

The Monthly Newsmagazine for Women

March 1988 Price Rs. 20.00

SHIL

SHE
MAN

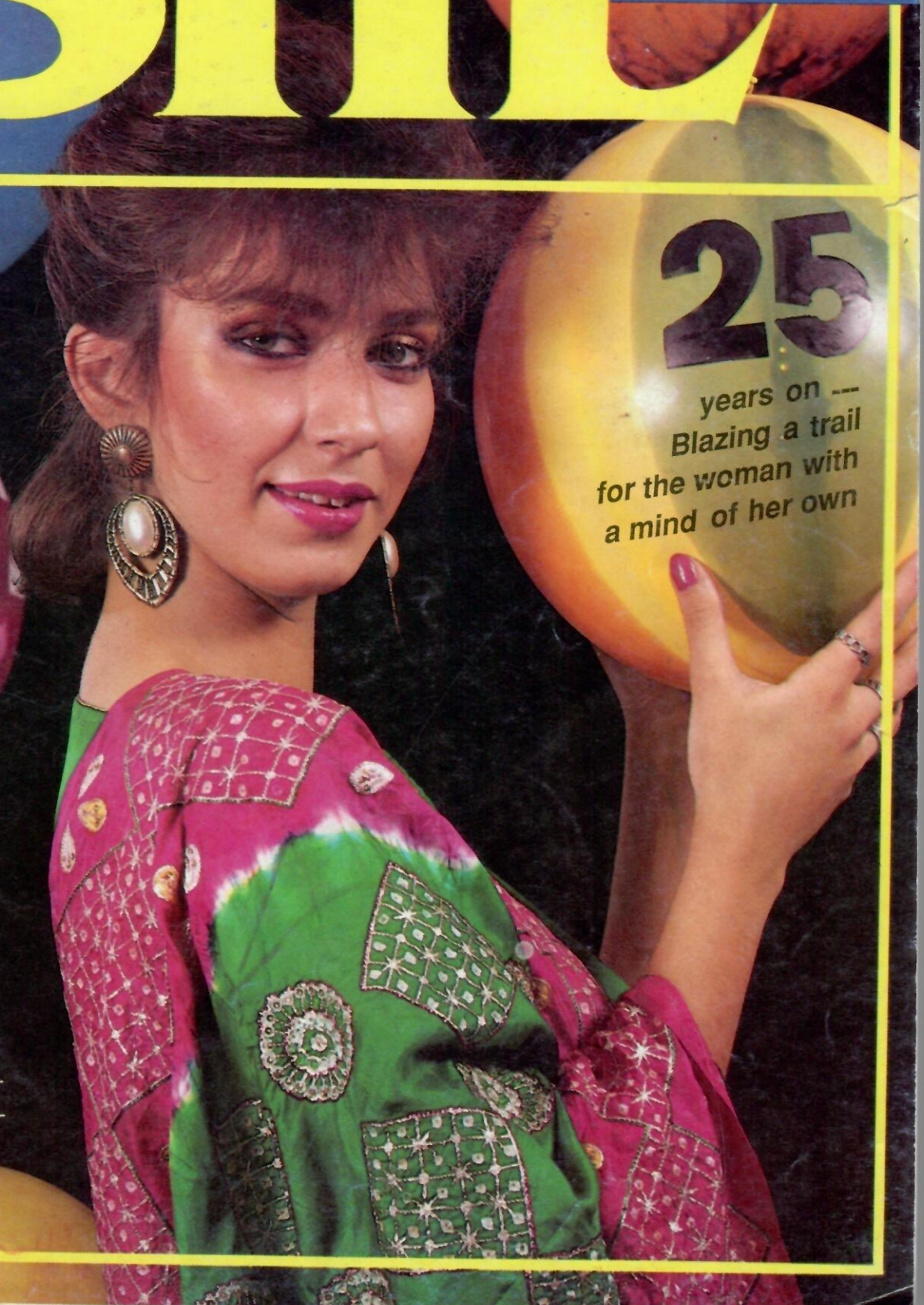


25

years on ---
Blazing a trail
for the woman with
a mind of her own

Bumper
Celebration
Number

highlighting
women
who count _
men who
matter _
issues that
concern
us deeply _
and fashions _
entertainment _
food _ for all



SHE

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MARCH 1988 VOL. V NO. 5 REGD. M-30



The man of today is a workaholic, but he is also in with the latest in fads, fashions and styles. Our SHE man supplement fits the man of today to a tee.

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In March 1963 we established a bold and new approach to women's journalism. Twenty Five years on we sustain it. Our cover girl epitomizes the best of SHE. Outfit: Femme Fashion, Photo Akbar Rizvi.

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شان مصالحے کی منفرد پیشکش ایک پیکٹ مرچ پاؤڈر خریدیں اور ایک باسکل مفت حاصل کریں!

مفت
مفت



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مفت
مفت



مندرجہ بالا کوپن کو کاٹ کر کسی بھی قریبی دوکاندار،
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باسکل مفت حاصل کریں۔ توفی صد سچت کی یہ رعایت
۳۰ مارچ ۱۹۸۸ تک صرف کراچی کے لئے ہے۔

آج ہی اس نہری موقع سے فائدہ اٹھائیے!



ہم خالص، تازہ اور بہترین کوالٹی کے اجزاء کا انتخاب بڑی محنت سے کرتے ہیں۔
اور منتخب خاندانی ترکیب کے مطابق ہر کھانے کے لئے تیار مصالحے آپ کی سہولت
کے لئے پیش کرتے ہیں۔
شان کے تیار مصالحے مثلاً اسپیشل بھتی بریانی، قورم، نہاری، بیکہ/سیخ، کباب وغیرہ سے پکانے والے ہر کھانے
کا ذائقہ منفرد اور لذیذ ہوتا ہے۔ ہم کسی بھی مضر صحت اسہمار کا قطعاً کوئی استعمال نہیں کرتے۔
اسی وجہ سے شان مصالحے پاکستان اور دیگر بیرونی ممالک میں بے حد مقبول ہیں۔

شان فوڈ انڈسٹریز، پنی او بکس نمبر ۳۰۳-۳۴-کراچی ۵ (پاکستان) فون: ۱۰۵۱۱



THE
FOODING
AGENCY

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SHE

BRIEFING

ABOUT OURSELVES

'SHE makes no apologies for its debut. It comes into being in response to the growing demand for a real ladies journal, minus the glitter and tinfoil, which can reflect the women's viewpoint in the way women can understand and appreciate. Today more than ever before, our country needs women to help it battle against centuries of prejudice, superstition and ignorance It is a most welcome sight to see more women in Pakistan coming forward to help this country on its march to progress and economic independence. SHE will march alongside them as a faithful chronicler. It will come out in the open to protest when prejudice and obstinacy stand in the way of women's rights while we shall keep these ideals in view, SHE will at the same time, instruct, inform, educate, entertain and serve the women of Pakistan'.

This was the editorial that appeared in our first issue, in 1963. It's little changed, twenty five years on.

Bringing out our celebration number was, believe us, dear reader, a herculean feat. We wanted to cross our own limitations and your expectations, and bring forward a bumper number like never before. This month we not only have a celebration of our founding 25 years ago, but a sensational men's supplement packed in to boot.

The contents of this month's issue are sure to make you read the magazine from cover to cover, the main features include an indepth special report on women prisoners and their sorry plight in our jails, the article also presents the views of an ex-superintendent of police. Razia Bhatti, the driving force behind Herald, and Nancy Ely, wife of the new American Ambassador to Pakistan, are also featured.

Our entertainment section brings you 'Fatal Attraction' which is sure to make strong men go weak at the knees. Our special 'long' short story and articles on the Aga Khan Polio Rehabilitation Unit and Cosmetic Surgery make interesting reading.

The best of SHE traces the progression of SHE since its inception 25 years ago till today. Like the best of SHE which traces the editorial climbs, we also cover the fashion pages from the 60's when we started, upto the present.

Fashions this month are for both men and women. In the women's section 'Back to Simplicity' brings the straight cuts back into fashion. 'Designer of the Month' highlights the western code of dressing and Head On presents you with the hair style of the month. In the men's section it is over to 'A Personal Touch'. Eastern trends for the suave, sophisticated man is the fashion hallmark.

We've put our heart and soul in putting this issue together and hope you join in our celebration by enjoying our bumper number. And don't forget, SHE is the magazine for the woman with a mind of her own.

SHE

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NEWSMONTH

DESPATCHES, VIEWS, LIVE ISSUES, SCOOPS

ISSUES

Unconstitutional and un-Islamic

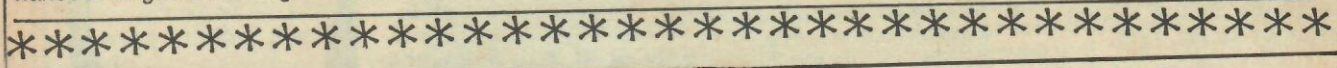
Should barbarity be sanctioned by law? was the controversial question which created quite a stir and caught the entire nation's undivided attention on the question of the repeal of the Hudood Ordinance. The Committee for the Repeal of the Hudood Ordinance issued an ad in the Dawn and Jang on 2nd and 3rd February respectively calling for the immediate repeal of the 1979 Hudood Ordinance and also demanding that all charges and convictions made under the zina ordinance be withdrawn. The advertisement in turn received a lot of conservative backlash from the Ulemas of various schools of thought. In separate statements the Ulemas asked not only the two dailies to tender an apology but also demanded that the government take 'serious notice' of the people or organizations who were bringing the Shariat Laws into disrepute. On 4th of February Jang caving in under the pressure published an apology not only to the Ulemas and it's Muslim countrymen but abjectly apologised to Allah as well (does Allah read the Jang?). To counteract Jang's apology the committee for the Repeal of the Hudood Ordinance arranged a meeting at

the Press Club. The thrust of their stand being that the issue was a human rights one, a question of one's fundamental and constitutional rights and was being made into a moralistic debate on what is Islamic or un-Islamic by those in favour of the ordinance. The claim of the committee is that the Hudood Ordinance is hazardous for women -- it perpetuates violence against women: victims of rape are punished, while rapists get away free. To support their argument we have the much publicized case histories of Safia Bibi, Jahan Mina etc. The Ordinance, the committee claims, is also a powerful lever in the hands of husbands to subjugate their wives, making choices in matters of marriage and divorce nearly impossible for women, which brings us to the current case of Shahida Parveen and Mohammad Sarwar whose trial has been of focal interest to the entire country and who as we know are presently out on bail facing a re-trial. The committee for the Repeal of the Hudood Ordinance started off with three individuals who are fearlessly facing every obstacle that comes in their way at every step. The controversial signature campaign was their brainchild, which they had

initiated to elicit public opinion. Though severely criticized they have been quite successful in their campaign. So far the P.O. Box has been opened twice, the response has been quite encouraging amounting to over 10,000 signatures from both men and women. A moving letter, as one of the committee members told us, was from a class of students in Tharparkar. The class had not only participated in the signature campaign but had sent the committee clippings of children in prison with the heart rending request that the committee take up their cause as well. The committee which began modestly soon had the support of many important persons and organisations. This includes prominent lawyers, politicians, members of women's groups, the International Human rights groups, the Free Legal Aid Centre in the Phillipines, the International committee of Jurists, the Institute of International Education, the Women's Centre (Bombay), the Voice of Women (Sri Lanka) A Norweigan human rights group, NOVIB is sending a delegation in March to survey the situation. Amnesty International is also following the case closely. The committee has indeed come a long way in

it's crusade for the women of Pakistan we'd say. An interesting aspect which came to light during the debates which followed the controversies raging around the Hudood Ordinance is that the statistical figures of women in prison have increased tremendously. According to the data collected in 1982 by the Women's Division, government of Pak, there were a total of 70 female convicts in the whole of Pakistan, today there are 67 females alone in Karachi Jail and a further 24 in Sukkur jail. The rise of women convicts throughout the country is to such a large extent that a separate women's jail is now being set up in Larkana. Another paradoxical observation is that presently there are 19 men in Karachi jail awaiting trial for adultery versus the 44 women! Most of the accused women are from low income brackets, usually implicated by their own families. The stigma of zina alienates them from everyone they know and their fate is in the hands of those who don't care. However, the committee for the Repeal of the Hudood Ordinance cares and believes that: **Barbarity should not be sanctioned by law.**

Nighat Gaya



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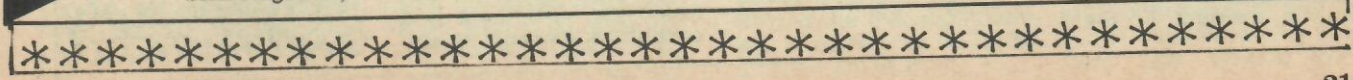
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Bapsy's Latest Bestseller

The excitement generated at the very well attended launching of Bapsi Sidhwa's latest book *Ice Candy Man* at the American Centre in Karachi was something really special. One felt privileged to be present on such an auspicious occasion, especially when the author was there to autograph copies of her book (sold out in a few minutes!) and to read some moving extracts too! She read feelingly, but not emotionally, drawing her listeners close to her while narrating those terrible days of the Partition. Having been a fan of Bapsi's ever since she published her first book *Crow Eaters* and then delighting in her *'Bride'*, one couldn't help but feel that Bapsi has really excelled herself with the *Ice Candy Man* and that she has now reached the ranks of the best authors in the business today. (*Ice Candy Man* is available in the Clifton Bookshops for Rs. 175).

Bapsy Sidhwa's latest novel, *The Ice-Candy Man*, is available in Pakistan. This was announced by Bapsy herself at a lecture organized by the Asian Studies Group in Islamabad. Bapsy spoke at length about the book and gave her first public readings from the text. The subject is Partition, as seen through the eyes of a Parsi child living in Lahore. Bapsy read us excerpts which ranged from a humorous account of the

child narrator's first meeting with the peculiar ice-candy-cum-holy man, to a tragic description of the moment when her Hindu ayah is hunted down by Muslims maddened with fear and confusion. The originality in Bapsy's approach lies in her avoidance of politics and complete frankness with which she presents a child's understanding of Partition. The novel was completed at Harvard, where the author was writing as a recipient of the prestigious Harvard Bunting Scholarship for one year. By Bapsy's own admission, *The Ice-Candy Man* is a book about human relationships and how they were affected by Partition. Unlike her first two novels, *The Bride* and *The Crow-Eaters*, this book was not motivated by a need to capture a single event or vivid group of characters on paper. Rather, it is the result of a deeper exploration into her own memories of Lahore during Partition as well as accounts from many other sources.

Bapsy clearly enjoyed reading to us from her new book, as having a captive audience is the delight of any writer. Her air is modest; she confessed to not even considering herself a writer until after *The Bride* was published. During the reading, Bapsy herself could not help but stop to chuckle at some of her own jokes. As most of us know from the recently published excerpts from *The Ice-Candy Man*, her humour can be very penetrating despite its child-like delivery. In a brief conversation with Bapsy after her lecture, she mentioned that the past year had been luxurious in that Harvard had invited her not to teach but to simply devote herself fulltime to her writing. Now that the new novel is complete, she will visit her family in Texas, where she has taught at the University of Texas at Houston, and at Rice University.

Ayesha Khan



Mungo, KC's Beloved, in Pakistan

Priobala Mangat Rai. Radcliffe, Oxford, but more to the point of Kinnaird College for Women, Lahore. She was "Prio" to the bright stars among her admiring contemporaries in what was not then a dark world of learning and culture in Lahore. The brightest became luminaries of that world -- personages -- Professors and Principals of the Colleges they'd always known.

As Principal at Kinnaird, Miss Mangat Rai created in the new Pakistan through the fifties and sixties, a tradition, an identity, the kind of intangible ambience that makes a great college. Even the least promising entrant at KC left with an awakening of some sort, an awareness of values, a concept of self-expression and realisation, but always in relation to the wider social fabric. To brash first years, Miss Mangat Rai was "Mungo", as they bravely sought to mock authority. "They should," Mungo would murmur. She never had to raise her voice, and in a woman's college that says even more than it would in a man's! But by the time girls reached the fourth year, Mungo turned to "Mungo Rani". Great affection and gratitude intermingled with the awe she inspired. We knew she was good for us and we paid her loving homage.

Like any true leading lady, Miss Mangat Rai commanded her own moment of departure. She left the Principalship of KC when she judged her contribution complete, and felt that the interests of the College and its survival could best be served by change of the sort she chose not to preside at. Lahore's Kinnaird College for Women, which its students used to delight in saying was next to the Jail and opposite the lunatic asylum, is still there, seventy-five years old, bearing aloft concepts of liberty and rationality despite the surroundings. And there is a consensus amongst its stu-

dents that Mungo was indeed the Rani amongst the distinguished ladies who reigned there. Certainly, Mrs. Phailbus, the present Principal, also much loved by her students, would be the first to say so. She led the move to ask Miss Mangat Rai back to Lahore for the Jubilee celebrations from Edinburgh, where she has been looking after her own old Principals!

Karachi is a brief stopover for Miss Mangat Rai on her visit back to Lahore which was home to her for so long. It gave old KC girls here a chance to say thankyou for having left a college which is irradiated by the Light, Courage, Love of its motto.

Mungo Rani was feted in great style, but true to form she singled out realities: what mattered to her was the respect and affection behind it. As ever, Mungo told her students what's what. The smartest -- be it in wits or turnout -- was brought back to feeling: does Mungo approve? Can we look her in the eye?

Thankyou Miss Mangat Rai for bringing us back a little of the vitality and guilelessness of youthful aspiration, and demonstrating yourself how wonderfully the years can be worn, and how much good shown for the passage of time by your sort of Kinnairdite.

R.H.G.



Karachi

JJ (and Thar) Get Set, Ready, Go!

Thar - Thar - Thar - it's all one hears of nowadays, making one feel enormously guilty if one is not doing anything to help the people of Thar. So it was with a considerable degree of interest that we went to hear Javed Jabbar speak at the launching of Baahn Beli, the people's development alliance that 'brings together rural and urban residents to initiate communication and implement cooperation, or

more specifically to dig wells for drinking water and water for agriculture, to promote health by taking mobile medical camps to the area, train women to work as community health workers and to install a 'chakki' at Nagarparker on a pay-as-you-earn' basis. Significantly too, Baahn Beli initiated a gift a toy programme in January in some schools in Karachi, with Nazia and Zoheb Hasan leading the way, and have

already collected some 10,000 toys to be gifted to the deprived children of Thar.

Baahn Beli is looking for help and support in a list of 14 varied fields where small scale projects, will be complemented by the people themselves. So any one of you with the time and the motivation to help the deprived people of Thar should contact Baahn Beli at 48-B, Block-6, P.E.C.H.S., Karachi.



**THE MAGAZINE
WITH A
TEXT APPEAL!**

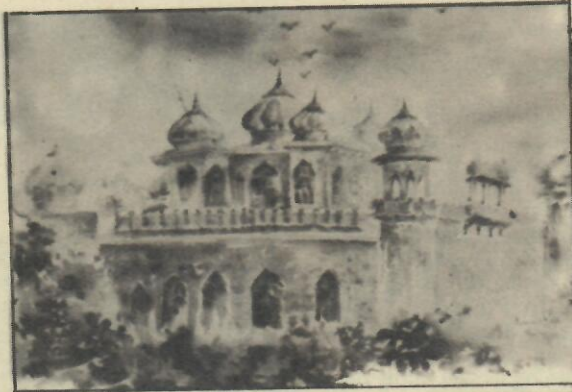
Water Colour at its Best

The work of three artists, Ghalib Baqar, Parveen Rizvi and Zaheen Ahmad was exhibited at the Chawkandi Gallery. These artists have now been painting in water colour for a number of years and have acquired a distinct style of their own.

Ghalib Baqar is a graduate in fine arts from the Karachi School of Arts. He has participated in several national and provincial exhibitions. Most of Baqar's work contain elements such as cut outs, or a line of thread posted in a corner, so that they qualify as mix media (his one painting in mix media won the 1st prize in the National Exhibition 1988).

Baqar's most effective painting on display was the one with two or three triangles with cut out papers and writings. A curving, triangular section of the paper is left untouched and Pablo Neruda is written in black and white. Below that is quoted:

*'In the middle of the night
I ask myself
What will happen to Chile?
What would happen to my*



*poor country'.
Is there a message some
where by the artist for us?*

Parveen Rizvi is a gold medalist and an M.A. in Fine Arts from the University of

Punjab, Lahore. She is basically an oil painter but has taken to water colour from the past couple of years.

Parveen's work has a strong emotive content brought out with the help of her very spontaneous strokes and calligraphic lines. She uses soft colours and her paintings are very figurative. The artist tries to capture the environment round her. A painting of an old building with birds flying was one of the best. Parveen's work has been exhibited in Iran and America.

Zaheen Ahmed a graduate from the Karachi School of Arts is a more abstract than realistic painter. His work on display at the Chawkandi Gallery was mostly on life at the fish harbour. The artist hadn't captured the hustle bustle of the harbour but concentrated on the anchored boats bobbling gently on the water.

The most striking feature among all the paintings was that the artists deviated from the realistic approach which is usually associated with water colour paintings.

Sharmin Farah

American Centre's Spring in Winter

The American Centre in its Winter Show '88 offered an entirely new set of works by Pakistani and American Artists. Oil paintings, water colours, graphics, mixed media, sculptures and photographs were featured. On display were the works of three American artists.

Gerald Erro Gutshall brings out his creative art in his photography. In his series of winterscapes, his approach is more from feeling than intellect. His works reflect his close bond with nature, seeing his work one feels that he seems to be drawn towards his subject

intuitively. Candy Wakermatsu and Linda Price's sculptures depicted the trends of modern Art. Done in glazed terra cotta, the sculptures were made in an absolute abstract form. Among the Pakistani painters, a number of works by eminent artists of our coun-

try were on display. Athar Jamal, teacher at the Karachi School of Art, tried to capture the environment and happenings around him. His four works in water colour showed the Thar Woman and their despair and the Katchi Abadis of Karachi, very few artists have

touched the subject of despair of life in the katchi abadis, as far as realistic art is concerned.

Mashkooor Raza's work has now become a permanent feature in all the art exhibitions. At the American Centre his latest work of '88 were on show made on acrylic paper his compositions were abstract and the emphasis was on coordinating the bright colours.

Masud Kohari is not a new name to art lovers. He is now been living in France for a long time. His six nude figures done in pencil were on display. After a long time Kohari's work was exhibited bringing in fresh air among

the monotonous styles that many of our artists have acquired.

Mehr Afroz's etchings titled 'Puppets' and Mask, gave a very grim effect, her etching of Mask was very striking and stood out among the works of art.

Muhammad Ali Bhatti is an MFA from the Punjab University and is now teaching at the Jamshoro University, Sind. His work is very native in style and the artist paints the culture around him. Done in oil, Bhatti's work depicts the environment and life of our rural areas. The scenes very few city dwellers ever come across.

Mono prints and copper litho compositions by Sumbul Nazir were another striking feature of the exhibition. Sumbal Nazir has definitely made a head way in her work. Her paintings now certainly have acquired a distinct feature of their own.

An MFA and gold medalist from the Punjab University Veeda Ahmed, had two of her paintings on display. 'Woman With Crows' excelled the others and had a great deal of depth. The painter it seemed was symbolizing the woman's struggle for her rights and freedom.

Also exhibited were the

works of Jimmy Engineer and Rabia Zuberi. Rabia had used mixed media in her various paintings, she had also done some work in ink and paper. Jimmy Engineer a realistic artist had his oils on show.

A novel aspect to this exhibition was American Centre's bold step towards art.

Having been regularly covering the various art exhibitions held in Karachi in the recent past, one never came across nude paintings or sketches. Is it a sign of relaxation of censorship, can an artist create without any threat of his work being banned or destroyed.

A Fair For All

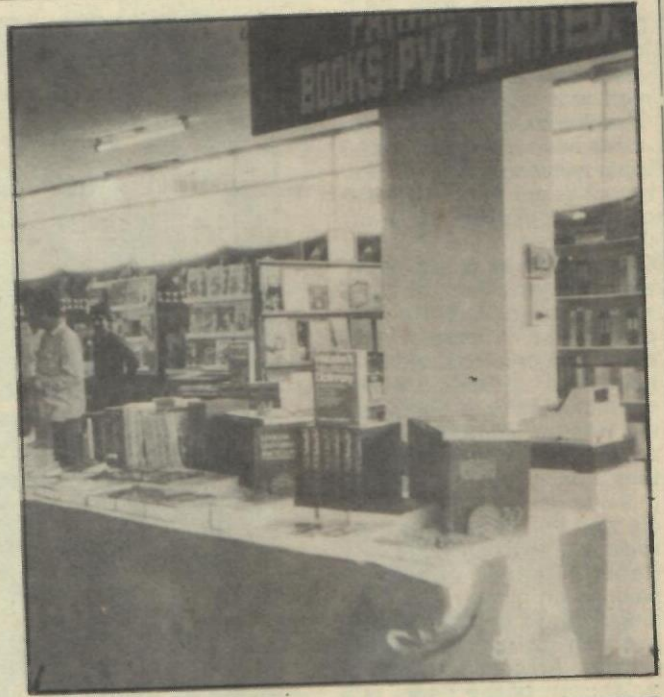
The American Centre held its annual bookfair recently in Karachi. For many years it was the only book fair in Pakistan. Today it is one of several held every winter in Karachi alone. The best aspect of such book fairs is that they enable students to buy their relevant subject books at reduced rates. With the prices of books sky rocketing and very few reference libraries in the city, it has become very difficult, particularly for students, to buy their subject books at reasonable prices, or some times to even find them at all.

Apart from all the books available at 15% or more discount, this was an ideal opportunity for the buyers to purchase books from the U.S. - with the value of dollar

now 35% lower than last year.

With nearly 20 local vendors participating, most of them had books on professional subjects. But there was also some very interesting titles too. Available was a volume of 'Murder Russian Style' which deals with 'KGB operations in Pakistan'. There was also a variety of Urdu titles as well. And it was heartening to see many people interested in buying them. For lately its been noticed that Urdu literature was losing its place amongst readers.

Jamalistan Clifton, has now become a regular locale for holding book fairs, as one book seller said, "Jamalistan has a good setting for fairs because there is a lot of 'purchasing power' in the area.



Lahore

Idara Saqafat Blunders

The trumpeted first-ever National Biennale Art Exhibition organised by the Idara Saqafat-e-Pakistan opened here in Lahore in mid-January amid reports of complaints about the choice of works shown. Over 80 artists from all over Pakistan were represented although many of them argued that a number of areas, especially outside the Punjab, were significantly under-represented or even ignored. A number of painters

from Karachi refused to even submit their works because of the Idara Saqafat-e-Pakistan's notorious reputation for damaging works due to careless transportation and storage. Each artist wanting to exhibit was required to submit three pieces for selection. Some later charged that while in certain cases more than three not always up to the standard works by the same artist were selected, in other cases, the selectors chose only

one and perhaps the least impressive of the works submitted. All this, the angry artists claim, has been done to deliberately discredit Pakistan Art in general and some artists in particular. No doubt exhibitions involving selection are always controversial since some artists are bound to be disappointed and, in the end, preference for a particular painting is a personal, unexplainable matter. But the Bi-

ennale, which continued for a whole month, did not appear to include the standard of work that would somehow compensate for the controversy that surrounded it. Moreover, there were some 170 paintings on show apart from a dozen or so sculptures/ceramics. The sheer number of exhibits involved along with the unimaginative and monotonous way they were displayed meant that by the time the eye had travelled the arduous journey

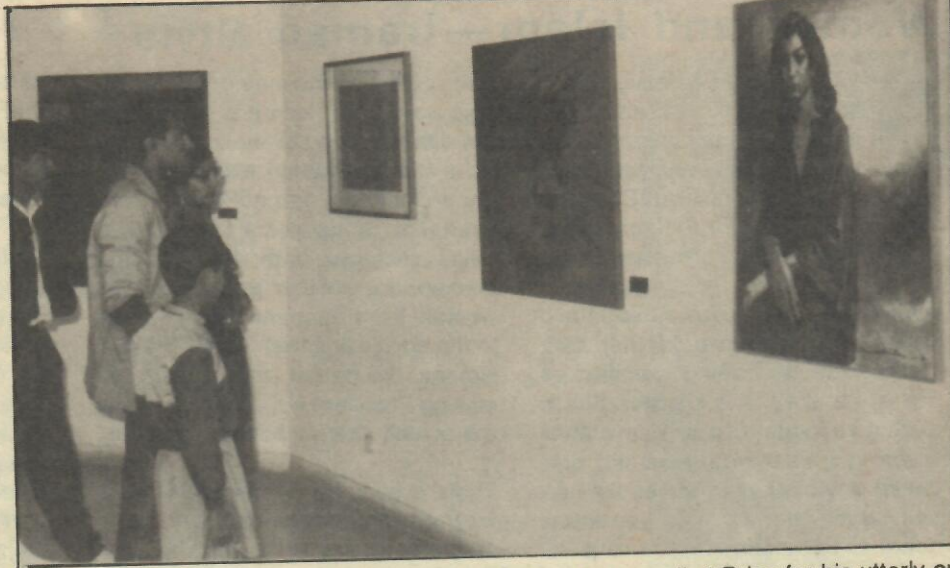
from the first item to the last, it was no longer capable of distinguishing beauty from meaningless jumbles of shapes. Quarterly exhibitions based either on themes or the various media would prove easier for the public to digest.

The most laudable and notable feature of the exhibition was the inclusion of works by foreign artists from India, Bangladesh and Iran. One hopes that this kind of cultural cooperation particularly between Pakistan and its neighbouring countries will be expanded since the sharing of human experience portrayed by artists undoubtedly leads to greater mutual and regional understanding.

The Idara Saqafat-e-Pakistan awarded First, Second and Third Prizes in the various categories of works which included oils, watercolours, acrylics, mixed media, prints, calligraphy, ceramics and sculpture. Again there was some controversy over the awards and some were indeed mystifying to those who have little background knowledge of Art. Since it should be part of the Idara Saqafat-e-Pakistan's duties to encourage public awareness and understanding of Art, it would perhaps have been helpful if it had produced a small brochure explaining the exhibits and the media used, while brief explanations of the merits of the prize-winning works could have been displayed next to them.

And now, since it would be impossible to discuss all the works displayed, 'SHE' will instead announce its own list of prizes, some seriously meant and others openly tongue-in-cheek.

Prize winners in the category for 'Paintings That Somehow Managed To Stick Out in All That Jumble' included Mohammad Zahoor's 'Brothers and Buffaloes', a wonderfully earthy and calm oil painting apparently inspired by French Impressionist Gauguin; Dr. Ajaz Anwar's 'New Anarkali' watercolour which conveyed the bazaar's atmosphere beautifully; Kamal Ahmed's 'Poet' for its capturing of the



colour and spaciousness of a desert, perhaps Baluch, landscape; 'The Pot Makers' by Asad Salahuddin which captured the movement of women; Baluch artist Jamal Shah's untitled oil of a ragged man, woman and child because of the painfully red ribs he gave his subjects.

Mansoor Rahi gets the award for the Most Humorous Title (and painting) 'Defeated Cat', which showed an abstract mass of claws, teeth and red squares which very much suggested a cat on its back with its four paws in the air! Jamila Masud is the sad recipient of the 'Most Badly Hung painting' for her 'Aas Paas' a lovely simple little watercolour of a rural woman, child and two buffaloes with a sort of Chinese painting touch to it. The prize for miniature paintings is shared between Nahid Fakhruddin and Salahuddin, the first for her successful attempts to bring a more modern feel to the style and the second for his faithfulness to the demands of the traditions of miniature painting. Maqbool Qamar wins last prize in the 'Copy-Cat' category for a dreadful palgarism of Salvadore Dali's surrealist style, something which really seems alien to Pakistani culture. 'The Blackest Painting' award is conferred on Quddus Mirza for his 'Darbar-I' etching, filled with majestic Mughal personalities but so dark that it

seemed as if Akbar had introduced load shedding. In the print category, Muhammad Sadiq's picture of a woman achieved through a few soft black lines is a prizewinner for being one of the few non-abstract works to achieve a successful likeness of the human figure; the desperate shortage of human models for art students in Pakistan must have a great deal to do with the almost complete absence of portraits at the exhibition.

Sumaya Durrani gets the First Prize for 'Audience Appreciation' on account of a fan who had written "Worth More Than 10 Billion" next to her wonderfully huge and lively chaos of static chair-like lines against a busy background. The 'Most Original Media' award is given to Guljee for the extraordinary picture of polo players made out of thin slivers of the semi-precious stone lapis lazuli. Choosing such a fast-moving topic Guljee obviously wanted to see if it was possible to get life and movement out of stone. The sculptures and ceramics as a whole receive the consolation prize for 'Poor Display' and would have benefitted by having an exhibition of their very own. Muhammad Sadiq's little sitting brass figure, however gets the 'Most Cuddly Sculpture' prize.

Of the works by artists from neighbouring countries, Indian Satish Gujral wins the

first Prize for his utterly original contributions. Taking panels of burnt black wood, carving soft contours, twisting paths and dark alleys out of them, and adding a bright bead here and there, Satish created untitled and

untitled three dimensional works that were guaranteed to stop you dead in your tracks. From an artist who is deaf since childhood, these were the loudest paintings I have ever seen.

Contributions from fellow-Indians Krishen Khanna and Ram Kumar were of a high standard and, unlike many of the contributions from Pakistani artists, were clearly identifiable as the works of those living in the sub-continent. Bangladesh's Mohammad Eunis took up the issues of peace and war with semi-abstracts, including one titled 'Make Love Not War', which combined innocence as represented by childlike scribbles and sinister destructiveness conveyed by a dark grey, turbulent background. Iran was represented by Ferozeh Gul Mohammadi who seemed to be more of a commercial illustrator than an artist, although a batik 'Freedom' was well executed while a perfectly pleasing design rather like a peacock's fan in grey was given the off-putting title 'Sacrifice'.

Cassandra Balchin

Women and Islam—Iranian Style

Khanum Zahra Moosvi, wife of the Iranian Prime Minister, visited Lahore in February on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Hazrat Fatima Zahra (RA). Doctor of Political Science, Khanum Zahra Moosvi came to Pakistan after a period of four years. She is author of many books on various subjects and prefers to be known for her own works instead of being identified as the wife of the Prime Minister. She is such a supporter of the Islamic revolution in Iran that she did not purchase any clothes or shoes for herself during the last nine years and spent all her money for the cause of the revolution.

During her stay in Lahore, she addressed a press conference at the Iranian Culture Centre. A day before, she addressed a seminar on the role of women. What she stated on both these occasions can be summarised as under:

PURDAH: Purdah is observed voluntarily by Iranian women and there is no law obligating them to do so. Since it has been enjoined by Allah Almighty, an overwhelming majority of the women observe it on their own. Those who don't adhere to the Quranic injunctions about the veil are very few in number and the ulema are trying to make them observe it too.

EDUCATION: Boys and girls study in separate educational institutions upto matriculation level. However, in colleges and universities the system of co-education is being practised. There is no harm in the girls sitting with the boys for the purpose of education provided they don't transgress the limits imposed by Allah Almighty. The women were ignored by the monarchs in Iran and consequently their literacy rate went down. The revolutionary government is trying to promote literacy among the women and today about one third of the students in universities are girls. The women enjoy all rights bestowed upon them by Allah and they are working shoulder to shoulder with men in all fields. Iranian women can become Prime Ministers, however, a debate is going on in the Supreme Council - a body above the Iranian Parliament - to see whether Islam allows a woman to become the President.

Ulema differ on the meaning of the Arabic word "Rijal" and it is because of the difference in the meaning of this word that an Iranian woman, under the present law, can not become the President. Some ulema say the word "Rijal" includes both men and the women. But another group excludes women. If the Supreme Council came to the conclusion that "Rijal" includes women, the barrier on a woman becoming President will be removed and the constitution amended accordingly.

There is no bar on women contesting for Parliament seats. However, women prefer to work in other fields rather than involving themselves in parliamentary matters. At present, there are four women members of the Parliament.

The male population is higher than the female by about 5 per cent. But since a large number of men have been "martyred" in the current war against Iraq, the marriages of young girls and widows are posing a problem. The revolutionary government has set up a "Shaheed Foundation" which is looking after the problems of all those families whose breadwinners were killed in the war. This foundation is carrying out its responsibilities satisfactorily. Young boys feel no hesitation in marrying widows. Khanum Zahra Moosvi was very criti-

cal of the Saudi Government which she held responsible for the 'massacre' of over 600 Muslims, including 400 Iranian nationals, on the occasion of the previous Hajj. She said the Saudi authorities killed the Muslims under instructions from the United States.

She declared that the Iranian pilgrims would take out a procession even on the next Hajj occasion and would raise slogans against the United States, the Soviet Union and Israel. This procession would be a manifestation of our hatred against "mushriks" and those who are trying to enforce "American brand and Russian brand Islam". She appealed to the other Muslim States to support the Iranian point of view.

She strongly denied that Iran was continuing the war to divert the attention of its people from internal problems. Iraq has committed an aggression and Iran would not stop its war unless President Saddam was overthrown. She was confident that the day was not far off when Iran would be the victors.

On the question of the export of the Iranian revolution to other countries, Khanum Zahra Moosvi said Iran would achieve the objective through manifestation of an exemplary character and not through force or war.

ASHRAF MUMTAZ



Madame Sings for SOS

SOS Childrens Villages in Pakistan is 10 years old this year and the celebration committee has planned many activities to mark this event.

One of the highlights of these activities was an evening with Madame Noor Jehan last month. After a buffet dinner, donors and guests filed into Khorshed Mahal of the Hilton, Lahore, to listen to the legend called Noor Jehan. She arrived half an hour late, clad in a sequined strawberry pink sari. Regally she walked to the front of the hall, smiling, nodding to acquaintances, surrounded by her daughters and friends.

Mrs. Souriya Anwar, President SOS Childrens Villages in Pakistan, welcomed the guests and gave a short description of the past history of this organisation and what it hopes to achieve in the future. She thanked the donors who had helped raise funds for the SOS Childrens Villages and appealed to the

public present to spread the word around that more donations would help build a SOS children school in Lahore. Mrs. Anwar thanked Madame Noor Jehan for contributing her time and talent free of charge so that all the money collected that evening could be transferred directly to the SOS account.

The show that followed was quite different from the usual one man or woman music shows. Instead of Madame getting up on stage and singing for an hour or so, a slide presentation was interwoven into the format with the idea that the audience should get to know a little more about Noor Jehan. The voice over lapping gave a straight documentation of her life plus her own comments about her childhood, her marriage, her love for music, her patriotism in the War of 1965 etc.

The programme was divided into 3 parts. After each slide presentation Noor Jehan went on stage and sang 4

songs. She also talked to the audience in between each item, made comical remarks and told jokes. Her items included some of her famous hits like "Mujh say pehli si mohabbat" "Saanoo nehr valey pull tey bola kay" and her 1965 war songs. Her rapport with the audience was electric, they listened with attention and applauded with enthusiasm. Madame Noor Jehan inspite of her sixty plus years still has many tricks up her sleeve. Her singing now after her open heart surgery is very laboured, she needs to break a continous performance to catch her breath, she positively drops a few words at the end of verses to avoid straining her vocal chords. She walks slowly with support but inspite of all this her performing spirit is still alive and kicking!! Her sense of wit and sharpness of mind is enviable and of course she still looks younger than many forty year olds!! Truly a legend,



she is still a treat to watch, first hand!!

Faiz Mela '88

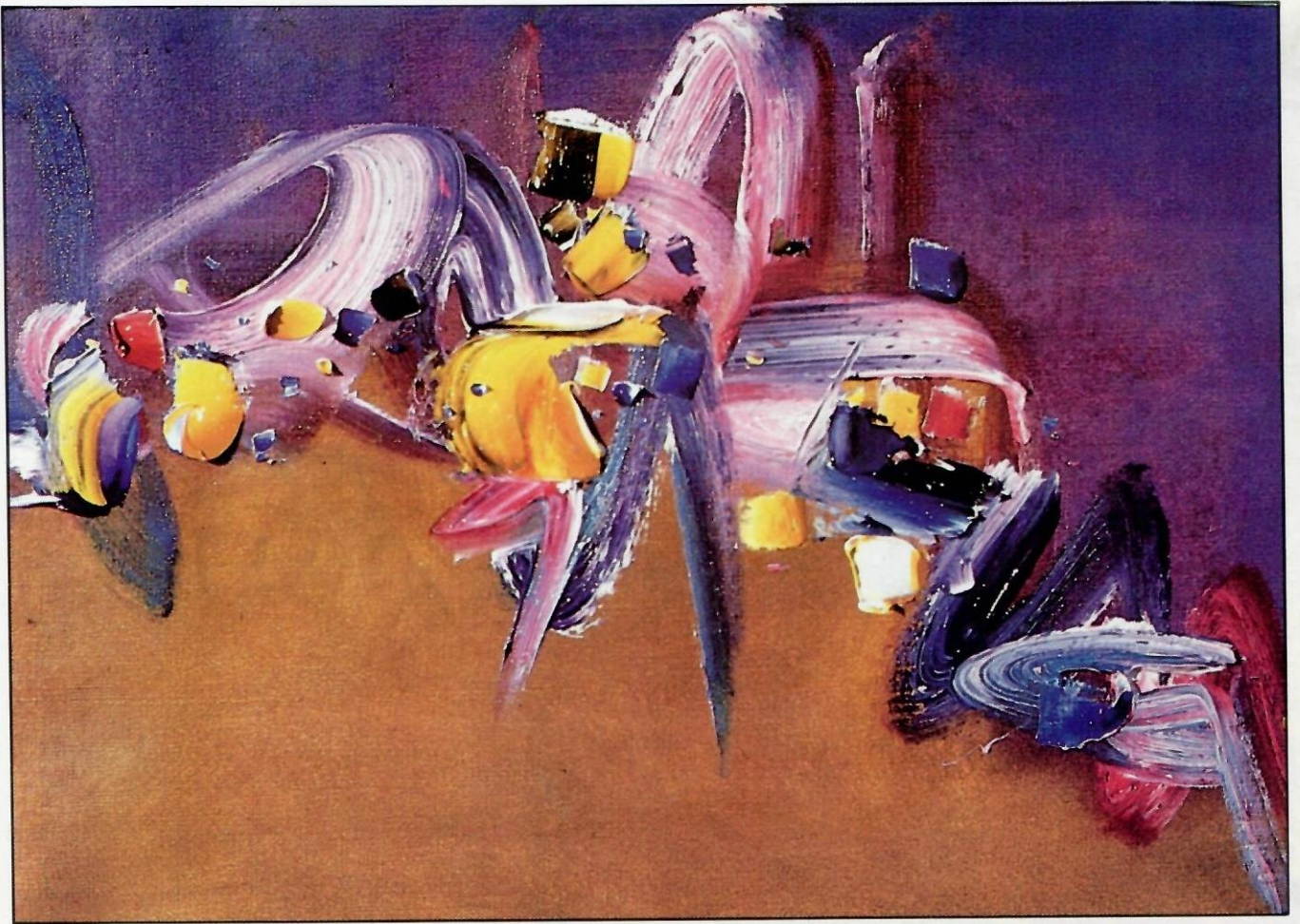
It begins gathering momentum around mid January phones ring, meetings start being arranged, lists of invitees are prepared, cards are printed, schedules drawn up, venues explored and finalized, sets designed and approved, volunteers interviewed and briefed as the Faiz Mela committee moves into action.

This year the programmes were more ambitious than last year. Apart from the musical evening, the Faiz seminar and the Faiz Amn Mela, an international mushiara had also been included in the festivities. The Faiz Mela was organised and initiated 2 years ago, this was the third celebration. February is the month of Faiz Sahib's birthday and has as such been selected as an appropriate month to celebrate the late poet's birthday. It happily coincides with the coming of spring. The Faiz Foundation finalized the 1988 Faiz Mela programme in October and different coordinating committees began working. Poets from India (Kaifi Azimi, Ali Sardar Jaffari, Majrooh Sultanpuri) from England (Zehra Nigah) and from

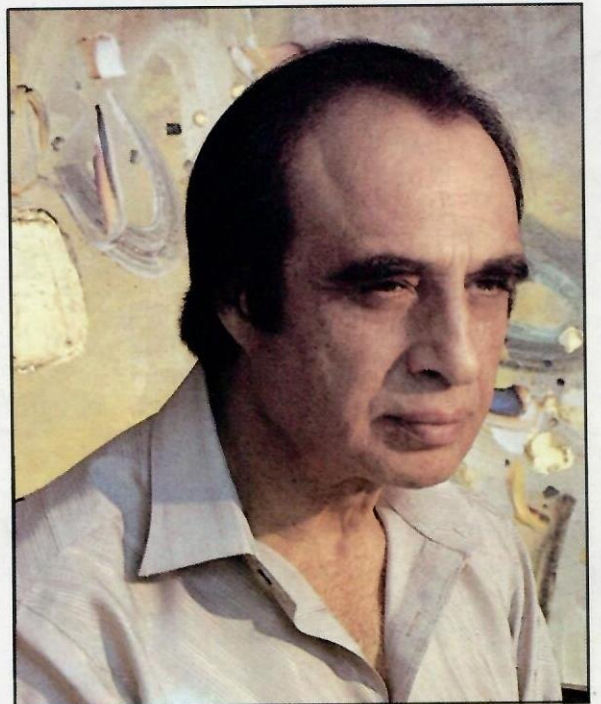


all over Pakistan were contacted. For the musical evening, a selection of Faiz's poetry was made and given to Iqbal Bano to sing and Israr Ahmad to compose. For the seminar, telexes,

telephones and cables were exchanged between USA, France, Britain, India, USSR and Tunis inviting participants. Tina Sani began to rehearse new items of Faiz's kalam.



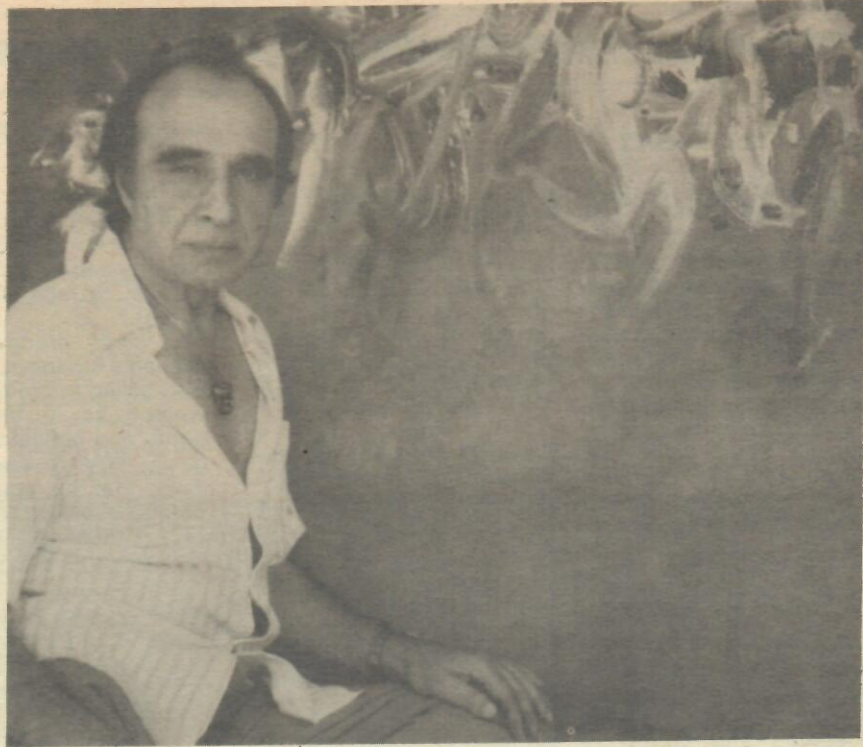
ARTIST EXTRAORDINAIRE



GULGEE

The Indus Gallery is holding an exhibition of paintings by Gulgee from the 3rd to 15th March 1988. This is the first solo exhibition of Gulgee's after more than 15 years and the first to be held at the Indus Gallery for more than a year.

SHE salutes both Gulgee and Ali Imam on the occasion of this formidable artistic experience.



T

o experience the world of Gulgee is a completely exhilarating, yet exacting experience. His canvasses seduce the eye compelling

it to abandon all preoccupations of the material world. Within his world, enclosed by the frame, a new reality emerges. This is Gulgee's universe in which colour, form and texture create a landscape charged with spontaneity and emotion. His landscape radiates volatile energy as powerful brush strokes leap across the canvass with unrestrained freedom; his strokes fluid and curvilinear, echo

the swift organic script of Nakshi. The frenzied movement of the brush evokes the quick rythmic quality of the Arabic script and creates an uncomfortable sense of familiarity in a world where nothing is. Gulgee embodies and abstracts the essence of Nakshi in his fast jesteral movement.

There thick polychrome sweeps of paint etched by sharp bristles capture and fossilize the brute force of the brush in motion. Time is irrelevant as the act of painting remains frozen in colour and texture.

In contrast to the dynamic vitality of

the brush, emerge smooth plastic glazes of colour created by a swift, incisive movement of the palette knife. These rich glazes of translucent aquamarine blues and Indian yellows, boldly juxtaposed, scintillate like delicate pieces of Kundan. These shapes of colour create depth and stability within Gulgee's landscape as they mysteriously recede within.

Gulgee's landscapes, so vibrant and alive, synthesises the uninhibited freedom of a child with the sophisticated aesthetics of a master artist.

AMIN GULGEE



Islamabad

No! To Any Change in the MFLO

The Women's Action Forum, Islamabad, held its first public meeting since October at Rohtas Gallery on Jan. 30. It was attended by about 50 women, and even a handful of men eager to contribute to the proceedings. A short video was shown entitled, "Born Female", made in India by UNICEF. The film touched upon the rural concerns of poverty, infant mortality, and the denial of education to girls. Although the subject did pertain to problems our rural women face in Pakistan, it did not offer any fresh insights into these overwhelming and urgent issues.

The meeting itself began as an informative discussion on the present crucial legal issues facing women today. It was led by Naheed Aziz from UNICEF and Tahira Abdullah of WAF. Zari Sarfraz also gave an impassioned speech calling women out of their complacency, and urging us to learn how to fight

for our rights. However the only tangible step that was taken was by Nahida of the Punjab Women's Lawyers' Association. She announced her availability for free legal aid twice a week. Yet the women who most benefit from such services were not to be seen in this gathering of privileged Islamabad residents.

Six resolutions were unanimously approved by everyone present. In brief, they included an appeal to the National Assembly to resist the passage of the Ninth Amendment Bill, as well as a call to Parliament to safeguard the rights of women and children secured by the Muslim Family Law Ordinance (1961) and the equal rights of citizenship of all religious minorities in Pakistan. Regarding the case of Shahida Parveen, a resolution was passed which calls for a re-examination of those powers of the Federal Shariat Court which have resulted in the judgement and sentencing of Shahida and

her husband, Muhammad Sarwar, to rajm (stoning to death).

The mass media and all women's organizations were also called upon to educate women as to their legal rights and obligations. And finally, WAF resolved to demand that the recent judgement of the Sind High Court (which declared divorce procedures and registration as

not in accordance with the Quran and Sunnah) be overruled, and it appeals to all women lawyers' and human rights organizations to join in the protest.

The turn-out was larger than expected. But it remains to be seen whether WAF Islamabad can build up its momentum. It is apparent that great organizational efforts still need to be made by WAF so that a wider range of women in the Islamabad-Pindi area are drawn onto its platform. Only when a real cross-section of women become involved in WAF's activities will it realize its full



potential as a pressure group and an organization with direct effect upon the lives of women.

Sophistication and Depth

The International Photographic Society, of Pakistan held a first anniversary exhibition at the American Center from Jan. 31-Feb. 14. It was inaugurated by Mr. Arnold Raphael, U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan. 73 stunning photographs were selected from among the members' contributions. The opening packed with people and the high quality of the display are evidence of the Society's dynamic first year.

The ISPS was founded by Virginia Morgan and Sajid Munir exactly one year ago. It holds monthly meetings, workshops, shoot-outs, photo-excursions, and even a photo-of-the-month contest. Anyone interested in photography is encouraged to join, whether beginner, amateur, or professional. The subjects of the photographs on display were as diverse as the members of



the Society itself. Architecture, portraits, landscapes, and village scenes, were all included. There were many portraits of children, whose

unlimited range of expressions never cease to capture first the imagination of a photographer and then the heart of a viewer in a crowd-

ed gallery.

What is so unique about the art of photography is the way it can capture and preserve an extraordinary moment in time. Dr. Shaukat Malik's "Playing with Fire" did just that in its depiction of a group of aghast on-lookers seated around a young boy acrobat in a Thai village as he blows fire out of his mouth. Yet not every subject need be this astonishing to communicate its own quality. Sometimes the contrast of a sea of yellow flowers in front of a "Scottish Castle" (J.S. Addleton) is enough to heighten our delight in colour.

ISPS has provided us with the much-needed opportunity to participate in and learn more about the art of photography. Their first year has culminated in an exhibition of sophistication and depth. Hopefully we won't have to wait until their 2nd Anniversary for more!

Fashion Down Fairy Lane

Once upon a time, there was a king who had, yes, ten daughters. Every morning he would notice that their shoes were worn out and clothes in disarray. So he declared to the people of his kingdom: who ever solves the mystery of their secret night adventures will be given his most beautiful daughter's hand in marriage.

"Seamanche" was the name of the fashion show whose theme was this delightful fairy tale. Samina Ayaz and Seema Imam presented their extremely innovative show recently at the Crystal ballroom of the Holiday Inn to a full capacity audience of 600. Popular music, excellent lighting and make-up, as well as a friendly atmosphere provided an ideal setting for the two women to publicly display their designs for the first time.

The show was divided into four parts, each depicting a scene from the fairy-tale. First, the king entered, and his young daughters followed him on stage to pay courtesy to him and, as Rosie Waites narrated to the audience, show off their designer clothes.

Casual wear was presented first. Designs ranged from cowl shalwars, to dhotis and dholaks, all in bright combinations of yellow and black or green and shocking pink. Materials were mainly local cottons and Sindhi Sussis. Two scenes featuring evening wear followed, which corresponded to the Princesses dressing up and going to meet their Princes at night in Dreamland, "the secret place beyond the hidden door." Shimmering golds and silvers, Chinese silks finely stitched into elegant shalwar kameezes, and double-coloured silk dupat-

tas were modelled by the girls, escorted on stage by their shy young men.

The hall was mostly filled with girls from Colleges who were enjoying the sight of their friends mingling, and even dancing a little, on stage; but the older generation voiced some disapproval. Even though one of the Princesses was escorted by

the presentation.

The closing sequence featured the marriage, of course. The lucky soldier who had escaped the Princesses' magic sleeping potion and discovered their secret Dreamland was to be wedded to the oldest Princess.

The formal wear was very traditional Pakistani, with

ment at Ohio State University. Preparation for the show occupied all of her spare time, as she also holds a job as cultural affairs officer at the American Center in Islamabad.

Seema has been working in fashion for some time; most recently she was stitching and designing shalwar kameezes for the Crystal II



a Prince who in reality was her own brother, some people present felt that the show had over-stepped the boundaries of our culture. Perhaps sensitivities had been heightened due to the conference on Islamization of Society being held in the adjacent hall and presided over by Mr. Yasin Wattoo, Minister of Finance. At any rate, Mrs. Kulsum Saifullah, the Chief Guest, appeared appreciative of the fine efforts the girls had put into

the bride in a pink gharara worked in gold and wearing a dupatta beautifully decorated with salmay ka kam. The other models, or better, "wedding guests", displayed silks in styles. Which were well-finished and sparkling with sequins.

Samina and Seema brought both talent and training to their show. Samina has studied design at the American Cultural Center in Karachi, and Hospitality Manage-

boutique in Jinnah Market. In a few weeks the two women will open their own boutique. Their designs will continue to combine Eastern with Western influences, and include both formal and casual wear. Their glamorous entrance into our fashion world was enthusiastically received at the Holiday Inn, and no doubt this success will continue at their new boutique.

Ayesha Khan

Nahid's Magic

Nahid's subject has become woman. Her past work on the Chawkandi tombs, her experiments, and her recent studies of movement while in the U.S., have brought her to this. Personal experience and passion have fused with technique into a style of painting that can be considered a meditation upon what it means to

be a woman.

At a small exhibition of her paintings at Rohtas Gallery, Nahid spoke softly, briefly, but with great conviction about her art. There is no hesitation: in her work she intends to symbolically depict the love, strength, and creativity in being a woman. And to do this, one must begin by understanding the suffering.

At first glance, Nahid's col-

lection of paint on acrylic is disturbing. Why the dark, muted, earth tones? The barely distinguishable female figures?

Her masterful technique draws close even the most "unversed" visitor to the gallery, so that one is compelled to take a closer look. A woman split into four pieces, a woman's head and neck in deep red, traces of bodies, and finally a lovely

curved body -- is she dancing?

Nahid's work is definitely bewildering. But as it forces us to look closely (and even more closely, as most of the exhibit's opening was held in candlelight) we find that no where is a woman shown defeated. Flashes of blues and greens hint at laughter, energy.

Yes, finally, that curved body must be dancing.

WHAT'S**LAHORE****n e w****Heady Heads**

Talk of the town, is Mussarat Javaid's HAIR TALK, 'Model Town's latest addition to the beauty business. A licensed cosmetologist with a year long trainers experience from the USA, Mussarat has had four years of practical hairdoing experience, while she lived abroad in Houston. She promises to do up a new you, with the latest in hair-styles, cuts, perms, dyes and the lot, preferring to do everything naturally, without using too much of chemicals. Her charges if not, dirt cheap are less than those of oth-

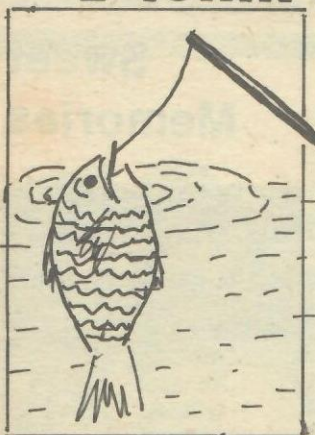


ers in the trade, so it would not be a bad idea to hand over ones head and shoulders to her for an exclusively personalized touch. The best thing around the place is the strict adherence to hygiene, which Mussarat feels should be the prime concern of every beauty salon. On the cards too, is extension of the hair business to include cosmetic aids. Meanwhile it is over to HAIR TALK for a new you!

ADDRESS:

133-F, Model Town Lahore

Ph. No. 856430

Fishin' for Fish

Fish Centre is the place in town from where the gourmet can have his pick of fresh seafood as well as edible stalwarts of the rivers. The management maintain that they have the technology to keep their seafood fresh. Sea food is brought to Fish Centre through refrigerated containers, thus sav-

ing up all the nutritive values of this dietary delicacy, a thing we inlanders envy the Karachiites for. You can have atleast eight varieties of river fish, for the asking. Ranging from the Rahu to Gulfam and ofcourse the delicious trout, for which one had better hurry, lest it gets sold out by the middle of the day. For those who fancy the sea variety, lobsters and crabs, shrimps and prawns, pomphrets and sole fillet, everything is at your service.

The best thing is that there is nothing fishy in this entire fishy business, because at Fish Centre, the pleasant environment teams up with the fair dealing - to give land tubbers a taste of the high seas and inland rivers.

ADDRESS:-

Fish Centre
128 Bank Square,
Model Town, Lahore

It was a nice chilly evening when husband Kazmi and wife Samra decided to break the ice at Lahore's trendy Cantt Cooperative Housing Society by launching their stylish boutique. Throwing open-house invitation for steaming whipped coffee plus the gift of free stitching of one suit to first day clients and visitors, LORRAN appears to be something to write home about. A beige carpet beneath your feet, a white ceiling over your head and flattering mirrors to your right and left, all emphasise the

Trend Waves

variety of materials and dresses waiting on the pegs, to be picked up. Already creating ripples on the society scenes, Faisalabad based Samra and Kazmi think Lahore is the place to be in if one wants to remain in the fashion business. For the society residents tired of commuting to far off Liberty, it is happy news since Lorrان offers trendy stitching, professional advice on design as well as dyer service.

Address:

880-G, L.C.C.H.S. Defence Market Phase - I
Lahore Cantt.

ON SHOW!

Show stopping with the most glamorous of evening wraps. Dupattas from 'Aroos' boutique of Bahawalpur, bringing tradition to Karachi's night life. 'Aroos' dupattas specializing in kamdani, ghota kinari and mukaish, weave an eastern magic in colour. The designs are intricately handworked in traditional artistic motifs. So, brighten up and show off in SHE's evening colours.

Compiled by
Bilquis Nasarullah
Photos by
Studio Reflection 2000

Aroos Boutique
II, Gulnar Apts.
Chaudhri Khaliqzaman Road,
Ph: 513740





BY ALYS FAIZ

ON THE ROAD TO SAMARKAND

Beauty is still being created, on the verge of the desert of Cholistan

Can ruins be beautiful? I asked myself that question as I watched the one-and-half hour film on video which will eventually become a twenty minute film, on the ancient glories of Uchch Sharif. Certainly, the ruins of Uchch Sharif are beautiful and this beauty has been revealed and committed by the National College of Arts, students and staff of the Architecture Department. The shots rolled on -- mausoleums, arches, tall grandiose pillars, the town itself, ancient houses, alleyways, sunlight and shadows; shy, peeping children, veiled women, venerable ancients gossiping in the market places and squares. Exquisitely carved window frames and doors, proving that the skilled artisans still ply their trade, and beauty is still being created, on the verge of the desert of Cholistan.

The story reads almost like a fairy-tale itself. Students and staff rolling up their beddings, boarding bus and train, going off into the almost unknown, hardly knowing what to expect, on the old trade route between Samarkand, Bokhara and Multan. What they found was pretty grim. Dust, June heat, history sinking slowly into the desert sands, and they the only ones seeming to care. But they found, too, the locals willing to bring them water, beds, ladders; electricity was not within their power, but cooking pots were. So the pioneering work started. That was way back in June, and in December this film was made, yet another group making its way to the Cholistan border. Not bus and train this time, but an air-conditioned wagon, and a film-

crew, but still young enthusiasts and their seniors. The cameras caught the students sketching, bringing to life the splendid blue and white tilework on dome and pillar, repeating what those first pioneering students had done in June.

"Cut it to twenty minutes," said the director. "But how will you cut, what will you cut? What will you leave? Those lovely pillars and domes must all stay, every one of them! The sunlight and the shadow; the soft morning light, the glow of the setting sun." My protest. Answer -- we shall see, we shall see.

Not many years ago, in the spring, just a decade past, we too wandered amidst pillars, domes, sunlight and shadows of a land so utterly reminiscent of the land of Uchch Sharif. There is something called name-dropping, well I'm going to do a little place-dropping. Tashkent, Samarkand, Bokhara, Khiva -- Tashkent lost much of its blue and white tilework in a terrible earthquake. But Bokhara, Samarkand and Khiva are still blessed with their glories, mosques, mausoleums and gateways, in the same tradition of beauty as our Uchch Sharif -- for they were on the same long route of history.

In that far-off spring we left Tashkent en route to this land of similarity of tiles, domes and minarets. We were very spoiled special guests, private plane and all that. But being my first visit I was determined not to waste a moment in unnecessary sleep or siesta.

Renovation was going on everywhere, and young artists and architects were at work. Traditions had not been lost, and with loving care, specialists made good, with painstaking

skill, the damage of the past, what the elements had ravaged. It goes on all the time without stopping. Each edifice had a tale to tell, many full of romance, of lovers taking wing from the heights of minarets, and maidens waiting behind tiny windows. In a narrow lane, totally reminiscent of what the camera caught in Uchch Sharif, an old woman, behind a carved wooden door, sat moulding in reddish clay a dragon-like horse, and a horse-like dragon. She was, whispered our guide the only person left doing it, and the secret of her red clay would pass on with her. Another of those fairy-tales? We loved the mystery of it all-on the road to Samarkand! And since we were special, an outrider led our cavalcade. And citizens turned to see who we were when they heard the sirens, then carried on their way. Surely, said my companion, with all this noise and pomp they expected at least a prince and princess? This amused our hosts no end.

As I watched the beauties of Uchch Sharif on our video, I was watching the fairy beauty of the land of the Uzbekhs, and visualising the great caravans which must have travelled these long dusty roads, bringing their craftsmen and their skills with them into what is now the land of Pakistan. The years slipped backwards and forwards, and beauty neither ended nor began it was there all the time. But the elements are cruel, man must rescue this beauty, of the past, from treacherous sands, wild winds and rain, and with heavenly skill keep restoring, maintaining this gracious beauty. True, ruins can be beautiful, but beauty restored is beauty more lasting, indeed it will never end.

Mightier then Most

Razia Bhatti — Editor

There are very few magazines in Pakistan which have achieved both national and international acclaim, and Herald is one of them. Filling a long felt need for a current affairs magazine, which would have the guts to look at issues boldly in the eye, Herald's success is inextricably linked with the drive and personality of its editor, Razia Bhatti. Twelve years in this post, makes Razia not only one of the most senior journalists in the business but perhaps the only woman in Pakistan to have been selected for such a responsible job. Razia is married to Gul Hameed Bhatti, editor of The Cricketer and has two children aged 7 and 4.

What was your background in journalism before you became the editor of Herald?

After receiving M.A's in English and Journalism from Karachi University, I was offered two jobs. One was at A.P.P as a reporter which could have led to my becoming a foreign correspondent. My teacher advised me to take the other job, as assistant editor in the Illustrated Weekly of Pakistan. This was in 1967. In 1970 this magazine, a weekly, was transformed into Herald, a monthly magazine. Anwar Mooraj was the first editor of Herald and I was appointed editor in 1976.

When did Herald adopt its present format?

In January, '84 we dropped certain features like the short stories and Herald became a current affairs magazine whose main function was to provide information and news analysis. It was Hameed Haroon's concept.

What was the initial reaction to the new Herald?

We got a tremendous response. Information had not been sold before in this country and we were not sure whether a magazine of this type would be commercially feasible. However it soon became obvious that there was a market for a quality newsmagazine, we've come a long



way from the glamour covers, when it was assumed that only glamour sells. In the old Herald we used to do a lot of recycling of our transparencies of film stars. Of course glamour still sells like our Salma Agha issue but we have a solid readership that does not need to be attracted through sensationalism.

How do you compare yourself with other magazines world wide?

A lot of foreign journalists have been surprised to see an outspoken magazine like Herald being published in Pakistan. Many Indian journalists have said that they thought it was better than India Today. A Washington Post correspondent said that he thought it was the best magazine in South Asia.

What, in your opinion, is Herald's main contribution as dispenser of news and information?

Our greatest achievement is that we make people aware of issues. Often this can be very frustrating. When we published the Begar Camp story, a story so horrifying that I found it difficult to edit, the government reaction was that we should not publish such material because it brings a bad name to the country. Even more frustrating was the fact that one of our main contributors couldn't

get more than ten signatures in Karachi when he began a signature campaign. We carry out the investigation and report our findings. It's up to the public to react and protest.

In a way it must sometimes feel like a dead end?

It is frustrating, but there's also the satisfaction of having created an awareness. For example we're the first publication to do an indepth report on the situation of Sind.

You were certainly the first to tackle investigative stories?

Yes, in 1982, we did three such stories. On the pharmaceutical industry, on the gun trade and on narcotics.

How do you write up a story?

We plan the story, we discuss what should go into it, and divide it into sections, decide who to interview. Sometimes several people work on a story. Then, of course it goes through a process of editing and re-editing which is absolutely necessary if we are to maintain our writing quality.

Are there any restrictions imposed on you by the management?

As editor, I decide what goes into the magazine. Very rarely do we get requests for coverage (of a personality, a book or an event) from the management, just as we do from other sources. All requests, wherever they come from, are treated on merit. News value and reader interest are the deciding factors. That's the only way one can retain credibility.

What about pressure from your sales people. Do they advise you not to alienate important advertisers?

The advertising department is entirely separate. It has nothing to do with editorial matters, and doesn't attempt to interfere. We have occasionally run stories against our advertisers, and the objections have come from the advertisers themselves, not from the advertising department.

What about the times when you've been served notices?

The first time was in February, 1978 for our 'Islamization of Pakistan' issue. I think they found the cover too provocative. It had a picture of a veiled woman with another one of a man being lashed beneath it. Another occasion for a notice was the Khalida Riayasat interview in which she said, "Marriage is legalised prostitution". Of late we haven't received any written notices or official warnings.

Has journalism changed much over the last twenty years?

Commercially, journalism has grown tremendously. Publishing is big business now. There's more colour, more special interest magazines, and a certain degree of professionalism in terms of layout and printing. But most Pakistani publications still suffer from a lack of trained staff for subbing and re-writing. It's not enough just to correct grammatical mistakes. Quality journalism requires creative subbing.

In terms of press freedom there have been many ups and downs, mostly downs. Except for a very brief period during the 1970 elections and a shortlived spell just after Bhutto took over, I've never known the press to be free. We have always had the liberty to criticize a government when it has fallen but never while it's been in power. That

has taught us to write between the lines to use euphemisms for sacred cows, to constantly test the limits of our freedom.

I have never known the press to enjoy as much liberty as it does today in terms of what it can write, yet this cannot be termed true freedom while the government continues to ban publications, continues to retain the press and publications ordinance, and continues to use newsprint quotas and advertisement as weapons with which to reward or coerce publications.

You do not give any emphasis to women's issues?

Since the Herald is a general interest magazine, not a woman's magazine, women's issues form just one of the many topics that we cover. We highlight exploitation in all its forms, and since women are doubly exploited, their concerns are naturally Herald's concerns. We cover every women's issue or problem that comes up, and did an exhaustive cover story on the women's situation in Pakistan not so long ago.

What are the problems encountered by women journalists?

Personally, I have encountered no professional problems as a woman in a male-dominated field. Women in this profession have both an advantage and a disadvantage. They sometimes have easier access to information; some people are more willing to talk to a female interviewee, or help a female reporter. But many women journalists are handicapped by stereotyping, which restricts them to traditional "women's beats" and by social conditions, which make it impossible for them to travel alone after dark, or go long distances unescorted. And the current climate of fundamentalist intolerance is only making things worse.

What are your working hours and how do you fit in your housework with your professional life?

During the first half of the month I come in late and work for a few hours. The last week of the month is extremely hectic and the entire team at the Herald works almost non-stop, often very late in the night. My husband, Gul Hameed Bhatti, is very supporting and being a journalist himself understands the pressure. I also have a very good Ayah! Editing a serious, quality magazine is enough motivation and with Gul's help handling work and domestic affairs is possible and fulfilling.

If you ran more light features, wouldn't it increase your sales dramatically?

We don't want to sacrifice quality for quantity. Most of our cover stories are serious and we offer services that nobody else does. As far as circulation is concerned we are doing all right. After all how many people buy serious books? One comment on Herald is, "We do not want to read Herald because it make us think and wrack our brains". But this very quality has won us many readers and we now have subscribers even in remote parts of the country. People want to know what's going on and Herald is one magazine they can turn to, month after month, that gives them hard news.

And finally, why are there so many women in the Herald staff? Is it by design?

It is not a conscious policy to hire women particularly, it just happens to be a coincidence that there are more women at the moment. We very much adhere to the principle of employing people strictly on merit.

Z. K.



FARZANA ALI

Farzana Ali Executive House Keeper at Sheraton Hotel, Karachi, is a highly motivated and successful woman. With no less than 99 people working under her. Farzana has a long list of tasks. Not only is she responsible for keeping up the international standard of the hotel but she also has to order the hotel linen and uniforms of the 750 employees. Farzana is totally responsible for making up and implementing the budget for all the hotel linen and uniforms of the employees. The list doesn't end here. She also organises training courses in hotel management and operation. Farzana believes in getting her workers involved in teaching as she said, "for a good manager it is important to be a good delegate". Farzana joined Sheraton in 1986. After completing her MBA from California, she joined the Hyatt Regency in the US as floor supervisor, later to become the executive house keeper. She then opted to work in Pakistan, where she joined the Sheraton. As she says, 'I had quite a few options open to me but I joined the Sheraton because of its better and healthy atmosphere, excellent working conditions and for future prospect too, as it is the only international chain of hotels in Karachi'.

Talking about her future plans, Farzana said, 'I definitely want to continue working in the hotel industry, and my aim is to rise up to Rooms Division Manager, which of course is the biggest department of the hotel.

Being the boss and the only lady working in the department, Farzana initially faced difficulties. "At the management level, being a woman is a slight drawback, as for some it takes a long time to accept orders from a woman, she said. But later, with a deep understanding of human psychology, Farzana overcame the problem, she added, "the atmosphere in our hotel does not discriminate against women".

Enjoying the personal involvement of the job Farzana said, "We are in the hospitality business. We have to satisfy every guest, meet new people every day. It is a constant challenge between the guest and the people you work with". When asked what were the general impressions of her foreign guests of Pakistan, Farzana revealed an interesting fact, "the male foreigners and particularly the ones visiting for the first time are afraid to talk to women in public." she adds, "they have a certain reservation about us. On the other hand the foreigners really appreciate hospitality and the warm reception our country gives to its guests."

Shamin Farah



FARAZEH ASIF ALI

Society should not be allowed to dictate one's life. Though to be accepted one has to abide by its set norms. However, they should not over ride one's personality," says Farazeh Asif Ali, an MBA in Finance from Indiana University.

Farazeh after serving an internship period of two months with Citibank, is now Assistant Manager at the American Express Bank. Departmental head of Imports she deals with the opening and retirement of letters of credit, client dealings which includes timely service and foreign currency reconciliation. Farazeh's formidable work list also entails adhering to internal bank and audit requirement and providing MIS (Management Information Systems) reports to the marketing personnel.

Today, more and more women are taking up careers and are even entering professions which till recently were considered the forte of men. To encourage the rise of women at top management levels is the job of corporate and other organizational heads. They are the people who have to give the women, if they do have the qualifications, a chance. The concept that training women is a waste of time, as they might leave their jobs at marriage or after marriage, is now out-dated. "Don't men switch for a better job? But companies still accept and train them", says Farazeh. A very valid argument for women we'd say. On the other hand Farazeh is of the opinion that women too should develop a professional attitude if they want to work alongside men as their mental equals.

Farazeh believes in the equality of both sexes. Not a true feminist she is not for male chauvinism either. A balance in attitude is the keyword.

Successful in her banking career she would like to go in for business eventually because of the flexibility in timings it affords a person and also for more monetary gains.

Thumbs up to this ambitious young lady.

Nighat Gaya

WHO ARE



SABAH SIDDIQI

When Sabah Siddiqi joined Phillipine Airways in the reservation department, she never thought she would continue working there so long, nor did she think it would become her wholetime career, but 'I found, the job very interesting, and I would never like to swap it with another one!' says Sabah.

Sabah started her career in the travel trade in 1982. After graduating from St. Joseph's College, she did her ticketing course at British Airways. Since then she has never looked back and is now the Counter Supervisor. Talking about her job Sabah said, "the best aspect of course is travelling and then no two days are alike here, I meet new people everyday, and often find my work very challenging." When asked about the problems faced by working women, Sabah said, 'I have never faced any job harassment, what so ever, the reason could be that in the travel trade the majority of the desk work is with women, and we usually come across educated and enlightened people.' Commenting on her job requirements, Sabah said, 'Our training doesn't end with one course only, but its a continuous process. Since I have joined the Phillipine Airways I have been sent to at least three courses.

Having a flair for languages, Sabah speaks French fluently and has completed her course from Alliance Francais. Although the working hours in a travelling agency are very long, Sabah still finds time to persue her outdoor activities and she loves riding.

Married, with one child, Sabah never faces any problem on the home front, for she feels that one is more organised when one is working. "I am able to divide my time well. Most important of all, my husband is very supportive and encourages me all the time", she added.

Sharmin Farah



ZAINAB ANSARI

Some might find her domineering, others quite charming. One's impressions about Zainab Ansari might be controversial but everyone will unanimously agree that she definitely epitomizes the woman of today. Intelligent, vibrant and very vocal Zainab is publicity shy to a very large extent as far as the projection of her personal self is concerned. However, she is emphatic about her views on women and their status in our society.

Zainab Ansari took her first step in the professional world with ICI. From Confidential Assistant to the Chairman she rose to be the first lady executive of ICI, heading their newly set up Public Relations Department. Her next career move took her to hoteliering. She was appointed Guest Relations Manager at the Inter Continental and it was during her eight year tenure with Inter Continental that she travelled and trained extensively and won herself an enviable work record. Amongst her achievements in the hotel business is her guest relations programme which was selected and used for the entire Middle East Division from amongst a number of international entries. Quite a feather in her cap we'd say! With the departure of the Inter Continental Group from Pakistan, Zainab too made her exit and entered the competitive field of advertising.

June '87 saw her as the Sales Director of Diversified Designs Display Systems (Private) Ltd. Zainab feels that women make better sales personnel than the men and this she says emphatically has nothing to do with face value. As computer advertising is a relatively new concept in our country, Zainab's initial task as Sales Director was to educate the client about this media. At Diversified Designs Display Systems the ads. are made on computers and run on the board. Against popular belief this form of advertising is neither too expensive nor a road hazard. As Zainab says, "when you know your attention is divided you tend to be more cautious, thus reducing the risk of an accident". On the subject of women and their status in our society, Zainab feels that the women have themselves to blame rather than the men. "Our women lack the confidence to come forward and take up challenges and I am not talking about the few exceptions" she adds. Even though more and more women are taking up professions, Zainab feels that the fields they enter are very limited, and most don't know about the opportunities that are available. As for family and work life, they can co-exist if you want them to. "I have two children and neither are starved for love or attention".

Nighat Gaya

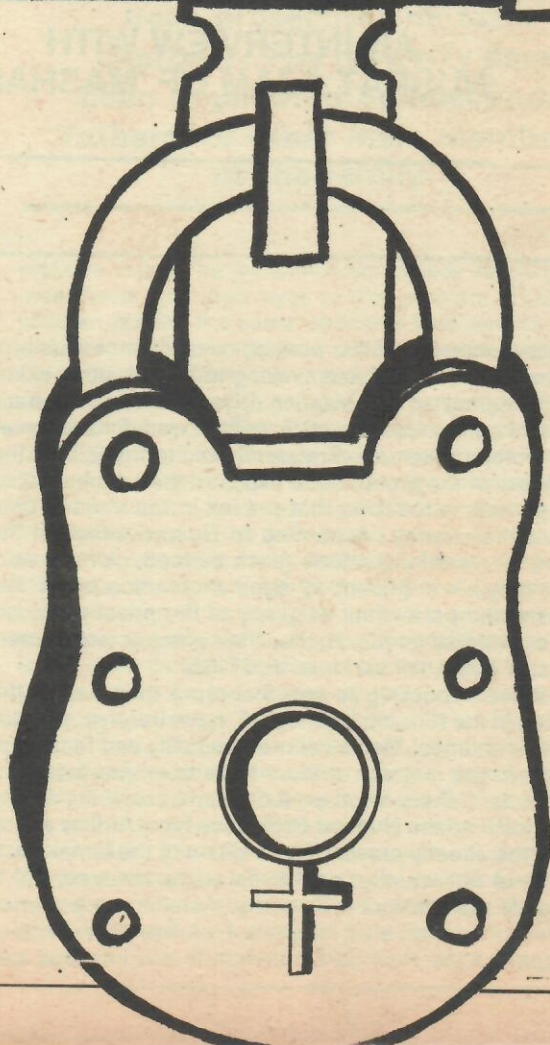
THEY ?

The Accused is...

Victim of male brutality and oppression, a blank faced woman, clad in a thick 'Khaddar' shalwar kameez, remains oblivious of her surroundings. Years of suppression and torture (of both body and mind) has left its mark on her. Once beautiful, her husband had repeatedly offered her to other men, with the purpose of making some extra money. Then one day her long, unceasing nightmare finally came to an end (only to start yet another).... She killed her husband. Today her mind too has betrayed her ... for better or for worse, nobody knows. She remains peaceful for long stretches of time, confined to a blank and void shell, totally unaware of life around her. However during intermittent spells, she awakes from her reverie and comes alive. The pain and torment of her soul, is then evident from the piercing and agonizing screams that rack her body.

... AN INNOCENT WOMAN

AFSHAN SIDDIQUI



inshahid lobana

years now, without any lawyers or legal aid provided for them. In many cases when they were finally convicted their term of punishment was shorter than the time that they had initially spent in jail. Comment.

Yes, it is true that many undertrial prisoners remain in confinement for long periods of time. But this is the fault of our judicial system which takes so long to settle a case. Why blame the jail authority for this discrepancy? In cases where the family of the prisoners do not provide for lawyers, then the government does make provision in this respect. Lawyers are hired by the government, but unfortunately the efficiency shown by these law officers is next to nothing. You see, the lawyers who agree to work on behalf of the government are actually 'third rate stuff'. When their own practices flop and they have no other job opportunity available they agree to work for the government, receiving remuneration and hence they are far from proficient in their work.

The behaviour of the jailors is very harsh towards the women prisoners and there have been cases of rapoe in the past. Illucidate.

All such ideas and rumours are exaggerations and propaganda stories of the media. You must be referring to the rape case of Pathan Begum. Pathani was confined in Sukkur jail. As her case was being conducted in the court in Jacobabad, she had to be taken there regularly on the dates of the hearing. For more than a year, one police officer along with his 'sipahis' would escort Pathani from Sukkur to Jacobabad. While travelling the group would arrive in Jacobabad, from Sukkur, spend a night there attend the hearing the next morning and return to Sukkur by the evening. Apparantly Pathani and the police officer had friendly terms. As the sipahais accompanying the police officer were his subordinates, they shut their eyes to the happenings. The two carried on a clandestine affair, and what ensued can hardly be called a rape case.

Even if one believes your version about Pathani's involvement with the police officer, isn't it the responsibility of the jail authorities to check against such shamefulacts? A woman in prison is after all there to be reformed, other than spoiled further.

I agree with you. But the ruthlessness of one stray officer cannot be made grounds for condemning the whole police force.

It is said that the female prisoners are tortured and at times severely beaten by the jailors. Do you agree?

I would not say that the women are tortured in prison. They may be punished occasionally for creating mischief of some kind. Remember jail is not a 'Haji Camp'. The women in there are convicted under prostitution, smuggling and murder cases. You cannot expect a chaste and congenial atmosphere in a place like that. As against the propaganda of the press, the majority of women prisoners are far from innocent and decent. 'Sharafat' is a word unknown to them. I am not saying that all are alike that, but a fair majority fit my description. Some of the women are so devious that their nefarious acts do not end even in jail. They try to seduce the male policemen. Addicts of various drugs, at times they manage to smuggle heroin into their cells.

Admitting such a fact, itself, reflects the corruption and inefficiency of the jail authority. How can women prisoners who are supposed to be in confinement, get drugs from the outside? What are the guards and police officers doing in this respect?

To answer your question, I will quote an incident, here. A

few years back when I was working at the Karachi Central Jail we had a surprise raid in the middle of the night. Those were the early days of the Martial Law. The Martial Law authorities suspected that a male prisoner in solitary confinement had a fair amount of heroin in his cell. A search of the cell confirmed the fact. The officer conducting the operation asked us (the jail authority) how heroin had reached inside the jail premises. I told him that the drug had penetrated through the jail walls much the same way as it had travelled from Chitral to Karachi. From Chitral to Karachi there are seven check posts besides the FSF, FIA, CIA and Narcotic Control Board. If heroin can get smuggled from the northern areas of the country right down to Karachi, in the presence of such intense security, then in the same way it can travel into the jail premises.

In a society where corruption, and inefficiency exists in every sphere of life, be it government departments or private organizations why blame the jail authorities alone.

The food served in jail is undernourishing. Other necessities such as clothing etc. are also insufficiently provided. Comment.

It is the jail authorities responsibility to provide the prisoners with two meals in a day. The government has set a certain scale and budget for the food and other supplies for prisoners. The jail authorities therefore provide the prisoners with the necessities according to the resources available to them. The convicted prisoners are given two pair of clothes in a year, while the under trial prisoners get their clothing from their families. Other necessities such as soda ash for washing clothes, oil to put in hair etc. is also provided by the jail authorities.

It is said that the funds and material goods intended for the prisoners, usually gets pilfered by the jail staff?

I do not agree. Actually the scale set by the government is so small that there is no room for theft of any kind. For example for every six to seven prisoners, one chattak ghee is allotted. The prisoners, get only two pair of clothes through out the year. With such limited supply available, what would one steal, any way.

Presently, there are 22 children living with their mothers in the Karachi Central Jail. Although the jail manual says that children over the age of three are not allowed to stay in jail, there are a number of children much above that age limit.

Yes there are older children in jail today and have always been there. During my term there was a nine years old boy at the Karachi Jail. He was born and brought up there. His whole world comprised of the female ward. As he had never set foot outside the jail premises, he did not know the difference between a horse and a dog. His case was indeed pathetic. But the problem in such cases is that we have no place to house these children. As the women prisoners are abandoned by their families, no one comes to claim them.

Couldn't these children be shifted to local orphanages or other such welfare institutions.

Do you think that conditions in orphanages is any better these days? With increasing materialism in our society, orphanages have become business ventures where young children are tactfully used for begging purposes. 'Darul Aman', an institution initially set up for destitute and homeless women, instead of giving shelter to poor girls, is nowadays nothing more than 'Ayashi ka adda'.

Therefore I feel it is actually kindness on the part of the jail authorities to shut their eyes to this problem. The children are better off in jail where at least they can derive the much needed comfort and affection from their mothers.



D·E·S·I·G·N·E·R O·F T·H·E M·O·N·T·H

AHEAD OF FASHION

Reminiscent of aristocratic class and colonial taste – styles with a refined touch. ‘Squiggles’ moving with the changing times to present a westernized code of dressing.



Tailcoats, cancan shalwars, velvets, lace and silk stockings.... everything to set the female heart a-flutter.

Compiled by
Pomme Amina Shahbaz



Vibrant style in latest tapered silhouette.

SHE was first published

25 THE BEST OF SHE

years ago

In March 1963 we established a bold and new approach to women's journalism. Twenty five years on we sustain it.

Is that the same magazine you used to write for 20 years ago? I don't believe it! It's fantastic now, and I don't mean just the cover', said my octogenarian father, a highly qualified retired medical colonel who still prides

on being a very active man of the world.

Over the past 25 years SHE has changed, not just its appearance from an 8 page clipping of news print costing 4 annas to a thick glossy magazine that reflects all the technological advances of modern printing, but it has transformed itself from 'a journal for the home' to 'a news magazine for women' that enjoys very high repute.

But even in those days SHE had broken away from the concept that women are limited to the home and the kitchen only. When most magazines of the sixties were concentrating on what is generally termed 'women's interest' topics SHE, established a bold and new approach to women's journalism, taking up current issues with a thoroughness and frankness that was quite refreshing and bold at that time.

SHE reflects editor Zuhra Karim's stand. 'I believe women are interested in everything'. As a matter of fact so wide is the range of SHE's interest that it also has many men readers. SHE's news coverage today aims to be as comprehensive as possible so that it can keep the reader abreast of most of women orientated national and even international news and issues. Asma Jahangir's report on the stoning to death issue was an eye opener for many



At the time of the elections of 1971, SHE interviewed the main contenders, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto of the Peoples Party and Mujibur Rahman of the Awami League.



MRS. IRIS MIRZA
Public Relations Manager,
Hotel Karachi Intercontinental

Women in the professions were very much the 'stars' of SHE. Regularly every fortnight, readers were introduced to women in new and exciting careers and businesses.

who felt uninvolved in the stoning sentence meted out to Shahida Parveen. Articles like this are the best of the best of SHE.

But the best of SHE also consists of the people who have worked for SHE such as top writers like Alys Faiz, Maya Jamil, Javed Jabbar, Suraya Rehmatulla, Shahla Shibli, Najma Sadeque, Attiya Ansari, Chris Taseer, Zawar Hasan, Anwar Mooraj. On the photography front are Vogue's Mervyn Marshal, Jack Stewart Clark, (J.P. Coats Managing Director) and Hasan Ali Bozai of DAWN. Today Akbar Rizvi, Ramzan Ali and Rashid Zaidi are regularly photographing SHE's fashion models. SHE had no difficulty in getting the top fashion models of the day -- Tehmina Aziz (Ahmad) Khawar Saeed (Mumtaz) Marianna Haq (Karim) Bina Amanatulla (Munir) and Atiqa (Babs) Chinoy. Today's list is equally exciting. . . .

Editorially SHE was established on a very firm foundation built by its first editor Zabak Kureishi -- a seasoned professional journalist of pre-partition standing. But the soul of the magazine is his successor Zuhra Karim. It is her total concept of the magazine along with her bold and fearless

editorials that gives SHE such a strong personality. Associated with the editorial staff were Javed Jabbar (Senator) whose first job was with SHE, Nigar Ahmad Ali (now teaching in Karachi Grammar School) Nayyar Hasan (P.I.A.) Maheen Mirza (Maheen Boutique) Najma Husain (B.N.S Cargo Company) Champa Choudhry (Admark Advertising Agency, Bangladesh) Bilquis Nasrullah (still with SHE).

SHE has always been an ardent advocate of women's rights.

'Why shouldn't dim witted men cook and sew while intelligent women orbit the earth?' -- This excerpt from Asha Dhan's enquiry into women's rights in June, 1964 shows a very articulate demand for equal rights. 'The principle of complete equality in Islam is undisputable', says Javed Jabbar in an article entitled, 'What is a Women' (June 1st 1970). He defines the Pakistani woman as 'a biological freak, out of place in a man's world -- but serving a very essential need of reproduction' and traces how woman from the high social position given to her by Islam, was gradually dragged into bondage and brutalized.



Leading writers, local and international, wrote for SHE. Among them were Katherine Whitehorne, the Observer (UK) columnist and Anne Beveridge (Fashion Editor Woman's Own (UK).

Right from the beginning women's rights movements nationally and internationally got adequate coverage in SHE. Bilquees Taseers report on the Sixth World Congress of Women held in Helsinki in June, 1969 was a fairly comprehensive one.

The best of SHE comprises Najma Sadeque's series of articles on women's rights with reference to the Quran and Muslim Law. So informative and enlightening were they that several readers have collected them in the form of a booklet. Najma's translation of the intricacies of law into the layman's language is an invaluable service rendered to the women of Pakistan.

SHE has never sought to create a polarity between the sexes. Women's rights have been advocated in a very positive manner without attempting to create a rift between man and woman as oppressor and oppressed.

Back in the sixties Pakistani women did not feel really threatened regarding their rights. It was not that women's rights were then not infringed upon -- it was just that women were hardly aware of the fact that they had any personality independent of their menfolk. Reflecting this attitude SHE carried several articles under the title 'Women behind

the Professions'. Malek Hilaly (Agha Hilaly's wife) Zarina (Gulgee's wife) Shahzadi (A.H. Kardar) Aquila Imtiaz Ahmad (wife of the cricketer) a doctor's wife, an airline pilot's wife, all found their way to the pages of SHE because of their husbands.

But even at that time SHE was on the look out for women who were somebody in their own right, Pakistani or foreign such as cosmonaut, Valentina Tereshkova, interior decorator Eleanor Hart, Karachi's first woman hair dresser Nuzhat Raza (Nicky) appeared in the January, 1, 1964 issue. Her's was a bold profession for that time and SHE was duly encouraging. 'We congratulate Nicky as she is making an impressive head way into popularizing her profession and undermining the social prejudice attached to it'. Women Public Relations Officers, Tourist Information Officers, athletes, scientists, politicians, business women, performing artists, social workers found due recognition and encouragement in SHE.

Problems faced by working women and the prejudices and criticism against their various professions were placed on the anvil and hammered through various articles and reports, spread over several years. In a very comprehensive write-up 'Women Who Work' SHE interviewed several working women and discussed the indictments against women such as 'you shift listlessly from an irrelevant education to a meaningless job to a time greedy home'.

The 15th March, 1968 issue states categorically, 'we at SHE would like to believe that we were among the first to encourage and propagate careers for girls and hence are of the opinion that these working women will single heartedly surmount all difficulties and go forward in even stronger numbers to play their part in the development of our country'. This positive approach towards working women without decrying women who are just housewives is the best of SHE. In the words of editor Zuhra Karim 'women have a potential and they should be allowed to fulfil their potential whatever it is'. There is very little that is expressive of women's doubts in SHE -- a trend that sets this magazine apart from others.



An age of freedom? The Chor Bazaar Charley, a colourful gentleman who claimed to be the President of Pakistan was often seen in the bazaars of Karachi.

CONTINUED PAGE 88.

SHE

FASHION JUBILEE

25

POMME AMINA SHAHBAZ



25 years ago SHE made a fashion impact. Now after 25 years SHE is still a fashion trend setter. Yesterday once more from our invaluable fashion memoirs we are proud to present SHE's fashion jubilee. A roller coaster ride through SHE's most exciting fashion trends. The revolution of fashion in Pakistan was dramatic, swift and inevitable. Women became socially and politically active - shattering the ancient image of helpless woman hood. SHE reflects the liberated woman now and 25 years ago. Gone were the mental resignation to a stereo-typed standard of good looks - today every woman is free to coin her own concept of fashion and beauty. SHE is a story of a woman on the move. She has superb taste and pictures an image of high style - a person with the careless air of sophistication who shows and wears fashion with the unstudied grace of a gazelle. Fashion never dictates to her. She dictates Fashion. For your eyes only SHE presents the styles, the highlights the rage and the best of SHE through 25 years.

larger proportions like 'chadaars' and therefore are being spotlighted and emphasised. This ofcourse owes largely to the environment and atmosphere. Saree was the only dress that was forever more - elegant and always in fashion. Frills, flounces, stripes, polka dots, Midis, Minis Macy's all had their day. But we present certain unique styles that made headlines and are still talked about.

Shifts: In 1963 shifts were the craze following down from London, Paris,

Rome and New York. Adapting the idea to our dress the local designers created interesting looks. The shift was basically a straight shirt, no pleats no tricks no hassles. Varying in length it was versatile enough to be worn with jeans or a shalwar.

Trouser Wave: In 1966 the fashion scene was taken by storm with trousers, the new rave. More and more girls opted for trousers sported some time by mini kurtas or blouses. This led to the introduction of yet another fancy fad.

Bell-Bottoms: In 1969 the style was the bell bottom girl. Perfectly fitting its description bell bottoms were trousers which flared or widened out towards the bottom. Bell-Bottoms were considered the "trendiest" fashion of yester years though presently it is looked upon with amusement. Patterns and Designs played an important role in bringing out styles.

Embroidery a traditional art was very much in fashion in 1963 and then again in 1970. Embroidery was all over loads of it, around the neck, clamping wrists, hemming you in and even spreading to bell-bottoms. This was in fact the great takeover by rustic designs going mod. At about the same time the

Blockprint Boom was on. In 1969 blockprints were the highlight and SHE had a special feature "Block Smitten". Block printing was the simplest and most artistic method of printing a pattern on fabric by using a wooden block. Popular as it was blockprinting exists today in the most glamorous of forms and is as hot selling in market as was in 1969.



It was all the Rage

SHE picked up all the rages of town. Whether it was bead & bauble craze or an infectuous fad or fancy. The "rage" comes and goes like wild fire, spreads quickly almost like a disease and then vanishes as soon as it comes. **Sun Specs:** In Sept. 1966 the gogo girl was not complete without her gogo glasses. These old

Accessories: Be wise Accessorise, - one of the first things to go into the category of rage is jewellery whether its beads, coins, silver - the chunkier the better. In 1966 leading stores on all familiar roads like Elphinstone street, Bohri Bazaar and even Bahadurbad Universal were all a treasure trove for accessory hunters. Funky,

do's, curls and ringlets were all in fashion. In Oct, 1964 "Nicky" a popular hairstylist and Nabad Madan at Kays, prepared a special feature on long hair. "The high road" (hair is all piled up) was the most popular style at that time and was the coolest route for anyone with long hair.

Switch craft just as its name suggested was the rage of 1966. Hairpieces styled in

glamorous dimensions suited any sort of features. The bewitching trick; a false piece of thick hair to match your own braided or massed into curls made a dramatic coiffure. Hair pieces in the 60's were in general use to supplement your tresses and thus present a variety.

In 1964 SHE published a special feature on Sami Labban, a talented hairstylist from Paris. He featured three fabulous hairstyles featuring the international look. Monsieur Labban brought with him the



time creations were designed by Oliver Goldsmith (nothing locally manufactured was available at that time) who excelled in enormous and bizarre frames. Frames that were popular looked like hexagons diamonds and even goggles. Sun glasses were a craze and leaving home without them was like leaving home without lipstick.

Feminine, feline or fantastic the choice varied with the season. "Rings for her fingers and Bells for her toes". In 1970 the great comeback - anklets and armlets brought a touch of traditional style. And all that glitters need not be gold, as SHE had made silver the craze then, as it still is now. **Hair Headlines:** Hair and beauty stole the limelight when elaborate hair

A Fatal Attraction

There is a film in America that's making strong men go weak at the knees.

Fatal Attraction deals with jealousy, revenge, madness, loneliness - and leaves a powerful message with its audience

Revenge is not pretty. Who among us has never had vengeful thoughts of retribution against those who've wronged us -- that some day the kids who teased us and the adults who mocked us, the parents who forbade us, the lovers who dumped us -- oh yes, all of

feeling . . . yet entirely human and all too predictable. And it certainly makes a scintillating subject for a movie. Paramount's surprise hit *Fatal Attraction* enters its twelfth week in the top spot at the American box office. Has grossed over \$100 million, and engrossed millions of viewers.

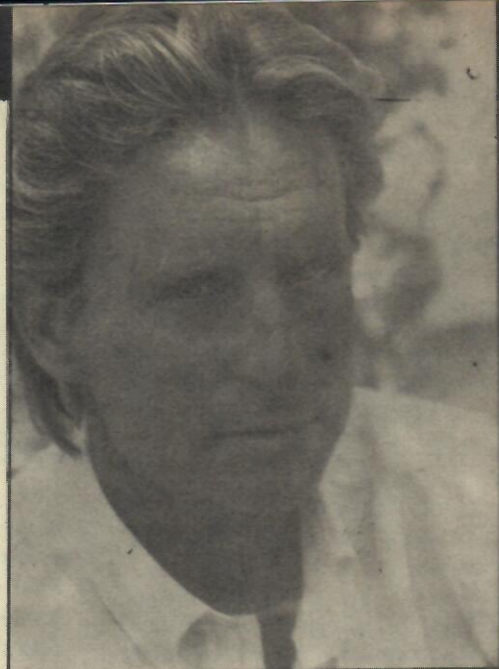
Fatal Attraction can be summed up simply: happily married Dan Gallagher (Michael Douglas), a successful lawyer with doting wifey Beth (Anne Archer) and precocious six-year-old daughter, has an impetuous weekend fling with savvy, sassy, single, 36-year-old book editor Alex Forrest (Glenn Close). Normally, Dan would forget his twinges of perfidy before returning home to the calm embrace of domesticity; Alex, who knows he's married, will swallow the bitter pill of singledom and continue her quest for Mr. Right. But wait -- this is Hollywood. Alex doesn't want Dan to leave after their night of bliss and torrid sex in, among other places, an elevator and her kitchen sink. So what does she do? What every savvy, sassy, single woman does

when spurned by an already-hitched lover: slits her wrists.

Okay, we're now clued in to the fact that Alex is not normal. Something inside her has snapped. (In fact, actress Close invented a psychotic 'history' for her character to help her make Alex more real). As her psychosis and obsession deepen, she is transformed from a desperately lonely woman to a desperately crazy demon. Even when firmly rejected by Dan after informing him she is pregnant with

them will get theirs. *I'll show you and you'll be sorry!* -- you silently vow. No, revenge is not pretty. Up there on the bitterness scale next to jealousy, it can be a blinding, ugly, shameful

their child, she will not accept the fact that the 'affair' is over. Is Dan responsible for her and the baby after one night of sex? He doesn't think so; he doesn't want to know, so she



Swaranlata, the name to youngsters today is reminiscent of a distant legend, a fairy tale name heard from the lips of a nostalgic older generation, a name that even half a century later is capable of conjuring grand visions of an era gone by. It is a name, the mention of which can take contemporaries on a colourful trip down memory lane, into an age not too distant in years, but millennium it seems in manners and values.

The very name Swaranlata is associated with classic epics of the film world like *Sheerin Farhad*, *Laila Majnu*, *Naukar* and *Bheegi Palkain*, like screen hits of the past with names like *Anokhi Dastan* and *Phairay*. A legend in her own life time, Swaranlata ruled long and popularly over the sub-continent's silver screen, towering above her co-stars as the queen of tragic emotions. The little girl child born to a post-master of Rawalpindi, growing up in Delhi's cultured environs, taking up the arts in Lucknow, reverently nick-named Joan of Arc

and Jhansi Ki Raani by ardent fans, migrated to Pakistan as devoted wife and mother of four children, giving up a career at its height when it clashed with family interests, is even today as delightful a person in her secluded life style as when she had been the heart throb of millions. Petite and graceful with glimpses of the beauty that once rocked filmdom, the grand old lady conducts herself with an honourable serenity, radiating an aura of satisfaction as she talks of a life well spent. Swaranlata talks of life, its ups and downs, its glories and depressions, its rewards and distractions and shades flick over the gentle face. Even as she fondly remembers the days of dazzling fame, there are echoes of a nostalgic past, well lived and well spent, a reward in itself for a person who has lived by her own principles in a world where respectability and fame were paradoxical metaphors.

Born and bred amidst the traditions of culture and refinement, shy and reticent by nature and upbringing, yet full of self esteem and noble pride,

she is known and respected for having braved a life of fame unscathed by rumour or allegations. She herself claims that it was all due to her quiet assertive nature, her faith in her own character and her total commitment to her profession. Widow of Nazir Ahmed, well known actor, producer and director, Syeda Bano became Muslim by marriage because she believed in her own decisions. She became the mother of three daughters and a son, now all well settled in life, while she herself keeps the home and hearth of a dearly beloved husband open. Living with quiet and placid dignity, the loneliness at times taking its toll, she finds peace in her simply furnished house off Ferozpur Road. One feels the loneliness is slightly welcome for a soul unused to relating with false values and the pretensions of existing times. Socializing with a few selected friends, Swaranlata, one time heart throb of millions, whose fans had refused on one occasion to let a train move on, unless they saw her, still radiates the same glow, made pro-founder still, as age sets in. With

AS TIME GOES



“
My first film
“Ishara”, was
an instant hit.
I was just
eighteen years
old then, too
young to be
on my own
and there
I was a
celebrity over
night
”

“
I have never
been afraid of
the public,
because time
and again
I have had to
face it. I have
always
conducted
myself with
dignity and so
nobody ever
misbehaved
with me
”



BY....

Swaranlata

NYLA DAUD

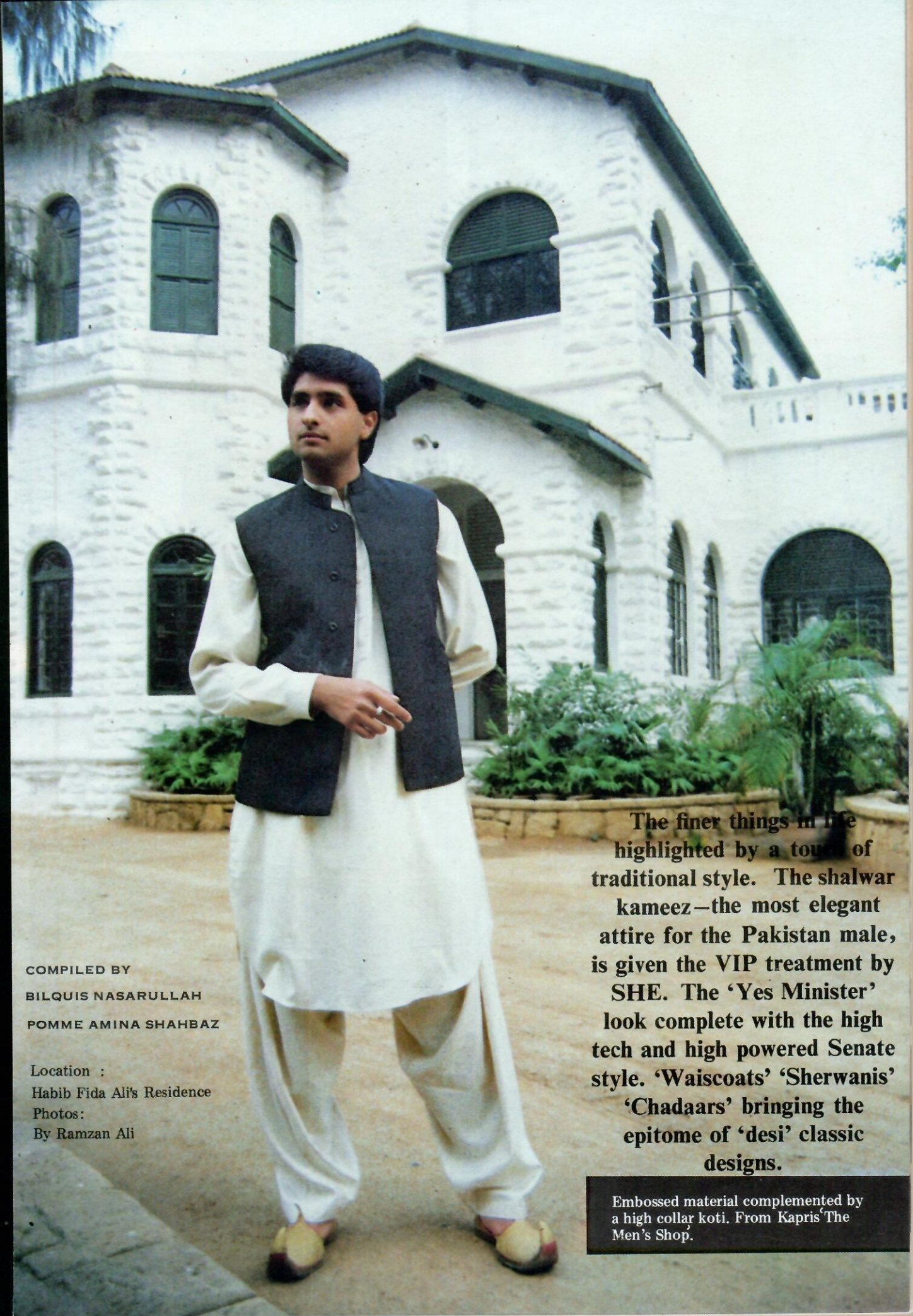
fond words and in gentle tones that had once been music to ardent fans, Swaranlata talks of her life.

"I was born in Rawalpindi, but since my father retired when I was still a child, the family moved to Delhi from where I matriculated. Music had always been a special attraction and seeing my interest in the arts, my brother helped me get admission in the Lucknow College where I spent three years learning dancing, singing, music as well as lessons. That was an institution often visited by celebrities of the film world. One day I was approached with an offer to do a part in a film. It was unimaginable because I did not belong to a family that allows its daughters so much public exposure. My brother then stepped in, seeing my talent and suggested that I take up the role, just for once. My first film was "*Ishara*" based on a novel by Diwan Sharar, which was an instant hit. I was just eighteen years old, too young to be on my own and there I was a celebrity over night.

Posters, photographs, bill boards, I was all over the place. It was an unexpected triumph, but now I knew I had discovered myself. Acting came very naturally to me, because I think when you are so young, you are not conscious of anything, you are unafraid. I faced the cameras without nervousness. After all what was there to be nervous about. Speaking dialogues that effected me emotionally was nothing strange. I had a group of loving friends and co-workers around me. People said that I had a natural flair for acting, but what I was doing did not seem like acting to me. Actually I never tried to copy any other person. I just delivered my dialogues as I felt. The only thing was that I always insisted upon pindrop silence on the sets. It was only then that I could concentrate and get involved in my role. I have never used glycerine for tears. The tears always came naturally to me, so immersed was I in my role. But I do remember a time when all night I tried, but still the tears

would not flow, until at 4 a.m the next morning I started to cry after getting a shouting from my director, and finally the take was okayed. I have never believed in rehearsals. In fact during each rehearsal I would go about as a robot. It was only during the final take that I put my whole self into the part, because I always believed in saving up emotions for the grand finale. Luckily my directors understood my nature and never interfered, probably because they knew I was capable of delivering the goods".

"My first costume film was *Laila Majnu*, a film which broke all records, though my selection as a heroine had created much uproar. People said that because of my Hindu background I would not be able to cope. Yet Nazir Sahib took up the challenge and put me in the role. The film holds a fairy tale charm for me because it was on its sets that Nazir Sahib and I came close enough to develop an understanding for marriage. That was the best thing to happen for both of



COMPILED BY
BILQUIS NASARULLAH
POMME AMINA SHAHBAZ

Location :
Habib Fida Ali's Residence
Photos:
By Ramzan Ali

The finer things in life highlighted by a touch of traditional style. The shalwar kameez—the most elegant attire for the Pakistan male, is given the VIP treatment by SHE. The 'Yes Minister' look complete with the high tech and high powered Senate style. 'Waiscoats' 'Sherwanis' 'Chadaars' bringing the epitome of 'desi' classic designs.

Embossed material complemented by a high collar koti. From Kapris 'The Men's Shop.

ALI MEHDI

Leaving for England on a British Council scholarship for two years



The reasons why Ali Mehdi chose photography as a profession are simple. Firstly he finds it realistic. "It's objectively subjective", is how he describes it. And secondly the results are quick, instantaneous, fast. Ali thought about majoring in Fine Arts for a while but "Publicity Design" of which photography is a "must" course attracted him more because "it would pay better ultimately." After completing his student requirements at the National College of Arts, Ali joined a local advertising firm and took over their photography lay out section. Soon he was handling copy writing, complete lay outs, shooting the assignment and at times selling the campaign to the clients also.

The last part he found exhausting, tedious and frustrating. His best break came when photography was given a bit more importance as a subject at the NCA and he was offered a teaching post. He now enjoys teaching tremendously specially when he and his students discuss how special images are created. Ali loves experimenting and is constantly devouring books and information about photography. His own basic interest is doing portraits and that is what he would like to

do most but "my bread and butter would have to come from publicity design". Ali feels that photographers are doing well in Pakistan because the advertising companies need their professional know how and "if we're good, we can dictate our terms". But at times he finds that some people do tend to regard photography as "just pressing the camera button" but it's much more than that. "The image as I see it has to be conveyed to a complete stranger and that is not an easy task". At present Ali is also acting as a free lancer for advertising companies. He enjoys fashion photography a lot but feels that not too many clients understand the need for it. In September he leaves for England on a British Council scholarship for two years. He wants to study photography and video techniques. "Today, images are moving very fast, the mind wants a change all the time. Every time we blink we want to see something new, exciting, different. So, to keep up with that kind of pace, I must find out what's happening out there in the world".

Ali is looking forward to studying further sophisticated techniques in photography but is of the opinion that with all the limitations in Pakistan, "We're doing a pretty good job here"!!

'Image' is the key word when it comes to the battle for booming aftershave sales. The manufacturers say one thing, your partner -- more often than not -- will say another

Aramis Designed for slick executives who work hard, play hard
Brut For downmarket sportsmen who like to splash it on all over
Paco Rabanne For sexy, smart execs who like to thrust their way upwards

Old Spice High wind in Jamaica meets the High Street

Kouros Tastefully Olympian - for men who like to clamber over Greek ruins

Denim For young brickies who like to wear denim shirts open to the waist

Channel A Gentleman's Cologne For smart country squires

Givenchy Gentleman Discreet, gentlemanly - for the man who appreciates the finer things in life

Blue Stratos For men who like to pretend they're seagulls

Mandate 'For the successful man of today', says the blurb; but what fragrance isn't?

Monsieur de Givenchy Younger brother of Givenchy Gentleman. Light, sporty, for the man of action
YSL Pour Homme Light, lemony, classic - smelt everywhere but somehow never loses its class

Antaeus (Chanel) Upmarket newcomer with weightlifters of the Ancient World in mind

Hai Karate For Kung-Fu enthusiasts - remember all those 70s adverts?

Musk Oil (Jovan) For those who fantasise about the joys of instant sexual attraction

Tabac Very street-smart, French cafe chic

Boots for Men Inexpensive basic range for fathers everywhere

Imperial Leather Classic Reminiscent of the inside of boardrooms

Roger et Gallet Mid-budget range that sounds smart because of the French name

Jules Smart, young, slightly narcissistic, classic

Polio deprived Salma not just of her ability to walk, but it also robbed her of her status as a human being. Surgery brought her back within the compass of humanity. The Aga Khan Polio Rehabilitation Unit is home to more than just polio victims...



A Cry for Life

Aqila Zaman

BEFORE SURGERY

AFTER SURGERY



Due to severe muscular wasting Rukhsana was unable to walk or stand on her own



Today she can stand and walk with the aid of long leg brace and pelvic band

Polio deprived Salma Hassanali not just of her ability to walk, but it also robbed her of her status as a human being. Unable to stand without support because of muscular paralysis and eversion of both feet, she could only crawl on her hands and knees.

When she was discovered by The Aga Khan Polio Rehabilitation Unit in Karachi, she was being housed by her parents in a courtyard shed along with goats and poultry, even eating and drinking with them. Crawling among the animals, she seemed more animal than human - filthy, tangled hair, face and arms infested with sores and skin disease, eyes dull and lifeless. That is how she had lived for over a decade, abandoned totally at the age of 6.

She was a truly forgotten human being. In fact Salma's parents didn't even remember to mention her as their child during the interview. However they were more than willing to let her go to the P.R.U. since it involved no effort on their part.

Surgery was performed on Salma in May 1982. It restored the normal position of her feet and she could walk with the aid of surgical shoes. But more than that it brought her back

Our quiz series
now assesses
your role as a
good parent

FAUZIA GAYA ASKS

**HOW
GOOD A**



FATHER ARE YOU ?

1. How often do you help change your new born's nappies?

- a. Never
- b. Occasionally
- c. Quite often

2. Who is your favourite child?

- a. The Youngest
- b. Oldest
- c. The Middle
- d. None - Try and love all equally

3. How often do you tell your child a story and tuck him/her into bed?

- a. Never
- b. Occasionally
- c. Often

4. Do you think your wife occasionally deserves a break from the children?

- a. Yes
- b. No

5. To date, have you ever given your child a bath?

- a. Yes
- b. No

6. You find you often have contradictory views and ideas on a lot of issues regarding the bringing up of your children, as compared to your wife. Do you:-

- a. Argue over it all the time in front of the children
- b. Discuss it in private and jointly arrive at a decision
- c. Never really had conflicts, because you've left it entirely to your wife

7. Most girls between the ages of 3 and 6 go through a phase where they are more attached to their fathers and boys to their mothers. Is this:

- a. Fact
- b. Fiction

8. You've promised your daughter/son a bag of sweets on your way home from work. You remember about it only when you ring the doorbell. You

- a. Go and get it right away

b. Feel you can make up some excuse for forgetting about it, e.g. like it was not available in any of the shops you tried at

c. Promise to get it tomorrow instead

9. Your toddler wants a watch for her 3rd birthday. She can't tell the time as yet, so your wife thinks your child is too young for it.

a. You agree with your wife that she's/he's too young for it and explain it to your toddler

b. Say yes to him/her, in order to court his/her favour, so that you appear to be "nice and good" in his/her eyes and Mummy "bad"

10. With which child do you find you are spending the most time

- a. Newborn
- b. Middle child
- c. Oldest
- d. Try and spend time equally with each one.

1

- a. 0
- b. 5
- c. 10

The period after delivery especially is not only physically exhausting for your wife, but mentally taxing too. This is because many women go through post natal depression, where they feel low and irritable for no apparent reason. At this time they could do with a little help. Changing an infant's nappy can be tiring and monotonous. Besides newborns keep their mothers awake practically all night, so helping her when you are around will certainly be appreciated by her.

2

- a. 0
- b. 0
- c. 0
- d. 10

Favouritism is something which many a parent falls a prey to or pleads guilty of. You may not even be conscious of the fact that you are showing a preference for a particular child or are constantly comparing one child's behaviour or habits with the other. It is humanly impossible to love all your children absolutely equally, but it is possible to try and treat them all in the same manner. There is nothing wrong with loving each child differently, in your own way perhaps, but treating one like a special favourite is wrong. The child who you treat unfairly or who is not your favourite, will feel less loved, insecure and inferior, and may even be jealous and resentful of his sibling. This partiality will also have adverse effects on the one you favour. If he/she is sensitive, he may suffer guilt feeling towards being 'your-favourite' or may even be petrified of losing his position as your favourite. The key to changing your actions is to first understand and analyse your feelings. Why do you prefer one child to the other? There could be a multitude of reasons for it. Maybe because he is the youngest, maybe he does not keep to well, possibly you may find one child unbearable for some particular habit of his. Once you discover the basis of your feelings, it will be easier to break away from this favouritism.

3

- a. 0
- b. 5
- c. 10

The grass often appears greener on the other side of the fence is what most parents usually end up, thinking. In actuality, neither parent's life or job is a bed of roses, though each may think the other's is. Both jobs have their pleasures and rewards, pains and boredom. By the end of the day, Mom is absolutely drained especially if she has an exuberant or zesty toddler on her hands. Your child too may be bored of Mom's company and is eager to spend some time with you, when you return. Try not to be too immersed in work and yourself, for it's these trivial little acts like telling a story and tucking him/her to sleep that go a long way in bringing you closer to your child and establishing a firm bond between the two of you.

4

- a. 10
- b. 0

Bringing up children is a tiresome and exacting business. Fathers too should share in this rearing process. Many a distressed mother will heave a sigh of relief if you take off one child for a short while, giving her a break. This splits up the labour and makes life easier and pleasanter for both parents. Fathers are especially suited in helping children use up their boundless energy, by playing some games with them. Their ever willing hands could be used to help in some gardening or you could take them grocery shopping with you. This will help mother to unwind, or catch up with some pending work. By the time you both return or finish, she will have revitalised her energy and will be ready to cope with him/her once again.

5

- a. 10
- b. 0

One of the possible reasons for a negative answer may be, because

Answers

you are scared of giving your baby a bath. However if you have a older child (over 6 mths. who can sit) then giving a bath should face no problem for you. Try it some time - It is fun! If it is the case of your toddler, he/she will make you feel really proud. Even before the day is out you will hear no ends about how Dad bathed him/her today.

6

- a. 0
- b. 10
- c. 0

Two individuals living together are bound to have conflicting views on bringing up children. Thus it is best to discuss it in private, take a joint decision and abide by it. Never discuss it in front of the child or argue about it whilst he's around, for if you keep doing it, your child will grow up trying to combat the endless battles raging in his mind, wondering who's really right.

7

- a. 10
- b. 0

Children between the ages of 3 and 6 go through the so called Oedipus Complex. Unconsciously they grow closer and begin to relate to the parent of the opposite sex and exclude the parent of the same sex. Girls idolize their fathers and boys worship their mothers. Thus they start developing ambivalent feelings towards the parent of the same sex, a sort of love hate relationship which often causes guilt in them. A few harsh words or a stern tone, causes an outburst in your daughter at this time. Daddy becomes 'the most important' person in a girl's life and Mummy in a

SHE STARS



PISCES

FEB. 19 - MAR. 20

Success will ultimately depend on you. There may be a change of accommodation, but the major choice will be yours. You will be meeting someone in March, who may bring major development in the future. Try to keep your temper in control, some one very close may misunderstand you. You may be facing financial setbacks, try to have control over your budgets. Save a little for the hard time that may come!



ARIES

MAR. 21 - APR. 20

It would be difficult for you now to have more favourable monetary influences but there are two additional factors: the first is that partnership can be profitable so if you are offered a place as part of a team, consider accepting it, the second is that an overseas connection could prove helpful.

Around February, you'll receive an important call or letter, don't ignore it. Round the 18th a crisis may come in your life, perhaps you left an unfinished business, perhaps a person you had almost forgotten will reappear.

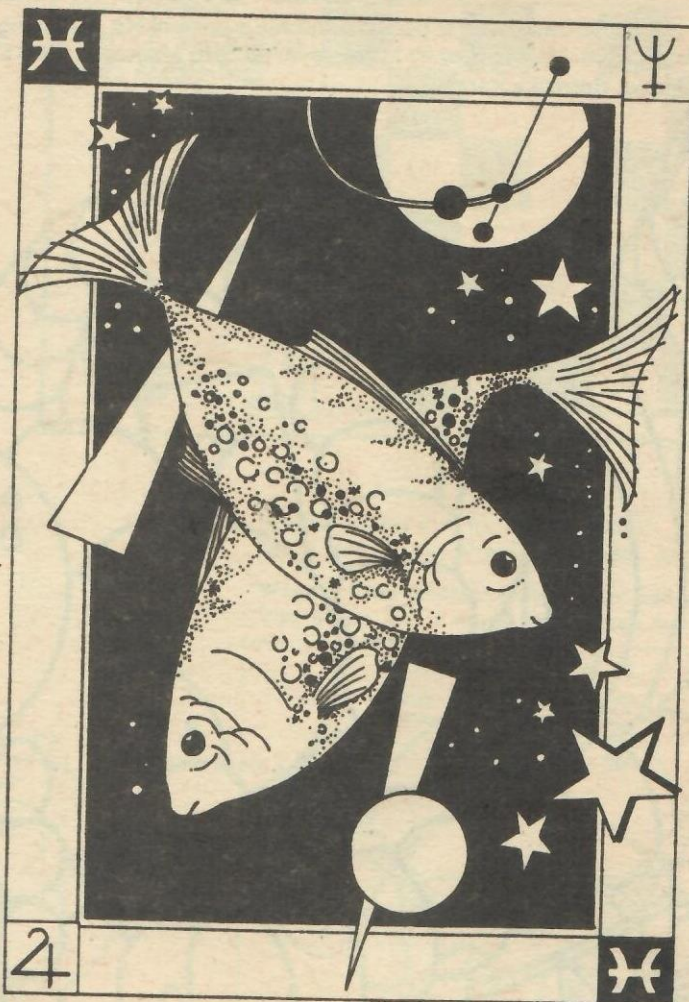


TAURUS

APR. 21 - MAY. 20

Auspicious trends in March will be balanced by several stressful aspects. Your weakness lies in your failure to face yourself from negative behaviour patterns. Some disruptive influences will give you the chance to cut through your emotional traumas and finally dispense with the people who have been holding you back.

Your practical nature extends to being in tune with the seasons -- you can be pleasantly laid back now, as there's less work to get done. Buying yourself small things will prove satisfying.



YOUR FORTUNE IN MAR

Pisceans have the ability to watch the world go wild at times -- and yet stay calm themselves. Don't worry if late February early March brings a degree of bedlam, probably in work connection -- by -- mid March you'll have found your feet again. A special conversation will be particularly enlightening this month. Life in general seems better. The best policy you can adopt right now is not to try too hard. Sometime between now and next birthday, you are going to experience a very special (and completely unexpected) kind of fulfillment.

There have been strong developments in your career, giving you a

worry but exciting time. You may feel drawn to two contradictory courses of action but if you have played your cards right you can look forward to a future when your career ideally suits your skills and aspirations. Recent improvements in your professional and Financial circumstances have meant a upturn in your social life which will provide a spring board into romantic encounters. March will be one of the peak month of your year but you may also feel more vulnerable than usual as regrets for the past and hopes for the future become complicated by your feelings. Later this year a major choice will have to be made which will give you the opportunity to improve relationships with your family.



GEMINI

MAY. 21 - JUN. 22

Many of you now feel in a more stable situation, or more settled life -- at long last in many cases. Geminis are often wary of commitment. Don't be afraid to get on with something worth while that may go on and on. If instigating changes comes in your life out side, cut the doubts they are not necessary.

This month you will be taking important decisions, bringing in a satisfactory change in your life style. You need self determination to follow through one positive course of action. Later in the month you'll be able to iron out all the difficulties at home and work.



CANCER

JUN. 23 - JUL. 23

In March you will be dealing with major long term changes. Its a good month to take a initial look at your life. Establish new priorities in relationships and make people aware that you are changing your image -- you should always keep in mind that respect must be earned. Be prepared to face some opposition to your ideas. You will be better off in neglecting the criticism, for there may arise some misunderstanding. Try to interest, creative people in your ideas -- you'll be pleasantly surprised. Your financial situation is sound in March, but don't over indulge in luxuries. Save some for a rainy day.



LEO

JUL. 24 - AUG. 23

Work's time -- consuming now, but you have realised its worth it. Don't forget Leos need input from having people around. The time has come to show people that you can put your creative ideas to good use. Take steps to clear up any long standing health problem before over works gets too much for you. Clean up your diet, stick to your exercise programme and try to get into a regular routine. Leos tend to be extravagant -- even with things like vitamins -- but this month confidence will do more for you than any drug. Try to over come any hurdles that may come your way, recognise the opportunities.



VIRGO

AUG. 24 - SEP. 23

March gets off to an intense start, you will be confronted with emotional realities you have let some one take advantage of you, but now your instincts tell you that enough is enough.

March brings in a remarkable change, which will shape your life well into the nineties. It is a good time to put efforts into attaining your own creative goals and doing things for yourself rather than others.

You will be feeling better by the 15th. Grab the chance to be in a happy, restorative group gathering too. From late March Virgos will feel a massive weight lifted from their shoulders.



LIBRA

SEP. 24 - OCT. 24

In March you will find yourself tidying up your work space. You may wonder why -- but in a way your subconscious is preparing new grounds for you. March is a good month to bring out your creative instincts, make most of this opportunity.

Keep your temper cool, you are likely to be increasingly irritated by someone's crude or unimaginative attitude this month and a show down is possible. Be sure to take a leading role in any home matters. 6th brings in good news -- your financial situation will begin to look more secure and a few days later you may see a massive increase in your general prosperity.



SCORPIO

OCT. 25 - NOV. 23

Be careful in March and don't expect anything to go according to plan. Life is likely to play lots of tricks on you. But by mid March things will change for the better. Your social life improves, relationships that caused problems earlier on will be sorted out. On the 12th, a surprise will bring a bright and happy change in your life. Don't over look the opportunity. Your financial situation demand your attention.

Your social life may not be going too well, the best policy you could adopt right now is not to try too hard.

Talk to a influential person in early March.



SAGITTARIUS

NOV. 24 - DEC. 22

Late Sagittarians, receive good news early in the month -- some one you hold in high regard will tell you you're wonderful and you'll realise life is worth living this month. Around the 3rd of March, you may be confused about the long term aspects of your life, but in the short term there may have to be some professional and private objection. On the 17th try to spend as much time with family and friends as possible, after all the people you live with have the right to expect some cooperation and involvement from you. Late in March you will get a lot busier.



CAPRICORN

DEC. 23 - JAN. 20

You are not really like a fiery Arien, but you love a challenge. Its because you are an intelligent sign that you take the bait. Early Capricorns have had a few inspired years. March brings you a chance for your whole sign to get where you need to be. Late March brings a burst of courage and fighting spirit that is all too rare in a Capricorn. Don't waste this valuable energy -- impose your preferences on people. Deal firmly with anyone who tries to manipulate you.

Grasp all the opportunity that come your way in March, it just may be a life time chance.



AQUARIUS

JAN. 21 - FEB. 18

At the beginning of the month you will be picking up the pieces from a recent emotional trauma. You've had to make a decision that will have major professional repercussion and incalculable future consequences. Unfortunately your decision had to do more with the past than the present and was complicated by your reluctance to share your problems. Plans may work out better if you discuss them fully with everyone who is involved.

By the end of the month you'll be in a much stronger position regarding a personal relationship.