

We are almost always endorsing some institution, organisation or business. But how many times do we give support to the leading ladies in our lives when they pretty much deserve shout-outs from rooftops? To celebrate our Women's issue for 2017, we have included few stories of the triumphant women making achievements in their chosen fields – domains not typically considered female friendly. We have also included calcium enriched recipes to benefit the many women who suffer from osteoarthritis. To celebrate the strength of womanhood, an exclusive interview of GMB Akash has been incorporated in this special issue, where he shares the life stories of resilient women facing dire circumstances. Last but not the least we have also included the story of a female pioneer in the field of fashion; Bibi Russell who has placed Bangladesh on a noteworthy footing in the world fashion market.

HAPPY WOMEN'S DAY!

FLIP TO PAGE 6 TO 15 FOR RELEVANT STORIES

Celebrating Womanhood



ten; my husband was the only friend I had. I had passed my married life by making cakes and wondering at our beautiful gardens. My husband never let me feel alone in our child less life. I remained happy in his light. One day I went to see one of my sick maids, there I accidentally met a woman who was wearing the same wedding bangle I had. Eventually by my maid I found out that my husband kept his second marriage secret from me for twenty years. There he had two daughters and a son. I spent my nights by looking at his face and realized how much he had loved me. May be every day he thought to leave me, may be in every festival he wanted to spend his time with his new family, maybe he felt guilt when I put my right hand every night on his chest. ..Because he had loved me and I was his only friend too. I wanted him to be happy without regret. I also wanted a happy memory of my very loving husband with our all ponds and gardens...I convinced one of my loyal maid to spread the news that I accidentally fell in river and swept away. She did it by the exchange of all my gold ornaments. You are talking to dead Umme Kulsum. She died twenty years ago. No one cried for her, neither I. Sometimes people ask me what they will do when I will die and what my last wish is. I said it to no one before you. If ever he arrives by searching me tell him I missed our home, gardens and him every single second of my life. But I wanted him to be free from my love. His happiness is what I wanted if required by my life. And I do not regret what I had done. Sometimes in love you have to leave".

- UMME KULSUM

-(Story collected from GMB Akash)

Picture by GMB Akash

Flip to Centre for more.

"I move from places to places. From villages to villages. Everyone calls me beggar Kulsum. You can call me too. No one knows from where I have come from. I never tell anyone who am I. I had a mansion, surrounded by three ponds and four gardens. It was always hard to fall in sleep because the smell of the flowers was so strong at night. Often times I felt heaven is my home. And there was always my supportive husband. Every morning I prepared uncountable cakes for him and he never let me to wear same sari more than a few times. I never allowed my maids to clean our in-houses; they were responsible for only outhouse. I had passed forty seven years of our marriage life by making cakes, watering trees and wakening up at nights alone when he left for business in far places. I got married when I was

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Dr. Jhumu Khan

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