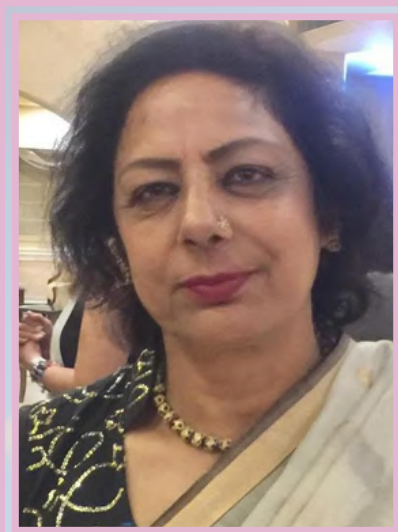




Newsletter

October, 2022

President's Address



Dear Members of the Women's International Club,

We are one month now into the new WIC calendar year. I do hope the activities on our calendar have made you enjoy the month of September. It is the present Team's efforts that have strived to work towards the best for our members.

We now look forward to a full month of festivities. October is full of the bright, sparkling lights, colourful fabrics, rich sweets and cultural soirees. But more about that later.

So much has happened over the previous month. The World has lost its longest reigning Monarch. Media across the globe has expressed sorrow over the demise of a Queen who had seen, through her royal eyes, the Sun never setting upon the British Seas to the formation of the Commonwealth, an association of free Nations. WIC also conveyed its formal Message of Condolence to the High Commission of the UK. WIC has had a very long association with the British High Commission.

We sadly witnessed India losing early, at Cricket, at the Asia Cup. Then Roger Federer, the most popular champion of Tennis, who has won 20 singles Grand Slam titles announced his retirement from Grand Slams soon after he plays the Laver Cup Team competition. His was a lifetime of great achievements. A very interesting event has been on the media, last month, wherein eight Cheetahs, three males and five females all vaccinated and fitted with satellite collars have been transported on a modified Boeing 747, from Namibia to the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh, India. This translocation shall bring the Cheetah back in numbers in an otherwise dwindling cheetah population in the country.

Another event that brings us hope during these war driven times is the SCO summit in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, which is being attended by the leaders of China, Iran, Russia, Pakistan and India on regional and global issues, and is meant to discuss current events particularly related to the War scenario. Let us hope it brings lasting peace on the Planet.

Back home, the Central Vista, newly inaugurated, saw thousands of visitors come to view the revamped Kartavya Path. At the same time, 3.4 million saplings have been planted over the last two months to improve the green cover in the capital city of Delhi.

Back to WIC, now: dear ladies as you are aware that an Adhoc Committee has been set up under the provisions of Article VII of the WIC Constitution. The plan for this formation was discussed during the previous AGM. Now, the Committee, under the Chairperson, Pamela Bhagat, and constituted along with members, Peggy Sood, Renu Mehra, Stevie Clayton, Dr. Ruchika Rajan and Radhika Anand has undertaken many rounds of deliberations and carried out a few Surveys on member feedback. The Committee is expected to put up its recommendations before the Executive Committee, by mid October. Thereafter, the EC shall meet to decide on the recommendations that it finds suitable to accept. During the November GM, the EC shall present the accepted proposals before the General Body of the Club. The House can then make its decisions on the final outcome of the proposals and pass resolutions over the recommendations found fit to adopt. At the same time, the surveys circulated by the Adhoc Committee have received an encouraging response from our members.

Before I conclude, I wish you a month of joyous festivities. New clothes, newly painted home, lots of colourful lights and diyas, abundance of gifts, much mithai in the fridge and lots of prosperity as Goddess Lakshmi blesses one and all. So wish you all a very happy Diwali, a happy Vijay Dashmi, a happy Karva Chauth, a happy Dhanteras, a happy Govardhan Puja and a very happy Bhai Dooj. Actually, Halloween also follows soon after!

As I conclude, dear members, I do hope that you enjoy the results of the hard work put up by the present Executive Committee. Each member on the Board is contributing to her optimum effort in order to make it a wonderful year for the Club.

As someone once said,

"Don't ever promise more than you can deliver, but always try to deliver more than what you promised".

Amen.

Suneeta Trivedi

President WIC 22-23



Important

We kindly request you **to put your mobile phones on silent** when you attend the meetings.

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

<https://forms.gle/23218rj9goF5fPJW7>

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

or

pamela.bhagat@gmail.com

Please note that you have **to confirm your attendance**
at General Meeting by October 16th.

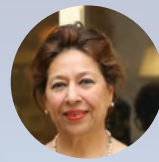


Executive Committee 2022-2023



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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

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2022-23 IS NOW DUE

Hello Members,

The Annual Membership Subscription for year 2022-2023 is due for payment. We thank all the members who have paid and request the others to pay their dues as soon as possible.

Members may please carry their cheques for paying their membership dues to the next General Meeting being held on Wednesday 19 October, 2022.

You can also collect your receipts at the General Meeting.

Payment may be made online or by cheque. Payment must be made **latest by 15th November 2022** for an amount of **RS. 4,500/-**.

ONLINE PAYMENTS

WOMENS INTERNATIONAL CLUB

ACCOUNT NO: 50100075742084

RTGS/NEFT/IFSC CODE: HDFC0000003

HDFC BANK 209-214

KAILASH BUILDING

26 KASTURBA GANDHI MARG

NEW DELHI 110001



CHEQUE PAYMENTS

Please make all cheques in the name of **WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL CLUB** and mention **YOUR NAME IN CAPITAL LETTERS** and **PHONE NUMBER** at the back of the cheque.

Please note that the cheque should be made only in the name of:

“**WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL CLUB**”, for an amount of **RS. 4,500/-**.

PAYMENT RECORD

Once payment is made kindly whatsapp, sms or email screenshot of payment confirmation/txn ref no./bank sms of payment to:

GITANJALI MEHTA at **98-100-25822** or email: **treasurer2020.wic@gmail.com**

Thank you

Gitanjali Mehta, Treasurer

Mob: 98-100-25822

General Meeting:

A cultural program by our very own member Soha Kamal the Egyptian ambassador's wife

October 19th, 3 pm

*Venue: Egyptian embassy, opposite Nehru Park, New Delhi
Entry through Gate No 1*

Our next GM will be hosted at the House of Egypt. Egypt is Home to the only remaining Ancient Wonder In The World. With history, civilization and culture that is unrivaled except by our own in India.

During the GM you will enjoy Egyptian delicacies and snacks while listening to Soha, Spouse of the Egyptian Ambassador to India and Bhutan, giving us a synopsis of the rich Egyptian history and many civilizations together with an overview of the role of the Women of Egypt over the ages. How they were Goddesses, Queens, Rulers and influencers across time, and the role the Egyptian women are playing to shape Egypt's Future.



Due to embassy security please **RSVP by October 16th**
and **carry your ID** to be able to attend
the General Meeting

India and South East Asia Circle: A musical evening inspired by Phool Waalon ki Sair

October 7th, 3.30 pm

Venue: Residence of Hemant Pasrich, 212, Jorbagh, New Delhi

Limit: 25 people



Indian and South East Asian Culture & Heritage Circle presents a musical narrative inspired by the legendary festival of the flower sellers which finds its origins in the syncretic culture of India. This takes you back in time showcasing the lifestyle and festivals which were conducted with much fanfare in 18th and 19th century Delhi. Coinciding with the period of the Ganga Jamuni Tehzeeb (the blend of the Hindu and Persian culture), this being at its peak in Shahjahanabad where the evenings came alive with mushairas, (poetry gatherings at Red Fort) Mehfilis by renowned courtesans and musicians.

Grand food markets also served a mix of delicacies and street food.

Performance by Syeda Hameed who is an author, poet, performer and the recipient of Padmasree award and Rene Singh who is a singer and composer.

Art and Crafts Circle: Glove making in the city of Grenoble

October 10th, 11 to 12 am

Venue: 100, Jorbagh (Kiran and Devika Anand)

Limit: 15 people

Members are requested
to wear a mask



The Art and Craft circle is happy to welcome you to a programme inspired by the beautiful French exhibition called «Fait Main» (Handmade in English) about the old tradition of glove making in the city of Grenoble, to be known as the «Glove capital of the world». Grenoble is located in the French Alps, known also for welcoming the Winter Olympic games in 1969.



Textiles Circle: Lucknow's chikankari

October 17th, 3 pm

Venue: Residence of Anita Dua, B- 3 Defence Colony, New Delhi

Limit: 25 people

Wajahat Habibullah hails from an old Talukdar family of Lucknow, son of the founder Commandant of the National Defence Academy Khadakwasla where he spent his childhood. After a brief tenure as Assistant Lecturer in History in St Stephen's College Delhi ('67-68), in 1968 he joined the IAS wherein he served in J&K, the PMO in Delhi, administrator Lakshadweep and Washington DC. He served as Secretary Textiles and retired as Secretary Panchayati Raj Government of India.



He was India's first Chief Information Commissioner (2005-10) and was finally (2011-14) Chair of the National Commission for Minorities. He has served for 10 years (2004-14) as Chair of Srinagar's NIT (National Institute of Technology), and has been the Randolph Jennings Fellow at the US Institute of Peace Washington DC (2003-04). Mr. Habibullah is a noted author as well. He has written several books on Kashmir.



He will be speaking on his mother, The Legendary doyen of Lucknow Begum Hamida Habibullah, an Indian parliamentarian, educationist and social worker, and her role in reviving Lucknow's chikankari in the context of Lucknowi cultural heritage. She was also a founder patron of Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA), which promoted employment for women via Lucknow's famous chikankari work.



World Festivals: Deepavali

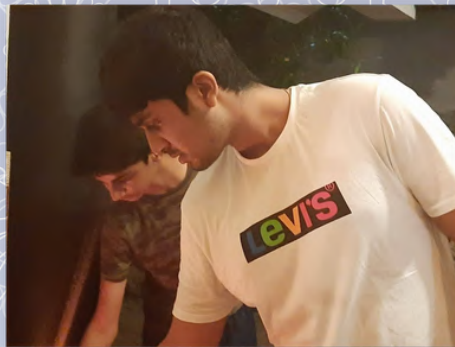
October 21st, 3.30 pm

ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83652906200>

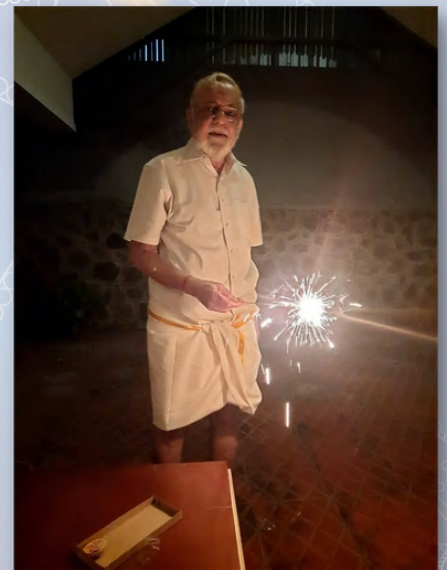


Deepavali, the festival of lights, is the most awaited of Indian fests. It brings to mind sweet memories: a sky full of fireworks, a mouth full of sweets, a house full of lights, a heart full of joy.

One fest, one country, but celebrated in myriad ways. In Tamilnadu, it is observed a day before "Diwali" in the North on Narakachathurdashi. Fests in the South are celebrated with a sense of punctuous religiosity which is palpable whereas in the North the celebrations are boisterous. In the South, it is a day festival starting at 4 am and ending by noon. In the North, the celebrations start in the evening.



Rani and Anant, a well-known power couple of Chennai, will take us through the nuanced differences, how the festival is celebrated Tamil Brahmin aka Tambrahm style. They are multifaceted. He has been MD of an Indo US venture, has participated in cross-country car rallies, is one of the best vintage car restorers of the country. She has been President of the International Women's Association-IWA-Chennai is a classical dancer and an artist specialising in the Tanjore School, and is associated with "Dakshina Chitra", a cultural hub. Both write for periodicals, and blogs on Facebook. And both do social service in various avenues including Rotary.



Special Circle: Defining cultural identity: At whose terms?

October 28th, 3.30 pm

*Venue: Residence of Beatrice & H.E. Andre Correa do Lago,
18, Abdul Kalam Road, New Delhi*

Limit: 40 people



In the two complementary talks, Naman Ahuja and André Correa do Lago discuss how the idea of India and Brazil were shaped in the international western imagination. The way in which these cultures were defined has had a lasting impact. We impose stereotypical ways of perceiving the world, usually identifying communities by the dominant religion followed in the area. India was typecast in the modern imagination in rather specific ways in the 19th century. A land with jungles where man met the spirit of the wild, yogis who harnessed the deepest powers of the mind, destitutes who had no more want than the veracity of their tradition, valorous arjans who were also “warm and brown”, and profligate maharajas whose extravagance could outdazzle any other court of the world—the contrasts of temperament, habitat and colour, depth of spirituality and sumptuous sexuality became the standard fare of the clichés that typified India in the intellectual and artistic circles of the West at the height of colonialism.

to be continued

Special Circle: Defining cultural identity: At whose terms? continued

Very differently from India, Brazil does not have texts that provide written ancient histories. Even though indigenous peoples have been present and creative for centuries in its territory, Brazil only starts to exist for the rest of the world after its 'discovery' by the Portuguese in 1500. By the second half of the 19th century the country had acquired an image that mixed exoticism, beautiful nature, gold, diamonds and the fact it was the only western monarchy outside of Europe. A society full of promises and paradoxes, with its wealth built by slaves brought from Africa and the exploitation of natural resources. The narrative of many movies and display in most major museums in the West still confirm these clichés.



The Speakers:

Naman P. Ahuja is a curator, Professor and Dean of the School of Arts & Aesthetics at Jawaharlal Nehru University, and the General Editor of Marg Publications, India's oldest publishing house dedicated to art and culture. Prof Ahuja has curated some of the most important exhibitions of Indian art in the past ten years. His scholarship covers a wide range of issues in visual culture, aesthetics, iconography and transculturalism.

André A. Correa do Lago, Brazilian ambassador to India, is a career diplomat, an economist and an architecture critic. He has curated exhibitions in Brazil and abroad. Recently, he has promoted a series of exhibitions in India to celebrate the 200 years of Independence of Brazil.

WIC condolences

On behalf of all the WIC members, we offer our sincere condolences to **Anita Meattle** and **Salonika Aggarwal** for the loss of their mother and grandmother.

May her soul rest in eternal peace.



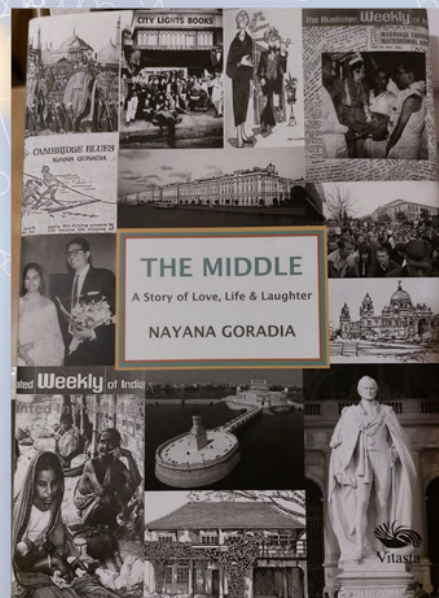
Proud Moments for the WIC Family



Madhavi Goradia Divan, Additional Solicitor General of India, and Senior Advocate participated in the 3rd Ram Jethmalani Memorial Lecture on the subject of the Uniform Civil Code. The lecture was live streamed on Republic TV. Other speakers included His Excellency Arif Mohd Khan, Justice Kurian Joseph, and Asaduddin Owaisi MP.

Nayana Goradia has put down a collection of reflections originally published as 'Middles', which open a window into experiences of a childhood in the princely state of Gujrat, school in Sri Lanka, higher education, overseas and a marriage in the Raj environment in Calcutta. The Hindustan Times reviews the book as "The book reads like an exciting tapestry woven out of dreamlike silk and earthy khaki, suffuse with nostalgia. This is a delightful Read."

Nayana, we, at WIC, are proud of your achievement and this accolade.



October



2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6	India and South East Asia Circle <i>A musical evening</i> 3.30 pm	7 8
9	Art and Crafts Circle: Tradition of glove making in Grenoble 11 am	10	11	12	13	14 15
16	Textiles Circle: Lucknow's chikankari 3 pm	17	18	General Meeting Egyptian program 3 pm	19	20
23	24	25	26	27	World Festivals: Deepavali 3.30 pm	21 22
30	31				Special circle: Definition of cultural identity 3.30 pm	28 29

RSVP: <https://forms.gle/23218rj9goF5fPJW7>

September memories



Please don't forget

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

<https://forms.gle/23218rj9goF5fPJW7>

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

