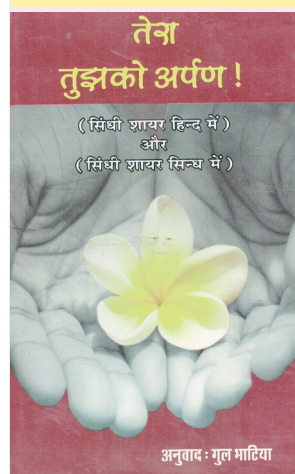


## From Sindh with Love



**Dr.H.S.Chandalia**  
Politics divides but literature unites. Literature builds bridges between those whom politics had segregated. This bridge is made of love, emotions, longing and the pain of partition. The book "Tera Tujhko Arpan" is one such bridge that unites the people across the border drawn by the Radcliffe Line which divided Indian people into two nations India and Pakistan. In an atmosphere vitiated by the foul smell of gun powder and rattling of machine guns on the border every day, this book of verses translated from Sindhi to Hindi by Mr. Gul Bhatia comes as a serene gust of fragrant wind. The two ends of the bridge are categorically mentioned in the sub title of the book "Sindhi Shayar Hind mein aur Sindhi Shayar Sindh mein" (Sindhi Poets in India and Sindhi poets in Sindh). Published by Pustak Sadan in 2014 the book carries poems by forty six poets who are Indians and sixteen poets who live in Pakistan. Both the groups of poets have composed their poems in Sindhi. Mr. Gul Bhatia has painstakingly selected a few of their writings and very judiciously put before the Hindi world the best pearls from the contemporary Sindhi literature.

On the back cover of the book are published pictures of the two friend poets Sheikh Ayaz and Narayan Shyam. After partition Sheikh Ayaz remained in Pakistan while Narayan Shyam came to India. Their friendship continued. In 1965 when a war broke out between India and Pakistan Sheikh Ayaz wrote: "This battle/ opposite to me is Narayan Shyam/ his and mine promises are the same/ words are the same/ he is a doyen of poetry/ my taste is similar too/ same are the river banks, same the drums/same hearts and same the swings/ how do I aim my gun at him/ how do I shoot him? How?/How?/How?". This small poem which had only the voice of love and no venom was taken by the then Pakistani rulers as anti national and Sheikh Ayaz was put in Jail for one and a half years. The translator has selected another poem of Sheikh Ayaz which shows the liberal spirit and broad vision of the poet. The poem is addressed to his grandson and is titled "My Grandson". This poem could be treated as a message to humanity: "My Grandson/ when you grow young and are able to think for yourself/ I grant you the permission/ to speak the language you like./ The shade of the country you prefer/ live in that/ and join the sect wherein you feel a sense of oneness / adopt a religion that you like/ And whether you believe in any divine truth or not/ I leave unto you/ in inheritance I give you freedom of thought." Three eminent Hindi-Urdu poets have written their messages for the book and have also applauded the work of Mr. Gul Bhatia. They are none less than famous voice of Hindi poetry Bal Kavi Bairagi, former Member of Parliament, Iqbal Hussain "Iqbal" founder of Navkriti and author of the book Achchi Lagti hai Guftagu Teri and a very versatile poet of Urdu Krishna Kumari. The translator has used Hindi as well as Urdu diction and the poetic forms of Ghalib and free verse as per the requirement of the original Sindhi poems. The love for Sindhi language, culture and heritage is visible in this effort. Mr. Bhatia has done a service to the Sindhi writers and poets but has done an equally important work for Hindi poets also who can now get to know that Sindhi poets in Pakistan also think and feel like us. The hate campaigns of certain fundamentalist forces can be countered by such messages of love.

## My film Rabbi shows how society is God-fearing, where-as actually we should be God-loving - Bidita Bag

**Nandini Viswanathan**

The commercial release of Rabbi is on the cards with the movie hitting screens across India on 15th September, 2017. For Bidita Bag, Rabbi comes as an almost immediate release after her recent hit, Babumoshai Bandoob baaz where she stars against the extremely talented Nawazuddin Siddiqui. Bidita's talent is being recognized across the globe for her bold acting in Babumoshai Bandoob baaz. She has always had an inclination towards socio-political films and Rabbi is one such film addressing social beliefs. Excerpts from an interview with the actor...

**1. How are you feeling after the recent success of Babumoshai Bandoob baaz? How was the experience of working with Nawazuddin Siddiqui?**

Answer - It has been a couple of years since I started, and finally my work has been recognized by the wider audience with this movie. Nawaz is a very talented artiste and



in some ways I relate to him and his struggle to make it into Bollywood.

Of course, for me the entry came much sooner as compared to him. He is a very nice human being and is very grounded and humble which I think is the reason for his success.

**2. Coming to Rabbi, what prompted you to choose this project?**

Answer - From the moment I heard the story, I was in love with it. I believe the movie answers some important questions that are left unanswered

in our day to day lives. Is Music forbidden in Islam was something that appealed to me... In our society people are made to be God-fearing, whereas actually we should be God-loving. I feel it is important to communicate this message.

**3. Director Rahat Kazmi is known for being unconventional in his ways... how was your experience working with him?**

Answer -Rahat is trying to encourage the film industry in his hometown Jammu and Kashmir. He ensures that there is local involvement in his films

which brings more flavour to his works. He has a knack of recognizing a sensible script and attire is his forte.

And when Rahat makes a film his entire family is involved in it from start to end. They see to it that the work setting is extremely friendly and comfortable. You almost feel that you are on a trip to enjoy and the shooting just happens in between! Excellent experience working with him (smiles).

**4. What are your expectations from Rabbi?**

Answer - Is movie ka dil bada hai (This movie has a big heart). I'm sure the audience will enjoy it, the main reason being that the film looks at contemporary problems. Rabbi also addresses at terrorism.

**5. Tell us about your role in the movie...**

Answer - My character in this movie is called Afia, a typical Muslim girl, belonging to a conservative family, covered from head to toe. However, she is very liberal in her thoughts and outlook.

She is Rabbi's cousin, friend

and support system.

At the same time, she is also his biggest critic. She constantly inspires him to achieve more while keeping him grounded and giving him reality checks.

**6. How was the crew and how did you fit in considering the diverse amounts of experience spread across?**

Answer - I would happily say all the senior members loved me a lot and made me feel at home. Dolly ji, Virendra ji, Raghubir ji were all very supportive.

In fact we gelled very well over music since both Raghubir ji and Virendra ji enjoy singing and I play the harmonium, we had our own musical sessions that I cherish even today.

**7. Your future projects?**

Answer - I have a few movies in the pipeline such as Daya Bai which is biopic on Daya Bai, T for Taj Mahal, a film on education among others.

**8. The music forms an important part of this movie, which is your favourite song and why?**

Answer - Yes, the music truly brings out the feel of the film. All the songs are really nice but my favourite is Amma Teri Lag Gayi, sung by Raghubir ji.

For me, the song was related to an extent as when I was growing up my father also always hoped that I would get a Government job and I think this is a common story for every middle class youngster in our country.

**9. Many youngsters are trying to follow similar footsteps as yours, to do more meaningful and mature cinema, what is your message to them?**

Answer - Every Artist has a unique journey. Along with hard work, even luck plays a part in one's fate. I would say this industry is uncertain from a career perspective.

If you are to make a career in this industry, you need to be extremely patient and constantly work on improving your skills. You should give yourself enough time and failures should not stop you.

## By the Way : Child Abuse vs Safety

**Hritu Sodhi**

Children are called the most innocent and pure souls of this world. Their naughtiness reminds us of our childhood. Few decades back children were treated as Gods. It's horrifying to see the deaths of children these days. Pradyuman's death is not the first one but it can be the last one. I cried a lot after seeing his last pic. In a single day, four children were raped in different cities and three lost their lives in different cases.

Children are not safe anywhere. A 13 year old girl was raped, got pregnant and gave birth to a dead pre mature child.

Is this the world in which we are willing to live?

What is wrong with us?

My mother used to tell stories about monsters and fairies in my childhood. I have had never imagined that a monster could rape and kill a fairy. It was unimaginable for a young girl like me. But now it is happening with our children. Our neighbours and relatives can do heinous crimes at homes with these small children. Parents are still unaware of the facts. They can't leave their ornaments with a neighbour but they can easily trust their neighbours and leave children with them. No second thought comes in the mind of a mother who leaves her daughter or son with her cousin or friend's husband. Human behaviour is not called abnormal in such cases. We trust people without checking out their intentions. We don't go for police verification in all cases. Mostly we use our wisdom to judge people.

Home maids, helpers, servants, gardeners, drivers, conductors, private tutors are kept to assist us without proper inquiries.

Children are the easiest targets. They can be threatened by these criminals and most of these kids don't speak to their parents about physical abuse.

Many children don't understand the meaning of bad touch or physical abuse. Children don't wear shorts or revealing clothes which can provoke these criminals.

Then why these crimes are getting higher?

Why can't we accept the truth?

Why can't we see that our own minds have become polluted?

I had read a real story last year in which a one month old baby girl was raped by a beast. She died on the spot.

Who was responsible?

Her gender or her clothes?

Child safety is the biggest issue of this modern world. If you want to see the next generation alive, you have to stop crime against children. Children are losing their lives and by any chance if criminals set them free, these children live in extreme pain. Wounds on their bodies can be counted but their souls are damaged forever.

Many children are living with mental disorders. Western world was facing this problem from many decades and now this virus has entered in our society. It is killing humanity and growing fastly in uncultured and illiterate human brains.

How can we imagine a child to be a sex object?

It means our souls have left us, we are living like zombies who are brain dead or heartless. A man with dignity and decency can not touch anyone with bad intention. Here we are discussing about child abuse. It's shocking to hear the true stories of the victims. Five years old girl was raped, her private parts were ruptured. She was bleeding furiously and was kept on ventilator. Her painful shrieks could have made anyone insane. Hats off to the doctors who have guts to treat these cases. Parents must talk to their children about bad or good touch. Parents should give sex education to teenagers. Don't leave your children with known people because they can be more dangerous. Beauty appointments or late night parties can be avoided. Business trips and foreign tours can be cancelled because your own child is most important. Schools, institutions or organisations are doing business and we have to take bold steps to make them understand the value of safety. Don't send your children to the institutions which are not following the instructions of our Governments and courts. Children are not our liabilities rather they are assets. I can't leave my children to earn more money. I am earning to give them comforts but I've to look after their needs and security too. If you have decided to give birth to a child, be responsible for the rest of your life. Mental sickness should not be avoided. If you find that your neighbour or close friend has a habit to abuse children, don't protect them. Immediately report to the police and take necessary precautions. If you see any helper doing wrong with your child, don't give him warning. Call the cops and make him arrest. If you leave these beasts on roads without punishment, they can harm other children in future.

Don't close your eyes after seeing a crime. Just remember

that next it could be you. By The Way: Child Abuse vs Safety Children are called the most innocent and pure souls of this world. Their naughtiness reminds us of our childhood. Few decades back children were treated as Gods. It's horrifying to see the deaths of children these days. Pradyuman's death is not the first one but it can be the last one. I cried a lot after seeing his last pic.

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## Ram Usee Ne Paya", mesmerized audience



**Udaipur:** "Ram Usee Ne Paya", a musical concert organized at Lokmanya Tilak auditorium, Maharashtra Bhava, Bhupalpura on Sunday evening was an audio visual treat to the audience. "Chaitanya Parivar" Indore staged this divine programme in association with Martand Foundation, Udaipur. Based on "Ram Charitra Manas" lyrics were written by Dr. L.J. Harshe and music was jointly composed by Sanjay Taranekar and Shubhda Marathe who were also main singers. Selected incidences of Ramayana, right from birth of Shri Ram till coronation were shown on screen. The same were swiftly weaved with most appropriate singing imbibing Hindustani classical music. Chorus included Vijay Supekar, Vivek Prachand, Ish Taranekar, Kunal Supekar, Rekha Muley, Neelima Telang and Kiran Janve. Ritesh Ghayal on Tabala, Manish Adwal on Key board and Deepak Makwana on Octopad provided musical accompaniment. Ravindral, Marathe designed visuals on screen while Chaya Taranekar narrated story with immense involvement.

The audience was totally engrossed and accompanied the chorus. Rajendra Deshmukh, main organizer of the event informed RH that the same group presented "Prabhati" (Devotional morning Songs) on Sunday morning and presented 50th show of "Shri Geet Martand", the life sketch of spiritual Guru Param Pujya Nana Mahraj Taranekar of Indore on Saturday evening. Satish Saikhedkar, president of Maharashtra Samaj honoured artistes mesmerized audience.



## Jagran Jan Vikas Samiti

People's Awakening and Development Society



JJVS has a long history of hosting volunteers from India and Abroad. Ever year 200 volunteers participate in various types of health modalities in Health Exchange program. This program offers the students an opportunity to exchange knowledge with the Gunis (Traditional Healers) and learn more about the health problems commonly experienced by patients in India. JJVS recently had a privileged to host the Chiropactic group from Australia through Hands On Health Australia of 11 students. This group who treats the misalignment of the joints, especially those of the spinal column which are believed to cause other disorders by affecting the nerves, muscles, and organs. JJVS organized 8 health camps at our head office Bedla, Ikarwas, vali & kaladwas, where these students treated total 640 patients approx. This was a huge experience to us as well as for the students also. In 15 days of this program, students appreciated the work JJVS do and learned about the Indian culture and its lifestyle.