



News » Community » Indo-American Press Club inducts new leadership

Indo-American Press Club inducts new leadership

By **AB Wire** — May 23, 2022 — Updated: May 24, 2022 — **COMMUNITY** No Comments 3 Mins Read



Kamlesh C. Mehta and Aashmeeta Yogiraj have become the new chairman of the board of directors and president respectively of the Indo-American Press Club (IAPC), the largest organization of Indian descent journalists.

Mehta and Yogiraj were sworn in at a ceremony at the Indian Consulate in New York on May 21 to inaugurate the new team of office bearers, while IAPC general secretary CG Daniel and several others were given the oath virtually, according to a press release.

Mehta was administered the oath of office by Randhir Jaiswal, Consul General of India in New York, while Yogiraj was administered the oath by Ginson Zachariah, Founding Chairman of **IAPC**.

Four distinguished community leaders/professionals were honored with the Lifetime Achievement Awards for their and contributions to the larger society.

Special Guest of Honor, former New York Mayor Bill De Blasio presented the award to Pamela Kwatra, a trailblazer and the only Indian American woman recipient of the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor award in 2008.

Read: Joseph Chalil named Indo-American Press Club chairman (January 13, 2020)

Dr. Anupama Gotimukula, only the fourth woman elected as president of American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin in its nearly four decades-long history was honored for her visionary leadership of AAPI.

Also honoured was Dr. Thomas Abraham, who has been serving the community for the last 49 years since he moved to New York as a graduate student at Columbia University.

Sudhir M. Parikh, a physician by profession and currently the chairman and publisher of Parikh Worldwide Media Inc, the largest Indian-American publishing group in the United States, and chairman of ITV Gold, a 24×7 TV news channel, was also recognised.

Jaiswal, Blasio, Dr. Prabhakar Kore, member of Indian parliament, and Kevin Thomas, New York state were given special recognition at the event.

Jaiswal praised IAPC for its “significant contribution to promoting India-US friendship and the welfare of Indian diaspora in the United States.”

Blasio described Kwatra as a trailblazing businesswoman, a community leader, and a political force with executive chops, who worked with elan on important projects.

Mehta vowed to “work together with dedication to enhance the working conditions of our journalists, exchanging ideas and offering educational and training opportunities to our members, aspiring young journalists and media professionals around the globe.”

In her presidential address, Yogiraj, Director – Programming & Marketing, JUS Broadcasting Corporation, said, “While media as an entity has certainly evolved to fit modern times, its invaluable service to society persists.”

A souvenir with colorfully designed pages, depicting the history and objectives of IAPC, edited by Parveen Chopra, past president of IAPC, and Dr. Mathew Joys was released.

A visual presentation of the Nine Years of IAPC history presented by Dr. Mathew Joys, IAPC BOD member from Las Vegas and Shan Justus from Texas provided a glimpse of the trajectory of IAPC’s growth since its inception in 2013.

The closing ceremony included scintillating dances traditional folk and Bollywood dances by The Arya School of Dance.

The hybrid event was also streamed simultaneously on social media platforms and watched live on YouTube by several members and supporters of IAPC.

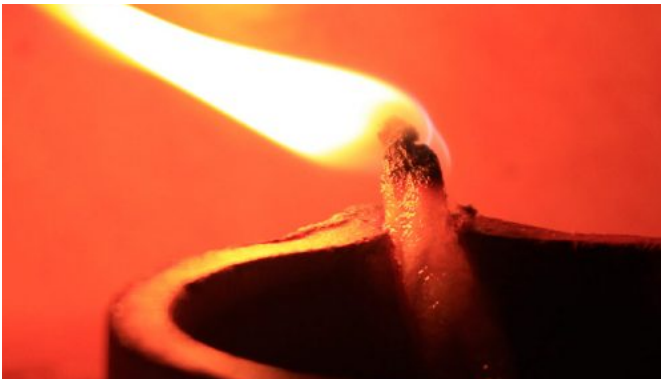
[Aashmeeta Yogiraj](#)[IAPC](#)[Indian Consulate](#)[Indian descent journalists](#)[Indo-American Press Club](#)[Kamlesh C. Mehta](#)[New York](#)

AB Wire



AB Wire stories are filed by American Bazaar staff writers and contributors. If you want to contact one of our reporters, feel free to email editor@americanbazaaronline.com

KEEP READING



Pennsylvania declares Diwali as official holiday



Sikh Day Parade in New York City this weekend



Indian professional goes missing in Canada



Sikh man beaten mercilessly on Mexico border in viral video



Seattle celebrates Vaisakhi with RoundGlass Foundation



Missing Texas' child's step-dad flees to India after stealing \$10,000

ADD A COMMENT

Search ...

SEARCH

FOLLOW US

Let's connect on any of these social networks!



Asian Americans must be in decision making rooms: Kamala Harris

By **Arun Kumar** — May 23, 2022 — Updated: May 24, 2022 — **COMMUNITY**  No Comments  5 Mins Read





Kamala Harris at the AAPI Victory Celebration & Next Generation Leaders Reception

AAPI Victory Fund hosts AAPI Victory Celebration & Next Generation Leaders Reception at Kennedy Center

Vice President Kamala Harris has called upon Asian American voters to once again be the margin of victory in November midterm elections to ensure they are in the rooms where decisions are being made.

“It is not hyperbole to say: What we do between now and November will determine the future of our nation. Truly,” she said at the AAPI Victory Celebration & Next Generation Leaders Reception on May 20 at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC.

The event was hosted by the AAPI Victory Power Fund focused on strengthening American democracy by tapping into the collective power of more than 11.1 million Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander voters across the United States.

Read: AAPI Victory Fund endorses New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy (October 22, 2021)

“We need to make sure that AA and NHPI (Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders) voices are heard at the ballot boxes around our country, just as we need to make sure that those voices are represented in all levels of government,” said Harris.

“Asian Americas must be in the rooms where the decisions are being made. Because when policies reflect our experiences – our collective experiences – our perspectives, I am certain of one thing: Our country is stronger and our country is more just,” she said amid applause.

“We have the work in front of us that we are doing just this very evening to support the AA Victory Fund, knowing that it mobilizes and turns out voters, and that that work could not be more important in this moment,” said Harris.

“And just think about it. We have a track record of knowing it makes a huge difference,” she said noting, “Two years ago, the work of this group and these leaders helped send President Joe Biden and me to the White House.”

“Yeah. And turn the Senate blue! Yes!,” added Harris amid more applause.

“And because of the work of the Victory Fund and the support and the hard work in 2020, our country is, therefore, getting back on track. And this year, then, we need our voters,” she said noting “Asian voters were the margin of victory in 2020.”

“So as the midterm elections draw near, we know that so much is at stake: the progress we have already made; the progress we must make on voting rights, workers’ rights, women’s rights; the work we must do to bring down costs, to create good-paying jobs, union jobs; the work we must do to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to succeed, no matter where their grandmother was born,” said Harris.

“The President and I remain focused, as do we all, on the path forward toward a better future for all people. A future free from the dark scourge of hate,” she said.

Read: AAPI Victory Fund endorses Cincinnati mayoral candidate Aftab Pureval (March 22, 2021)

“A future where every child can reach their potential; where every community is safe and healthy; and yes, where every woman gets to make decisions about her own body” she said

“I believe, as I know we all do, that we can build that future together,” said Harris. “So let us continue with our work, having confidence that what we are doing is making a difference.

“But here’s the deal: I believe there is nothing that we have achieved in this nation that has been about progress that did not come with hard work and, yes, struggle, and sometimes a good fight,” she said.

“We’re up for it, so let’s continue to do this good work together,” Harris exhorted.

Harris also thanked AAPI Victory Fund chairman Shekar Narasimhan, Aftab Pureval, first Indian American mayor of Cincinnati, Ohio and other elected Asian Americans for their leadership.

“Think about it: Since the time of the 2020 election, our administration, together — all of us working together — we’ve taken action to protect our AA and NHPI communities,” Harris said.

The Biden-Harris administration, she noted, had “appointed more Asian Americans at every level in our government, including to the federal judiciary. And we know what that means.”

Meanwhile, a new brand called #OurVote, a collaboration between designers Prabal Gurur and Phillip Lim and the **AAPI Victory Fund**, led by Brad Jenkins, was also launched at the May 20 event.

Read: AAPI to host 40th Annual Convention in San Antonio in June 2022 (November 18, 2021)

This partnership came about after the trio connected through their own organizing work around the Stop Asian Hate movement, according to Teen Vogue.

[House of Slay](#) – a community-centric digital space founded in 2021 will also be home to the newly-launched #OurVote, which includes a collection of merchandise including sweatshirts, t-shirts, baseball caps, and tote bags with silhouettes and styles geared toward youth.

It utilizes a webcomic series featuring five prolific Asian fashion moguls (namely Phillip Lim, Prabal Gurung, Laura Kim, Tina Leung, and Ezra William) as a group of superheroes that combat a villain aptly referred to as the God of Darkness (also known as... Racism.)

Multiple different cultures are represented in each piece, with the word “vote” translated into several languages and dialects from the Asian continent.

#OurVote will be available on the [House of Slay online shop](#) starting May 27.

AA

AAPI Victory Celebration & Next Generation Leaders Reception

AAPI Victory Fund hosts

Kennedy Center

NHPI

Arun Kumar

Arun Kumar joined The American Bazaar after reporting on world affairs from four vantage points — New Delhi, Islamabad, Beijing and Washington — for Indian national media. Previously as North America Bureau Chief of the IANS news agency based in Washington DC, he told the American story for its subscribers spread around the world for 11 years. Before that Arun worked as a foreign correspondent for PTI in Islamabad and Beijing for over eight years. On return to India, he worked as Chief News Editor, Editor of Special Services, and Assistant General Manager at PTI. Arun has penned five books for PTI providing an in-depth analysis of Indian elections from Nehru to Vajpayee besides compiling and editing PTI Offbeat, a coffee table book of offbeat pictures taken by PTI photographers. Following are recent stories by Arun Kumar:

KEEP READING



Pennsylvania declares Diwali as official holiday



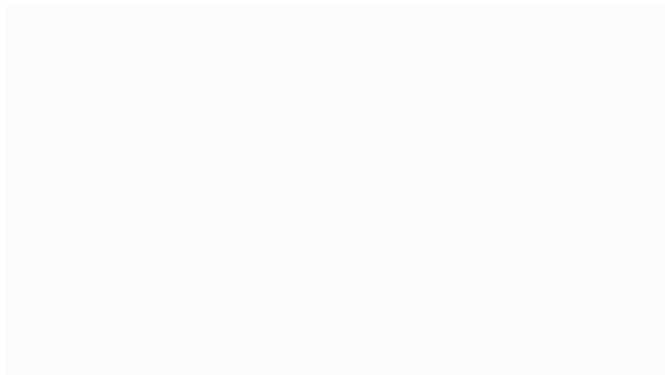
Sikh Day Parade in New York City this weekend



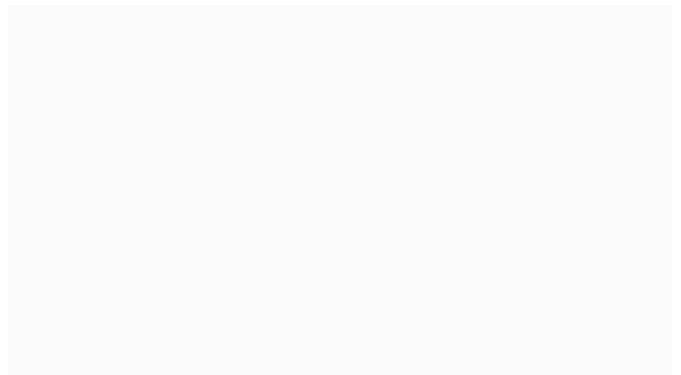
Indian professional goes missing in Canada



Sikh man beaten mercilessly on Mexico border in viral video



Seattle celebrates Vaisakhi with RoundGlass Foundation



Missing Texas' child's step-dad flees to India after stealing \$10,000

ADD A COMMENT

Search ...

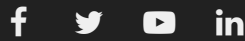
SEARCH

FOLLOW US

Let's connect on any of these social networks!



THE AMERICAN BAZAAR



ABOUT US

The American Bazaar is a publication of American Bazaar, Inc., based in Germantown, MD.


QUICK LINKS


- Home
- Business
- Politics
- Immigration
- Entertainment


QUICK LINKS

- Community
- Opinion
- Staff Bio
- Company Info
- Copyright

CONTACT US

 202-709-7010

 202-379-3332

 zofeen@americanbazaaronline.com

© 2023 The American Bazaar. All Rights Reserved

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms](#)