



Newsletter

February, 2023

President's Address



Dear Members of the Women's International Club,

The month of February is upon us. This always brings to mind the immortal lines of the famous poet, Percy Bysshe Shelley, from his memorable poem, 'Ode To The West Wind'. The lines go as written, "The trumpet of a prophecy! O Wind, if winter comes, can spring be far behind". After the cold prophecies of a freezing January, made by the MET department, and temperatures in the Capital coming down to one degree, we are now able to experience the warmth of the Sun. Suddenly, there is colour, life and excitement, all the signs of the new season.

But coming back to the famous Poet, Shelley, who was an optimist, because, despite his depiction of prevailing gloom, he always believed in the final triumph of a glorious future for Mankind. Infact, his contemporary, John Keats, also wrote, "There is a budding morrow in every midnight", as are the lines of another famous poet, Lord Tennyson, "Old order changeth giving place to new".

It is true that life is a mixture of joys and sorrows, and it is wise to bear adversities with patience and fortitude because hope is always around the corner.

February also hails the Mahashivratri, which is the great night of Shiva. It is celebrated as a night of special spiritual significance, a night of reawakening. Scientifically, it is a night, when the northern hemisphere of the planet is positioned in such a way that there is a natural upsurge of energy in a human being. It is believed that Mahashivratri offers a person an opportunity to experience "the unbounded and the oneness in existence".

With February comes Valentine's Day, a day associated with romantic love, hope, expectation, and looking forward to a happy future. So Friends, the month of February is not to be wasted at all.

Back home, in Delhi, efforts are on for the last-minute touches to spruce up the Capital for the upcoming G20 Summit being held in September this year. At the same time, Cricket fans have been upbeat with the Indian team winning the series against New Zealand. On the other hand, though the State of Orissa hosted a spectacular World Cup Hockey Tournament at its World Class stadiums at Bhuvneshwar and Rourkela, the Indian team lost out even before entering the semi finals and are now placed at the ninth position. It has raised the issue on the

absence of psychological support and systems for our sports teams in India.

At the Women's International Club, we are in sync with the spirit of the month as we are celebrating both spring and Valentine's. The February General Meeting is kindly hosted by our member, Guggu Anup Singh, and the theme in keeping with the month is celebrating wine and chocolate.

Nayana Goradia celebrates laughter and humour through the discussion on her book, *The Middle*. We have Muzzaffar Ali, talking about his book, at an event hosted by our ever so gracious, Bubbles Suneja. A gourmet Mughal feast is ordered for at Karim by Bindu Talwar and we finally partake of a vegan meal, giving good health and wellness, for which we are grateful to our members, Vibhuti and Brinda.

I would also like to inform you that due to the persistent efforts of our Treasurer, Gitanjali, more members are now responding to her request for payment of dues and attendance at General Meetings. We are indeed happy to see faces that we had missed seeing for quite some time.

As you all know, the Nominations Committee has been appointed by the EC for the selection of members to the EC 23-24. The names on the Nominations committee, as announced during the January GM are Chairperson: Hemant Pasrich, Members: Serita Kakkar, Christine Zamadari, Mohini Suneja, Surrinder Sarna, Ashima Ghatate, and Grace. Now members are requested to send in nominations for themselves or for another member in writing or by email addressed to the Chairperson, Nominations Committee, before the end of the month.

Dear members, as I pen off for this month's Newsletter, I am reminded of some beautiful lines that I quote for you all, spoken by Gautam Buddha: "Thousands of candles can be lit from a single candle and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared."

Amen

Suneeta Trivedi

President WIC 22-23



Nominating Committee 2023

Chairperson: Hemant Pasrich

+91 98101 26355 thestudy1972@yahoo.co.in

Members: Serita Kakkar, Christine Zamadari, Mohini Suneja, Surrinder Sarna, Ashima Ghatate, and Grace Kawakami

Reminder from the Nomination Committee

Dear Members,

We invite nominations/self-nominations for the positions for the Executive Committee 2023-2024.

The closing date for receiving nominations is 28th February 2023.

As per the constitution, the Executive Committee consists of "4 Indian officers, and 4 from the international community".

We urge all our talented members to come forward and volunteer. It's time to give back to our Club, which gives us such a splendid platform for forging friendships and exchanging our cultural diversity.

So please reach out to the Chairperson of Nominating Committee via email or phone.

All nominations will be kept confidential.

Thank you.

Nominating Committee

Executive Committee 2022-2023



President:
Suneeta Trivedi

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2nd Vice President:
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Secretary:
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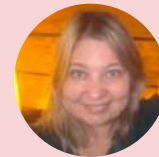
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Circle Leaders 2022-2023

Textiles circle:

Grace Kawakami, Leena Singh,
Madhu Jain

Gourmet Trail:

Bindu Talwar, Devika Anand,
Ruchika Rajan

Indian and South East Asia

Culture & Heritage:

Alice Cheng, Ashwini Pai
Bahadur, Renee Singh

World Festivals:

Anita Dua, Anushree Mahajan,
Laura Amalir, Seita Vaidialingam

Travel circle:

Bubbles Suneja, Ravina Khurana

Art & Crafts circle:

Atsuko Jakhar, Ashima Singh,
Isabelle Touyarou

Around the World:

Beatrice Correa Do Lago, Fatimata Kane
Haidara, Patricia Vrij, Soha Kamal Farouk,
Rosie Sahni

Book circle:

Kusum Ansal, Noor Anand Chawla, Radhika
Birla, Silvia Jakhar

Wellness, Health & Fitness:

Anna Jha, Brinda Singh,
Vibhuti Sharma

Special circle:

Please contact Seema Bhalla if you want to
suggest a program or a speaker

WIC welcomes new members



Diana Alcala is from Great Britain and is Mexican by birth. Other than UK and Mexico Diana has lived in USA, Argentina. She has a BA in Political Science. Diana loves books and movies and she would be happy to bring new programs to WIC on subjects like health and wellness, changing career, Mexican -Indian common grounds, Mexican history.

Anush Khanoyan is from Armenia. Her spouse - Mr Youri Babakhanian is the Ambassador of Armenia to India. Anush has studied the English language at Yerevan State University of Linguistics. She has worked for years in the sphere of Human Resources management at several International organisations in Armenia. Together with her family she has been on diplomatic mission in Syria, Lebanon and Iraq. Her interests include reading books, doing written translations from English into Armenian, learns to make collages. She will be happy to talk about her country and share with the WIC members, when convenient.



Darya Mataru is Ukrainian. She is a Marketing manager. Darya is married to a Russian who is half Sardar and they have 3 kids. Darya lived in India for 10 years and studied at Russian Embassy School. After leaving India she lived in Ukraine and Moscow. Darya's hobby is drawing.

Elif Tekelli Bonell is Turkish and Italian, born in Istanbul. She has MSc in Landscape Architecture and she is the Founder of Land Design Factory (Urban Design and Landscape Architecture Company). She has lived in Brazil, Russia, Romania and Turkey before moving to India. Elif is fond of Arts and Circus sports. She would love to share her knowledge of Architecture, Landscape Design and Designing Arts with the WIC members.



Important

Please confirm your attendance at the physical meetings
by filling **RSVP form**:

<https://forms.gle/nC2jcZUVTACC1KDH7>

or inform **Hospitality Chairperson Pamela Bhagat**
at **98115 06239**

or

pamela.bhagat@gmail.com



General Meeting: The Two Best Things of Life

February 8th, 12 noon

**Venue: CHHAPRI FARMS, 55, 56 Old Delhi- Gurugram Road,
Opp Maruti Factory**

**GUGGU ANUP SINGH HAS KINDLY HOSTED THE FEBRUARY
GENERAL MEETING AT HER RESIDENCE.**

Wine is an alcoholic drink typically made from fermented grapes. Different varieties of grapes and strains of yeast are major factors in different types of wines. The Talk at the General Meeting shall explore before you the different types of wine from Red and White to Rose, Sparkling and Dessert wines. You can also find out Chocolate pairings with different wines and other flavours such as salt, peppermint, marshmallows and more.



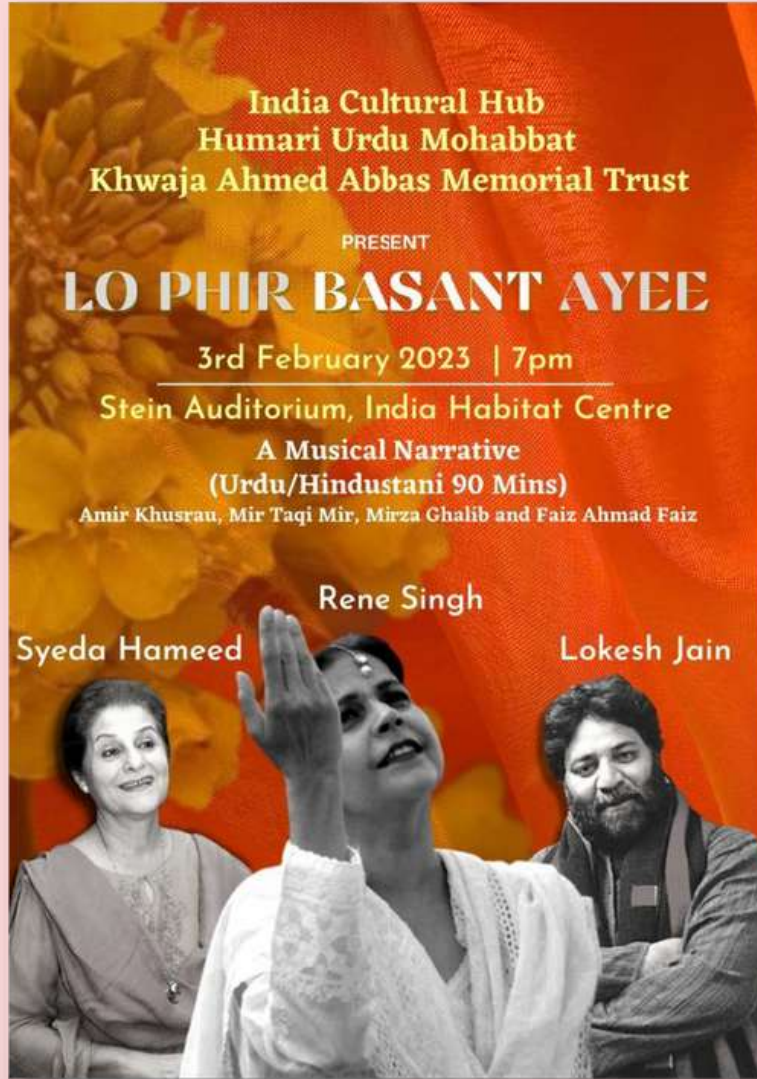
Bringing together two of the best things in the world, wine and chocolate, join us for a delightful wine and chocolate pairing with Indian artisanal Dark Chocolate from Darkins paired with delectable wines from our very own Sula vineyards of Nasik. The presentation shall be followed by Lunch, hosted by our gracious member Guggu Anup Singhat at her residence: Chappri Farm, 55- 56 Old Delhi-Gurugram Road, opposite the Maruti Factory.

It is a Valentine Celebration, so let's come in RED.

India and South East Asia Circle: Lo Phir Basant Ayee

February 3rd, 7 pm

Venue: Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre.



Lo Phir Basant Ayee is a musical narrative depicting the onset of spring in *kalaams* of poets and Sufi saints, creating a colourful canvas of new hope and the celebration of spring and its traditions. Presented by **Syeda Hameed** and **Rene Singh**.

Textiles Circle: Kavita Bhartia

February 7th, 3 pm

Venue: Home of Sunandini Kapur. B-34, Malcha Marg

Limit: 25 people

Kavita Bhartia has been one of the pioneers in the Indian fashion industry and her brand has, over the years, developed a global identity. The Kavita Bhartia label combines Indian craftsmanship with innovative western silhouettes to create an enigmatic, distinctive look. Her collections are elegant with an irrepressible sense of fun and celebration. There is a play of colours, fabrics, prints and embroidery. The blend of traditional techniques, innovative treatments, and modern silhouettes brings an element of surprise to her every ensemble.

Kavita is behind the Ogaan fashion designer store in India which first opened its doors in quiet, beautiful

Hauz Khas Village in November, 1989. Ogaan, which means “wave” in Sanskrit, was one of the few stores in the country to house Indian designer wear. It was launched with the objective of providing a platform for Indian design, of promoting Indian designers and Indian textile and craft skills under one roof.

On February 7th Kavita will be talking about her journey which started in 1989 with textiles and fashion.



Gourmet Trail: Karim, Historic Mughlai Cuisine

February 15th, 12.30 pm

Venue: Karims, India Islamic Cultural Center, 87-88 Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003

Cost : Rs 1000/- (Approximately)



At **Karim's** we speak the good food language, quality is our recipe. A Royal dining experience of delicious **Mughlai cuisine** crafted by the master chefs. Established in 1913, the original Karim's is a historic restaurant near Jama Masjid in Gali Kababian, Old Delhi.

We are going to their restaurant nearer to us, in the Indian Islamic Cultural Center on Lodhi Road (**Entrance is from the back**). A simple restaurant with good Mughlai cuisine. Is the food just as good? Yes, it's tried and tested, Karim's has stood the test of time. Vegetarian food is also there so not just a non-vegetarian event, vegetarians are welcome.

So let's start the new year with a get-together over some authentic Mughlai food.

Book circle:

The Middle. Nayana Goradia in conversation with Lakshmi Chandra

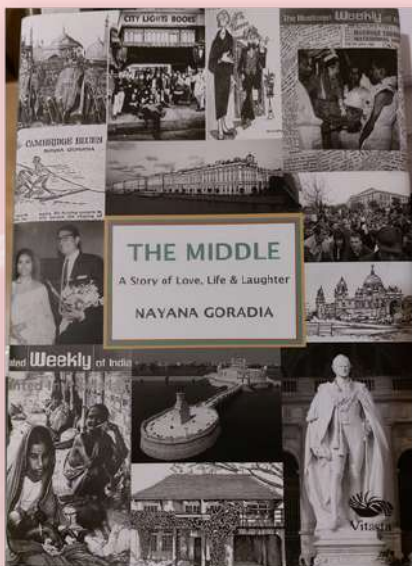
February 21st, 3 pm

Venue: Mrs Nayana Goradia. 145, Sunder Nagar, New Delhi 110003

Our beloved member **Nayana Goradia** began her distinguished writing career by writing short pieces under the title, *The Middle*, for the hallowed, editorial page of the Times of India. These pieces were usually autobiographical, charming and provided a wonderful insight into Nayana's whimsical, literary take on her world and the world around her. She has now compiled these pieces into a wonderful book called *The Middle*.



Lakshmi will be in conversation with Nayana about some of the vignettes in the book. She hopes she will be able to bring you some insights into certain times, places and people from Nayana's humorous and gentle perspective.



The Middle, a story of love, life and laughter, engages the reader with endearing stories spanning the author's rich and varied life. From her birth in a princely state in Saurashtra to an early childhood in Ceylon and adventures en route to higher education at universities abroad. Those included carrying Rosogullas to New York and Aurandzeb to Alaska!

Then it was back home to India, and search for *A Suitable Boy*! With marriage came the move to Calcutta in the mid-sixties, lingering in the twilight of the Raj. Life was a series of golden

halcyon days. There were stylish flats in swiss surroundings, imposing burra memsahebs and bygone protocol. The book captures all this, including the author's 7 year affair with controversial Viceroy George Nathaniel Curzon who partitioned Bengal in 1905 and is believed, by some, to be the harbinger of the greater Partition of India, in 1947.

Wellness, Health & Fitness Circle: The Vegan Experience

February 23rd, 12.30 to 2.30 pm

Venue: S-337 Panchsheel Park Limit: 12 people

Host: Vibhuti Sharma

It is quite the rage these days! Believe it or not, people turning to veganism has risen by 300% in the United States between 2004-2019. Though being Vegan is nothing new to India, it has taken the rest of the world by storm to the extent that the food industry world over has started focusing on the Vegan Sector with many ingredients such as mock meat, fruits, and vegetables in different forms, animal milk derivatives, the quintessential tofu and *Les Merveilloeufs* (The vegan egg). This month, the Health and Wellness Circle brings a unique program on this topic. We will talk about Veganism and include it as part of innovation in our meal planning for healthy benefits.



Vibhuti and Brinda will bring to this meeting all there is to know about the Vegan diet, what it means to be a vegan and how to participate in this movement. A sit-down Vegan Lunch Experience will be provided to participants to round off the discussion.

Special Circle: Muzaffar Ali

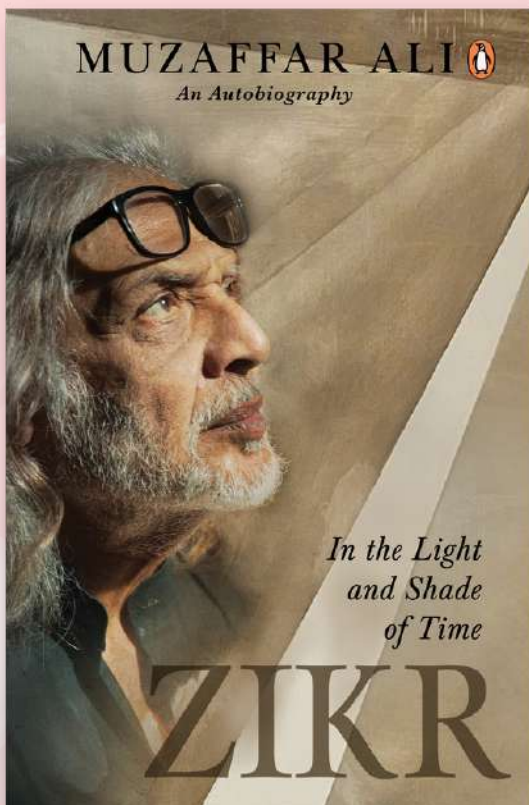
February 24th, 3 pm

Venue: Residence of Bubbles Suneja. 21 A, Tughlak Road, New Delhi 110011.

Limit: 30 people

Muzaffar Ali, a filmmaker, poet, artist and a couturier, pens his life journey in **the book “ZIKR”** that in the Urdu language means – mention.

This absorbing journey of the person, born into an aristocratic family, from being employed with Air India to becoming one of the iconic figures of creativity in India, is the narrative of “ ZIKR”. His films are the canvas of his aesthetics and creativity and his magnum opus “Umraon Jan” is an example.



A life that allowed him the opportunity to delve into creativity at different levels indeed would be fascinating and an inspiration.

In conversation with our member **Lakshmi Chandra**, Muzaffar Ali will talk about his book “ZIKR”.

The programme organised by the Special Circle is being graciously hosted by Bubbles Suneja.

Around the World Circle: Israel

February 27th, 3 pm

Venue: E-52 Sujan Singh Park, (1st floor), opp Ambassador Hotel (near Khan Market), New Delhi-110003

Limit: 25 people

Hostess- Deepak Chopra

Please note the venue is on the 1st floor and there is no elevator.

Anat Brenner, a WIC member, would like to introduce us to her country - **Israel**.

Israel is a small country in the Middle East. As small as it is, Israel is known for being the birthplace of Jesus Christ, for the Dead Sea, the bustling high-tech metropolis of Tel Aviv, and the ancient beauty of cities like Jerusalem and Haifa. Its geopolitical position, history, and culture make it unique not just in the Middle East, but throughout the World.

Israel is the only Jewish nation in the world. For its relatively small size, the country has played a large role in global affairs.



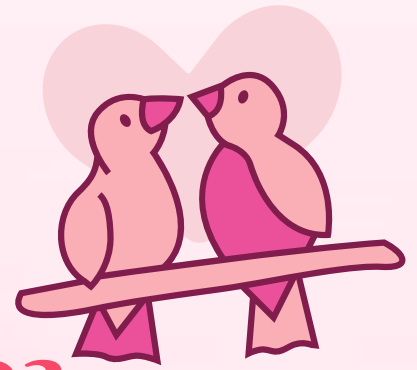
Despite its small area, it has a diverse climate with snowy mountains in the north and the hot desert in the south. More than half of the population lives on the narrow coastal plain near the Mediterranean Sea to the west. In the south and the east the land is hot and dry. The Negev Desert in southern Israel receives only 1 inch (32 mm) of rain a year. In the north, Galilee is known to have the most fertile farmland in the country.

About two-thirds of the population was born in Israel. All other Israelis come from over 100 different countries. Most Israeli Jews live a lifestyle similar to western Europeans and North Americans. Israel has a mixed population that came from different parts of the world, each ethnic group brought a different food culture and the fusion between them created one of the most interesting and creative cuisines.

Around the World Circle

Around the world will bring you **Kyrgyzstan folk & dances**. As the troupe is visiting we will confirm the date & venue later as per their availability.





February

2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					India and South East Asia Circle: Lo Phir Basant Ayee 7 pm	Offline 3 4
		Textiles Circle: Kavita Bhartia 3 pm	GM: THE TWO BEST THINGS OF LIFE 12 noon	Offline 1 2		
5	6		Offline 7	Gourmet Trail: Karim, Historic Mughlai Cuisine 12.30 pm		Offline 8 9 10 11
12	13		Offline 14		Wellness, Health & Fitness Circle: The Vegan Experience 12.30 pm	Offline 15 16 17 18
19	Book circle: The Middle, Nayana Goradia 3 pm		Offline 20 21	Special Circle: Muzaffar Ali - a film maker, poet, artist, couturier 3 pm		Offline 22 23 24 25
26	Around the World: Israel 3 pm		Offline 26 27			Offline 28

RSVP: <https://forms.gle/nC2jcZUVTACC1KDH7>

January memories



January memories



January memories



January memories



Please don't forget

to confirm your attendance at all the physical meetings
by filling RSVP form:

<https://forms.gle/nC2jcZUVTACC1KDH7>

or inform Hospitality Chairperson Pamela Bhagat
at 98115 06239 or pamela.bhagat@gmail.com

