



## ***Revival of the Khush Community***

Although already a presence in the DC-Baltimore area for over five years, the members of KhushDC have begun to instill new life into the organization. An idea born at a New York Gay Pride march from a few South Asians, KhushDC is a community-based organization that provides a resource for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people living in the Washington, DC areas. Under new leadership, the group is pleased to publish its latest newsletter and hopes it will become a monthly tradition.

The group has already been effective in setting up Chutney Fridays—a monthly happy hour where new faces can come and mingle in a relaxed social atmosphere. In addition, the leadership hopes to have a website up and running soon where upcoming events and social activities will be posted. Until then, stay tuned to *Khush Khush Hota Hai* for all the latest Khush news.

## **Unjust Imprisonment of HIV Prevention Health Care Workers**

**O**n July 7, 2001, police in Lucknow raided the offices of Bharosa Trust and the Naz Foundation International Liaison Office, seizing HIV & AIDS prevention materials, including educational brochures, videos, and condoms.

The Senior Superintendent of Police concluded that both agencies were running "gay clubs" and spreading gay culture throughout Lucknow. Police arrested Arif Zaifar, the Director of the Naz Foundation International (NFI) office, who also serves as acting Director of Bharosa Trust, along with all the staff of Bharosa and two additional staff of NFI. All staff were charged with conspiring to commit "unnatural sexual acts" under Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), read with Sections 120b (conspiracy) and 109 (abetment) of IPC. They were also charged under Section 292 of the Indian Penal Code (sale of obscene books), Section 3 and 4 of the

Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 (prohibition of advertisements or publication containing indecent representation of women), and Section 60 of the Copyright Act, 1957 (remedies in the groundless threat of legal proceedings). The arraignment and initial bail hearing took place without the formal presentation of a police report.

The staff was engaged in legitimate HIV and AIDS interventions among populations of men who have sex with men. Both Bharosa Trust and Naz Foundation International are recognized by the Uttar Pradesh State AIDS Control Society as well as the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), which has made the highly vulnerable population of men who have sex with men a public focus of its national project implementation plan. For more information look up the complete article on the Khush archives or contact Greg Pappas at [greg\\_pappas@hotmail.com](mailto:greg_pappas@hotmail.com).

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***Feel you're missing out on all the fun? Join the KhushDC listserv!***

**Send an email to:**

KhushDC: [khushdc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:khushdc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) for all the gossip and cat fights.

KhushDCAnnounce: [KhushdcAnnounce-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:KhushdcAnnounce-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) for upcoming events and announcements.

**Or read the messages at your leisure by visiting the websites:**

KhushDC: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/khushdc/>

KhushDCAnnounce: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KhushdcAnnounce/>

# Khush in the Kitchen

by SpecialMasala

A tasty chai recipe from your favorite ABCV (American-born-confus-ed-videsi). Serve it with snacks to friends or in a paper cup to last night's trick as you push him out the door.

- 2 cups cold water
- 6 cardamom pods, crushed
- 2 whole cloves
- 1" fresh ginger, sliced
- 5 tsp loose black tea or 5 tea bags
- 2 cups milk
- sugar to taste

In a saucepan, bring water and cardamom to a boil. Lower heat, cover and simmer for 5 minutes. Reduce heat to very low and add tea. Cover and steep for 5-10 minutes. Raise the heat to high, add the milk, and heat until just about to boil. Strain and add sugar to taste.

If you'd like to contribute  
a piece, e-mail it to:

KhushDCKKHH@hotmail.com

## HealthKone

**Q: Is oral sex without a condom safe?**

**A:** This is a complicated topic, but most physicians agree that there is some risk of catching HIV from oral sex especially if your partner has a high viral load or has other STDs. Precum can also contain the virus. In addition, other STDs, such as herpes can be transmitted from oral sex.

## Reading D-ABCs

Recently, a DABC—Desi Author Book Club—was started in the Washington area. The club will focus its explorations on Desi authors who write in English. The first meeting, which took place on August 31, was small, but showed much potential for growth. The club is currently reading *What the Body Remembers* by Shauna Singh Baldwin. The next meeting will take place sometime during the week of October 15, 2001. If you're interested in joining, please contact Jason Holley at holleyj@hotmail.com or (202) 659-1925. Don't forget to read the book. Check out this review, which is reprinted here from Amazon.com.

### ***What the Body Remembers* by Shauna Singh Baldwin**

Out of the rich culture of India and the brutal drama of the 1947 Partition comes this lush and eloquent debut novel about two women married to the same man.

Roop is a young girl whose mother has died and whose father is deep in debt. So she is elated to learn she is to become the second wife of a wealthy Sikh landowner in a union beneficial to both. For Sardaji's first wife, Satya, has failed to bear him children. Roop believes that she and Satya, still very much in residence, will be friends. But the relationship between the older and younger woman is far more complex. And, as India lurches toward independence, Sardarji struggles to find his place amidst the drastic changes.

Meticulously researched and beautifully written, *What the Body Remembers* is at once poetic, political, feminist, and sensual.

## Upcoming Events

**Saturday, September 8, 2001 • 7:00 p.m.**  
**Fund Raiser for jailed HIV health worker**

Fund raising event for the Legal Defense Fund of the Naz Foundation International. See article on page 1 about Arif Zajfar, Director of Barosa Trust and Naz Foundation Liason Office in India. These are outstanding warriors in the fight against HIV/AIDS arrested for distributing condoms in a park and working in their offices trying to prevent the spread of the epidemic. Help support these brave men and contribute funds to their legal defense fund. Yummy Indian food and drink will be served. Contact Greg Pappas, 3016 Tilden Street, Washington DC 20008 (202) 362-6574.

**Friday, October 5, 2001 • 6:00 p.m.**  
**Chutney Fridays**

Unwind from the week with a drink or two and your favorite Khush circle. Meet at Titan's—upstairs from Hamburger Mary's (corner of 14th and Rhode Island). 1337 14th St, NW (202) 232-7010.

**Saturday, October 13, 2001 • 10:00 a.m.**  
**Six Flags Excursion**

Come out and scream as we celebrate Auntie Helen's birthday! As a proper lady, she will not reveal her true age (although rumor has it you can count her "rings" to find out). Meet at the Cyberstop Cafe at 10am. Contact Martin Varghese at martinvarghese@aol.com.