



FATHER'S DAY

A TRULY RICH MAN IS ONE WHOSE CHILDREN RUN INTO HIS ARMS WHEN HIS HANDS ARE EMPTY —UNKNOWN

# HAVE YOU WISHED YOUR FATHER TODAY?

## A HAPPY FAMILY OF 2 FATHERS & TWINS



Priya Adhyaru-Majithia

New-age fathers have a dominant desire to have kids and enjoy both fathering and mothering them. The recent example of the first gay couple from Spain coming to the city to have kids - is a testimony to changing times.

This Father's Day, Claudia (girl) and Marco (boy), city-born Spanish twins, turn three-and-a-half months. It is a special day for their two fathers Alejandro Martinez and Moises Jimenez Alvarez, feel Dr Himanshu and Falguni Bavishi - infertility experts who helped the couple turn their dream of having a baby into a reality.

Dr Himanshu Bavishi said, "Since years the biological, emotional and mental ties that moms and children share have been glorified in a way that it overlooks a father's deep, silent yet profound connection with a child. We helped this couple as we are touched by their deep desire to father a child." The acceptance of surrogacy has increased in the state and

the availability of the latest infertility treatment at lower cost in the city, has turned the state into a hotspot for childless couples wanting babies via surrogacy. However, the case of a homosexual couple walking away from the city with twin babies raised many eyebrows.

"The prime reason which moved us to assist this gay couple medically is their sheer grit and firm determination to have a baby," said Dr Falguni Bavishi. "They had to undergo complex procedures. Their willingness to go through the financial, medical and legal formalities as well as the emotional and social stress convinced us that they were as capable as mothers to rear babies," she said.

The couple exhibited uncommon mental and emotional strength during the child bearing process, the Bavishis feel. "They both believed that having kids is not a matter of right but responsibility," said Dr Himanshu Bavishi.

The gay couple underwent the long process that started in

April 2010 with retrieval of Martinez's sperms, getting the egg donor and a surrogate mother to carry their pregnancy and deliver their child; and finally left the city in April '11 with two babies. According to the new artificial reproductive techniques (ART) guidelines, which are yet to be applicable, same-sex couples may not be allowed surrogacy in future as according to Indian law sexual relationship between two same sex people is illegal.

"Hence this couple may be the first and the last or one of the few lucky ones who could



get their dream child using latest technology and a legal loophole. We wish the couple their first Happy Father's Day," he said. Besides, this gay couple, the inquiries from city-based single fathers to have babies via surrogacy is also on a gradual rise, Dr Bavishi informed.

FATHER'S DAY TODAY

'She has him wound over her little finger' is a common complaint that moms make about daughters and fathers. This Father's Day, DNA explores stories about men, who talk about that special relationship with their girls, & what makes them putty in their hands



## Fathers & daughters: It's all about that special bond

Many fathers in city say they have changed dramatically while bringing up their girls

Priya Adhyaru-Majithia

The father is often an overpowering central figure in our families, conditioned to live within the Indian patriarchal set-up. However, many fathers from the city feel otherwise and insist that the central figure of their life and their family is their daughters.

On Father's Day, DNA found that men feel they have changed dramatically while bringing up their daughters. And that they have shifted to the periphery and the centre belongs to their daughters. Fathers agreed that during the process of family power centre shift, they indeed changed from 'men' into 'fathers'.

"The desire to be with my daughters changed me," said Pascal Chazot, academician and French scholar residing in the city with his two daughters Lissa (23) and Tara (9). "I used to spend lot of time reading, researching and speaking. After I got my daughters, the desire to

spend time with them made me a family-oriented man."

Pascal, who is a passionate researcher on child psychology said, "Spending time with my daughters teaches me a lot. As one is adult and the other is yet a child, I get to understand the issues of vital significance in the life of a girl child and a young girl. Being with my daughters for even a short span of few hours daily enriches me. Their company gives me a qualitative insight into understanding children."

Similarly, Janmejay Vyas, a business tycoon and founder of Dishman Pharmaceuticals, feels rearing daughters is a continuous learning process. Vyas's daughter Aditya, 32, is his right hand in business and overlooks the firm's overseas expansion and Mansi, 30, is his mentor.

"Being with Mansi taught me to perform tasks and do small things meticulously. The experience of rearing her changed me into a perfectionist. My elder daughter Aditya, her education and insight, help me steer the firm's expansion," said Vyas. Any wonder that his world centres around his daughters?



FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL

## Daughter is God to a father

Morari Babu

For a father, his daughter is nothing but faith for him. I don't know what a daughter means to a mother but for a father, she is faith. The father feels that faith has taken birth in his life.

In our Ramayana, it is mentioned that after Parvati's birth, prosperity of the Himalaya increased. I feel spirituality, wisdom and maturity begin in a father's life when a daughter is born to him.

### DEEKARI DEVO BHAVAH

Faith in form of daughter is a subject of contemplation as well as worry. It is said that a person who has faith does not have worry. But when daughter is the faith, the father has worry along with deliberation - that my faith should get the right and the best.

I always believe and talk about this in my katha that when daughter attains the age of her marriage, she becomes a mother to her father. Daughter acts like mother to her father, which many people would have experienced.

When a daughter gets married, the amount of pain which a father feels, cannot be felt by anyone else in the family because when a daughter departs from her father, he doesn't lose only his daughter, but a mother who takes care of him.

And that is why at the time of giving away his daughter in marriage, any father including our great sage



Kanva, King Janak, and Himalaya, who melted down while sending off daughter Uma, cannot control his tears.

It can be observed that within 24 hrs after the wedding of a daughter, the father looks older by 15-20 years. He suddenly feels the vacuum, which cannot be filled by anything else. This is not merely a philosophy of father-daughter relationship but has been experienced by many people. There can be exceptions, but these are generally the feelings of a father for her daughter. For a father daughter is God. Deekari Devo Bhavah.

(As Told to Paras K Jha)



Dr Himanshu Bavishi

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MUSIC DIRECTOR ISMAIL DARBAR SAYS MODI IS A GENIUS; IS IMPRESSED BY CM'S SIMPLICITY

## Raag 'Darbar' sets monsoon mood in Modi sabha

Bollywood's Gujarati music director Ismail Darbar joined the Bharatiya Janata Party, as chief minister Narendra Modi's aims to re-build his image which has been scarred by the Godhra riots of 2002. Hailing from Surat, Darbar became one of the known faces of the Bollywood music world after composing super-hit music for his first maiden music blockbuster, Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam. He joined the BJP and later met Modi on Friday in Gandhinagar. In a candid chat with Darbar, DNA correspondent Nikunj Soni got to know about the composer's views about the BJP as a party, existing politics and his future political dreams.

### BETTERTUNING

Modi on Friday in Gandhinagar. In a candid chat with Darbar, DNA correspondent Nikunj Soni got to know about the composer's views about the BJP as a party, existing politics and his future political dreams.

How do you feel after meeting with Narendra Modi?

My meeting with Modi extended over an hour during which I found him to be a genius. He has a charis-

matic personality. What I like most about him is his simplicity. Even after being such a big personality, Modi treated me like his younger brother.

What do you found most deserving in him?

During the meeting, Modi sir told me about the developments taking place in the state and in Ahmedabad. He also advised me to visit Sabarmati Riverfront, Kankaria Lakefront among other places. I realised that no one but only Modi is capable of taking Gujarat on the development path.

What made you join BJP and not any other political party?

I had always wanted to work for my city-Surat. And I found BJP to be doing a lot more work for the state. There is no other party working better than BJP in Gujarat. If I want to do something I have to remain with the party in power and

the world is a witness to the development which Gujarat is undergoing presently. I also met Nitin Gadkari, BJP's national president at Nagpur and expressed my wish to join the party.

Didn't you think of the 2002 riots before joining the BJP?

I think we all should forget what happened in the past and should look to the future. As far as I know, Muslim community in Gujarat has a bright future to look forward to. When I joined the party, some of my friends and family members backed my decision whereas some expressed their surprise. There are few instances in life that need to be erased from memory. We should forget the bad incidents that have happened in the past otherwise we will not be able to focus on our future properly.

What do you think about Congress as a party?

Congress has done nothing for the

I think we all should forget what happened in the past and should look forward to the future. As far as I know, Muslims in Gujarat have a bright future

country except. People in our country are suffering due to inflation and the poor in recent times have suffered more than anybody else. One should think how a common man survives in such vulnerable conditions. I don't want to talk about such people.

What is your political dream? Has Modi offered you any post in the party?

I just want to serve my city and its people as this is what my late

parents wanted from me. They wanted me to do the most I can for my city's people. According to them, after death, you are remembered as a good soul only for the good deeds you have done. As far as party's post is concerned, I didn't expect anything, just to give my service to the society and its citizens.

How do you think you will strike a balance between music and politics?

I have faith and confidence that I will do justice to my profession as well politics as it is where my heart is - to serve people.

What do you have to say about your alleged affair with reality show singer Poonam Yadav?

It is now all clear and Poonam has already said that I am like a father to her.



CM greets Darbar at his chamber