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ROLL OF HONOUR

Year	Champions	Runners-up
2007	India	Pakistan
2009	Pakistan	Sri Lanka
2010	England	Australia
2012	West Indies	Sri Lanka
2014	Sri Lanka	India

ROYAL EXIT: Kumar Sangakkara saved his best for the last. Here the champion left-hander sweeps his side to the ICC World T20 glory in a pulsating final against India at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.



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IND-SL SCOREBOARD

INDIA	R	B	4s	6s
R Sharma c Senanayake				
b Herath	29	26	3	0
Rahane b Mathews	3	8	0	0
Kohli run out	77	58	7	0
Waninger c Perera b Kulasekara	11	21	0	0
Dhoni run out	4	7	0	0
Extras (lb-2, lb-2, w-2)		6		
Total (For 4 wickets in 20 overs)	130			
To bat: Raina, Ashwin, Jadeja, Mishra, Kumar, M Sharma				
Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-64, 3-119, 4-130				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Kulasekara	4	0	29	1
Mathews	4	0	25	1
Senanayake	4	0	22	0
Malinga	4	0	27	0
Herath	4	0	23	1
SRI LANKA	R	B	4s	6s
K Perera c Jadeja b M Sharma				
b Ashwin	57	41	7	1
Dishan c Kohli b Ashwin	18	14	0	0
Jayawardene c Ashwin	24	24	4	0
b Raina	52	35	6	1
Sangakkara not out	55	35	6	1
Thirimanne (Dheerb Mithra)	7	11	1	0
P Perera not out	23	14	0	3
Extras (lb-2, w-3)		5		
Total (For wickets in 17.5 overs)	134			
Did not bat: Mathews, Kulasekara, Senanayake, Herath, Malinga				
Fall of wickets: 1-5, 2-41, 3-65, 4-78				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Kumar	3	0	18	0
M Sharma	2	0	18	1
Ashwin	3.5	0	29	1
Mishra	4	0	32	1
Raina	4	0	24	1
Jadeja	1	0	11	0

Results: Sri Lanka won by 6 wickets.
Player-of-the-match: Kumar Sangakkara.
Player-of-the-tournament: Virat Kohli.

Curtains for the colours

From packed stadiums and the late-night hangouts in the brightly-lit capital to CNG-drivers working lesser hours and the 'char chhokka hoi ho!' ring-tone blaring from innumerable mobile phones, the last three weeks proved exactly why Bangladesh deserved to host the ICC World Twenty20; for this was not just a cricket tournament but a festival that the people of this country ingrained into their lifestyle and celebrated with immense vigour.

Whether it was dancing to the West Indian tune at the stadium or merely having a good time with friends and family, there was something in it for almost everyone.

Ask some of the CNG-drivers at the GEC Circle in Chittagong and they will explain why many of them aim to go on an over-time rampage from this week onwards.

"I decided not to work in the evenings during Bangladesh and India's matches. The next few days will be a lot of fun! I can work later,"

a middle-aged CNG driver had remarked in Chittagong in the tournament's early days.

Or ask a few of them around at the Karwan Bazar junction, where they were busy taking photos with foreign journalists thinking they were English cricketers!

The 'flashmob' craze was a popular means, for students, to express their pride and joy. With a large number of university and school students randomly dancing to the tune of the ICC theme song at various corners of the country, it will be a surprise if Bangladesh does not break a record for the most number of flashmobs in the last few weeks.

For many of the mega event was also a means of bonding with their family. Ashfaq Chowdhury, an engineer from Dhanmondi, for instance, was taken aback by how well-informed his mother was on the games.

"My office timing allowed me to watch the second game at home. It gradually turned into an occasion with my entire family sitting together every evening. I was dumbfounded by my mother's ability to churn up

strategies for the teams. A pleasant change from all the soap operas she watches all day long," said Ashfaq.

For friends it was just an excuse to meet-up and party till the end of the second game.

"One of the things that I did quite regularly was going out after eleven in the night. Dhaka city to me seemed like a wedding palace with all the lights and designs. It just felt great driving by beneath them with my brother," said Anika Saba, a resident of Niketan.

The more clever heads of departments at certain offices even introduced indoor cricket in the evening. I figured out there were quite a few wannabe Kohli's at work!" smirked Auyon Rahman, working for a telecom company.



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While there won't be many memories that Bangladesh's cricketers will want to carry on from this competition, for the world though, the World T20 2014 will be remembered as the year that cricket received a football-like ambience, with cheers pouring in for all the 16 nations; a true world event.

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At 74 for 4, Sri Lanka were still unsure of achieving their target. They needed a partnership and that came in the form of a 56-run stand between Kumar Sangakkara and Thisara Perera, who was promoted up the order to boost the run-rate.

HERO & VILLAIN
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KUMAR SANGAKKARA HERO
Heroes turn up on the day when they are needed and Kumar Sangakkara, who had scored just 19 runs in the last four games, churned up a special half-century to give Sri Lanka the coveted crown. His unbeaten 52 saw a calm approach with six fours and a six.

YUVRAJ SINGH VILLAIN
Yuvraj Singh was sent into bat at a time when Virat Kohli was going great guns. It was a crucial period for India and Yuvraj needed to fire. His 11 off 21 balls however, pegged back India and also put pressure on Kohli, who should have gotten more of the strike.

'Yuvraj was trying'

SPORTS REPORTER

India skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni gave all the credit to the way the Sri Lankan bowlers stifled their scoring at the death overs, while defending the team's decision to send star batsman Yuvraj Singh at number four, in the final last night.

Dhoni felt 130 was a below-par total against a team like Sri Lanka, with players like Kumar Sangakkara and Mahela Jayawardene, who can change the course of the game on their own.

"Our plan was to score as many runs as possible in the last four overs. We couldn't capitalise on that," said the India captain at the post match press conference.

"You should also give credit to the Sri Lankan bowlers. They were looking for wide yorkers and all the balls were perfect wide yorkers."

India were 61 in the eleventh over when Yuvraj came in to bat, with Virat Kohli batting fluently on 31. Dhoni said they felt that having a right-hand left-hand combination at that time would have been more ideal for

the situation.

"What happened was that two right handed batsmen were batting at that point of time. So you want a left-right combination which makes it a little difficult for the bowler to execute their plans. That's the reason we had Yuvraj at number four," Dhoni said.

But that plan certainly did not work as Yuvraj failed to keep at par with Kohli and was unable to rotate the strike regularly. When Yuvraj departed in the nineteenth over, he had already consumed 21 deliveries, scoring a mere 11 and India were 119. But Dhoni defended his champion batsman by saying: "The thing is he was trying. That's the most you can do."

IREVERSE SWING
WASIM AKRAM

Congrats to Sri Lanka for a perfect game. The cricketing world will definitely be smiling for the Lankans as they thoroughly deserved the title. They have been denied for the last four World Cup events, 2007 and 2011 World Cups and 2009 and 2012 World Twenty20. It was perfect finale of an exciting event and everybody was thrilled throughout the tournament.

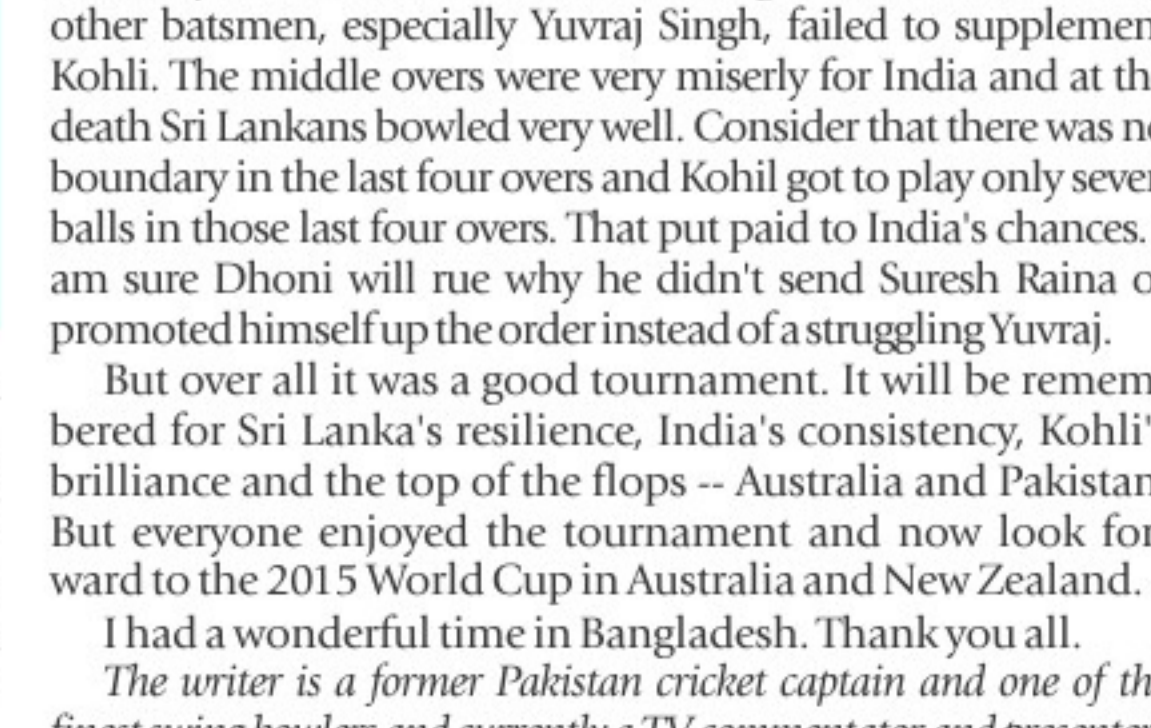
I remember the last time Sri Lanka won a major world title was in our backyard in 1996. Ever since then the Sri Lankan cricketers has come a long way. They have played good cricket and have shown real progress and can be regarded as one of the most consistent Asian teams. I am particularly happy for the two old foxes -- Kumar Sangakkara and Mahela Jayawardene. Both have served the game and their country well and it was befitting that Sangakkara came into form in the big match. That shows the quality of the man. He chose the final to come into form in an otherwise silent tournament. I hope they continue to serve their team until next year's world cup and end their careers on a high as they have done in this World Twenty20. Sri Lanka read the situation well and that helped them to make the final a one-sided affair.

Hard luck for India. They could have become the first ever team to win three titles in a row after their 2011 World Cup and last year's Champions Trophy. But it was not their day. Once again Virat Kohli was tremendous. He has been Indian batting's mainstay and showed his class once again but unfortunately other batsmen, especially Yuvraj Singh, failed to supplement Kohli. The middle overs were very miserly for India and at the death Sri Lankans bowled very well. Consider that there was no boundary in the last four overs and Kohli got to play only seven balls in those last four overs. That put paid to India's chances. I am sure Dhoni will rue why he didn't send Suresh Raina or promoted himself up the order instead of struggling Yuvraj.

But over all it was a good tournament. It will be remembered for Sri Lanka's resilience, India's consistency, Kohli's brilliance and the top of the flops -- Australia and Pakistan. But everyone enjoyed the tournament and now look forward to the 2015 World Cup in Australia and New Zealand.

I had a wonderful time in Bangladesh. Thank you all.

The writer is a former Pakistan cricket captain and one of the finest swing bowlers and currently a TV commentator and presenter



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Total 4s hit: 300 | Total 6s hit: 853
Most 6s hit by a player: 13, Stephan Myburgh, the Netherlands
Most 4s hit by a player: 26, Stephan Myburgh, the Netherlands

1. Crowd was the heart of this ICC World Twenty20 in Bangladesh. They were fantastic to be it in Dhaka, Chittagong or Sylhet; 2. South Africa's pace demon Dale Steyn was at his devastating best in the crunch final over against New Zealand when he successfully defended seven runs; 3. Gangnam came back with the West Indies with Chris Gayle entertaining his captain fantastic Darren Sammy after their win over Australia in Dhaka; 4. Alex Hales broke lose with a stunning 116 against Sri Lanka in Chittagong; 5. The Tigers might be an abject lot in the tournament, but the Tigresses pulled off an upset win against Sri Lanka in Sylhet; 6. Stephan Myburgh was the Flying Dutchman of the tournament with an aggregate of 224 runs. He also hit the most number of sixes as well as fours and was responsible for his side's stunning win against England in Chittagong; 7. LED stumps and balls were the latest introduction in the mega event; 8. Hong Kong caused the biggest upset in the first phase, defeating hosts Bangladesh in Chittagong; 9. Virat Kohli once again showed he is the lone all-season cricketer; 10. The only high point of a forgettable performance by the home side was a stunning Tamim Iqbal catch at short third-man against the West Indies.



DOTS OF THE WC

THE FIRST TO 2000
On March 29, in the game against the Netherlands, New Zealand's Brendon McCullum became the first batsman to score 2,000 international T20 runs. He has two centuries and 13 half-centuries in T20s, with a highest score of 123.

FREAK DISMISSAL
In the game against New Zealand, South Africa's Hashim Amla was given out caught & bowled by Corey Anderson, but the edge did not come off his bat. Unfortunately for Amla, his straight drive hit JP Duminy's bat at non-striker's position and gently lobbed into Anderson's palms.

ORANGE RECORDS
The Netherlands broke a series of records when they chased down Ireland's 189 in 13.5 overs. They scored 91 runs in the first Powerplay, the highest ever. They also hit 19 sixes in that innings, beating Australia's 18. Unfortunately they also managed to get bundled out for just 39, against Sri Lanka -- the lowest ever T20 score.

TWO 100S
Alex Hales' unbeaten 116 versus Sri Lanka is the highest individual score of this World T20. The special innings helped England beat one of the favourites. Ahmed Shehzad was the tournament's only other centurion, scoring an unbeaten 111 against Bangladesh. However, Virat Kohli with no centuries tops the run-scorers' list.

AVERAGE GAYLE
That Chris Gayle was not in the best of forms in this World T20 is quite obvious from his average. He scored 143 runs in five games at an average of 28.60 -- his lowest among World T20s.

PACE V SPIN
There were plenty of talks regarding how spinners have dominated the tournament. While that may be true, a majority of the wickets have been taken by pacers. Pacers had 214 scalps as opposed to the 163 taken by spinners, before the final game.

TWO 5-F0RS
There were two five-wicket hauls taken in the tournament. Netherlands pacer Ahsan Malik finished with 5 for 19 against South Africa, which almost led them to a win. Slow-left armer Rangana Herath's 5 for 3 against New Zealand, took Sri Lanka into the semi-finals.

EXPENSIVE MASH
An injury-ridden Mashrafe Bin Mortaza finished with figures of 0 for 63 against Pakistan, which is just one run short of the most expensive bowling in T20 Internationals. Sanath Jayasuriya holds the ignominious record with 0 for 64.




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