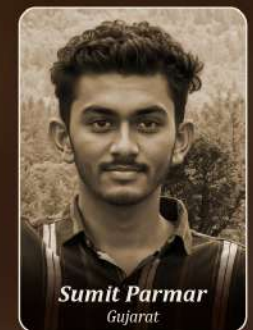
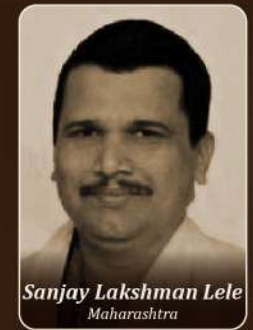
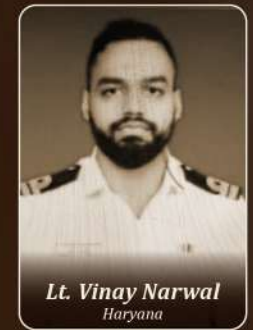
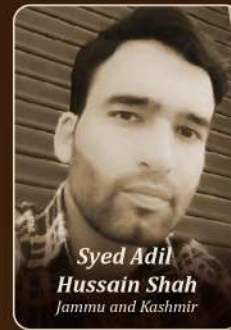




## Honoring Each Life Lost in Devastating **Pahalgam** **Terror Attack:** Remembering the Victims



APRIL 22, 2025





Gujarati Associations of North America  
&  
Consulate General of India, New York

# GUJARAT MAHARASHTRA DAY



In solidarity with the families impacted by the tragic loss in Pahalgam, India, the community has **cancelled** the Gujarat Maharashtra Day celebration.

**THURSDAY, MAY 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

We appreciate the overwhelming support and invite all of you to join our motherland in this time of mourning.

#### Partners



#### Supporters



#### Media Partners



# A Nation Mourns as Families Seek Closure After Tragic Attack

The serene valleys of Pahalgam, once known for their breathtaking beauty and tranquility, now stand as a solemn reminder of lives cut short in an act of senseless violence. Twenty-five Indian citizens and one Nepali national never returned from what was meant to be a journey of discovery and joy in the picturesque Kashmir valley.

Tuesday's attack has left a nation in mourning, with families across India grappling with the sudden, incomprehensible loss of their loved ones. In countless homes, there are now empty chairs at dinner tables, voices that will never again be heard, and memories that must now substitute for futures that will never unfold.

"He was so excited about this trip," shared the sister of one victim, her voice breaking with emotion. "He sent us pictures of the mountains just hours before... he said it was the most beautiful place he had ever seen."

The victims came from diverse backgrounds, teachers, engineers, doctors, students, and retirees, all united in their love for travel and appreciation of Kashmir's natural splendor. They were mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, friends and colleagues whose absence leaves an irreparable void in the lives of those who knew and loved them.

In Dombivali near Mumbai, heart-wrenching scenes unfolded as the wife of Atul Mone received her husband's body. Her silent tears spoke volumes about the personal tragedies behind the headlines. Similar scenes of grief played out across the country as communities came together to support bereaved families.

The attack has sparked an outpouring of solidarity from Kashmiris them-

selves, who have taken to the streets to condemn the violence. "These were our guests," said Umar Nazir Tibtbaqan, a local resident who joined protests. "In our culture, guests are sacred. We feel this pain deeply and stand with the victims' families in their hour of grief."

Memorial services across India have become gatherings of collective mourning, where strangers join hands to honor those lost. In Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, and countless other cities, candles flicker in the night as silent tributes to lives abruptly ended.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed the nation's anguish: "Each life lost is a national tragedy. We embrace the families of our brothers and sisters in their darkest hour and promise that their loved ones will not be forgotten."

The tragedy has particularly resonated with India's tourism community. "They were simply people seeking beauty and peace," said a tour operator who had guided visitors through Pahalgam for decades. "That such violence could find them in one of nature's most peaceful sanctuaries is beyond comprehension."

As funeral pyres burn across the country, the nation grapples not only with grief but with the responsibility to ensure such a tragedy never recurs. The most fitting memorial to those lost might be a renewed commitment to peace in a region that has seen too much suffering.

For now, families keep vigil with photographs, personal belongings, and memories of those who will never return from Pahalgam's valleys. In their honor, the nation pauses, remembers, and pledges never to forget.



PAHALGAM TERROR ATTACK

Only son, just 26:  
**Newly-wed navy officer from Haryana killed in Jammu-Kashmir attack**



PAHALGAM TERROR ATTACK

'Killer had camera strapped to head, filmed hubby's death'



PAHALGAM TERROR ATTACK

Unaware of newly-wed navy officer's death, mother distributes sweets in Karnal



TOI

PAHALGAM TERROR ATTACK

Visa issue in planned Europe trip led navy officer to Pahalgam; terror attack cut honeymoon short



TOI

PAHALGAM TERROR ATTACK

'I called him *bhaiya*, he asked about religion, shot him seconds later'

Pahalgam victim Shubham Dwivedi's wife bids him farewell wearing his shirt




PAHALGAM TERROR ATTACK

'My husband fell before me with blood flowing from his head'  
CIPET accountant from Odisha killed in J-K attack


Source: TOI

# President Trump and Congressional leaders condemned Pahalgam attack, Pledge for counter terrorism Assistance



Donald J. Trump

@realDonaldTrump · 5d



Deeply disturbing news out of Kashmir. The United States stands strong with India against Terrorism. We pray for the souls of those lost, and for the recovery of the injured. Prime Minister Modi, and the incredible people of India, have our full support and deepest sympathies. Our hearts are with you all!

2.47k

7.3k

35.3k



JD Vance

@JDVance · Follow

Usha and I extend our condolences to the victims of the devastating terrorist attack in Pahalgam, India. Over the past few days, we have been overcome with the beauty of this country and its people. Our thoughts and prayers are with them as they mourn this horrific attack.



Narendra Modi

@narendramodi

I strongly condemn the terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir. Condolences to those who have lost their loved ones. I pray that the injured recover at the earliest. All possible assistance is being provided to those affected.

Those behind this heinous act will be brought

9:21 PM · Apr 22, 2025

96.4K

Reply

Copy link

Read 2.9K replies



FBI Director Kash Patel

@FBIDirectorKash

The FBI sends our condolences to all the victims of the recent terrorist attack in Kashmir — and will continue offering our full support to the Indian government.

This is a reminder of the constant threats our world faces from the evils of terrorism. Pray for those affected. Thank you to the men and women of law enforcement who answer the call in moments like these.

4:01 AM · Apr 27, 2025 · 69.9K Views



DNI Tulsi Gabbard

@DNIGabbard

We stand in solidarity with India in the wake of the horrific Islamist terrorist attack, targeting and killing 26 Hindus in Pahalgam. My prayers and deepest sympathies are with those who lost a loved one, PM @narendramodi, and with all the people of India. We are with you and support you as you hunt down those responsible for this heinous attack.

6:34 PM · Apr 25, 2025 · 3.1M Views

3.3K

25K

102K

2.1K



House Foreign Affairs Committee Majority

@HouseForeignGOP · Follow

Hey, @nytimes we fixed it for you. This was a TERRORIST ATTACK plain and simple.

Whether it's India or Israel, when it comes to TERRORISM the NYT is removed from reality.

The New York Times

At Least 24 Tourists Gunned Down by Militants in Kashmir

TERRORISTS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India called the shooting the worst against civilians in the region for years, a "terror attack" and vowed to bring the perpetrators to justice.

Last edited 6:17 AM · Apr 23, 2025

28.9K

Reply

Copy link

Read 797 replies

The House Foreign Affairs Committee criticized media coverage by NYT for inaccurately portraying the nature of the attack.

# Indian American Community Holds Vigil for Pahalgam Attack Victims in NJ

In a powerful display of unity and solidarity, more than 35 Indian organizations gathered for a prayer service and candlelight vigil in Edison, New Jersey on April 27th, 2025. The solemn event, held at the Indian market near Edison Cinema, brought community members together to honor victims of a recent terrorist attack in Indian-administered Kashmir that claimed 26 lives.

The vigil began at 5 PM with prayers led by an Iskcon priest, invited by event organizer Smita Gandhi. Participants expressed their grief and solidarity by holding pledge cards and banners, initially chanting "Bharat Mata Ki Jay" and "Vande Mātaram" before Edison Police requested they maintain a silent vigil.

jured in the attack. He emphasized the



*Edison Mayor Sam Joshi addressing the gathering*

suffering caused by such acts of terror and called for an end to cross-border terrorism. Mayor Joshi encouraged attendees to keep the victims in their hearts and prayers.



*Suresh Patel-President FISANA & Team at the event*

FISANA Chairman Piyush Patel expressed the deep sorrow felt by Indian-American seniors, particularly condemning what he described as a cruel attack primarily targeting Hindus. FISANA President Suresh Patel, joined by presidents from 20 other senior organizations, delivered emotional speeches denouncing the violence.

Local political leaders also offered support. Assemblyman Rob Karabinchak spoke at the event, while Congressman Frank Pallone and Assemblyman Sterley Stanley sent messages of condolence and solidarity.



*FIA Chairman Ankur, alongside FIA President Saurin Parikh, expresses outrage over the terrorist attack during the community vigil gathering*

FIA Chairman Ankur Vaidya expressed heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims, condemning the targeted killing of 26 innocent Indian men as a barbaric act of terrorism. He denounced the attackers and their supporters, calling them cowardly and biased, and affirmed unwavering support for India during this challenging time.

Vaidya urged American and Indian lawmakers, across party lines, to unite in pursuit of swift and decisive justice for the perpetrators. He also appealed to President Trump and the U.S. government to stand in solidarity with India and demonstrate strength in response to this tragedy.

Numerous community leaders participated, including Dr. Mukund Thakar (FISANA Vice Chairman), Bimal Joshi (Former EDO Chairman), representatives from BJP New Jersey, Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh USA, Hindu CoHNA, SVAJAN, and many other Hindu and Indian-American organizations.




*Shri Vishal J Harsh, Deputy Consul General of India, Indian Consulate of NY*

Mr. Vishal J Harsh, Deputy Consul General of India in New York, addressed the gathering, stating that the Indian government was pursuing "every terrorist and their backers" responsible for the attack. He noted that India had implemented several measures in response, including closing its border with Pakistan and restricting special visa programs, despite Pakistan's denial of involvement in the incident.


Edison Mayor Samip "Sam" Joshi spoke passionately about his sadness for the innocent victims and those in-

We stand in deep sorrow and unwavering solidarity with the families affected by the tragic Pahalgam terrorist attack. Your pain is unimaginable, and your loss is the whole humanity loss. We honor the victims' memories with profound respect and pray for strength, peace, and justice.




- **Anil Bansal**  
**Board Member, FIA NY-NJ-CT-NE**

BSOU joins all Global Communities and Nations in strongly condemning the most heinous act of terrorists killing 28 innocent Hindu Tourists at Pahalgam on April 22. We wholeheartedly support PM Mody and the GOI to take all measures to deal with these terrorists and their supporters. Our religion says it protects those who protect their Religion.




- **Chandrakant Trivedi**  
**FIA Honoree**

We are deeply saddened and outraged by the tragic terrorist attack in Pahalgam. Our hearts ache for the innocent lives lost by this senseless violence. We extend our deepest condolences to the families and we stand in solidarity with the people of India and all those affected, offering our unwavering support and prayers.




- **Dr. Tushar B. Patel**  
**President - HCNJ, President - IACFNI**

The terrorist attack on innocent tourists in Pahalgam brutally targeted Hindus, Hindustan, and Humanity. Every civilized entity condemns this unforgivable act. It's time for Bharat to deliver justice to terrorism's perpetrators wherever they hide. My heartfelt tributes to all departed souls.




- **Kamlesh Mehta**  
**Chairman, Forsythe Multimedia Group, LLC**

**Condemnation and Prayers for Pahalgam**  
We strongly condemn the terrorist attack in Pahalgam. Our heartfelt condolences go to the victims and their families. We pray for the swift recovery of the injured. We call on the global community to unite against terrorism and strive for a safer, more peaceful world for all.




- **Kenny Desai**  
**Board Member, FIA NY-NJ-CT-NE**

The whole world is shocked by terrorists' inhumane deadly attack on tourists at Pahalgam. I join the whole world in condemning this barbaric attack and join the Government of India's all strong actions to punish the terrorists and their supporters. Let all of us unite and support PM Modi in his mission to remove terrorism Globally.




- **Mahesh Dubal**  
**Joint Secretary, FIA NY-NJ-CT-NE**

We're heartbroken by the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Kashmir. This senseless violence has stolen innocent lives and caused immeasurable suffering. Words cannot ease the pain of losing loved ones. We stand with those grieving. Violence must never silence humanity. Peace must prevail over cruelty.




- **Priti Ray-Patel**  
**Vice President, FIA NY-NJ-CT-NE**

We strongly condemn the cowardly attack in Pahalgam. The brutal attack in Pahalgam is a dark reminder that terror knows no boundaries. We mourn the victims, honor their memories, and vow never to bow to fear. No cause justifies the slaughter of innocents.




- **Smita Miki Patel**  
**Executive Vice President, FIA NY-NJ-CT-NE**

I condemn this heinous terrorist act in India. Perpetrators must face maximum punishment under law. The world mourns this tragedy together. My deepest condolences to victims' families from Pahalgam. May lost souls rest eternally, and families find strength during this unbearable time. Om Shanti.



- **Sudhir Vaishnav, President & CEO**  
**New Age Communications and Marketing**

We grieve with the families affected by the tragic Pahalgam attack. As a Hindu clergy and interfaith leader, I condemn this violence and pray for peace. May the departed souls find eternal rest, and may unity, compassion, and resilience prevail over hatred. We stand in solidarity against terrorism.



- **Falguni Pandya**  
**Indian-American community Leader**

It was heartbreaking to witness such cowardly acts of violence and terrorism against innocent Hindu tourists. However, it was uplifting to see the India-American community come together so strongly in support of the victims across the United States. These gatherings serve as a reminder that, no matter where we are, we stand united against terrorism and injustice.

On behalf of the FIA Executive Committee, I strongly condemn this act of terrorism and extend our full support to the Government of India in taking robust action against the perpetrators and their supporters.

May God grant strength to the families of the lost souls. Om Shanti.



- Saurin Parikh  
President, FIA NY-NJ-CT-NE



**Embassy of India**  
Washington DC

# Candlelight Vigil

**In the memory of the victims of the  
Pahalgam Terror Attack**

**Sunday, 04 May 2025  
02:00pm - 04:00pm**

**India House  
2700 Macomb St NW  
Washington, DC 20008**





Dear Members and Friends,

It is with profound sorrow and heavy hearts that we address the tragic terrorist attack in Pehelgam, Kashmir, which claimed the lives of 29 innocent visitors. This heinous act of violence is a reminder of the senseless loss that terrorism brings to our communities and our country.

We condemn this attack in the strongest possible terms and call upon the Indian government to take strict and immediate action against those responsible for such atrocities. It is imperative that we work together to ensure the safety and security of our citizens, and to restore peace in our beloved nation.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims during this incredibly difficult time. We pray for the souls of those lost in this tragedy, asking for utmost peace to be bestowed upon them. May God grant strength and solace to their families as they navigate their grief.

We also urge our fellow citizens and organizations to come together in support of those directly affected by this attack. Financial assistance and support can provide much-needed relief to the families who have faced unimaginable loss.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to the Federation of Indian Associations for taking the lead in addressing this tragic incident and sending a message to the Prime Minister's office in Delhi.

Together, as a united community, we can help bring about change and advocate for a peaceful and secure future for all. With deepest condolences and unwavering solidarity,

**Atul Shah**  
Ex-Chairman

**Kiran Dalal**  
President

**Pradip Acharya**  
Ex Chairman

**Sanjay Trivedi**  
Vice president

**Raj Shah**  
Chairman

**Indo-American Pharmaceutical Society (IAPS)**

**SHREE BHAKTINIDHI INC-PARLIN,NJ,USA****Condemnatory Message from Bhakti Nidhi Trust / Dwarkadhish Temple****Date: 04/28/2025****To Our Esteemed Community,**

We, at the Bhakti Nidhi Trust and Dwarkadhish Temple, extend our deepest Condolences and heartfelt prayers to the victims and families affected by the tragic terrorist attack in Kashmir, India. Such acts of violence are a profound affront to humanity and the values we hold dear - peace, harmony, and respect for life.

The senseless loss of innocent lives reminds us of the ongoing struggles faced by many in regions beset by violence and conflict. We unequivocally condemn this act of terrorism and stand in solidarity with the victims, their families, and the people of Kashmir during this difficult time.

Our faith teaches us to advocate for love, compassion, and understanding. In moments like these, it is crucial that we come together as a community, offering support and spreading messages of peace. Let us pray for the souls of the departed and for healing in our world.

We encourage our community to remain vigilant and united, promoting dialogue and cooperation in the face of such adversities. Together, we can contribute to a world where violence has no place.

In devotion and solidarity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Pankaj Sheth'.

**Pankaj Sheth****Chairman****Bhakti Nidhi Trust / Dwarkadhish Temple**



**April 28, 2025**

**Dear Members of the Indian Community and Friends,**

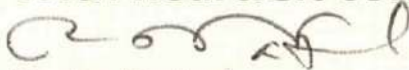
**We stand united in profound sorrow and solidarity in the wake of the tragic terrorist attack in Pehalgam, Kashmir. Our hearts go out to the victims, their families, and all those affected Kashmiris by this senseless act of violence. Such atrocities not only claim innocent lives but also tear at the fabric of our shared humanity.**

**We call upon the Indian government to take decisive and immediate action to ensure the safety and security of all citizens. It is imperative that measures are implemented to prevent such heinous acts in the future and to foster an environment of peace and stability in the region.**

**As we mourn together, let us also commit to advocating for justice and resilience. Our strength lies in our unity, and we must remain steadfast in our efforts to support those impacted by these tragic events.**

**Remember in memories of all those who are victim of this genocide that "Only Humans Have No Religion, Terrorists Do".**

**With heartfelt condolences,**

  
**Raju Patel**

 **President**

**Non-Profit Organization**  
**Reg. No. : 22-3348528**



**JAI - SHREE KRISHNA**  
**GOVINDA SANSKAR CENTER**

**783 NEWARK AVENUE**  
**JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY 07306**  
**TEL: (201) 659-7600**

---

April 28, 2025

Dear Members of the Indian Community and Friends,

We stand united in profound sorrow and solidarity in the wake of the tragic terrorist attack in Pehalgam, Kashmir. Our hearts go out to the victims, their families, and all those affected Kashmiris by this senseless act of violence. Such atrocities not only claim innocent lives but also tear at the fabric of our shared humanity.

We call upon the Indian government to take decisive and immediate action to ensure the safety and security of all citizens. It is imperative that measures are implemented to prevent such heinous acts in the future and to foster an environment of peace and stability in the region.

As we mourn together, let us also commit to advocating for justice and resilience. Our strength lies in our unity, and we must remain steadfast in our efforts to support those impacted by these tragic events. Remember in memories of all those who are victim of this genocide that "Only Humans Have No Religion, Terrorists Do".

With heartfelt condolences,

Jagdish Patel  
Secretary

# Global Protests Erupt Following Deadly Pahalgam Attack

## International Communities Rally for Justice as Tensions Rise Between India and Pakistan

Indian communities worldwide have mobilized in massive demonstrations against the terrorist attack in Pahalgam that claimed 26 lives. Protesters gathered across North America and Europe, including Canada, Denmark, the UK, France, Finland, Germany, Spain, and the United States, displaying Indian flags and demanding justice for the victims.

The demonstrations intensified as evidence emerged linking the attack to Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba, escalating tensions between the two nations. In Paris, protesters emphasized this wasn't their first encounter with Pakistan-linked terrorism, citing previous attacks in Pulwama and Mumbai.

London protesters expressed solidarity with victims' families while hoping "the Indian government gives a reply to Pakistan in a language they understand." In Washington, a Kashmiri Pandit woman shared her personal connection to the tragedy, recalling her grandfather's targeted killing and how the recent attack "brought back

a lot of nightmares."

Reports indicate the terrorists specifically targeted Hindu victims in Baisaran valley, asking about religious affiliations before executing those who identified as Hindu.

India has responded with severe diplomatic measures, including expelling Pakistani military attachés, suspending the Indus Waters Treaty,

and closing the Attari border crossing. Pakistan retaliated by suspending all bilateral agreements, including the historic Simla Agreement.

Authorities have released sketches of three suspects two Pakistani nationals and one local resident with a ₹20 lakh reward for information leading to their arrest.



Source: Hindustan Times



Source: CNN

# President Murmu Pays Respects at Pope Francis's Vatican Funeral

## Indian Delegation Joins World Leaders to Honor Late Pontiff

President Droupadi Murmu represented India at Pope Francis's state funeral held at Saint Peter's Square in Vatican City on Saturday, April 26. The President was accompanied by Union Minister Kiren Rijju, Minister of State George Kurian, and Goa Assembly Deputy Speaker Joshua De Souza as part of India's official delegation.

The funeral drew representatives from approximately 130 foreign delegations, including 50 heads of state and 10 reigning monarchs, highlighting the global impact of Pope Francis's ministry. The 88-year-old pontiff passed away on April 21, leaving be-

hind a legacy of compassion and humility.

Following the Pope's death, Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed deep condolences to the global Catholic community, describing the late

Pope as "a beacon of compassion, humility and spiritual courage." The Prime Minister recalled his personal meetings with Pope Francis and praised his dedication to inclusive development and service to the poor.

"His affection for the people of India will always be cherished," Modi stated, acknowledging the strong relationship the Pope maintained with India throughout his papacy. President Murmu's attendance at the funeral served to formalize India's respect and condolences to both the Vatican and Catholics worldwide during this period of mourning.



Source: hindustantimes

# Fundraiser Launched for Family of IT Professional Killed in Pahalgam Attack

## Florida-Based Indian Techie Among 26 Civilians Killed

Friends of Bitan Adhikary, a Florida-based IT professional killed in a terror attack in Kashmir's Pahalgam region, have launched a GoFundMe campaign seeking \$300,000 to support his grieving wife, three-year-old son, and elderly parents.

Adhikary was among 26 civilians killed on April 22 when terrorists opened fire in the popular meadow of Baisaran in Pahalgam. He had been vacationing in India with his family when the tragedy occurred. His wife and son survived the attack.

"He was a beloved member of our community and his loss has left a hole in the hearts of all who

knew him," the campaign statement reads. "Bitan was known for his cheerful nature, kindness, and generosity."

Friends describe Adhikary as the sole breadwinner responsible for supporting not only his young family but

also his aging parents in India. "They are now facing the financial burdens of his ongoing mortgage, auto loan, and other unexpected costs," organizers explained.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressed condolences on social media, stating she had spoken with Adhikary's wife and assured her that the government was taking steps to return his remains to Kolkata.

Rev Sports Global noted that Adhikary regularly participated in their T20 World Cup events, underscoring the community connections severed by his untimely death.



Source: The EchoFacebook

# AAHOA Celebrates Successful AAHOACON25 in New Orleans

New Orleans, LA — The 2025 AAHOA Convention & Trade Show (AAHOACON25), held at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center from April 15-17, 2025, brought together over 5,000 attendees, nearly 500 exhibitors, and countless industry leaders under the theme "New Ideas, New Connections, New Orleans."

The vibrant three-day convention showcased the energy, innovation, and spirit that defines AAHOA and its membership. Through keynote presentations, educational sessions, networking opportunities, and a bustling trade show, AAHOACON25 delivered a platform for hospitality professionals to connect, learn, and grow.

"AAHOACON25 reaffirmed why AAHOA remains at the forefront of shaping the future of the hospitality industry," said Kamalesh (KP) Patel, AAHOA Chairman. "The convention provided an invaluable opportunity for our members to discover new solutions, build meaningful relationships, and strengthen the collective voice of hotel owners across America."



Kamalesh (KP) Patel, Chairman-AAHOA



Highlights from the successful convention included:

- Inspiring keynote addresses from Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and Rohan Oza.
- Major announcements include the launch of AAHOA Marketplace, AAHOALending.com, and the AAHOA Advocacy Council.
- Industry leadership insights from panels featuring hospitality CEOs and innovators.
- Groundbreaking initiatives like HerOwnership and the HYPE 35 Under 35 Awards, celebrating women and young professionals in the industry.
- The energy of the Trade Show, The Garage immersive experiences, and signature events like the Block Party at Fulton Street.

The convention also featured the introduction of AAHOA's new leadership team, including Chairman Kamalesh (KP) Patel, newly elected Sec-

retary Vimal (Ricky) Patel, and board members who will guide the organization's strategic initiatives in the coming year.

"The success of AAHOACON25 demonstrates the resilience, innovation, and collaborative spirit of our membership," noted an AAHOA spokesperson. "We're already looking ahead to building on this momentum and creating even more value for our members in the future.", TV9 USA proudly served as the official media partner for the event, "Our team is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to partner with AA HOA in New Orleans," said Sreekanth Akkapalli, CEO of TV9 USA. "

As the largest hotel owners association in the world, AAHOA continues its mission to advance and protect the business interests of hotel owners through advocacy, industry leadership, professional development, member benefits, and community engagement.



Vimal (Ricky) Patel  
Secretary-AAHOHA



# Vance-Modi Summit Strengthens US-India Strategic Partnership

## Four-Day Visit Highlights Defense and Trade Cooperation

Vice President J.D. Vance and Second Lady Usha Vance, accompanied by their three children, concluded a productive four-day tour of India, meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi to advance bilateral relations. Modi emphasized the "fast-paced progress" following his January meeting with President Trump, underscoring their mutual commitment to cooperation in trade, technology, defense, and energy sectors.

The leaders conducted a comprehensive review of ongoing collaborations and exchanged perspectives on regional issues, with both emphasizing dialogue and diplomacy. Modi conveyed warm greetings to President Trump and expressed anticipation for his upcoming India visit for The Quad meeting.



Source: News18

The Vance family began their journey at Delhi's Akshardham Temple, spending 55 minutes exploring its architecture and offering prayers for

world peace. Their itinerary included visits to Jaipur and Agra, with Vance receiving a ceremonial Guard of Honor.

In Jaipur, Vance praised India's "laser-like focus on the future" while noting the rich historical traditions. He suggested increased defense cooperation, including potential F-35 fighter jet purchases from Lockheed Martin. Trade discussions remain significant with bilateral exchange reaching \$129 billion in 2024, as Trump's 90-day tariff hold presents an opportunity for a potential agreement despite his previous characterization of India as a "tariff king."

Modi tweeted that the "India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership will be defining partnership of the 21st Century for a better future of our people and the world."

# Community Gathers to Honor FSU Shooting Victim Tiru Chabba

## Over 200 Attend Hindu Funeral Service for Aramark Executive



Source: CNN

More than 200 mourners assembled at Mackey Funerals and Cremations at Woodlawn Memorial Park to celebrate the life of Tiru Chabba, a 45-year-old husband and father of two who was killed in the recent mass shooting at Florida State University on April 17.

The solemn Hindu funeral service lasted approximately one hour, followed by a final cremation ceremony. Attendees shared tears and embraces while honoring the Greenville resident who had been working as a vendor on campus when the tragedy occurred.

Chabba served as regional vice president for Aramark Collegiate Hospitality, having dedicated 22 years to the company after starting as a student manager. He was shot alongside

university dining worker Robert Morales, with six others injured during the attack. Twenty-year-old FSU student Phoenix Ikner was identified by police as the suspected shooter.

Jim Bannister, one of the attorneys representing Chabba's family, attended but declined to comment. The family's legal team, which includes civil rights attorney Baraki Seller, released a statement highlighting Chabba's legacy as "a loving husband, a doting father of two young children, a beloved son, brother and friend whose life was tragically cut short."

The statement expressed gratitude for community support while requesting privacy as the family processes their profound loss, particularly acknowledging Aramark colleagues whose "kindness and presence have meant so much."

# Warner Music Partners with Anjula Acharia to Launch South Asian Music Lable

## 5 Junction Aims to Elevate Cross-Cultural Artists in American Market

**W**arner Music Group has established a strategic partnership with cross-cultural entrepreneur Anjula Acharia to create 5 Junction, a specialized label dedicated to breaking American artists of South Asian heritage and promoting talent from the Indian subcontinent in the competitive US market.

Acharia, renowned for co-founding Desi Hits! and managing global superstar Priyanka Chopra Jonas, has consistently championed South Asian representation throughout the entertainment industry. "South Asian artists have long been underrepresented in the global music industry, especially in the U.S.," she stated. "With 5 Junction, we hope to create

a platform where these artists can thrive, tell their stories, and connect with audiences worldwide."

This initiative builds upon Warner

Music's previous effort with 91NORTH RECORDS, a collaboration between Warner Music Canada and Warner Music India guided by producer Ikky Singh. That label has already achieved success by signing Canadian-based Punjabi artist Karan Aujla and Jonita Gandhi.

Industry analysts view 5 Junction as both timely and necessary, responding to the growing cultural influence of the South Asian diaspora. From a business perspective, the label offers strategic advantages as streaming platforms eliminate geographical barriers, allowing artists to gain international recognition without relocating. For Acharia, 5 Junction represents her most significant platform yet for reshaping music industry representation.



Source: FIA NY-NJ-CT-NE

# Tech Staffing Firm Owner Sentenced for H-1B Visa Fraud

## Indian American Executive Receives 14-Month Federal Prison Term

**K**ishore Dattapuram, a 55-year-old Indian American from Santa Clara, has been sentenced to 14 months in federal prison for orchestrating a sophisticated visa fraud scheme through his San Jose-based technology staffing company, Nanosemantics Inc. The U.S. District Court also imposed three years of supervised release, forfeiture of \$125,456.48, a \$7,500 fine, and a \$1,100 special assessment fee.

Dattapuram was indicted in February 2019 alongside two co-defendants on one count of conspiracy to commit visa fraud and 10 counts of substantive visa fraud. He pleaded guilty to all charges in November

2024, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of California.

As co-owner of Nanosemantics, Dattapuram regularly submitted fraudulent H-1B visa petitions for foreign workers, falsely claiming they had specific jobs awaiting them at design-

nated end-client companies when no such positions existed. He even paid companies to be listed as end-clients though he knew workers would never be employed there.

The scheme's purpose was to obtain visas for job candidates before securing actual employment, allowing immediate placement when positions became available rather than waiting for visa processing. This strategy gave Nanosemantics an unfair competitive advantage in the technology staffing industry, where speed of placement is crucial.

The case highlights ongoing scrutiny of H-1B visa program abuses within the technology sector.



Source: The Economic Times

# *Shraddhanyali*



Late Smt.  
**Shobhnaben Parikh**

Passed Away on April 29, 2025

With Deepest Sympathy

The FIA Fraternity deeply mourns the passing of Shobhnaben Parikh  
Resident of Baroda, Gujarat, India.  
Our heartfelt condolences go out to the grieving family.

Krina and Srujal Parikh (FIA Board Member)  
Vaishali and Saurin Parikh (FIA President 2025)

## Om Shanti





FEDERATION OF INDIAN ASSOCIATIONS FIA-NY-NJ-CT-NE

# INDEPENDENCE GRAND *Gala*

Celebrating Unity, Culture & Freedom Together

**CIPRIANI WALL STREET**

Grand Ballroom 55 Wall St, New York, NY 10005



**SUNDAY, AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 | 6:00 PM TO 10:00 PM**

Celebrities | Singers  
Raffle | Entertainment  
Best Dress Price  
Cocktails | Dinner



Indian Festival  
Traditional

Join Zero Food Waste  
Mission by FIA to make  
every meal count towards  
A Sustainable Future!

[www.fianyjnct.org](http://www.fianyjnct.org) | [info@fianyjnct.org](mailto:info@fianyjnct.org)

# SAVE THE DATE



## Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah

A Global Initiative for  
Universal Well-Being

# 43<sup>rd</sup>

THE WORLD'S LARGEST  
INDIA DAY PARADE

SUNDAY AUGUST 17<sup>th</sup> 2025

MADISON AVENUE, NYC



**FEDERATION OF INDIAN ASSOCIATIONS-FIA**  
NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY-NEW ENGLAND

Contact us:

For sponsorship: 848-248-0707, 516-652-7862, 732-325-7891

For Float: 718-795-7388 | For Booth: 732-600-4971

[info@fianynjct.org](mailto:info@fianynjct.org) | [www.fianynjct.org](http://www.fianynjct.org)

# THE FORTNIGHT THAT WAS

## India Addresses US Student Visa Revocations MEA Offers Support as Trump Administration Tightens Immigration Enforcement

India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has confirmed it is investigating reports of F-1 visa revocations affecting Indian students in the United States. "We are aware that several Indian students have received communication from the U.S. government regarding their F-1 visa status," spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated at a weekly briefing on April 17.

This marks a shift from the MEA's previous stance that simply advised Indian nationals to comply with local laws. The Trump administration's immigration crackdown has resulted in numerous visa cancellations, some reportedly connected to protest participation or minor violations like traffic infractions.

Among those affected is Chinmay Deore, a Wayne State University student who, with three other international students and support from the American Civil Liberties Union, has petitioned for restoration of his visa status. In Wisconsin, another Indian student, Krish Isserdasani, recently received a court-ordered stay of deportation.

The MEA confirmed that Indian diplomatic missions in the US are maintaining contact with affected students and providing guidance on legal options. US data indicates a nearly 30 percent decline in F-1 visas issued to Indian applicants in February 2025 compared to the previous year.



Source: FIA NY-NJ-CT-NE

## Federal Court Orders Reinstatement of International Students' SEVIS Records Temporary Restraining Order Halts Deportation of 133 Students, Many Indian

A federal judge has temporarily blocked the deportation of 133 international students, including many Indians, and ordered the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to restore their student immigration records following sudden terminations that left them legally vulnerable.

In a sweeping temporary restraining order issued April 23, U.S. District Court Judge Jane Beckering directed DHS officials to "set aside the F-1 student record termination decisions" and "restore each Plaintiff's F-1 student record in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), retroactive to the date of termina-

tion," which was March 31, 2025.

The order prohibits the government from initiating removal proceedings, arresting, detaining, or transferring students without providing adequate notice to the court and plaintiffs' counsel. Judge Beckering emphasized that future SEVIS terminations must adhere to constitutional

and statutory rights.

Lead plaintiff Chinmay Deore, a 21-year-old Indian student at a Michigan public university, stated in an affidavit: "We received no prior notice. One day we were legal students, the next day we were facing deportation." Another affected student, Krish Lal Isserdasani from the University of

Wisconsin-Madison, discovered his visa had been cancelled just four weeks before graduation.

The restraining order remains effective for 14 days and may be extended if necessary or if defendants agree. Students have been instructed to provide copies of the court's order to their educational institutions.



Source: Times of India

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Indian American Educator Receives NYC Service Recognition

### Former AmeriCorps Member Honored for Literacy Initiative in Underserved Communities

**N**YC Mayor Eric Adams recognized exceptional volunteers at the 2025 Mayoral Service Recognition Ceremony held at Gracie Mansion on April 22. Among the five recipients of the prestigious Mayoral Service Impact Awards was Indian American Rina Madhani, who received the AmeriCorps Alum Impact Award.

Madhani, a Bronx native, was honored for her commitment to addressing literacy challenges in underserved New York City communities. During her AmeriCorps VISTA service, she identified significant gaps in literacy resources across the city, which inspired her to establish Start Light-house.

Her organization's Literacy Hub initiative now serves 2,100 students in underserved communities, including

P.S. 214. The program provides books alongside comprehensive literacy programming, including daily literacy lessons, author workshops, family engagement activities, and mentorship opportunities aimed at improving academic performance.

"AmeriCorps didn't just shape my career path, it shaped my purpose," Madhani said of her experience.

This year's awards program received a record-breaking 164 nominations. Following committee review and public voting that engaged over 2,200 individuals, five exceptional service initiatives were selected. Each winner received an award and a \$1,000 cash prize funded by the Fund for the City of New York.

The annual ceremony, part of National Volunteer Month celebrations, also recognized more than 3,000 vol-

unteers representing over 200 non-profit organizations and 70 businesses engaged in community service.



## California Family; Welcomes Cow Into Home for Traditional Blessing

### Viral Video Shows Ancient Grah Pravesh Ritual Preserved in American Setting

**A** viral video depicting an Indian-origin family in San Francisco welcoming a decorated cow into their new home as part of traditional housewarming (Grah Pravesh) rituals has captivated social media users worldwide, highlighting cultural continuity across continents.

Originally posted on Instagram by @bayareacows, representing Sri Surabhi Go Ksetra, a Bay Area gowshala dedicated to cow protection, the video features a cow named "Bahula" adorned with vermilion handprints and draped in traditional cloth bearing cow imagery. The caption notes that Bahula "went to a housewarming function

in Lathrop, CA today, they received a warm welcome and felt truly happy."

The footage shows a priest gently ushering the decorated cow through the entrance. Inside, family members removed carpeting to place a feeding bowl for the sacred animal. As Bahu-

la eats, the women of the household perform a traditional puja to complete the auspicious ceremony. The video concludes with family members posing alongside the cow in their driveway while lovingly petting the animal.

Social media commenters expressed appreciation for this cultural preservation, with one noting: "Bringing a cow into a new home during a housewarming is believed to invite positive energy and blessings. Heartening to see our rich culture being followed across [continents]."

The video, posted during last year's Diwali celebrations, demonstrates how ancient traditions continue to thrive in diasporic communities.



Source: Hindustan Times



# NEWSMAKERS

## Reshma Kewalramani Named to TIME's 100 Most Influential List

Vertex Pharmaceuticals CEO Recognized for Groundbreaking Drug Development

**R**eshma Kewalramani, the Indian-origin CEO of Vertex Pharmaceuticals, has earned a coveted spot on TIME Magazine's "100 Most Influential People of 2025" list, recognizing her transformative leadership in the biopharmaceutical industry.

Born and raised in Mumbai, Kewalramani relocated to the United States with her family at age 11 and currently resides in Boston with her twin sons. Her educational journey included completing Boston University's seven-year liberal arts/medical education program in 1998, followed by a nephrology fellowship at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital joint program. She further enhanced her business acumen through Harvard Business

School's General Management Program in 2015.

After beginning her career as a physician at prestigious institutions including Massachusetts General Hospital and MIT, Kewalramani transitioned to the biopharma sector, working at Amgen for over 12 years before joining Vertex Pharmaceuticals in 2017. She quickly ascended to Chief Medical Officer in 2018 and was promoted to President and CEO in 2020.

Under her leadership, Vertex has achieved remarkable breakthroughs, developing treatments like Trifakta for cystic fibrosis and securing the first-ever FDA approval for a CRISPR-based therapy that corrects DNA mutations to treat sickle cell disease and beta-thalassemia. Her accomplishments have garnered numerous

accolades, including the International Institute of New England's Golden Door Award and recognition as a New Englander of the Year.



Source: Indian-Community

## Tumpa Roy Named Among 2025 Top Women in Media & Ad Tech Honorees

Indian American Engineering VP Recognized for Innovation and Leadership in Digital Advertising

**N**ew York, NY - April 26, 2025 - Tumpa Roy, Senior Vice President of Engineering at Blockboard, has been recognized as one of the Top Women in Media & Ad Tech 2025, an honor presented by AdExchanger and AdMonsters. This prestigious award celebrates the women who are leading innovation and transformation across the digital media and advertising technology landscape.

With a distinguished career in engineering leadership, Tumpa brings extensive expertise in AWS, Java, JavaScript, SQL, ad-bidding systems, and cloud infrastructure management. At Blockboard, she oversees critical engineering initiatives, focusing on platform scalability, system optimization, and delivering cutting-edge, AI-driven solutions. Tumpa is known for her strategic vision, technical excellence, and ability to lead cross-functional

teams toward building high-performing, reliable platforms capable of handling significant user traffic.

Her contributions extend beyond corporate leadership. A passionate mentor and lifelong learner, Tumpa has made significant strides in advancing machine learning, blockchain, and cloud architecture innovations. She has also demonstrated her commitment to research and academic excellence through the publication of three IEEE papers and five Springer papers in computer science.

This year, Tumpa joins the ranks of Buy-Side Tech Trailblazers—a group of women who have broken barriers in the traditionally male-dominated fields of product development and engineering within the media and advertising industries.

Alok Kumar, Founder of United Business Solutions Inc., praised the growing influence of Indian American

leaders in the sector, saying,

"Leaders from the Indian American community entering the media and advertisement industry will bring a great impact, just as we have witnessed in the information technology sector."



# Religious Events

## Ved Mandir



1 Ved Mandir Dr, Milltown, NJ 08850 Ph: (732) 821-0404

Open Every day - 7:00 AM to 7:30 PM

AARTI TIMES

Morning Aarti - 7:00 AM, Evening Aarti - 7:00 PM

Everyday Online Session by Mandir Priests

5:00 PM To 7:00 PM

## Sri Venkateswara Temple (Balaji Mandir)



1 Balaji Temple Drive, Bridgewater, NJ-08807, Ph: (908) 725-4477

Mon - Fri: 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM & 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Saturday, Sunday & National Holidays: 8:30 AM - 8:30 PM

Every Sunday : Vishnu Sahasranama : 8:30 AM - 9:15 PM

[www.venkateswaratemple.org](http://www.venkateswaratemple.org)

## The Hindu Temple Society of North America Sri Maha Vallabha Ganapati Devasthanam

45-57 Bowne Street, Flushing, NY 11355, Ph: (718) 460-8484

Weekdays: 8:00 AM to 8:30 PM; Weekends: 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM



# Mobile Cold Storage Transforms Lives of Jharkhand Women Farmers

## Innovative Solar-Powered Units Help Rural Cultivators Store Produce and Negotiate Better Prices

The 'Samvardhan mobile cool storage unit' is changing the economic reality for women farmers in Jharkhand's Khunti district. Previously forced to sell perishable crops like mushrooms at whatever price local markets offered, farmers like Basanti Devi and Sita Devi now have the power to store their harvest and wait for favorable rates.

"Mushrooms are delicate and perish fast. We did not have time on our side," explains 42-year-old Sita Devi, who has benefited from the cold storage unit. Thirty-nine-year-old Basanti Devi adds, "We had to accept whatever rates the 'mandi' decided."

The initiative, launched by

Netarhat Old Boys' Association Global Social Responsibility (NOBA GSR) in partnership with Agri-tech innovator BMH Transmotion, features mobile units equipped with solar panels, gas absorbers, air circulation, and eth-

ylene management systems for optimal preservation.

Om Prakash Choudhary, board advisor of NOBA GSR and the project's originator, sees the initiative as transformative: "My real happiness would be when I see them storing their produce without fear, selling on their own terms, and earning what they truly deserve."

Experts note these units reduce post-harvest losses from 40 percent to just three percent while potentially increasing farmers' income by 25 percent. The technology addresses a critical gap in Jharkhand, which has only 60 cold storage facilities statewide.

Already, about 2,500 women farmers from the Torpa region are joining the initiative.



# OpenAI Projects \$174 Billion Revenue by 2030, Led by AI Agents

## Company Plans to Monetize Free Users and Develop Autonomous Task Operators

OpenAI expects to dramatically increase its revenue from approximately \$4 billion in 2024 to \$174 billion by 2030, according to a report by The Information. While current revenue primarily comes from ChatGPT subscriptions and API access, future growth will be driven by AI agents and monetization of the company's substantial free user base.

AI agents, including OpenAI's Operator designed to perform tasks autonomously for users, are projected to generate \$3 billion in 2025, growing to \$29 billion by 2029—representing nearly one-quarter of total expected revenue. Individual agent pricing is reportedly set between \$2,000 and \$20,000

per month, with plans to integrate Operator more deeply into ChatGPT.

Beginning in 2026, OpenAI plans to generate revenue from its free ChatGPT users through strategies potentially including affiliate links and

traditional advertising. This user segment is expected to contribute \$25 billion (20% of total revenue) by 2029.

Strategic partnerships figure prominently in these plans, with SoftBank intending to invest \$3 billion annually in OpenAI's agent products. The companies will launch a Japanese joint venture called Cristal Intelligence, while early partners like Uber are already receiving aggregated usage data.

OpenAI projects reaching three billion monthly active users by 2030, including two billion engaging weekly and 900 million using its products daily. Currently, ChatGPT has approximately 500 million weekly users, with fewer than 5% being paying customers.



Source: The Decoder

# From Ancient Texts to Modern Labs: How Kayura Is Redefining Ayurvedic Beauty

**K**ayura, a wellness and skincare brand, was founded by Indian-American Kanan Patel, who grew up embracing both pharmaceutical science and traditional remedies as written in the ancient texts of Ayurveda. She experienced firsthand the benefits of combining both healing methods, which sparked her passion for skincare. With a Master's in Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetic Science, Kanan created Kayura—a holistic, science-backed beauty line for all skin types.

India is the world's Ayurvedic garden of wellness, where a wealth of healing plants flourish in its rich soils and unique microclimates, and where self-care has been practiced and perfected for millennia.

Today, Kayura honors that heritage by combining the ancient healing wisdom of Ayurvedic botanicals with advanced dermatological science, crafting products that are not only rooted in tradition but validated by modern research and proven by clinical evidence.

## From Heritage to High-Performance

Kayura products are carefully crafted to solve common skincare issues such as pigmentation, sensitivity, post-acne marks, and dark spots. Our products soothe inflammation, even out skin tone, reinforce the skin barrier, and stimulate natural radiance.

## Plant Science Meets Skin Science

All Kayura formulations go through extensive in vitro testing and clinical trials for efficacy and safety. Key ingredients such as Green Chiretta Leaf Extract, Turmeric Root Extract, and Chicory Root Extract with their antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and brightening qualities are complemented by clinically established actives such as Peptides, Niacinamide, and Tranexamic Acid. This synergy delivers results that you can see and believe in.

## Familiar Ingredients, New-Generation Formulations

You may have heard about the healing powers of haldi (turmeric), tulsi (holy basil), or shatavari (asparagus). In

that case, you'll find comfort in Kayura's ingredients — but reimagined through the lens of modern science. Our proprietary delivery systems have these age-old extracts penetrating deep into the skin, delivering optimal results without irritation.

## Kayura launched in April 2025 in the US, with three core products:

- Dew Restore™ Barrier Repair Cream
- Bright Aura Even™ Tone Serum
- No Rays, Thanks™ Mineral Sunscreen

Free from fragrances, colorants and irritants commonly found in many skincare products, Kayura's formulations are powerfully pure, soothing, and nourishing for your skin. Shop now or sign up for free samples at [kayuraeffect.com](https://kayuraeffect.com)

"By advancing Ayurveda's ancient traditions, we seek to uplift our community with modern rituals for spiritual and physical health. When we feel good, we radiate the energy of wellness. It's a special kind of joy that we call the Kayura Effect™."

- Kanan Patel, Founder-Kayura



# TAKE YOUR BRAND TO NEW HEIGHTS



Gracia  
Marcom

rohit@graciamarcom.com ✉  
www.graciamarcom.com 🌐  
+91 99090 36111 📞



# TIME TO TRAVEL DUBAI



## Inclusions :

- 3 buffet Breakfast
- 2 Dinners
- on arrival at Dubai International Airport pickup in private car and transfer to hotel
- Dubai city tour in coach
- Desert safari with belly dance show
- Dhow cruise at Dubai creek
- Visit at the top Burj Khalifa
- On departure pick up from hotel and drop off to Dubai International Airport

Choose any dates in between Monday to Friday and get this limited time offer

## Price Per Pax

Monday - Friday

**3\* Hotel**  
\$350 onwards

**4\* Hotel**  
\$450 onwards



T&C APPLY\*

[info@acetravelsusa.com](mailto:info@acetravelsusa.com)

2016874255

# Emma Mackey Cast as White Witch in Greta Gerwig's Netflix Narnia

"Barbie" Actor Joins Daniel Craig and Meryl Streep in Christmas 2026 Release

Emma Mackey has secured the pivotal role of the White Witch in Greta Gerwig's upcoming adaptation of C.S. Lewis' "The Magician's Nephew," scheduled for release on Netflix during Christmas 2026. The film will tell the origin story of Narnia, exploring the fantasy world's creation and introducing audiences to its iconic characters through a fresh lens.

Mackey joins an impressive ensemble cast that includes Daniel Craig as the uncle of protagonist Digory Kirke and Meryl Streep lending her voice to Aslan the Great. The project marks Gerwig's second collaboration with Mackey, who previously appeared as Physicist Barbie in the director's blockbuster "Barbie."

Gerwig has expressed both excitement and trepidation about adapting the beloved fantasy series, stating: "I'm slightly in the place of terror because I really do have such reverence for Narnia, I loved Narnia so much as a child." She added, "I want to make it feel like magic," suggesting her commitment to honoring the source material while bringing her distinctive directorial vision.

The Netflix production offers a fresh interpretation of the classic series, previously adapted by Disney in films released in 2005, 2008, and 2010. Following the critical and commercial success of "Barbie," expectations are high for Gerwig's thoughtful approach to Lewis' enduring fantasy world.



Source: Originals for Netflix

# Justin Bieber's Cryptic Instagram Post Raises Concerns About Marriage to Hailey

Fans Worry About Pop Star's Mental Health Following Erratic Social Media Behavior

Justin Bieber's recent Instagram post has intensified speculation about potential marital troubles with wife Hailey, following months of swirling rumors that included a brief social media unfollowing incident. The cryptic message, which some fans compared to Kanye West's notorious outbursts, covered topics ranging from religious forgiveness to his relationship dynamics.

"The feeling of guilt can be relieved," Bieber began, before addressing his personal experiences: "They treat me like ass out here, but if I remember that I am flawed too and God forgave me, it helps me to stop feeling better than those people who are mean and hurtful."

The post took a more concerning turn when directly ref-

erencing his relationship with Hailey:

"And honestly if I was you it would be hard not to be jealous if I saw me and Hailey going so brazzzzyy. It's really up for us and that's understandable why people can't stand it."

These comments have fueled ongoing speculation about their relationship, especially following the birth of their son Jack Blues and rumors of Justin's alleged substance abuse relapse. Fans expressed concern across social media platforms, with many urging the pop star to focus on family responsibilities rather than engaging in potentially damaging public statements.

The situation remains unresolved as followers closely monitor the couple's interactions for further clues about their status.



Source: eonline

# "Superboys of Malegaon" Becomes Only Indian Film in Letterboxd Top 50

## Reema Kagti's February Release Outshines Commercial Blockbusters

**S**uperboys of Malegaon, directed by Reema Kagti, has achieved the distinction of being the only Indian film to secure a place on Letterboxd's prestigious Top 50 Films of 2025 list, ranking 22nd among global cinema offerings. The Auckland-based film-focused social platform, renowned for its curated rankings including Top 50 Movies and One Million & Two Million watched lists, selected Kagti's work over commercial blockbusters like "Chhaava" and "Kesari Chapter 2."

Inspired by the 2008 documentary "Supermen of Malegaon," Kagti's film was released in theaters on February 28, 2025. While

it didn't match the box office performance of action-packed fare like Vicky Kaushal's "Chhaava" or the historical drama "Kesari Chapter 2: The Untold Story of Jallianwala Bagh," it received enthusiastic critical acclaim and cultivated a dedicated audience.



The Letterboxd list, which encompasses documentary and festival films alongside mainstream releases, represents a significant international recognition for Indian cinema in a competitive global landscape. "Superboys of Malegaon" securing the 22nd position highlights the growing appreciation for thoughtful Indian filmmaking that prioritizes artistic merit over commercial considerations.

This achievement underscores how quality storytelling can transcend commercial metrics to achieve global recognition, bringing Indian cinema into conversation with the world's most celebrated films of 2025.

# "Kesari Chapter 2" Rides High on Box Office Success

## Akshay Kumar's Historical Drama Garneres Critical Acclaim and Strong Audience Response

**A**kshay Kumar's "Kesari Chapter 2" continues its impressive box office performance, collecting 42.94 crores after its first Wednesday, with success largely attributed to its authentic historical storytelling approach. The standalone sequel to the critically and commercially successful "Kesari" has connected deeply with audiences across India.

Directed by Karan Tyagi and produced by Dharma Productions, Leo Media Collective, and Cape of Good Films, the film draws from Raghu Palat and Pushpa Palat's book "The Case That Shook The Empire." It focuses on C. Sankaran

Nair and the devastating 1919 Jallianwala Bagh massacre, featuring stellar performances from Kumar alongside Ananya Panday and R. Madhavan in pivotal roles.

Critical reception has been over-

whelmingly positive, earning an exceptional 8.2-star rating on IMDb and an impressive 95% audience score on Rotten Tomatoes. Industry observers note that while historical dramas often struggle at the box office, "Kesari Chapter 2" demonstrates how compelling narratives with historical integrity can drive commercial success regardless of budget constraints.

Dharma Productions continues its tradition of balancing commercial viability with meaningful storytelling, previously demonstrated with emotionally resonant films like "Kapoor & Sons."



### WANT TO ADVERTISE WITH US?

We can help you take your brand farther.

Get in touch with us at [diaspora@fianynjct.org](mailto:diaspora@fianynjct.org)

### PUBLISHED BY

Federation of Indian Associations (NY-NJ-CT-NE)

Voluntary Content  
Sushiel Kaul

Voluntary Design & Graphics  
Gracia Marcom

### WRITE TO US!

Got feedback for us? We would love to hear about it. Have an event you want others to know about? Tell us. Clicked a pic worth sharing? Send it across. Your inputs are invaluable. You can mail your comments to [editor@fianynjct.org](mailto:editor@fianynjct.org)

**YOU CAN** @fianynjct.org  
**ALSO FOLLOW** federationofindianassociations  
**US ON** @FIANYNJCTorg