

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - May 9, 2003

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San Antonio Woman Wins \$20,000 In *Give Me 5* Instant Game From The Texas Lottery™



Give Me 5 ticket winner Zahere Khatoon of San Antonio.

(Austin, May 9) - When she first moved from India to Florida, Zahere Khatoon never had any interest in playing lottery games. But when she moved to Texas in February, she decided to try her luck when a few instant tickets from the Texas Lottery caught her eye in a convenience store display. Khatoon, a San Antonio resident, scratched the ticket and won the \$20,000 top prize on *Give Me 5*.

"I scratched the ticket right away and found immediately that I won \$20,000," said Khatoon.

Khatoon said she plans to use the money to clear some of her credit card debt.

"Our Scratch Off games continue to be our big seller, and I'm delighted that someone new to Texas is trying out our games," said Texas Lottery Executive Director Reagan E. Greer.

Greer noted that paying off debt is one of the more common responses winners give when asked what they plan to do with their prize money.

"We hear a lot of winners say they want to take care of debt responsibilities," said Greer. "I'm glad the Texas Lottery provided such a nice 'Welcome to Texas' for this winner."

Khatoon bought the winning *Give Me 5* ticket at Shop N Shop, located at 1306 Basse Road, in San Antonio.

Khatoon, who had only bought a *Give Me 5* instant game ticket two other times, said she showed it to her husband to make sure that she had actually won.

"He came home to see and all my kids and brother and sisters were very happy," she added.

She said she loves the Break the Bank instant game, and even won \$50, and will continue to try other instant games. "I also

play *Lotto Texas*[™] and I would tell all my friends and relatives to keep trying their luck in lottery and *Lotto Texas*."

While Khatoon plans to pay off all her credit cards, she said she's also thinking of "maybe a little bit of fun, too."

Scratch Off sales for the Texas Lottery have averaged \$44 million per week for the last 24 weeks. Greer said the instant ticket line accounts for 73 percent of total lottery sales.