



# SANGAT

SINDHI ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

VOL. 19, No. 1

Spring 2003

## 19<sup>th</sup> Annual SANA Convention

It is all set for the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual SANA Convention to take place in Los Angeles, CA this July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. The convention was originally planned to be held in San Diego, CA but due to the exceptionally high cost of rooms there and some other reasons, the venue was changed to the all-glamour, sparkling 'city of the angels'.

The organizing committee headed by Mr. Ali Shaikh has successfully negotiated with the management of the Hilton Torrance/South Bay hotel for special rates and other facilities. (Please see details inside).

The organizing committee is doing its utmost to make this convention a memorable event for all the participants. It is to include the programs like a science conference, medical seminar, guest speakers' session, general body meeting, business workshop, Sindhi adabi session, annual banquet and of course two nights of enthralling Sindhi music. A picnic and a city tour has also been planned for the entertainment of the participants. A slot has been earmarked for holding a 'meeting of minds' to discuss the prevailing



situation in Sindh and ways and means to help our brethren back home.

The organizing committee and the SANA EC have appealed the North American Sindhi community to plan their trip at the earliest to revisit their memories, see old friends and make new ones.

In the meantime, the organizing committee has assigned some of the activities to the volunteers as indicated below:

Registration & Membership:  
Shoukat Ansari & Respective  
Regional Secretary  
Science Conference: Roshan Shaikh  
Medical Seminar: Dr. Valeed  
Shaikh  
Youth Program: Zafar Agha

Women's Program: Mrs.  
Nasreen Tareen  
Business Workshop: Jamil  
Daudi & Jawad Ursani  
Meeting of Minds: Khalid  
Hashmani  
Guest Speakers: Sani Panhwar &  
Irshad Kazi  
Singers: Sajjad Siddiqui  
Dinner: Saleem Langha  
Picnic: Irshad Kazi

The Organizing Committee has encouraged the interested people to contact the relevant volunteers if they have any specific suggestions or if they want to participate in any of the activities. They can reach the organizing committee at:

[sanaconvention@hotmail.com](mailto:sanaconvention@hotmail.com)

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**Editor:** Aziz Narejo

**VoL. XVIII, No. I**  
Spring 2003

*Editorial comments:*

## **Inertia not a condition; it is collective suicide**

It won't be an exaggeration to say that most of our folks have turned into silent spectators of the events unfolding in Sindh and Pakistan. It is not a healthy sign for a people besieged by many a problems.

It will do a lot good if all of us became a 'little' more active. Some of us, who have been blessed with resources, can come forward and play their role for the 'change' in things in Sindh and Pakistan. Others of us can at least write on issues that we think are important. We must have our say in things. Must raise our voice. Must create some noise. Experience tells us that most of the benefits go to the loudest and comparatively more organized communities.

Many of our miseries have chosen us because we are silent and inactive and quiet and 'too' peaceful and harmless and voiceless and deaf and dumb and idle and mum and mute and moreover reticent and 'Sufis' (in wrong connotation). I think we have to change. It is over due. Events are moving at a fast pace. We will not get a second chance and they won't wait for us. And REST ASSURED NO ONE

WOULD INTERVENE ON OUR BEHALF. If we want a change for better, we are the ones who have to bring it. Does it make any sense? Think over it.

## **'Just' distribution of resources in Pakistan!**

Sindh Government recently signed agreements with Chinese and German companies for mining of coal in Thar and preparation of feasibility reports respectively. At one of the signing ceremonies, it was disclosed that Pakistan has coal reserves of over 184 billion tons. 98% (repeat, ninety eight per cent) of these reserves are in Sindh (repeat, in SINDH).

In the same briefing (daily Ibrat Feb 17) people of Sindh were informed that though this extremely valuable resource belongs to Sindh, the province would get only 20% income out of it. The rest, 80%, will go to the Federal Government! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

This shows how the resources of Sindh are being usurped and plundered. And why people of Sindh are so poor and so helpless! And why they are so desperate and so despondent! Pushed to the wall in true sense! Cornered?

Another report posted on an Internet list tells us how Sindh is being robbed of its financial resources.

This report says the allocation of resources (NFC 96') works this way at present:

-Punjab collects 1 rupee and gets 90 paisas back.

-NWFP and Balochistan collect a rupee and get 82 paisas back.

And can you imagine how much Sindh collects and gets back?

You won't guess in your wildest imagination!

-Sindh collects a rupee and gets only 16 (Sixteen) paisas back!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

What kind of NFC award is that?

What kind of formula is that?

What kind of country is this?

What kind of people run it?

What do they take us for?

My friends, these are just a few things to think about. How long can we let it happen? How long? Just how long? People of Sindh are suffering. They are suffering in real terms.

Friends and foes, just remember, we are NOT ASKING FOR THE MOON. We just want democracy, justice and fair play. Can Pakistani Establishment afford to deny us that? If it does, then at what cost? Things have to change and who doesn't know what course they will take?!

## **Sindh Land up for grabs**

The Sindh Government's Revenue Department has prepared a summary to allot 10,000 acres of land in Garhi Yasin Taluka to the Federal Capital area affectees in the name of a federal set up called Military Families Rehabilitation Organization.

A news report in daily Kawish (<http://www.kawish.com/Hyd15/t>

[k07.html](#)) says the summary will be presented directly to the Chief Minister as he is incharge of the Land Utilization Department in the province.

This is a brazen step towards further colonization of Sindh. It is the continuation of the process of grabbing highly productive Sindh lands under one garb or the other. This will be an occupation of Sindh's lands by Pakistan Military personnel on one hand and will help them create another constituency for yet another turn-coat or a Choudhry on the other hand who will be ever ready to sell Sindh to his/her 'aqaas' (masters).

One earnestly appeals the journalists, writers, intellectuals and political activists to raise their voices against this nefarious design, expose its proponents and mount the pressure on the puppet Sindh regime not to take this most dishonorable decision.

One also appeals those Sindh Assembly members, who still own their conscience, to speak against this and other schemes to save Sindh from any further colonization. There must be a line drawn in the sand. There must be a limit to wanton usurpation of Sindh's lands and resources.

There have also been some reports carried by Sindhi press disclosing that the hand-picked provincial government has agreed to allot about 7,000 acres of land to the so-called affectees of Tarbela Dam.

News stories say that some agencies have been working since 1960's to get lands allotted in Sindh to some interest groups. The present 'slave' government has

finally succumbed to the pressure and decided to do as asked. Is this one of the reasons why 'Isloos' were so anxious to have their puppets in power in Karachi so that they can have their way in Sindh and grab whatever is left? These accidental rulers in the province should not forget where the posterity will find their names? And in what company?

It has been an atrocious practice in vogue to allot lands in urban and rural areas of Sindh to civil and military bureaucrats and other chosen few on throw away prices. Why such generosity is not shown in the cases of genuine landless peasants of Sindh? Why same lands are not allotted to the people of Sindh who have been affected by certain natural or man-made disasters?

It is reported in press many a times that agriculture in Sindh has suffered losses in the excess of 50% causing a huge unemployment in the sector. Over 1.2 million acres of land has been devoured by sea as no fresh water is allowed downstream Kotri during at least 10 months. More than 400,000 fishermen and others have suffered in the area and more in other parts of Sindh. Why don't they get lands in the vast areas irrigated by Taunsa-Panjnad link canal, Chashma-Jehlum link canal, Ghazi Barotha canal, Thal Canal and other major canals, which flow like a river while the Mighty Indus has been rendered into a non-perennial stream downstream Sukkur? The time is not that far away when Sindhis will be justified in their demand to cancel all the allotted lands in urban and rural areas to civilian and military bureaucrats and other 'chosen' ones and so-called affectees of one or the other federal government schemes. The injustices have to give way to justice

one day!

In the meantime, it is 'our' solemn duty to raise 'our' voice on all the forums available to 'us' and keep the FIRE burning under the thick cushioned seats of the President, the PM, the Gov. and the CM and the assembly members so that they are MADE to listen to 'us'.

## Biharis for Sindh

It is just not the water issue, the NFC, the provincial autonomy or the restoration of democracy. There are so many more problems that are hounding Sindh and Sindhis. Please read the following story in daily The News (Feb. 11) and see how subtly they are trying to bring more Biharis to Sindh as a part of the Musharraf-Altaf scheme of turning the indigenous population of the province in to a minority and establish their "ahl-e-zubaaan"'s hegemony. One more front for them and for us!

“JEDDAH: An eminent French lawyer Professor Francis Lamand, who recently visited Pakistan and held talks with senior officials, has said the issue of stranded Pakistanis in Bangladesh would be taken up at the highest level.

Lamand, who is the president of the France-based organization, 'Islam and the West', said he would visit Bangladesh shortly and meet with Prime Minister Khaleda Zia to resolve the issue, Arab News reported on Monday.

He stressed for a practical approach to solve the issue and suggested that Bangladesh, Pakistan, the Muslim World League, the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and the

Islamic Development Bank (IDB) should be involved in the discussions.

Lamand and former secretary-general of Muslim World League Dr Abdullah Omar Naseef will visit Dhaka soon and meet with Khaleda Zia to seek her assistance. They will also broach the idea of rehabilitating those stranded Pakistanis who would opt for settling down in Bangladesh. Currently, 250,000 Pakistanis are living in 66 camps across Bangladesh.

After their meeting with Bangladesh authorities, Lamand and Naseef will visit Pakistan with an updated proposal from the Pakistan Repatriation Council (PRC).

The present PRC proposal envisages repatriation and rehabilitation of stranded Pakistanis on self-financing basis.

## **Representation for Sindh on Indus Water Commission**

In a press release issued from Arlington, Texas, former SANA President, Mr. Iqbal Tareen called Pakistani objections to Baglihar hydro- electric hypocritical and morally handicapped. He invited world community's attention to the duality of standards of Pakistani government in the matters of Indus Water distribution. Pakistan maintains that the proposed gated spillways of Baglihar hydro plant will enable India to control the flow of water to Pakistan's disadvantage. Mr. Tareen asked if Baglihar hydroelectric plan upstream was

posing a danger to the interests of Pakistan, how building a Kalabagh Dam was serving the interests of Sindh.

He said that on one hand Pakistani government disapproves Baglihar hydro- electric plant being constructed by India on Chenab Main and on the other it is building Kalabagh dam on Indus against the interests of its three out of four provinces. He said that the objection rose by Pakistani government against Baglihar hydroelectric are similar to the objections raised by Sindh against Kalabagh dam and similar projects on Indus River.

Commenting on the upcoming talks between Pakistani and Indian Commissioners for Indus Waters, Mr. Tareen said that Pakistani government has been very insensitive to the plight of small provinces in the country. In spite of unanimous disapproval by Sindh, NWFP, Balochistan, independent experts, NGOs and international organizations, Islamabad continue to stay the course of aqua war against majority of its citizens.

Mr. Tareen said that it is an irony that Pakistan's Commissioner for Indus Water, Syed Jamait Ali Shah is seeking an Indian compliance through a threat of a third party option. Normally, such a position when taken by Sindhi people to mitigate water accords is considered unpatriotic. He accused Islamabad of a selective patriotism by safeguarding interests of its favorite classes and population groups in the country.

He declared this hypocrisy as the real cause of disenfranchising of the people of small provinces in

Pakistan. He demanded the Sindh being the real grieved party of Indus Water Treaty must be given an equal membership status in the Commission. No agreement shall be signed without safeguarding the interests of Sindh.

Mr. Tareen demanded that the Article IX of the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) be amended to provide the safeguards for lower riparian and must include an option of resolving any dispute or differences between all the parties through neutral observers or arbitration in case there is a deadlock. Mr. Tareen issued the following factoids identifying some of the reasons why people of Pakistan oppose dams on Indus River.

**Why Sindh opposes the project?**  
Here are some reasons:

- (1) Deleterious impact on environment, ecosystem, biodiversity, habitat, wetlands, subsoil aquifers.
- (2) Intensification of drought and desertification.
- (3) Deleterious effects on livelihood farmers and fisher folks.
- (4) Food insecurity.
- (5) Water will not be available to keep alive the Indus River and its delta.
- (6) Acceleration of poverty with increased rural to urban mass migration.
- (7) Violation of inter-provincial water accords, e.g. constant illegal flowing of water through Chashma-Jhelum and Taunsa-Panjnad Link canals.
- (8) Progressive, illegal decreases in share of Sindh in Indus River System waters.
- (9) Drinking water problem

**Why NWFP opposes the project?**  
Here are some reasons:

(1) Displacement and resettlement of more than 124,000 people. (2) Inundation of 35000 acres of fertile land. (3) Land degradation of fertile Peshawar valley, Mardan, Pabbi and Swabi plains. (4) Threat of serious water logging to Nowshera Town, inhabiting 200,000 souls. (5) Back pressure in River Kabul to increase water logging.

**Why Balochistan opposes the project?** Here are some reasons:

(1) Decreased water supply from Pat-Feeder canal. (2) Increased desertification. (3) Decreased agricultural production.

**Why many people of Punjab oppose the project?** Here are some reasons:

(1) An earthquake can damage KBD, submerging vast areas of Punjab. (2) Unsustainability and early siltation of the dam due to muddiest River Kabul joining the Indus upstream. (3) To express solidarity with their brethren in other provinces

## Community News

### SANA members who have paid their dues

1. Mohammad B. Shahani, NY
2. Kamran Shaikh, NY
3. Habibullah Ansari, MD
4. Lachman & Chandra J., MD
5. Dr. Naranjan & Krishna Dudani, MA
6. Sarfaraz H Soomro, NY
7. Bashir & Farkhunda Mahar, CA
8. Saleem Langha, CA
9. Saghir Shaikh, CA

10. Bhagwan & Mira Satiani, OH
11. Ziauddin & Amina Mufti, PA
12. Manzoor & Yasmeen ursani, CA
13. Ghulam M. Memon & Safia J Hemani, TX
14. Rahim & Susan Leghari, CA
15. Maqbool Alam Halepoto, KY
16. Ayaz Pandhiani, CA
17. Aziz Narejo, TX
18. Abdul Hussain Narejo, TX
19. Khalil Khatri, MA
20. Ali Brohi, PA
21. Sarfaraz & Abida Memon, MD
22. Mohammad A. Panhwar, CA
23. Saleem & Shaheen Khamisani, WA
24. Farhan H. Soomro, CT
25. Rehan Khalil Khan, NJ
26. Mohammad Y. Memon, FL
27. Badaruddin & Zarina Shaikh, NY
28. Gul & Jennifer Agha, IL
29. Altaf & Shama Memon, VA
30. Ali Nawaz, CA
31. Nazir Ahmed & Samina Ahmed, CA
32. Bahu Sultan Shaikh, OH
33. Sohail & Jaleesa Soomro, TX
34. Hafeezur Rahman, TX
35. S. A. Rahman, TX
36. Aleem Brohi, VA
37. Shah Nawaz Soomro, MA
38. Bashir & Feroza Memon, AL
39. Sirajuddin & Shamim Agha, MO
40. Shah Farooq & Nusrat Qureshi, CA
41. Maqbool Dahri, NJ
42. Kamalnath Iyer, CA
43. Salahuddin Abbasi, NY
44. Narendir T. Soorya, MO
45. Ali Shaikh, CA
46. Zafar & Zaibunnisa Agha, TX
47. Azra Haque, IL
48. Wasim Baloch & Huma Shaikh, CA
49. Ali Hyder Mirjat, TX
50. Syed Jaffer Shah, CA
51. Abdul M. & Yasmeen Cumber, FL

## Inactive SANA members

The General Secretary SANA, Mr. Mohammad Ali Mahar has appealed the inactive members of SANA to visit the following link and correct the information:

<[http://www.sanalist.org/EC/inactive\\_members.htm](http://www.sanalist.org/EC/inactive_members.htm)>

GS SANA said: "We have been spending a lot of money from your donations on sending important material to our members throughout the year but unfortunately some of it goes waste as the mail is returned to us due to incorrect mailing information.

"Please take a moment of your time and correct the contact information if you find yourself or some of your friends on this list whose information is outdated or incorrect.

## Calgary Sindhi-Seraiki association

*By Ahmer Nadeem Memon*

It was felt since long that all the Sindhi and Siraiki friends in Calgary city and suburbs area should come forward and form a group or association to provide help and support to new friends planning to come to this part of the world and to keep the rich Sindhi, Siraiki culture alive amongst the youth by means of social gatherings.

It took over one year to look around, discuss and find enough Sindhi, Siraiki families to form a group. After many small family gatherings during the month of





Ramadhan, finally it was decided to have a larger One-Dish EID party in local Community Hall on February 15.

Many of the friends were introduced with each other. This was one of the largest gatherings of local Sindhi-Siraiki Community for some time. Every one had a great fun as parcel game, spoon race and several other games were played by the kids, and musical chair, balloon blowing and folk dance competition were held amongst the elders. Finally, a delicious dinner was served with back ground tunes of Alghoza, classical and folksongs.

On March 01, 2003, various other new Sindhi and Siraiki families gathered at the residence of Nadeem Memon for the Quran Khawani, and get together.

The community families known to be in Calgary:

1. Nadeem Memon and Family (Nausheroferoze/Hyderabad)
2. Aazar Memon and Family

- (Nausheroferoze/Hyderabad)
3. Iftikhar Hussain Memon and Family (Karachi)
4. Asjad Bukhari and Family (Bahawalpur)
5. Mazhar Memon and Family (Nausheroferoze/Hyderabad)
6. Naveed Kamran Memon & Family (N'feroze/Hyderabad)
7. Dr. Jamila Kureshi & Family (N'feroze/Al-Ain Dubai)
8. Riaz Ahmed Pathan (Sukkar)
9. Kashif Chandio and Family (Larkano)
10. Nisar Ahmed Bhutto and Family (Rato Dero)
11. Mohammad Iqbal Qureshi and Family (Bakhtiarpur)
12. Muhammad Hayat Kambo and Family (Khairpur)
13. Ashraf Khoso
14. Abdullah Shah
15. Abdul Aziz Shaikh (Larkano)
16. Daad Baluch and Family (No recent contact)
17. Ahmed Shumail Memon and Family [Edmonton]
18. Qaisar & Family
19. Aejaz Ali Memon & Family (curently away)
20. Naeem Abro & Family
21. Aftab Khoro
22. Feroze Ansari & Family(No

recent contact)  
23. Ghulam Hussain Jamro & Family

I further request everyone to please come forward and contact me if you know about some other families around.

## Washington, DC SANA Chapter gathering

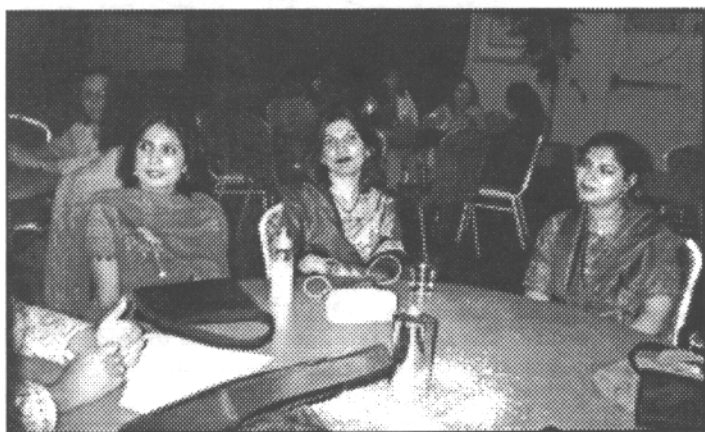
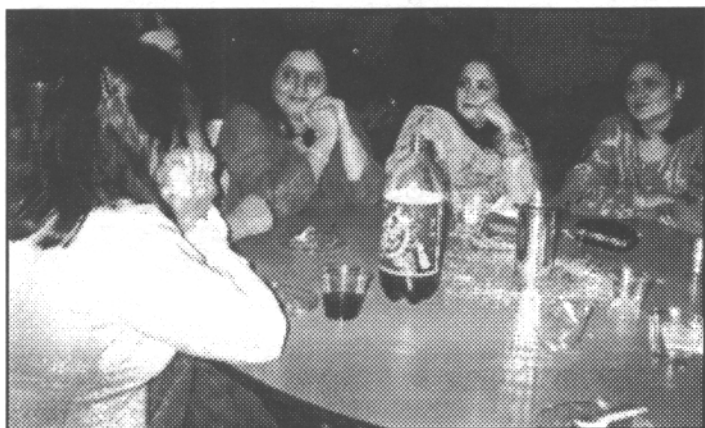
On Sunday, February 22, 2003, Sindhis from the Washington DC area gathered for an Eid Millan Party. The function was held at the Maryland Community Center located in Germantown. This was one of the largest gatherings of local Sindhis for some time. Many Sindhi families joined from Maryland, Virginia and the district area. Every one had a great fun, delicious lunch and some serious discussion about what is happening locally, in Sindh and in the USA.

A one-minute silence was observed in the memory of Adi Razia Ali Nawaz Memon's nephew who recently died at a young age of 26.

Adi Fouzia Siddiqui (Chapter President) and Dr. Naresh Ahuja (Chapter General Secretary) talked about the activities of the chapter and SANA. They urged every one to play an active role in the chapter and bring every one in the community closer to each other.

Adi Fouzia also briefed on her recent meeting with the officials of the Pakistan embassy. She was invited as a part of effort by the new ambassador to meet representative of local Pakistani organizations. She mentioned that the ambassador was quite keen to know if SANA was a political

# Snapshots of SANA Houston Chapter's gathering





July 3 - 6 2003, Torrance, California

# Convention 2003

19<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of Sindhi Association of North America

## Program Details

### Thursday July 3<sup>rd</sup>

- Registration  
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- EC/AC Meeting  
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

### Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>

- Science  
Conference  
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
- Medical Seminar  
10:00 - Noon
- Lunch Break
- Guest Speakers  
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
- General Body  
Meeting  
4:00pm - 6:00pm
- Dinner Break  
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- Kachheri/Music  
9:00pm - Midnight

### Saturday July 5<sup>th</sup>

- Meetings of Mind  
9:00 am - 11 am
- Picnic and City  
Tour  
11:00 am - 4 pm
- Business Workshop  
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- Sindhi Adabi  
Sangat  
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- Annual Banquet  
7:00 - 9:00 pm
- Music and  
Refreshments  
9:00pm - Midnight

### Sunday July 6<sup>th</sup>

- Adjourn  
11:00 a.m.

Sindhi Association of North America (SANA) was founded in 1985, by Sindhis living in North America, who thought it was necessary to have a platform offering an opportunity to all the Sindhis anywhere in North America, to meet and share their thoughts and concerns about the situation in Sindh, as well as preserve the culture, heritage, language and customs of Sindhis in USA.

Ever since 1985, SANA holds its conventions each year in different cities of North America. This year the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention will be held in Hilton Torrance California on July 3 - 6 2003.

## Special Room Rate \$79/night

**For Reservations Call 310-540-0500**  
Please mention SANA to get discounted rate of \$79 per night

These rates are good only for the rooms reserved until June 20<sup>th</sup> 2003.

## Venue:

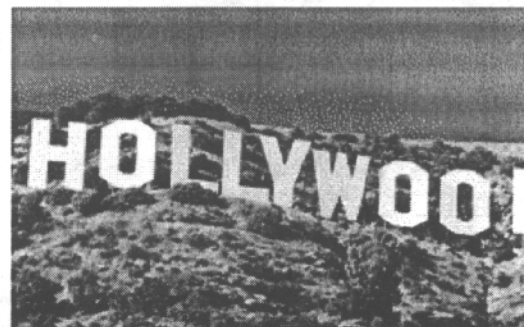
### HILTON

### Torrance/South Bay

21333 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance CA 90503  
[www.hiltontorrance.com](http://www.hiltontorrance.com)

The Hilton Torrance/South Bay is a beautiful suburban hotel. It is conveniently located 9 minutes from Los Angeles International Airport.

Super Shuttle	800-258-3826
Door to Door Shuttle	800-311-5466
Taxi	800-300-5007
Rent a Car	800-441-7368
Travelocity.com	On Web
Priceline.com	On Web
Cheaptickets.com	On Web



## Registration

### Registration fee includes

- Admission to all SANA sessions
- Three Breakfasts
- Annual Banquet
- Lunch on Picnic day
- Music and entertainment on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> July 2003

The below rates are available to Paid SANA members only. For non-paid members rates will be higher.

## Registration Fee

**Advance Registration must be received by June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003**

Adults:	US \$75.00
Ages 12-18	US \$50.00
Ages 3-12	US \$40.00
Age Under 3	FREE

### On Site Registration

Adults	US \$85.00
Ages 12-18	US \$60.00
Ages 3-12	US \$40.00
Age Under 3	FREE

To register early and save money your check must be received by June 20<sup>th</sup> 2003. Please make your check payable to "SANA REGISTRATION" and mail it to:

Dr. Shoukat Ansari  
Treasurer SANA  
1213 Ladera Court  
Davis, CA 95616 USA

For information or local help contact SANA's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention Organizing Committee.

Chairman: Ali Shaikh (310) 386-9792. E-mail: [sanaconvention@hotmail.com](mailto:sanaconvention@hotmail.com)

SANA is a nonprofit corporation under section 501(c)(4). Contributions are tax deductible.  
SANA is funded from individual membership dues and contributions.  
SANA neither represents nor is affiliated with any government or other organization



19th ANNUAL CONVENTION 2003  
TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA



SINDHI ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

Held at  
HOTEL HILTON TORRANCE  
JULY 3RD TO JULY 6TH 2003

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TEL. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

PARTICULARS

	RATE	AMOUNT
( ) Life Membership fee	\$ 1,000.00	\$
( ) Family Membership fee	\$ 30.00	\$
( ) Individual Membership fee	\$ 20.00	\$
( ) Student Membership fee	\$ 10.00	\$

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

\$

ANNUAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE

AGES/NUMBER(S)

	RATE	AMOUNT
( ) 18 YEARS & ABOVE (___ No(s)) X	\$ 75.00	\$
( ) 10-18 YEARS (___ No(s)) X	\$ 50.00	\$
( ) 03-10 YEARS (___ No(s)) X	\$ 40.00	\$
( ) UNDER 3 YEARS (___ No(s)) X	\$ -	\$

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE

\$

G. TOTAL MEMBER SHIP & REGISTRATION

\$

METHOD OF PAYMENT

( ) CASH

( ) CHECK

( ) CREDIT CARD VISA ( ) MASTER CARD ( ) AMEX ( )

Credit Card# \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. \_\_\_\_\_ 200

Name on Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

**I Authorize SANA TO Charge my Credit Card mentioned above for the amount indicated.**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 2003

SIGNATURE

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO SANA AND MAIL IT TO:

Shoukat Ansari

Treasurer SANA

1213 LADERA COURT

DAVIS, CA 95616 USA

organization. She clarified that SANA was not a political organization and that its focus was on cultural and community activities.

This was followed by the collection of annual chapter membership fees. Adi Fouzia announced that the date and venue of the next meeting would be announced shortly.

The audience was also briefed about the new Internet group list called "WashingtonSindhis" that has been created to facilitate communication between the local Sindhis.

Being a potluck affair, the lunch consisted of at least 30 dishes including several types of curries, kabobs, and deserts. It was truly a feast of fine food and tasty treats. No fear of any excessive calories was going to slow down any one in consuming their full daily quota of calories. One could see fatty Sindhi men and slim Sindhi women, all enjoying the tasty food and great katchahary.

In addition to discussions on topics such as Thal canal, Kala Bagh dam, economic plight of Sindhis and other issues faced by Sindhis, several persons expressed concerns on the over-zealousness of some INS officials for ignoring US laws when dealing with American Muslims.

A suggestion was made that SANA should engage a legal firm on a retainer basis so that the Sindhis if faced with such issues from INS officials could immediately call for the legal help. A local attorney Mr. Papan Devnani addressed the gathering

saying that although the immigration and citizenship laws were not his specialty, he was going to investigate and advice on the best pr-cautionary steps at the next chapter meeting. Also, Dr. Ahuja was going to contact a local Sindhi attorney to seek her advice on the issue.

All in all, it was a wonderful function, splendidly planned, superbly organized, and very well attended. Every one joined in an enthusiastic note of appreciation to Adi Yasmeen Memon, Adi Nargis Shaikh, and Adi Fouzia Siddiqui for their efforts in making this afternoon so wonderful.

*Posted by Mr. Khalid Hashmani*

## **SANA Houston Chapter gathering**

A large number of Sindhi families and individuals attended a gathering in Houston on 11<sup>th</sup> January. The SANA local chapter arranged it.

The participants enthusiastically discussed the recent happenings in the USA as well as the current situation in Sindh. They were of the view that our people back home were not getting due share in the resources and the lack of democracy in the country was not conducive to find any solutions to the problems faced by common men.

On lighter side, the young and the old participated in games and enjoyed the event to the max. The organizers of the event presented various prizes and gifts to many participants. Some were congratulated for their wedding anniversaries and birthdays.

In the end, a delicious dinner was served to all. All the participants will remember it as a memorable evening. *(Please see photos on page 7)*

## **Washington Sindhis meet**

The third monthly discussion session of the Washington DC Sindhis was held at Oh's Place in Alexandria, Virginia on Saturday, April 19th from 1 PM to 3:30 PM. The session generated excellent ideas and was well attended. The participants included Badar Shaikh, Ali Nawaz Memon, Munawar Laghari, Zahid Shaikh, Shafik Siddiki, Khalid Hashmani, Aleem Brohi, and Ghulam Mohammad Memon.

The highlights of the session are as follows:

Khalid briefed on the responses that he had received to the letter that was sent on the behalf of the discussion group to World Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB) opposing any loans and grants in support of Kala Bagh dam and Thal canal. The group expressed satisfaction that the World Bank had stated that they had no immediate plans to support any large dams and canals in Pakistan where there was no consensus among Pakistan's provinces.

The participants were disappointed that ADB's responses were limited to only inquiring about more details about Washington Sindhis Discussion group. It was felt that ADB may be involved with the financing of Thal canal. It was recognized that there was a need to

escalate campaign by approaching other Sindhis individually and their organizations to write letters to ADB.

Mr. Ali Nawaz Memon explained the strategy and key objectives of the Sindh Development Institute (SDI). He explained that there are so many issues and problems faced by Sindhis that we need to work on multiple fronts. He added that the organizations such as SANA, WSI, and WSC are engaged on worthy fronts but there was very little being focused to work with domestic and international organizations for programs aimed at bringing economic development of Sindh. One of the root causes of poor economic conditions in Pakistan in general, and in particular in Sindh is due to the fact that Pakistan receives only \$4 per capita in investment dollars compare to \$40 for Thailand and \$ 1,760 for Singapore.

He said that initially, the goal of SDI was to focus on four projects: creating a web site where economic and development oriented material on Sindh would be accessible to any one interested; holding regular discussion sessions with decision makers and influentials, who could make difference to Sindh's economic conditions; creating an Internet list that will focus on Sindh's economic and development issues; and creating an "economic and development" library.

In this context, he mentioned that he had an excellent collection of books and other materials on Sindh. He offered to reserve a room in his house for those who

are interested in the economic well being of Sindh.

On the topic of "Sindhi library" in the Washington DC area, the proposed Latifi Center by a US-based Sindhi group headed by Dr. Mithal Vakassi and Dr. A.W. Bhatti was mentioned. Also, mentioned was the good news that the personal collection of valuable books and manuscripts of Mr. Hanif Siddiqui was on it's way to Washington DC, where his son, Shafik Siddiqui will be assuming the responsibility of the collection. There was an initiative underway to contact the Smithsonian institute to determine the possibility of organizing an exhibition of this valuable collection.

*Posted by Mr. Khalid Hashmani*

## **SANA Eastern Region Picnic**

SANA Eastern Region has arranged a picnic at Riverside Park, Piscataway in New Jersey on Saturday, May 17 2003, from 10:00 AM

All the families and individuals living in the area have been invited to attend the picnic.

Outdoor activities arranged at the picnic are cricket, volleyball, soccer, mini golf and many more.

## **Share the knowledge program**

SANA Education Committee Chairman has appealed the members of the community who may be planning a visit to Sindh and are willing to share their views

/ experience with students and faculty of any educational institution, to let the committee know about their program, so that it could be coordinated with some educational institution in Sindh.

The committee Chairman, Mr. Asim Riaz Kaghzi has said that a few hours thus spent by our valued community members would be a great investment in the future of our people.

He appealed the interested people to contact him at: [education@optonline.net](mailto:education@optonline.net)  
Or at his phone numbers:  
Res: 203.357.0255  
Off: 203.316.6792

## **A report by SANA Education Committee Chairman**

*By Mr. Asim Riaz Kaghzi,  
Chairman SANA Education Committee*

Here is the summary of events that took place during my visit to Sindh:

I conducted two lectures on "Higher Education in Europe", one in Hyderabad at Sindhi Language Authority and second one at Central Library, University of Sindh.

Mr. Noor Pitafi provided the material for lecture and I personally thank him for that.

The two lectures that I discussed during our [Education Committee's] last meeting could not be arranged because of conventional reasons: lack of interest on the part of Directors of Institute of Business

Administration and Mathematics and Computer Science.

Apart from lectures, I had the opportunity to meet Vice Chancellor, University of Sindh, Mr. Mazharul Haq Siddiqui, Chief Librarian, Dr Rafia and the Chairman of Sindhi Language Authority, Dr Qasim Bughio.

Dr. Rafia requested for financial help in getting the membership of various professional associations so that Library can get publications for free.

On the side note, I was shown new multimedia center at central library to be connected with fiber optics with internet via 1G bit connectivity, one of a kind in Pakistan.

Dr. Qasim Bughio took interest in our Concise English to English to Sindhi dictionary and also told us about various projects that are complete but can not go to press because of lack of funding. He requested for financial help in this respect also.

I also got the chance to look at new three volume English to English to Sindhi dictionary, an excellent work, but again lacks the "usage" feature that we are looking for.

Third thing that came up during a discussion that universities throw away old editions of books and lab equipment on discounted prices or at no cost, however that can be used at our universities (obviously because of lack of finances for new ones). University is ready to pay for transportation.

Therefore we have following projects at hand:

Membership of various professional associations for Central Library, University of Sindh.

Finance various projects already complete with Sindhi Language Authority.

Look into issue of old books and lab equipment to be shipped to University of Sindh.

Concise English to English to Sindhi dictionary.

Please let me know of your thoughts. I would request all members of the list to come forward in help financing these projects. with little help we can go a long way.

## **Kohsher takes over as moderator**

Kohsher Ahmed has taken over as moderator of the sanalist, the internet group managed by the Sindhi Association of North America, SANA.

## **Congratulations**

SANA Philadelphia chapter has congratulated Mrs. Knooj Bhugio and Mr. Atif Javed for the new addition of a baby girl in their family. The baby has been named KINZA.

## **UN Assn. Awards WSI**

The United Nations Association of the National Capital Area (UNA-NCA) has awarded the World Sindhi Institute (WSI) with the Blue Ribbon Community Award for Program Excellence in

Furthering the Ideals of the United Nations.

WSI's "Her Voices From Sindh" project, inspired by the United Nation's annual International Women's Day on March 8, was selected by the UNA-NCA committee to be awarded.

## **GM Syed remembered**

More than 200 Sindhi men, women and children gathered at Ramada Inn, Houston on 18<sup>th</sup> January to celebrate the 99<sup>th</sup> birthday of late GM Syed. Prominent community members from different parts of USA attended this event.

Syed Zia Shah, Chairman of the G. M. Syed Foundation, Mr. Sani Panwhar, President of Sindhi Association of North America (SANA), Mr. Iqbal Tareen, Mr. Aziz Narejo, Nasreen Tareen, also of SANA, Mr. Suhail Memon of Jeay Sindh Quomi Mahaz, Ms. Noornissa Ghangro of Pak American Solidarity Society were among the attendees.

## **US State Dept. apprised of plight of Sindhis**

The World Sindhi Institute (WSI) Executive Director Mr. Munawar Laghari, and WSI supporter Dr. Gul Agha met with U.S. State Department officials recently to discuss the plight of Sindh, Pakistan.

"It is extremely important that we help put Sindh on everyone's radar map," explained Dr. Agha, who is the Director of the Open Systems



Laboratory at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

A press release issued by the WSI said, "The American public and Government needs to know that there is a group of people in southern Pakistan that is committed to nonviolence, and not in full agreement with the Pakistani Government."

## YSA retreat

It has been notified on the net that this year's Young Sindhi Adults Retreat is taking place in Vancouver, Canada, from May 23 to May 26th. The registration information and other details can be checked at: ([http://www.youngsindhiadults.org/ysa\\_events.htm](http://www.youngsindhiadults.org/ysa_events.htm))

## Hemu Kalani honored

It has been posted on the net that an statue of Sindhi freedom



HEMU KALANI  
(1924-1943)

fighter, Shaheed Hemu Kalani, has been installed at the Indian Parliament House in New Delhi.

This has been described as an extraordinary occasion for Sindhis all over the world.

The installation of the nine feet tall bronze statue, mounted on an eight feet pedestal is the culmination of untiring efforts by Mr. Suresh Keswani, President of the Sindhi Council of India.

## Poet of 'Laar' passes away

Noted academician and poet of the 'Laar' (lower Sindh) Mohammad Khan Majidi, 85, passed away recently in Sujawal, his native town.

The people from all walks of life attended his funeral prayers. He was later buried at the Bukhari graveyard.

The octogenarian poet was born in 1918 in the Shadman Jatoli village, near Jhoke Sharif. He graduated from the Sindh Madressah Karachi by securing first class first position in the province. He taught for 35 years to primary school students and was a pioneer of the Primary Teachers' Association.

He was the author of Sindhri Aein Unn Joon Qaumoon (Sindh and its nations) and Mittee Muhinji Mittee Aahe (The soil is my soil).

## Karim Bakhsh Khalid passes away

Karim Bakhsh Khalid, a noted man of letters of Sindh, died of a heart failure here on Monday evening. He was 74. He is survived by his wife, four sons and six daughters.

## US immigration web sites

[www.immigration.gov/](http://www.immigration.gov/)  
[www.unitedstatesvisas.gov/](http://www.unitedstatesvisas.gov/)

## I bet ya' didn't know

By Ghulam Mohiuddin

1) In 1970, Diane Crump was the first woman to participate in the Kentucky Derby.

2) What do frogs have that toads do not? Teeth!

3) Pluto was discovered in 1930, and many feel this heralded the Depression, World War II, and the atom bomb.

4) Color most hospitals use in surgery recovery rooms? Mint green. Experts have found that mint green has a calming, balancing effect and it reduces eye strain.

5) The shortest term of office for a president was served by William Henry Harrison, who died in 1841 after only 31 days in office. James A. Garfield was a close second: In 1881, he died of a gunshot wound after only six months in office.

6) Samuel Adams, who organized the Boston Tea Party in 1773 to protest British taxes on the colonists, had been the Boston tax-collector in 1764.

7) The city of Woonsocket, Rhode Island, voted to call the circular metal covers in its streets "personholes" instead of "manholes."

8) Vera Czermak jumped out of her third-story widow when she learned her husband had betrayed her--- and survived. She landed on her husband, who was killed.

9) Kangaroos can hop as fast as 40 miles per hour.

10) Knitting's not for just grandmas anymore--it's one of the hippest Gen-X hobbies. Today 15% of knitters and crocheters are under 35, up from 3% in 1994.

پيرائيءَ جو پيءُ پرواري ٿوڻ ۾ آيو. "سلامليڪ" ڪيائين. "ادو گو 'سند' تهئي؟" پيءُ جو مطلب ڏيئي وڪڻڻ جو هو. سند ۾ سٿڻ جي اثاڻ، ڪيترن جا پڙ باسيل هئا. "نسل بادشاهه پير سڀ جي پڄاڻي." لالوءَ جي پيءُ پٽ ڏي ڏٺو، هجن جي ساول، آواز ٿڌو، ڏاڙهيءَ جا ڇڊا ڇڊا تنڀ به نڪتا هيس. به نئي ڄڻا بروهيءَ سان ٿڌجي ويا. بروهين جا ڪتا سنڌين جي ڏسي ڄڻا ٿي پيا. 'هو ها' سڄاڻي ڏنائون. پيرائي پٺيءَ اٿڪاڙي جنڊا حليل، ڀڄي وڃي ماءُ جي جهولي جي جهليائين لالوءَ جي پيءُ تيس هٿ لائي ڏنو.

پيرائيءَ جي پيءُ پڪاڻي ڪندي چيو، "ڊيرو (ڏهري) ناهي". ڪٿن پونڪ ڇڏي. ٿوڻ جي ٻاهرئين رستي تائين پونڪندا جوڙندا آيا. تين ٻاهر ڪڍي ڀڄ لوڏن لٽا ۽ بدن جي ڌوڻي تڙي پٽڙي ويا. هنن پنهنجو فرض پورو ڪيو. ٿوڻ جي ٻاهران "سند" روپين تي فيصلو ٿيو. اڄ بروهين تڏا پٽيا. مڏي ويڙهجي سيڙهجي، ڏاندن تي پئجي ويئي. ٻارڙن ٿوڻ جون ٽالهيون ٿي ڪيون. نڪر جون ۽ نڪر جي ٻيرن جون. لالوءَ جو ٿوڻ واٽ تي هو. پيرائيءَ جي ماءُ پيرائيءَ سان بلڪل لڳي ٿي هلي. پٿس به تيس آڏو ڏني هئي. "ابا هاڻي ٿوڻ ٿا هلون." پٿس ڪنڌ سان هائو ڪئي. سندس اندر ٽاڏو پيو هو. ماڻس محسوس ڪيو ته ڪا وڏي شيءِ ڇاتيءَ ۾ اٽڪي بيٺي آهي، جا ٻاهر نڪرڻ لاءِ اڏا پئي ڪاڻي. لالوءَ وارا اٽڪي بيٺا هئا. ماڻس مشين وانگر سند ڏئي پيرائيءَ جي هٿي ورتو ۽ ڇاتيءَ سان چنبڙايو. ماءُ ۽ ڌيءُ جون دليون ڌڪ ڌڪ ڪرڻ لڳيون. ماڻهو مڙي ويا. پٿس ڏڪندڙ هٿن سان پيرائيءَ جي ٻانهن تي ڇڏايو. ماءُ جو هنياءُ ڦسي پيو، آندو ويڃي پيا، دل دانن ڪئي، "اڙي منهنجو پيرائي ننڍڙو!" ڇوڪريءَ هنياءُ ڦاڙي دانن ڪئي. پٽي پڙگو ڏئي اڏاميا.

پٽ ۾ پيل پيرائيءَ جي لالوءَ جي پيءُ جهليو. پيرائيءَ جي پيءُ جي نڪ ۽ اٿين جو پاڻي سندس ڏاڙهيءَ مان ٿي نيمو ۽ ڦٽڪندڙ زال جي پئي جهليائين. لڏ رواني ٿي، پيرائيءَ اوباسين ۾ "ابا ۽ اما" پڪاريو. ماڻس جي تعليمندا ويا ۽ پري کان آواز ايندو رهيو، "او جي خدا، منهنجو پيرائي ننڍڙو! او نڪر ٻاهر لڳي، سندس وس، منهنجو پيرائي ننڍڙو!" هن وار پئي پٽيا.

ڦٽڪندڙ پيرائيءَ جي ٿمر هڻي ويا. هن بل پئي ٽاڏا، ڇڙهيون ٿي هنيون، پٽي پٽي ٿي ويئي. لالو جوڙندو شيون وٺي آيو. زور سان سندس وات ۾ مصري وڌائون جا اجهڪي سان نڪري آئي. ٻاراڻيءَ ڪچيءَ نڙيءَ مان ٿڌو آواز اچڻ لڳو، اوباسين ۽ سڏ ڪن ۾ پٽل، ٽٽل، "ابا... اما" ٿي نڪتس. ڪنهن تيس سڏ نه ڏنو. لالوءَ جي ٻاهر وٺي ويئي، ڪاٽي هڻي آيو. اٿيون ڦوٽاري ڇيائين، "بس ڪر نه ته ڪمند و سانءِ." مٽيءَ ۾ پيل پيرائيءَ سڄي رهيل طاقت سان ڇيخ ڪئي... ماڻي پاڻل پنهنجي ننڍڙي ڌيءُ جي چڪي ڇاتيءَ سان لاتو. ٻڪري ڪن اڀا ڪري بيڪاٽ ڪيو ۽ پنهنجي ڦر جي چٽن لڳي.

پيرائي اڄ به جيئري آهي، سندس هڪ پٽ پوليس وارو آهي ۽ ٻيو جيل ۾ آهي.

نه جاتان گنهن چيو آهي ته تتر پنڌ گند و آهي. نظم رقص گند و آهي. پر جمال جي ڪمائي، 'پيراڻي' پڙهي مون تي محسوس ٿيو ته تتر به رقص گند و آهي. هن جي 'پيراڻي' شروعات ۾ جن ڄم ڄم گندي اچي ٿي ۽ ٽمٽمرو ٿونجن ٿا. اوچتو هڪ چيخ فضا تي چيري ٿي ۽ ڪمائي ڪانجن ٽانجن تي رقص گندي نظر اچي ٿي. - شيخ اياز



ڪلاسڪ ڪمائي

جمال ابڙو

### پيراڻي

ٽڪر تان بروهين جي لڏ ٿي لٿي. سياري جي شروعات هئي. جابلو پٽن تان خشڪ هوا سنمڙيون پٿريون ٽهليون ٿي ويئي. به تي ڏاند هئا، جن تي سامان لڏيل هو. هڪ ان جنهن تي بانس جون لنيون ۽ ڏنڊا، سنڌ ۾ وڪري لاءِ تنيل هئا. پٺيان به ڪتا ڀڄ لوڏيندا پٽا ٿي آيا. مڙدن جا پير اٽڪاڙا، سٿيون ڦاٽل ۽ لنجيون. مٿن ۾ عاليشان ٽڪڙن وارا، پوت پريل ميرا ۽ تنڊا ٽوپ، وڏا وار، خشڪ، اٿيا ۽ چيڙهه پيل. زائفائن تي سمڙي ڪٽل پوت سان ڊٽا ٽمٽا. ڏاندن تي وڏا ٻورا رٿيل، جن ۾ ڏاس جا وٽيل رسا پيل. ننڍڙا ٻار ڏاندن تي چڙهيل، ماڻهن جي سنما لکڻ هٿ ۾ جن سان ڏاندن جي هڪليندا ٿي آيا ۽ سريلو "هي - مون" جو آواز پئي ڪيائون. شڪلين جا سمڙا ۽ شاندار بدن جي بيمڪ ناهوڪي.

هڪڙي هنڌ مانجهاند و ڪيائون. ٿوڌڙيءَ مان سڪل مانين جا ٽڪر سيني تي ملي ويا. ٻئي بجڪي مان سڪل ڏڏ جا اڇا ٽڪر ڪڍي، پاڻيءَ جي ڄمن ۾ وڌائون ۽ سيني به تي ڍڪ پريا. ننڍڙي نون سالن جي پيراڻيءَ چيو "سنڌ ۾ شيون توڙ ۽ سنيون سنيون." پٿس ٽوپ لاهي جوڻن هاڻو مٿو ڏنميو. ماڻس ڪهي ٿي ڏانمس نماريو. ٻين ٻارن جي آڏو منين منين شين جون خيالي قطارون ٽممي ويون. سنڌ ۾ ٻالال جي جهوپڙن ۾ ويٺا، ٻالال تي سمعيا ۽ ٻالال جا جوتا ناهي پاتائون. بانس جون لنيون ۽ ڏاسن جا رسا وڪيائون. ڪنڊيون ڪيائون ۽ ڪيئون ڪيائون.

سيارو ٽڌريو ۽ موٽڻ جا سانباها ٿيا. ٻارڙن جي شيون ڪونهليون. وڃڻ تان اڳ ۾ پيراڻيءَ جي پيءُ زال جي منهن ۾ ڏٺو. سندن اڳيان سڄي ۽ بد ڦري ويئي. جوڻس هيسجي پيراڻيءَ جي چوڌڙي تي ڏٺو، جو اڃا هاڻي ڌوئي وڌو هئائين. سندس خاموش بيوس اڳين ۾ انڪار ڪين هو!



For comments, inquiries, subscription, news and matter for publication,  
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