



Honouring Our Furry Friends

Observed every year on August 26, National Dog Day is a heartfelt celebration of the loyalty, companionship, and unconditional love that dogs bring into our lives. Founded in 2004 by animal advocate Colleen Paige, the day aims to raise awareness about the plight of rescue and shelter dogs, and to encourage adoption from shelters and rescue organizations. Whether it's a trained service dog or a playful family pet, dogs play countless roles in human lives, from protectors and helpers to loyal friends. On this day, dog lovers across the world honour their furry companions and advocate for their well-being.

#HISTORY

Bugle Of Independence

How the 1946 Naval Revolt shook the British Empire!



In February 1946, a wave of mutiny erupted among Indian naval sailors aboard Royal Indian Navy (RIN) ships and shore establishments, culminating in what is now known as the 1946 Naval Revolt or the Royal Indian Navy Mutiny. This significant uprising shook the foundations of British colonial rule in India and played a pivotal role in accelerating the country's journey to independence.

Background: A Navy on the Brink

At the end of World War II, the Royal Indian Navy was composed mostly of Indian sailors who had fought bravely alongside British forces. However, these sailors faced discrimination, poor living conditions, and inadequate pay, which festered deep



The Spark: The Mutiny Begins

On February 18, 1946, the mutiny began at the naval base in HMIS Talwar in Bombay (now Mumbai). Initially sparked by demands for better food, pay, and leave, the protest quickly spread to include political demands such as the end of British rule and release of political prisoners. Within days, the

revolt spread to involve around 20,000 sailors across the Indian coastline, including ships stationed at Karachi, Calcutta, and Madras. The mutineers formed action committees, issued leaflets, and declared solidarity with workers' strikes and the wider independence struggle.

Impact and British Response

The British authorities were caught off guard by the scale and intensity of the revolt. The mutiny spread rapidly and garnered significant public support, with civilians from all walks of life, including workers, students, and politicians, joining in solidarity.

In response, the British declared martial law in Bombay and deployed troops and air strikes to suppress the uprising. However, the mutineers' determination and the widespread civil unrest demonstrated the crumbling hold of the British Empire.

Political Ramifications

The 1946 Naval Revolt was a clear signal that the British Raj could no longer maintain control through force alone. The revolt weakened the morale of colonial administrators and military officers and emboldened the Indian National Congress and

other nationalist leaders to demand faster steps towards independence. Historians view the revolt as one of the final nails in the coffin of British colonial rule in India, occurring just over a year before India gained independence in August 1947.

Legacy of the Revolt

The revolt is often overshadowed by other independence events, but its significance cannot be overstated. It demonstrated the power of organized resistance within the armed forces and highlighted the widespread desire for freedom among Indian servicemen. The courage shown

by the sailors inspired subsequent generations and underscored the role of the military in India's liberation. Today, the 1946 Naval Revolt is remembered as a bold assertion of Indian nationalism and a critical moment in the country's struggle to end colonial domination.



Every political appointee in the US, from Vice President JD Vance to Secretary of State Marco Rubio, to FBI Director Kash Patel to US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessant, rushed to publicly congratulate Gor on his new appointment. There was a reason for this: Gor was the one to sign off on their antecedents when they were being considered for their jobs. In his position as director of the White House Presidential Personnel Office, he was the one responsible for research, background checks, security clearances, and recommendations on putative Federal appointees and whether or not they should be hired. Trump's first term was notable for the turnover of officials and the rapidity with which they were hired and fired. "If there was one criticism that I would level against the President, it is he didn't hire very well," Trump's former acting chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney told CNN in 2020, in what is considered an understatement. "He did not have experience at running government and didn't know how to put together a team that could work well with him." Trump was clear he did not want to make the same staffing mistakes that he did in his first tenure. Gor's intensive background checks made him a person to be both respected and feared in the new administration. And at least 4,000 people he was responsible for hiring for federal jobs owe their loyalty to the MAGA Republican Party (as opposed to the traditional Republicans) and to him personally. A source said he was 'ruthlessly efficient' and The Washington Post reported that his beagle was called Machiavelli.

A 'Snake' In Our Yard?



Anjali Sharma  
Senior Journalist &  
Wildlife Enthusiast

amid ongoing tariff tensions between Washington and New Delhi, US President Donald Trump on Saturday nominated close aide Sergio Gor as the new Ambassador of India. "That's what they call a soft landing in Trumpworld," an administration insider, familiar with the situation, told The Post. Several sources said that the FBI recently completed a background check into Gor after he belatedly submitted his Standard Form 86 (SF-86) paperwork, which begins the process for granting a permanent security clearance. The findings of that review stoked internal intrigue over the past week as they were reviewed by West Wing bosses, with buzz mounting that Gor might be nominated as ambassador to Malta, his professed homeland, in a face-saving off-ramp. He had maintained a temporary security clearance that was believed to have expired last month, though it's unclear whether an extension was granted. Gor had not filed the paperwork to begin the formal security-clearance process before The Post's investigation was published in mid-June. Sources, who worked with Gor over more than a decade, said that he spoke often of being from Malta, a small Mediterranean island, but officials in that nation told The Post that they had no record of his birth. It was unclear whether Gor's murky national origin alone explained his reluctance to submit to a background check. Incidentally, the original last name of Sergio Gor was Gorokhovskiy, that is before it got shortened, when he and his parents migrated to the US. Born in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, a part of the erstwhile USSR, Gor emigrated to the US with his parents in 1999 when he was around 12, according to reports. The Times of Malta reported in July that Gor was born in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, a part of the erstwhile USSR. Gor emigrated to the US with his parents in 1999 when he was around 12, according to reports. He has no experience of trade or economic management. His publishing business was aimed at a largely captive audience. He has no particular interest in geopolitics, no specialised understanding of South



#SERGIO GOR



Office, he was the one responsible for research, background checks, security clearances, and recommendations on putative Federal appointees and whether or not they should be hired. Trump's first term was notable for the turnover of officials and the rapidity with which they were hired and fired. "If there was one criticism that I would level against the President, it is that he didn't hire very well," Trump's former acting chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney told CNN in 2020, in what is considered an understatement. "He did not have experience at running government and didn't know how to put together a team that could work well with him." Trump was clear that he did not want to make the same staffing mistakes that he did in his first tenure. Gor's intensive background checks made him a person to be both respected and feared in the new administration. And at least 4,000 people he was responsible for hiring for federal jobs owe their loyalty to the MAGA Republican Party (as opposed to the traditional Republicans) and to him personally. A source said that he was



allegedly exacted revenge. Gor cited Issacman's prior donations to Democrats, even though a number of high-profile former Democrats serve in Trump's Cabinet, including former Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (D-Hawaii) and Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Although Issacman passed a Senate committee with bipartisan support, Trump withdrew the nomination, outraging Musk.

In a seismic political clash, Musk, Trump's top financial backer during the 2024 campaign, threatened to launch a third party and endorsed Trump's impeachment, causing indignation inside the White House, both over Gor's actions and their potential impact on the 2026 midterm elections. Mr. Gor previously helped create a publishing venture that paid millions of dollars to Mr. Trump to produce his books when he was out of office, and he ran a super PAC supporting the president in 2024. Mr. Gor would need to be confirmed by the Senate for the ambassadorship, although the special envoy role can be made simply by appointment. His nomination to the ambassadorship comes as a sudden

"After a long spell, there is some semblance of good news for India," said Harsh V. Pant, vice president of studies and foreign policy at the Observer Research Foundation, a New Delhi-based think tank. "Ambassadorial roles are important in relationships going through a rough patch, and all the better that he has Mr. Trump's ears."

'ruthlessly efficient' and The Washington Post reported that his beagle was called Machiavelli.

Gor rocketed from obscurity as a longtime aide to Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) by launching a publishing company in 2021 that reaped millions publishing Trump's books. In 2022, he bought a seven-bedroom mansion near Palm Beach, Fla. He burst into the headlines in June when he convinced Trump to yank the nomination of Musk's pick to lead NASA, Jared Isaacman, after nursing a grudge and speaking of paying back the world's richest man for 'humiliating' him at a Cabinet meeting.

Musk, the CEO of Tesla and SpaceX, was departing his role leading Trump's Department of Government Efficiency when Gor



rift has developed between the United States and India amid Mr. Trump's threats of punishing tariffs, rocking a friendship between the world's two largest democracies that had seemed to be flourishing just months ago. The president also said that "for the most populous region in the world, it is important that I have someone I can fully trust to deliver on my agenda."

"After a long spell, there is some semblance of good news for India," said Harsh V. Pant, vice president of studies and foreign policy at the Observer Research Foundation, a New Delhi-based think tank. "Ambassadorial roles are important in relationships going through a rough patch, and all the better that he has Mr. Trump's ears."

Mr. Gor was valued by the president for his perceived loyalty, and his willingness to freeze out of government people he considered insufficiently pure in that regard. But he was also criticized by others as capricious in his decisions. And he fought bitterly with Elon Musk, Mr. Trump's billionaire adviser, who ran an effort that ripped through existing government systems in the name of cutting costs and who himself often fought with others in the government. Mr. Gor was involved in providing Mr. Trump information that Jared Isaacman, a businessman and ally of Mr. Musk whom Mr. Trump picked in late 2024 to lead NASA on Mr. Musk's recommendation, had donated money to Democrats in the recent past. Mr. Trump decided to pull the nomination from the Senate confirmation process on Mr. Musk's last day working at the White House. Mr. Isaacman had directly told Mr. Trump about those donations in their 2024 meeting during the presidential transition, according to two people with knowledge of the events, but Mr. Trump claimed to be learning of them for the first time.

Mr. Gor has also been a focus of a crush of negative news stories that have raised questions about his personal back story and how he rose to prominence in Mr. Trump's world. Mr. Gor previously worked for Senator Rand Paul, Republican of Kentucky. He has over several years had close relationships with a number of people in the president's extended orbit, including his son Donald Trump Jr. In 2024, the super PAC he ran was heavily backed by the former Marvel Entertainment executive Isaac Perlmutter, a friend and member of Mar-a-Lago, the president's private club in Florida. Back in June this year, an X user had alleged that Gor, who was reportedly tasked to hire employees across US departments, did not submit official paperwork with his own background needed for a permanent security clearance.

"He's a snake," the Tesla and SpaceX boss has written in his response. Gor currently leads the White House Presidential Personnel. Addressing Gor as a 'great friend,' Trump expressed his complete trust in him while noting his contributions to the White House Office of Presidential Personnel. "Sergio's role as Director of Presidential Personnel has been essential to delivering on the unprecedented mandate that we received from the American People," the US President added.

rajeshsharma1049@gmail.com

#TRIED & TASTED

Add Sweetness To Your Celebrations

If you are planning to celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi and make it a grand affair, you must have loads of sweets and savouries on the menu to offer to Ganpatiji and serve as prasad or bhog.

Modaks are sweet dumplings that are filled with grated coconut or jaggery. While this is the basic and original form of a modak, there are other exciting types too.

If you are planning to celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi and make it a grand affair, you must have loads of sweets and

savouries on the menu to offer to Ganpatiji and serve as prasad or bhog. While this is the basic and original form of a modak, there are other exciting types too that have been introduced in order to satiate evolving palates across the country. People are now experimenting with newer forms of modak fillings and you must try them too.



- while stirring continuously.
1. Add the coconut, poppy seeds and cardamom powder, mix well and cook on a slow flame till all the moisture evaporates and the mixture thickens. Keep aside to cool slightly.
  2. Divide the filling into equal portions and keep aside.

To Assemble

1. Knead the dough once again using ¼ tsp of ghee and keep aside.
2. Grease a modak mould using very little ghee and close it.
3. Take a portion of the dough, press it into the cavity of the modak mould till it is evenly lined on all the sides.
4. Fill the dough cavity with a portion of the filling.
5. Take a smaller portion of the dough and spread it evenly at the base of the modak mould so as to seal the filling. Demould the modak from the modak mould.
6. Repeat steps to make the remaining modaks.
7. Place a steamer plate in a steamer and place a banana leaf on it.
8. Moisten all the modaks with little water using your fingertips. Place modaks on the banana leaf and steam on medium flame for 10-12 minutes. Serve warm.

Gulkand-Khoya-Saunf Modaks

- Ingredients**
- For Dough**
- 1 cup rice flour
  - 2 tsp oil
  - 1 ½ cup water
  - A pinch of salt
- For Khoya-Saunf Modak**
- A few drops rose water
  - 250 gm khoya (mawa)
  - 70 gm sugar
  - 2 tsp fennel seeds
  - Handful of chopped pistachios
  - 4 tsp chopped dried apricots
- For Gulkand Modak**
- 3/4 cup gulkand, drained
  - 2 paan leaves
  - 1 tsp candied fruits, chopped
  - 2 tsp supari, soft and chopped

Preparation

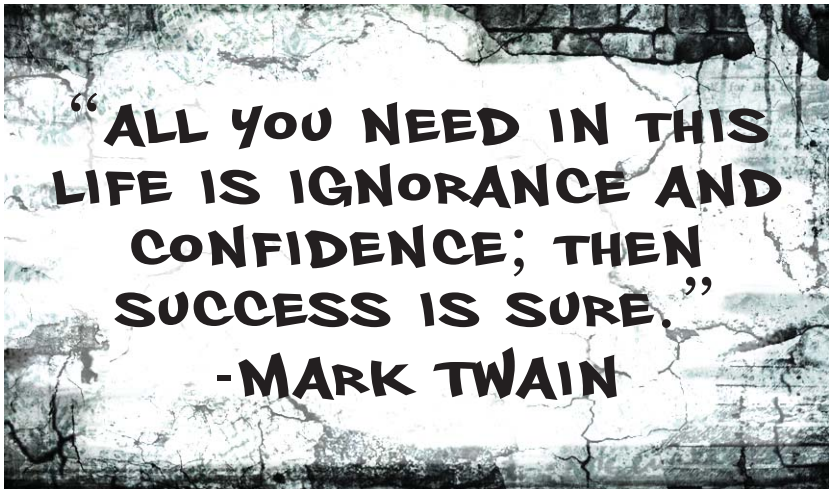
1. In a thick-bottomed pan, add grated khoya, sugar, fennel seeds, chopped pistachio and chopped apricots. Cook on low heat till all the grain sugar is dissolved. Turn off the heat, add rose water and remove to a plate and cool.
2. In a thick bottom vessel, add



3. water, oil and salt. Bring to boil. Remove half a cup of water and keep aside.
4. Remove the water from the fire and slowly add the rice flour. Keep stirring continuously till all the rice flour is used up.
5. Now, place it back on the gas and cook on slow flame till the rice flour comes together as dough. Remove and let it cool. Cover with a clean, moist cloth.
6. Apply very little of oil on your palm and place a small

- ball of the dough. Flatten it a bit and place the khoya mixture in the centre. Now from all sides, fold the dough and shape like a water drop.
7. Do this for the rest of the dough and mixture.
8. Now, prepare a steamer and steam the modaks for 5-7 mins. Remove, allow to cool and serve.
9. For making the gulkand modak mixture, mix all the ingredients together and stuff in the modak dough and steam them.

THE WALL



BABY BLUES



By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

ZITS



By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman