



YSA

Retreat III

June 4 - 6, 2004 • Washington, D.C.

www.YoungSindhiAdults.org

What is YSA?

YSA, also known as Young Sindhi Adults, is an organization catering to today's young Sindhi generation. YSA began as an internet based discussion forum in August of 2001 with just under 50 people, and has now become an international network of over 700 members. The majority of our membership consists of young adults who have grown up in places like the Americas, Asia and Europe, and balance their lives with the language, heritage and traditions of the Sindhi homes in which they've been raised.

Our Mission

Understand the cultural legacy we've inherited and re-connect with our heritage.

Explore the issues we face as a community, and specifically, as a generation.

Create a sense of community and belonging, enabling us to connect with our cultural & social identity.

This year, we're heading to Washington, D.C. – the national's capital! It's a city rich with history and tradition, and full of excitement and energy. Home to countless museums and monuments, the area also boasts an unparalleled architectural style, all while tempting palates with flavors from all over the world. It is a top tourist destination for not only Americans but also for visitors from across the globe. Envious of the tourists, even the locals join in the fun!

The success of our 2002 Retreat in Atlanta and our 2003 Retreat in Vancouver challenge us to assemble an event that once again exceeds your expectations. We're confident we will do so.



We have an active and energetic Host Committee that's currently finalizing program sessions – details will be available shortly.

Registration is easy – do it by mail or go to our website and click on the 'Retreat' link. Or, visit www.Sulekha.com/DCArea

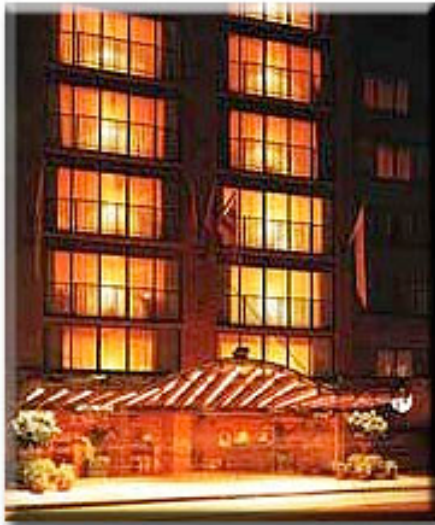
The event costs \$199 before April 15th, or \$249 thereafter.

Capacity is limited and registration closes on May 20th or earlier if we sell out! Visit our website for more details.

Would you risk not attending?

Take a look at what the Retreat experience has been for some of our previous participants – your decision will be an easy one to make.

Don't get left out - Join us in Washington DC!



Hotel

Our host is the Radisson Barceló, a deluxe European inspired hotel located in one of the most prestigious neighborhoods of our Nation's Capital, just minutes from the White House and within a couple miles of all major attractions.

Conveniently situated in the heart of fashionable Dupont Circle and moments from the gateway of historic Georgetown, the hotel is surrounded by art galleries, neighborhood cafes, restaurants, boutique shops, local nightlife and is easily accessible from all area airports.

We've negotiated a special YSA rate of US\$105 + tax per night, which is also available two days before and after our event. To reserve your room, call 800-333-3333 or 202-293-3100 and request the YSA rate. The discounted rate is only available until our room block sells out.

Format

Friday June 4 th	Saturday June 5 th	Sunday June 6 th
Registration Opening Cocktail [^] Night on the Town	Morning Program sessions* Brunch [^] Midday Program sessions* Tea [^] Afternoon Program sessions* Formal Banquet [^]	Morning Program sessions* Brunch [^] Extended Sindhi Goodbyes

* Program session details will be announced starting April 1st, 2004
[^] Meal service included in registration cost, a cash bar will be available at evening events

Cost

The program cost is US \$199 per person for those registering prior to April 15th, or US \$249 per person for those registering April 16th or thereafter. There is an additional nominal fee for credit card processing. Registration fee includes meal services as indicated above and program sessions. Registration closes on May 20th or earlier if we reach our maximum capacity. Capacity is limited, so register early and encourage your friends to do so as well.

*The event is only open to those 21 and above. We reserve the right to limit and / or refuse admission.
 Registration fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.*

Register

Registration is easy – mail the attached form with your payment or visit our website and click on the 'Retreat' link. Or, go to www.Sulekha.com/DCArea



By registering, you understand and acknowledge that YSA and its affiliates, officers and volunteers are neither responsible for, nor liable for, any damage, loss, or injury at, or arising out of any activity. You hereby expressly and completely and forever release YSA and its affiliates of any responsibility and / or liability for any and all damages, losses, & injuries. You also authorize YSA to distribute press releases, promotional and follow up material, write-ups and the like that may contain your name, photograph and / or likeness. You will be required to sign a release and code of conduct, and provide proof of age with government issued identification at check-in; those who do not sign the release or code of conduct understand that their fees will be forfeited.

Questions? Please direct them to: YSAModerator@yahoo.com



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In their own words...

SUMIT ADVANI (Chicago) AWESOME! I can't thank the folks in Atlanta, and all of us that attended enough. You really turned it into a true family experience. What a great group of people and an awesome event. Cheers to everyone! I was completely blown away. I enjoyed making so many new friends and getting back in touch with old ones! We should continue to grow and improve our community and heritage and culture. If this is an example of the next generation of leaders, I can't wait to see what else lies ahead.

SUNIL DADLANI (DC) It is very rare to see such genuine and active participation amongst people, especially from Sindhi's!!! In a way this event was almost surreal. There is nothing I would have wanted different in the programme and there was never a second that I was ever bored. AMAZING job everyone. I have attended a large number of social and professional functions before, however never before have I met such a large group of quality people. Everyone I met at the event amazed me in one way or the other, also everyone I met was unbelievably nice and easy to get along with. The energy, participation and efforts made by EVERYBODY who attended this function was really amazing. For all those who did not come - You really missed out on a great event, I wish you all could have made it as I would have loved to meet the rest of you. Please try and make it to the next event because I know it will only be better!

DINESH ASWANI (Vancouver) I'm utterly speechless. From being almost a complete stranger to most of you just over a week ago, to sharing a close friendship in only three days together is a very strange and wonderful feeling. For three days, you all made our city feel like the BEST city in the world! You came to Vancouver to learn, relax, enjoy, and share, but ended up enriching the lives of all those that attended. I truly envy the next city that gets to play host to such a wonderful group of people.

DINESH DARYANANI (Houston) I went thinking it's just a weekend, and came back realizing it is a lifetime.

TINA ASWANI (Tenerife, Spain) YSA Retreat '03 - In short, a blast of a weekend in a very beautiful city! After initial indecisiveness on whether to attend or not, I must say that without doubt it has been a worthwhile experience that has left many fond memories. Overall, a blend of lots of fun and education that made every moment special in its own way.

MANOJ BALANI (Toronto) Here is to:

- An unforgettable weekend.
- Warm and 'out of this world' hospitable host committee.
- Newfound friends.
- Renewed spirit of being Sindhi.
- The great legacy YSA is going to create.

Let's not forget that our success will be measured from what we are able to achieve having come from the Retreat into our individual communities.

HARISH PURSNANI (New York) Like many of you, I find it very hard to truly express my appreciation for the amazing Retreat that we had. I am a person of few words and now I am almost speechless. I can simply say that the experience was spectacular. I am better, luckier and happier now that I have met lovely people like you all.

NADEEM JAMALI (Saskatoon) Absolutely Insane....

I have rarely come across a more beautiful crowd. Rarely still been a part of one. This was a group of people united not by race, not by interest, not even by a shared concern. This was a group united by love of something that they barely know. It was hard for me to understand this love for it is different from love of what one knows. What is it that drives these people to travel hundreds - nay, thousands - of miles to seek the company of each other?

When I saw these men and women, some younger than some others, some possibly wiser than some others, I couldn't help but remember that life-changing moment. Just as I learned to love what is mine, they too had come to love, and to claim, what is theirs, possibly just because it is theirs. This is not a claim out of greed; this is a defiant claim of something that it is not fashionable to claim. They don't ask anything of this that they believe to be theirs. All they want is for it to reveal itself to them, in the sublime nakedness of its existence.

As I witnessed the digging through sands of history, and the rituals of dance and intoxication, and expressions of love and passion, I could not help wonder if these amounted to an invitation to the spirits of our ancestors to join us in the revelry, and while they are here, and while we are too drunk to see, reveal to us what all has thus far been hidden.

NEETA DADLANI (Hong Kong) The 23 hour flight there and back was so worth it ... YSA Retreat 2003 was fantabulous ... I had great time!! The event gave me so much and has inspired me to give back.

SANDHYA PANJWANI (London) Back to the bosom we will return... I was a stranger among this global, virtual community...I'd like to think I'm not anymore. The Vancouver retreat has personally changed my life and viewpoint of the present day generation of Young Sindhi Adults. I've come back to sunny Blighty with the assurance that we have the energy, we have the talent, the dedication and proactivity to keep the flame of Sindhiyat alive. We may not have easy access to our Motherland, but we have each other...and back to the bosom we will return for nourishment of our mind, heart and Sindhi spirit.

SANDEEP CHELLANI (New York) I'm still feeling a buzz from the amazing time spent in Vancouver... I also want to reiterate a key point from the retreat. Our culture, traditions and language have evolved over the course of thousands of years. Unless we make a strong effort now, it could be lost within the next generation. It's important that we don't lose our inspiration from the retreat in the stresses of everyday life. Together we can take YSA to the next level!

SONIA VASWANI (Los Angeles) Vapas ghar... Well, another FANTASTIC time to be had by all...Retreat 2003...I can't believe it's over! Yet again, I come away from the weekend with a renewed sense of "Sindhi" and a bunch of new friends to boot. I laughed, I cried, it became a part of me. Every time I leave a YSA event, I come away feeling so revitalized and rejuvenated. I come back to my community with a sense of purpose and this event motivated me beyond even my own expectations.

NATASHA ALIMCHANDANI (Los Angeles) WOW. WOW. WOW. That about sum up my thoughts on this past weekend at the YSA Retreat. What was amazing is that most of us were truly interested in attending all the forums to learn from each other and contribute what we know and think. There seemed to be a general concern about the dissipation of our culture through our generation and, with that, a proactive attitude towards making sure that this does not happen. Truly inspiring. The time that the YSA Host committee and presenters put into this event was not so apparent because everything seemed so seamless... which is a sign of how much thought really went into it all... as an attendee, I could not have asked for more or even expected such a fantastic weekend! It was a great blend of learning and fun. And, everyone came with such a friendly and open attitude which created a flavor to the weekend - unique and memorable. I am still on a "high" from the YSA Retreat...

ANUPA NAGRANI (London) I was in disbelief all weekend, and more so now that I am back home after such an incredible weekend!

>YSA Presenters - Every session was incredibly informative. Thank you for all the effort that you have put in to bringing us our culture, history, rich heritage, rituals, and language. All of you helped in fitting all the tiny pieces in to this large puzzle and presenting to us a complete and beautiful picture of the Sindhi Culture.

>YSA Friends - You have left me completely moved & speechless. Thank you for bringing life into what was a virtual community.



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REGISTRATION FORM

Please use one form per person.

SECTION A — Registrant (Please fill out this section)

First Name: Last Name:

Mailing Address:

City: State:

Country: Zip / Postal Code:

Primary Phone #: Alternate Phone #:

Primary E-Mail: Secondary E-Mail:

Birth date* (MM/DD/YY) *Those under 21 may not register for the event.

SECTION B — Payment & Rules: (Please read & indicate agreement to the following by signing your name below)

By registering, you understand and acknowledge that YSA and its affiliates, officers and volunteers are neither responsible for, nor liable for, any damage, loss, or injury at, or arising out of any activity. You hereby expressly and completely and forever release YSA and its affiliates of any responsibility and / or liability for any and all damages, losses, & injuries. You also authorize YSA to distribute promotional and follow up material, that may contain your name, and / or likeness. Do not register if you are under 21 years of age - everyone will be asked to sign a release and code of conduct, and provide proof of age with government issued identification at check-in; those who do not sign the release or code of conduct or are under 21 hereby understand that their fees will be forfeited.

Signature:

Registration costs US\$199 per person prior to April 15th, 2004 and \$249 per person thereafter.
Registration closes on May 20th 2004 or earlier if we reach our capacity.

Payment is only accepted by Certified Check, Cashier's check or Money Order, made payable to YSA —do not send personal checks!
Send completed registration form & full payment to:

YSA 2004 Retreat, PO Box 13585, Atlanta, Georgia, 30324, USA

A confirmation e-mail will be sent out approximately 4 weeks prior to the event to confirm receipt of your registration and payment.
Registration fees are non refundable and non-transferable. Program items subject to change without notice.
We reserve the right to refuse admission and to limit the number of participants.

Questions? Direct them to: YSAModerator@yahoo.com

For office use only — do not write below this line.

Date Received: Amount Received: Certified Check: Cashier's Check: Money Order: Other:

Contacted: Re: Confirmed by e-mail on: