

#FOOD FESTIVAL

Daawat-E-Awadh



Lagan ki Seekh Kebab and Chicken Korma.

Drawing inspiration from the rich heritage of the royal kitchens of the Nawabs, foodies in Jaipur will be able to sample gastronomical delights that are a reflection of the Awadhi flavours and their traditional cooking styles at the 'Daawat-E-Awadh' Food Festival at Hotel Holiday Inn in Jaipur.



Tusharika Singh
Freelance writer and city blogger

Well-known for its rich preparation, distinctive aroma and flavours, the gourminds of Pink City can now get a taste of Awadhi cuisine right here in Jaipur as Hotel Holiday Inn is hosting a one-of-its-kind food festival 'Daawat-E-Awadh' at their Monarch Restaurant. During the 10-day food festival which is on till 24 July, one will be able to experience the authentic Awadhi flavours and the traditional cooking styles with a specially curated buffet menu which has been designed with special insights from a Lucknow-based chef.

History of Awadhi Cuisine
Awadhi cuisine is essentially an indigenous part of the city of Nawabs - Lucknow. The dishes and cooking style of this cuisine is inspired and influenced by the Muslims. It includes rich preparation of both vegetarian as well as non-vegetarian dishes made using



Galouti Kebab with ulte tawa ka paratha.

exotic spices, herbs and garnishes with dry fruits. The need for such a cuisine arose as the emperors, the Nawabs of Awadh, being inhabitants of Persia, were used to a certain type of diet which comprised of grains, dry fruits, fruits and vegetables available in that part of the country apart from various forms of meat. This style of cooking was further polished by the Nawabs by adding exotic flavours of saffron and other Indian spices. The 'dum pukht' style of cooking which translates as the art of cooking over low heat is also synonymous with Awadhi cuisine. However, later on the Awadhi cuisine was perfected

Date: 15 July - 24 July
Time: 7:30 pm to 11 pm
Venue: Monarch Restaurant, Hotel Holiday Inn Jaipur City Center



Vegetable Dum Biryani.

#PERSONALITY

For India peace was an article of faith, but for China it was merely a tactical move. Clearly India had failed to understand the Chinese motives and intentions and subsequently lost the Sino-Indian War of 1962. Soon after Jagat was sent to Peking as Chargé d'affaires from 1963 to 1966, during the tumultuous times of the Cultural Revolution. When India was at war with Pakistan in 1965, China began to exert pressure on India by issuing all kinds of threats and ultimatums, but it was Jagat who judged the situation correctly and advised New Delhi not to move troops to the eastern front knowing that Chinese would not violate the border. Shashtriji later commended him for his professional judgment.



Jagat Singh at Study.

talks proved to be inconclusive - all because of the maps they couldn't agree upon.

Jagat held that it was not the boundary question alone that triggered the War with China in 1962. There was yet another reason - it was a clash between two vastly different world views, two great Asian leaders - Nehru & Mao - one an internationalist and follower of Gandhi and the other - steeped in communist ideology, where power came from the barrel of the gun. For India peace was an article of faith, but for China it was merely a tactical move. Clearly India had failed to understand the Chinese motives and intentions and subsequently lost the Sino-Indian War of 1962. Soon after, Jagat was sent to Peking as Chargé d'affaires from 1963 to 1966, during the tumultuous times of the Cultural Revolution. When India was at war with Pakistan in 1965, China began to exert pressure on India by issuing all kinds of threats and ultimatums, but it was Jagat who judged the situation correctly and advised New Delhi not to move troops to the eastern front knowing that Chinese would not violate the border. Shashtriji later commended him for his professional judgment.

Tanzania

After China, Jagat did a four year stint in Delhi as Joint Secretary Policy Planning. Thereafter in 1970, Jagat was sent as the Indian High Commissioner to Tanzania in 1970. "He turned his innocuous posting in Tanzania into a major listening post in Africa and won the hearts of the Africans and the Indians in East Africa. Policy makers should reread one of his dispatches on the creeping Chinese influence in Africa to understand Chinese methods today," says TP Sreenivasan, Jagat's colleague. But Jagat will be remembered for his tough negotiations with Idi Amin and his henchmen for getting compensation for those Indians who were expelled from Uganda in 1972-74. Despite threats from Idi Amin, Jagat continued to negotiate doggedly and eventually achieved sizeable compensations under Morarji Desai's cabinet.

Indira Gandhi

In 1974, Jagat returned back to the ministry as joint secretary in Mrs Gandhi's government. Meanwhile earlier that year, Mrs Gandhi carried out a nuclear test at Pokhran. Jagat did not approve of India becoming a nuclear power. He strongly believed that India would have greater influence in world affairs if it eschewed becoming a nuclear power much in keeping with Gandhiji if not Nehru's legacy in foreign policy. Mrs Gandhi appointed Jagat as the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India in 1976.



Jagat was an active member of the Jheel Sanrakshan Samiti, an association of citizens that worked with the spirit of volunteerism to prevent the desecration of the Lakes in Udaipur. After retirement from Vidya Bhawan in 1999, he wrote several books - including his autobiography 'The Tyrst Betrayed'.

helped him settle down in India and His Holiness never forgot that early association and kept in touch with him. In fact, shortly before his death Jagat out of the blue got a warm letter of greeting from the Dalai Lama.

China
With China Jagat had a long association. After the bonhomie of 'Hindi Chini Bhai Bhai' days of the mid 50s the situation drastically changed to acrimony and tension in the 60s over the issue of border. In 1960, Jagat led the Indian delegation in border talks with the Chinese at Yalong, former Rangoon. Discussions on Sino-India Boundary lasted six months and Jagat found that border claims were 'rather uneven on both sides' but Chinese more so than Indian. The



Father & Son 1952 Netherland.



Jagat Singh with Dalai Lama.



Nihal Mathur
Filmmaker, writer, bon vivant

like father, like son. There is much that can be said for Jagat Singh Mehta and his father, Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta. Both shared a love for the people of Mewar and after illustrious careers, both chose to come back home to Udaipur and work in rural development till their dying day. Both father and son were committed to ideas of nation building through education, adhering to democratic processes and promoting a spirit for voluntary action. Like his father before him, Jagat had a distinguished record of public service watching history happening from the stands, if not creating it.

Education

Jagat Mehta was born in 1922, in a traditional family of civil servants working for the princely State of Mewar. He was just a two-year toddler when he lost his mother. Jagat's father Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta was a visionary, who sent him to a play school in Indore at a tender age of 6 in order to ensure that little Jagat was not spoiled by feudal values and dotting uncles & aunts in the family. From Indore Dr Mehta sent Jagat to Modern School in Delhi. Then in 1931, Dr Mehta became a founding father of his own dream project - the Vidya Bhawan School in Udaipur. This was a very different kind of school that was based on progressive ideas in education that sought to mould character and create responsible citizens. Naturally, young Jagat was brought back home and admitted to Vidya Bhawan, where his guardian was one Catherine Mary Hellman, who later became well known as Sarla Behn

because of her association with Gandhi. After passing the 'metric exam' his father on the recommendation of CF Andrew, sent Jagat to Leighton Park, a Quaker school in England, where he spent three years. When the Second World War broke out, Jagat returned to India by ship in 1940, and got admittance in Allahabad University from where he did his Masters in Literature and was appointed as Lecturer in the English Department. But soon thereafter, towards the end of world-war II, Jagat decided to join the Royal Indian Navy and in service, he wrote the examination to enter the Indian Civil Service. While waiting for his results, he went to Cambridge University, where with in a year Jagat got his 'trips' in economics in 1946-47 at St John's College. A 'Tripos' in Cambridge lexicon is an examination that qualifies an undergraduate for a Bachelor's degree. This was no mean achievement.

Early Years in Diplomacy

He was selected for the India Foreign Service (IFS) which he joined on the 21st of August, 1947. Jagat was fortunate to have witnessed historic moments in India's declaration of independence and as a young officer he had opportunities to work closely with Pandit Nehru. Jagat was deeply influenced by his vision that called for a Non-Aligned position in an increasing bipolar world during the Cold War years. Although he served around the world, Jagat had ample opportunities to deal with India's neighbours. In one of the earliest assignments, Jagat was picked to accompany Pandit Nehru and daughter Indira to Bhutan in 1958 on a foot and yak trek to Thimpu because back then there were no roads to the little kingdom. Jagat considered Nehru's gesture to visit Bhutan as act of great statesmanship. Jagat was also dispatched to receive the Dalai Lama when he entered India as a refugee in 1959, escaping brutal Chinese crackdown of Tibet. Jagat

World Emoji Day



emojis have been used since the beginning of the internet to transmit emotion in the written medium. As internet technology advanced, so did the use of the emoji, with previously pure text bits of ASCII art being turned into full-fledged animated faces and symbols. We've all used them, and we're excited for the future of them! World Emoji Day celebrates the history of these emotional expressions, and encourages you to be exceptionally emotive!



With Jawahar Lal Nehru & Indira Gandhi.

Foreign Secretary

After he became the Foreign Secretary, Jagat was given the task of negotiating with Pakistan for the normalization of relations. Although the two countries had signed the Shimla Agreement in 1972 for peaceful co-existence, the reality on the ground was one of general suspicion and hostility in the aftermath of the Indo-Pak War of 1971. But Jagat had a 'defiant' faith in diplomacy. He would often say, the task of Indian diplomacy is to establish relationships with her neighbours to de-escalate tensions such that peace could come to the subcontinent. Patrick Moynihan called Jagat 'a peacemaker' and not without reason because while in office he negotiated seven treaties including water sharing agreements with both Pakistan & Bangladesh by pushing through the Salal Hydroelectric Dam & the Farakka Barrage agreements.

Janata Government

In 1977, Mrs Gandhi lost the general elections and Janata government under Morarji Desai came to power. But Jagat was retained by Vajpayee who was the Foreign Minister. There was speculation that now under the new dispensation there could be a policy shift towards the West. The change of government gave Jagat an opportunity to steer the foreign policy away from a 'Soviet Tilt' towards a more constructive approach with America and the West. Both Morarji and Vajpayee were inclined to accept his suggestions to improve relations with the US, China and Pakistan, while maintaining good relations with the Soviet Union. Ambassador TP Sreenivasan in his obituary said that 'Jagat Mehta successfully persuaded Vajpayee to reassure the



Soviets by extending an invite to Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister to visit India, while at the same time kept open a dialogue with the West, China and Pakistan." Initiatives such as Morarji Desai's visit to the US and Vajpayee's visit to China were results of his prodding the Janata government to bring in subtle changes in foreign policy.

Rama

Two years before retirement, Jagat lost his wife Rama in 1978. Although she was also a Foreign Service officer herself, she chose to resign, preferring to slip in and out of a traditional feudal family and a modern world as a wife and as a mother of 3 boys and a girl. Jagat in turn greatly encouraged Rama to pursue her academic interests and she went on to publish several books. 'Inside the Haven' was recipient of the Sahitya Academy award. According to Jagat it was her support and the roots she maintained in Udaipur that helped him not just in his diplomatic career but all through his life.

Appraisal of his diplomacy

In 1980, Jagat retired gracefully, though not quite ceremoniously. Although his peers and contemporaries considered Jagat to be a cerebral foreign secretary who had made himself indispensable in the ministry as a foreign policy thinker and negotiator, he also did not hesitate to express an unpopular opinion if he believed in it. He had his share of criticisms and brick bats when his own colleagues derided him for his views and actions. Charan Singh went as far as saying that Mehta had brought in changes which were 'against the interests of the state'. But as a disciplined soldier, Jagat chose not to respond because as somebody said that he had a habit of meeting allegations and accusations with good humour.

Teaching in US

After his retirement, Jagat pursued his intellectual interests and accepted an offer to teach as a Professor at the University of Texas at Austin, where he taught for five years. He was also an Associate at Harvard, having spent 2 years there earlier in 1968. He was selected to be a Fellow at Woodrow Wilson Centre in Washington DC and was awarded the Tom Slick Professorship of World Peace at Texas University. Jagat interspersed these commitments with his time on the lecture circuits in American universities and think tanks etc. Meanwhile back home in Udaipur, his father Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta who had set up an NGO called Seva Mandir to work for the development of the rural poor was getting frail in his late eighties. The organization was undergoing a prolonged crisis because it was financially weak, the morale of the workers was low and needed administrative tightening.

Development: Seva Mandir

In 1984 Jagat was persuaded by the trustees of Seva Mandir to return and join as its chief executive officer and rescue it from further deterioration. Jagat was deeply touched



Receiving the Padma Bhushan from President KR Narayanan.



With Atal Bihari Vajpayee.



With Kissinger & Jeevan Niwas.

by the fact that this happened under the watch of his father Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta who passed away in June 1985. Although not the suited person for the job Jagat made up with his passion not just to keep alive the legacy of his father but also because he shared his vision too. Upon assuming office Jagat had to take some hard actions and played a critical role in the revival of Seva Mandir.

Vidya Bhawan
Vidya Bhawan was another challenge Jagat devoted himself to. Vidya Bhawan was also in a state of decay and had gradually come to be dominated by a handful of teachers and a 'town group' with no interest in education. The Old Boys of Vidya Bhawan School sought to stem the rot and asked Jagat to become the President. After losing two elections Jagat was elected President of the Vidya Bhawan Society in 1993. Despite the hostility he faced Jagat held on steadfast to the reforms because it meant a great deal to him. At one level it allowed him to render his debt to his father. On another, Jagat was passionate about Vidya Bhawan because he believed in the core values of the school.

Vidya Bhawan Institutions

One of the first things Jagat did was to restore some order in the Vidya Bhawan School. He assiduously resisted pressure to turn Vidya Bhawan into a school for the better off in the society; instead he sought to remain true to its original aims of providing quality education to all sections of society, without caste or creed distinctions. Jagat also arrested further decay and decline in other aging institutions of Vidya Bhawan started by his father and gave them new lease of life. Jagat succeeded in attracting fresh talent into Vidya Bhawan Society and with state and corporate funding started an Education

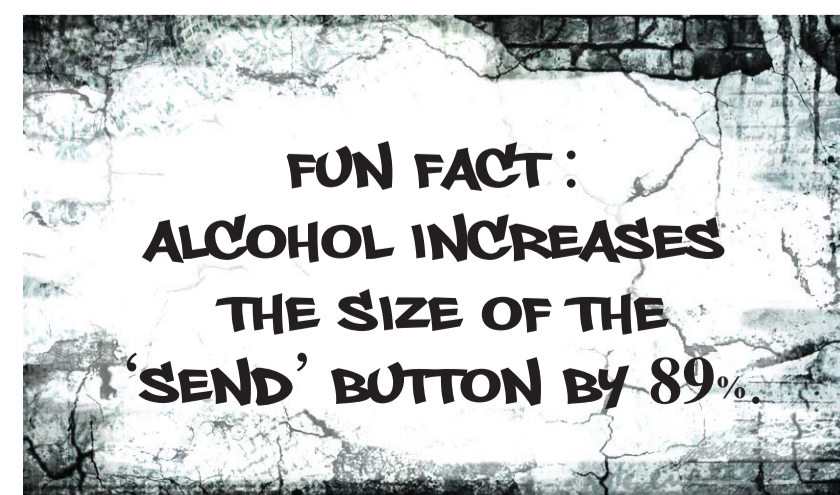
Resource Centre in 1995. This is now a leading forum for innovations and experiments in teaching and learning processes. Jagat also set up an Institute for Local-Self Government and Responsible Citizenship in Udaipur where elected leaders of Panchayat were trained for important governance functions.

Jagat was an active member of the Jheel Sanrakshan Samiti, an association of citizens that worked with the spirit of volunteerism to prevent the desecration of the Lakes in Udaipur. After retirement from Vidya Bhawan in 1999, he wrote several books - including his autobiography 'The Tyrst Betrayed'. In recognition of his work in foreign affairs and later in the cause of education and rural development Jagat was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2002 by the President of India.

With advancing years Jagat retired from active life in Vidya Bhawan and Seva Mandir but kept his association till the end of his life. Jagat's last ambition was to convert a 400 acre forested area owned by Vidya Bhawan into a center to address issues of climate change and nature conservation. He saw his life coming to an end and was in great hurry to complete it. In fact, he gave his life savings to build the Prakritik Sadhna Kendra to house students and scholars in Vidya Bhawan's forest. But before the Centre could become fully operational Jagat passed away in March 2014 at the ripe age of 92. Towards the end, Jagat's spirit may be best captured by lines from a Dylan Thomas poem that expresses the anguish of a man who still had miles to go and much to achieve :
"Do not go gentle into that good night,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light."

Old age should burn and rave at close of day;
Rage, rage against the dying of the light."
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THE WALL



BABY BLUES



By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

ZITS



By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman