

#FOOD FESTIVAL

Pind Da Swaad

Sample Chef Sweety Singh's especially curated Punjabi fare that is far from strong spices and rich gravies at 'Pind Da Swaad' at Hotel Hilton.



Kesar Kheer. Dal makhani.



Tusharika Singh
Freelancer
writer and
city blogger

For years, Punjabi cuisine has been labeled as rich and heavy. However, according to Chef Sweety Singh, also known as Harjinder Singh, this stereotyping could not be further from the truth. He believes that authentic, homemade Punjabi food is not heavy, but rather wholesome and nutritious, providing the body with all the necessary nutrients it requires. In an effort to share this authentic and flavorful food that with gastronomes in Jaipur, Chef Sweety has partnered with Abhishek Kukreti, Executive Chef of Hilton Jaipur, to curate the food festival 'Pind Da Swaad'.

Chef Sweety Singh is renowned for his innovative and nostalgic take on Indian food, and has curated an array of authentic dishes straight from the heart of Punjab. He has been cooking Punjabi food since the young age of 19, inheriting his unique style of cooking from his father who established a food business in Delhi in the 1950s. Despite having no formal training in cooking, Chef Sweety Singh continues the original family business and also runs his own catering. Interestingly, he carries his own spices and insists on slow cooking as a technique for his dishes.

Explaining his approach to authentic Punjabi cuisine, Chef Sweety Singh says, "My objective is to bring authentic ghar ka Punjabi khaana to the people of Jaipur. Punjabi cuisine is often overhyped as being too spicy and oily, but that is not true for how I cook. I believe in making everything fresh, from tomato

Must Try: Start the meal with Kesar Lassi served in kulhad. For non-vegetarians, the most recommended dishes are Bhatti Ka Kukad, Makhani Macchi Tikke, Rukkad Makhani Wala, Amritsari Meat, among others. Vegetarians can sample Aloo Wadiya, Pindi Chole, Kadi Pakora. Those with a sweet tooth should not miss Kesar Wala Kheer, Meet Ka Halwa and Kala Gulab Jamun.

Where: Aurum, Hotel Hilton
When: 7 pm onwards, 24 March to 2 April



Abhishek Kukreti & Chef Sweety Singh.

James Inglis was an indigo planter in northern Bihar on the Bihar on the Nepal border, who worked there just before and after the revolt of 1857-58. In his Tent life in Tiger land, first published in 1888, he recounts that once when he was "on foot not thirty yards away but on the opposite side of a soft boggy ground...forth from the jungle in head long desperate flight came a magnificent full grown bull rhinoceros....there was little time for reflection. It was evident that the angry brute had seen me, and with a hoarse, choking grunt of wrath and defiance he came plunging straight for me, rushing right into the morass." The animal got stuck in the bog, whereupon Inglis shot him broadside with two bullets, and gave a "yell of triumph, which I could not suppress" as "I saw the mighty brute sway to and fro, heaving his ponderous body as one may see a giant of the forest swayed by a rushing wind, and then with a hoarse groan he lurched forward struggled again through the tenacious clinging mud, and then crashed heavily over almost at my feet. What a glorious prize!"



Divyabhanusinh
Ex India head for
WWF. A renowned
wildlife expert

The Last Great Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb spent the final years of his long life in the Deccan trying to subjugate the kingdoms of the south. With his death in 1707 signs of the fragmentation of the imperial order became clear. The empire became so weak that it could not stop the raid of Nadir Shah of Persia who sacked Delhi in 1739 and departed with much loot, including the priceless Koh-i-nur diamond and Shah Jahan's famous peacock throne. Still, Aurangzeb's successors largely managed to hang on to their ever-shrinking kingdom until Bahadur Shah Zafar, who was reduced to the little King of Delhi, was exiled in 1858.

Amidst this turmoil in 18th-century north India the region that concerns us-the British East India Company went from being a trading company to become a political power. The Battle of Plassey in 1757 and the Battle of Buxar in 1764 made the Company the most powerful temporal power among the competing fledgling states that were flexing their muscles against the weakened authority at Delhi.

Field Sports under the British

The British who came to India as writers-clerks-boxwallahs-traders saw immense opportunities for relaxation from the drudgery of their daily routine in an inhospitable climate. Many who could never have dreamed of such opportunities "back home" took to a variety of "sports" with gusto and wrote about their exploits, shikar being the foremost among them? Books on the subject began to be written and



Rhinoceros hunted by elephants, an illustration from the first book on shikar of the British period, Williamson, 1807. The depiction of the elephants is not entirely accurate. From Williamson, 1807.

How the British Loved To Hunt Genda

#STORY OF THE INDIAN RHINOS

continued to be published until India's independence in 1947 and after.

The nature of such publications is well analysed by Scott Bennett who writes: "The history of shikar has been left to be written by participants...we seek in vain for any analysis of what was done, and why it was done. In fact, the aim of such writers tended to be quite modest. To tell a good story, to inform the curious and to instruct the novice was all that was sought, and we are thus left with a remarkably uniform description of what was seen simply as an innocent amusement. A recent example of the genre is Major General James Elliot's Field Sports in India 1800-1947 published in 1973...The overwhelming impression gained from an account like Elliot's is that shikar was a harmless routine for the Britishers, which gave him (rarely her) a chance to break the bonds of civilization, while offering the chance of enjoying some of the better things of life."

There were, as well, works such as William rice's Indian Game (From Quail to Tiger) published in 1884 which informed the "griffin" novice-of the type of sport available

in a particular locality. Others like A.E. Stewart's Tiger and Other Big Game published in 1927 had chapter headings such as "Arrival at Your Block", "Trying out a Kill", "Inspection of Kills" etc. which speak abundantly of the nature of the contents.

It is in such texts that we look for references to the unicorn and its brush with Homo sapiens during this period. First off the block was Captain Thomas Williamson's Oriental Field Sports published in 1807, exactly half a century after the Battle of Plassey. He was in the Bengal Army, and lived in Cawnpore (Kanpur) and also in Calcutta which was the centre of the growing British Empire. Williamson was a colourful character. He took on the Governor-General Lord Wellesley, writing a libellous piece against him. He was cashiered and sent back to England in 1798 and there is believed to have penned his magnum opus to make some money. The book has a chapter on the rhino and a plate titled "Rhinoceros hunted by Elephants". It is apparent from the text that Williamson had no personal knowledge of the animal and merely recorded what he was informed by others, but his account is significant for being among the earliest of such records.

At the outset Williamson confesses that little is known about the rhinoceros's "habits, its powers, and many other very interesting points, (and) nothing authentic has been published". He goes on to describe the animal, but of greater interest is his record of fights between rhinoceros and elephant in the wild. He refers to a Major Lally who witnessed such a fight but did not see the end of it as the animals moved into thick jungle. Williamson also recounts an incident of a marauder rhinoceros encountered by two army officers at "Derriapour" near Monghyr in Bihar in 1788. The animal was reported to have attacked two horses of the officer's camp, goring them to death, thus proving "the cruel disposition of the animal".

Robert Armitage Sterndale, writing nearly eight decades later, records that the rhinoceros is known to attack wild buffaloes and illustrates his point by a picture in one of his books titled "More than his Match". It is obvious that there could be such conflicts usually manage to keep their distance from each other in the wild, and fights which may result in grievous wounds or fatalities are rare indeed.

Rhinoceroses were hunted by both Indians and Britishers in this period. The common people among the Indians spears or muzzle-loading guns and the potentates among them used tame elephants to encircle an animal in tall grass before they finished it off with a gunshot. As for the British, they took to this "sport" of hunting the rhino enthusiastically and usually hunted from elephant back.

Williamson's book was soon followed by others which also recorded the "sport". James Inglis was an indigo planter in northern Bihar on the Bihar on the Nepal border, who worked there just before and after the revolt of 1857-58. In his Tent life in Tiger land, first published in 1888, he recounts that once when he was "on foot not thirty yards away but on the opposite side of a soft boggy ground...forth from the jungle in head long desperate flight came a



More than his Match: A rhinoceros drives off a wild buffalo from its territory. From Sterndale, 1886.

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Mode Of Hunting

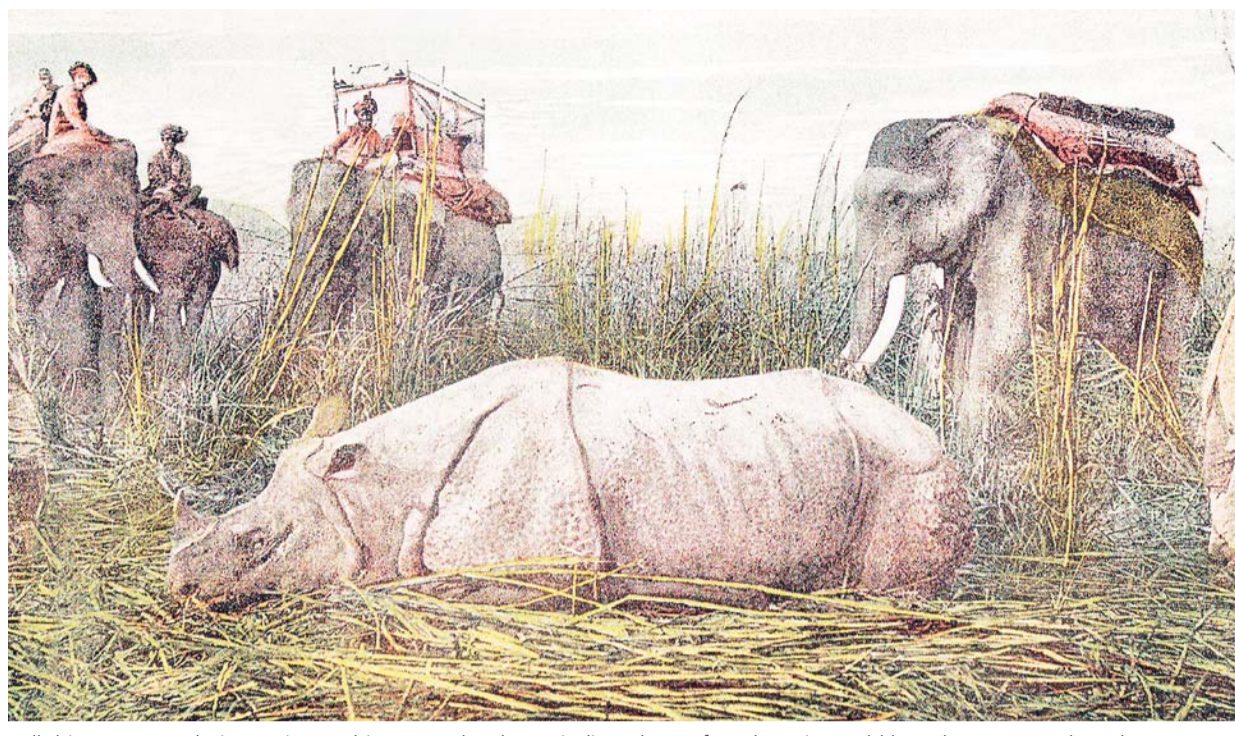
In an earlier work, Sport and Work on the Nepal Frontier (1878), Inglis, writing under the nom de plume "Maori", records an incident when he came across a rhinoceros that had been shot by a zamindar. The locals were backing the dead animal up for meat. He mentions that the skin from the underside made excellent riding crops. The horn was very precious too, since "when a child is to be born, the husband gets a horn to keep in the house which ensures safety to both mother and child". That besides, the British also ate the meat. According to

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World Theatre Day



Whether writing and directing, producing and acting, creating beautiful costumes or doing lighting and scene design, theatre is a medium of art that requires a wide range of talented artists involved in a variety of ways. Theatres are magical places where stories come to life. The stage is a portal to other worlds, where we can laugh, cry, and be transported by the power of live performance. World Theatre Day is here to show appreciation for those who give their time and talent to make the show go on.



Bull rhinoceros. A glorious prize. A rhinoceros shot by an indigo planter for whom it would have been a proud trophy. From Inglis, 1888

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Alexander A. Kinlock, the animal's meat is excellent eating and is not easily distinguishable from beef. The tongue which is very curiously formed is particularly good".

Alexander A. Kinlock also described at some length the mode of hunting rhinoceroses. One method was to quietly track the animal on a single elephant "until he is at last found in its lair, or perhaps standing quite unconscious of danger". The other way was by beating the jungle with "a line of elephants, guns being stationed at the points where the (the rhinoceros) is most likely to break cover. It is essential to have beaters who have authority as both the mahout and elephants have the greatest dread of the huge beast that appears to be far more formidable than he really is. When disturbed he makes tremendous noise crashing through the reeds, and grunting and snorting with steam engine power, but unless driven to extremities by being hunted into a corner, I believe that it is but seldom that he will really charge home. I have not yet witnessed an instance of his doing so." Kinlock went on to state that if there were too many guns-hunters on elephant back-there would be wild firing. He noted that he used a .12 bore rifle.



A rhino fight at Baroda. Rhinos of the royal manerie were used for public entertainment in the 19th century. A fanciful representation as the rhinos here have two horns. From Rousselet, 1882



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"General" Genera

The name of Lord Curzon, Viceroy and Governor-General of India (1899-1905), is traditionally linked to rhinoceros protection. Once, when the Viceroy was hunting tigers in the Nepal Terai, he went on an impromptu rhinoceros hunt. He was there with a very small party and having shot a number of tigers had a few days to spare, so a request was made to the Nepalese ruler for shooting a rhinoceros. The beaters agreed readily, saying that "if the Viceroy could manage to take only a very small camp, and did not mind a rough journey, it might be arranged". Curzon went along with only his aide-de-camp, Baker Carr. The area of the jungle to be dis-

turbed by the beaters-people on foot that would make a noise to flush out the wild animals-was in a long riverbed which was 200 yards broad and 600 yards long. As the beat began, Curzon hears a sound like a railway train and saw a large rhinoceros charging towards him. He dropped it with a bullet of the .577 rifle that he had borrowed from his ADC.

All dismounted from their elephants and the Nepalese beaters brought vessels to collect the blood of the animal oozing out of the wound as it was believed to have medicinal properties. While these proceedings were in progress the beaters suddenly shouted "General! General!" (Rhinoceros). The beaters scattered, the mahouts scampered up their elephants' trunks to their perches while the Viceroy and ADC were hoisted into their howdah. Curzon managed to shoot this rhinoceros, which was the mate of the one just shot, before she could do any damage. Towards the end of the shoot a tiger also came out, which was bagged by Baker Carr. The horn of one of the rhinoceroses shot by Curzon was over 21 1/2 inches long, which he believed for a long time was a record. The record of course is that of a horn in the Natural History Museum, London with a length of 24 inches. The hunter's prize usually ended up as trophy on the wall or an artefact or object of use such as a stool or a flower-pot. (1) (1)

Acknowledgement

1. The Book: "The story of India's Unicorns"
2. Authors: Divyabhanusinh, Asok Kumar Das & Shibani Bose.
3. Publisher: The Marg Foundation.
4. For Purchase: The book is available for purchase on www.marg-art.org

#I'ADORE

Accessories Your Workdays!

Accessorising is always the best way to make an impressive fashion statement



You got to love office wear! Blouses, trousers, turtle necks, shirts, pencil skirts, blazers, and the list goes on; there is something for every shade of smart and sophisticated! Accessorising is always the best way to make an impressive fashion statement, and the workplace is no different! In this article, we will take you through 5 office wear jewellery trends that are tried and tested in their ability to elevate your workplace looks and lend an air of elegance even on the most hectic workdays.

A Pearl Necklace

Another addition to the timeless jewellery cohort, a pearl necklace conveys equal parts of grace and poshness. What else do you need in your office wear? It's also highly versatile; you can pair it with a formal dress, a simple blouse, or an elaborate pantsuit.

A Tennis Bracelet



If fineness, luxury, and class had a one-stop destination, a tennis bracelet would be that. They come in a variety of metals and precious stones, suitable for every taste and outfit choice. The innate subtlety and beauty of this bracelet make your entire formal outfit a class above the rest!

Good Set of Rings



Ring sets are always in fashion. Hence, they make for an apt investment. For office wear, in particular, metal ring sets add to a very polished, smart, and sleek look, elevating your day-to-day formal looks. They not only bedeck your fingers but also enhance the simplest of shirt-trouser combinations.

Gold Hoops

Small to medium-sized gold hoops look quite professional, contrary to the prevailing perception of hoops being too hip or party-wear. Gold hoops fill the accessory void without the need to pair them with any more accessories and, thus, are very efficient for casual office wear, you could also try out contemporary earrings.



Minimalistic Rose Gold Jewellery

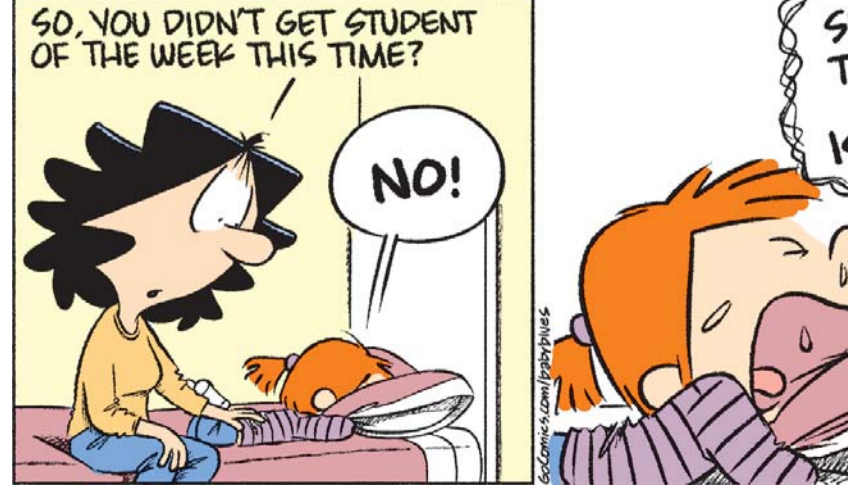
Rose gold is extremely subtle and elegant as a colour in itself. It will most certainly refine and stylise your persona paired with a formal outfit. Minimalistic rose gold jewellery can come in a variety of forms: chunky earrings, a simple pendant, or even a basic choker. There is plenty of variety available for everyone's preference.



THE WALL



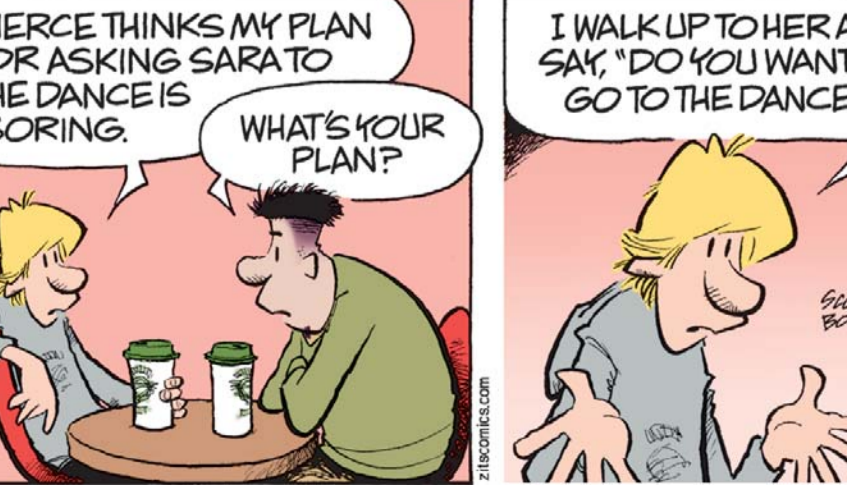
BABY BLUES



ZITS



ZITS



ZITS



By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman