational.

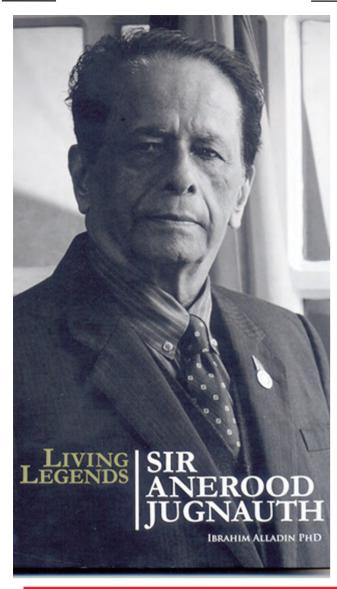
About Emirates

Emirates (www.emirates.com) is one of the fastest growing airlines in the world and has received more than 500 international awards for excellence. Emirates flies to 128 destinations in 74 countries across six continents. Emirates operates $19\Box 5$ widebody Airbus and Boeing aircraft and has orders for an additional $20\Box 4$ aircraft, worth more than USD\$74 billion.

About Emirates A380

Emirates is the largest operator of A380 aircraft in the world with a fleet of 31, and another 59 on order. In the four years since the A380 has been in operation over 11.5 million passengers have flown on the aircraft, covering 169 million kilometres. The A380 currently serve Amsterdam, Auckland, Bangkok, Beijing, Hong Kong, Jeddah, Johannesburg, Kuala Lumpur, London Heathrow, Manchester, Munich, New York JFK, Paris, Rome, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Toronto, Tokyo, Melbourne, Moscow and Singapore.





Sir Anerood Jugnauth, premier titre de la nouvelle collection Living Legends

La maison d'édition Osman Publishing a lancé le premier titre de sa nouvelle collection, Living Legends, dans le courant de février: Sir Anerood Jugnauth. Un livre de 150 pages d'Ibrahim Alladin*, résidant au Canada, qui retrace l'histoire et le parcours de cette « légende vivante ».

légende vivante car Sir Anerood est le seul, à Maurice, à avoir été ministre, Premier ministre à cinq reprises et Président de la République durant deux mandats», devait faire ressortir Shafick Osman, directeur d'Osman Publishing. «Et sans oublier qu'il est avocat de formation et de profession et qu'il a été leader de l'opposition et aussi président du conseil de village de Palma, son village natal», devait-il ajouter.

<u>Livre</u>

L'auteur, Ibrahim Alladin, a, lui, expliqué qu'il a commencé à s'intéresser à Sir Anerood Jugnauth (SAJ) après avoir lu, plusieurs années de cela, quelques reportages très élogieux sur le développement économique de Maurice dans la grande presse nord-américaine. «Je me suis demandé quel est le

«Il n'était pas difficile pour moteur derrière tout cela et c'est s'est laissé dire Karl Offman en particulier, d'investir dans **nous de choisir notre première** ainsi que mon intérêt pour SAJ a pour qui, «sans cassure», il n'y l'éducation. Il a fait allusion vu le jour car il est véritablement le père du développement économique de Maurice», a-t-il laissé entendre.

> «Cassure de 1983: un mal pour un bien»

Karl Offman, un des deux invités d'honneur, a, lui, surtout relaté les évènements politiques de 1983, la cassure de l'alliance MMM-PSM et les années MSM. «J'étais un collaborateur direct d'Anerood mais cela ne veut pas dire pas que j'étais d'accord avec tout ce qu'il faisait. Je lui disais mes vérités mais je lui disais aussi que c'est à lui de prendre les décisions finales», devait avouer l'ancien Président de la République. « On peut dire que la cassure douloureuse de l'alliance MMM-PSM en 1983 était finalement une bonne chose, un mal pour un bien»,

pour qui, «sans cassure», il n'y aurait pas eu «ce développement économique»

Cassam Uteem, autre invité d'honneur, a, lui, avoué de ne pas connaître intimement Sir Anerood mais «je sais qu'il incarne des valeurs profondes dont les valeurs familiales». L'ancien Président de la République devait dire, lui aussi, qu'il respecte profondément SAJ, véritable

«légende vivante même si je l'ai critiqué de façon virulente dans le passé». Cassam Uteem a émis le souhait qu'Osman Publishing choisisse soigneusement ses «légendes vivantes» car, selon lui, «il n'y en a pas beaucoup à Maurice».

Dans son bref discours, SAJ a mis l'accent sur le fait qu'il est devenu ce qu'il est grâce à l'éducation et qu'il encourage toujours les gens et les jeunes

aussi à sa carrière politique où il a côtoyé de près les plus grands Sir dont Seewoosagur Ramgoolam (dont il fut un des ministres avant l'indépendance), Sir Abdool Razack Mohamed, Sookdeo Bissondoyal et Sir Gaetan Duval, entre autres

Sir Anerood Jugnauth a été publié, tient à préciser l'éditeur, sans contribution financière aucune car ce sont les fonds propres d'Osman Publishing Co. Ltd qui sont mobilisés. Le livre est en vente à Rs 850.

* Ibrahim Alladin, l'auteur, peut être contacté, au Canada, au numéro suivant : (1) 705 626 0839

Mauritius News questions Dr Ibrahim Alladin on his recent work on Sir Anerood Jugnauth

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MN: How did the idea of writing a book on SAJ crop up?

I was on a flight from Dubai to Toronto, returning from one of my many trips to Mauritius. On the plane I picked up the New York Times dated March 26, 2012. One of the headlines read "Mauritius: The Glittering New Gateway to Africa And Asia".

I read it with a great deal of interest. A few hours earlier I was in Mauritius and saw the signs of economic growth and prosperity that the article was referring to. As I put the newspaper away it reminded me of a similar newspaper article on the Globe and Mail almost two decades ago that prompted me to write Economic Miracle in the Indian Ocean: Can Mauritius Show the Way?(EOI, 1993).

The Globe and Mail had described Mauritius as the "miracle" economy following the footsteps of the giant tigers of Asia, for example Singapore. What happened in Mauritius in the last two decades that is catching international attention? This led me to start a new analysis and in the process I decided to examine the contributions of one man, who perhaps shaped the destiny of modern Mauritius. He had just resigned as the President of the Republic of Mauritius, and decided to enter the political arena to "save" the nation from economic calamity.

associated with it.

It is a daunting task but an inevitable one. This is not a biography of Anerood Jugnauth, but rather an examination of his political career and his rise to political fame. Recently someone described him as a geriatric with dyed hair who made a political comeback to save his family's name and fortune. But is that so? Or did he make a comeback as Navin Ramgoolam's government is showing signs of weakness.

Some say Ramgoolam has left the country in decline and yet again it seems Jugnauth is coming to the rescue. Is history repeating itself? The book is very revealing and answers these questions.

MN: I presume this was indeed a challenging task. How did you manage?

Writing about a personality like SAJ is always challenging. He has been in politics for almost 50 years and been involved in so many other things. It is an incredible journey. So to organize it into a book is not an easy task.

I developed the book in stages and planned it that way. Many people helped with the research and gave me guidance to understand SAJ as a person.

In my endeavour I always start with a theme and try to keep it throughout the book. I usually have a plan of what I want to cover, so it keeps me focused and gives me the direction. There is so much material, it can be overwhelming.

MN: In your interesting speech at the launching ceremony you stated that SAJ's career can be summarized in a nutshell "Saviour of the Nation". How have you justified this in your book? By the way, one of the chapters of the book is precisely "The Return of the 'Saviour of the Nation".



Dr Ibrahim Alladin deliberate choice?

This is the story of one man: Sir Anerood Jugnauth. I believe his destiny is to serve the people. While he may not be called the "father" of the nation, he is certainly the "saviour" of the nation.

Some leaders are born to lead, and in his eighties Sir Anerood is back at the political helm to take Mauritius to new heights. But what kind of legacy will he leave behind and how shall history depict him?

The book is much about Jugnauth as it is about contemporary Mauritius. Two decades ago I described Sir Anerood Jugnauth as the architect of the economic revolution that made Mauritius "take off". The island has gone through a revolution and twenty years later I find myself having to re-examine its prospects and those I have done an analysis of his political career and no doubt he is the most experienced politician in the country, five times as prime minister and served two terms as president. His contributions have been immense. His political career has also been marked by controversy and he has faced criticisms on many fronts.

The book has examined some of these controversies. But he remains a statesman with a mission, that's why he is back and I describe him as the "Saviour of the Nation". I believe history will remember him as such.

MN: After "A President of the People" in 1997 where you depict former President Cassam Uteem's life and works, you delineate the exceptional political career of former President SAJ. Any other former President in your sight?

Not at the moment, but who knows in the future perhaps.

MN: It seems that you favour political figures of the 'militant' stock in your endeavour to portray Mauritian public figures. A

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Not really. I look for characters that are unique and interesting to write and people would enjoy reading. So it really does not matter who that person is or what is the background. I am always searching for some uniqueness.

MN: When writing on political figures that one admires, can one be objective and neutral? How do you avoid being bias in such a case?

It is not always easy to be objective, but one tries. I am more interested about the person and I try to present the character in the most objective way.

I avoid getting into the personal or private life of an individual. However, I do not discard controversies and criticisms. I make sure that these are addressed in the most objective manner.

Interview by Dodo

SAY NO TO COAL IN MAURITIUS

Mauritians of Melboune, London and Paris join the fight

Mauritius, and, many Mauritians from London, Paris, and Melbourne... are showing their concern about this issue by posting photos on Facebook. To "Say No to Coal!"

Mauritian activists from all over the world are protesting against the construction of a Coal Plant (CT-POWER), located close to residential areas of Albion. They are using Facebook and various social Medias to raise awareness about this issue. The Facebook's activists have organised protests in Paris, London and Melbourne. The actions are not yet finished and Mauritians in Melbourne will organise another protest on March 16 at the Catani Gardens, St-Kilda Beach.

'We are the second city in the world (after Paris) to have had such a positive response after our photo went viral on Facebook last week", they said on the Australian Facebook page "Say no to coal." They are inviting all Mauritians residing in Melbourne to come and show their support at the event.

In London and Paris, friends of Mauritius, students and many Mauritians have taken pictures in front of popular tourists' attraction to show their support. In Paris, students were protesting in front of the Eiffel Tower whilst singing famous Mauritian songs. These massive demonstrations of support to the campaign "say no to coal" demonstrates that Mauritians, even residing abroad, are concerned with the future of the Motherland.

In Mauritius the campaign is intensifying. The hunger strike of activist Jeff Lingaya, which lasted more than a week, has raised awareness among the population. Hundreds of Mauritians have taken part in meetings in various part of the country to show their support to the cause. Lingaya actions have been the trigger to the setting up of a vast network of supporters in colleges, trade unions, ecologist groups... The courage that Lingaya showed

The 'No to Coal' Protest has left the shores of during his strike has raised much awareness among the population. Seen as a hero, he is now campaigning all over the island to attract more supporters.

The association Azir Moris, led by activist Jameel Peerally, "has vowed to keep up and intensify the pressure with a series of punctual actions and public meetings in various towns of the country, with the aim to organise a massive demonstration later during the year." Anshika Sawaram, Alain Bertrand and Jameel Peerally, three members of the organisation have been arrested by police officers in February after protesting at the top of a crane, more than 100 feet above the ground in Quatre-Bornes. They stood ground for more than 12 hours before being arrested by the police.

In response to all the actions the Government of Mauritius has opened discussions with all the stakeholders. Will the Government listen to the public outcry and stop the construction of the CT Power Plant at Albion? We don't know the answer, but we can say that the Mauritians all over the world are watching the country and are concerned about the issue.

In 2010, during the legislative polls, the Prime Minister, Navin Ramgoolam, was aiming his campaign on a "Green Mauritius" with the project "Maurice Ile durable." It is quite a paradox that the Mauritian Government is allowing the construction of a CT Power in the country. But it is not a surprise because politicians rarely abide to theirs promises

Say No To coal on Facebook http://www.facebook.com/groups/Saynotocoal/?fref=ts http://www.facebook.com/events/427569660660094/

Petition on the Internet http://www.avaaz.org/en/petition/Not_to_coal_power_ plants_in_Mauritius/





Buying properties in UK, Mauritius, Dubai... Aura Estates: The World at your fingertips

Mauritius presents itself as a premier international business hub and a window of opportunity for foreigners wishing to establish viable investment projects on the island. An attractive blend of advantages is offered to international investors.

Ash Karan, Director of Aura Estates says "buying property abroad could be one of the emotive and challenging decisions you ever make, which is why we want to ensure our purchases are hassle-free and pain-free as possible. I have recently helped facilitate the purchase of properties in Mauritius by many UK Mauritians"

Attracting foreign capital has always been a major objective in the country's economic development strategy. Numerous advantages, including tax incentives are already offered to foreign investors. As a means to further encourage investors to seize business and investment opportunities in Mauritius, Government has introduced a Permanent Residence Scheme for eligible foreign businessmen. Foreigners can now buy property through one of the government's schemes: the Permanent Residence Scheme (PRS), Integrated Resort Scheme (IRS), and Scheme to Attract Professionals for Emerging Sectors (SAPES) We currently employ a multi-national team of specialists and highly skilled professionals. The ethical approach to the business by our staff is widely recognised as one of the primary reasons to conduct business with the company. Our reputation and service levels have led to close working relationships with a number of companies including property developers, banks, financial advisers and solicitors. This has often led to us being one of the few real estate agents of choice with these high profile companies. Aura Estates are an International property firm, we offer strategic Investments through a diversified global portfolio of select apartments, villas, townhouses and off-plan properties. Aura Estates have built key alliances with strong International developers to sell and market their properties successfully worldwide property with a lot of interest in UK repossessions which we also specialise in. For further information please contact Ash Karan our International Property Director on 01895 77 04 40 or ash@auraestates.com





The Government of Mauritius recently signed a bilateral air services agreement with the Government of the Republic of Maldives in Port Louis for the operation of direct air links to The signatories were the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Mr Xavier-Luc Duval for the Mauritian side and the Minister of Defense and National the Mauritian side and the Minister of Defense and National Security of the Maldives, Colonel (RTD) Mr Mohamed Nazim. The signing of the agreement follows the recent visit of VPM Duval in Maldives earlier this year, where both Governments expressed their wish and agreed upon concluding a bilateral agreement to building closer networks between the two countries by establishing direct air connectivity so as to tap the emerging tourism market in China especially Beijing and from Africa.

The agreement provides for a multiple designation of airline from both sides and for the time being Air Mauritius in collaboration with the Mega Global Air Services (Maldives PVT Ltd.) and the Island Aviation Services Ltd. of Maldives have been designated to operate direct flights between Beijing and Mauritius, as well as providing direct air links to the Maldives. Seven flights are expected weekly and will be operational before the month of July this year. In a statement during the signing ceremony, the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Mr Xavier-Luc Duval, expressed satisfaction that the signing of the agreement is a historical step between Mauritius and the Maldives as it would further strengthen relations between the two countries especially in the area of tourism. According to VPM Duval, both countries have a strong presence in China and the two islands also have interesting features for the Chinese market. For his part, the Minister of Defense and National Security of the Maldives, Colonel (RTD) Mr Mohamed Nazim, recalled that every year about 80,000 Chinese tourists visit Maldives and the coming into operation of the agreement, will allow Maldives to share the market with Mauritius. Besides tourism, Minister Mohamed Nazim added that the direct flight between Mauritius and Maldives will also boost trade between the two neighbours. GIS

Ash Karan, Director of Aura Estates



The Overseas Mauritian Society celebrates its fisrt anniversary **Message from the charity**

The Overseas Mauritian Society was created a year ago and to mark the special occasion we held a little party at the Albannach in Central London. We had the pleasure of having the Mauritian High Commissioner Mr Mahen Kundasamy as part of our distinguished guests

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Since we started the charity we organised 2 fund raising events, the first one was the British 10k in July 2012 where the trustees and three other members did the run on a cold rainy day. The second was a football tournament in London in September 2012 where we had 12 teams taking part. With these two events we have managed to raise £1000 that we donated to our chosen NGO in Mauritius 'La Maison Coeur Ecoute' back in December 2012.

La Maison Coeur Ecoute which means a 'Home with a Listening Heart' is a charity that supports underprivileged children by providing breakfast and also packed lunches before they go to school. To date the founder Mrs Marie Jolicoeur has 177 children that visit daily and she only had 7 when she started 3 years ago. The home also provides the children with The High Commissioner of Mauritius with Ashwin Jokhoo a safe place to play and to do their homework. We want to keep supporting this charity's work and finding ways to keep the children interested in other activities outside of school. So this year we are trying to raise enough money to hire a music teacher that could come once or twice a week and give lessons at the centre.





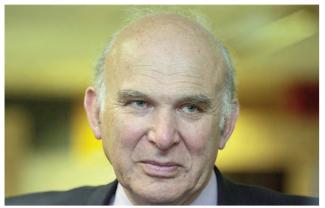
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We are counting on all the support we can get we would welcome an annual donation of £20 that will help us have a budget for the year and invest in fruitful projects like the one described above.

If you would like to get involved please contact us as we are always seeking members who can help us with the charity's work in the UK and abroad. For more information please email: theoverseasmauritiansociety@gmail.com

Donations to: The Overseas Mauritian Society Bank: The Co-operative Bank Account name; The Overseas Mauritian Society Account number: 65543735 Sort code: 089299 Page 10

Small firms need helping hand to access markets



The Government should offer radical tax breaks to help smaller companies access capital markets, according to a report supported by Vince Cable (picture).

The Business Secretary backs the publication by CentreForum, which said small and medium-sized firms are facing a £59bn funding gap over the next four years. The think tank said fast-growing companies are being held back because Britain's tax rules treat debt finance more favourably than equity.

It called for a range of measures, including the abolition of stamp duty on all share transactions or, if the Government regarded this as too radical, just those on socalled "growth markets" like Aim.

CentreForum also said the rate of Capital Gains Tax on shares should be reduced to account for corporation tax paid, which is already done for dividend income, reports The Telegraph.

Mr Cable said the report contains some "interesting ideas". It was also backed Xavier Rolet, chief executive of the London Stock Exchange – who has long called for the same stamp duty move – and John Cridland, director general of the CBI.

Mr Rolet said: "Improving access to equity finance for small and growing businesses should be an absolute priority for both policymakers and market participants. Job creation and growth rely on the ability of our entrepreneurs to adequately finance their ambitions, while avoiding over-reliance on debt."

CentreForum also called for retail savers' stocks and shares Individual Saving Accounts to include shares traded on SME markets such as Aim. George Osborne, the Chancellor, has already signalled that he is considering the merits of this move.

Separately, it has emerged that funds which provide more than £700m of equity capital to small businesses may be excluded from controversial rules that will curb sales of certain investment vehicles. The indication from the Financial Services Authority follows warnings from investors and small business advisers that a plan to limit the marketing of tax-efficient investment schemes could "severely restrict" a key source of funds for entrepreneurs.

The FSA had planned to include Venture Capital Trust (VCT) and Enterprise Investment Scheme (EIS) backed funds in guidance on investment vehicles that can be sold only to "sophisticated investors".

However, following complaints that the plan would choke off vital funds at a time when other sources of capital remain subdued, this week the regulator said it was "considering amending" the proposals. VCTs and real estate investment trusts are among the funds that could be excluded from the rules.

The regulator also said that it is "aware of concerns" in relation to EIS and so- called "seed" EIS schemes (SEIS) and was "considering these issues further".

"It is important to find the right balance between consumer protection and choice," said David Geale, the FSA's head of **Mauritius News**

March 2013

Focussing on Zero

by Mylene

I had occasion to attend the screening of the film, Zero Focus, at the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) in London. It is a murder-mystery story set in Japan and gives an insight of Japanese society rising from the ashes of the Second World War.

After the screening, there was a lively question and answer session between the audience and the director, Isshin Inudo, who has won the Directors Guild of Japan New Directors Award. Here is an extract of the candid way Inudo replied to questions about himself and the film.

Born in 1960

I don't have first hand knowledge of the chaos and hardship of post-war Japan. I started making films while still in high school and after graduating from university I started directing television commercials picking up awards along the way, before making my first feature-length film

Unpatriotic, decadent and counter-productive

These words were used by the Japanese government censors to ban detective novels, during the Second World War. The result was that renowned Japanese writer Seicho Matsumoto (1909-1992), the author of Zero Focus, began his writing career at the age of 42. But, once started he was unstoppable, going on to write over 1,000 works in his lifetime

A whodunnit where most people know who did it

There are already two films and six TV adaptations of this novel, so it would be fair to say that although it is a murder-mystery many people already know whodunnit. Having said that, my version is more a psychological drama focussing on the minds of the people during this post war era. In 1956 the government declared "the postwar era is finally over" and that the economy had returned to its pre-war state. This drama portrays this new era. In the film the



Three strong female leads: Tae Kimura. Ryoko Hirosue. Miki Nakatani

people who are ready to move with the changing times, live. Those not ready to embrace the new era, dies



Mylene with film director, Isshin Inudo,

Some people have pointed out that Sachiko is usually dressed in black, red or white in the film and wonder if this is significant. Well, the costumes were chosen first and foremost because they are beautiful. Having said that, Sachiko is dressed in white for her final scene and this can be interpreted to mean that she accepts her wrong doing and accepts dying as a way out

Is this a story of revenge? It is a gripping Hitchcockian murder-mystery set in the

It is a gripping Hitchcockian murder-mystery set in the beautiful location of post war Kanazawa, on mainland Japan. You have to ask yourself, who would kill today to prevent their sordid past being revealed? The attitude of the people in the film is totally different to the way people think today, it's a totally different mind set. It could be interpreted as a story of revenge

The Japan Foundation -Russell Square London

The evening of film and talk was made possible by The Japan Foundation Touring Film Programme. The Japan Foundation, located in London, has been working to deepen knowledge about Japan and to encourage mutual understanding between the UK and Japan (and the world) through the various programmes on offer. From arts & culture to language learning.

Coming Events:

7 March 2013: Book launch - Commerce and Culture at the 1910 Japan-British Exhibition. Talks by Dr Ayako Hotta-Lister and Professor Ian Nish with a commentary provided by Dr Gordon Daniels. The formal proceedings will be followed by a Q & A session and a short drinks reception. At The Japan Foundation. 6:30pm. Admission free but booking essential

Until 27 March 2013: Once Upon a Time in Japan -Showings of films representing the past in Japanese cinema with works from directors, Sunao Katabuchi, Hirokazu

investments policy.

VCTs are investment trusts that invest in unquoted shares, usually in private companies although they can include some Aim and Plus market shares. EIS and SEIS provide generous tax breaks, including capital gains tax relief, for equity investors in start-ups.

When the FSA announced its plans in October, Tim Smith, an accountant at Baker Tilly, warned that if EIS and VCTs were not excluded it would "significantly reduce this vital source of funding for SME companies, at a time when obtaining external funding, including bank finance, is still extremely challenging".

There were also complaints that generous tax breaks were being "restricted to the rich".

The proposals do not seek to ban retail sales but "only limit the extent to which firms may promote these products".

The FSA said it would publish a statement on the issue in April, with new rules likely to be implemented next year.

Three strong female leads

The story revolves around Teiko (Ryoko Hirosue) whose life is thrown into turmoil when her newly wed husband leaves on a business trip and never returns. In her search to find answers she discovers her husband was close to two women. The elegant aristocrat Sachiko (Miki Nakatani) and receptionist Hisako (Tae Kimura). These two mysterious women seem to know more than they are willing to say. It is obvious part way through the film that Sachiko is the culprit

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Corpses are traditionally dressed in white

Kore-eda and Isshin Inudo at various venues nationwide www.jpf.org.uk

© 2009 DENTSU Inc. / TOHO CO., LTD. / TV ASAHI CORPORATION / KINOSHITA CO., LTD. / The Asahi Shimbun Company / NIPPON SHUPPAN HANBAI INC. / Yahoo Japan Corporation / TOKYO FM Broadcasting Co., Ltd. / asahi Broadcasting Corporation / NAGOYA BROADCASTING NETWORK CO., LTD. / IMJ Entertainment Corp. / TSUTAYA Group / FLaMme / Kyushu Asahi Broadcasting Co., Ltd. / Hokkaido Television Broadcasting Co., Ltd. / HOKURIKU ASAHI BROADCASTING CO.,LTD. / Hiroshima Home Television Co., Ltd. / ehime asahi television co., Itd. On 17 January 1798, a little more than 215 years back, two envoys of Tipu Saheb, the sultan of Mysore, reached Ile de France (as Mauritius was then called) to recruit troops to fight the British in India. (1) Mysore, one of the strongest independent states of India, was committed to the vision of a British-free India. To achieve this goal, an alliance with the French, relentless in their opposition to Britain, was the logical and natural step to take.

The alliance of the sultanate of Mysore with the French was already solidly established under the rule of Tipu Sultan's father, Hyder Ali, in the 1780's. "For the fight for the supremacy in India, the French had joined hands with Hyder Ali and later with his son Fateh Ali Khan, famous as Tippoo Sultan, to overthrow the British." (2) Thus, towards the end of 1780, the French captain 'de vaisseau' Thomas d'Orves armed troops in Ile de France and went to support the French ally Hyder Ali, the nabob of Mysore, who was fighting the British with some success. In this way, this alliance was able to take back Pondicherry which the French had lost to the British on 16 October 1778 A few years later, when the bailli de Suffren launched his campaign against the British in India, he got the ready and spontaneous support of Hyder Ali and his 6000 Sepoys. The French were naturally happy to learn how hateful the British occupants were to the sultan of Mysore. "Il (le sultan de Mysore) a toujours détesté les Anglais et leur fait une guerre sans merci depuis plusieurs années. Il commande un très important bataillon de Cipayes qui a défait plusieurs fois l'armée britannique." (3) The sultanate of Mysore was elated upon learning about the heroic resistance of Suffren



Portrait of Governor Malartic (lithography of Bressend)

to the British navy in the 1780's. "While Hyder Ali and Tippoo were offering tough resistance to English forces on land, on the seas duel after duel was being fought between Suffren and the English Admiral Sir Edwards Hughes When Hyder Ali was informed about the heroic exploits of Suffren, he remarked, "At last, the English have found a master. This is the man who will aid me to exterminate them; I am determined that two years hence not one of them shall remain in India, and that they shall not possess a single inch of Indian soil."(2) But this prediction never came true. Although Suffren proved a tough opponent for the British at sea, he expressed his disillusion in the following terms: "Il est affreux d'avoir pu quatre fois détruire l'escadre anglaise, et qu'elle existe encore." (4) Tipu Sultan in the step of his father as an unconditional ally of the French

As his father Hyder Ali, Tippoo Sultan was keen to ally with the French to combat the British and throw them out of India. He sent an embassy to Ile de France in 1798 to negotiate the recruitment of troops. "The embassy dispatched to the Isle de France in 1798 by Tippoo Saib met, as may be expected, with a most favourable reception in the colony... a proclamation was issued by M. de Malartic, inviting the inhabitants to enrol themselves as volunteers in the service of the Sultan for a stipulated rate of pay."(5) The proclamation was issued on the initiative of Governor Malartic to inform the population about the presence and the mission of 2 ambassadors of Tippoo Sultan, Hassan Ali Khan and Mahammad Ibrahim, in Ile de France in January 1798 and read as follows: Proclamation de Malartic du 10 Pluviose l'an six de la République Française, une et indivisible (29 Janvier 1798) à l'occasion de la visite des émissaires de Tippoo Sultan LIBERTE EGALITE REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE Une & Indivisible PROCLAMATION

commandant-général des Etablissements Français à l'Est du Cap de Bonne-Espérance. CITOYENS,CONNAISSANT depuis plusieurs années votre zèle

CITOYENS, CONNAISSANT depuis plusieurs années votre zéle & votre attachement pour les intérêts & la gloire de notre République, nous sommes très empressés & nous nous faisons un devoir de vous donner connaissance de toutes les propositions que nous fait Tippoo Sultan, par deux Ambassadeurs qu'il nous a dépêchés.

Ce prince a écrit des lettres particulières à L'Assemblée Coloniale, à tous les Généraux qui sont employés dans ce gouvernement, & nous a adressé un paquet pour le Directoire exécutif. 10. Il demande à faire une alliance offensive & défensive avec les Français, en proposant d'entretenir à ses frais, tant que la guerre durera dans l'Inde, les troupes qu'on pourra lui envoyer. 20. Il promet de fournir toutes les choses nécessaires pour faire cette guerre excepté le vin & l'eau de vie dont il se trouve absolument dénué.

30. Il assure que tous les préparatifs sont faits pour recevoir les secours qu'on lui donnera, & qu'à l'arrivée des troupes, les Chefs & Officiers trouveront toutes les choses nécessaires pour faire une guerre à laquelle les Européens sont peu accoutumés.
40. Enfin il n'attend plus que le moment où les français viendront à son secours, pour déclarer la guerre aux anglais, désirant avec

ardeur pouvoir les chasser de l'Înde. Comme il nous est impossible de diminuer le nombre des soldats des 107e. & 108e. régimens & de la garde soldée du Port de la Fraternité, à cause des secours que nous avons envoyés à nos alliés les Hollandais; nous invitons tous les citoyens de bonne volonté, à se faire inscrire dans leurs municipalités respectives, pour aller servir sous les drapeaux de Tipoo.

Ce prince désire aussi avoir des citoyens de couleur, libres, & nous invitons tous ceux qui voudront aller servir sous ses drapeaux, à se faire aussi inscrire.

Nous pouvons assurer tous les citoyens qui se feront inscrire, que Tippoo leur fera des traitements avantageux qui seront fixés avec ses Ambassadeurs qui s'engageront en outre, au nom de leur souverain, à ce que les Français qui auront pris parti dans ses armées, ne puissent jamais y être retenus quand ils voudront rentrer dans leur patrie.

FAIT Au Port Nord-Ouest, le 10 Pluviôse, l'an six de la République Française, Une & Indivisible.

MALARTIC

Port Nord-Ouest, Isle de France, chez Nicolas BOLLE, Imprimeur Malartic's proclamation shows the determination of the French to look for allied forces anywhere to oppose the British. It also shows that there were local leaders in India like Tippoo Sultan who were opposed to the British presence and were ready to side with other European nations to drive the British away from India. The official and public stance given to the embassy detrimental to Tipu-Saheb

Tipu Saheb wanted to keep the envoys' mission to Ile de France secret, most probably to avoid raising the suspicions of the British. But the French authorities in Port Louis publicized the event extensively by giving a grand welcome to the envoys, by issuing a proclamation in Ile France and making it known in the media in India. « Tippoo-Sahib leur (ses ambassadeurs) avait recommandé de garder l'incognito et de se donner pour de simples négociants. Mais Malartic, qui gouvernait alors la colonie, tint à leur faire une réception grandiose. Cette démonstration officielle devait perdre Tippoo-Sahib.»(1)

Being given the nature of a proclamation, which is an official statement that is meant to go public, it indicates that the French authorities in Ile de France were of the view that the envoys' presence and mission did not require the seal of secrecy. This stand of Malartic's government – that the envoys' visit was of the public domain – is confirmed by a press publication of Malartic's proclamation in Calcutta. "Malartic had issued a Proclamation…and assured all citizens that to those who enlisted Tippoo would give a good rate of pay and allowances. Wellesley, the Governor-General of India, came to know of this when on the 8th of June 1798 he read about the Proclamation of Malartic in a Calcutta newspaper."(2)

Apprised of the object of the visit of the envoys to Ile de France, the British questioned Tipu-Sultan about the proclamation and the landing of troops (by the way Tipu-Sultan's demand for troops from Ile de France brought him only some 86 men who landed from 'La Preneuse' at Mangalore), thinking that the sultan would deny all conclusions of alliance with the French. On the contrary, Tipu did not deny anything and tried to buy time. Losing patience, British launched a harsh campaign against the sultan. "Les Anglais perdirent patience et engagèrent les hostilités contre lui en février 1799." (6) That was the end of Tipu-Sahib. « Une dure campagne aboutit à la prise de Seringapatam, au cours de laquelle le sultan fut tué, le 4 mai 1799. »(1) Public exposure as a deliberate initiative to lose Tipu-Sultan Was this public exposure of Tipu-Sultan's intention to ally with the French forces and ruin British design in India, not a deliberate initiative of the French government to lose the sultan of Mysore ? « Les historiens affirment jusqu'à présent que l'attitude de Malartic envers les « ambassadeurs », leur réception officielle avec parade et salves d'artillerie et surtout, la proclamation que le gouverneur général allait



Suffren meeting Hyder Ali (Engraving of J.B. Morret, 1789)

publier au bout de quelques jours relèvent d'une incroyable maladessse. Rien n'est moins sûr. Malartic aura aussi bien pu vouloir mettre Tippou en campagne contre les Anglais dans l'Inde, gage de tranquillité pour l'Isle de France. Il suffisait de le compromettre. »(6) It was like buying the security of Ile de France by throwing Tipu-Sultan in the British den.

This public exposure can also be interpreted as an opportunity for the French to avenge Tipu-Sultan's late mishandlings of the Franco-Mysorian alliance. As a matter of fact, some time back, a treaty of cooperation between Tipu-Sultan and David de Cossigny and a detachment of the regiment of Ile de France, ended up in an antagonism deeply felt by the French allies. « Tippou repassa au Mysore avec David de Cossigny et un détachement du régiment de l'Isle de France.... A la paix, Cossigny, isolé au Mysore, eut de la peine à éviter l'inimitié active de Tippou. Obligé de se replier, il l'écrivit à Bussy, pour fuir 'les maux et les humiliations, l'incertitude de ma nourriture journalière, les outrages d'un homme près duquel ma mauvaise fortune m'avait placé, enfin la mauvaise foi d'un prince aigri par les circonstances et auquel j'étais livré si je n'eusse pris le parti de l'éviter', il alla attendre les ordres de son chef du côté de Mahé».(Idem) It is also remarkable that on two occasions with Hyder Ali in 1778, and Tipu-Sultan in 1793 – when the British were laying the siege of Pondicherry, the Mysorians left their French allies unassisted. Were they unhappy that the French could not furnish them the troops and the arms they needed and for which their appetite was apparently insatiable?

In a letter sent to Tipu-Sultan through the two envoys, Malartic, who had been apprised of the sultan's retaining artists in Mysore, in utter disrespect of the terms of the contract trying both parties, reprimanded the latter in these terms : « Comment voulez-vous, écrivit Malartic au nabab, qu'on vous en envoye d'autres, si vous n'êtes pas exact à tenir la parole qui leur a été donnée ?...Je vous invite donc, Prince, avec la plus grande instance à permettre à tous les Français qui sont dans vos Etats de retourner en France lorsqu'ils en demanderont la permission. Votre exactitude à remplir vos engagements vous procurera d'autres Français pour aller à votre secours quand les circonstances 'exigeront. »(Idem) In another letter sent simultaneously to Tipu-Sultan, Malartic lays the same stress on the latitude to be given to the troops which were sent to Mangalore : »Je dois vous prévenir que mon intention est que dans tous les temps ils soient libres de quitter vos Etats.»(Idem) The downfall of Tipu-Sahib prepares the downfall of the Mascarenes

The episode Malartic-Tipu Sultan was an eye-opener for the British. It demonstrated beyond doubt that the Mascarenes was an important cog in the strategy of the French to harm British interests in that part of the world. That was confirmed by papers discovered by the British after the demise of Tipu-Sultan. "After the fall of Tippoo, a number of papers were found in his palace at Seringapatam, which, as the Governor-general observed in a letter to the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, 'proved the danger of allowing France to retain these islands, so that if a war should continue, I trust you will strike a blow against these prolific sources of intrigue in peace, and of piracy and buccaneering in war."(5)

The 'islands' referred to are non other than the three islands of the Mascarenes – Rodrigues, Réunion and Isle de France – which would fall under British attacks in 1809 and 1810.

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ANNE-JOSEPH-HYPPOLITE MALARTIC, Général en chef, Gouverneur Général des Isles de France & de la Réunion, &

Dodo

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AGONY UNCLE



by Claude Canabady

Answer

Question

I am V and 35 yrs old and been married to T for the past 16 years. He is 38 years old. We got married very young. We have two children, one girl aged 15 years and one boy aged 13 years respectively.

However over the years the love has waned away and we have However over the years the love has waned away and we have now grown apart from each other. At 35, I feel that I am still young enough to expect some happiness. I want to divorce my husband but the problem is that the children are very upset about the idea. Though my husband is not keen to divorce, he has agreed that we should tell the children first. We have explained to them but they are both against us splitting and the older one has said that she will abandon her studies if we call the the way she is doing extremely well in her studies. What

split; by the way she is doing extremely well in her studies. What should I do?

Do I go ahead or do I wait? I feel terrible about it all, one side of me is telling me to go ahead and the other is telling me differently. Please help me.

I can understand the dilemma that you are confronted with. What to do? This is the million dollar question. From what you are saying your relationship with T has reached the point of no return. It looks as if your mind is made up, it is the timing which is the current issue being debated.

I can understand the reaction of your daughter but your decision must not be based solely on her reaction. I hope that your husband does not use that leverage to blackmail you to stay. I suppose that the atmosphere at your house must be very tense and tempers must be frayed. So I feel that for the time being, it might be a good idea just to cool things, it will be a respite for all. It will give a chance to all parties concerned to be reasonable and rational about what is happening.

Until recently, there has been a school of thought that it was better for the children that when a couple do not get on, they separate. It was thought that the children would be better off living with one parent in peaceful surroundings than with both parents who are constantly fighting each other. Recent research has proved the opposite to that way of thinking, in actual fact children do better when the parents stay together even when they don't get on.

Of course, there must be a reasonably peaceful atmosphere. So you need to put your thinking cap and weigh the pros and cons whether to split or stay together. You need to explore the very reason of why you are splitting. If the relationship is not worth salvaging, perhaps counselling would be appropriate before any decision is taken, so a visit to a professional is strongly advised. In the light of the counselling sessions, both of you can take a decision which is mutually acceptable.

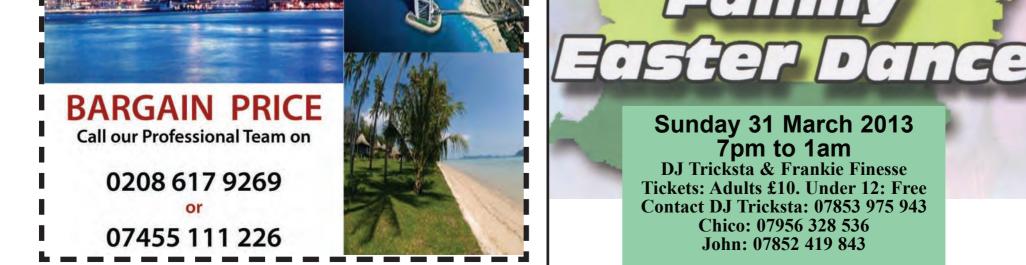
You have not explained fully the reason for your wanting to divorce your husband except to say that you do not get on. If you choose not to see a counsellor, then perhaps you can try to mend fences temporarily until you had a chance to really take time and talk to the children. Most of all, you should listen carefully to what they are telling you. At the end of the day, the decision is yours.





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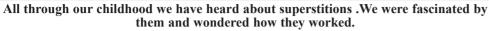


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March 2013

Old Wives' Tales That Are True by Devinia Sookia (USA)*

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Superstitions

Superstitions are things such as the twitching of eyes can make you become rich or can bring you misfortune. It is bad luck if you walk under a ladder . It is bad luck iof a black cat crosses your path . If you see the New Moon , it brings you bad luck . You should not spill salt as it will bring you bad luck . Never give someone a knife in hand as you will become his enemy .Do not give anyone chillies as a gift as you will have a fight with that person later .If you do give chillies you must tale a coin in return .If the palm of your right hand is itchy, money will be coming your way. But if you scratch the right hand while it is itchy, it will keep the money from coming. If the left hand is itchy, it means that you will be paying money to someone .If you cut an apple in half and count how many seeds are inside, you will also know how many children you will soon have a visitor. If you kill the bee, you will have bad luck, or the visitor will be unpleasant .The sound of bells drives away demons because they are re afraid of the loud noise .When a bell rings, a new angel has received his wings.

If you blow out all the candles on your birthday cake with the first puff you will get your wish. To protect yourself from witches, wear a blue bead. Do not lean a broom against a bed. The evil spirits in the broom will cast a spell on the bed. If you sweep trash out the door after dark, it will bring a stranger to visit. If someone is sweeping the floor and sweeps over your feet, you'll never get married. Never take a broom along when you move. Throw it out and buy a new one. Do not lean a broom against a bed. The evil spirits in the broom will cast a spell on the bed. If you sweep trash out the door after dark, it will bring a stranger to visit. If you cut an apple in half and count how many seeds are inside, you will also know how many children you will have. To predict the sex of a baby: Suspend a wedding band held by a piece of thread over the palm of the pregnant girl. If the ring swings in an oval or circular motion the baby will be a girl. If the ring swings in a straight line the baby will be a boy. If you make a bedspread, or a quilt, be sure to finish it or marriage will never come to you. Placing a bed facing north and south brings misfortune. You must get out of bed on the same side that you get in or you will have bad luck. Amber beads worn as a necklace can protect against illness or cure colds. you get a chill up your back or goosebumps, it means that someone is walking over your grave. We have no way of knowing if these are true but it makes sense not to walk under a lader .It might fall on us and we could get hurt.

Old Wives' Tales

We also heard about old wives' tales such as it takes years for our body to digest gum. Going out with wet hair can give you a cold .Old wives' tales exist in every culture and are often so pervasive that we take them as the truth. Lately science has shown that most are no more than legends while surprisingly others have turned out to be true. Therefore we have to give our ancestors a little credit for those old wives' tales that have been proved to be true.

Other old wives' tales that have some truth in them are as follows:

Carrots are Good for the Eyes.

Carrots do not help you see better in the dark they are not magical .However they help you maintain your eyesightl. Carrots are full of vitamin A which is an essential nutrient for eye health

wear a Hat When It's Cold to Stay Warm

It is important to wear warm clothes when it is cold. But are hats really more essential than other items of clothing? Hats are important but for a different reason given in that famous old wives' tale that is more heat is lost through your head than the rest of your body. The real reason why hats are important is that your head is more sensitive to the cold than much of the rest of your body, so wearing a hat keeps you significantly warmer.

Cranberry Juice is Good for a Bladder Infection

Doctors are not sure why cranberry juice is helpful in preventing bladder infections .But it works. That is not surprising as there are over 200 substances in one measly berry.

Count Sheep to Fall Asleep

The practice of counting sheep to fall asleep is well known. But does it actually work? It depends on the person. Often we are kept awake at night by stress or planning what we need to do the next day. The key is to turn your mind off and relax. Counting sheep is a simple and repetitive activity that some people find relaxing. For others it can actually add more stress. If it is not working for you, find another strategy such as drinking warm milk.

Loud Noises Can Cause Hearing Loss

As we age our hearing declines. Therefore it is not surprising that if you are frequently exposed to loud noises your hearing can decline more quickly than it otherwise would. If you are exposed you should wear earplugs.

Sucking Your Thumb Gives You Buck Teeth

For generations parents have warned their children that sucking their thumb can give them buck teeth later in life. It may sound strange but it is a real real possibility. Thumb sucking is common among young children. But if it keeps going on when a child's permanent teeth start to grow, the teeth can become misaligned and eventually the top teeth are pushedout. If you want to avoid a pricey set of braces, encourage your children to stop sucking their thumb after they reach the age of 6.

An Apple a Day Keeps the Doctor Away

Apples are nutritious, full of fibre, vitamin C, flavonoids and all sorts of other healthy properties. This fruit has been linked to a lower risk of strokes, cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's Disease, Parkinson's and asthma.

Seizures are brought on by a full moon



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In a study conducted by researchers at the University of Patras Medical School in Greece it was revealed that there was a significant number of patients treated for seizures around the time of a full moon.

A bar of soap in the bed prevents nighttime leg cramps

A fresh bar of soap under your bottom sheet near your legs reduces the frequency of cramps and is also a cure for restless leg syndrome. However users agree that the bar must be kept relatively fresh and recommend that you replace it at least every six months. As for brands users swear that just about "anything but Ivory" will do the trick.

Heartburn during pregnancy means a hairy baby

It is true is that mothers who experience heartburn during pregnancy tend to have hairy babies. In a study of 64 pregnant women conducted by Johns Hopkins University researchers, women who experienced the most heartburn while pregnant gave birth to babies with a lot of hair. It is not clear how it works exactly.

Devinia Sookia is a barrister-at-law, journalist, writer and attorney.

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Bollywood

Kai Po Che gets **Mukesh Ambani's** seal of approval

We recently saw a special screening of UTV Motion Pictures' much hyped Kai Po Che being hosted for Mukesh Ambani at Antilla.

The film, shot extensively in Gujarat, highlights the entrepreneurial flair of the Gujarati clan, which has led to the business figure's interest in the film. After hearing the film's title and seeing the promos, Mr Ambani expressed a keen interest in seeing the film, being Gujarati himself. This which was easily arranged, particularly given his great rapport with UTV CEO and one of the film's producers, Ronnie Screwvala.

The businessman has a 20-seater mini-theatre equipped with the latest technologies at Antilla, and the film was digitally uploaded via a technology that allows a one-time viewing. Mr Ambani watched the film with his wife, Nita and, according to sources, some of the visuals made him feel nostalgic about his family in Gujarat.

The Indian Premiere of the film took place in a suburban theatre, with actors Arjun Kapoor, Parineeti Chopra, Ranveer Singh and Anushka Sharma being among those attending. Meanwhile, the film will also be screened in a single screen theatre in Jaipur for

to be a part of Kai Po Che

Rising star, Amrita Puri, has said that she doesn't mind being a supporting actor, but is careful about staying away from accessorv roles. "I have been picky about my roles and prefer to keep gaps in between each film that I do. I don't want to be just an accessory in films, so I must have an integral and meaty role in whatever I get," says Amrita.

But then, was choosing Kai Po Che, which is about

three male friends, a hard choice? "It wasn't a hard choice at all! I was more than happy with it because Gattu (filmmaker Abhishek Kapoor) was on top of my list of the directors I wanted to work with, and then, the role is fantastic! I was in no dilemma about this one at all," says the actress, who adds that supporting roles have a renewed importance in Bollywood. "There's a lot more credit given to actors in supporting roles," she says.

professional cricketer herself.

Kai Po Che wins over critics and audiences at Berlin Film Festival

March 2013

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Kai Po Che, a film about cricket, love and politics set against a backdrop of sectarian violence and an earthquake, bowled over the crowd at the Berlin Film Festival. The film induced cheers and tears from a packed cinema on Thursday as it screened ahead of its worldwide release this week. Based on the bestselling Chetan Bhagat book

The Three Mistakes of My Life, the film follows three young men as they set up a sport shop and cricket coaching academy. The film's director Abhishek Kapoor said he wanted to shy away from the traditional Bollywood formula. "I don't think it's a Bollywood film, it's an Indian film," said Kapoor.

He says he hoped the film's format, which includes TV footage from the historic 2001 India-Australia test series and features a cameo by the Indian cricket star Ajay Jadeja, would appeal to a wider audience. "The world over, people are interested in Indian film. But somehow Bollywood films don't connect with people," he said.

While the film touches on political and religious issues, ultimately it is about the bond between the leads. "This is what India is about: cricket, politics, religion and movies. But actually this film is about friendship," said Kapoor. "I think it is a very important story for India."

Kai Po Che, produced by UTV Motion Pictures, releases in the UK and Worldwide on 22nd February 2012.

The Tourism Minister belongs to the Parti Mauricien Social Democrat (PMSD) whose leader is Mr Xavier Duval, Minister of Finance. Mr Desvaux was made President of the MTPA some six years ago on the recommendation of Mr Duval, when he was himself the Tourism Minister. Mr Duval did ask the Tourism Minister not to sack Mr Desvaux. However, Mr Sik Yuen ahead and sent the MTPA President back home.

One can imagine the discord between the two PMSD Ministers. It has been reported that Mr Duval has finally accepted the Tourism Minister's decision and will find Mr Desvaux another high placement.

Rising Star, Amrita Puri, delighted

Controversy over the revocation of the MTPA President

Mauritian Tourism Minister Michael Sik Yuen felt he could no longer work in collaboration with the President of the Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority (MTPA), Mr Robert Desvaux, who was dismissed from his job by the Minister.

Intense training and cricketing for Sushant Singh Rajput in preparation for Kai Po Che

Actor Sushant Singh Rajput literally sweat it out for his role in the upcoming Kai Po Che

Playing the cricket-crazed 'Ishaan' in the film, he underwent intense practice sessions with seasoned cricketers such as Indian bowlers Zaheer Khan and Ashish Mehra. The role demanded absolute fitness on mental and physical levels, as well as strong

stamina levels. Two weeks of rigorous practice sessions and a combination of strength training and cardio, along with a good diet, did the trick. But more than preparing for the role, Sushant took it as playing the sport, his passion since childhood, with his family being diehard cricket fans and his sister being a

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