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August 2015

Message from BPF Chairman:

Dear Readers,

On this occasion, I wish our subscribers a very happy Independence Day.

On August 14, Pakistanis all over the world tend to forget about the issues that usually worry them about their home country. Instead, they hoist the Pakistani flag, sport their best green and white ensembles and attend Independence Day events. The spirit of August 14 lives through events, tweets and memes. I sincerely hope that an era of change, prosperity and peace may soon begin in Pakistan.

With warm regards,



Asif Rangoonwala

Chairman
British Pakistan Foundation

AUGUST UPDATES

This August, the staff at the British Pakistan Foundation has been occupied with raising funds for flood victims. The BPF team raised over a million rupees in and around our London office and used the money to arrange for 300 ration bags distributed to flood victims in Sindh. The BPF also inaugurated a blog about British Pakistanis, through which we hope to bring you at least one untold immigration story a week about how family members of the diaspora arrived in this country.

The BPF will be present at Big John's Birmingham Mela 2015 this Sunday 16 August. The event is one of the biggest involving the Pakistani community in the UK, with over 40,000 attendees each year. Visit us at Big John's between 12pm and 8pm for information about our

projects and events.

Eid-ul-Fitr celebrations continued into the end of July in the UK. An Eid event at Trafalgar Square on Saturday 25 July attracted tens of thousands of visitors to sample food from across the Muslim world. The event was arranged by London Mayor Boris Johnson, who describes himself as having a Muslim heritage by way of his Turkish grandparents. Meanwhile, Islamic Relief also arranged Eid festivals in Manchester, London, Bradford, Sheffield, Glasgow, Leicester, Newport and Bristol during the last weekend of July.

To continue reading about events and news highlights, scroll below.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



AR Rahman Live in Concert

15 August, 2015 | The O2, London, SE10 0DX

The double Grammy and double Oscar, BAFTA and Golden Globe winner, AR Rahman returns to The O2 after five years, with a one off greatest hits show on Saturday 15 August 2015. He will be joined by very special guests including; Shweta Mohan, Neeti Mohan, Javed Ali, Srinivas, Karthik and many more.

For details, visit: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/arrahman-live-in-concert-jai-ho-marg-swarnabhoomi-ecr-tiruniravur-chennai-tickets-443007046>

Big John's Birmingham Mela

16 August, 2015 | Canon Hill B13 8RD



Running for over 15 years, Big John's attracts over 40,000 people a year. The event provides an opportunity for people to celebrate the diversity of Birmingham through its culture, food, sport, art and entertainment. The event hosts artists from across the world and features a sport arena, a food market and a trade exhibition.

For details, visit:

<http://www.bigjohnsbirminghammela.com/>



Pakistan Independence Day 2015

16 August, 2015 | The Asian Centre E17 9LN

Pak Cultural Society will hold a music and cultural evening involving children. The event is aimed at familiarizing children of British Pakistani heritage about the Pakistani culture. Performances include national songs, dances, and speeches. The event is free and open for attendance by families and community members.

See details at: <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pakistan-independence-day-2015-tickets-17017920057>

Pakistan Independence Day 2015

22 August, 2015 | Newham Town Hall, E6 2RP

Pak Cultural Society will hold a music and cultural evening involving children. The event is aimed at familiarizing children of British Pakistani heritage about the Pakistani culture. Performances include national songs, dances, and speeches. The event is free and open for attendance by families and community members.



For details, visit: <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pakistan-independence-day-tickets-17017636208?aff=erellivorg>

Ghulam Rasool exhibition

25-28 August 2015 | Asia House W1G 7LP

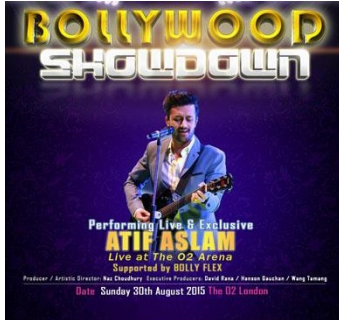
From the world's largest permanent freshwater glaciers to the hot deserts of Thar and Cholistan, Pakistan has the most altitudinal variation in the world.

Join Pakistan's accomplished photography artist Ghulam



Rasool on a spiritual journey through some of Pakistan's most hidden natural landscapes at this exhibition, which has been organised through a partnership between Qismat foundation and rangoonwala Foundation.

See details: <http://asiahouse.org/events>



Atif Aslam at O2

30 August, 2015 | The O2, London, SE10 0DX

Bollywood Atif Aslam will perform all his biggest hits. Spectacular Strictly Come Dancing and Nobel Peace Prize performer 'Bolly Flex' will also perform. Many more artists are also expected. Don't miss out on the biggest Bollywood musical dance concert of the year.

For details, visit: <http://www.chillitickets.com/31664-bollywood-showdown-atif-aslam-live-at-the-o2>

Zee London Mela 2015

6 September, 2015 | Gunnersbury Park W3 8LQ



Europe's largest outdoor South Asian festival returns with a spectacular line-up of live music, dance, visual arts and food from South Asia. Over 80,000 people enjoyed last year's creative triumph and this year the festival is set to be even bigger.

For details, visit: <http://www.londonmela.org/>



Damodar and Waris Shah poetry

8 September, 2015 | Brunei Gallery, WC1H 0XG

A poetry reading session will be held in room B102 between 6pm and 8pm. The event is organised by South Asian Institute at the School of Oriental and Asian Studies.

For details, visit: <https://www.soas.ac.uk/south-asia-institute/events/sangat-dialogue-punjab/08sep2015-waris-shah-and-damodar-heer.html>

Faiz Ali Faiz and Sain Zahoor at Barbican

27 September, 2015 | Barbican Centre, EC2Y 8DS

Two of Pakistan's most extraordinary musicians show off completely different yet equally entrancing sides of spiritual Sufi music; the sound of Islam's mystical inner dimension.



While previous shows have seen him experiment fusing Sufi sounds with flamenco and gospel, here he brings the raw spiritual power of traditional qawwali.

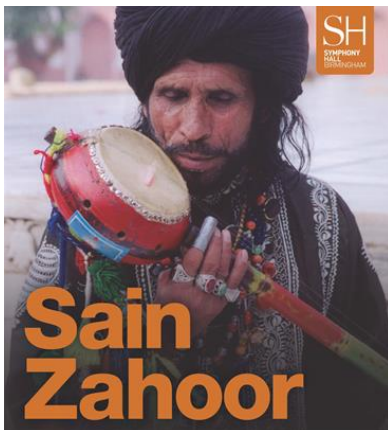
Marshall Allen's The Magic Science Quartet will give a free performance before this concert.

For details,

visit: <http://www.barbican.org.uk/music/event-detail.asp?ID=18214>

Sain Zahoor in Birmingham

30 September, 2015 | International Convention Centre, B1 2EA



Sain Zahoor is a true original. After a recurring dream as a child and being called away from his family, he's devoted his life to singing at shrines and gained a cult following. The sound of his voice is raw and powerful and the lyrics are surprisingly radical.

Rising to prominence in 1989 at the All Pakistan Music Conference, he didn't produce a record until 2006 – and was then promptly nominated for the *BBCWorld Music Award*.

For details, visit: <http://www.thsh.co.uk/event/sain-zahoor/>

NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

BPF raises funds for floods

The team at the British Pakistan Foundation (BPF) has raised over a million rupees in a week's time (August 1 - August 7) at its London office for the victims of floods in Pakistan 2015. The funds have been utilised to assemble 300 ration bags - containing flour, sugar, rice, lentils, tea, powder milk and rusks. These will be distributed with help



of the Pakistani army in flood-affected areas of Sindh.

Read more: <http://www.britishpakistanfoundation.com/bpf-raises-funds-for-pakistan-floods/>

Desi Rascals series 2: bring on the sharp-tongued moms



It's already the most believable reality show, but the Asian-based programme could only get better with more caustic mothers, more fights and a hijab or two.

Read more: <http://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/tvandradioblog/2015/jul/22/desi-rascals-series-two-bring-on-the-sharp-tongued-mums>

British Pakistanis- who are we?

Since the 1950s, when the first Pakistanis started immigrating to the UK, they have come a long way, in terms of social and economic status, education and political standing. British Pakistanis, the second largest ethnic minority group in the UK, are now more affluent, better educated, more egalitarian (with more and more women of Pakistani origin taking up careers) and, after the May 2015 general elections, have greater political representation than ever before.

Read more: <http://www.britishpakistanfoundation.com/british-pakistanis-%C2%AD-who-are-we/>

Londoner's went crazy over Mahira Khan's *Bin Roye*



Pakistan's popular heroine Mahira Khan made her fans go crazy at London's famous Mayfair Hotel, where she came for the premiere of her newly released film *Bin Roye*.

Read at: <http://uk.blastingnews.com/entertainment/2015/07>

OPPORTUNITIES

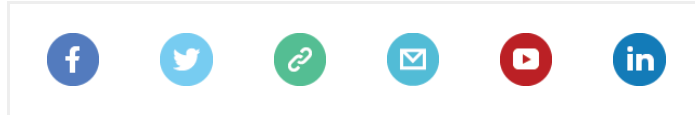
CALL FOR INTERNSHIP

British Pakistan Foundation

The British Pakistan Foundation is looking for dedicated and enthusiastic interns to work with our communications department.



If interested, send your CV to sonia.malik@bpfuk.org



Join BPF's Membership Programme [\[Click Here\]](#)

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