

New Years do's and don'ts

Yet another year has passed me by. Like any other year, this one has had its share of ups and downs. Throughout I've made memories I'll hold on to forever and I've gone through days of utter self disappointment. But I've made it through. This year is almost over and its time to look on to what's ahead.

2016 is just two days away. Everyone's excited and eagerly awaiting New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Wherever I go, I hear people making plans. Those who are done making plans have moved on to picking their resolutions. While some of the resolutions I heard have made an impression on me, such as, "I'll stop smoking...in bathrooms, and I'll find my soul mate...and five other partners," others have left me questioning humanity, "gain enough weight to get on the biggest loser," "talk with a robotic voice all the time!"

I had always been somewhat cynical about the whole resolution concept most of my life. Last year however I warmed up to the idea. This was followed by many ludicrous ideas for my first New Year's resolutions. I will start wearing clothes in public. I'll try to improve my telepathic skills. I'll stop licking street lamps and watch more meaningless Youtube videos whenever I have free time. I'll also stop repeating myself again and again and again. I'll also take time out to learn what the word resolution means and not have cell phone conversations while drinking coffee and driving at a 100. Oh! And I'd also procrastinate more. I kept most of the resolutions I had

picked out for 2015, apart from the first one or two mentioned above. For those of you who still haven't picked out your resolutions, the much sophisticated list above would certainly help.

Also, in order to spice up your resolutions and New Years Eve, you can try cooking some New Year snacks or dishes. Chocolate brownies, French toast and beet-root sandwiches are comparatively easy to make.

As for what to do this New Years Eve, throwing a party or attending one would almost most certainly guarantee you a good time. If you are indeed planning on throwing a party, then potential party themes can be a celebrity costume party or a fancy dress party with a prize for the best dressed duo.

Your decor for your shindig should be lights, mostly. These, combined with good tasteful music will guarantee that you finish

this year on a high. On the other hand, if you're thinking of attending a party, they'll be throwing a few of those here, at Westin, Radisson and Regency. Get yourself tickets and have a good time counting down at a five-star rooftop!

However, if parties are not your thing, you can turn the night into a game night with friends, watch the fireworks or have a movie marathon. I'd recommend a Star Wars extravaganza or the Lethal Weapon series.

For those of you looking to do something a little more special and personal, go ahead. Plan a nice romantic evening, send your significant other a bouquet of flowers or cook them dinner and invite them over. You can get him that watch he's always wanted. You can get her a photo album filled with pictures of the two of you together.

Surprise your loved one by taking them to the place where you first met or had your first date and reminisce. Think about the good times that had gone by and the times that lay ahead as you count down to the perfect beginning for a new year.

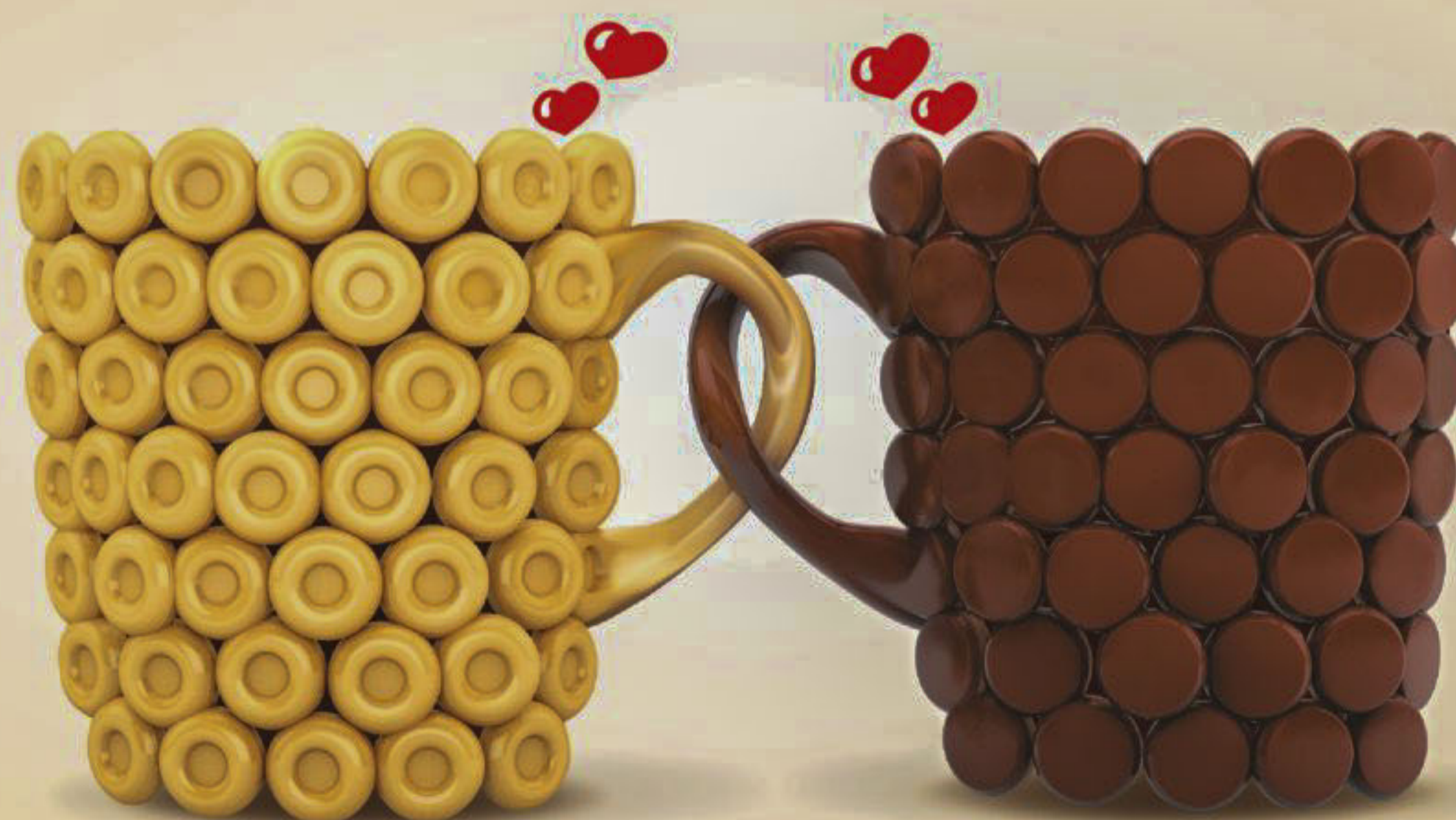
And finally, for those of you, who are here while your friends are away studying or on vacation with their families, call them; send them a message or email them. Let them know you're thinking of them. Remind those lost souls who have forgotten to believe in the immensity of friendship.

Wishing you a wonderful new year and happy holidays!

By Naveed Naushad



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