

1920

King Constantine I is restored as King of the Hellenes after the death of his son Alexander of Greece and a plebiscite.



1924

The last Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost is sold in London, England.

1924

German serial killer Fritz Haarmann is sentenced to death for a series of murders.

1927

Three Indian revolutionaries, Ram Prasad Bismil, Roshan Singh and Ashfaqulla Khan, are executed by the British Raj for participation in the Kakori conspiracy.

Story in Australia

Losing friends

Last month, nearly a year since Rush filed suit against Nationwide News, the court finished hearing arguments in the defamation case. The judge is supposed to deliver his decision in the new year.

Back when the case began, Stone said she “swore I would never come forward. My intention was to keep it private.”

Instead of going public, Stone wrote the actor an email on December 11, 2017. Subject line: “Challenging times.”

The email is self-aware and generous. “I’m sure that this moment is extremely challenging and my thoughts these last few weeks have come to you many times. I hope you are OK. I worry about you, about Jane and the kids,” it begins, and then goes on to tell him that she was made uncomfortable by him during the play.

“In the name of years of friendship I wanted to share with you what I have always been afraid to say,” she wrote. “I hope it’s possible for you to receive this in the spirit that it is meant. With a view towards healing.”

She never heard back

Now, she said, “I feel a responsibility to speak, but I know it will cost me friendships.” She hates the idea of hurting a mentor, someone who even helped her get a visa to work in the United States by writing a letter on her

Last month, nearly a year since Rush filed suit against Nationwide News, the court finished hearing arguments in the defamation case.

behalf.

“If Geoffrey had written back and said I’m sorry and offered to work with me to inspire positive change in our industry, it may have transformed both of our lives for the better,” she said. “I despair that I am now in this situation.” And yet, Stone adds, “I do believe it’s a matter of significance to the public.”

“I also understand it might be confusing and look strange that I maintained a friendship with someone for so long who treated me in a way that made me feel uncomfortable. But there is the reality of professional influence and the reality of a complicated friendship, which ultimately was corroded by a sexual dynamic. But it was still a friendship.”

Stone remains sympathetic to Rush, in a way. “The current system is built around the very famous and talented such that there is a lot of yes. There is not a lot of no. And that can encourage

certain behaviours and that can happen incrementally over time to the point where a person may have not heard the word no in a long time. And it might not be their fault,” she said. “We need compassion for that confusion.”

Again and again, she returned in our conversations to the themes of compassion and change.

“The possibility of redemption must always be on the table,” she said. “Not all #MeToo stories are the same. Each dynamic is different. For some, a criminal process is essential. In my case, I’m not interested in punishment. I am looking to change my industry and to work towards healing and growth.”

That healing, however, is only possible when the truth is recognised – when inappropriate behaviour is not waved away because the rehearsal room is somehow unique as a “place of play and experiment,” as the director, Armfield, said on Australia’s “Q and A” television programme in October.

Some things are straightforward

“I’ve been in that particular dressing room in Sydney on many occasions with many wonderfully talented actors and many wonderfully talented clowns,” Stone told me. “And people have made me belly laugh till I couldn’t breathe.”

(Bari Weiss is a staff editor and writer for the New York Times’ Opinion section.)

people’s development

most our youth. Thankfully, there are no preconditions to begin. There is no degree that we must have. There is no status or background that first must be ours. We begin by beginning. And time and life are short, so we must begin now.

We are often taught to think that entrepreneurship comes from our own innovation. We are often encouraged to believe that to be most creative, strategic, and successful, is doing what develops from our own ingenuity, that our own entrepreneurial selves is about ourselves, and rests in our own mind’s ability to invent and decide.

I write this to say that this outlook is categorically false, misleading, and even antithetical to sustainable development and progression toward a satisfied society. Entrepreneurship rests on what we give toward drawing out and realising the ideas of the people. Innovation is the embodiment of a thousand voices intersecting and made into one agreed upon surge for community devel-

We are often encouraged to believe that to be most creative, strategic, and successful, is doing what develops from our own ingenuity.

opment. Our creativity is a reflection of how we assist others in understanding and pursuing their own hopes for the future. Youth entrepreneurship is not an endeavour of individual youths, but is a matter of all youth, building themselves by building their communities’ development course, driven by the public.

I hear and imagine the heavy burden that Moroccan youth experience and the trepidation

about the future that they must feel in their hearts. To fulfil the promise of the people’s participation in development, is a truly painstaking and difficult road, without certainty, and with non-linear progress. However, there is reason for gratefulness when the nation sees youth’s role in creating sustainable change, and sees people’s participation as vital to that change. The question before us is: will we give ourselves over to the cause of others and, therefore, the vast multiplicity of what becomes entrepreneurship, and all the resources that are entailed, in order that we can effectively walk this course?

Even though time brings us understanding, today, it is not our friend. There is urgency to this call, to completing the Moroccan model, and to bring, finally, the satisfaction in our and others’ lives that we very seriously need.

(Dr Youssef Ben-Meir is a sociologist and is president of the High Atlas Foundation, a Moroccan-US organisation dedicated to sustainable development.)



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Pakistan has helped in the dialogue between Taliban and the US in Abu Dhabi. Let us pray that this leads to peace and ends almost three decades of suffering of the brave Afghan people. Pakistan will be doing everything within its power to further the peace process.

@ImranKhanPTI

02



Good luck today in court to General Michael Flynn. Will be interesting to see what he has to say, despite tremendous pressure being put on him, about Russian Collusion in our great and, obviously, highly successful political campaign. There was no Collusion!

@realDonaldTrump

03



Last week, President Trump said he would be “proud” to shut the government down over his wasteful border wall and would take the blame for it—but I’m hoping that Republicans decide to work with us to fund our government and avoid a completely unnecessary #TrumpShutdown.

@PattyMurray

04



It’s understandable that Opposition parties disrupt Govt Bills & Business’ in Parliament to spoil the good works of the Govt. But I fail to understand why the question hour is being disrupted? Question hour is MP’s privilege to question the Ministers. It’s very interesting too!

@KirenRijju

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stances)

Wide Angle

Songs of the season: Memories of music



JOEL INDRUPATI

“Last Christmas, I gave you my heart. But the very next day, you gave it away...” Listening to this song, playing softly in a shopping mall, I thought once again about how inappropriate it is, for this season.

Except for the word ‘Christmas’ there is really nothing about Christmas, in this song by ‘Wham’.

But the song is often found tucked into Christmas compilations of music albums and found blaring at Christmas parties. And I somehow get annoyed at its association with the season.

Not even the word ‘Christmas’ figures in the song ‘Jingle Bells’. In fact, there is really nothing about Christmas, in this one too.

But the song is found virtually everywhere - from kindergarten classrooms to television commercials.

And yet, somehow, I do not get annoyed at this song’s association with the season.

Why Not?

I don’t know. It’s irrational. Maybe I’ll never know the reason for these inconsistent feelings.

Perhaps, it’s got something to do with the way we are all wired. And how we associate our feelings from the past, with the events we are experiencing now.

“The 12 Psychology Studies of Christmas” is a set of articles of serious scientific research into this season, compiled by one Dr Jeremy Dean.

As a psychologist and the author of PsyBlog and HealthiestBlog.com he’s put together some interesting observations. The articles he’s chosen ranged from surveying people on their ‘generous giving to the less privileged’ in

this season, to ‘choosing the right gift for loved ones’; and from ‘Christmas decorations that reveal one’s personality’ to ‘problems respondents face when Christmas-gift choices go wrong’.

The sound of Christmas carols forms a key element of festive spirit, and can enhance shopping experience, according to a 2007 article by Peter Clarke, “A Measure for Christmas Spirit”, published in the Journal of Consumer Marketing, (An Emerald publication, Vol. 24 Issue: 1, pp.8 – 17).

People seem to get happier during this time of the year. It is the music that does the magic. Evoking in all of us a strange sense of happiness often based on our past pleasant experiences.

At Christmas time, during my school days, among others, I used to specifically enjoy the music of Jim Reeves, Carpenters and Boney M.

Folks older than me might remember music by Perry Como, Charlie Pride, Connie Francis, Nat King Cole or Neil Diamond.

Perhaps, Bing Crosby’s “White Christmas” or Ella Fitzgerald’s “Have yourself a Merry Little Christmas” Or Brenda Lee’s “Rockin’ Around the Christmas Tree” would be on top of their minds.

But my teenage daughters today love Christmas songs by Pentatonix, Mariah Carey, Kelly Clarkson and Cold Play.

When I pick up, and drop, my daughters, just when I am enjoying my memories of ‘The Twelve Songs of Christmas’ of Jim Reeves, they get into the car, connect their mobile phones and change it to their music; of Pentatonix, or of some similar ones.

I must grudgingly accept that they are making their own memories of music.

Thanks to Internet and Satellite television, the season’s spirit has become all-pervasive, as we see people from all over the world, and from all religions, enjoying this music.

“Joy to the World”, “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”, “O Come all Ye faithful” and “Silent Night” are hymns sung in church. But, most people, irrespective of their religion, are well-aware of these carols. They effuse solemnity.

However, a host of current Christmas music in the pop-genre can never be sung in a church. It would be blasphemous.

But then, different strokes for different folks. And different music for different places.

We have to just agree with Andy Williams’ song as he calls this “The Most Wonderful Time of the Year”!