

OK! PAKISTAN

FIRST FOR CELEBRITY NEWS

ISSUE 71, MARCH 2020

ISLA FISHER

HOLLYWOOD'S FUNNY GIRL!

EMILY BLUNT

"MY CHILDREN ARE MY QUIET PLACE"

SABOOR ALY

MAKING WAVES

"I WAS BORN INTO STARDOM"

IMAN ALI

THE TALENTED ACTRESS ON FILMS, LIFE, AND JUST GOING WITH THE FLOW

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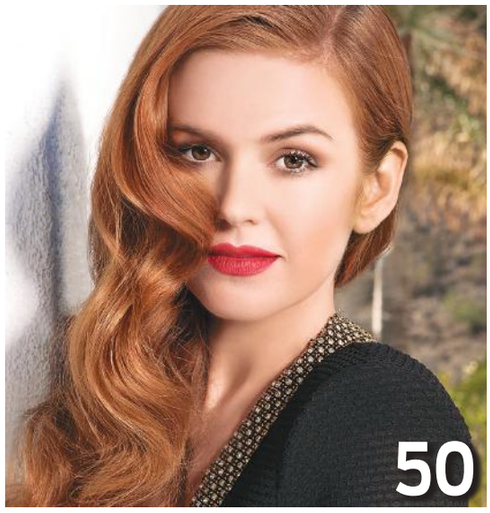
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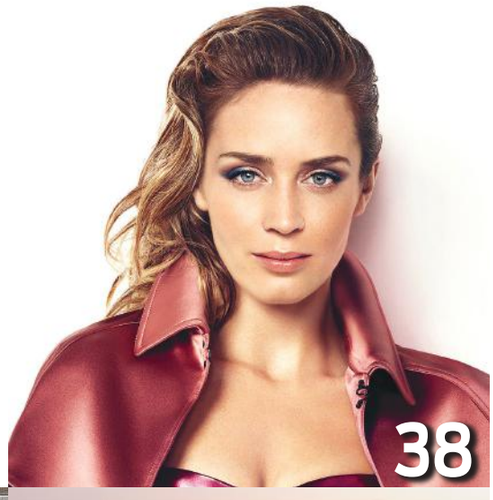
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Editor's Note



"I just do my work and believe whatever is mine will come to me as Allah wills," shares the gorgeous and talented actress and supermodel Iman Ali. Acclaimed for her roles in films such as *Khuda ke Liye* and *Bol*, Iman is hard working, keeps her focus on her work and doesn't covet the limelight. Blessed with a rare combination of talent, beauty and brains, she has made her mark in the world of cinema and fashion, while staying true to her principles and values.

Iman's new film, *Tich Button*, where she acts opposite Farhan Saeed, is slated for release on Eid-ul-Fitr this year, and she is happy with how the project has shaped up. Iman is extremely selective about choosing the right scripts, and refuses to be typecast, opting to add to her repertoire of work with meaningful roles. In this exclusive interview, the actress opens up about her career trajectory, being straightforward, and just going with the flow...

This issue also features an in-depth interview with award-winning actress Emily Blunt, who has critically acclaimed films such as *The Devil Wears Prada*, *A Quiet Place,* and *The Girl on the Train* to her credit. She now stars in the sequel to *A Quiet Place*, where she reprises her role as Evelyn Abbott. The gifted actress opens up about working on the film, and how motherhood has changed her. "I actually think that I am much more confident as an individual and I feel that I am able to not just live more intensely but also take on roles that I may have been reluctant to play before."

We catch up with Saboor Aly, who talks about making a niche for herself, and her plans for the future. Saboor has appeared in hit TV productions such as *Mehmoodabad Ki Malkain*, *Nanu Aur Main* and *Visaal*. "I'm a spontaneous actor," she shares.

Isla Fisher's impressive career includes stellar films such as *The Great Gatsby*, *Confessions of a Shopaholic*, and *Now You See Me*. The Aussie star is renowned for her comic genius, and elaborates: "There's something about comedy and humour which just gives me so much joy." Isla has shown equal prowess in serious roles too, and in this interview, she talks about her new movie, *Greed*, an expose of the fashion industry, and why it is important for women to shop in an ethical way.

In addition, there are a number of beauty, travel and health features for you to read. Enjoy the issue!

Sara

Sara Amir Turab
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Editor's Picks



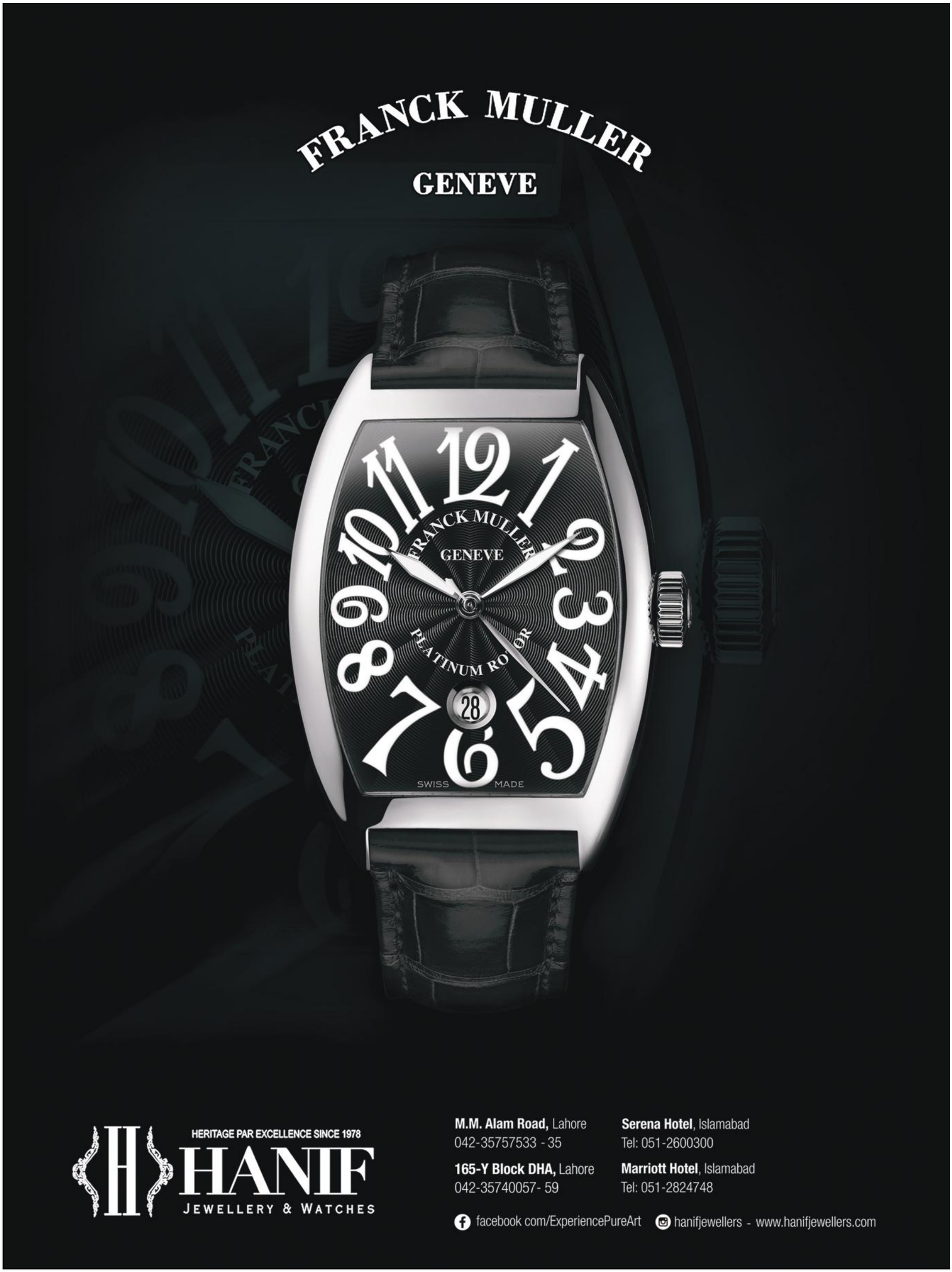
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CEO, PUBLISHER & CREATIVE DIRECTOR

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF – SARA AMIR TURAB ALI

MANAGING EDITOR – MAIRA PAGGANWALA

FASHION & BEAUTY EDITOR – ALIZEH PASHA

CONTRIBUTING FASHION & BEAUTY EDITOR – ALYZEH RAHIM SHIRAZI

STYLE EDITOR – RAO ALI KHAN

FASHION & BEAUTY WRITER – FATIMA DANISH

CREATIVE DESIGNER – ATIF MEHMOOD

MARKETING HEAD – SHERAZ AKBER ALI

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Biographical film on the life of Wasim Akram announced



As the epic PSL opening ceremony for 2020 unfolded, there was more than just one thing that left the crowds in high spirits; Wasim Akram's biopic titled *Akram: An Era* was announced, followed by cheer and applause echoing into the night.

The story is reported to go on the floors at the end of this year and the makers have yet to issue a release date. *Akram: An Era* will be produced under the banners of 502 Productions and Pomelo Films, with executive producers Adeel Niazi and Arsalan H. Shah strapped in for the ride, with Niazi also directing the project.

Talking about the film, Wasim Akram elaborated: "The fact that films are being made on cricket and, more importantly, sports stars is not only a good sign for the film industry but for the sport as well. Movies are a unique portal to engage a whole new generation. I am looking forward to participating in the production and cannot wait to see how this pans out."

The movie is said to not only highlight Wasim Akram's many accomplishments but also cover his personal life and endeavours outside the stadium. Fans and cricket enthusiasts are waiting to see the Sultan of Swing's story unravel on screen, and are excited about the cast selection, particularly for Wasim Akram, Huma Akram and Shaniera Akram.

Executive Producer, Arsalan H. Shah added, "*Akram: An Era* is currently in its preliminary stages of pre-filming and the production houses will be commencing with auditions and screen tests soon after PSL 2020. Only time will tell if 502 Productions and Pomelo Films have found the face and presence that can match the icon that is Wasim Akram."





Strings rock Karachi!







Strings took the stage in Karachi recently, in one of the most vibrant live performances of recent times, as a part of their collaboration with Salt Arts.

Playing a huge part in the revival of the concert culture in Karachi, Strings have played in big and small arenas in the country, garnering love every time. Filled with a dizzying array of guitar riffs and drum beats, the band showcased a combination of new and old songs, including hit singles from their recently released album '30'.

The sea-front venue provided an ideal space for the band to give a captivating performance to the thousands of Karachiites in attendance.

"For the legends, for the champions, for being there for thirty years, and for showing us all the way... Thank you Strings! Karachi you are forever #1" was posted on the Salt Arts social media after the event.

The internationally acclaimed band has been in the Pakistani music scene for the last 30 years, and they maintain their presence as one of the most popular bands here. The band has been performing at concerts and festivals, bringing their live performances to eager crowds around the country after the release of their album '30'.


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Jaafar Jackson visits a TCF school in Korangi



During his recent visit to Pakistan, Jaafar Jackson, rising singer and entertainer, visited a TCF school in Korangi, where he was briefed about TCF's work and mission to educate the less privileged children of Pakistan. Jaafar took this opportunity to interact with the students and school staff and highly appreciated TCF's efforts in enabling education for children living in extreme poverty. He was highly impressed by TCF's scale of operations and success in breaking down barriers to education. The Citizens Foundation (TCF) is a strong advocate of the belief that a truly informed and educated society forms the foundation of a progressive state and instills in its citizens the ability to adapt and evolve with changing times. It is a non-profit organization set up in 1995 by a group of citizens who wanted to bring about positive social change through education. 23 years later, TCF is now one of Pakistan's leading organizations in the field of education for the less privileged.





Arab News Pakistan edition marks two-year anniversary

Arab News, the Middle East's leading English-language daily, marked the two-year anniversary of Pakistan online edition, launched as part of the newspaper's ongoing global and digital expansion. The service covers news and views from Pakistan and the wider region, with a particular focus on Islamabad's ties with Saudi Arabia and the Arab world. Award-winning journalist Baker Atyani leads the digital news service, which focuses on improving mutual understanding between Islamabad and the Middle East.

Arab News Pakistan digital edition has successfully made its mark in the local media landscape as a credible and balanced news outlet since its launch in Feb. 2018, becoming a key news source for official quarters and avid readers alike.

The digital edition based in Islamabad is managed by veteran journalist and the newspaper's Southeast Asia bureau chief Baker Atyani.

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Harry's royal ban

As Harry and Meghan return to the UK to fulfil their final engagements, her Majesty says the couple can't trade as 'Sussex Royal'.

The Duke of Sussex has joked he's Livin' On A Prayer as reports intensify about Her Majesty the Queen's plan to ban him from using the word royal in his branding. Harry made his comments during a spoof text exchange with musician Jon Bon Jovi to promote their collaboration project for the Invictus Games Foundation. But if Harry and his grandmother were feeling any tensions over the latest twist in the royal resignation rift, they certainly weren't showing it. The monarch, 93, looked typically untroubled as she arrived at the Royal National ENT and Eastman Dental Hospitals in London to open a new medical facility. Ironing out the finer details of what's been described as a "complex" situation following Meghan and Harry's decision to quit, the Queen is said to have "agreed" with senior officials that it is no longer viable for them to trade as #SussexRoyal. But a spokesperson for Harry and Meghan has since insisted, "Discussions are still ongoing, however, a change will be announced alongside the launch of their new non-profit organisation." They've spent considerable time and money building their social media presence under the royal banner, constructing a glossy website and trademarking the #SussexRoyal moniker. And it's been reported that defiant Meghan has told her inner circle of friends that there is nothing "legally stopping" her from using the name. There are hopes that Harry will meet up with the Queen when he arrives in the UK this week to carry out the first of his final six engagements for the royal family.

The couple will officially step down as senior royals on March 31 – which has been dubbed "Megxit" day – and begin a 12-month transition period. Harry and Meghan will no longer carry out official engagements on behalf of the Queen, but are expected to attend major celebrations, including Trooping the Colour in June.

Julie's battle with cancer

Dame Julie Walters has revealed that she secretly battled bowel cancer last year. The *Mamma Mia!* actress was diagnosed with stage three cancer – meaning it had spread to her lymph nodes – 18 months ago while filming *The Secret Garden* with Colin Firth. She admitted that, initially, she thought the doctors "must have made a mistake".

Recalling the moment she had to tell her husband of 23 years, Grant Roffey, she said, "I'll never forget his face. Tears came into his eyes." The 70-year-old subsequently had surgery to remove 30cm of her colon, where the two primary tumours were, before undergoing chemotherapy. Thankfully, she now has the all clear.




ART DIR: PAUL MARCIANO PH: JOSH RYAN © GUESS?, INC. 2020
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Watch Her Fly

Dawood Global Foundation recently launched Pakistan's first all-female incubator. The Buraq Center by Ladiesfund is a collaboration between Dawood Global Foundation, the German Consulate in Karachi and LUMS National Incubation Center (LUMS NIC), and offers a world of possibilities to women entrepreneurs and innovators.


FATIMA, NAZNEEN, NASREEN, KHURSHEED & TARA UZRA DAWOOD

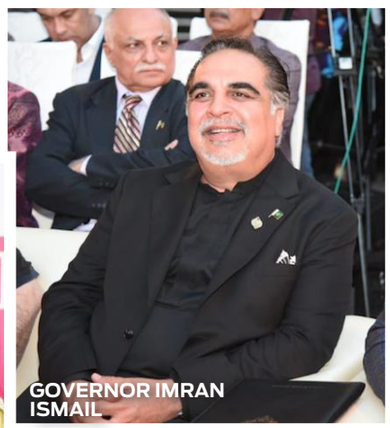

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SAMIA MUFTI &
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An Evening With Jaafar Jackson

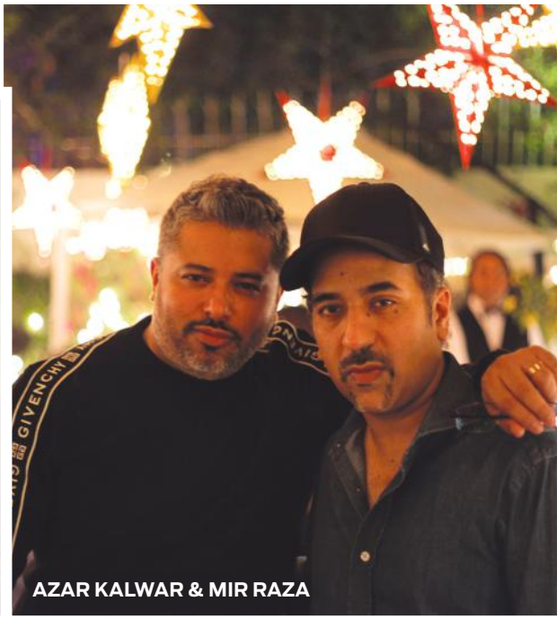
Jaafar Jackson, son of Jermaine Jackson & nephew to King of Pop, Michael Jackson visited Karachi recently.



SEHER HAJI, JAAFAR JACKSON & SOHA HAFEEZ



ALI RAZA GHUMRO &
MANSOOR KARIM



AZAR KALWAR & MIR RAZA



NIMRAH GHUMRO, JAAFAR
JACKSON & SANA HAFEEZ



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Shaan-e-Pakistan

Shaan-e-Pakistan recently hosted a star-studded press conference in Karachi. It's a unique Pakistani platform that highlights culture, food, music and fashion, aiming to project the best that Pakistan has to offer beyond its borders.


AAMER QURESHI & RIAZ QADIR


KHURSHEED HAIDER


SHAMEERA MAHPARA


HUMA NASSR & FAISAL MUNEEB


SHANAZ RAMZI & ANEESA UNUS


ASIM MEHMOOD


HIRA HUSSAIN


BISHA ABBAS


OBAID SHEIKH


SHAHROZE KHAN


NAZNEEN TARIQ


WAJIH FAROOKI


XAINAB ANSARI


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FATIMA ZARA MALLIK


TOOBA HAQ & MARIUM HASHIM

KARACHI

Zainab Chottani

Zainab Chottani hosted a high-tea to launch her new luxury lawn collection. Hira Mani, the voice and face behind the campaign video, surprised everyone by singing at the event. All the guests were also attired in bespoke Zainab Chottani ensembles.


RABIA & FARAH HAQ


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HIRA MANI


ANUSHA BAWANY


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FATMA HASSAN


SAMAN HAYAT SOOMRO


SANEELA SWALEH


NOOR E SEHAR


FAIZA SALEEM & SHEHERYAR MUNAWAR



ARSALAN & FATIMA EFFENDI


FRIEHA ALTAF



DANIEL & MONA

KARACHI

#Extra24Hours

Velo Pakistan celebrated the leap year by hosting a music-filled evening in Karachi with renowned international DJs Illyus and Barrientos in addition to Turhan James, providing extra rhythm and extra beats during the #Extra24Hours of 2020.


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ANOUSHEY ASHRAF


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HUMAYUN ALAMGIR


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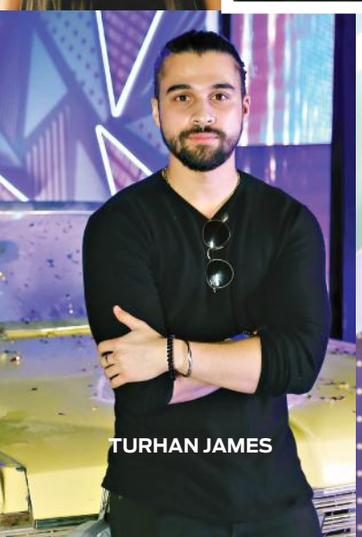
WALID SIDDIQUI


ZHALAY SARHADI


WARDHA SALEEM & NUBAIN


HAJRA YAMIN


FEEHA JAMSHED


TURHAN JAMES


FAKHR-E-ALAM


FRIEHA ALTAF, DEEPAK PERWANI & FARESHTEH ASLAM


SHAMAELA PARACHA


MALIHA AZIZ


MUSHK KALEEM

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Zaha Store Launch

Khadijah Shah of Élan recently launched Zaha's newest store in Karachi's Dolmen Mall.


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ANOUSHEY ASHRAF


NEELO


AKIF MEHMOOD & ANDLEEB RANA


SAHER H PARACHA


FAIZA LAKHANI


JAHANARA



HASNAIN LEHRI


AREEBA HABIB



AZEEMAH NAKHODA & DR TASLEEM


MAHEEN KHAN


FATIMA


MEERA ANSARI


MISBAH MUMTAZ

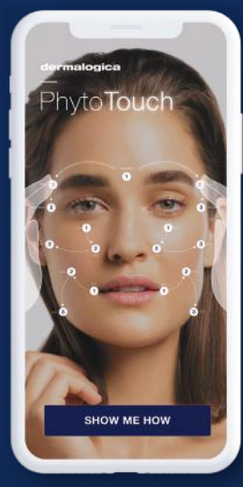
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Anaya

Kiran Chaudhry of Anaya held an exclusive preview of her 2020 luxury lawn at her new outlet on MM Alam Road.


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ANILA & MINAL

BUSHRA HAIDER

ZAINAB REZA & RIMA FARID


KIRAN CHAUDHRY & SAHAR NOON


AREEJ FATIMA


AREESHA CHAUDHRY


SANA MALIK

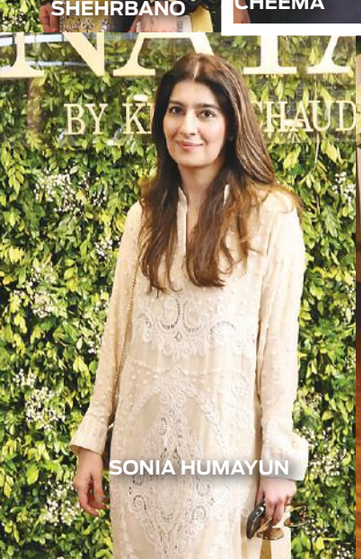

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SEYHAM VAHIDY


SHEHRBANO


ZAINAB CHEEMA


SHIREEN REHMAN


SONIA HUMAYUN


ZARMINAY HAQ & SAIRA TIWANA


RABIA SAJEEL


RUBIA MOGHEES


SAMMA ZAEEM


ALI AZMAT & FARIHA ALI


AHMED ALI BUTT


ANOUSHEY ASHRAF



HUMMAD ALI & MAHAM HUMMAD

LAHORE

Velo celebrates V-Day

This Valentine's day Velo Pakistan hosted a Valentine's party in Lahore, which was attended by socialites & celebrities from across the city.


FATIMA & FRIEHA


NATTY


AQSA ALI


UMAR AKMAL


HAMMAD SOHAIL LEVIS


ZARMINAY HAQ


ZAMAN KHAN & SAIRA AGHA


EMAAD IRFANI


TANYA HUSSAIN


AGHA MURTAZA & NAIMA


ZAINAB REZA


SAIRA AGHA

LAHORE

Aibak Polo Cup

The Lotus Aibak Polo Cup final took place in Lahore recently and was attended by Lahore's finest.


AAMIR MAZHAR & OMAR KHALID


GAUHER BANO & FIZA


ALINA SHAHID


HAMZA ANWAAR & SYRA SHEIKH


SELINA RASHID KHAN & ZAIN HUSSAIN QURESHI


DR. ZARQA


MOMINA SIBTAIN


PERVEEN SARWAR


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RIMA FARID


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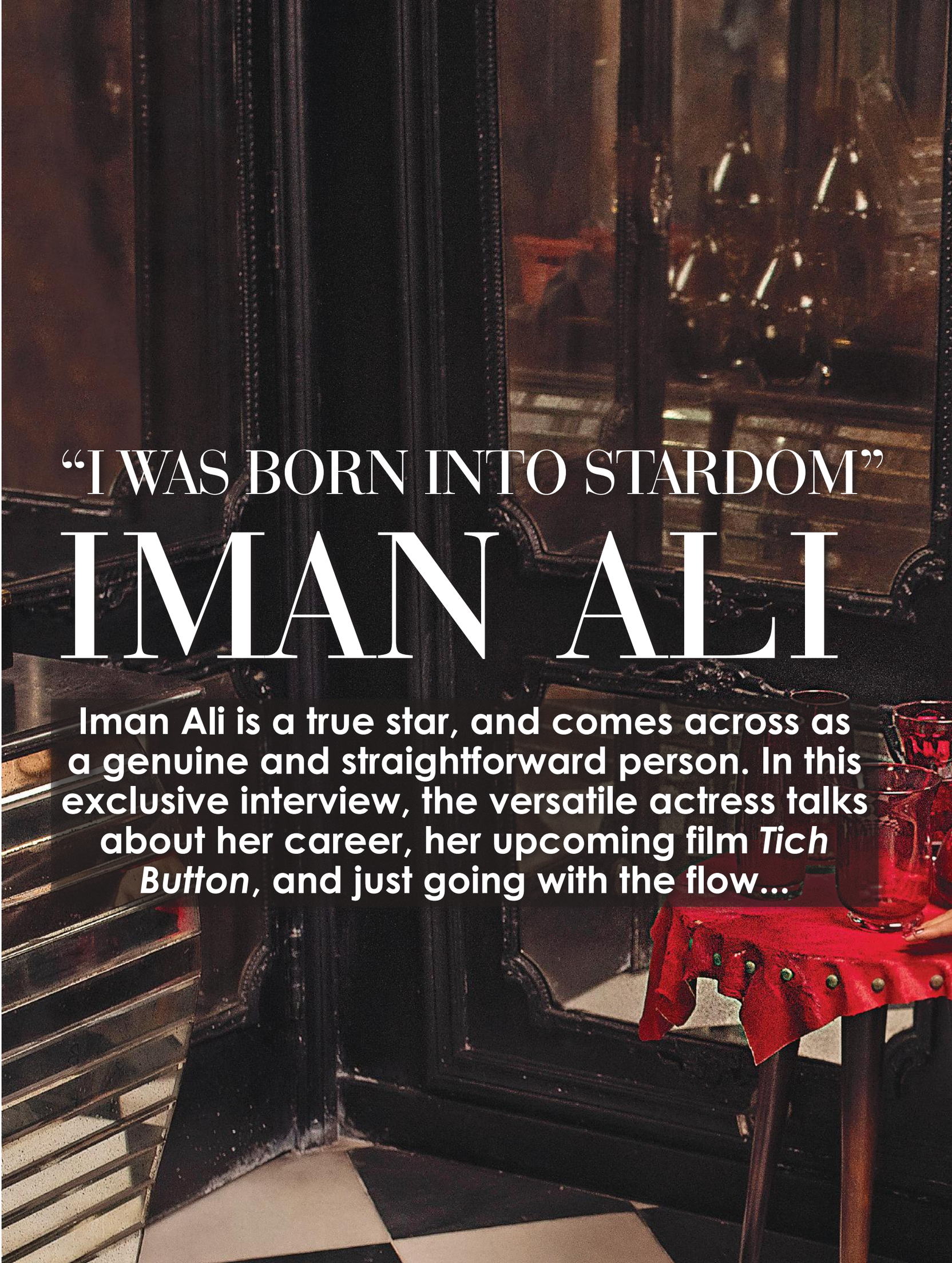
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"I WAS BORN INTO STARDOM"

IMAN ALI

Iman Ali is a true star, and comes across as a genuine and straightforward person. In this exclusive interview, the versatile actress talks about her career, her upcoming film *Tich Button*, and just going with the flow...





Oozing confidence and charisma, Iman Ali defies all conventions in her personal and professional lives. Candid in her conversation, Iman openly confesses to the controversies which trail her, and speaks about her choices and opinions on everything, from director Shoaib Mansoor to upcoming models and actors, from her struggles with her disease to her distaste at being called beautiful or glamorous. A no-show at most award functions, Iman prefers to lounge at home in her night suit and doesn't covet the limelight or being part of the rat race which most of her contemporaries and newcomers find themselves mired in. She stands for what she believes in, whether it's doing a simple role because the script is good or doing a TVC to create awareness about Multiple Sclerosis.

Born into stardom, Iman may have found her calling in modelling and acting but fame is not something she hankers after nor is she one to plan ahead or be overly ambitious. Not being one to mince her words, she doesn't hesitate to call out the actors who have sullied the reputation of the industry with their antics and those who are in it for the fame and fall apart at the first hurdle of failure.

Comfortable in her skin, Iman handles all questions thrown at her with her customary aplomb and frankness, making her not only one of the few not afraid to speak their mind but also one of the few not afraid to court controversy. This lack of fear of what others may say about her is what makes her who she is, a true diva.

"I just do my work and believe whatever is mine will come to me as Allah wills."

You chose to enter modelling at a time when it was considered taboo for decent girls from 'good families' to opt for modelling as a career path. What prompted this decision and was this something you always wanted to do? How supportive was your family?

IMAN ALI: I think at the time I started modelling, girls from good families were the ones choosing modelling as a career and I feel the opposite is true nowadays. My family was not supportive at all; my father was very against it and said he would break my legs if I did this. I said, "Baba when you break my legs I'll leave modelling because I wouldn't be able to do it anyway" (Laughs). I wanted the financial support it would provide, considering the household issues we had but it just happened for me. Wherever I would go, I would get the same question: 'why don't you model?', because I was tall and thin.

This is a big misconception that models become thin; models become models because they were thin to begin with.

How did you venture into movies? Was this a conscious decision to expand your portfolio or an opportunity you stumbled on?

IA: Everyone wanted me to act as my father was an actor, but I didn't want to do the kind of films being made and offered. Then Shoaib Mansoor made the perfect film with an amazing script; not the kind of film anyone had thought of and it was just my kind of thing which no one had conceived before and I just accepted the role.

Most models venture into acting as the next rung on the career ladder. At the same time, they are usually taken on due to the 'glam factor' associated with having a prominent, pretty face to grace the silver screen or TV. What is your take on this?

IA: First of all, are they all pretty? Also, most models don't have the kind of faces suited to the big screen and most models don't act. Also, *Khuda ke Liye* had nothing to do with glamour so in my case it doesn't apply. A few like myself may have given an erroneous impression that they can get into it but not everyone can act. Also, I feel TV actors shouldn't work in films as seeing the same faces on TV and then in the cinema seems pretty boring to me. Not everyone can do it as cinema requires a bit of underacting as well as a different kind of screen presence. You can bawl on TV dramas but in films, even a single tear is seen more prominently and has a stronger effect. Good films are a different medium altogether.

***Khuda ke Liye* and then *Bol* were game changers in Pakistani cinema and catapulted you to the status of a talented and smart actress. Do you feel it helped boost you from just a pretty face to someone to be taken seriously?**

IA: I'm not such a big fan of *Bol* actually. I've ▸



IMAN ALI LOOKS REGAL IN A BLACK GOWN BY ERUM KHAN



“When I started modelling, girls from good families were the ones choosing modelling as a career and I feel the opposite is true nowadays.”

IMAN DONS A GREEN OVERALL BY NINE LINES AND JEWELLERY BY ROUGE BY ROOJ AMIR



“I have always been open about having Multiple Sclerosis and came on TV to create awareness about it.”

said it many times that *Bol* was quite inaccurate on many levels. For example, the part about the hanging which didn’t happen as per Pakistan’s constitution (the way it happened so quickly) and why the family didn’t appeal. This is why I left the main role that Humaima played. It was a game changer but it didn’t change much game. As for being taken seriously, I don’t think or worry about these things; I just do my work and believe whatever is mine will come to me as Allah wills.

Shoaib Mansoor seems to be your director of choice. How has he been as a mentor and guide?
IA: We did the video, the Anarkali one which was great, and he used to be great but not so much now (Laughs). Somehow everything in my life ends up being controversial. My choice is always good scripts, be it any director. As for him being a mentor, he didn’t even talk to me much on the sets. He doesn’t talk much, he is an extremely quiet person and he’s that way with everyone, especially women, which is why you never see him at any award shows or events. Even for my Anarkali video, the only direction he gave me was, “I want defiance” and that was it. He just leaves it to the actor, that is his style of direction, and I like that because he is smart and he gets smarter actors whom he doesn’t have to direct much.

How has your experience working in TV been? You have done very limited work there. Why is that? What is your opinion about Pakistani dramas in general?
IA: TV was never my thing and also, everyone would have said she got it because her father is an actor which is also why I wasn’t that interested. No, I don’t watch much TV and don’t have an opinion as such.

Rumors and mudslinging are always part of the package when you are a woman in your line of profession, with allegations ranging from drug use to being a party girl. You have received your fair share of criticism and accusations. How do you - and your family - deal with it? Was this part of your decision to quit modelling at the peak of your career?
IA: There weren’t many rumors about me. Mudslinging directed towards women is present in every field, whether you are working in an advertising agency or a bank, whether you are wearing sleeveless or a shirt without a *dupatta*. Also, I don’t go out much. I’m always at home in my pj’s which is what I find most comfortable, so even if anyone is saying anything, I don’t ▸



IMAN STUNS IN A BLACK BLAZER BY VANYA AND JEWELLERY BY ROUGE BY ROOJ AMIR



IMAN LOOKS ETHEREAL IN A GOLD SEQUENCE TOP BY SEM SEM AND JEWELLERY BY ROUGE BY ROOJ AMIR

find out. Recently, when my Multiple Sclerosis TVC came out, I was following that but otherwise, I'm not active on social media. My Instagram account was made a short while back and I had someone make it for me.

From a model to an actor, how has your journey been and how have you evolved - personally and professionally?
IA: I don't think much about it, I'm just doing my work. Acting is fun, it is at times easier for me. But our production isn't so organized and with my MS, a lot of physical work becomes difficult. Work itself is a journey and you evolve organically with time.

Any plans of working across the border?
IA: No plans.

You have always been very open regarding your struggles with Multiple Sclerosis. How do you deal with the challenges which come with MS on days when you have serious work commitments?
IA: From the day I was diagnosed, I have always been open about having Multiple Sclerosis and came on TV to create awareness about it. Regarding bad days when I have work commitments, they find out on set if I haven't told them already. I'm very religious about this and believe whatever is meant to be mine will be mine so I've always been honest about it and the challenges which come with it. I am not a very ambitious person frankly so if it happens I'll do it because I enjoy acting. If I feel the role is right for me and the script is good, I'll go for it and for someone who doesn't want to work with me, I don't want to work with them either. I recently made a TVC on MS to spread more awareness about the disease and it's worth a watch as I believe it's very well made and gets the message across really well.

How do you deal with the pressure to always look amazing and project an image of glamour and mystique?
IA: I don't do that. In *Mah-e-Mir*, I had a double role and the other role had me with minimal makeup and in *Khuda ke Liye* I didn't play a glamorous role so I am comfortable being simple. I don't go to award shows or the red carpet or worry about glamour; that's not how I look at myself. I don't like being called beautiful or even looking in the mirror; I can literally do my makeup without one.

What is your opinion about social media and the 'creation' of celebrities it has spawned? Do you feel it is necessary to have an active social media presence to retain your celebrity status?
IA: Yes, and it's crazy how they just post pictures with three different outfits a day and become insta stars. I don't understand it, sitting here in my night suit at home, not really caring how I look.

What is your take on brand endorsement? How do you decide which brands to work with?
IA: Well you have to pay the bills (Laughs).





IMAN WEARS A SHIMMER, ONE-OFF SHOULDER OUTFIT BY SEM SEM AND JEWELLERY BY ROUGE BY ROOJ AMIR

But I endorse brands which I use myself, like I drink cola and I use the Lux shower gel myself as well. Or if it's a mobile phone, I would see that it has good features and gives value for money even if I don't use it myself.

How has life changed post marriage? Have you decided to take a back seat when it comes to your career?
IA: I was always in the back seat (Laughs) but I am actually working more now. I don't like to plan so much. I like acting and modelling but I'm too lazy to think about what's next and what's my career plan. I am doing another film but it's not by plan, it just happened. The director was the friend of a friend and the producer happened to be my husband's friend's father but basically, I loved the script so I agreed to it.

Word of advice for other aspiring models/ actors?
IA: Do it only if you think you can be good at it. Don't do it for any other reason like money or fame. Such aspirants without talent should stay away as they are ruining it for us and tarnishing our reputation. No word of advice except just that don't think about it too much, do your work well and that's it. Don't be afraid to fail once in a while.

Tell us about your upcoming film, *Tich Button*.
IA: I'm not at liberty to say much. Farhan is the producer as well as one of the main leads. It's about friendship and love and my character was all about telling the truth which is very close to me in reality.

How did you get roped into doing a movie after a long hiatus?
IA: Well, I did it because my friends were doing it and said you can't say no (Laughs). And I said I'm getting married in two months but I was let off just three days before my wedding; it was a fun experience though.

"I don't go to award shows or the red carpet or worry about glamour; that's not how I look at myself."

The trailers seem to show you as a city girl who falls in love with a complete opposite. What is your character like?
IA: That's somewhat right. My character is from Istanbul and is a very strong, independent and fierce girl.

How was it working with such eminent actors and newbie Farhan Saeed?
IA: Farhan was lovely to work with; he's a great actor. I didn't have much work with the other actors. The close family depicted in the film was a lot of fun to do, especially working with actors of such high caliber as Qavi Khan and Marina Khan. They were all really sweet to me and we all got along really well. Marina Khan played my mother and we shared a very comfortable rapport; in fact, I think we are quite alike, like not looking at our scenes after shooting one like everyone else does.

Does *Tich Button* mean we will see more of you on the big screen?
IA: I am doing another film but I don't make any plans for the future. I prioritize comfort over all else, not to be a part of the rat race, especially with my illness but even before that. Perhaps because I was born into stardom, it was never a big deal for me and I don't know any other life. OK!

INTERVIEW: HIRA SALMAN
STYLING & COORDINATION: RAO ALI KHAN
PHOTOGRAPHY: HASAN HABIB HASHMI
LOCATION: COURTESY OF DIMENSIONS HOME
MAKE-UP: ADNAN ANSARI
HAIR: JAVED





“My children are my refuge, they are my really quiet place”

EMILY BLUNT

Hollywood actress Emily Blunt on the sequel to *A Quiet Place*, what it was like working with her husband on the film, plus how motherhood has changed her...



ARTHUR BLANK, ANGELA MACUGA, EMILY BLUNT & DON SALADINO ATTEND THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR STUTTERING'S 13TH ANNUAL GALA AT GUSTAVINO'S IN NEW YORK

Emily Blunt has a devilish laugh to match her ebullient personality. The lithe British beauty is a sassy, happy-go-lucky woman whose spirit is infectious to anyone who has the good fortune to make her acquaintance. She loves to go wild at karaoke bars where she admits to occasionally having had "a few" too many drinks while belting out pop songs with considerable panache.

Now audiences are about to see Blunt in A Quiet Place*: Part 2*, seeing her return to her role as Evelyn Abbott and the eerie apocalyptic world where she and her two children must once again struggle against the mysterious, ravenous aliens who rely on their heightened sense of hearing to track down their human prey. Although Evelyn's husband Lee (played by Krasinski) died in the original, audiences will be desperately anxious to see how the Abbott family (joined now by Cillian Murphy) copes in the hostile environment. Interestingly, neither Krasinksi nor Blunt had originally anticipated the possibility of a sequel, but the success of the original led Paramount to make them an offer they couldn't refuse.

"We were aware that the studio was probably going to make a sequel, with or without us," Blunt explained. "There was a sense of protection of this baby that John had created. And I think that ultimately he was always going to maybe grandfather the next one - but we were both very steadfast about not being involved. And then all of that mad reaction [to the first film] happened and he was suddenly like, 'I have an idea. I don't know. It's just the beginning of an idea...'"

Blunt was also convinced that audiences would be anxious to return to the eerie world that her husband had created: "I think people feel very invested in this family...I think it's such an open book right now, and certainly for John...And he was also very excited about the possibilities that were open to him in taking the story further."

The 36 year-old Blunt, also known for her work in *Sicario*, *Edge of Tomorrow*, and of course, *The Devil Wears Prada*, lives a comfortable distance from L.A. in the city of Ojai where she and her husband prefer to raise their daughters Hazel, 5, and Violet, 3, in a pastoral setting amid sprawling vineyards. Later this summer, Blunt will co-star opposite Dwayne The Rock Johnson in the big budget Disney family adventure film, *Jungle Cruise*.

The original *A Quiet Place* was not only a spectacular success that no one in the industry expected, but it also brought you and your husband together in a project for the first time?

EMILY BLUNT: The idea of doing theater together was already something we had been discussing. And for several years the studios had been sending us scripts for romantic comedies which would have given us the opportunity to play in the same movie, but somehow we were always particularly careful when it came to intruding on each other's work.

We didn't want to tread on each other's territory and I wouldn't have felt good about it if I had the impression that John was playing a role in a film just for my sake. I was certain that we needed to walk a fine line in this regard and he felt the same way. That's why he didn't ask me to play the main role in *A Quiet Place* at first. Instead, he waited until I asked him if I could do it.

Why do you think is it about the kind of atmosphere this kind of movie creates that has so enthralled the public?

EB: The true heart of the film, in my opinion, is the relationship between the members of that family. And what makes this so much more intense and personal is that this relationship has to be shown with gestures and not with words. And because the film is about love, it doesn't need to express itself in words. You can look back to the example of the great actresses of the silent movie era and how they were able to convey such extreme feelings as happiness, sadness or terror simply with their expressions. So in a way we were going back to that era.

How do you personally, as a mother, view the overall message of the story?

EB: I see the setting of the films as a metaphor, or as a series of metaphors. I have my vision and each spectator will have their own vision and understanding of the story. I think of it as an allegory about the fears that mothers and fathers have regarding our children. Even though I know that there will be no extraterrestrial invasion, I still have this irrational fear that something bad could happen to my children. Every parent carries that worry around with them. My children are my refuge, they are my really quiet place.

Does working with your husband ever make you worry about creating tension between yourselves given the pressures of acting opposite each other and also being directed by your spouse?

EB: Yes, of course. And in the first Quiet Place we had no idea beforehand how things would work out on the set between us. We had been looking for the right thing to work on together for a long time. We also knew from our experience working with other people and hearing about other couples' experiences acting together that you can never really tell in advance whether you're going to have that rhythm and comfort you want to have.

But once we finished the film we had this very good and gratifying feeling about the process. We ▸



“The film was not just John’s baby, but also mine.”

EMILY BLUNT ATTENDS THE 25TH ANNUAL SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS AT THE SHRINE AUDITORIUM IN CALIFORNIA



> “The true heart of the film is the relationship between the members of that family.”

EMILY BLUNT AT THE 2019 MET GALA AT THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART IN NEW YORK

> “Whenever I’m considering a project I always think of how it’s going to affect the lives of my daughters.”

were really thrilled to see how we respected each other and cared for each other while shooting the movie that was on a totally different level from our marriage.

Did you try to separate your home life from your work life while shooting the original?
EB: Of course, you try to do something like that. But in the end we couldn’t prevent the film from completely determining our life for two years. We drove to work together in the morning and then back home together in the evening, and after that we drank whiskey together in order to process this really dark story.
But above all, the film was not just John’s baby, but also mine. Because he involved me so much in artistic decisions that I also became his creative partner apart from being his lead actress.

You’ve been together with your husband John Krasinski for over a decade now. Actor couples often have a poor track record when it comes to longevity. How have you managed to enjoy a successful marriage?
EB: We’ve always been able to talk to each other and discuss everything together. Being very open and talking and not hiding any worries or concerns is so important, I think. I also think it’s an advantage having someone in your life who understands the kind of things you go through in our profession.
We also try to be very supportive of each other and we know that we always have each other to rely on and make each other feel very loved and appreciated. It’s a beautiful feeling.

What kind of father is John?
EB: He’s a very good father and that’s been a great source of comfort to me because it’s not always that easy to pursue a Hollywood career when you’re raising young children and have to be working on movie sets for months at a time. He’s great at making sure there are always fresh bottles of milk and fresh food in the house. Just those little things makes such a big difference.

In what ways has becoming a mother affected you?
EB: It changes your world completely. You become a different person because you look at your choices from a very different perspective. Whenever I’m considering a project I always think of how it’s going to affect the lives of my daughters. I only choose films now that I definitely want to do and even then I have to really love the story and my character because when your children are so young you have such a strong desire to be with them as much as you possibly can.
That’s why I nearly passed on *Sicario* because



EMILY BLUNT & JOHN KRASINSKI ATTEND THE 71ST ANNUAL WRITERS GUILD AWARDS IN NEW YORK

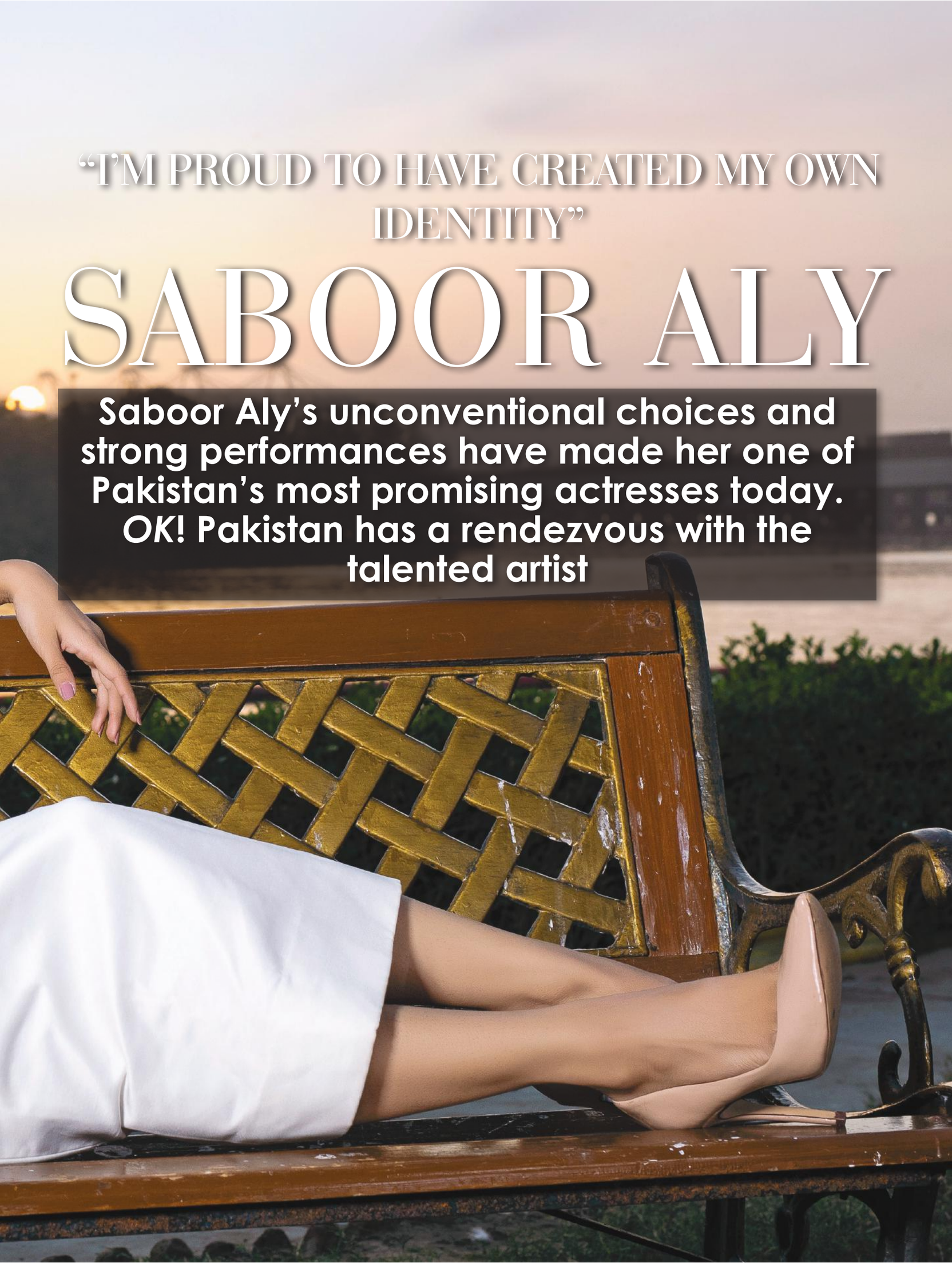
I was still feeling very vulnerable and so close to my daughter Hazel after her birth that I didn’t want to play in a very violent film about Mexican drug cartels. But once I did it I realised that becoming a mother gives you so much more strength than you thought you had. You learn that you’re actually much more capable than ever.

You’ve continued to maintain a fairly good workload even while raising your children. Did you find it at all hard to get back in shape after your pregnancies?
EB: I’m lucky that I come from a family where we don’t really put on a lot of weight. I’ve also learnt how to train properly from working with Tom Cruise on *Edge of Tomorrow* and then doing a film like *Sicario*. You learn to enjoy the discipline of that although if I don’t have to prepare for a very physical role I’m usually riding bicycles or going on hikes with my husband.

Your previous film, Mary Poppins Returns, was something of a dream come true for you. Were you also happy to be working on a movie that your kids could watch which is not the case with most of your work?
EB: Yes – it was definitely a pleasure to be part of something we can all share in. I think becoming a mum has changed so many things in my life – it’s made me more vulnerable and more emotionally aware than I ever was before, but it’s also given me more strength because I see things more clearly. I actually think I am much more confident as an individual and I feel that I am able to not just live more intensely but also take on roles that I might have been reluctant to play before. OK!

INTERVIEW: WENN
PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY





"I'M PROUD TO HAVE CREATED MY OWN IDENTITY"

SABOOR ALY

Saboor Aly's unconventional choices and strong performances have made her one of Pakistan's most promising actresses today. *OK*! Pakistan has a rendezvous with the talented artist



Saboor Aly made her acting debut with *Choti Si Kahani* but rose to fame for her role in *Mehmoodabad Ki Malkain*. She further earned praise for a series of hard-hitting performances in *Mr. Shamim*, *Rang Laaga*, *Bay Qasoor*, *Bhai* and *Visaal*.

Her sister Sajal's high-profile celebrity status sometimes overshadows hers but fortunately Saboor Ali has no complaints. She considers her sister to be her role model, both personally and professionally. Saboor elaborates, "We're different individuals, yet associated as one."

Today the highly talented and hard working actress is firmly ensconced in a space of her own. In an interview with *OK*! Pakistan, Saboor gets candid discussing her success, her upcoming projects, creating her own identity, and so much more...

How did your career start? Was it by chance or a conscious decision?

Saboor Aly: It was accidental as well as a conscious decision. We are originally from Lahore and had to move to Karachi, where I learned about an audition taking place so Sajal and I showed up. When we got there we realised that we didn't even have to audition but were luckily selected for roles in *Mehmoodabad Ki Malkain*. Fortunately, I got my first role without too much effort.

Everyone recognises you as Sajal's sister. How have you managed to hold your own and create your own identity? Did it bother you? And are you happy that you have now created your own niche?

SA: Yes, for a while despite all my efforts, struggles and hard work, I was recognised as being someone's sister, which is something that I think a lot of people go through. A lot of people, especially in this industry, are often identified as someone's daughter, or sibling or parent. I think this is difficult to go through as from the very start people create this competition for you and you are constantly compared to someone who already has a big name and is of course highly talented. Creating space for your own self or creating your own identity becomes very difficult. However, whenever anyone refers to me as Sajal's sister I've always felt a sense of pride because she has actually worked really hard and put in a lot of effort to make a name for herself. In fact I'm sure people from across the country are very proud of her. So yes, it's been difficult for me to be identified as me and people have assumed I've had it easy simply because I'm Sajal's sister, however, that has not been the case. In fact, it becomes even harder because people expect me to be exactly like her. So I'm proud to have created a place for myself and my own identity despite coming from that.

"I'm a more spontaneous actor, especially when I truly come to feel the character."

In a recent interview you said "I believe that the characters I choose should in some way depict my personal life, struggles, and choices". Why do you want to be so real in the choice of roles that you play? Isn't acting more of a platform where you can adhere to fantasy and not just reality?

SA: I don't think the dramas or generally any of the work that is done here allows us to fulfill our fantasy roles. The role of an innocent girl tends to appear a lot more than that of any imaginary or out of the box characters. However, I'm grateful for all the roles that I've played and I'm happy to have portrayed all that I have. That being said, I admit that when it comes to playing a role that you can connect with in reality, that role can be played with a lot more feeling and a lot more passion.

Tell us about your upcoming roles. Is there anything interesting in the pipeline?

SA: I have two projects coming up, *Wajah Tum Ho* and *Fitrat*. I'm really excited for both and play completely different characters in both. In *Fitrat*, I think you'll hate me at times and love me at times and in me *Wajah Tum Ho*, I'm sure you'll pity me.

What does acting mean to you? Are you a method actor or more spontaneous? How do you prepare for your role?

SA: I was never too passionate about acting and I approached it as a job that I had to do but there are some characters that compel you to become passionate about the role you have to play and put a lot of thought to it and how you can go about playing that character. I don't really follow a method so in a way I'm a more spontaneous actor, especially when I truly come to feel the character, which is when it all just comes out on cue.

Do you want to work in films? Although the ▸



"I'm grateful for all the roles that I've played and I'm happy to have portrayed all that I have."

SABOOR ALY LOOKS STUNNING IN A STRUCTURED DRESS BY SANA SAFINAZ AND JEWELLERY BY ROUGE BY ROOJ AMIR



SABOOR WEARS AN ALL-WHITE STRUCTURED OUTFIT BY ASIM JOFA AND JEWELLERY BY ROUGE

“Sajal and I tend to turn to each other whenever we’re in a rut.”

industry is still growing, our films are still far behind and they need a lot more investment, better scripts, etc. What do you think?
SA: As far as films are concerned, of course everyone wants to see themselves on the big screen, including me, but with a good script. I tend to prefer art movies, where I am given a margin to perform. That being said, I have a lot of time so even if I don’t immediately work on a film it’s okay since I’m in no hurry. I would just like that whenever I do a film, it’s a good film in which I have a margin to act. For now, I feel like I myself am not prepared for a movie but I’ll quickly be prepared and do a movie [Laughs].

Did you think about doing Bollywood too when Sajal went to act in the film *Mom*?
SA: No, I’ve never thought about doing a Bollywood film. It has just never come to mind but you know art has no boundaries so whether you’re performing here or there, it doesn’t matter as long as you’re doing what you feel like doing and following your heart.

You said in a recent interview, “My mother was my world, my best friend, my confidante, my saviour, my trusted ally, and ironically, I lost it all in an instant.” Has Sajal taken over the responsibilities of looking after the house? How’s your relationship with your sister? Do you take advice from her when signing projects?
SA: Yes, unfortunately my mother left soon but I believe she’s still with us and she has always supported us and is the reason I am where I am today. She convinced me and she put in a lot of effort with all of us. In terms of the responsibilities, I’d say most of the responsibility falls on me with regards to taking care of the house and my brother. When my mother was on her deathbed, her last few words to me were to take care of Ali (my brother) and that’s a massive responsibility that she’s given me due to which I’m always frightened of messing up and not being responsible enough. As far as advice is concerned, Sajal and I tend to turn to each other whenever we’re in a rut.

What’s next in 2020 for Saboor Aly, in terms of roles that you want to take on? Any specific director on your wish list?
SA: In the future, whichever character I want to play, I just want it to be really heartfelt because whenever you do anything from the heart, the result is always good and the audience’s level of interest is always great. There are a lot of directors who I want to work with, including Haseeb Hassan, Farooq Rind, and Yasir Nawaz – so it’s a long wish list that will *Insh’Allah* slowly become a reality. OK!

INTERVIEW: MAIRA PAGGANWALA & RAO ALI KHAN
STYLING: RAO ALI KHAN
MAKE-UP: NABILA’S SALON
PHOTOGRAPHY: UMAIR RAZA



SABOOR LOOKS PRETTY IN A SIGNATURE SHEHLA CHATOOR RUFFLED SKIRT AND ONE-OFF SHOULDER TOP

“Family is so important to me”

ISLA FISHER

The gorgeous actress talks to *OK*! about her latest project, *Greed*, why the film is important to her, her comic genius, and how she balances work with family life







Aussie star Isla Fisher has long been acclaimed for her comedic gifts. Apart from her dramatic roles in *The Great Gatsby*, *Nocturnal Animals*, and *Now You See Me*, it's her funny side that has endeared herself to the public in films such as *Wedding Crashers*, *Bachelorette*, and *Confessions of a Shopaholic* as well as her seven year stint on TV's *Arrested Development*.

In her new film, *Greed*, directed by acclaimed filmmaker Michael Winterbottom and co-starring British comic legend Steve Coogan, Fisher gets to indulge in heavy satire in this wicked exposé of the fashion industry. The story centres around the swashbuckling behaviour of a fictional British fashion mogul Sir Richard McCreadie (Coogan) - who will remind British audiences of controversial UK billionaire Philip Green - and his excessive lifestyle. Fisher plays McCreadie's ex-wife Samantha and she revels in this witty and socially-conscious critique of the fashion industry and the slave wages paid to the third-world factory workers who produce our clothes.

"I'm really proud to work on this film," Fisher says. "I've wanted to work with Michael Winterbotton ever since I saw *Welcome to Sarajevo* and *A Mighty Heart*. This is an important film which comes at a critical time. It's shining a light on obvious failings within the system and it's useful to understand that 'fast fashion' has a human cost. It's very easy to pop into a shop to buy something but it's completely balmy that people who are making the product are not receiving fair wages."

The 43-year-old Fisher was born in Muscat, Oman, to Scottish parents before the family relocated to Perth, Australia. Fisher, who has often been compared to the Hollywood comedienne Lucille Ball, owes her comic touch to watching "*Monty Python*, *Fawlty Towers*, *Blackadder*," while growing up in her native Australia "apart from my husband's influence." That other comedic influence is none other than her husband Sacha Baron Cohen, the satiric genius best known for *Borat* and *The Dictator*. They live in Los Angeles with their three children, Olive, 11, Elula, eight, and Montgomery, four.

With respect to *Greed*, it has been revealed that director Michael Winterbottom had originally wanted to add an epilogue to the film which consisted of information cards that preceded the closing credits and which explained how workers are paid obscenely low wages in sweatshops in Myanmar and Bangladesh while global fashion moguls rake in extraordinary profits.

The cards also documented the wealth of retail tycoons such as H&M's owner, Stefan Persson, who is worth about $18B, and Zara's owner Amancio Ortega, worth around $67B, et al. Winterbottom said Sony Pictures, which produced *Greed*, pulled the cards from the final version of the film because the studio was "worried about the potential damage to Sony's corporate relations with these brands."

***Greed* is a satiric take not merely on a fashion tycoon who indulges in excess but also a critique of the clothing industry itself. How do you feel about the issue?**

ISLA FISHER: I don't think any of us as consumers should responsibly be involved in this whole structure. I've been guilty of shopping in those places like TopShop but definitely after reading this script I felt differently about it. I've always worried about the clothing industry from an environmental perspective, knowing that clothes are sitting in landfills because clothes are not able to be recycled in the same way that we recycle glass, for example...

There's a human cost of fast fashion and we as women want to be able to shop for clothes in an ethical way. We don't need a ninth pair of shoes at the cost of someone getting paid a very low wage. But we're not attacking the consumer in this film, we're attacking the system [that creates this enormous income disparity.]

What was it like working with British comic legend Steve Coogan who plays the wicked fashion mogul?

IF: I'm a very big fan of Steve's and it was really fun working with him. He's been incredibly generous on and off camera. We also got to improvise together and it was a thrill to be able to improvise with someone like Steve Coogan.

But I've been fortunate enough to work with a lot of comedians over the last ten or fifteen years. I like to think I've discovered a kind of chutzpah that enables me to go into improvisation scenes with the hope that I'll be able to volley back something semi-decent but my hit rate is probably one in ten! [Laughs]

Does comedy come naturally to you?

IF: I don't have to work on it that much. I learnt to make the other kids at school laugh very early on. Because my family moved around a lot, I was constantly switching schools and you're forced to make new friends very quickly. And one of the best and easiest ways to get other kids to like you is to make them laugh. That's how I really developed my sense of humour. ►



“There’s something about comedy and humour which just gives me so much joy.”

ISLA FISHER AT THE 71ST ANNUAL PRIMETIME EMMY AWARDS HELD AT THE MICROSOFT THEATER IN LOS ANGELES



ISLA FISHER AT THE *GREED* PREMIERE DURING THE 2019 TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL AT THE ELGIN IN CANADA

> "I prefer to be at home with my kids as often as possible so I'm not constantly searching for work."

> “There’s a human cost of fast fashion and we as women want to be able to shop for clothes in an ethical way.”

Is comedy your first choice when it comes to work?
IF: There’s something about comedy and humour which just gives me so much joy. I think it really helps us get along with each other better and brings us closer together in ways that we don’t even realise. I’ve always enjoyed expressing that side of me in films and there’s this incredible feeling that you get from trying to deliver a line in a certain way to get a huge laugh or just from speaking to friends and making an ironic remark that triggers that kind of reaction. I just love those moments.

Your first big acting break came when you played in the Australian soap opera, Home and Away. What was that experience like for you?
IF: I couldn’t have asked for a better way of learning how to act. Because you’re working so much, so fast, you have you to learn very quickly how to react and how to deliver a lot of bad lines the best way possible! [Laughs]
But it’s probably the best kind of acting school I could have wished for. You learn to be a professional and become very comfortable working under pressure.

Although you’ve gained a reputation as an outstanding comedic performer, you originally wanted to work in dramas?
IF: Yes, but for whatever reason, after I arrived in Hollywood, I kept going to auditions for a lot of dramatic parts but I never got them. But then I met my husband and he was the one who pushed me to try to work in comedies. He thought I was very funny and that it would be easy for me to find work in those kinds of movies.
So I told my agent that she should try to get me auditions on comedies and the next week I auditioned and landed the role in *Wedding Crashers*. That was a huge step forward for me even though I still had to wait a year before I got my next role! This business can be very unpredictable.

Apparently your mother was instrumental in encouraging you to develop your acting skills?
IF: My mother [Elspeth Reid] did a lot of amateur theatre when I was growing up and she often took me backstage where I was completely fascinated with the kind of excitement that comes with watching how a stage production works. I was four when I saw my mother play the lead in *Twelfth Night* and right away I fell in love with performing, seeing all the costumes, and everyone running about. It was such a fascinating environment to be part of.

How have you yourself adapted to motherhood and raising three young children?
IF: It can be stressful sometimes juggling everything but I prefer to be at home with my kids as often as possible so I’m not constantly searching for work. I don’t want to spend long periods absent from home or disrupting their home life too much. Family is so important to me.



SACHA BARON COHEN AND ISLA FISHER ATTEND THE 77TH ANNUAL GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS AT THE BEVERLY HILTON HOTEL IN CALIFORNIA

Your husband Sacha Baron Cohen is known for his comic genius. But recently he starred in the series *Spy* in a very serious dramatic role?
IF: I think just seeing him play such a restrained and serious character will surprise a lot of people. He’s really done a phenomenal job which the reviews have attested to and I’m very proud of him.

Is he often as funny at home with you and your children as he is in his films?
IF: Yes, he’s so funny. I feel so lucky, too. I’ve worked with so many amazing actors who are great comedians - Owen Wilson, Ryan Reynolds, Bradley Cooper, and Zach Galifianakis. But nothing was funnier than working with my husband on *Grimsby*. All of his lines just made me laugh. OK!

INTERVIEW: WENN
PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY



BEECHTREE

OK! Pakistan brings you a story with a super surprise! Brace yourself if you're an avid fashionista or an individualistic. Beechtree has proudly been enchanting all you sassy babes for around a decade. Adding personal flavors in the resplendent chic pret pieces to the must needed accessories, Beechtree collection has gloriously been defining us, for it's been flawlessly defining you. Now the High street fashion brand is back on the news, amidst the pages of *Ok*! Pakistan, and in Tariq Road with an all new store designed for the Karachites. Get carried away with the new store's unstitched collection along with adorning jewelries, or even farther with our array of luxury pret. So stand confident, stand high, stand beautiful, all while standing inside the Beechtree's newest store as you go through the perfect piece of clothing. Whether it's going quirky, or going minimalistic, visit the Beechtree's Tariq Road store now for an unforgettable fashion experience. Waiting for you all, with love.















OK! FASHIONISTA

FEEHA JAMSHED
tells it like it is

Take a look inside
ARMEENA KHAN'S BAG

THE INIMITABLE SARWAT


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OK! *Best* DRESSED



Natasha Poly looks absolutely stunning in a deconstructed pink Balmain suit to the Harper's Bazaar exhibition in Paris.



Gigi Hadid looks Parisian chic in a lace Chanel Spring 2020 robe at the Harper's Bazaar exhibition in Paris.



We're still not over feather embellishments and neither is Gwyneth Paltrow spotted here in a Ralph & Russo dress with Malone Souliers heels.

OK! Red CARPET



Model Abeer Rizvi makes it pop in neon matching separates and an Emraan Rajput blazer at the Velo Pakistan Leap Year party.



Jennifer Lopez strikes a pose in Valentino at the Independent Spirit Awards in California.



We love Bella Hadid's '80s inspired Balenciaga ensemble and sleek hairdo' at the Harper's Bazaar exhibition in Paris.

ROCKSTARS



Dita Von Teese slays in Elie Saab Haute Couture at the Christian Louboutin exhibition in Paris.



Demi Moore gives off princess-y vibes in Dior Haute Couture at the Harper's Bazaar exhibition in Paris.



Cara Delevigne dons a sheer Dior dress to the labels Fall/Winter show.

PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY



OUTFIT: PAULE KA



THE INIMITABLE SARWAT

Actress, model, yummy mummy and more, Sarwat Gilani looks more radiant with each passing day. Fashion-forward, chic and gorgeous, Sarwat dons some noteworthy spring trends to keep you stylish all season long.

PHOTOGRAPHY: SHAHBAZ SHAZI
STYLING: RAO ALI KHAN
HAIR & MAKE-UP: SHAZIA RASHID



DRESS: MAISON ALEXANDRINE



OUTFIT: PAULE KA
BAG: VALENTINO



FEATHER EMBELLISHED TOP:
MAISON ALEXANDRINE



DRESS: LES BENJAMIN


GIGI HADID

BEIGE IS ALL THE RAGE!

We've rounded up some of Spring/Summer 2020's trends and nudes are definitely reigning supreme. Chic and classy, beige just looks elegant all year round. However, if you want to make it look cool: wear it in leather, a cut-out dress or a jumpsuit with oversized pockets.


Totême
Lombardy Pants, PKR 32,000


Brinker & Eliza
Carpe Diem Heart Necklace, PKR 32,000


Liars & Lovers
Hammered Gold Earrings, PKR 2,000


A.w.a.k.e.
Mode Asymmetric Faux Leather Jacket, PKR 89,000


Bottega Veneta
Macramé and Leather Pumps, PKR 140,000


Bottega Veneta
BV Jodie Shoulder Bag, PKR 250,000


Commando
Faux Patent-Leather Skirt, PKR 13,000


Dolce & Gabbana
Sicily 62 Tote Bag, PKR 320,000


Asos Design
Headband, PKR 2,000


Acler
Redwood Midi Dress, PKR 68,000


Fendi
Colibri Pumps, PKR 100,000


Asos Design
Heart Earrings, PKR 2,000


Anna Quan
Chiara Cutout Dress, PKR 82,000


Fendi
Tresor Bucket Bag, PKR 230,000


Piece Of White
Madeleine Poplin Shirt, PKR 45,000


Zara
Multi-Beaded Necklace, PKR 5,000


Chloé
C Ring Crossbody Bag, PKR 130,000



Anemone
Ramie Wrap Dress,
PKR 50,000



H&M
Paper-Bag Skirt,
PKR 3,800



Jacquemus
Le Petit Baci
Tote,
PKR 60,000



Public Desire
Square Toe Mules,
PKR 5,000



Loewe
Cropped Sweater,
PKR 150,000



Topshop
Pintuck Shirt,
PKR 15,000



Roger Vivier
Belle Vivier
Pumps,
PKR 100,000



Ben-Amun
Layered Multi-
Stone Necklace,
PKR 38,000



H&M
Jumpsuit
with Belt,
PKR 6,000



Valentino
Spike Shoulder
Bag,
PKR 320,000



Frankie Shop
Belted Blazer,
PKR 55,000



Zara
Faux
Leather
Pants,
PKR 5,000



Lizzie Fortunato
Treasure Hunt
Earrings,
PKR 50,000







River Island
Poplin Sleeve Top,
PKR 4,600

Materiel
Draped Midi
Dress,
PKR 130,000

Wandler
Lina Knee
Boots,
PKR 100,000

Cult Gaia
Serita Cutout Dress,
PKR 51,000





Vince
Leather Shorts,
PKR 98,000



Malone Souliers
Marion 70 Pumps,
PKR 82,000



Loewe
Hammock Knit
Tote,
PKR 320,000



STOCKISTS: & OTHER STORIES, ASOS DESIGN, LIARS & LOVERS, PUBLIC DESIRE www.asos.com; A.W.A.K.E., ACLER, ANNA QUAN, BRINKER & ELIZA, CULT GAIA, LIZZIE FORTUNATO, PIECE OF WHITE, VINCE www.modaoperandi.com; ANEMONE, COMMANDO, FRANKIE SHOP, LOEWE, MALONE SOULIERS, MATERIEL, MES DEMOISELLES, ROGER VIVIER, RTA, TOTÊME, WANDLER www.netaporter.com; FENDI www.fendi.com; BOTTEGA VENETA www.bottegaveneta.com; CHLOÉ, DOLCE & GABBANA, JACQUEMUS, VALENTINO www.farfetch.com; H&M www.hm.com; TOPSHOP www.topshop.com; ZARA www.zara.com;
prices are approximate

COLOURED SUITS

Say bye-bye to boring blacks and invest in solid coloured suits to look on-point this season! Our fave celebs across the globe are doing it, so why shouldn't you?



PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY

RIVER ISLAND
Skinny Suit Trousers,
PKR 6,900



RIVER ISLAND
Skinny Fit Suit Jacket,
PKR 12,900

WOOYOUNGMI
Oversized Trousers,
PKR 82,000







COMME DES GARCONS
Two Tone Textured Suit,
PKR 123,400

WOOYOUNGMI
Oversized Double Breasted Blazer,
PKR 169,000



GIVENCHY
Pants in Iridescent Cotton,
PKR 121,000



MISSONI
Wide-Leg Tailored Trousers,
PKR 70,000

SIES MARJAN
Roger Twill Blazer,
PKR 246,800



GIVENCHY
Jacket in Iridescent Cotton,
PKR 382,000





MAGLIANO
Single Buttoned Blazer,
PKR 123,000v



MAGLIANO
Straight-Leg Trousers,
PKR 70,000

STOCKISTS: COMME DES GARCONS www.comme-des-garcons.com; SIES MARJAN www.siesmarjan.com; MISSONI www.missoni.com; RIVER ISLAND www.riverisland.com; MAGLIANO www.magliano.website; WOOYOUNGMI https://wooyoungmi.com; GIVENCHY www.givenchy.com; *prices are approximate*

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SONA RAFIQ

Model, fashion blogger and overall cool cat, Sona Rafiq slays away everyday! With her high cheekbones, pouty lips and glossy hair she shines when dressed in *au courant* ensembles.

GET THE LOOK



PINKO
Wrap Bodysuit,
PKR 20,000



ASOS DESIGN
Cat Eye Sunglasses,
PKR 2,000



CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN
Paloma Mini,
PKR 310,000



LIU JO
Blazer,
PKR 40,000



ZARA
Paperbag Jeans,
PKR 5,200

LOUIS VUITTON
Cannes Bag,
PKR 330,000



AQUAZZURA
Purist Leather Pumps,
PKR 85,000





STRADIVARIUS
Slingbacks,
PKR 5,000



ALCHEMY
Bicycle Shorts,
PKR 17,000

STOCKISTS: ALCHEMY, LIU JO, PINKO www.farfetch.com; AQUAZZURA www.netaporter.com; ASOS DESIGN, STRADIVARIOUS www.asos.com; CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN www.christianlouboutin.com; LOUIS VUITTON www.louisvuitton.com; ZARA www.zara.com; *prices are approximate*





SHAMMAL QURESHI

Creative Director at Toni & Guy North Pakistan and Image Consultant, Shammal Qureshi grooms some of the finest in Lahore. Always spotted in cool sneakers, trendy ensembles – Shammal stands out in a crowd. Take notes from his sartorial choices to make a mark this season.

GETTHELOOK

TOPMAN
Black Skinny Fit Blazer,
PKR 4,000



CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN
Lou Spikes Sneakers,
PKR 153,600



MARMADUKE LONDON
Linen Nehru Gilet,
PKR 33,000



NEUW
Iggy Skinny Jeans,
PKR 19,000





BUSCEMI
100 MM Black Sneakers.
PKR 136,700



Basic Slim Fit T-shirt,
PKR 2,700

YOHJI YAMAMOTO
Oversized Long-sleeve Shirt,
PKR 70,000

STOCKISTS: YOHJI YAMAMOTO https://theshopyohjiyamamoto.com; ZARA www.zara.com; NEUW https://neuwdenim.com; CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN http://us.christianlouboutin.com; TOPMAN www.topman.com; BUSCEMI www.buscemi.com; MARMADUKE LONDON www.marmadukelondon.com; *prices are approximate*

#OKStreetstyle

This month OK! Pakistan's roving eye brings you impeccably dressed women from across the fashion capitals of the world during the Fall/Winter 2020 fashion week shows.



BRIGHT IN YELLOW @EMRATA IS SPOTTED STROLLING WITH @BELLAHADID DURING MFW.



@CARADELEVINGNE SLAYS IN THE SEASON'S HOTTEST COLOUR LILAC AS SHE MAKES HER WAY TO THE BOSS SHOW WITH FRIEND ASHLEY BENSON.



@GIGIHADID MAKES LAYERS WORK WITH POPS OF NEON.



@LILYJCOLLINS LOOKS HAUTE AT THE YSL SHOW IN PARIS.



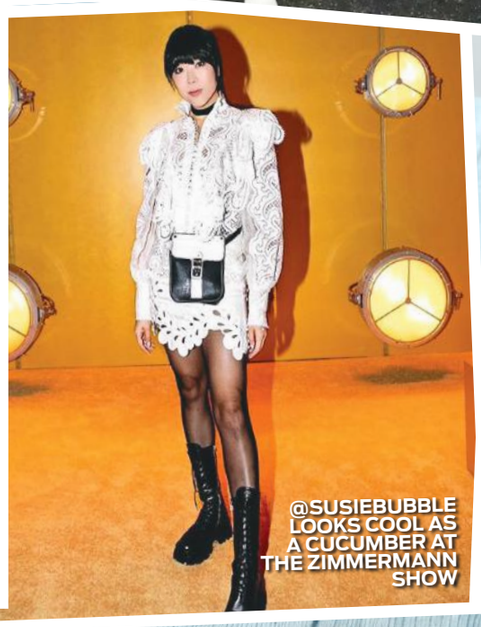
@NAUSHEENSHAH MAKES EVEN POUFY JACKETS LOOK HOT.



@OLIVIACULPO PROVES ALL WHITE LOOKS FAB ALL THE TIME.



@ROMEESTRIJD & @KARLIEKLOSS POSE BEFORE THE DIOR SHOW.



@SUSIEBUBBLE LOOKS COOL AS A CUCUMBER AT THE ZIMMERMANN SHOW



BRIGHT & BEAUTIFUL @KATEHUDSON GLOWS AT THE TOM FORD SHOW.

TEXT: ALIZEH PASHA; PHOTOGRAPHS: INSTAGRAM

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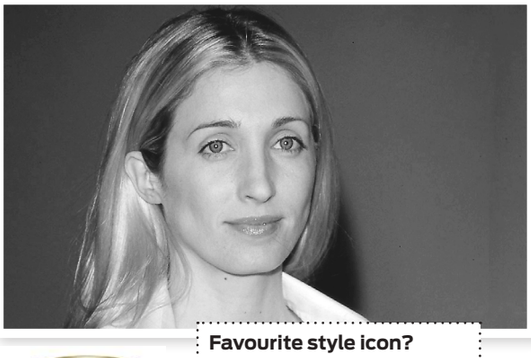


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BUTTON ON MAGAZINES

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MY WONDERFUL LIFE

Feeha Jamshed, Creative Partner at Feeha Jamshed and Creative Director at Teejays, tells it like it is...



Favourite style icon?
Late Carolyn Bessette-Kennedy and Queen Rania of Jordan.



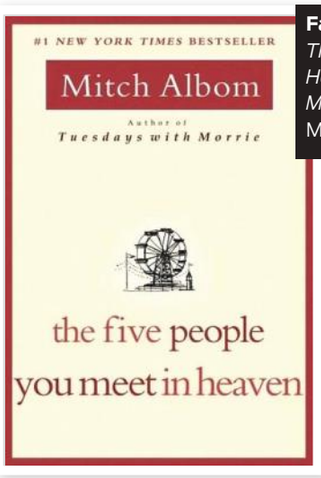
Favourite scent?
Desert Velvet Oud by Dolce & Gabbana.

Most memorable moment?
When I felt a shift in me in 2019. And when I suddenly announced on my social media news of me surfacing as a designer.

What is your fitness regime?
Green juices, lemon water, light weights, stretching, and some body resisting exercises.



Favourite restaurant?
Too many to list; I have my favourite meals in different places.



Favourite book?
The Five People You Meet In Heaven and *Tuesdays With Morrie,* both written by Mitch Albom.

Favourite movie?
There are too many to list for different feelings they have invoked.

Three must haves in your bag?
Phone, wallet, and note pad.



Celebrity crush?
Cillian Murphy from *Peaky Blinders* because of his character and the way he's playing it.



Can't live without...?
My people – family and friends.

Favourite designers?
Local: Kamiar Rokni, Umar Sayeed, and Misha Lakhani. International: Givenchy and Yves Saint Laurent.

Ideal weekend?
It could be anything – spending time by myself or spending time with family and friends. Sunday is usually my favourite day of the week.

Celebrity encounters?
I've had the pleasure of some special and personal moments because of my special friends. On a more literal note, I bumped into Michelle Williams walking down Chelsea in New York.



What are you most passionate about?
Living, music, dancing, eating, and creating a piece from raw fabric.

Favourite getaway?
Anywhere where there's music and I can dance away to my delight.

Beauty extravagance?
Nothing, actually.



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YO GLOW!

Huda Kattan of the famed beauty brand Huda Beauty forays into skincare and beauty junkies are over the moon! The first product from her skincare line WISHFUL is the Yo Glow Enzyme Scrub. It's a gentle exfoliating scrub infused with enzymes, BHA's and AHAs that leaves skin smooth, radiant and glowing. Her testament, "True beauty begins with the skin, which is why I wanted to launch my skincare line, WISHFUL, with Yo Glow Enzyme Scrub, a skin-changing exfoliator with glowing results".
PKR 6,000; www.shophudabeauty.com





HERMÈS FORAYS INTO BEAUTY

The ultimate luxury brand, Hermès has just delved into the world of beauty and we're elated. Many have tried to get their hands on the iconic Birkin bag and many have failed. With the launch of their beauty label, one can now finally pull out their stylish lipstick without waiting on the waitlist for eons. With refillable packaging, in both satin and matte – the lipstick comes in 24 shades in the brands orange Hermès box.
PKR 9,000; www.hermes.com



THINK PINK!

While we may not be into pink/peach hair per se, a bunch of celebs such as Lady Gaga, Kate Hudson and Katy Perry have been spotted rocking the hue. Playful, hip and bold; there shouldn't be an age limit to having fun with your hair. This look has been spotted on a lot of Instagram influencers and makes a strong case for an instant click. Live a little, think pink!



BARELY THERE

Barely there make-up, a feline flick and nude lips were a noticeable trend we saw on the Oscar red carpet. Celebs such as Kaitlyn Dever, Natalie Portman, Saoirse Ronan and more were spotted sporting the look. Fresh-faced beauty is all the rage so make sure your make-up looks natural with emphasis on the liner. Use the MARC JACOBS BEAUTY Magic Marc'er Precision Pen Liquid Eyeliner to get the look.
PKR 4,000 www.sephora.com









HAIR ACCESSORY TREND

Oversized headbands are dominating the hair scene currently! What was meant for little girls has now become a popular trend for women all across the globe including celebs like Rita Ora and Chiara Ferragni. Convenient (a jeweled, padded headband elevates your look, versatile (it can go with any hairstyle) and totally stylish, we simply love wearing ours! Get yours from Prada or Zara but do it now!

prices are approximate

TEXT: ALIZEH PASHA; PICTURES: GETTY



What's IN HER BAG?

Actress ARMEENA KHAN reveals to OK! Pakistan what she totes around in her bag.



WALLET
This is a world of its own for me! I carry from the most important to the least important details in my little wallet.

AIRPODS
My Airpods are always with me. Tiny, but super useful and well it helps me multi-task.





HAIRBRUSH
I keep a small foldable (unbranded) hairbrush as my hair gets super tangled. I like to keep it sleek when I'm out and about.



PHONE:
My iPhone, which is self-explanatory!



LIP BALM
The BENEFIT Rose Lip Balm keeps my lips plump and hydrated. It is tinted so it adds a subtle hint of red, which I love.



LIP CRAYON
I do love the MORPHE Lip Crayon in Wcw. However, my choice in lip colour obviously changes according to my outfit.



HAND CREAM
Dry hands are a big no-no for me. The KIEHL'S Ultimate Hand Salve is my best friend.

PERFUME
I have a whole stash of different fragrances but there are my mainstays. For example: if I'm feeling confident, I like to wear Flower Bomb by VIKTOR & ROLF - this is one of my favourites.





TISSUES:
I'm a sucker for good manners and etiquette. I love people who say "Thank you" and "Excuse me." I have a natural affinity for the humble tissue as it falls within that realm. I really cannot stand people who sneeze all over the place without covering their mouth.



MIRROR
A small foldable mirror is always somewhere in my bag for a quick glance before I head anywhere.

Aquamarine

A symbol of youth, health and hope – aquamarine, the birthstone for March glistens like no other! Check out some of these solid gems to bedazzle yourself with.



BOUCHERON
Hiver Imperial Necklace



DIOR
Granville Aquamarine & Coloured Gemstone Earrings



HEMMERLE
Aquamarine Aluminium Earrings



CHOPARD
Frog Necklace



FARAH KHAN
Aquamarine, Morganite & Diamond Earrings



JAN LOGAN
Diamond & Aquamarine Earrings



STEINERS
Paris Aquamarine Earrings



STEPHEN RUSSELL
Diamond, Aquamarine and Enamel Earrings



TIFFANY & CO.
Platinum, Diamond & Aquamarine Bracelet



MARGOT MCKINNEY
Aquamarine Necklace



THEO FENNELL
Aquamarine Ring



VAN CLEEF & ARPELS
Aquamarine Earrings



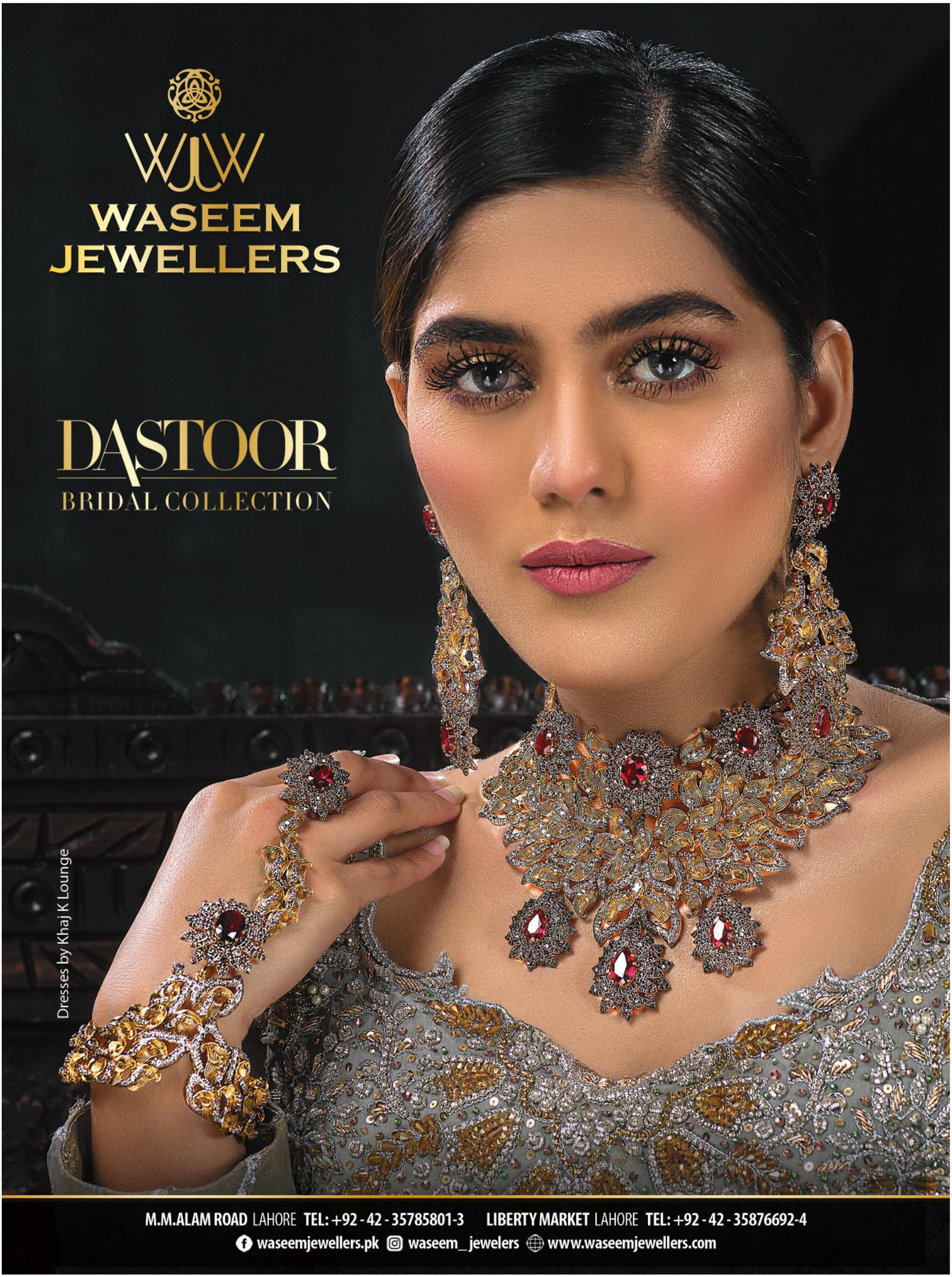
TIFFANY & CO.
Lapis Lazuli, Aquamarine & Pearl Necklace



LUCIE CAMPBELL
Spinel, Aquamarine & Diamond Earrings

BOUCHERON
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1 **NARS** Lipstick in Schiap is a neon fuchsia-pink formula that lasts for hours and pairs perfectly with any ensemble this season. PKR 4,000



2 The slanted tip and creamy formula of the **CHARLOTTE TILBURY** Brow Lift magically gives you an instant arched shape. PKR 3,410



3 **PAT McGRATH MOTHERSHIP** III Eyeshadow Palette is richly pigmented and glides on so easily that even a rookie can get bold lids without trying to hard. PKR 20,000

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Use the **ANASTASIA BEVERLY HILLS** Luminous foundation for a seamlessly perfect complexion that looks ultra-fresh. PKR 5,800



5 **STILA** One Step Prime is neither too thick nor too runny and gives your skin the right amount of glow while making it look radiant and plump. PKR 5600



The gorgeous and ever-so-stylish Hailey Bieber serves up some haute make-up looks time and time again! We simply adore her sparkly lids and bold lips and think you ought to get the look too.

7 Just one swipe of **FENTY BEAUTY** Match Stix Shimmer Skinstick leaves the skin with a healthy flush and works well for fair and deep complexions. PKR 3,875





8 **MAX FACTOR** False Lash Epic Mascara is crowd-pleasing as it's affordable, luxurious and has a wand that allows you to pick up every last lash. PKR 2,200

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GET THE LOOK

HAILEY BIEBER

9 

Take our word for the **MARC JACOB**'s Beauty Dew Drops Coconut Gel Highlighter. You'll completely be in love with the flattering, silky finish on the skin. PKR 6,900

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PHOTOGRAPH: GETTY

AT FIRST BLUSH

ADD A ROSY GLOW THIS WINTER WITH THESE BEAUTIFUL BLUSHERS



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5. Guerlain Terracotta Skin Highlighting Stick in Universal Blush, PKR 6,800

COMPILED BY HARRIET WHEELER; PHOTOGRAPH BY MEGAN BRAMLEY;
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MEHER TAREEN

In conversation with the brainchild behind the incredible wellness platform The Mindful Missy…

عریش زبیر



The Mindful Missy, a superb platform created by Meher Tareen, provides a safe space to discuss real life issues that we face as a society ruled by unrealistic standards of beauty and perfection. While the platform mostly functions via its highly active Instagram page as well as its website, it also goes beyond the cyber world and tends to host several events throughout the year. These interactive events focus on practical tools that can be applied in order to manage anxiety and make way for self-healing, including regular group therapy sessions. OK! Pakistan talks to Meher and learns more about this much-needed platform, how *The Mindful Missy* came into existence, mindfulness, and so much more...

How did you begin *The Mindful Missy*?
Meher Tareen: *The Mindful Missy* is a wellness platform that promotes taking care of one's mental health just like we take care of our bodies through movement and eating right. We do this through our active Instagram account where we discuss real issues like body image, anxiety, trauma and abuse. We also have a website that features inspirational stories from real life heroes who share their journeys. In addition to our online presence we host interactive events where we invite a panel of speakers that provide practical tools to manage anxiety (yoga, meditation, breath work, homeopathy, therapy) and share their personal experiences of self-healing. We also offer group therapy sessions in Lahore led by therapist Tanya Adam Khan and produce and screen short films.

> "I want to influence our generation to replace mental health stigma with mental health support."

Why did you feel the need to start a platform such as this?
MT: I want to influence our generation to replace mental health stigma with mental health support.

What is the concept behind *The Mindful Missy*?
MT: I wanted to talk about the real issues that plague our lives but in my own casual, easy to absorb way and so *The Mindful Missy* was born.

How would you define mindfulness to someone who was a complete stranger to it?
MT: Living in the present moment instead of focusing your thoughts on regrets of the past or worries about the future.

How did you come to start practicing mindfulness?
MT: Through breath work and meditation.

What was *The Mindful Missy*'s Journey to Wellness event about?
MT: We've hosted one in Lahore and Karachi and I'm so grateful to have had such a great turnout and such meaningful conversations.

You can't fix the person without fixing the society – is that true in your view?
MT: It's actually the other way around. You can change society by changing yourself. ▶



Rapid Fire:

Ideal destination?
MT: A beach.

Describe yourself in three words?
MT: Funny, courageous, real.

Celebrity crush?
MT: Jameela Jamil.

What is always in your bag?
MT: My phone.

Go to Label?
MT: Zara.

Favourite perfume?
MT: Sage Spell by Viktor and Rolf.

What's your motto?
MT: Live and let live.

Fitness Regime?
MT: Burn at FunCo.

Pet Peeves?
MT: Lying.

Last movie you watched?
MT: *The Gentlemen*.

> “I wanted to talk about the real issues that plague our lives but in my own casual, easy to absorb way and so The Mindful Missy was born.”

One of the first lessons we learn in mindfulness is “you are not your thoughts”. Some people find this concept difficult to grasp. What would you say to that? Would it be fair to say that most people come to meditation out of a state of crisis in their lives?
MT: According to Eckhart Tolle when you realise that you are not your thoughts is when you begin to awaken spiritually. The mind is a tool. Who we are is not our mind or our thoughts. Thoughts come and go like clouds in the unchanging sky; we are the consciousness within.

How optimistic are you about mindfulness moving further and becoming a more mainstream practice?
MT: I’m very optimistic because it’s the need of the hour and I feel it’s caught on.

What are you working on right now that has you most excited?
MT: We’ve just wrapped up filming on our second short film with writer and director Marya Javed. Our first short film was about the loneliness and lack of connection you can feel in a seemingly good marriage. Our upcoming short film is about repressed female sexuality.

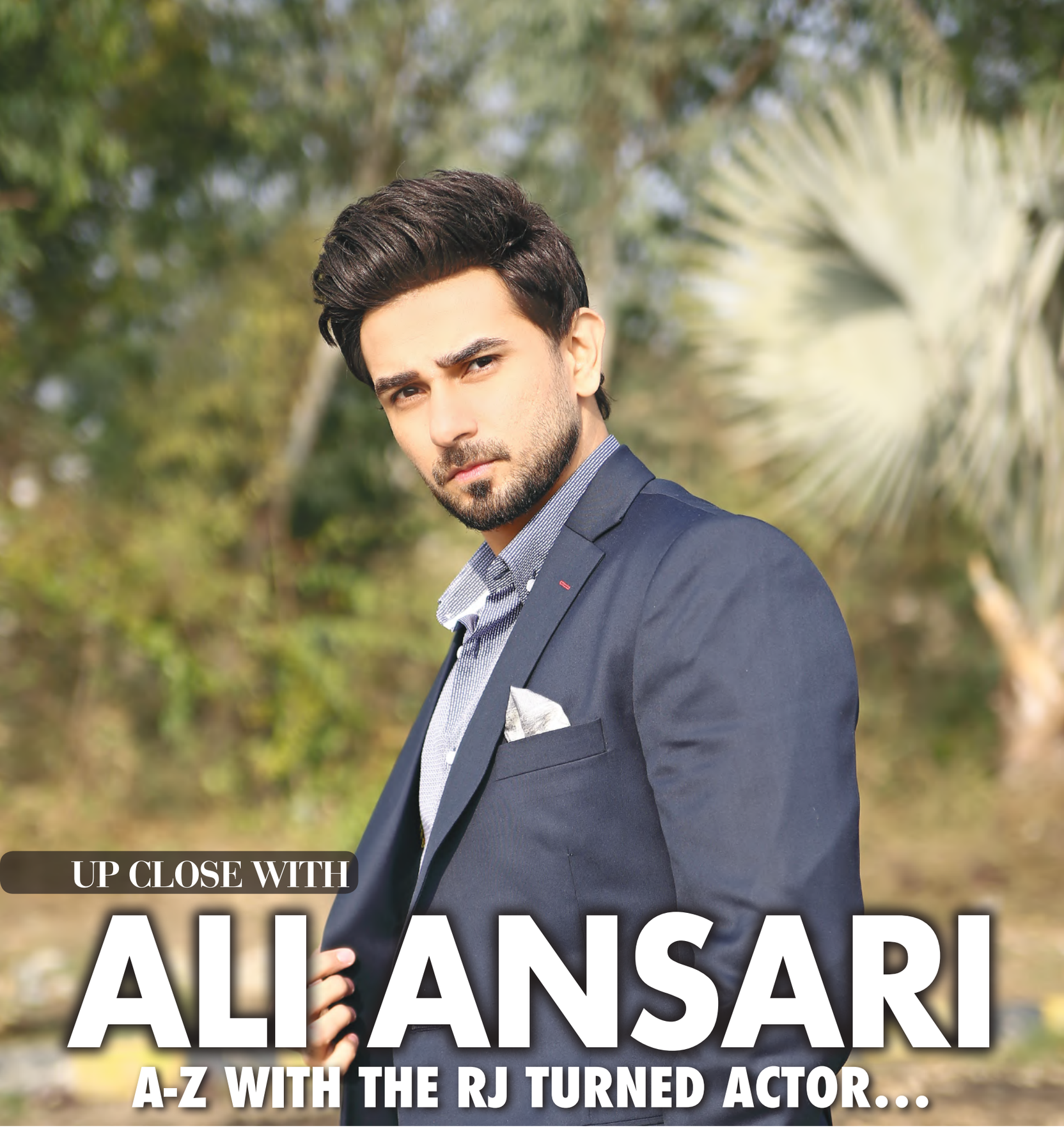
What is the inspiration behind your digital covers?
MT: By featuring real people who share their struggles and bare their vulnerabilities we hope to encourage authenticity and start a powerful movement towards a more accepting and compassionate community.

How has the response been on *The Mindful Missy*?
MT: Overwhelmingly positive and for that I’m extremely grateful.

Where do you see yourself in the next five years?
MT: Exactly where I am. OK!

INTERVIEW: MEHR KASSIM
PHOTOGRAPHS: ????





UP CLOSE WITH

ALI ANSARI

A-Z WITH THE RJ TURNED ACTOR...

Ali Ansari began his career as a radio jockey for the popular radio show *Dude, Where's My Song?*, after which he began hosting shows and eventually made his debut as a television actor in 2015. Recently, Ali gained popularity for his role in *Khaani* and *OK*! Pakistan gets up close and personal with the talented actor.

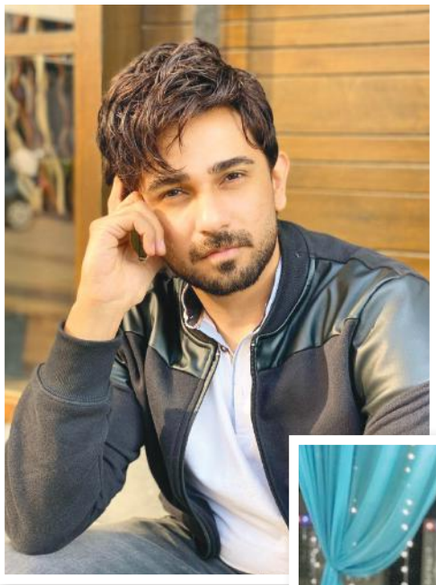
Who is Ali Ansari? Tell us a bit about your background.

Ali Ansari: I was born in Lahore, raised in Saudi Arabia and eventually settled in K-Town. I'm a self-made guy who studied initially in Dhahran British Grammar School and went on to complete high school from Rahima Academy (American International Schools Group). When I moved to Karachi, I completed my undergraduate degree in Economics and Finance, and I started my career in radio doing request shows, later moving on to hosting TV shows and eventually became a VJ. After that I decided to pursue acting.

How did you develop your interest in acting? How did your journey begin in the entertainment industry?

AA: I was inspired by my younger sister Mariam Ansari as she started acting before me. I always wanted to give it a try... Little did I know that it wouldn't be as easy as I thought. I went through multiple auditions, rejections, being disheartened and eventually telling my self that this isn't meant for me. After a couple of years I was offered a telefilm and a serial. I decided to take that leap of faith otherwise I would have lived with regret as to why I didn't give it that last shot. I resigned from my job and trusted what my heart told me to do, which

was to never give up!



Have you always aspired to be an actor? Or did you grow up with a different profession in mind?
AA: When I was in high school I knew I wanted to be one of two things – a businessman or a drummer of a rock band. Hence, I ended up studying business. However, when I moved to Pakistan my mother told me she met some aunty and her daughter, who was the Programming Manager at FM96 and she suggested I audition. Random, right? So that's where the journey began... I never thought about it and I didn't know it would end up becoming my profession.

Who do you look up to in the entertainment industry as a mentor or a role model?
AA: This is a really tough question, but the first name that comes to my mind is Faysal Qureshi. My first ever project was a telefilm and he was in it. It was a telefilm directed by Sarmad Khoosat. When I met Faysal Bhai years later he was like "What? That was you?" And we cracked up. Now I'm doing two projects with him that are expected to air in 2020!
Faysal Bhai is a powerhouse of pure talent. His experience, diversification of roles, and characters are all beyond impressive. The best part about him is that he doesn't try to look like a hero or to stand out; he makes characters have a lot to do with the vocal tone, looks, body language and so much more. It's just insane! You have to work with him and observe him to understand more.

What's your take on the recent wave of Pakistani films releasing across countries?
AA: It's great! Our movies that have come out have been absolutely a delight to watch. Our movies not just about the acting (actors), instead we must look at the complete package including the director, DOP (director of photography), cinematography, post grading, scoring and so much more. What goes into it is huge. Our audience in Pakistan should support Pakistani cinema, and I hope the support reaches new heights and we get more cinemas throughout the nation.

Where do you see yourself as an actor in the next five years?
AA: I see myself 'Ali Ansari' as an established brand, setting a trend, and making waves internationally! I've got big plans – be on the lookout.

What according to you has been your biggest achievement so far?
AA: I never gave up! I knew I had something to offer; it was always there. Life is a test and patience is key. Some things come fast and sometimes it takes time... Just trust the process!





What is your daily routine like?
AA: Well, I try to wake up early to get to the gym before my 10am - 10pm shoot shift. If not, I go afterwards. I also try to balance time out for loved ones, friends and family. It's not easy.

How do you prepare for your characters?
AA: I read the script, do my secret working recipe, prepare my own script, and plan my wardrobe. Then I'm ready to rock and roll.

Is there a certain philosophy that you always follow to get into the feel of a role?
AA: The only philosophy I follow is to do your working. You aren't serious if you don't have a plan.

Any role you would want to do that hasn't come your way?
AA: I'd like to do the role of a bad boy, or something like Devdas. It's just another level.

Any particular likes and dislikes about showbiz?
AA: Likes include fame, money, and power. Dislikes include long working hours, money, and never being on time.

What can we expect from you in 2020? Any exciting projects lined up?
AA: I've got two new serials and a web series coming out. I'm also in the process of signing new projects but that I'll share later. The upcoming serials include *Dard Kay Mausam*, which is directed by Sheherezade Sheikh and produced by 7th Sky Entertainment, and *Gustakh*, which is directed by Najaf Bilgrami and produced by Ice Media Entertainment. The web series is directed by Anjum Shahzad and produced by Tamasha Films.

Which of your dramas is your favourite and why?
AA: I really liked *Aye Dil Tu Bata* and *Seerat*. Both were written by Hina and Huma Nafees. The stories were really different, and I loved playing both characters, Ahmed and Danish.
In Aye Dil Tu Bata, I played a doctor (Ahmed) who is thought to have died on his wedding night but is actually kidnapped. The drama is about the journey of how he escapes and gets back to his love only to find out that she's getting married to someone else.
In Seerat, I play Danish, a spoiled brat with anger issues. He is madly in love with his girlfriend and he is extremely possessive. The drama is about his journey of making mistakes and finding his way to connect with God.

The one thing you'd like to change about yourself is...
AA: My ability of stressing myself out for no reason!

What's your favourite place on earth?
AA: My bed.

What's the one thing you can't live without?
AA: Music.

Describe yourself in three words?
AA: Loving, annoying, caring.

Favourite co-star?
AA: Hmm...

Pet peeves?
AA: Dishonesty and disloyalty.

Ideal vacation?
AA: A beach paradise – Seychelles is my plan.

If you where stranded on a deserted island, what is the one thing you wish you had?
AA: Mashal is all I need. OK!

INTERVIEW: MEHR KASSIM
PHOTOGRAPHER: COURTESY ALI ANSARI

RUBY BHOGAL

TWO FESTIVE RECIPES WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM GREAT BRITISH BAKE OFF STAR RUBY BHOGAL





Griddled Pear, Dolcelatte & Walnut Open Sandwich

SERVES 4

INGREDIENTS

- 4 organic pears, sliced
- Sea salt, to taste
- 2 tbsp virgin olive oil
- Sourdough bread, sliced
- 75g walnuts, roughly chopped
- 100g rocket
- 1tbsp honey
- 1tbsp rice vinegar
- 150g blue cheese

This quick and easy open sandwich takes less than 10 minutes to prepare and is the perfect combination of sweet and savoury flavours. Featuring griddled pear, blue cheese and a honey and rice vinaigrette, lunchtimes never looked so appealing!

1. Place a griddle pan over medium heat and allow to heat up. In a bowl, add the sliced pears, a pinch of sea salt and pour over a tsp of the virgin olive oil. Mix well.

2. Once the pan is hot, cook the pear slices for approx. 1 min each side and set aside to cool.

3. Place slices of the sourdough bread onto the griddle pan and lightly toast.

4. Then, into a large bowl, add in the griddled pear, chopped walnuts and rocket. In a separate small bowl, mix the honey, rice vinegar and remaining virgin olive oil. Drizzle over the pears and toss.

5. On one side of the toasted bread, generously spread the blue cheese, before piling on top the dressed pear, walnut and rocket.

6. Share (if you like) and enjoy.

Christmas Chocolate, California Walnut & Apricot Panforte

SERVES 12

INGREDIENTS

- 150g chopped dried apricots
- 100g chopped dates
- Almond extract, to soak
- 100g dark chocolate
- 75g plain our
- 2tbsp cocoa powder
- 1tsp all spice
- 1tsp cinnamon powder
- 150g walnuts, roughly chopped
- 100g mixed peel
- 1tsp vanilla bean paste
- 155g honey
- 100g maple syrup
- 70g unsalted butter, diced
- 50g light brown sugar
- Icing sugar, for dusting



Calling all chocolate lovers! Combining chocolate, California walnuts and apricots, this traditional Italian dessert is sweet, sticky and almost impossible to resist!

1. Place the chopped apricots and dates into a bowl and pour in enough almond extract to cover. Allow to soak for approximately four hours.

2. Preheat the oven to 140ºC/Fan 20ºC. Lightly grease and line an 8 inch springform tin. Leave to one side.

3. Place the dark chocolate in a heatproof bowl and place on top of a saucepan of simmering water. Allow to fully melt and then take off the heat and allow to cool.

4. In another bowl, sift in the plain flour, cocoa powder, all spice and cinnamon powder and stir. Add the walnuts, mixed peel and vanilla bean paste and stir again. Drain the almond extract soaked apricots and dates (but be sure to keep the remaining drained extraxt for later!) Add to the bowl and mix well.

5. Into a saucepan, add the honey, maple syrup, diced butter and sugar, and place over a high heat. Once the butter and sugar have melted, bring to the boil for approx 5 mins or until it has reached 118ºC ('SoftBall' stage) on a thermometer.

6. Once reached, take off the heat and gently pour into the bowl of mixed flour and fruit. Stir well. Add the cooled melted chocolate and fold in until combined.

7. Pour the mixture into the lined tin and level out with a spatula. Pop into the oven for approx. 50 mins on a middle shelf

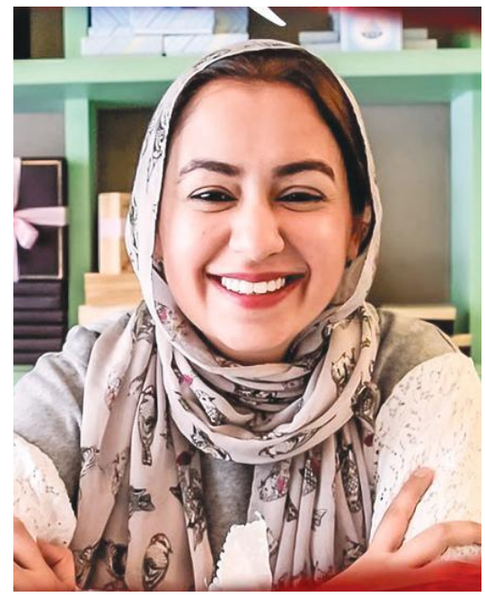
8. Remove from the oven and place the tin on a cooling rack. Allow to chill completely before removing (2 hours should be good!) Then gently remove from the tin.

9. Use a pastry brush to lightly brush some of the drained almond extract over the top and then dust with a sprinkling of icing sugar to finish. Enjoy! OK!

DEVELOPED BY RUBY BHOGAL FOR CALIFORNIA WALNUTS (WWW.CALIFORNIAWALNUTS.CO.UK)

A DANCE OF THE SOULS BY FAIZA TAQI HASSAN

A Dance Of The Souls is written by Faiza Taqi Hassan who is an English and Anthropology graduate from the University of Toronto.

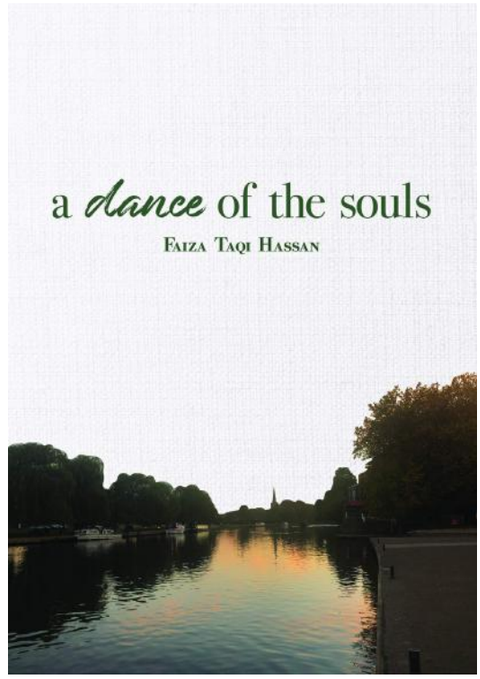


Have you ever seen a being engulfed in all its tainted charm? Have you experienced an emotion in all its calm? These encounters bless you with the same wonder as they do to others when written with the right words and impeccable manners of rhymes. Poetry had its days in the history, and it has its days now. It is revered and has been traduced, both at the same time, yet it stands for influencing millions of hearts. And here I am already charmed, because I came across one particular poetry book. This is a poetry book with historic words written by a novice yet someone who possesses a passionate hand. She (the book) was there wrapped up in a scent that would make even a bibliophile go gaga for I have discovered that the perfume of a new book is as breathtaking as an old one. *A Dance Of The Souls* is written by Faiza Taqi Hassan who is an English and Anthropology graduate from the University of Toronto. Her adept skill of photography can also be witnessed in her debut book. A Dance Of The Soul has poems along with impeccably taken photographs of nature's magnificence, including enchanting sunsets, a pristine lakeside, mountains and forests, and everything that would stir the feelings of an avid Mother Nature lover. Hence the book offers an unforgettable experience of both visual and verbal art, which leads to a baffling curiosity within me as to which of these two art forms was contrived first and which was inspired by the first.

Even though a book should not be judged by its cover, the first thing we tend to do is notice a book by its cover and nothing else. While looking at the book's back cover, I found such an overwhelming quote that it took my breath away: "The prayer is a dance of the souls, my prostration, being the ultimate reminder of my state of becoming, of becoming one, with nothing, because as I sink into the ground, I soar once again."

Now being someone who has his heartstrings sunk into spiritual writings, this verse caught me so badly and beautifully. This masterpiece by the masterful describes the journey, the revolutionary encounters, the tantalising downfall and the rejuvenating rise, all of which have been relished and written to be relished by the most adored generation, as the novel itself says, "mainly a journey of the self, and in essence her soul on paper."

The poems written express the perceptions and the experiences of the author. It's a plethora of emotions being derived and aspired by life events, ranging from pitiful to pivotal. Revered feeling of epiphany and serenity to the vilified ones of indignation and redemption, to the satisfying feelings of karma, *A Dance Of The Souls* is a treasure of untold stories. The subjects on which each poetry is crafted can be seen as the heading on every page and somewhere among the work of art, lies the heart of an artist. You can read a novel



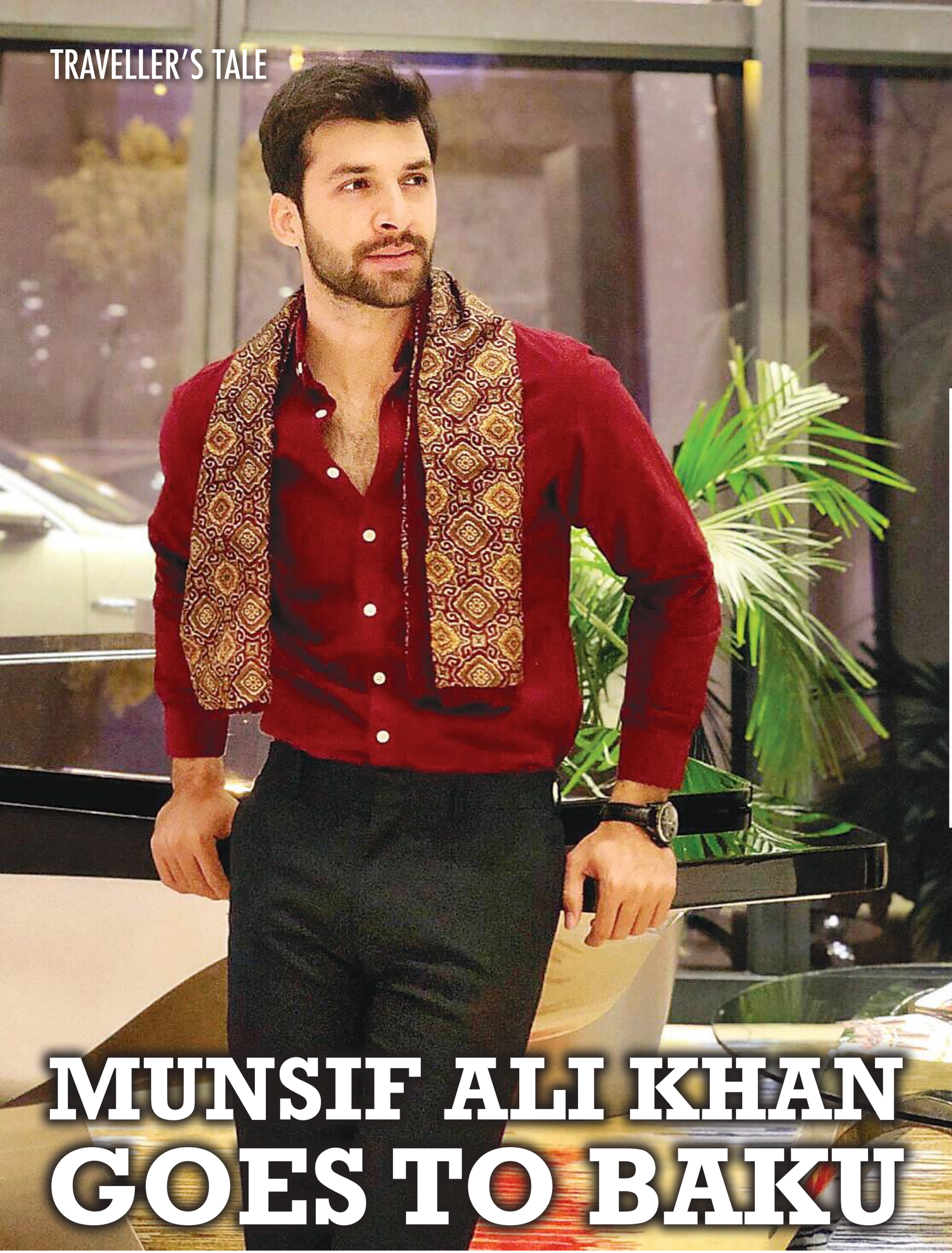
or go through some poetry and you can predict the personality of the hand and the heart behind such elegance. The eyes can tell a lot about a person but so can his writing, especially if he's a novelist or a poet. Here, Faiza Taqi Hasan is someone who surely knows how to live; her words indicate that she has felt vehemently while her photographs imply that she's been out into the wild and the wondrous world of secrets and mysteries. She's like the poet of nature William Wordsworth who would be stunned by a bunch of dancing daffodils or a solitary reaper in the British grasslands. Faiza is a free girl with big dreams and ambitions; she reminds me of a quote from my own poetry (yes, I too write poetry),"Feelings of her are more than mild, she reminds me of the Heaven wild."

Now for the things I did not like... While there seems to be a massive collection of words that Faiza has expressed and as much as her work seems captivating, some of her views feel very similar to those reiterated by many others before her. For instance, her take on karma is one that a vast majority of us already know, and she manages to convey the same message, which has already been bombarded to us by hundreds of other contemporary authors in addition to being sharing constantly via Insta-poets. So it's nothing new – tell me something that I (and a million others) don't already know. Having said that, I have to admit that she picked her words very carefully, which I truly adored. The scent of her poetry is magical, yet I see such magic every day, plus I think it would have been much appealing if the words had been creatively rhymed. This makes me think of how many poets out there are struggling to define the same thing in different ways. Since this is Faiza's debut book, I strongly believe that her content will gradually mature.

To conclude, *A Dance Of The Souls* is a book with many stories and lessons defined exquisitely. It includes encounters and experiences that have been felt by the poet. I was truly temped to skim over its pages, which I did, and although I would rate it as average, I would surely not discourage it, especially if you're someone who is interested in mysticism and spirituality. In that case, I believe you would find *A Dance Of The Souls* quite straggering for a debut writer.

REVIEW: SHARGEEL SHEIKH

STOCKISTS: LIBERTY BOOKS www.libertybooks.com



MUNSIF ALI KHAN GOES TO BAKU













Where did you go?
MUNSIF ALI KHAN: Baku, Azerbaijan.

Why did you go?
MAK: I actually went for a shoot as we were told it's a beautiful place to visit, which I witnessed for myself. Baku itself and its people were absolutely beautiful.

What did you pack?
MAK: I packed my tracksuits and trainers along with jackets because it was cold there.

What was favourite restaurant?
MAK: Dolma in Old City Baku was just amazing.

What was the biggest highlight of your trip or your most memorable moment?
MAK: For me the most memorable thing was going to the Caucasus Mountains (with which we were familiar only through books before) so that would surely be considered a major highlight of the trip.

Favourite shopping destination?
MAK: The Park Bulvar mall.

Some sights worth seeing?
MAK: Caucasus Mountains for sure and the city view from my room, which was on the 26th floor of the Flame Towers.

What are some spots for a night out?
MAK: To be honest, the night life is not that much fun there but if I had to pick a spot, I'd say the Enerji Club, which was quiet nice.

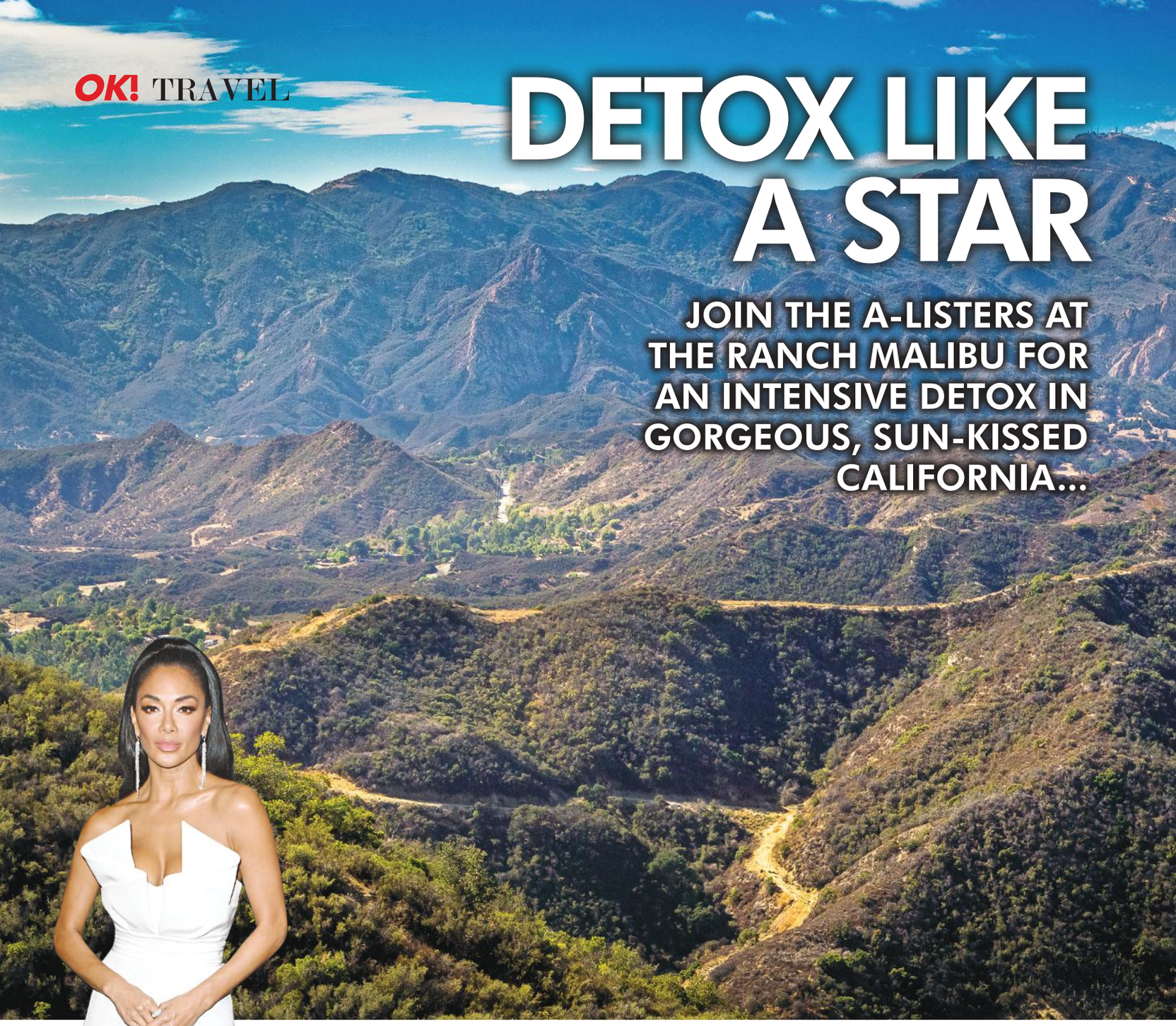
Travel essentials?
MAK: Warmers and scarves (I'm so fond of scarves).

Any travel tips you would like to share
MAK: If you ever get a chance to visit Baku, do visit the Caucasus Mountains. That place is like heaven on earth so trust me you won't regret it. OK!

TEXT: MEHR KASSIM; PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY MUNSIF ALI KHAN, SHUTTERSTOCK

DETOX LIKE A STAR

JOIN THE A-LISTERS AT THE RANCH MALIBU FOR AN INTENSIVE DETOX IN GORGEOUS, SUN-KISSED CALIFORNIA...





NICOLE SCHERZINGER

WHY GO THERE

Post awards season and the Oscars, many A-listers have had to put in the extra blood, sweat and tears to make sure their bodies are in tip-top red carpet condition. Being close to Los Angeles, The Ranch Malibu is the perfect place for celebrities to be put through their paces and *OK*! learned that Lea Michele, Rebel Wilson, Nicole Scherzinger and Mandy Moore are all fans. In fact, Rebel posted about her stay, saying it was "challenging but very rewarding". She also said she'd "lost eight pounds from marathon hiking" over her four-day stay.



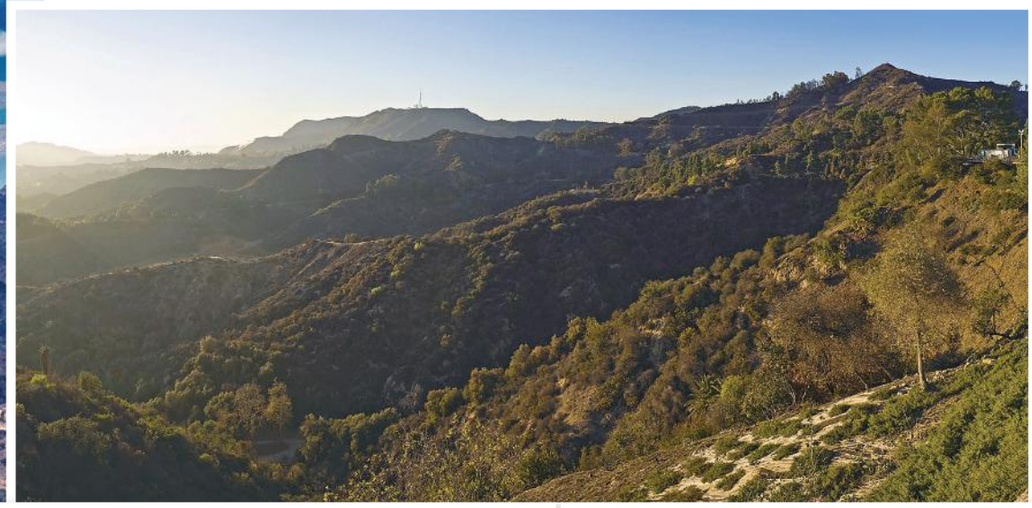
WHERE TO STAY

The Ranch has two venues, the Malibu centre and the Four Seasons Westlake Village – both in the Santa Monica Mountains national park. The 18 guests on the seven-day programme will stay in cottages at the Malibu centre, complete with organic garden, open-air kitchen, outdoor pool and a massage, yoga and meditation village. For the time-poor, like *OK*!, opt for the four-night intensive programme at the Westlake Village, just a 40-minute drive from West Hollywood. Temptations such as coffee makers are removed from the room and the mini bars are locked!

DAILY REGIME

The programmes at The Ranch are not all about weight loss. Its ethos is all about offering a holistic approach to health, fitness and nutrition – one that will help kick-start a healthier lifestyle and motivate you long after you've left the retreat. The Ranch 4.0 fitness programme that *OK*! chose involved a 5.30am wake-up call,









MANDY MOORE

or a dip in the outdoor pool followed by a yoga class and a relaxing massage. The programmes, in partnership with the California Health and Longevity Institute, also include cholesterol testing and body fat analysis so staff can design a personalised diet and lifestyle plan for you.

BODY FUEL

While at the retreat, guests follow a 1,400-calorie a day organic vegan diet that excludes alcohol, caffeine, dairy, sugar and wheat.

Before our detox, *OK*! worried about what we would eat, but luckily the meals were as delicious as they were nutritious, which was a relief as we were very hungry after all that exercise!



a stretching class and breakfast before a four-hour hike in the Santa Monica Mountains. After one morning's strenuous exercise, we were rewarded with lunch on Malibu's famous Point Dume Beach where we spotted dolphins and pelicans in the Pacific Ocean. Afternoons back at The Ranch saw aerobic and conditioning classes

Despite the strict daily calorie count, menu highlights included a mushroom stroganoff on polenta mash, lentil burgers with crispy kale chips and a cauliflower-crust pizza with basil pesto and macadamia nut cheese.

Chef Meredith revealed her secrets on the final day by giving us a cooking lesson, plus recipes to take home so we had no excuse not to keep up the good work! OK!

NORWEGIAN (NORWEGIAN.COM) AND BRITISH AIRWAYS (BA.COM) Y FROM THE UK TO LOS ANGELES. THE FOUR-NIGHT RANCH 4.0 PROGRAMME STAYING AT THE FOUR SEASONS WESTLAKE VILLAGE RESORT COSTS FROM £3,200. THE PRICE INCLUDES ACCOMMODATION, ALL MEALS, DAILY GUIDED HIKES, FITNESS CLASSES, BODY FAT ANALYSIS AND DAILY MASSAGE. THE SEVEN-DAY PROGRAMME IS HELD AT THE RANCH MALIBU AND THE 10-DAY PROGRAMME IS HELD BETWEEN BOTH THE RANCH AND THE FOUR SEASONS. THIS SUMMER THERE IS ALSO A POP-UP RETREAT IN THE ITALIAN DOLOMITES. FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT THERANCHMALIBU.COM.

WORDS: ROSIE UNDERWOOD
EDITED BY: ANNABEL MACKIE
PHOTOGRAPHS: SHUTTERSTOCK, GETTY

10 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ECZEMA

THIS SKIN CONDITION CAN RUIN LIVES – SO HOW CAN WE PREVENT AND MANAGE IT?


NADIA SAWALHA

It's been reported that the number of people with eczema is on the rise – Allergy UK estimates it affects up to 15 million people in the UK alone. The dry skin condition results in itchy, red and scaly skin. A-listers aren't immune either – Jade Jagger says she has lived with the condition for decades and Nicole Kidman and Nadia Sawalha have suffered too. There are several types of eczema. Atopic dermatitis is the most common and there is often a family history of this.

Other forms include irritant dermatitis – for example after excess hand washing – and contact allergic dermatitis, which can occur after exposure to an allergen such as hair dye. We spoke to top dermatologist Dr Jennifer Jones to find out more...



2 The most important thing to do is moisturise regularly with rich cream. Doing this four times a day should lead to a significant improvement in the condition. A dermatologist will be able to advise you on the best cream to use.

3 If you suffer from eczema, avoid anything that will dry out your skin even more. Ditch your usual detergents and soaps, and ask your pharmacist for advice on what you can use that will not irritate your skin.

1 Extreme heat can aggravate eczema, but the worst time of the year for sufferers is actually winter as cold air can dry the skin out more. Wearing gloves can reduce flare-ups on hands.






NICOLE KIDMAN



4 Some people swear that putting turmeric paste on their skin helps to alleviate the itching. To make this at home, add some turmeric powder to water, stir it until it thickens and then leave on the skin for a few hours.

5 Using hemp-based products can be helpful as it has anti-inflammatory properties. Coconut oil can also soothe irritated skin. Skin Salvation (£11.05 from amazon.co.uk), is a natural product, which contains beeswax and vitamin-rich organic hemp seed and olive oils.



6 If you had eczema as a child you may well have grown out of it. Around 30-50 per cent of children suffer some degree of eczema, which then reduces to around 2-10 per cent in adulthood.

7 Your GP can help you determine whether something in your diet, like dairy or gluten, is the culprit. But cut out alcohol, as this will just dry the skin out more.



8. Stress makes the condition worse so try to rest when you have a flare up and use relaxation techniques when you are feeling more tense than usual.

9 Hydrocortisone creams can be helpful when skin is inflamed. Mild steroids, these creams are anti-inflammatory and can help calm skin down.

10 Treatment will always depend on how severe the case, but it often starts with simple measures such as moisturising washes, which, in many cases, can reduce the number of eczema flare ups.




JADE JAGGER HAS HAD ECZEMA FOR DECADES

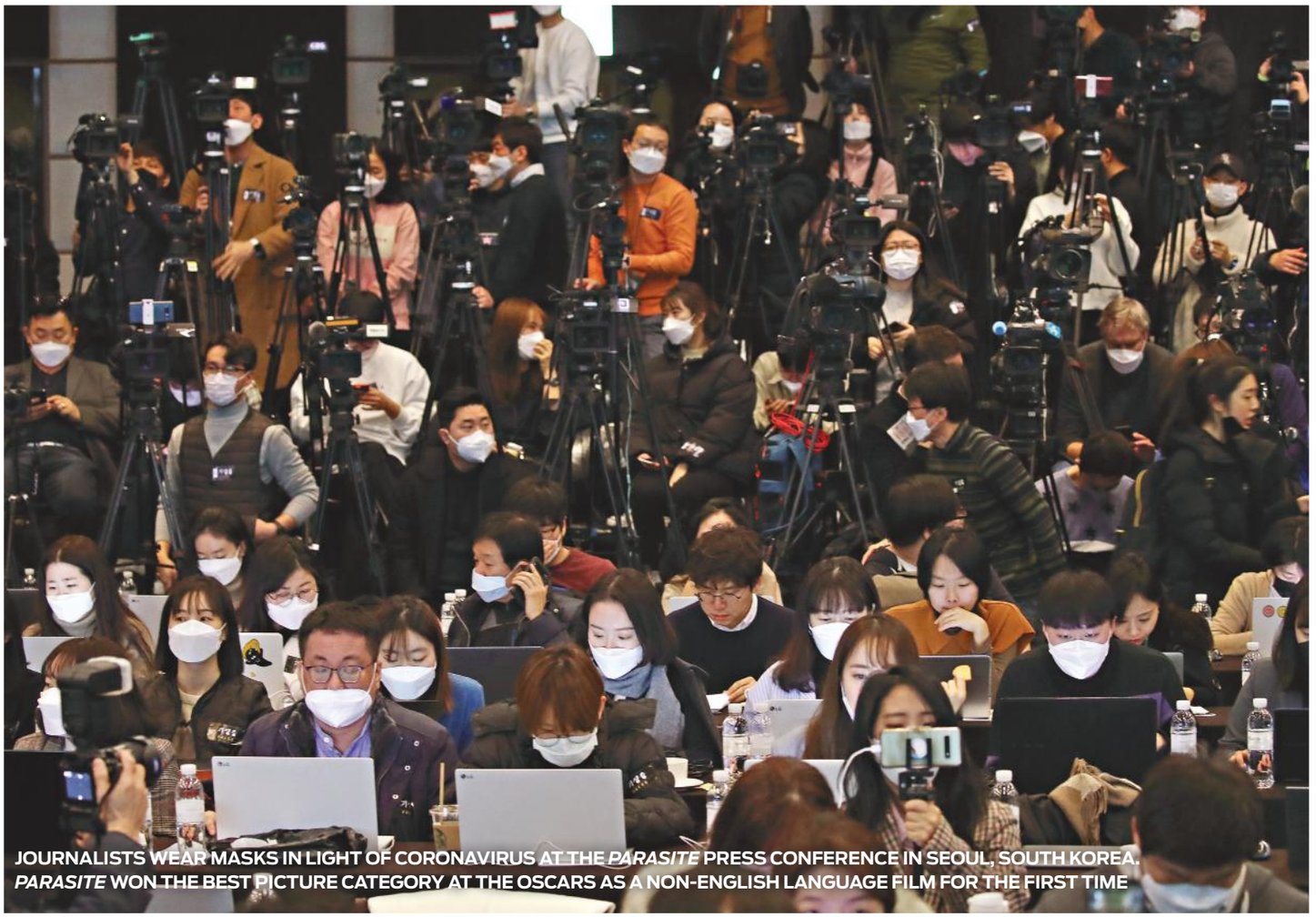
WITH THANKS TO DR JENNIFER JONES, A DERMATOLOGIST WHO WORKS WITH CUTICURA (CUTICURA.CO.UK)
PHOTOGRAPHS: SHUTTERSTOCK, GETTY



AURAT (WOMEN'S) MARCH TOOK PLACE ACROSS PAKISTAN TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



CATHERINE, DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE, PETS THE DOG OF IRELAND'S PRESIDENT MICHAEL D. HIGGINS AND WIFE SABINA COYNE AT THE OFFICIAL PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE ARAS AN UACHTARAIN IN DUBLIN, IRELAND



JOURNALISTS WEAR MASKS IN LIGHT OF CORONAVIRUS AT THE *PARASITE* PRESS CONFERENCE IN SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA. *PARASITE* WON THE BEST PICTURE CATEGORY AT THE OSCARS AS A NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE FILM FOR THE FIRST TIME



MODELS WALK THE RUNWAY DURING THE GUCCI FASHION SHOW AS PART OF MILAN FASHION WEEK FALL/WINTER 2020-2021

PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY

HOROSCOPE & TAROT

IT'S WRITTEN IN THE STARS!

CAPRICORN



Dec 22 – Jan 20

Try not to make rash decisions regarding expenses. A slower pace and thinking through is key. Everyone deserves a break now and then but you may continue to run the treadmill. The need to move forward is necessary so discuss this with your partner.

TAURUS



Apr 21 – May 21

Your career, promotion, new direction in life, or monetary reward will be in the spotlight. Your agitation concerning changes could be over inflated. Try being optimistic and ask for clarification.

VIRGO



Aug 24 – Sep 23

Unexpected developments at work could find you changing your mind very rapidly. Harmony should prevail at home and the need to be cautious about shared financial matters could be present. There may be ample activity in your area of investments and speculations.

SAGITTARIUS



Nov 23 – Dec 21

Your area of communications is key. Unexpected news connected to an old investment could reach you. Avoid any rash decisions. You could also find yourself dreaming about doing repairs at your home base.

AQUARIUS



Jan 21 – Feb 19

You could be meeting new people but beware of misguided information. You could be confused about your role in the past and what is expected from you in the present; lots of communication could be very enlightening.

GEMINI



May 22 – Jun 21

There may be travel connected to circumstances surrounding an older friend. There may be confusion regarding finances and helping someone out. Don't rush into anything and obtain necessary information first.

LIBRA



Sep 24 – Oct 23

Social activities are in the limelight. A possibility of taking a short trip exists. An opportunity to mend a past situation may arise. Work may be super busy but this could be managed so you could take your trip.



CAMILA CABELLO
MARCH 3, 1997

PISCES



Feb 20 – Mar 20

You could find yourself changing your mind in many circumstances. Confusion about past experiences related to finances will have to be reconciled through joint resources. Try not to be so hard on yourself and watch your steps!

CANCER



Jun 22 – Jul 23

You could be giving a lot of thought to unexpected circumstances surrounding shared income. Slow changes at work could be triggering this matter. Challenging circumstances at work will have to be discussed. Exotic vacations are on your mind. Investigate what stirs in your soul.

SCORPIO



Oct 24 – Nov 22

Home affairs are in the spotlight. There may be talk about possible changes of residence. An opportunity at work to increase your income could take place. This could cause you some worries but the overall picture looks very favorable.

ARIES



Mar 21 – Apr 20

Your friends are very much in the spotlight. You may have a strong desire to take a trip, which could be made a reality if you balance this with your personal responsibilities. Try not to spend too much time worrying about the past or the future.

LEO



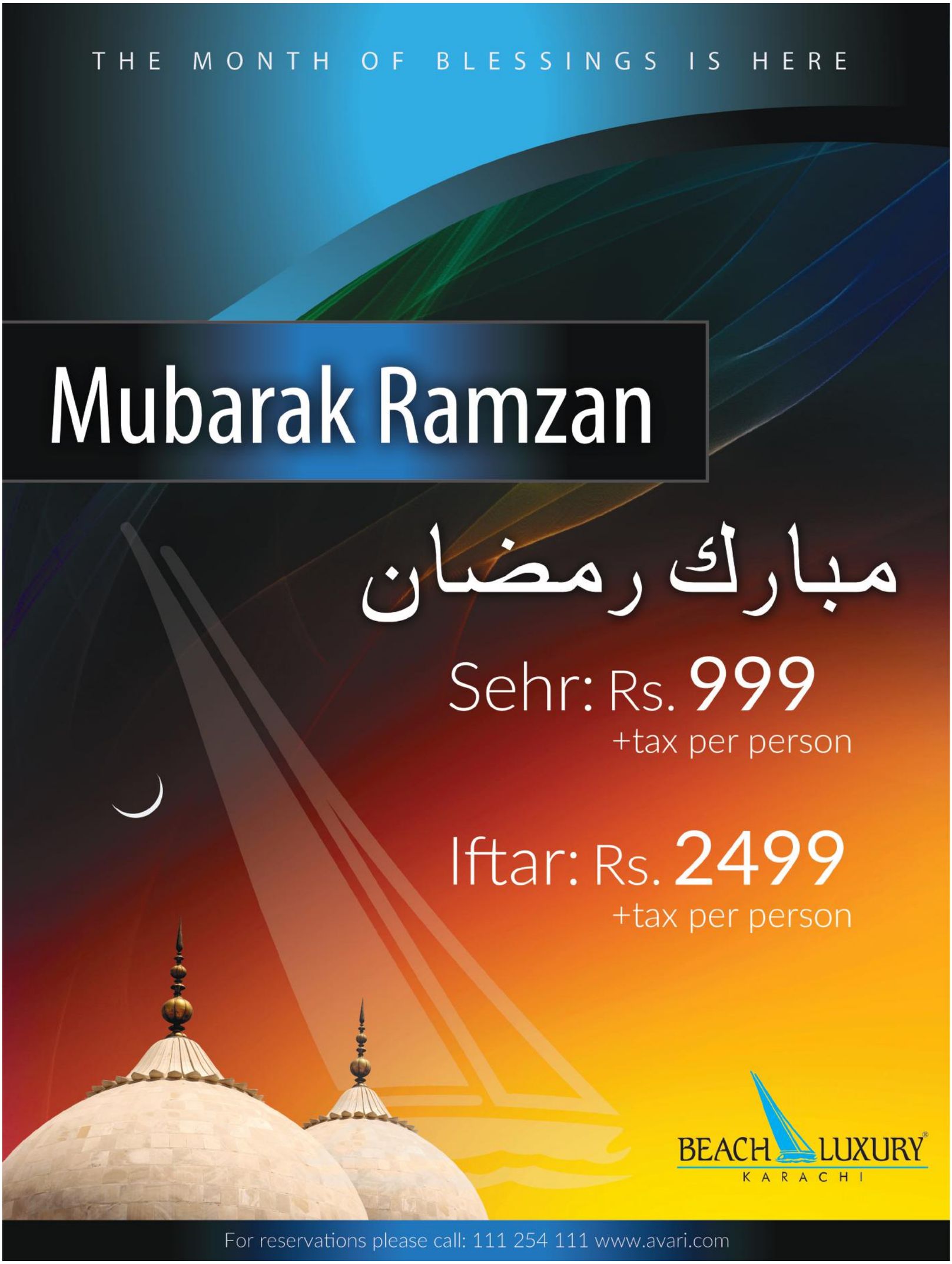
Jul 24 – Aug 23

Marriage and partnerships are in the spotlight. There's a lot happening in this area of your life and there may be unexpected developments. There may be differences of opinion at work that could be easily resolved. Your focus this month is on work, relationships and shared resources.



ATIF ASLAM
MARCH 12, 1983

PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY


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