



2014-15

# The Midtowner



Weekly Bulletin of Rotary Chandigarh Midtown

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R.I. District 3080

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Editor  
Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

Volume XXXIX No. 09 Dated: August 26, 2014

PROGRAMME

Dialogues with Pakistan

Chief Guest:

Mr. V.K. Kapoor, IPS (Retd.)



Friday, August 29, 2014

Time: 7.00 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

## The Assassination

The Chief Guest Mrs. Chander Suta Dogra, Senior Assistant Editor, The Hindu, in our regular meeting on August 22, 2014 was introduced by PP Rtn. Pallav Mukherjee. Chander Suta Dogra is a journalist and author, who has worked in leading newspapers and



Mrs. Chander Suta Dogra  
Senior Assistant Editor, The Hindu

written about defence scams, and more recently broke the story about Robert Vadra's infamous land deals in Haryana. A national debate on the issue has still not ended. She is currently the Bureau Head of the Chandigarh office of The Hindu, responsible for all coverage emanating from Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. Before that, she spent almost ten years working at Outlook magazine and has done stints in the Hindustan Times and the Indian Express as well. Last year Penguin published her first book, 'Manoj and Babli – A hate story' on honour killings in Haryana. This is a true account of a landmark case, that resulted in the first ever death sentence in the country for honour killing. The book has received consistently good reviews in the national media and is now being made into a Bollywood film. Ms. Dogra is currently working on her next book, which is an unexplored dimension of the 1971 Indo Pak war. She is married to an army officer and has two children. Her son is a chopper pilot in the Air Force and her daughter is going to study Anthropology at Oxford next month.

Mrs. Dogra spoke on the subject of her choice to highlight the harmonious atmosphere in Punjab, in view of some recent movies that have been produced. The motive of the producers is commercial, and not to create any havoc. They are careful not to invoke sentiments of people in a negative manner.

She said, "The film makers have been saying repeatedly that this is history and they try to portray it without taking any sides, and without being biased. We cannot treat history as if it does not exist." It is left to the public whether they want to see the film or not.

She expressed certain glaring facts, which have not created any unrest or separatist feelings in anyone. She said that it is the film producers who say that they are just reporting the matters, which have not been banned by Congress or the BJP Governments. Then how could a mere film making cause an untoward incident. She says, "Cinematic representation will not make any difference in public feelings."

Mrs. Dogra stated confidently, "Punjab is not what it was three decades ago. People are moving towards deras and babas for spiritual solace." The movement that existed in those days are no longer there, having been diluted to a large extent. She says, "Generally people want to



PP Pallav Mukherjee  
introduces Chief Guest



Announcements of club activities by President R.T.P.S. Tulsı  
and Secretary Salil Bali



magazines for last twenty years. She writes on politics, governance, socio-economic trends, human rights and livelihoods. She has covered conflict in Jammu and Kashmir,

moving towards deras and babas for spiritual solace." The movement that existed in those days are no longer there, having been diluted to a large extent. She says, "Generally people want to

keep themselves away from terrorism and violence, which had resulted in huge loss of lives on all sides. Nobody wants to look back at those bad days.” She strongly felt that youth of Punjab cannot be swayed by such movies.

Concluding her talk, Mrs. Dogra stated that in democracy we value freedom of expression. She is not in favour of banning of artistic expressions or books. This was followed by a lively interactive discussion between her and the Rotarians.



After proposing a formal vote of thanks, Rtn. Tej Mohan Singh presents a memento to Ms. Dogra



Winners of poster competition on 'Towards Total Literacy' R'ann Indu Anand, Sanmeet and Jasmehar daughters of Rtn. Sundeep Sawhney



Mrs. Dogra presents birthday gift to R'ann Lovy Peter for PDG Shaju Peter, who was away to Nagpur



Mrs. Dogra presents birthday gift to Rtn. Sundeep S. Sawhney. Looking on are President Tulsi and Secretary Salil Bali

### Activities in Manimajra Towards Total Literacy



Keen interest by students in the Powerpoint presentation being given by Rotarians



Rtn. Ashok Puri, Rtn. Rekha Sawhney and Rtn. Salil Chopra present Bournvita to a student

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On 19<sup>th</sup> August 2014, under our program Towards Total Literacy we interacted with 65 students of Govt. Model Sr. Secondary School, Manimajra. They were class plus 2 children who were quite participative, well behaved, English speaking, very understanding and intelligent students. Director Community Service Rtn. Ashok Puri and Rtn. Rekha Sawhney gave useful information about Rotary. Director Youth Service Rtn. Salil Chopra spoke on Goal Setting.

On 20<sup>th</sup> August the Literacy program was held in Govt. Model

Middle School, Pocket – 10, Manimajra. There were 47 students who attended the training program. Rtn. Ashok Puri, Rtn. Salil Chopra and Rtn. Rekha Sahni were present. They delivered talk on Rotary, and also explained the concept of Interact and Rotaract clubs and the responsibilities of youth service wing. Personal hygiene was also discussed with excellent participation of the students who had shown keen response to the questions put up to them. Five best participants got packs of Bournvita and in question answer session chocolates were distributed.

### **Installation of Rotaract Club of Post Graduate Government College, Sector 46**



*Sitting L-R: Director Community Service Rtn. Ashok Puri, Rtn. Rekha Sawhney, Vice President Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra and Assistant Governor Rtn. H.S. Saggi with Rotaractors*



*Presentation by Vice President Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra to Rotaractors on Rotary and our signature projects*



*Certificates by Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra and Director Youth Service Rtn. Salil Chopra to Principals for support 'Towards Total Literacy'*

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## Samridhi – District Membership Seminar on 31st August 2014 at Panchkula

District Governor Col. Dilip Patnaik, District Trainer PDG Shaju Peter and their team have planned an interesting event: Samridhi - District Membership Seminar, hosted by Rotary Himalyan Ranges. Past RI President Raja Saboo, Past RI Director Yash Das and RI Director Elect Dr. Manoj Desai would be there to inspire us and share their vast Rotary experience. PDG Ranjan Dhingra will enlighten us about Rotary India's Literacy Mission.

Date: Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> August 2014 Venue: K.C. Hotel & Spa, Sector 3, Panchkula. Time: 9 a.m. - Registration and breakfast. 10.30 a.m. - Seminar begins, which will be followed by lunch. Registration: 24<sup>th</sup> August onwards and Spot Registration - Rs. 1200/- per delegate.

### Register on [www.rotaryteach.org](http://www.rotaryteach.org)

After their successful 'End Polio' program, Rotarians in India have taken up an ambitious Mission: Total Literacy with Quality Education. The Mission goals are sought to be achieved through the Program called 'T-E-A-C-H'. 'T' stands for 'Teacher Support', 'E' for 'E-learning', 'A' for 'Adult Literacy', 'C' for 'Child Development' and 'H' for 'Happy Schools'. The details of the entire Program are available on the website, [www.rotaryteach.org](http://www.rotaryteach.org).

To plan and implement the Program, an elaborate structure of Committees of experienced and dedicated Rotarians has been created at the Rotary National, Rotary District and Rotary Club levels. Each such Committee has been assigned specific responsibilities in various aspects of the Program. Some staff support has also been organised.

Rotary India's Literacy Mission will, however, truly succeed when it becomes a people's movement. The program design, in fact, emphasizes the need for volunteer participation in several crucial areas. Let each of us engage with this Mission and volunteer for various activities. Rotarians and their families will have to lead from the front. Select any of the 'T', 'E', 'A', 'C' or 'H' areas and volunteer to work for it or raise funds or help mobilize public support and awareness. There is a lot for each of us do, according to our individual preference and abilities.

It takes just two minutes to complete the online registration process. For any help or further information visit this website or contact PDG Shaju Peter, President R.T.P.S. Tulsi, Vice President Dr. Rita Kalra or Secretary Salil Bali.

### Birthday of Spouses

Mr. Sita Ram Jhawar



September 02

R'ann Beena Aggarwal

September 04

R'ann Parveen

September 05

### Birthday of Rotarians

Rtn. Vijay Kumar Gupta

August 29

PPRtn. Pallav Mukherjee

September 02

Rtn. J.S. Bawa

September 03

PPRtn. Harish C. Sethi

September 04



### Punctuality Award

Won by PP Rtn. Capt M.S. Kahlon

### Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Sonal & Rtn. Atul Grover

September 01



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