



The Fragility of Desi Gay Relationships

by Ninad Jog

(part 1 of 4)

I sometimes wonder: Why do desi-desi gay couples have paradoxically high breakup rates, considering that India's married heterosexuals have lower divorce rates than Western countries? Wouldn't you expect the two rates to be similar? Why is it rare to find a desi gay in the U.S. in a stable relationship with another desi gay even when most desi gays profess a desire for being in a relationship? Is it something about America or something about the desi psyche that keeps desis from sustainably dating each other?

A plaintive cry makes the rounds of the desi Internet chat networks and emails: Why does my countryman (gay or not) look away from me when I run into him in a public place in the U.S.? That's easy to answer. Because he's embarrassed at seeing his own image in you, that's why! The desi gay question has a less simple answer.

To be continued...

Leaders Speak Out Against Terrorism

contributed by Gianmarco

Shocked and bewildered, the global community watched the familiar New York skyline change forever. As we all condemn these acts of terror, world leaders stood out and expressed their feelings for the people of the United States and the world.

Much of the world came together Thursday to remember the victims. Russian television and radio stations halted their broadcasts, church bells tolled across Austria, and German leaders quietly gathered on the steps of the chancellery in Berlin.

Yasser Arafat: "We are completely shocked. It's unbelievable. We completely condemn this very dangerous attack, and I convey my condolences to the American people, to the American president and to the American administration, not only in my name but on behalf of the Palestinian people."

The 57 Islamic nations that make up the Organization of the Islamic Conference have also condemned the attack, saying it

stands against Islam.

President Pervez Musharraf: "The people of Pakistan are deeply shocked and outraged at the dreadful terrorist attacks in New York and Washington which have resulted in an unprecedented loss of thousands of innocent lives. It is difficult to describe in words our sorrow and grief at this moment of national tragedy for the American people."

"NATO and Russia are united in their resolve not to let those responsible for such an inhuman act go unpunished."

George Bush: "We must be mindful that, as we seek to win the war, we treat Arab-Americans with the respect they deserve. There are thousands of Arab-Americans who live in New York City who love their flag," the president said. "We should not hold one who is a Muslim responsible for an act of terror."

Prime Minister Ecevit of Turkey: "We should not consider this incident as an attack against the most powerful state of the world, but a terrorist crime targeting the whole humanity."

Next month in Khush Khush Hota Hai...

- *Boy problems? Girl problems? Ask Aunt Helen! She'll answer all your questions about love, life and happiness in the nation's capital...*
- *More tasty recipes...*
- *More articles, features and fun stuff...*

If you'd like to contribute to KKHH, send your article, comments or questions to: KhushDCKKHH@hotmail.com

Khush in the Kitchen

by SpecialMasala

A simple but classic recipe for tamarind-date chutney. Sweet, tart, and a little hot (and, although you might think it's Bengali in origin, RajKumari, it's NOT!). Serve with fried savorys, or garnish with a dollop on banana raita and you will taste bliss. Now remember, the Sanskrit root of 'chatni' means "for licking", so make a batch and get licking.

Khajur Imli Ki Chatni

- 1/3 heaping cup dried dates, pitted and chopped
- 3/4 C. hot water
- 1 t. chopped fresh ginger
- 1 T. chopped fresh mint or cilantro
- 1/4-1/2 t. red chili powder
- 1/4 t. salt
- 1 t. cumin seeds, pan-toasted until darkened
- 1 T. tamarind concentrate

Place all of the ingredients into blender and blend until smooth.

Allow the chatni to sit for 1-2 hours before serving so that all the flavors can meld and become ONE.

GLOWING

When you set your eyes on each other and you both knew that this was the moment.

That when your hearts met, the world was just right.

The love that you both share is so bright, no shadow could overcast.

And the joy and laughter between you is one that goes deeply to the soul.

That is why I see the love you both have is one that is always glowing.

—JK

Upcoming Events

Six Flags Excursion

Saturday, October 13, 2001 • 10:00 a.m.

The Khush group plans an outing all can enjoy. Scream along with everyone at Six Flags amusement park. Meet at the Cyberstop Cafe at 10am. Contact Martin Varghese at martinvarghese@aol.com.

Chutney Fridays

Friday, November 2, 2001 • 6:00 p.m.

Drink and be social with the KhushDC gang. At Titan's—upstairs from Hamburger Mary's (corner of 14th and Rhode Island). 1337 14th St, NW (202) 232-7010.

KhushDC to Sponsor Thai Film at Reel Affirmations

For the third year in row, KhushDC is happy to partner with One In Ten to sponsor a film for Reel Affirmations XI: Washington, DC's International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, October 11-21, 2001. The film is **The Iron Ladies**. Screening will be on October 17, 2001, at 9:15 p.m. at the Lincoln Theatre.

As a Community Partner, KhushDC's name and contact information will appear below the film's listing in the program guide, which will be distributed to more than 40,000 potential moviegoers throughout the Washington metropolitan area. In addition, KhushDC will have the opportunity to distribute literature in the lobby of the theater and present the organization to the film audiences from the stage before the film's presentation.

Community Partners have described this as a great way to promote events and to recruit new members. It's also a great opportunity to gather KhushDC members to socialize and have fun!

In the past, KhushDC partnered with One in Ten for South Asian films. This year there is no film from South Asia. However, neighbor Thailand and South Asia have had varied and important relations for centuries and we are happy to co-sponsor this event. A lively discussion on the KhushDC listserv recently in fact had many members arguing that Thailand is in fact part of South Asia. All this is just an indication of

our enthusiasm for this film. Plus, how could we not sponsor a film with a character named Chai in it?

Film Description: *What would a film festival be without a Thai transvestite volleyball team kicking straight male butt? This gender-bender comedy is the sure-fire feel good movie of the festival. Blending sports-film melodrama with the height of high camp, **The Iron Ladies** (Sa-Tre-Lex) tells the TRUE story of a group of transvestites, transgenders and gay men who spike their way to the 1996 Thai National Men's League Championships—wrecking havoc every step along the way. After a lesbian coach assumes the helm of the team, all but one of the straight players heads for the hills, leaving Chai, the straight, good-looking captain, plus Mon and Jun (a transvestite and drag queen, respectively), to find new members for the team. Enter muscle-laden gay army sergeant Nong, make-up artist Pia, transsexual cabaret star Wit, and transvestite triplets April, May and June. Plenty of conflict ensues as Chai learns valuable lessons in tolerance and many learn to celebrate the true meaning of "team spirit." You'll be cheering from your seats from beginning to end for these spirited and gleeful setters and spikers! Dir. Yongyooth Thongkongtoon, Thailand, 2000, 35mm, 104 minutes. In Thai with English subtitles.*

If you would like to volunteer for planning and running this event, please contact J.P. Singh at jps6@georgetown.edu.

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

Send an email to:

KhushDC: khushdc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com for all the gossip and cat fights.

KhushDCAnnounce: 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/>

Take a Stand!

Report anti-Muslim hate crimes: Council on American-Islamic Relations:

<http://www.cair-net.org/ireport>

To document targeting of Sikhs:

www.khalsapride.com or <http://65.42.195.102/sikhs/>

Net-IP is documenting anti-South Asians incidents:

Manik@netip.org or Sheetal@netip.org