

People always say 'You do racial comedy'. And I don't exactly. I do cultural comedy. Because race and culture are two different things. There's black people from America and then there's black people from Africa. Racially they're the same, culturally they're extremely different.

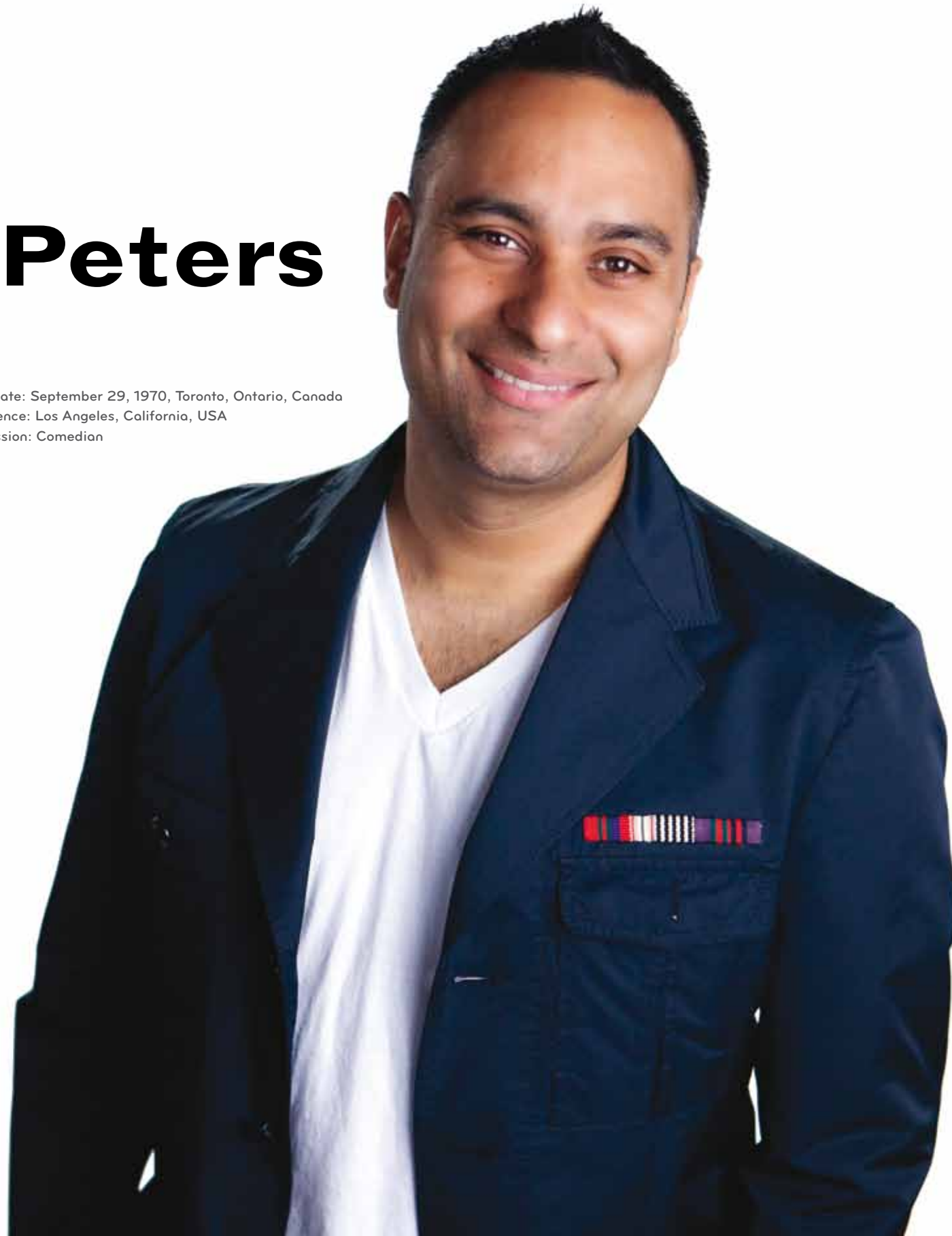
- Russell Peters

Russell Peters

COMEDIAN



Birthdate: September 29, 1970, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Residence: Los Angeles, California, USA
Profession: Comedian



Always do whatever's next. - George Carlin

Russell Peters' cultural comedy is so popular that he has been selling out arenas around the world for years. He was named to the Forbes list of Top-Earning Comedians in 2009 and 2010. Clips of his work have recorded more than 60 million views on YouTube. His DVDs Outsourced and Red, White and Brown have sold more than 300,000 copies, and his 2011 DVD, The Green Card Tour: Live from the O2 Arena has enjoyed brisk early sales. In 2011, he has branched into movies, appearing in Speedy Singhs and Source Code, and he has several other movie roles in progress. His 2010 autobiography Call Me Russell, published by Doubleday Canada, charted at the top of the Globe and Mail Non-Fiction Bestseller List. He has been developing I'm With Russell, a television sitcom for NBC based on his unique comedic style. Russell's solo live performances have repeatedly broken ticket sales and attendance records in some of the world's most legendary venues, including Madison Square Garden, Radio City Music Hall, The Nokia Theatre Los Angeles, Sydney Opera House, The Hammersmith Apollo, London's O2 Arena, General Motors Place Vancouver, The Saddle Dome Calgary, Rexall Centre Edmonton, The Bell Centre Montreal where he set the venue's highest attendance record for a comedy performance, and he was the first comedian to sell out the Air Canada Centre, not once, but four times.

In the recent past, Russell has hosted Showtime's Comics Without Borders and Russell Peters Presents. He hosted the Juno Awards (the Canadian Grammys) in 2008 and 2009. He has appeared on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, Jimmy Kimmel Live, Comedy Central, Craig Ferguson, Lopez Tonight, Showtime, HBO, MTV, BBC, CNN International and Al Jazeera. Russell has performed at HBO's Aspen Comedy Festival, The Las Vegas Comedy Festival, Just For Laughs Montreal and Chicago, and the Edinburgh Festival. With the USO, he has joined tours in Iraq, Afghanistan, Djibouti, Greenland, Pearl Harbor, USS Eisenhower and the HMCS Winnipeg. Russell has performed with such comedic luminaries as Dave Chapelle, Dane Cook, Jon Lovitz, Craig Ferguson, George Carlin, Tracy Morgan, Chris Tucker, Dana Gould, Kenny Robinson, Damon Wayans, DL Hughley, Lewis Black, Ralphie May, Angelo Tsarouchas, Jo Koy, and Kevin Nealon.

Russell was honored in 2009 with a Gemini Award for Best Host or Performance in a Variety Series, for hosting the 2008 Juno Awards. He has been nominated for the Gemini Award four times. In 2011, he was honored with a star on Canada's Walk of Fame in his hometown of Toronto.

Russell is also an experienced and sought-after DJ. The son of Anglo-Indian parents Eric and Maureen Peters, who emigrated from India before Russell was born, Russell hired his brother to manage his career. He married his girlfriend Monica Diaz in Las Vegas on August 20, 2010, and in February 2011, they became the proud parents of a daughter, Crystianna.

DIALOGUE

Roshni: What sets you apart from others?

I have a phenomenal memory. I remember every single thing that anybody said to me, ever did to me, who was nice to me and who was not nice to me.

Roshni: Have you achieved your childhood dreams? What is next?

It's very surreal because when I said I wanted to be successful I just meant, "Make a living." I didn't really think, "Get a star," I didn't think, "Have people know my name." What is next is Cannes. I don't want to say what it is because I don't want to jinx it; I just want it to happen. There's a lot of film and TV stuff that I want to conquer. I'm more successful than I ever imagined, so now that I know anything is possible, I want to go as far as I can possibly go.

Roshni: Who do you admire?

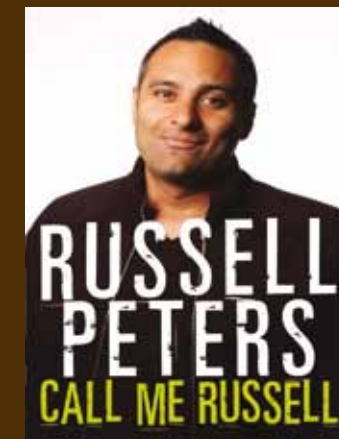
George Carlin, Steve Martin, Cheech & Chong, Eddie Murphy and Don Rickles.

Roshni: What is your greatest extravagance?

I have several cars - a Rolls-Royce, a Jaguar, a Porsche, an Audi, a Range Rover and a 1964 Chevy Impala.

Roshni: What is most important to you right now?

I'm a doting daddy now. My entire picture section on my cell phone is all photos of her. I'm so enamored with my daughter, so I don't have an opportunity to step back and find comedy material yet.



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Indra K. Nooyi

CORPORATE LEADER



Birthdate: October 28, 1955, Madras, India
Residence: Greenwich, CT, USA
Profession: Corporate leader



This is our purpose: to make as meaningful as possible this life that has been bestowed upon us; to live in such a way that we may be proud of ourselves; to act in such a way that some part of us lives on. - Oswald Spengler



Although I'm a daughter of India, I'm an American businesswoman. My family and I are citizens of this great country. This land we call home is a most loving and ever-giving nation -- a Promised Land that we love dearly in return. And it represents a true force that, if used for good, can steady... global economies and cultures. - Indra K. Nooyi

INDRA NOOYI is not only one of the highest-ranking Indian-American woman in American business – she is the highest-ranking woman of any nationality. She serves as President and CEO, as well as Chairman, of PepsiCo, one of the farthest-reaching corporations in the world.

Indra has steered PepsiCo's strategies since she first joined the company in 1994, helping to divest it of its fast-food holdings and to guide it toward offering healthier food and beverage products. While soft drinks are still PepsiCo's mainstay, Indra was the one who brought wholesome Quaker Oats under the PepsiCo umbrella. She served as Senior Vice President of Corporate Strategy and Development from 1996-99, Senior Vice President and COO during 2000-01, and President and CFO from 2001 through 2006, when she accepted PepsiCo's highest rank. She was named Chairman in 2007.

Previously, Indra worked as Senior Vice President of Strategy and Strategic Marketing for Asea Brown Boveri, a Zurich-based industrials company, helping them to set the direction for their US operations. Between 1986 and 1990, she was Vice President and Director of Corporate Strategy and Planning at Motorola. Prior to that, she directed international corporate strategy projects at The Boston Consulting Group.

Indra's professional career began in India, where she held product manager positions at Johnson & Johnson and at Mettur Beardsell, Ltd., a textile firm. She came to the US in 1978 to do graduate study at Yale University.

Indra serves on the boards of U.S.-China Business Council, U.S.-India Business Council, The Consumer Goods Forum, Catalyst, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, The Peterson Institute for International Economics, Grocery Manufacturers Association and Tsinghua University. She is also a Successor Fellow of Yale Corporation and was appointed to the U.S.-India CEO Forum by the Obama Administration.

She holds a BS from Madras Christian College, an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management in Calcutta and a Master of Public and Private Management from Yale University.

Indra played cricket in college, played lead guitar in an all-female rock band in Madras, and now frequently sings at corporate events.

Indra and her husband Raj have two daughters.

DIALOGUE

Roshni: What is your mantra for success?
Performance with purpose. It doesn't mean subtracting from the bottom line, but rather, that we bring together what is good for business with what is good for the world."

Roshni: What might be your next venture?
After PepsiCo, I do want to go to Washington. I want to give back.

Roshni: Besides your success in business, what's important to you?

At the end of the day, don't forget that you're a person, don't forget you're a mother, don't forget you're a wife, don't forget you're a daughter. When your job is done, what you're left is family, friends, and faith.

Roshni: What is your message to the younger generation? Consider how you will conduct your business careers so that the other continents see you extending a hand...not the finger. It's not that hard. You can change and shape the attitudes and opinions of the other continents and their peoples by simply ascribing positive intent to all your international business transactions.

Roshni: What is your leadership philosophy?
I distill it down to "Five C's." Competency: Stand out from the pack and be a lifelong learner. Remain ahead and abreast in your field. Courage and Confidence: Speak out. Establish your knowledge base and be confident in it as a leader. Communication: Over-invest in written and oral communication. Leaders constantly have to motivate the troops. Consistency: Remaining steady, reliable, and determined allows for credibility and a baseline to measure your successes and failures. Compass: Integrity is critical.

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Kamala D. Harris

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA



Kamala D. Harris
Birthdate: October 20, 1964, Oakland, California, USA
Residence: Sacramento, California, USA
Profession: Attorney General of the State of California

As Attorney General, I will tell you, I believe deeply that our core mission and obligation to the public involves fighting crimes both before and after they are committed... Ultimately, being Smart on Crime is about doing more preventing and less reacting. It is about being tough by being tough-minded, doing more of what works and less of what doesn't. It's about the rigorous application of the science of law enforcement, measuring what we do and demanding accountability for results.

– KAMALA HARRIS

Crime butchers innocence to secure a throne, and innocence struggles with all its might against the attempts of crime.

- Maximilien Robespierre



KAMALA HARRIS is determined to be Smart on Crime for the good of all Californians. She was elected 32nd Attorney General of the State of California on January 3, 2011. She is the first African American woman and the first South Asian American woman to hold this office. Her job is to work with state, county and local law enforcement agencies throughout California to find the most effective ways to combat all kinds of crime, and address the socioeconomic conditions that lead to crime and to recidivism among convicted criminals.

Previously, Kamala was elected in 2003 and re-elected in 2007 to serve as San Francisco's District Attorney – again, the first African American woman and the first South Asian American woman in California to hold the office. She brought to that position a solid background as a courtroom prosecutor, beginning in 1990 in the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, where she prosecuted child sexual assault cases. As a Deputy District Attorney, she also prosecuted homicide and robbery cases. She stayed there until 1998, when she was named managing attorney of the Career Criminal Unit of the San Francisco District Attorney's Office. There she prosecuted three strikes cases and serial felony offenders. She then served as the head of the San Francisco City Attorney's Division on Families and Children.

Kamala has earned many awards and much recognition. California's largest legal newspaper, The Daily Journal, designated her as one of the top 75 women litigators in California – the only elected official to receive that honor – as well as one of the top 100 lawyers in the state. She was recognized as a "Woman of Power" by the National Urban League and received the Thurgood Marshall Award from the National Black Prosecutors Association. She has been

featured on the Oprah Show and in Newsweek as one of "America's 20 Most Powerful Women." She was named as one of 24 elected leaders nationwide to serve as a Rodel Fellow with the Aspen Institute. Kamala was also elected to the Board of Directors of the California District Attorneys Association and is a Vice President of the National District Attorney's Association.

Kamala is a graduate of Howard University in Washington DC, and earned her Juris Doctor from University of California, Hastings College of Law in 1989. She is the daughter of a Tamil Indian mother, Dr. Shyamala Gopalan – a breast cancer specialist who immigrated to the United States from Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India in 1960 – and a Jamaican American father, Stanford University economics professor Donald Harris. She has one younger sister, Maya Harris.

DIALOGUE

Roshni: What are your favorite books?
The Kite Runner, Dreams from My Father, The Joy Luck Club, and Native Son.

Roshni: What are your favorite movies?
My Cousin Vinny, Steel Magnolias, Antwone Fisher, Ratatouille, and Dark Knight.

Roshni: What is your motto in life?
"You may be the first to do many things, but make sure you are not the last." - my mother, Shyamala G. Harris
Roshni: What do you do to enjoy yourself?
Cooking, music, Farmer's Markets, movies, Sunday family dinners, spending time with my niece, and actually reading the entire Sunday New York Times on Sunday.

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Fareed Zakaria

WRITER, TELEVISION NEWS SHOW



Birthdate: January 20, 1964
Residence: New York City
Profession: Writer, television news show host



Now we're moving to an era of greater multipolarity, a genuinely global system where every part of the global system has countries that are rich and vibrant and participating.

– Fareed Zakaria



I think there's a lot of merit in an international economy and global markets, but they're not sufficient because markets don't look after social needs.

– George Soros

FAREED ZAKARIA hosts CNN's flagship international affairs program, Fareed Zakaria GPS. He is Editor at Large of Time, a Washington Post columnist, and a New York Times bestselling author. Fareed is the author of two books -- The Post-American World and The Future of Freedom.

While his columns have received many awards including a 2010 National Magazine Award, his October 2001 Newsweek cover story, "Why They Hate Us," remains the most decorated. Before joining Newsweek in October 2000, he spent eight years as managing editor of Foreign Affairs, a post he was appointed to at only 28 years old. In 1999, Esquire magazine named him "the most influential foreign policy adviser of his generation." The following year, Foreign Policy named him one of the top 100 global thinkers. Within its first year, GPS garnered an Emmy nomination for an interview with Premier Wen Jaibao. A native of India, Fareed holds a BA from Yale College and a Ph.D. from Harvard University. He has received honorary degrees from numerous universities including Brown, the University of Miami, and Oberlin College. He currently serves as a Trustee of Yale University. He lives in New York City with his wife Paula, son and two daughters.

DIALOGUE

Roshni: Please describe your childhood.
From a time when I was very young, I met interesting people engaged in all kinds of activities. I was exposed to a very broad cross-section of professions. Most importantly, it made me aware that the world offered a very large canvas.

Roshni: Who are your heroes?
My father was a self-made man who was orphaned at age 6. He had this incredible energy and determination to both succeed and have an impact on the world, particularly on crucial issues he dedicated his life to—such as the idea of India as a secular democracy. His drive inspired me. He earned scholarships from elementary school onward. I look at the distance he traveled in his life and am amazed—it's much, much greater than the distance I've traveled.

Roshni: Who were your mentors?
They were both editors like my mother. The first was a great novelist turned journalist, and more than anything else he taught me how to enjoy the power and beauty of the English language. The other was a very cerebral, intellectual academic who had gone into journalism. From him I learned how to think. He was very vigorously analytic, willing to take positions against the conventional wisdom. "I came to this country on scholarship, with no money of my own, and I didn't know anyone," he says. "I was an outsider and marginal in that sense. It probably gave me an extra spur to succeed."

Roshni: What were your feelings about immigrating to the United States?
I am an American, not by accident of birth but by choice.

I voted with my feet and became an American because I love this country and think it is exceptional. I have made a choice to live here. I've had some pain in the process, the pain of losing my old country and culture. Anyone who doesn't acknowledge this is not being honest. There is a losing as well as a gaining. I feel that I've worked for my American citizenship.
Roshni: What are some of your professional goals?
I hope I infect my audience with a passionate interest in the world and the recognition that what goes on in other places in the world engages us geopolitically, politically and economically. This is not spinach; it's fun—it's fascinating to see what other people in the world are doing.

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Ajay Banga

CORPORATE LEADER, FINANCIAL SECTOR



Birthdate: 1960, Khadki, India
Residence: Outside New York City, New York, USA
Profession: Corporate leader, financial sector



AJAY BANGA has taken his global corporate experience and is working to translate it into global growth for MasterCard, where he has been President, Chief Executive Officer and boardmember since 2010. Ajay joined MasterCard in 2009 as Chief Operating Officer in 2009. At MasterCard, his emphasis has been modernizing the electronic payments giant, expanding its global reach, developing new methods of electronic payments (such as fingerprint-activated mobile phone connections for debit purchases) and building access for individuals worldwide who do not have good relationships with banks. He has also been working on finding new ways for MasterCard to exercise its social responsibility, using its electronic payment infrastructure to help lift people out of poverty by improving their access to microloans and other financial instruments.

We fully support an open commerce ecosystem which will drive the scale necessary for widespread adoption of mobile payments, providing consumers with exciting new possibilities for shopping and saving. – AJAY BANGA

The new electronic interdependence recreates the world in the image of a global village. - Marshall McLuhan

Previously, Ajay was chief executive officer of Citigroup Asia Pacific. He worked on all businesses in the region, including institutional banking, alternative investments, wealth management, consumer banking and credit cards. He joined Citigroup in 1996 and held a variety of senior management roles in the United States, Asia Pacific, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. He also handled Citi's brand marketing, and oversaw its efforts in microfinance from 2005 to 2009.

Ajay's business career began in India, where he held sales, marketing and management positions at Nestlé India over the course of 13 years. Prior to that, he helped to launch fast food restaurants in India with Pepsico.

Ajay is a member of the board of directors of Kraft. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Business Roundtable and chairs its Information and Technology Initiative. In addition, he is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, The Economic Club of New York and The Financial Services Roundtable. He is also a fellow of the Foreign Policy Association. In the past, Ajay served on the board of trustees of the Asia Society, the New York Hall of Science, Enterprise Community Partners and the National Urban League and was a director for the Council for Economic Education.

Ajay holds a Bachelor of Arts in economics from Delhi University, and an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

DIALOGUE

Roshni: Please describe your childhood.

My father was an army general, so we moved every couple of years. The moving around made me who I am. I make friends easily. I adjust easily to new situations. I was always the new kid on the block, so I had to learn to break into established groups.

Roshni: What was your childhood dream?

I didn't have any specific dreams for the future as a child, but I was always very curious about everything. I wasn't a big believer in planning a career. I have always believed in letting things take shape and took time to smell the flowers and lived in the moment.

Roshni: What is your message to the younger generation? Unlike our times, today's youth has tremendous opportunity, exposure which comes with its own challenges. In our times, we had limited choices in careers and a lot of decisions were automatically made for us. I find the younger generation of today very confident and self-assured. In this economy, it's a perfect time to become an entrepreneur or join a start-up. Technology today is an enabler and creator of new employment opportunities.

My message to the youth will be to keep all options open -- the world is full of multidimensional opportunities. Work hard but keep your feet firmly rooted -- attain a balanced life. I believe the young age passes very fast.

Roshni: What kind of books do you like to read?

I am a voracious reader. I like Who Says Elephant Can't Dance by Louis V. Gerstner Jr. and Cyrus the Great: Art of Leadership and War by Xenophon. I enjoy all Harry Potter movies and Shakespeare plays.

Roshni: Please define your life's principles.

1. Be honest with yourself. You can learn something from anyone. This helps me in remaining humble.
2. Surround yourself with people from all walks of life so you can maintain a right perspective. Believe in people.
3. Keep a good sense of humor. Conducted in a good manner, humor helps you look at situations objectively.

Roshni: How would you like to be remembered?

As a good human being who looked after people -- who believed in people. Life doesn't always have to be monumental. One can find peace in simpler things.

Roshni: Please characterize your management style.

I'm very passionate, but I take time to work my passion. I mean I study something and I try to understand both sides of the debate because if you've been a banker and worked around the world long enough, you kind of have to understand both sides of the debate. But you have to have a point of view, and so I believe in having a point of view on an issue and not ducking the issue.

Roshni: Where are your top places to eat?

I am a foodie, and I have to live in a city with museums, culture and a choice of restaurants. I like Red Rooster in Harlem.

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