



CAPTURING HIS B'D'AY  
SPIRIT: SH Raza

# Raza saab's young at heart

**A**t a pre-birthday party for his 85th birthday, SH Raza asserted that he is young at heart, when he got friend Meenu Bakshi to sing *Abhi toh main jawan hoon*. "I told myself, 'C'mon, abhi toh main jawan hoon!'" he laughed. "Birthdays are important up till the age of five, 10, 20... after that, you're born everyday." And that spirit

infused the gathering of eminent artists as they enjoyed the

company of friends and caught up with each other and the hosts Abha and SK Modi.

**SMART CHOICE:** Apart from Raza, who had flown in from Paris, there were many who had flown in to Delhi from other cities and even abroad. Paris-based painter Sujata Bajaj was there with her husband Rune Larsen. When we asked Rune who his favourite painter was, apart from his wife, he promptly replied, "Raza saab." We wonder if it had anything to do with the fact that the renowned painter was there!

**DEMANDING EVENING:** Just as interior designer Sunita Kohli was about to leave, Satish Gujral held her back for some time by saying, "Aap to bahut demand mein hain." Kohli was trying to leave early because she had to fly to Colombo the day after, but there were too many friends to allow her to do that. "I belong to the working class," she insisted, but to no avail. Krishan

Khanna was spotted having an early dinner so that he could make an early getaway, but his friends held him back too.

**ARTY PARTY:** Art curator Kalpana Shah gifted Raza a poem she had composed. Those seen enjoying themselves included Ashok Vajpayee, Malvika and Karan Modi, Rohit Gandhi, Virendra Singh, Maya Virmani, Kirat Young and Marquis de Dampierre, Rajlakshmi Rao and Sunita Vadehra, Virendra Singh, Priya Jain and Shobhit, Devashish Poddar, Sabrina Guiglionda, Priya Singh, Kaveeta Singh and Radhika Shrinagesh.



HOSTS OF THE EVENING:  
SK Modi and Abha Modi



HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?  
Rohit Gandhi (r) with a friend

## THE LORD LIKES SHILPA

Brian Mackenzie from the House of Lords in the UK said, "Shilpa's a dignified, cultured, well-informed young lady and has emerged as the clear winner. The *Big Brother* incident has only brought the British and Indian communities together in the UK."

THE BRIT CONNECTION:  
Brian Mackenzie



TALKING ABOUT THIS GENERATION?  
Satish Gujral and Gopi Gajwani



CELEBRATION TIME: Abha and SK Modi with Raza



HOW DO I  
LOOK?  
Sabrina  
Guiglionda



LOOK INTO THE CAMERA:  
Kalpana Shah and Nandini Malhotra



**LIFE'S GOOD:** Sanjay Kapoor & Gauri Sahni



**HATS OFF!** SH Raza (r) with Sunaina Anand



**PATE KI BAAAT!** K Chopra and Sujata Bajaj

# It was like a filmstar's party...

**T**he party to celebrate the launch of a book by Ashok Vajpayee on celebrated painter SH Raza was so grand that it had MK Raina surprised. "It's amazing that a painter is being celebrated like that. It's like a filmstar's party!" Madhu Jain laughed all the while as he exclaimed, till she was teary-eyed.



**Ashok Vajpayee**

## THE BIGGEST NAMES IN INDIAN ART:

They were all there - Ram Kumar, who released the book, Ibrahim Alkazi, Krishan Khanna, Satish Gujral, Anjolie Ela Menon, Sujata Bajaj, Sunaina Anand... They all cheered on their friend and had a great time catching up with each other over snacks and drinks.

## DIFFERENT STROKES:

The reason for Raina's wonder was the number of people who came from all walks of life.

## TELL A TALE

Madagascar born dentist K Chopra told us, "Raza stayed at my house in 2003, when his health wasn't so good. He recovered there and painted a lot. It was almost like the rejuvenation of Raza."



**WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?** Akshay Rathore & Flora Boillot



**ANYTHING FOR A FRIEND:** Ibrahim Alkazi & Aman Nath

Dancer Shovana Narayan was there, along with her friends Frenny Billimoria and Bubbles Goyal. Designers Satya Paul and Madhu Jain were there, as was poet Keki N Daruwalla and theatre person Sadia, who came and hugged Raza impulsively as she entered. SK Modi was there with his wife Abha, as was art curator Kalpana Shah, Sukanya Balakrishnan and Sabrina Guiglionda, from France.

**'I WAS THERE':** Parthiv Shah admitted he'd been going out a lot. "Yes, it's the season for art. I had two inaugurations yesterday!" His wife Vidya added, "We don't go out a lot, and we're going out so much." Parthiv wanted to be known that he had attended the event. "Tell everybody I was here," he said to a guest. Well, now we know!

(Contributed by Priyanka Srivastava & Chandna Arora)