



In a first thousands meditate for world peace in UAE with Ravi Shankar



FUJAIRAH CITY (UAE), NOV 16 /- / For the first time in the Middle East, Indian spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar held a meditation programme at a football stadium in Fujairah, one of the emirates of the UAE, to promote world peace that saw participation of thousands of people, including women and children. The galleries of the Fujairah football stadium, which has a capacity to accommodate 10,645 people, was full late Thursday evening as the audience, cutting across geographical and gender barriers joined the 'gurudev' in the much-awaited 'Illuminate Peace' event. Sri Sri imparted lessons about imbuing the art of happiness in life and

explained how tension and stress create an intolerant society. The gathering mediated in unison according to the directions of the guru who concluded the session with the 'shanti' mantra, wishing peace and prosperity to the entire humanity across the globe. The Art of Living (AOL) founder is visiting the Emirates for the first time. He embarked on a four-day tour to the UAE Thursday on an invitation from the ruler of Fujairah, Hamad bin Mohammed Al Sharqi. Showering praises on the efforts taken by Fujairah in promoting peace and countering extremism, Sri Sri offered full support of the AOL to bring peace and happiness in the Arab world. "We

want to bring happiness in the whole Arab world. All the Arab countries are burning with many issues. And there are crosses and people suffering," he told the gathering. The AOL is doing its bit to bring solace to the people of Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan, he added. The Crown prince of Fujairah, Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Mohammed Al Sharqi, who was present during this event, called the spiritual guru as the 'Master of Love'. Earlier, Sri Sri and his AOL delegation were accorded a warm reception at the royal palace here attended by prominent members of the Royal family, the Emirates and the Indian diaspora, including billionaire businessman M A Yusuf

Ali, B R Shetty, Jawahar Gangaramani and Ajay Khimji. At the reception, Fujairah ruler Al Sharqi said the UAE aims at enhancing its stature as a leading country in strengthening the cohesion between cultures. He also stressed that the country's humanitarian directives represent the principles of its wise leadership and are based on its belief in the values of goodness and giving, which was established by late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan - the founding father of the UAE, he said. Crown prince said the UAE has encouraged peaceful coexistence and unity between various cultures while affirming its commitment to tolerance, as well as its efforts to

strengthen international unity. He also commended Sri Sri's humanitarian initiatives. Sri Sri Ravi Shankar has been spearheading a worldwide movement for a stress-free and violence-free society through his foundation's numerous spiritual and lifestyle enhancing programmes. Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Secretary-General of the Arab League, also called on Sri Sri and discussed about the general political situation prevailing in the region. As part of his tour, the spiritual leader will also visit a labour camp and address labourers in Sharjah. He will also conduct a two-day, three-session meditation programme named 'Unfolding Infinity' in Dubai. (PTI)

Gina Carano joins cast of 'The Mandalorian'

LOS ANGELES, NOV 16 /- / Actor Gina Carano has come aboard the cast of "Star Wars" TV series "The Mandalorian". The 36-year-old former mixed martial artist joins Pedro Pascal, who is in negotiations to headline the cast, reported Variety. However, the details of the character that Carano, best known for "Fast and Furious 6" and "Deadpool", will be playing are not known. Written by Jon Favreau, the series is set after the fall of the Empire and before the emergence of the First Order. It follows the laborious effort of a lone gunfighter in the outer reaches of the galaxy far from the authority of the New Republic. Dave Filoni, who has worked on "Star Wars: The Clone Wars" and "Star Wars: Rebels," will direct the first episode of the series. (PTI)

Taika Waititi, Bryce Dallas Howard, Rick Famuyiwa and Deborah Chow will direct other episodes. Carano is expected to premiere on the Disney streaming service, Disney+, which is set to be launched in 2019. Disney has another "Star Wars" prequel series in the pipeline which will focus on the "Rogue One" character Cassian Andor, played by Diego Luna. (PTI)

Michael B Jordan clarifies comments about black mythology

LOS ANGELES, NOV 16 /- / Actor Michael B Jordan had created quite a stir when he made remarks about lack of black mythology and the "Black Panther" star has now clarified those comments. The 31-year-old actor told Variety last month that at black community "don't have any mythology, black mythology, or folklore". The comments, however, did not go well with many on the social media. Jordan has now clarified his remarks, saying that such stories are not presented in the cinema. "I meant we don't have black mythologies and folklore that's on the big screen and small screen, period," he told GQ. "And I want to help bring those to the masses, the same stories, bedtime stories, that I was being told of Anansi the Spider and the story of Hanibal and Mansa Musa and all these historical figures" Jordan added. The actor is currently waiting for "Creed II" which will hit the theatres in US on November 14. (PTI)

Netflix cancels 'Narcos: Mexico' red carpet due to LA wildfires

LOS ANGELES, NOV 16 /- / The raging wildfires in California forced Netflix to cancel the red carpet premiere of "Narcos: Mexico". The premiere of the fourth season of the drug drama was scheduled to be held in Los Angeles but it has now been scrapped, according to The Hollywood Reporter. "In light of the tragic and escalating wildfires in Los Angeles, we will be cancelling tonight's red carpet for the premiere of 'Narcos: Mexico'. The screening will continue as planned. We thank you in advance for understanding and encourage your support for one of the many organizations who are helping those impacted," read a statement from a Netflix spokesperson. (PTI)

CREATIVE WORLD

I felt invisible growing up: Viola Davis

NEW YORK, NOV 16 /- / Oscar winner Viola Davis has said she felt "invisible" in her formative years. The 53-year-old actor said her lack of self-belief stemmed from a long line of women who did not have a voice. "You know, I came from a story where I didn't feel just less than or I just didn't have a voice or not pretty, I felt invisible. I came from a long line of women who felt invisible. And they're the ones who attempted to throw me an invisible rope. Courage is just fear said with prayers. And I feel that it takes a great deal of courage to hit bottom and feel invisible and then to share one's story. But it's in the sharing of the story in front of people who have empathy that kills shame. And once that shame is killed, guess what? You're running." Davis said in her address at Glamour's 2018 Women of the Year awards. The "How to Get Away with Murder" star received one of Glamour's Women of the Year honours. In the wake of the #MeToo uprising, she said, it is necessary for the change to come from within. "When I look at the zeitgeist today and look at what is happening with women in terms of sexual assault, in terms of poverty, in terms of politically what's happening, I think to myself the change and the shift that needs to happen is the internal. It's finding the courage to own one's story," Davis said. (PTI)

I like to be criticised as it makes me aware, says Amitabh



MUMBAI, NOV 16 /- / Megastar Amitabh Bachchan says he is fine taking criticism as it at least assures that the creative work has been consumed by the audience as opposed to people not watching a film at all. Bachchan along with wife Jaya was in conversation with author Siddharth Dhanvant Shanghvi at the launch of his book "The Rabbit and The Squirrel" at the 9th edition of "Tata Literature Live", Thursday. When asked how do they both take criticism, Jaya quipped, "I don't actually care." Bachchan said, "The first assurance that you got is somebody has actually read your work. It's very important for us, in the creative field, because if no one goes to see our films, that's very bad. So, that's one of the first things that comes to your mind. "But seriously, I would accept criticism, I would like to be criticised because it gives you an aspect of your work which you may not be aware of," he added. The star said critics' observation often go beyond the obvious and point out nuances which is a must for people in creative field. "There are many critics who are able to have that perception, who are able to go beyond what you have written or have a different view point. I think it's important for anyone in the creative field to know that. Many times, we are unaware of it. Most of the times, the critics are right and we are wrong. In such situations, when you feel they have been unfair, cut that criticism out from the piece of paper and stick it on your bathroom wall and every morning, look into the mirror and say, 'One day buddy, I am going to disprove you,'" he added. The fest, which opened yesterday, will feature speakers, authors, intellectuals, journalists and performers from around the world including "The Crown" director Stephen Daldry, David Ebershoff, author of "The Danish Girl", Mark Tully, among others. (PTI)

Pedro Pascal may lead new 'Star Wars' TV series

LOS ANGELES, NOV 16 /- / Pedro Pascal has reportedly been offered to headline "Star Wars" TV series "The Mandalorian". Sources told Variety, the "Narcos" star has been finalised for the role and the talks are underway. Written by Jon Favreau, the series is set after the fall of the Empire and before the emergence of the First Order. It follows the laborious effort of a lone gunfighter in the outer reaches of the galaxy far from the authority of the New Republic. Dave Filoni, who has worked on "Star Wars: The Clone Wars" and "Star Wars: Rebels," will direct the first episode of the series. Taika Waititi, Bryce Dallas Howard, Rick Famuyiwa and Deborah Chow will direct other episodes. The series is expected to premiere on the Disney streaming service, Disney+, to be launched in 2019. Disney also announced a prequel series on the "Rogue One" character Cassian Andor, played by Diego Luna. (PTI)

'Game of Thrones' final season to air in April next

LOS ANGELES, NOV 16 /- / Summer of 2018 is bound to be ice-cold for the real world as the final season of "Game of Thrones" gears up to hit HBO next April. The network is yet to reveal the specific airdate of the season premier of the eighth and last instalment of the epic fantasy series. EW reported, HBO dropped a video on Twitter Monday teasing the plot of the much-awaited chapter via a recap of the previous seasons. The 1.15 minute-long clip, however, did not feature any new footage. "Every battle. Every fight. Every risk. Every fight. Every sacrifice. Every death. All for the throne," it said. The channel's official account also shared multiple images promoting the final season, with the hashtag #ForTheThrone on the microblogging site. The photographs highlighted key events from the past showcasing characters - both alive and dead. The stills revisited earlier turnaround in the life of Daenerys Targaryen, Jon Snow, Tyrion Lannister, Cersei Lannister, The Night King, Bran and Arya Stark, including a shot from the Battle of Bastards. (PTI)

LFW Summer/Resort to take place from Jan 30 to Feb 3

MUMBAI, NOV 16 /- / The Summer/Resort 2019 edition of the Lakme Fashion Week (LFW) is scheduled to take place from January 30 to February 3. The five-day extravaganza will return to JioGarden, Bandra-Kurla Complex here once again. Like every season, this time too LFW aims to encourage and inspire talent, artistry design and technology Ashwath Swaminathan, Head of Innovations at Lakme, said. Summer/Resort 2019 promises to be yet another exciting season. "Lakme Fashion Week has been a leader in creating pathbreaking trends and bringing alive the best in fashion & beauty together on the runway," he said in a statement. Jaspreet Chandok, Head Fashion, IMG Reliance Ltd said the team is excited to come back for another stint. "We are thrilled to return each season with innovation and creativity at its best. This edition too, we look forward to engaging in culturally relevant conversations while giving our established artists and designers the platform to showcase their talent," Chandok said. (PTI)

Celebrating 100 years of Bengali films

KOLKATA, NOV 16 /- / In line with the centenary celebration of the Bengali Film Industry and with purpose to encourage and give an impetus to film preservation and restoration, the 4th edition of Film Preservation & Restoration Workshop India (FPRWI) 2018 was today inaugurated at Kolkata's Rabindra Sadan. Supported by Viacom18, this initiative of Film Heritage Foundation (FHF) and International Federation of Film Archives (FIAP) is being held in association with the Kolkata International Film Festival. The workshop will be held from 15th to 22nd, November 2018 at ICCR Kolkata. With this edition of the workshop, a program to restore 100 Bengali films such as Tapan Sinha's 'Khubana', Anubrata Mukherjee's 'Ajoy Kar's Saat Paake Bandha, amongst others will be initiated. Eminent actor Shri Soumitra Chatterjee, who was the Chief Guest, inaugurated the workshop in the presence of Shri Aroop Biswas, Hon'ble Minister, Public Works Dept., Sports & Youth Dept. and Chairman, West Bengal Film Academy; Shri Indrani Sen, Hon'ble Minister of State, Information and Culture Dept. & Tourism Dept., Govt. of West Bengal; and esteemed members of the film fraternity such as Smt. Madhabi Mukherjee, Shri, Buddhadeb Dasgupta, Shri Gautam Ghose, Shri Prosenjit Chatterjee, Smt. Rituparna Sengupta, and Shri. Jawahar Sircar. Also present at the inauguration were Sudhanvhu Vats, Group CEO and Managing Director Designate, Viacom18 and Shivendra Singh Dugarpur, Founder & Director of Film Heritage Foundation and David Walsh, Training and Outreach Coordinator, FIAP.

Speaking at the occasion, Sudhanvhu Vats, Group CEO and MD Designate, Viacom18, said, "The Viacom18 believes in the power of synergies and the way our association has shaped up over the past three years is an apt example of harnessing the ability of the collective for the greater good. With collaboration of Government bodies, film fraternity, the international community of film restoration experts and cinema enthusiasts, we have been able to create an untrained cadre of archivists. The importance of cinema as a cultural relic and is equipped to preserve and archive it, for future generations. With the past three editions of the workshop in Mumbai, Pune and Chennai, we are proud to now have created a pool of about 200 individuals who are aware and equipped to preserve films across India." The week-long intensive program will train a total of 58 students from Sri Lanka, Myanmar and India in preservation and restoration techniques for celluloid print and photographic material like posters, lobby cards, song booklets and photographs. FPRWI covers every aspect of film preservation making it one of the most comprehensive workshops for preservation and restoration across the world. Global experts like David Walsh - FIAP, Camille Blot-Wellens - FIAP, Kieron Webb - British Film Institute, Marianna de Santis - L'Immagine Ritrovata, Dawn Jaros - Academy of Motion Picture, Dana Hemmenway - Centre for Creative Photography, among others, are a part of the esteemed faculty. The 4th edition of the workshop introduces a new format allowing students to select a specialization of their interest. The program will also have practical sessions for scanning archival films with the latest and world class ARRISCAN XT scanner. Shivendra Singh Dugarpur, Founder & Director, Film Heritage

J K Simmons to star in 'Veronica Mars' revival

LOS ANGELES, NOV 16 /- / Veteran actor J K Simmons has joined the cast of Hulu's "Veronica Mars" revival. According to the Hollywood Reporter, Simmons will play an ex-con named Clyde Prickett in the series. Clyde served 10 years for racketeering and was the first inmate in Chino to offer protection to Neptune real estate developer Big Dick Casablancas (David Starzyk) when he entered the prison. After getting free Clyde started working as the elder Casablancas' fixer. He is the smarter and more dangerous of the two and has a network of fellow ex-cons he uses to do his dirty work. The eight-episode Hulu series also features Dawn Lewis, Patton Oswalt, Clifton Collins Jr and Izabella Bell. Series veterans Kristian Bush, Emrico Colantoni, Jason Doherty, Percy Daggs III, Francis Capra, Ryan Hansen, Max Greenfield and Daran Norris are all returning. The new season revolves around a series of murders among spring break parties in Neptune. The family of one victim asks Veronica (Bell) to look into the case, exposing the class divide in Neptune once more. (PTI)



Foundation, further added, "Film preservation is a highly specialized field that requires trained archivists. The goal of these annual intensive workshops has been to create awareness about the urgent need to save our film heritage as well as to create a resource of trained archivists who can take this forward. After the success of the first three editions, we are thankful to the Government of West Bengal for their support towards bringing FPRWI to the Kolkata and we are encouraged by their decision to make the preservation of their film heritage a priority." On inaugurating the 4th Film Preservation & Restoration Workshop India 2018, legendary actor and Chairman of KIFF, Prosenjit Chatterjee said, "Saving and showcasing Bengali cinema is of utmost importance and we are glad that such concerted efforts are being made to ensure that our cinematic heritage is being preserved. I am grateful to Viacom18 and the Film Heritage Foundation for bringing the FPRWI workshop to Kolkata." At the opening ceremony of the workshop, Veteran actor Shri Soumitra Chatterjee said, "Bengali cinema has got international accolades to India and we are in dire of need of saving this heritage. Works of these legendary actors, directors, musicians and cinematographers need to be saved and hence, an idea that we are today taking the youth to will inspire the youth to preserve Bengali cinema." (EOIC) (Photo- Arijit Ganguly)