

THE MID TOWNER

BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CHANDIGARH MIDTOWN : R.I. DISTRICT 3080

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Editor
Col AJS Gill

Programme: - Thursday, Oct. 17, 2007

Vol. XXXII No. 16 Oct. 16, 2007

Fund Raiser Premier of Movie "Speed"

Please note the change
in Date, Time & Venue

Venue: Batra Theatre, Sector 37, Chandigarh

Time: 9 PM



Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown
organize



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At 9.00PM on Thursday 18th October 07 in Batra Theatre, Sector 37, Chandigarh

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Padam Bhushan Dr. Sardar Anjum - Poet Par Excellence



Rtn. Gudip Deep introduces Dr. Sardar Anjum, who captivated the Rotarians with his poems

A couplet lives only as long as it perturbs. Beyond that, it just exists. In bridging this gap lies the real worth of a poet. And his challenge lies not simply in translating thoughts into words but in lending those words into actions that serve the larger purpose of art. While the purpose of art is a matter of perception, the celebrated poet-litterateur Dr Sardar Anjum would go as far as possible to prove that all art is anti establishment.

The remark is heavily reminiscent of Habib Tanvir and his fiery pursuits as a man of theatre. Dr Anjum, for his part, may well be termed the Tanvir of poetry. Why else would he whip the establishment and still get rewarded for it?

The Padma Bhushan is just another awards that confirms the genius Anjum, but the episode he narrates reflects his real charm. "I got a call from the President House and they asked me if I was accepting the award. They feared I might reject it. That's Sardar Anjum."

And as the much rewarded poet (a Padma Shri and The Millennium Peace Award recipient) lists the Padma

Bhushan as just another occurrence in his eventful life, we are reminded of verse, "Usi ko yeh tufaan sajda karenge, bhanvar mein jo kashti utare khada hai."

A poet par excellence, a writer of 18 purposeful works, a crusader for many social causes and an alleged "ghost writer", Dr Anjum relishes all labels except the last. Deflecting it in style, the poet he lashes out at those who defame his merit, "Shauhrat ki is bheed mein Anjum kabhie to duniya puchhegi, Jinke apne pair nahi the woh kaise mushhoor hue..."

Anjum is now redefining the world of literature with his new sensibility that refuses to acknowledge death as the final truth. "There is no such thing and a finality. I am for the eternal flow of life. "Maut se kya use daraoge..jise marna bhi zindahi sa lage....," quips the poet, while repeatedly referring to his spiritual association with Jesus Christ.

A Punjabi Christian, Anjum exudes the essence of Christianity. In fact, his remarks drew a big applause when he went to the USA to receive the Millennium Peace Award. To

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the query of whether he is a Christian and whether he goes to church, Anjum replied, "I am not a Christian; I am a lover of Christ, of the man who bore the cross so that you and me and the world could smile. It is the burden of this cross that makes my poetry beautiful." (Source: <http://www.tribuneindia.com/2005/20050126/cth1.htm>).

In our club meeting on Oct. 12, 2007 a Poet, philosopher and a down to earth Punjabi, Dr. Sardar Anjum was the Guest Speaker. His poems speak volumes of his sublimity, vision, principled defiance to stand by the common men and represent them. He served as Head of Urdu Department at Punjab University. He has received 18 state awards for his literary works and activities, including Punjab Ratan.

Dr. Anjum also played a significant & courageous role to revive the feeling of love and affection during the days of turmoil in Punjab. He highlighted the unsaid agony of the Punjabis and their feelings in his poetry and serial "Goongi Tarikh". He has addressed various literary forums not only in India but also from International platforms in USA, Canada, UK, France and Switzerland, as 'Ambassador of Peace'.

In Pakistan 2 years ago, Anjum tried to defuse the Indo-Pak tension through his poetry, "Paas paas bethein hain, phir bhi doori hai, Aa mil jul kar samjein kya majburi hai."

"Kis tarz ki bata jang hai, Chahe mera mare chahe tera

mare, Ansuon ka to ek rang hai."

While offering truthful advice for the political system & administration, Dr. Anjum has contributed towards global understanding and universal peace.

"Khuda bachaye suna hai ye sarphira Anjum, Chirag ban ke hawa se hisab mange hai."

"Jaan dene ka Messiah se mera wada hai, mujko maro to mera karz utar jaye."

"Kachche gharon ke pakke log, bhooke mar gaye sachche log, khudgarzi ki bheed mein dekho, kho gaye achhche achhche log, Raj sinhasan dhoond rahe hain, phir se chor uchakke log, desh bachana hai gar logo, dhoondh ke layo achche log".

"Sar uncha kar key eh kahe do abh nangi talwaron se, apna hak hum cheen ke legein, kursi ke bimaron se." At this point Dr. Anjum clarified that in this poem he is certainly not preaching violence but displayed deep routed human concern.

Rtn. Arjan Singh had no words to propose the formal vote of thanks but advised all present to give a standing ovation to Dr. Sardar Anjum ! As summed up by PP Dr. Balram Gupta, while getting the Punctuality Award, "Dr. Anjum weaved the Rotary spirit through the medium of Poetry.



Birthday boy
Rtn Prem Anand gets a gift



Punctuality award to
PP Dr. Balram Gupta



House Full !



Rtn Arjan Singh presents
a Memento to Dr Anjum

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Appeal by DG Shaju Peter Contribute for the Book "Rotarians Favourite Quotes"



DG Shaju Appeals!

The District Conference is scheduled for 23rd/24th Feb. 2008, to be hosted by our club, the venue for which would be the newly built auditorium, Indradhanush, Sector 5, Panchkula. TRF Trustee Carolyn Jones from Alaska would be RI President's Representative for the conference. She is the First Lady Trustee of the Foundation.

A book of International quality, *Rotarians Favourite Quotes*, is being published. DG Shaju Peter has appealed to all Rotarians to give quotes for this book. If you do not have time to research for the quote, don't worry. Just send your cheque for Rs 1000/- for each quote, in favour of 'RI District 3080', with your photograph. DG Shaju's team shall find the quote for you. Please encourage your friends also to contribute.

Congratulations

Rtn. RTPS Tulsi & Ann Ranjana have become proud Dada-Dadi of Anika, born at Sanfransisco to Rebecca & Japjit Singh Tulsi.

Speedy Recovery

PP Dr. S.K. Sharma has undergone an eye surgery. We wish him a speedy recovery and back to his busy schedule!

Rtn Dr. Shashi Jain Honoured

Rtn. Dr. Shashi Jain, Principal, Dev Samaj College for Women, Sector 45, Chandigarh was recently honoured by Indian Economic Development & Research Association at New Delhi with Bharti Shiksha Award, which was presented to her by Mr. G. Krishnamurthy, former Chief Election Commissioner.

On 5.10.07 Dr. Shashi Jain was honoured by Amar Ujala on International Teacher's Day. Again on 6.10.07, the Vice Chancellor honoured her for holding a seminar on Indo Pak Peace in Dev Samaj College for Women, in which over 200 students participated from Pakistan and India.

Congratulations Dr. Shashi for the well deserved accolades!



Birthday Greetings

Rtn. Deepak Sood Oct. 20
Rtn. T.L. Verma Oct. 24



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS

R'ann Patinder & Rtn. Maharaj Bakhsh Singh Oct. 19
R'ann Parveen & Rtn. Arjan Singh Oct. 20
R'ann Vandana & Rtn. Ajay K. Gupta Oct. 20
R'ann Moon Inder & Pres. Rtn. Sandeep Sandhu Oct. 24



CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ROTARY FOUNDATION

Rtn. Tejinder Singh \$ 100



DONATIONS FOR CLUB PROJECTS :

Rtn. Tejinder Singh Rs. 2100/-



PUNCTUALITY DRAW

Won by PP Rtn. Dr. Balram K. Gupta

Editor for the week : IPP Rtn. Dr. V.J.S. VOHRA

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