

# INDIA CURRENTS

HOME OF THE GLOBAL INDIAN

## God Save Freddie Mercury

By Jaya Padmanabhan

It was electrifying to watch Rami Malek perform as Freddie Mercury in the movie *Bohemian Rhapsody*, showing us a man grappling with soul-searing despair and alienation even while the world was feting him for his extraordinary musical prowess. Yet, the movie was deeply frustrating for avoiding Mercury's back-story; his evolution from boy Farrokh to man Freddie.

Mercury arrived on the public stage as a nimble-fingered pianist with four more incisors in his mouth, which gave him, "more space in my mouth, more range." But where did he come from? How did he arrive with the skills and presence that he possessed?



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## Designer Babies Are Here

By Vivek Wadhwa

A music composer. A deputy sheriff. A technology executive. An Eagle Scout. They sound like every-day Americans but what sets them apart is they are all Sikhs. And that combination is the reason they are subjects in a landmark photo exhibition that originated in New York, appeared at venues across the country and now has landed in Sacramento.



## Men Behaving Badly In Silicon Valley

By Geetika Pathania-Jain

Got #Metoo?

Ash is a well-dressed sexual predator in *Greater Than*, a Bay Area Drama (BAD) Company production written and directed by Basab Pradhan, founder and co-director of BAD Company. Sindu Singh plays Roma Kapoor with panache as a woman in a man's world. This insightful play feels **topical** and in step with shifting attitudes on gender politics.



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## The Changing Face Of Homelessness

By Pavani Kaushik



**Tis the Season of Joy.** The time of year when we count our blessings. Neighborhoods are sporting signs of festivity all around. Twinkling lights and fresh coats of paint adorn homes. Above all, there is Love – the secret ingredient that makes a house a ‘Home.’

I am holding a set of greeting cards in my hands. They make me smile with their vivid colors and childish renderings of stick figure humans, bugs and nature. Flipping them over I read the names, Anaya, Noe, Kaelyn – the artists who created these beautiful scenes. Ranging in ages between 6 and 10, they are children who live amongst us. What sets them apart from the average child is the fact that they have been or are currently homeless. Their existence has none of the safety or security that calls for celebration.

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# 神韻晚會 2019 SHEN YUN

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least once in  
your lifetime



## Cristiano Ronaldo: Revered Or Not?

By Adya Agarwal

A world-famous professional soccer player, a father, and a man whose annual salary is 30 million euros. Who knew that one would need to add alleged sexual assault offender to that list to describe Cristiano Ronaldo?

#MeToo movement reaches the very top of the soccer world. How do we make sense of what is happening?



## The Good Times Roll In Mashobra

By Neha Kirpal

Looking for a relaxing vacation on your next trip to India? We found the perfect spot for you!

Mashobra has all the necessary ingredients for a holiday that includes misty windows, heavenly sunsets, green grass, bright colorful flowers, delicious fruit, cups of steaming hot tea, cream rolls from the local bakery, and piping hot *samosas* and *jalebis* from the neighboring sweet shop.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

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## December 7th Friday

**Khans of Bollywood, an ICC Karaoke Club event.** Enjoy an evening of karaoke music from Bollywood KHAN's movies, be it SRK, Aamir, Salman, Saif, Irfan or Imran – you will hear hits from their movies! **7:30 pm – 10:30 pm. India Community Center, 525 Los Coches St. Milpitas, CA.**

## December 8th Saturday

**SEF Annual Banquet.** This year we have a special SEF family visiting from India – Dr. Ramani and team, who started this movement back in 1977. Be there, be inspired and hear all the amazing work done by Sankara eye Foundation in India. This is a fundraiser for Sankara Eye Foundation's (SEF) three upcoming hospitals – one each in Mumbai, Indore, and Hyderabad. **6:00 pm – 10:30 pm. India Community Center, 525 Los Coches St. Milpitas, CA. (408) 425-1268. [sfbaybanquet@giftofvision.org](mailto:sfbaybanquet@giftofvision.org), [www.giftofvision.org](http://www.giftofvision.org).**

## December 9th Sunday

**Sri Sarada Devi Jayanti Celebration.** The yearly worship of Sri Sarada Devi. talk by Pravrajika Anantaprana, Vedanta Society, S.F. with bhajans by Sri Ramakrishna Sarada Devi Bhajan Mandali **10:30 am – 1:00 pm. Badarikashrama, 15602 Maubert Ave. San Leandro, CA. (510) 278-2444. [badarik@pacbell.net](mailto:badarik@pacbell.net), <http://www.badarikashrama.org>.**

**Sunday Satsang with Yogacharya O'Brian.** Spend time with Yogacharya O'Brian who will teach the supreme science of Brahavidya – the universal way of awakening. Everyone is welcome. **10:00 AM – Meditation and Inspiration 12:00 PM – Lunch 1:00–3:00 PM – Spiritual Teachings, Practice, and Q&A Registration required. 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, 1146 University Ave San Jose, CA. (408) 283-0221. [info@csecenter.org](mailto:info@csecenter.org), [www.csecenter.org/Events/Info/SUNDAY\\_SATSANG\\_-\\_Fellowship\\_and\\_Hospitality-2952](http://www.csecenter.org/Events/Info/SUNDAY_SATSANG_-_Fellowship_and_Hospitality-2952).**

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## POPULAR DESTINATIONS



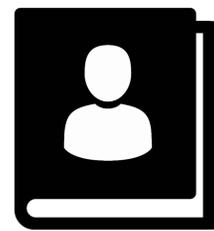
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