

Gown & Town

Greenwich University

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A Complete Home Magazine

Defence Housing Authority

“I am a dreamer, ”
just like anyone else

— Feroze Khan

❖ “Fiction is an amalgam of reality
and your own imagination”

- An insight into Tabu Kehar

❖ Green Juices for Glowing Skin
That You Can Make At Home

❖ Highlights from the
Lux Style Awards 2019

Editorial

Advisory & Creative Board

Gown & Town is not your average fashion magazine but a publication that has been inspired from the need to bring substantial news and information to people living in a close-knitted community. With a team of experienced writers, photographers, designers and reporters, we aim to bring you a magazine that is the very personification of the happening life in Karachi and its amazing citizens!

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Gown & Town Magazine

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Editor's Note

I have always loved magazines. I remember, as a young girl, going through the pages of various magazines which used to come to our house. I read the articles, stared at the photos and studied how text and image combined to create in my imagination stories, people and news events. I noticed the headlines and white space and typography, and savored the whole experience found in those pages that carried me into the wider world.

All of us here are hooked to Gown & Town as it contains good writing, bundle of stories and interviews, unveiling the lives of some of the prominent members of our society from different walks of life. It is also fulfilling, as Greenwich University allows us to cover and convey the range and richness, the spectrum of human experiences that Greenwich embraces. The present edition contains stories from the fashion world to the film and drama reviews. Also interviews of celebrities and writers and many more articles from health and fitness to sports and Lux awards. Above all especial article on Eid-ul Fitr, Eid-ul Azha and Hajj.

I want to thank my students Ms. Mahwish Hameed and Ms.Mahjabeen Hameed for their continuous contributions of articles and for their love of writing.

Gown & Town is not just an ordinary magazine but everything we do stems from its long-standing character, style and excellence and we will continue to produce this publication with as much love as ever.

Shazia Nasir

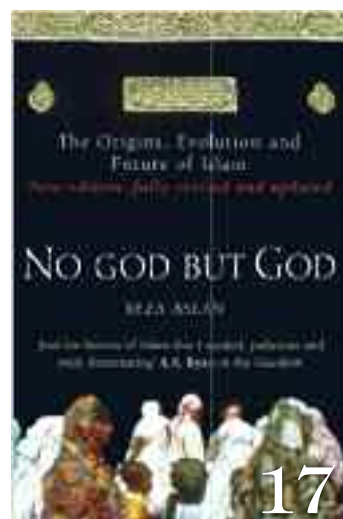
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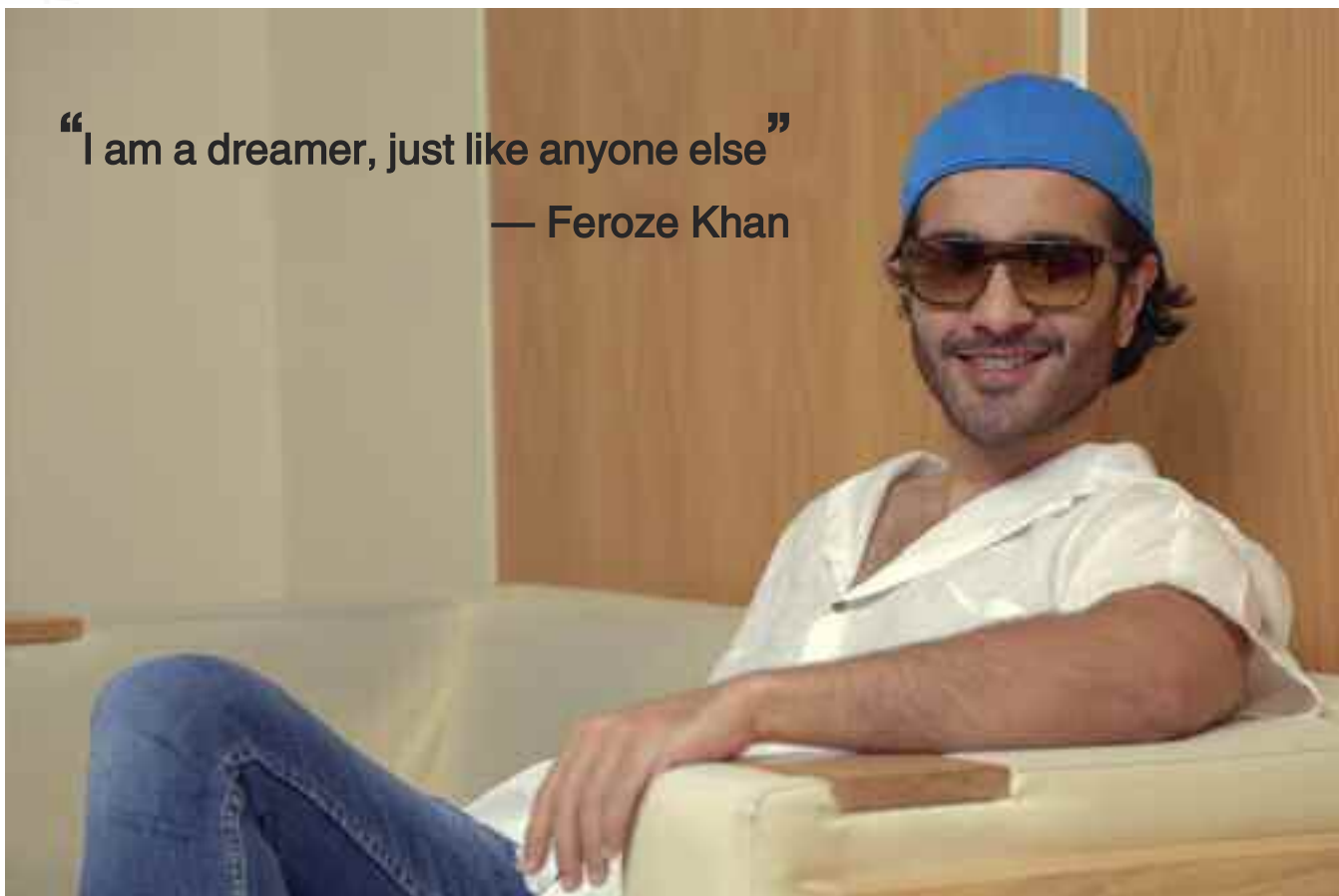
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“I am a dreamer, just like anyone else”
— Feroze Khan



In Conversation with

Feroze Khan

Feroze Khan is a Pakistani actor and model and former video jockey whose well known in the Pakistani Drama industry. People like him due much to his frank and funny style. He began his career as a VJ on ARY Musik and then became a model. He made his debut as a television actor in the 2014 television series, Chup Raho.

He made his Lollywood debut in Anjum Shahzad's film
Zindagi Kitni Haseen Hay with Sajal Ali.

“I am a dreamer, just like anyone else” says dashing actor Feroze Khan in this exclusive interview with G&T

Handsome and talented actor Feroze Khan may have a cult female following on Instagram and stardom at his fingertips, yet he still manages to stay humble. In conversation with the charming actor, we managed to find out about his life on and off the screen and his real life role as a new father.

“Who is Feroze Khan?”

“I am a dreamer, just like anyone else” said the truly humble actor; he also said that he was just trying to achieve his dreams like most of us humans.

“How did you come into fame and how has it changed you?”

The actor being very honest told us a lot about his stardom. He said, “You don’t just fall into things, you have to





ask for it. So I asked to become somebody from nobody and Allah has blessed me. I give all the credit to Allah Almighty that he blessed me with the status that I have today. I think it's all achievable, if I can do it, then anyone else can do it too! It's all in believing."

When asked what he had learned about himself since becoming a celebrity, Feroze very candidly said that he had learned more about people instead of himself. He said, "People change as time changes, so in a way I have learned that nothing is going to be constant"

"What is a role that is close to your heart?"

When you are an actor, you mould yourself into any kind of role and the character that you are playing. For me, some of the roles that are quite close to my heart remain "Mir Hadi in Khaani, Adeel Iqbal in Gul-e-Rana and Azar in Chup Raho because according to me there was a lot for me to do in these characters and people get a huge message out of it.

"What is the project that you are currently working on?"

The dazzling star told us he is currently working on a project named Tich button which is going to release on





“What is it like being a father?”

The talented actor takes fatherhood as quite seriously and he gave us an equally serious response, Feroze told us that it is a relationship that is selfless. “It’s a full time paid job with a couple of smiles from my son” he said.

“Who is your inspiration?”

“My inspiration is Hazrat Muhammad P.B.U.H. I have learned from him and I try to follow him.”

“What message do you want to give to your Fans and to the new generation?”

“There are two things, good and bad, both are achievable. I’d rather go for good, if you have nothing in your hands still go for good because universe will bring it back to do good for you.”

New Year Eve. He also said that there are other dramas that he has locked upon.

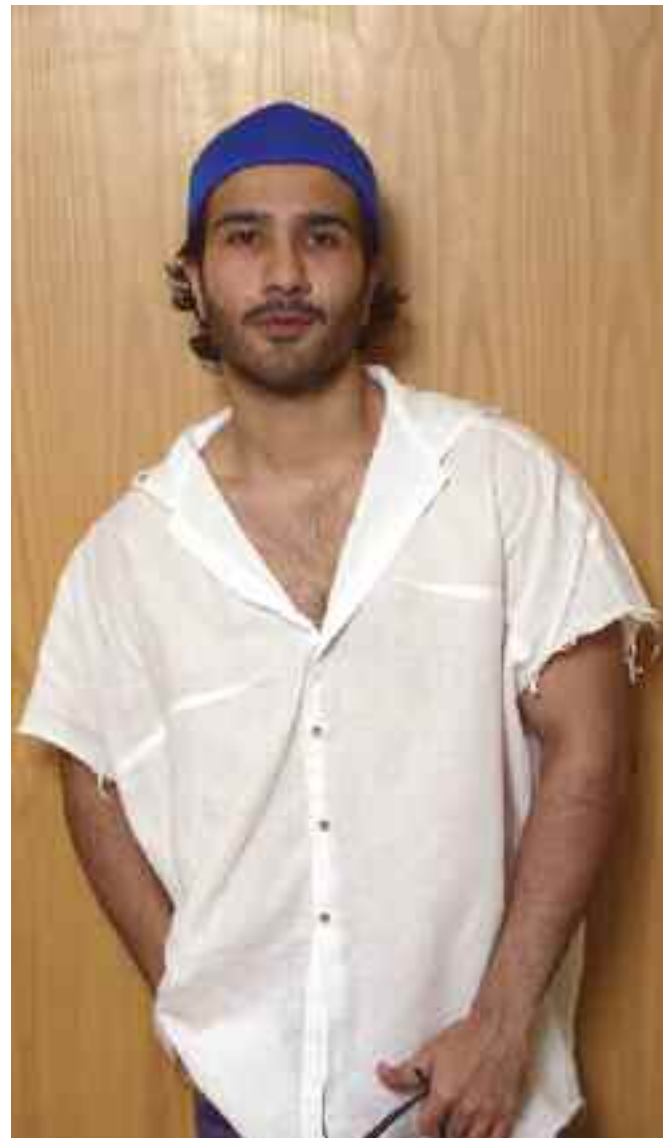
“What do you think we should change in our media system?”

“According to me, yes there are certain sights of improvements but as Imran Khan has just got into the gameplay, I’m sure things will improve and Pakistan will be among the best countries in the world to live in. But there are certain things that need to be improved, especially domestic violence among other issues. I am not self-centred about the fact that that God has given me so many blessings but I really care about what other people who have been deprived of so many necessities of life go through every day. I was studying abroad and I wanted to go back to Pakistan although it was in a ridiculous state at that time and I still have hopes that it is going to prosper.”

“What has been your favourite role so far?”

*“It has to be **Mir Hadi** from **Khanni** because I don’t like people taking advantage of their power and I think there is only one Power that is God. It was an enjoyable role which sent a message that Har Seyr Pay Sawa Seyr Hai.”*

Interview by: Syeda Maria Zakir



Pakistani Celebrities at the Launch of *Nobby Cafe* in Karachi



Karachi is a food lover's paradise and you can be sure you will definitely eat to your heart's content when you're here. From street food that will make your taste buds explode to high end café's and restaurants, Karachi has something for everyone. Karachi has experienced the bog dining boom and there are new eateries and restaurants opening in the city every other month all trying to be the best. The end of May saw the grand opening of Nobby's Café in the Bukhari Commercial Area in DHA. The opening was a hubbub of celebrities out on the town at the café for an exclusive food tasting before the general public.

The café is the brainchild of Saba Jerjees, wife of Jerjees Seja and owner of the home delivery based diet food business "Slimfitt." The Café's name literally means in trend or high end and the restaurant cer-



tainly aims to deliver to the higher end of the catering spectrum. While the café aims to deliver fine dining, its specialty seems to be decadent desserts.

A shower celebrities came to its opening including big names like

Maya Ali, Shehryar Munawar, Ahmed Ali Butt, Fahad Mustafa, Faisal Qureshi, Hareem Farooqui, Mawra Hocane, Urwa Hocane, Farhan Saeed, Sana Jawed, Maria Wasti and even the cute little kid, Ahmed Shah!



“Fiction is an amalgam of reality and your own imagination”

-An insight into Tahe Kehar

Taha Kehar

(28) successful author of 3 books met me one afternoon at T2f to discuss his work and what makes him the writer he is.

Taha Kehar (28) successful author of 3 books met me one afternoon at T2f to discuss his work and what makes him the writer he is.

Okay so tell me about your poetry collection first of all, it was your first publication?

Yes it was. I don't consider myself much of a poet anymore, I started writing when I was 15 as you mentioned and poetry was what I resorted to and I enjoyed the form, I liked the way it flowed, it came naturally to me when I was younger. Teenagers have a higher proclivity to dabble in poetry so maybe that's what inspired me. I think I made the mistake of actually publishing it which I think it was received relative well and people appreciated it. In fact, back in 2012 I had my launch at this very venue. So, it was called Writing Words with Fire and it was a collection of 36 -37 poems. Primarily they were poems inspired by the modernist tradition and there was an evolution within them you know, it went into political verses, and I personally enjoy my political verses maybe they were shaping basis for what I would write later on. That was Writing Words with Fire. I also worked on a sec-

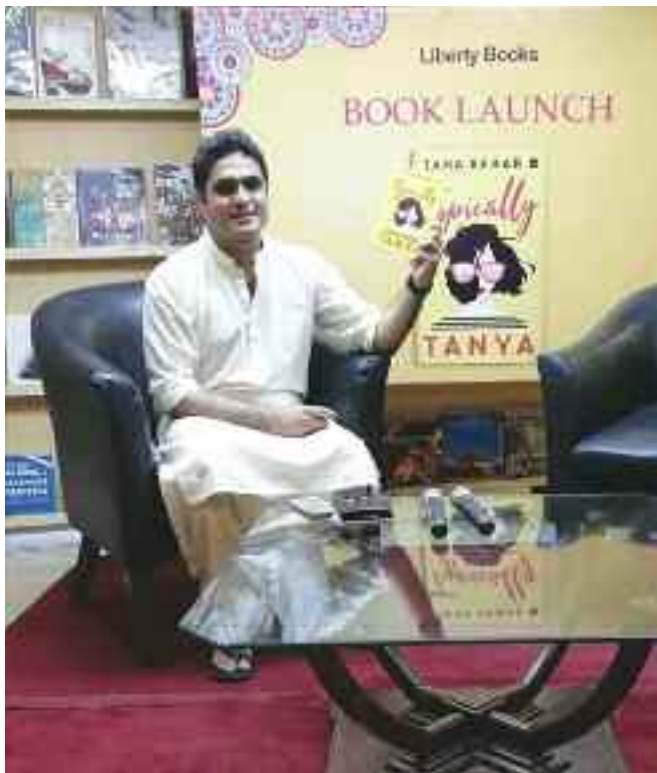
ond poetry collection which I had self-published and it did okay it got a good review here and there, but I don't acknowledge my history of the poetry form.

How long did it take you to write your first book?

My first novel? I started writing my first novel when I was seventeen and a half, I was done with the first draft by the time I was nineteen so that is a year and a half. It wasn't published until four years later so I worked on it consistently and it took me some time.

Did it require a lot of editing by your publishers?

My first novel was published by a publishing house in India it's called Palimpsest it's a smaller publication and we went through multiple drafts not because of the editing but I was not comfortable with the way it was written. Because when you write at 19, when you write at 20 there is a vast difference in discovering your voice your trying to update your voice accordingly so I took my time with it and my publisher was nice enough to let me do that. When Typically Tanya went about the updates I was



27 years old and that novel also flowed very naturally. I started writing when I was 25, I finished it when I was 26 and it was published when I was around 27.

So Of Rifts and Rivalries was your first novel and Typically Tanya came in second?

Yes that's correct.

Are you working on anything at the moment?

Yes, I am actually I am working on this novel I am almost, I am not going to say I am done because novels take years but this one seems to be flowing quiet naturally. It's based on a woman who is dying and she doesn't want a funeral, she wants a party instead. And its set in Karachi so there is bound to be many raised eyebrows about something like that. But it intrigued me the idea because there was so much scope for where it will go.

Is it fictional or is it based on someone real?

Its fictional. I don't like to say that anything is based on fiction or reality. I think fiction is an amalgam of reality and your own imagination. Whereas in Typically Tanya - because I worked as a journalist for almost 5 years and two publications – people thought I had written about myself but only I had morphed myself into a woman and I wouldn't say that either because I don't write autobiography.

Tell me more about this new character? This woman you're writing about.

This woman is actually a writer herself, she is in her 50s. There is a history to her life and a city like Karachi which obviously she comes from a privileged set of society but she has experienced a lot of trauma a lot of distress. So, it borders on a kind of mystery thriller which I don't think I ever wanted to write ever in my life actually, but it's emerging like that. It had a very literary beginning and it morphed into a slight mystery. So, there is an element of mystery to her character which I am looking forward to exploring.

Are there any antagonists in the book or is she the main focus?

All my characters are protagonists and antagonist that's the thing. Even when Typically Tanya when it was published people in Pakistan were not very pleased because they were not used to seeing a woman in a role that was maybe more mainstream. Because Tanya has a good side and a bad side and she is able to balance the two in her own way. It could be in tentative it could be it depends on your interpretation, but they were not happy because they were not used to seeing an antagonist assume a role of a protagonist – because she was so unlikable to them. But I like to believe every character has a streak of likeability and unlikability, we are human at the end of the day. We are good that way we have our dull moments and our generous moments. We are charitable, we are caring but we are also not very nurturing at the same time and we can actually put people down and that's the reality of how society is.

Can you tell me a little more about Of Rift and Rivalries?

Of Rift and Rivalries was a book I wrote when I was much younger it's very different stuff from what I am writing right now. It was basically the premise was partition but not partition at the time but the impact of partition. So, I followed the story of this one family that's based in Karachi again a privileged set of people. I wouldn't call them elite but relatively well-to-do. It follows the story of two brothers who are trying to understand their family history and it takes through various flashbacks to 1947, 1960s, 1970s, the story of their grandparents, the story of their parents. It is primarily just more historical than it is anything else. Typically Tanya was more contemporary and I think this is (referring to his current work) is contemporary as well.

How was *Of Rift and Rivalries* received in India not in Pakistan but in India?

I think it was received quiet well. Both my books were received very well in India because I primarily published in India, marketed better in India. *Of Rift and Rivalries* was particularly acclaimed, it got a lot of good reviews. Actually, Pakistani news outlets also liked it a lot. Typically Tanya got great reviews in India and it did relatively better than *Of Rift and Rivalries*. But I think *Of Rift and Rivalries* was a bit more tribute so the response was more sophisticated.

Are you a full-time writer or do you have a day job?

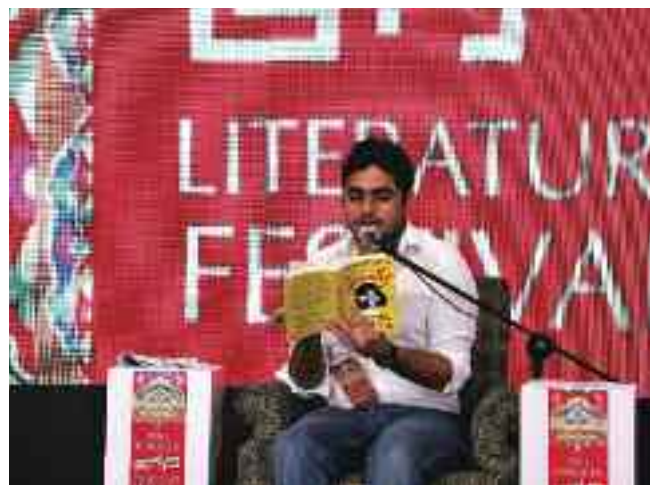
So I used to be journalist from 2014 until 2019 February. I used to work at the Express Tribune and I used to head the Peshawar city pages and the books edition -they used to take out a bi-monthly books page and then I went onto The News and I used to work on the opinion's pages then. Then I just decided in February that I need to become a full-time writer. Because I think Tanya's response was relatively good, I thought it was important that I think writers need to take a hiatus every now and again. I don't have a full-time job anymore I teach briefly. I teach media students at Bahria University, I teach them current affairs. I think it's good to have a day job because it really balances the unpredictability's you encounter as a writer.

Would you teach creative writing or fictional writing?

I wouldn't mind but at the end of the day as a writer, teaching is such a huge responsibility. You have class of 20-25 students aspiring writers who want your feedback, your input and young people tend to be restless about feedback. They want to be published and sometimes I feel I have to get myself a few more books - a few more years of just learning the craft before I can actually say with certainty this is how you do it this is how you don't do it. Because it is easy to get swayed by your teachers' sentiments and sometimes the teacher can tell you it's a terrible piece and that is the most publishable piece you could have ever written so it's important.

How do you get your ideas what inspires you?

I rely on life experiences. I personally feel like the fiction I enjoy is more realistic. I can talk about politics, I enjoy politics I sometimes weave politics into my work. Typically Tanya has a lot of political commentary in conversations. *Of Rift and Rivalries* is based on history and this



one that I am writing currently is less political but it's based on society and just things that happen around me. So, I would say the things that inspire me is living and experiencing things. I could even make this one conversation with you I could tell you a few ideas and this I could make it as a setting for a novel as well but that is how it is. Because I believe fiction it mirrors your society it mirrors your reality and it's important to talk about it. The reality that is in fiction.

As you have seen this generation they don't read as much as we used to do. Do you have a comment on that?

Interestingly enough people read but they read and they don't understand. Literature has a humanizing influence it's supposed to make you understand people who don't have the access to it or people who are very much unlike you. But I feel people who read these days and then they go on Goodreads and then comment on Goodreads, I feel Goodreads is a platform that maybe encourages you to read by making it a challenge by making it something that is appealing. But I feel the individual reader the young reader isn't able to empathize with characters. Therefore, you see a lot of Goodreads reviews that clearly show that the reader has not understood a book. You don't see these on my books but you see this on a lot of other people's books as well – I didn't get this I didn't understand this. I think reading is something that requires you to have a more as I said humanizing effect it civilizes you. When it comes to people not reading; I think it's important to pick up a book. I know a lot of writers who don't read. Who don't read because they think that it's going effect their words influence their book when they use things that are; borrowed. When any creative writing professor will tell you that any story you want to write has already been written. So, what is the point of

influence it doesn't do you any good – your voice is different and that is what makes the story different. So, I think reading is fundamentally important and reading with a little bit more humanity

Would you ever consider writing anything non-fiction?

My job was non-fiction so I write I am a freelance interpreter every now and then so I write for a lot of publications the Express Tribune in Sunday and primarily that is all non-fiction writing is, it's journalistic work at the same time. I also write a lot of book reviews a lot of literally analysis as well. So, if I were to take this further yes, I may, but I believe if I were to write a heavy tome, non-fiction that is; I would require a lot of research and research requires time and I don't think I have that kind of time.

Have you read a Sensational Life of Quandeel Baloch? Would you consider writing something like that?

I wouldn't mind. Sanam Meher did something very smart and courageous, actually. She capitalized on an idea and she was able to furnish a narrative around it. The beauty of it is that she claims she doesn't understand the story even now so that gives me a little bit of hope because my only concern has always been, if I pick an issue or like a personality let's take Sabeen (Mahmud) right there I would have to understand that story I always wanted to understand it. So, I would do it if I have enough evidence if I have enough research to back my claim.

At this point I filled him on the book written with chapters in Urdu, English and Sindhi a collaboration by various writers called Candle in the Wind, on Sabeen Mahmud.

So if you were to write a whole book on it? how would you get started on the process? how would you go about it?

Primarily talk about the person she was. There is a difference between the public figure and the person she was and these differences need to be understood. I would probably focus more on the murder even the journalist in me wants to know a little bit more interested on that aspect. Then I would more interested in the work she's done or the influences that shaped her. Because that would be more interesting to me than the mainstream understanding of her because I work in the realm of fiction so my idea for characterization is what makes a person what they are.



Do you have any advice for future writers?

Write what you know write also what you don't know because anything can work out. Literature is generally a gamble at the end of the day, it's about persistence, it's about understanding different things in different ways; sometimes its writing and not knowing where it's going but it teaches you a lot of lessons about what you should do and what you shouldn't do so just keep writing. There will be a time when writers will turn and look and say you're not good enough (written work) or a teacher will say you're not good enough but it's important to soldier on because your voice didn't learn your ideas didn't learn so it's important for that kind of thing.

Why do you think Pakistani writers get published in India but local publishers don't do anything for them?

It is very ironic. Because when I was shopping for Writing Words with Fire my poetry collection the Pakistani publishing houses, they insisted there was no market for it. They told me things like pre-publication orders and I had no idea what that was, and even a publisher like OUP (Oxford University Press) is just reluctant to publish it as they keep comparing it with their text books, the sales of their text books are much higher obviously because schools are buying them. Not because people are not buying fiction it's just schools are not buying the kind of

fiction that is published. And I think the problem is that we don't understand the importance of fiction to our society. And publishers that have tended to publish fiction have always struggled later on because they just don't seem to recognize that there is a way to go about it. You can't just throw something out there and say its fiction, because we don't have the editing skills or the infrastructure facilities to actually facilitate a fictional writer. In addition to that the irony was when Typically Tanya was published it got pirated in Pakistan so why was it pirated when there was no market for it? Obviously, piracy is a business as well so there has to be a few people who want it which is why it's been pirated. So, it makes no sense to me. I think publishing is a massive rethink in our society. We also don't have very many publishers I think Shandana Minhas has started something called Mongrel books in 2016-2017, she published two books the quality of those books was I wouldn't call terrible because they were good quality but I felt paper quality suffered, the cover was not that good, the editing was not very good, so there is a lot that goes into the book and as I mentioned we don't have the infrastructure development or the facilities for that.

Who is your go to person when you finish writing do you show it to someone before you hunt for publishers?

So, every book has been a very different process altogether. With my first novel I had no one around so I decided I would edit it myself and I would shop it around to publishers so that was one process. Then I would start showing it to my publishers - any new draft. With Typically Tanya I did the same thing but I shared with an agent. Now with this book I have multiple readers even though it's not even done yet. I have a friend, Amir Hus-sain he lives in London he reads it. I think you become a bit more confident about your work as time comes, and then I have a few friends here and there who are willing to read it but I think that is the most important thing it's good to have readers who can give you the motivation. I don't know I think the most important thing you can do when you are starting a project is to show it to a reliable reader.

I asked him what a reliable reader was?

Suppose you showed me something and I said this was thrash you have just put your heart and soul into something and your crushed because you say this is your life's work and you know how can it be your life's work? you feel that? sometimes it's important to go to someone who

can guide you...you know this is right and this is wrong, or this makes sense this doesn't so there is always a pinch of salt that goes with these things so it's important to understand any kind of feedback is good feedback you take everything with a pinch full of salt.

Is there anything you would like to tell the students of Greenwich who are considering writing as a career?

Read, write and never give up. Because that's the most important thing we don't have the right infrastructure here but there is a thriving literature community and we have a literary canon that is starved for new verses so upon that it's important to keep writing.

What do you read?

I try to read South-Asian fiction because I think it's important to know what other people are writing and what other people are reading and writing. I like to read more dramatic fiction. Recently I tried to work with mystery fiction it didn't work out; I don't have the knack for it. Primarily I enjoy books about South Asia.

Anything in particular?

I like Arundhati Roy's God of Small Things and the next book Ministry of Utmost Happiness. Although many people didn't like it, I loved it. I have favourite among American authors Armistead Maupin, he wrote these Tales of the City novels which is set in San Francisco. Yes, it's been made into a drama but his novels have been going on from 1977 onwards. So, the drama that is on Netflix is an adaption of that - he didn't write that. These are though his characters. So, I have been reading up a lot it was actually an out-of-body- experience questions about your identity and perspective.

Would you consider writing a screenplay or a play about Typically Tanya?

A play about Typically Tanya. Hmm...I don't know I often talk about it I think other people should do it because if I want to see something, I have written about on screen I would be very critical. I would much rather watch Typically Tanya written directed by somebody else. I will have a grandfatherly approach to it that would be much more appealing.

Thank you I think that's about it.

Interview by: Ayesha Abdul Razzak

Why Do We Believe?

Renowned Scholar Dr. Reza Aslan in Karachi

One of the key areas of life which unites the world and yet divides it at the same time is religion. Recently Habib University as a part of its Yohsin lecture series invited to its stage the renowned Iranian-American scholar of religious studies Dr. Reza Aslan, author of a number of international bestsellers including “No god but God: The Origins, Evolution, and Future of Islam” and “Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth.” Dr. Aslan is also the producer for The Leftovers (HBO), Of Kings and Prophets (ABC) and Rought Draft (Ovation). He also teaches creative writing at the University of California, Riverside and has written for a number of publications, including The Washington Post, The New York Times and The Christian Science Monitor. The Yohsin lecture series sees distinguished scholars engaging with students and faculty to promote intellectual understanding sponsored by the Office of the President. This is the fifth Yohsin lecture of its kind.

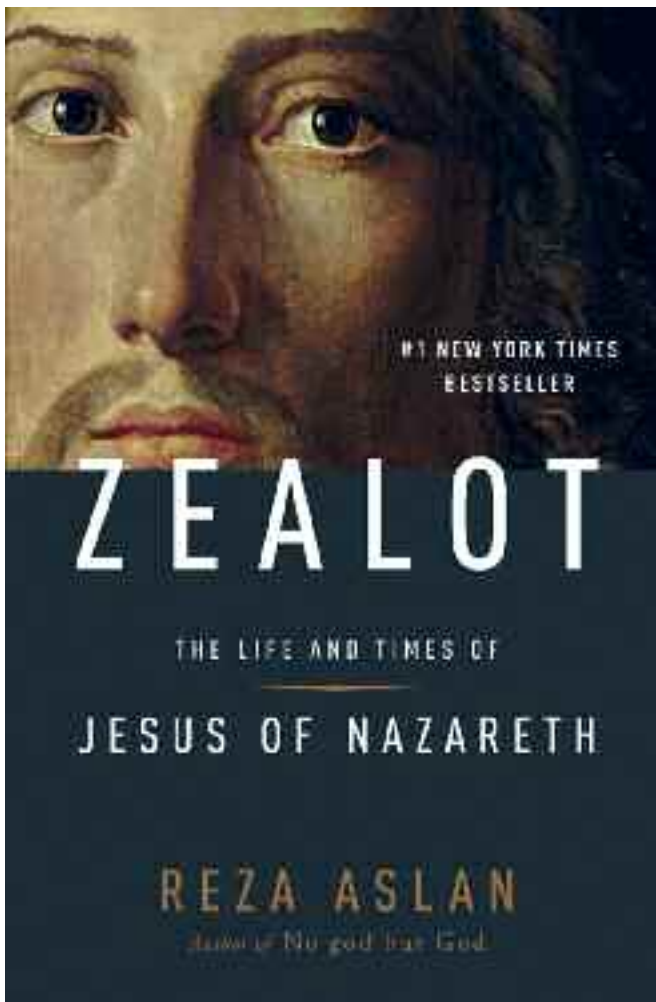


Dr Aslan delivered a talk on 13th June to a packed crowd of eager students, professors, leaders and industry professionals from all over Pakistan. Speaking on his topic, “Why do we believe?” Dr. Aslan brought together religious identity and society in his address. Covering multiple aspects, Dr. Aslan made people realize the importance of questions about self-analysis and religious belief. He emphasized that in this day and age when religiously motivated violence and upheaval troubles many parts of the world, it is important to realize that at the heart of all religions is the message of humanity and compassion to our fellow beings. Dr. Aslan has been a fierce protector and has argued for the religious freedom and protection of minorities in the Middle East.

“In this ever-changing world, Reza Aslan has been able to provide a profound and meaningful narrative about Islam and religion in general. We are greatly inspired and grateful for your presence here at Habib University,” said Mr. Wasif Rizvi, president of Habib University.

After his speech, Dr. Aslan then had a conversation with Dr. Christopher Taylor, who also moderated the event, during which they discussed the subject of the Yohsin Lecture. They spoke on a variety of issues related to the lecture, including on how religion has managed to permeate the human experience since the dawn of recorded history.

— Mahwish Hameed



Bollywood's Hate Love Relationship with Pakistan



They say that the other side of hate is love but we seldom see it to be true but that is most definitely the case with the Indian media and film industry where they supposedly hate Pakistan yet are simultaneously obsessed with it. Not only do the India media paint Pakistan as the culprit behind all of their woes but it is also dedicated in its obsession of allotting a considerable amount of their screen time to what is happening in Pakistan and we all know screen time is not cheap. One would suppose that if someone were to dislike someone or perhaps dislike a whole group of people, they would ignore them as is the case with the majority of Muslim countries and their relationship with Israel. Even Pakistan does not cultivate the kind of obsessive phenomenon that the Indian media generates.

A Love Hate Relationship

The Indian film industry has a history of being the obsessive ex in the Indo-Pak relationship where they can't live with us but can't live without us either. Throughout the



years, India has refused to move on from a past that Pakistan has already left behind for while they will not have peace relations with us, yet they won't stop false and negative propaganda about us either, be it in the minds of their people or internationally. This can be seen clearly in Bollywood where they won't cast Pakistani actors in movies yet they will stubbornly continue to make movies about Pakistan ultimately creating their own pseudo reality where molehills are mountains. Bollywood actors will try to insert themselves into feuds involving anything





about Pakistan and will even have the actual nerve at times to complain about the fact that their Anti-Pakistani movies will not be releasing in Pakistani cinemas, ironic really.

not letting go of the past.

Propaganda Rakes in the Votes

Part of the problem also lies with the government who deliberately cultivate this environment and the resulting tension then leads them into success in the elections because let's face it, propaganda rakes in the votes. The Indian government not only does not curb the distrust and negative propaganda about Pakistan in their county but actively takes part in generating it not realizing the damage inflicted on the minds of the people. For the sake of their own seat in Congress, Indian politicians use this negative propaganda to gain a seat in the government not caring about the psychological repercussions of playing with the minds of their people.

— Mahwish Hameed



Nationalism Sells Tickets

You guessed it correctly, the crux of the matter is ticket sales and inciting the crowd is just a byproduct that can be ignored when ticket sales soar through the roof at even the murmur of a film involving their neighboring country. Over the years, there has been a history of Bollywood movies raking in staggering amounts of money just because of their Pakistani element. Movies like Veer Zara, Mission Kashmir, Refugee serve as older examples while Bajrangi Bhaijaan, Agent Vinod and Raazi are just some recent examples of movies that use the Indo-Pak relationship as a money making machine. This is just a discussion on Indo-Pak movies that get made every year, not to mention the amount of movies that still are getting made on the partition, talk about



Eid Celebrations in Karachi



Eid-ul-Fitr was celebrated on June 6, 2019. Eid is a day for happiness, joy and prosperity after completing one full month of devotion in prayers and fasting throughout the Ramadan month.

Eid-ul-Fitr in Pakistan is also known as Chhoti (urdu: small) or Meethi (urdu: sweet) Eid. It is celebrated for 3 days. Eid preparations usually start at the onset of Ramadan and continue throughout the month. It is customary for almost everyone to wear new dress. Therefore, the shopping of garments is ever more popular throughout the month of Ramadan.

Karachi being the most populous metropolitan city of Pakistan with a population of 16.62 million, celebrate Eid with great fervor. As it is the hub of trade and business, therefore, we can see the city of lights in full swing especially during the festivities of Ramadan and then Eid. Markets and restaurants remain open till late night for the people to enjoy their shoppings and eat yummy food.

Special sale prices are offered on garments and shoes. Women wear bangles made of fine glass. The night when the moon is sighted is fixed for this activity. Womenfolk in huge numbers throng the special bangle stalls and shops as soon as the Shawwal moon is sighted.



Men and elders usually exchange moon greetings. Telephone these days are frequently used for this late evening exchange of greetings.

On the Eid day, men, young and old, go for Eid prayers early morning. At the mosque, all men greet each other after Namaz. The concept of equality given by Islam can be seen at this moment when all men can be greeting each other without considering the cast, sect or class. Families visit their loved ones and enjoy the special dessert of eid, i-e, "Sheer Khurma." Women of all ages are dressed up in colorful, clothes. Thus, we all cannot only see but feel the festivity which prevails throughout the three days of Eid.

— Shazia Nasir

All Pakistan Music Conference (APMC)



The All Pakistan Music Conference was formed to work for the promotion and development of the traditional performing arts for the greater benefit of society. It offers seminars and performances of classical and folk music and dances too. This festival is a grand celebration of music that offers performances of some great maestros.

On June 15, APMC organized a traditional Qawwali with Taj Muhammad, Shad Muhammad Niazi & humnawa at PACC, Karachi

— Shazia Nasir





Met Gala 2019: All The Best CAMP Looks!

The Met Gala held at New York's prestigious Metropolitan Museum of Art is the biggest and most glamorous event every year. The most famous people from art, fashion and cinema gather on this day in their finest. A themed event, the theme varies each year. This year's exhibition theme was Camp: Notes on Fashion.

What Is Meant By CAMP?

Camp or being Campy was for the longest time, a slur used primarily to insult people with garish or over the top fashion taste. Camp is now an aesthetic style and sensibility that regards something as appealing because of its bad taste and ironic value. It is essentially about disrupting modern notions of beauty and art and paving the way for creating something exaggerated and weird.





The Rules of Wearing Red

Perfect red lips are hard to achieve, and harder to resist!



Wearing red lipstick for most girls is like wearing high-heels, either you do or you don't. Red lipstick is associated with strong, successful, stylish and glamorous women. It is the equivalent of a man's power tie.

Red lips are a statement, like a great piece of jewelry, strappy heels or that much-coveted handbag. Red can be intimidating, but it doesn't mean a full siren mouth. Here is a quick and easy guide to the rules of wearing red.

1) There isn't ONE perfect shade of red for every woman – There are so many gorgeous shades suitable for every skin tone. The objective is to try on as many as possible and look in the mirror, which shade makes

you look brighter, fresher, and more radiant.

2) Never wear red with heavy makeup – When wearing red, the rest of the makeup palette should be understated and super-casual. The quickest way to add age to your appearance is to wear heavy makeup.

3) It's okay to dump the matching lip pencil – a more modern approach to wearing red is to build color by using a lip brush or your finger tip.

4) Keep your options open - Sometimes the texture of a red lipstick can be intimidating, there are many new formulations of red; glosses, stains, tints, glazes, matte, sheer and shimmers.



5 Green Juices for Glowing Skin

That You Can Make At Home



Green juices can sound disgusting to some people and some might even be put off by the color but what most people outside of certified dieticians don't know is that Green Juices are an amazing addition to your lifestyle. One of the facts that make Green Juices amazing for our body is that juices make the greens more absorbable to our body. If we eat salad greens, it takes our body more time to break them down but as a juice, it is easier for our body to take in. All the nutrients and minerals are

quickly and easily absorbed into the bloodstream so you can see the benefits right away!

It's no secret that Green Juices are good for your skin; it's just sadly ignored sometimes. Green Juices have detox properties that give your skin a healthy glow. If you're interested in incorporating some green juices to your diet, take a look at five of our absolute favorites!





1. The Green Recharge

Want that celebrity glow? Start your morning off with the Green Recharge! Just what you need to wake your skin up and boost your metabolism! Just add in a blender some spinach leaves, lemon, lime, oranges and a celery stalk. This tart start to your day will supercharge your day ahead.

2. Skin Reviver

Skin Feeling down after a long day of stress, dirt, oil and

pollution, all you need is the Green Skin Reviver. All the toxins in the environment can make our skin dull and dehydrated; get it back to shape by whipping up some pineapple, cucumber, apple and a sprig of mint. This daily skin reviver works like magic.

3. The Green Salvation

Save your skin and get rid of skin troubles, acne, and breakouts by incorporation the Green Salvation in your diet! Its light and refreshing so you can have it every day,





all you need is cucumber, mint, some grapefruit which has tons of vitamin C and lastly Basil. Basil is a good anti-inflammatory agent and helps to cool down the skin by reducing swelling!

4. The Green Skin Tonic

Skin therapy never tasted as good as this! Give your skin the boost it needs with the ultimate skin tonic. The Ultimate Skin tonic incorporates cucumber, celery, pineapple, papaya, carrot, spinach, lettuce and apples. Not only does it taste delicious but it is the king of all the green juices and is key in getting your skin refreshed and glowing all day, every day!

5. The Green Cleanse

You've had those days when your skin is super sensitive

and prone to getting dull and tired. Go on a Green Juice cleanse and revive it with this cleansing mixture of fruits and vegetables that not only clean up your skin but also clean up your immune system. Just whip up together a cucumber, some pineapple, an apple, a small piece of ginger and some prigs of parsley. Squeeze in some lemon juice at the end. This juice will help you detox, cleanse and fight off your allergies!

If you're interested in trying out these super quick and easy green juice recipes, you might need a blender but if you're in it for the long haul, then try investing in a juicer. Although expensive sometimes, state of the art juicers can really speed up the juice process! What are you waiting for? Get Blending!

— Mahwish Hameed



Stylishly Spectacled

Huge aviators, dainty rimless or wired frames, if worn right, glasses can make you look uber hot!



Summers are here! Its time to take out all the airy clothes, stylish head bands and yes spectacles! Stars like Mehwish Hayat and Bilal Abbas Khan can pull off glasses like they were made for them. Here are a few tips how to pick just the right pair of spectacled essentials:

- Pick the correct style of glasses that fits your face shape. For instance a rounded face is normally suited with an angular frame while a square shape will be suited with a round frame. If you are lucky to have a heart shaped or an oval shaped face then most glasses will suit you.

- They should complement your personality. Do you seek to be individual with your own sense of style or do you like to blend into the background with everyone else? Choose from dazzling, bold designs or muted plain designs depending on your traits and characteristics.

- Gather your dosh so that you have adequate funds to buy the pair of glasses that you want and that suit your style. Don't skimp on getting the right pair.

- Consider which outfits and garments you wear and make sure you select the glasses that fit in with this look so that your glasses flatter your attire rather than conflict.
- Think about your hairstyle, it's a good idea to get tips from your hair stylist as to which glasses will suit your cut.
- The brow of your eyes are of great importance as a glasses wearer as it helps to frame the face so you should make sure that you trim them regularly and are formed well.
- Invest in a quality concealer that will mask any imperfections that your glasses will enhance such as eye bags and lines.
- Always clean your glasses with either an alcohol-based spray or warm soapy solution along with a soft microfiber cloth to keep them clean and smear free.



— Ariba Ashfaq Ali



Labbaik Allah Humma Labbaik....

The Hajj: Symbol of Muslim unity, equality and spiritual rejuvenation



Hajj- an annual pilgrimage to the house of Allah at the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia, is being performed every year by millions of Muslims from all around the globe. One of the five pillars of Islam, the Hajj is a mandatory duty for all Muslims to make at least once in their lifetime if they have the financial and physical means to do so.

Men in their seamless white clothes and women in their loose garments perform rituals of Hajj and demonstrate religious unity and equality. Each individual at Hajj is seen to be spiritually rejuvenated. Muslims perform the Hajj following in the footsteps of the prophet Muhammad, but the pilgrimage to Mecca can be traced back thousands of years to the time of the prophet Ibrahim, known as Abraham in the Old Testament. According to our Holy book, Quran, Prophet Ibrahim and his son Prophet Ismail built the Kaaba or House of Allah in Mecca as a place for all those who believe in the unity of God. Muslims face the Kaaba during their daily prayers. This year as well millions of devout Muslims will be seen conducting the pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia.

Following arrival in Mecca, each pilgrim walks seven times in a counterclockwise direction around the black, cube-shaped Kaaba and runs back and forth between two historical hills, parts of which are still preserved inside the Grand Mosque that houses the Kaaba.

The Hajj peaks with the pilgrims thronging Mount Arafat, around 20 kilometers east of Mecca. The granite hill is the place where Mohammed delivered his last sermon around 14 centuries ago. There, the pilgrims chant in supplication to God to forgive their sins.



The pilgrims stay in Arafat until sunset, when they head to the nearby plain area of Muzdalifah where they stay overnight. In Muzdalifah, the faithful collect pebbles to use for a symbolic stoning of the devil on the following

day in the desert valley of Mina, just outside Mecca. They cast pebbles at pillars in a rite commemorating Ibrahim's reaction when the devil tried to tempt him into disobeying God.

Eid ul-Adha



The stone-throwing ritual culminates on the first day of the Eid ul-Adha festival, after which the males change out their Ihrams, shave their heads and sacrifice goats, camels etc. Women cut only a lock of their hair. Male and female pilgrims then go to Mecca again to circumambulate the Kaaba. Later in the day, they return to Mina to stay overnight and throw stones for two more days. The pilgrimage takes place from the eighth to the 12th day of Dhu al-Hijjah, the last month of the Islamic lunar calendar.



— Shazia Nasir

Eclipsed Beauty; The side you don't see



Chaos, utter and absolute madness. From a bird's eye view, you'll see commotion of black specks bespeckled, running around unmethodically, seemingly unaware of any direction or purpose, muddled. You'll see fumes of dust and gases rising up into the sky, heavier particles settling on the contents below. To you it would just seem like an apocalypse, a frenzy of people, aimlessly rushing and pushing their way into the crowd. It seems like a single mass, a body that somehow moves altogether and then not at all. As you get closer, you start to hear the buzz, and as you get even closer, the buzz begins to make sense, an amalgamation of different words, a fusion of different languages that seems to coexist perfectly together, in complete harmony. But the dimensions completely shift when you stand there, in the middle of the ruckus, feeling yourself become a part of the mass, moving with the body altogether and then not at all.

The commotion becomes all too real when you become a part of it. A honk there, a shout here, you find yourself consumed by the uproar of the beings around you, stay any longer and it feels like everything, living and dead, begins to speak, contributing to the furor. Vendors shouting, beggars chanting, cars honking, no wonder people say the city is alive. Look to the left and you see a shop full of antiques, made of silver and brass, shining in the bright, beaming sun, blinding ones eyes. To the right, you see a cobbler, surrounded by shoes of all shapes, sizes and color.

Look around and all you see is the dust, settled on almost everything that's in sight, look closer and you find the festivity everywhere, the bright and beaming colors screaming, beseeching for attention. From the vendors to the

content they sell, nothing lacks a striking glow. Spices, salient, they beam under the gleaming sun, open and raw, they give life to the commotion. The sharp sting of the spices burns your nose, but the attractiveness of the colors would force you to stay and linger longer, in the midst of the rich, glistening colors, absorbing every detail in hopes that maybe, just maybe, these colors stay with you forever.

As you finally make it out of the depths of the bazaar, you see the clock tower, in its rusty glamor and glory, standing tall and high, in the heart of the city, reminiscent of our colonial past. People often refer to Empress Market, as a place that fell from beauty to ruins but I beg to differ. It's still there, it's all there, under the dust and the clamor, the chants and the carols, it's all there, eclipsed. With time, the elegance of the old bazaar faded away, but if we pick through the layers of warehouses and stalls, we can once again, restore it to its beauty. But we need to ask ourselves, does it really need redemption?

Maybe the bazaar actually represents the true spirit of the Pakistani nation because we too with the passing of time have lost our culture, our ethnic touch, the connection with our roots. Where once there was a deep love for our culture, for the chugis and the turbans, now there's only a struggle to reconnect with our origin. Maybe if we reconnect with the love for our country, we too can restore our city and ourselves back to our ancestral glory. Where now there are rampant encroachments, we can once again build back the sandstone structures that once stood there and maybe, this beauty would not be eclipsed anymore.

—Ariba Ashfaq Ali



Since Laal Kabootars release about 2 months back it has done brisk business at the box office and has been hailed a step forward for Pakistani cinema, being labelled one of the best films to come out in 2019.

Laal Kabootar looks at one urban journalists – Noman Khalid's - delicate and dangerous liaisons which after his untimely death his wife and fellow journalist Aliya Malik (starring Mansha Pasha) attempts to resolve and continue his abruptly ended investigation as well as to locate his killer.

Aliya witnesses her husband's horrifying death – Ali Kazmi - by gun point and begins her journey to bring the killers to task. Adeel Nawaz (starring Ahmed Ali Akber) as an unlikely hero is on his own path to make a quick buck and leave the country for good, to achieve this with two of his friends in cahoots he has them steal the very cars he drives as a taxi.

By ill luck or fortunately for Aliya he is a witness to the



murder of Noman Khalid – this is where the very two different individuals lives cross until the explosive end when justice is served albeit in a very violent manner.

The script by writer Ali Abbas Naqvi is tight-knit and the fast paced. There are no extreme moment of silence or lags but a continuous hunt to the identity the killer by Aliya and her unusual side kick Adeel.

Despite the bursts of violence, the events unfold in a very unique manner – there are no copycat scenes of Bollywood like underworld portrayals. The city of Karachi, its dust, chaos and melee of innocents and criminals alike become a giant entanglement of a well written script with no action being unrecognizable but filling the viewer with a sense of familiarity. The film becoming a must watch for the avid cinema goer who appreciate neo-realistic cinema in all its rawness minus the over dramatism of more commercial ventures.

— Ayesha Abdul Razzak



G&T Drama Review

Ranjha Ranjha Kardi — An Unconventional Fairytale

Why does Ranjha Ranja Kardi's story work? Why is it that it strikes a chord within its viewers? The answer is all in the story and how it's written as an unconventional fairytale. What is a fairytale? It's usually a fictional story involving a knight in shining armor, oftentimes a Prince who rescues a down on her luck, young woman from abject poverty or other similarly tragic circumstances. Whether it's the Grimm Brothers fairytales, or our local Pakistani folktales, these fictional stories evoke in their readers a typically cliché sympathetic response which is why, not only are fairytale adaptations common but there is an ever increasing trend of modernizing the typical fairytale story. Faiza Iftikhar, the author and screenwriter with 10 novels in print and more than 30 screenplays under her belt has given us some spectacular stories including Akbari Asghari, Aik Nayee Cinderella, Dil Lagi, and Roag. Definitely hitting the nail right on the head, she created a fairytale for the masses, a story people can relate to with characters that we might encounter in real life as opposed to a traditional fairytale which focuses on glamour and grandeur.

Aptly named and a play on the traditional Punjabi folktale "Heer Ranjha," the name seems to portray the angst of the heroine who is perpetually shown to be looking for a way out of her destitution and trying to better her circumstances by fair means or foul. The story also focuses on the human fascination or rather obsession with the idea of being saved from tragic circumstances by magic or a valiant savior or just plain luck. The Heer in this scenario, "Noor Bano" is relatable as a protagonist because of the fact that she is shown to be human. She is not without her faults but not without her virtues either and what makes her beautifully heroic is her ability to love unconditionally and do anything for her love. Noori's character is complex, human and well rounded, she struggles through adversity, realizes her mistakes and keeps growing and changing all through the play. Iqra Aziz does an amazing job portraying the character of Noori, where at the end the character and actor are hard to distinguish as Iqra Aziz completely immerses herself in the role. The contrast of the young but decidedly jaded Noori is striking against the character of Bhola, the male protagonist in



he play. Bhola is an iconic character and one for the history books. Like his name, he is simple and innocent; a special needs man, who is all heart and basically childlike in his view of the world. Bhola forms the unconventional prince in the fairytale who actually does inadvertently save Noori. Imran Ashraf offers us emotional depth and superb acting performances in his portrayal of Bhola and knocks the ball right out of the park capturing the hearts of the millions of audiences who tuned into watch *Ranjha Ranjha Kardi*. The Bhola and Noori dynamic is hard to explain in words because of the complexity of the interactions, dialogues and emotional displays. It is amazing to witness the inadvertent fragile bond that gradually develops between the two and how it weathers the obstacles thrown at them.



We see in the character of Bhola, myriad issues that face our society. He is without pretension, and completely anathema to society. They don't understand him and never can which is where the uniqueness of his character lies. In his character, we see the people society sidelines and their treatment when all that is needed is love and acceptance. Bhola seems to evoke in Noori her lost childhood and a sense of acceptance that she has been continually denied in the society while Noori for Bhola seems to be the only person who accepts Bhola for who he is. In saving Bhola, Noori inadvertently saves herself. In the end, just like Heer, Noori was only trying to find her Ranjha, and achieve her happy ever after. She does find it and in a place she wouldn't have ever looked for and with a most unconventional prince.

— *Mahwish Hameed*



G&T Movie Review

CHHALAWA Uses Clichés That Work Like A Charm

A question frequently asked to Pakistanis is, “Will you eventually marry your cousin?” It is a cliché that is completely Pakistani and for good reason as by statistics 70% of population is a result of such cousin marriages. The script writers use the same clichés as their storylines because it is relatable. Chhalawa has integrated every cliché on the block with a Spartan dad opposing the love affair, Fake Pirs, letters to a dead mom (which helps resolve the conflict), the relative which is only marrying for money and opposite personality siblings. It is no doubt though that these clichés work like a charm. How many times do you find yourself re-watching Cinderella themed movies again and again? The audience is eager to witness the ways in which stereotypes and norms are broken. Chhalawa brings us all of that with comedic entertaining one-liners that is bound to capture the audience’s attention. You might not find a heightened climax that will keep you hooked but the plot though slightly unbelievable is entertaining in its own right. The Director, **Wajahat Rauf** who is known for other commercial entertainers such as “**Karachi say Lahore**” and “**Lahore say aagay**” which not only left a mark on Pakistani cinema but made an impact on the audience has put careful effort not only in the screenplay but also in the overall masala vibe of the movie.

Chhalawa was released this Eid-ul-fitar alongside another Pakistani movie “Wrong No.2” which was a source of tough competition in the box office but





Chhalawa held its own.

Starring Mehwish Hayat as the protagonist playing Zoya who is supposedly a damsel in distress and the daughter



of a feudal lord who is confined to marry her cousin, she plays the role to the hilt. Zara Noor Abbas, her sister as Haya who plays the role of a happy-go-lucky dramatic sister has a whimsical sense of humor and is termed affectionately Galaxy lollywood by her little brother. Azfar Rehman plays Sameer who is on the brink of a suicide until his best friend Luqman played by Asad Siddiqui (also the fake pir in the story) saves him through a phone call. Crazy, exciting and predictably funny adventures arise in these situations as the Pir predictably falls in love with Haya which was evident from the start. This Duo has definitely keeps us engaged with their humor and screen presence. The use of technology to the finest has kept us rooting for the annoying little brother too. The visual aspect of the film is incredible with clear high pixel detailed Pakistani clothing, multitude of bursting colors, the extraordinary wedding setups and the incredible landscape brings us a picturesque scenario. The title song termed “Chhalawa” is catchy and a tune that would be best to play on someone’s mehndi along with an item number “Chirriya” by Mehwish Hayat that catches us out of the blue and gives a subtle but unneeded kick to the movie. Another slow song is incorporated into the movie which is “Mandhaniyan” that will help you roll out some tears as you miss someone that you do not even have. All and all it is a family entertainer, light-hearted, minimal tear-jerking but that will keep you engrossed through and through.

— Mahjabeen Hameed

Stunning Cricket World Cup Victory for England



The mega Cricket World Cup, 2019, which began on May 30, 2019 and finished on July 14, 2019, culminated on a sensational victory for England. England lifted the trophy for the first time, after 44 years, beating New Zealand in final played at the home of cricket, Lords,

The final between England and New Zealand was a match of full excitement, thrill, nail biting and sensation as final was tied, both the teams scored 241 runs in the allotted 50 overs. To decide the fate of the final according to law of ICC Super Over was held.

The Super Over ends in a tie too but England win as they hit more boundaries than New Zealand. The World Cup has been decided by the finest of margins. What a match! What a final!



Since the beginning of the Cricket World Cup, England was considered as favourites and played excellent cricket during the competition. England has very strong batting line up and a very lethal fast bowling attack. New Zealand, the runners up played excellent cricket and showed their class, was victim of the rules.

Ten teams took part in the competition, Pakistan who played great cricket in the later part of the championship could not qualify for the semi finals due to poor run rate. India and defending champion Australia were also projected to win the championship, lost their semi final



matches against New Zealand and England respectively.

The reasons for Pakistan's early exit according to the experts was lack of planning, frequent changes in the playing eleven, poor performance of the openers and dismal performance of the bowlers, especially the pace attack. Afghanistan was the only team who could not win any match of the competition.

Interesting statistics popped up during the Cricket World Cup, 2019. England scored highest 397 runs for 6 runs against Bangladesh whereas the lowest score 105 was scored by Pakistan against the West Indies. The opening batsman Rohit Sharma of India is the top scorer of the championship with 651 runs. Mitchell Starc of Australia is the highest wicket taker, he took 27 wickets. Highest individual score of 166 runs was achieved by David Warner of Australia. Best bowling figures was achieved by Shaheen Shah Afridi of Pakistan who took 6 wickets



for 35 runs against Bangladesh. Jayson Roy of England was the only player in the Cricket World Cup was fined to pay 30% of his match fee due to arguing with the umpire's decision of giving him out in the semi final against Australia. Four Matches of the Cricket World was abandoned and some of the matches were also interrupted due to rain. Play stopped twice in a match between Sri Lanka and South Africa in the 47th over due to Honey Bee attack on the ground. Amusing scene were witnessed as the players and the umpires lay down on ground on their stomach.

The Cricket World Cup, 2019, left good and bad memories as all sports do.

— By Iqbal Jamil
Assistant Professor & Head of Media Lab

Legendary Pakistani actor Zaheen Tahira



Zaheen Tahira was born in 1949 in Lucknow India.

A veteran actress, radio host, producer and director she was one of the most recognized faces on Pakistani television. She was a regular on the tele-drama circuit in the 1960s, 70s and 80s on PTV. She also directed and produced a few television shows, and was also an actress on *Khuda Ki Basti* the record-breaking show directed by Shaukat Siddiqui. Acting as the widow who had to work to make both ends meet, this serial which was televised in 1969 was a drama that broke all popularity records owing to its stellar cast which also included, Qazi Wajid (who we also lost recently) and Behroze Subzwari.

Other serials *Dastak* in which she starred as the romantic other half to lawyer Salim Tahir, and *Khalajee* where she acted as a selfless house help who becomes a part of the family are some of her other memorable performances. However, in the drama *Baban Khala Ki Betiyan* - coincidentally also the longest running show on Pakistan television till date - she is seen as the worried mother who is seeking proposals for her 6 daughters. An emotional roller coaster it was produced by Fahad Mustafa and Dr. Ali Kazmi and televised on ARY.

On 23rd June Zaheen Tahira was admitted into Agha Khan Hospital after suffering a major cardiac arrest. Although she was shifted to the CCU from ICU on June 27th and her son said she is better now and will be taken off ventilator she passed away a few days later on July 9th 2019 leaving behind a legacy of stellar performances and productions in the historical narrative of the Pakistani television industry.

— Ayesha Abdul Razzak



Why Father's Day Gets Less Hype than Mother's Day



Every year there is all sorts of hype and festivity surrounding Mother's day, from morning shows to media advertisements, the whole country gears up to celebrate Mother's day and go all out! Yet if you compare the festivity, Father's day falls pretty low on the celebratory

scale with most people not even realizing what day it actually is on. Regardless of the date, Father's day fails to get its share of attention, here's what we think are the reasons why Father's day gets significantly less hype than Mother's day.

More Love for Mom?

Most people would agree that since mothers spend more time with their children as compared to fathers, and hence children have more time to bond with mothers, they are closer to them. Because children have always seen their mothers at home working and taking care of them all the time without any recompense, they see





Mother's day as the perfect opportunity to give their moms a rest and make the day perfect for them.

Traditional Roles

Most people think that their mothers do deserve a special day because they contribute more to their day to day lives and generally to the household. Fathers are also traditionally the financial head of the household and hence seem to be self-sufficient, which makes it seem that they don't require tokens of appreciation. Dads also tend to be less fussy about trinkets, gifts and flowers.

The Present Market



The Gift Struggle

It's a truth universally acknowledged that it's impossible to find the perfect gift for dad. It's not hard to find a gift for your mom but on the contrary it's extremely difficult to find one for dad. From a pretty dress to fragrance, jeweler and flowers, it's easy to find a gift but when it comes to dad, the only things that come to mind are wallets, colognes or watches.

— Mahwish Hameed



Retailers cater to assumptions of customer demand which shows that mother's day gifts are more popular and hence the market tends to offer sales and discounts especially on mother's day. While the trend to celebrate father's day seems to be catching on, retailers are still slow to incorporate this day into their yearly discounts and sales which makes it decidedly hard to spend a lot on presents.



The Face Age Filter

Has The Internet Exploding!

If you've been on any of the social media platforms recently, you would definitely have seen the top trend that has been making the internet explode. The new face app challenge where people are magically age into an older version of themselves is hard to resist.



Interview after World Cup
2053



Our captain Sarfaraz in 2053



Fahad Mustafa still looking cooler than all of us



Celebrities like Drake having fun with their fans



Asim Azhar



LUX Style Awards







Highlights from the Lux Style Awards 2019

The most glamorous awards of the year, **The 18th Lux Style Awards 2019** bring out Pakistani celebrities in their finest glam. From Sana Safinaz to Elan to Ali Zeeshan, celebrities took to the red carpet determined to make a splash. From the fan favorite Iqra Aziz and her beau Yasir Hussain in custom Ali Zeeshan Studio to Mahira Khan who stunned the crowd in a glittery gold dress, we have all the delicious highlights in pictures!







Yasir Hussain Proposed to Iqra Aziz At LSA 2019

Silenced Voices

*The shower running over me as I drain in its fold,
My clothes torn and ruined, just like my soul.
They speak of indecency, appauled me for my choice,
I now believe it is my fault because I thought I looked nice.
Now this water cannot cleanse me off my sins,
It is no use when I wash, I rub, I scratch at my skin.
He gnawed at my sweet flesh like a wild boar,
I fought as if we two were in a madman's War.
I struggled under his strong grip for release,
But my liberty was tied for someone else's peace.
I was screaming from the core of my heart; yet
I was silenced since the day mankind had fallen apart.
'No', 'Please', 'Step', has no meaning for you,
These are the piercing words that hurt your ego.
My dignity lay in dirt, my freedom is robbed,
My blood ringing in my ear as I lose my faith in God.
Every inch, every ounce of my body is filled with pain,
For the rest of the world it is a lie to be entertained.
I will be ridiculed, lose ties, lose family and lose myself,
Still I will fight, stand upright to propel for everyone else.
I will not let more girls be brawled on the streets,
For lame excuses of this heinous crime will come to cease.
Justic done and punished, Angels will pay no heed to their prayer
Of mercy; as their body, soul and mind boils in Hell fire.*

- By Hafsa Dere

BIRTHDAY BUZZ

MAY



MAY
1

ANUSHKA SHARMA



MAY
17

PANKAJ UDHAS



MAY
15

MADHURI DIXIT



MAY
18

ALI ZAFAR



MAY
16

PIERCE BROSNAN



MAY
22

NADIA KHAN



MAY
16

MEGAN FOX



MAY
22

SARFRAZ AHMED

BIRTHDAY BUZZ

JUNE



SONAKSHI SINHA

JUNE
2



CHRIS PRATT

JUNE
21



WASIM AKRAM

JUNE
3



KARISMA KAPOOR

JUNE
25



ANGELINA JOLIE

JUNE
4



FAHAD MUSTAFA

JUNE
26



SANGEETA

JUNE
14



ARJUN KAPOOR

JUNE
26

BIRTHDAY BUZZ

JULY



JULY
3

TOM CRUISE



JULY
27

HUMAYUN SAEED



JULY
14

SANAM BALOCH



JULY
27

MAYA ALI



JULY
18

PRIYANKA CHOPRA



JULY
29

SANJAY DUTT



JULY
24

JENNIFER LOPEZ



JULY
30

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

BIRTHDAY BUZZ

AUGUST



AUGUST
5

KAJOL



AUGUST
15

BEN AFFLECK



AUGUST
11

HADIA KYANI



AUGUST
15

JENNIFER LAWRENCE



AUGUST
12

SARA ALI KHAN



AUGUST
16

SAIF ALI KHAN



AUGUST
14

MARIA WASTI



AUGUST
18

MOHIB MIRZA





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