લોહાણા સંદેશ

(લોહાણા એસોસીએશન સંચાલીત) www.lagc.us

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Editorial Board

Jayantibhai Thakkar

Arvindbhai Thakkar

Dr. Bharat Thakkar

Ketan Thakkar

Dr. Jayashree Raju

Kajal Thakkar

When life gives you a100 reasons to cry, show the life that you have 1000 reasons to smile.

The two rules of success. 1. Never tell everything you know.

2. Never tell, you know everything

"હર પળ કંઈક સરું જ થાય" આ વિચાર જ સૌથી મજબુત છે. કારણ ? ઈશ્વર છે.
માત્ર વિચારો જ બદલશો તો પણ બધું જ બદલાઈ જશે

અંધારો સૂર્ય... ઊજળો દીપ

ધગધગતો સૂર્ય. અજવાળાં પાથરતો સૂર્ય. એક દિવસ એને ઘમંડ જાગ્યો. 'હું મારી પ્રકાશ પાથરવાની પ્રવૃત્તિ બંધ કરી દઈશ' એણે ચેતવણી ઉચ્ચારી. 'તમે પૃથ્વીના માણસો અંધકારમાં ગૂંગળાઈ મરશો. તમને અજવાળાં કોણ આપશે ?'

ઘમંડ ભારે હતો. ચેતવણી ભય પમાડનારી હતી. ને પ્રકાશ બંધ થાય તો....તો. અંધકારમાં અટવાઈ જ મરીએ એ ભયથી માણસ જાત કંપી ઊઠી. કોઈ માર્ગ સૂઝતો નહોતો. ત્યાં ખૂણામાંથી એક અવાજ આવ્યો. 'હું તો છું ને' ખૂણામાંનું એક કોડિયું બોલતું હતું. ધરતીના માનવીઓને ધરપત વળી. કંઈ વાંધો નહીં. સૂર્ય ભલે અજવાળાં પાથરવાનાં બંધ કરી દે...આ નાનકડા કોડિયાના અજવાળે આપણે જીવીશું. ને સૂર્ય સામે જોવાનું લોકોએ બંધ કરી દીધું.

સૂર્ય આથમી ગયો. અવનિ પર અંધારાં ઊતર્યાં.

કોડિયું પેટાયું...ને અજવાળાં નીતરી રહ્યાં. માનવીએ કોડિયાને અજવાળે રાત કાઢી નાખી. 'મારા વગર ચાલ્યું ખરું !' એવું ભાન સૂર્યને થતાં એનો ઘમંડ ઓગળી ગયો....ને બીજે જ દિવસે એ ઊગ્યો. આ જગતમાં ક્યારેક બહુ મોટા માનવીઓના ભાર નીચે આપણે દબાતા હોઈએ છીએ. એમની પ્રતિભાનો વણછો આપણને લાગતો હોય છે ને આપણે મૂંઝાતા હોઈએ છીએ....એને લીધે ક્યારેક કોઈના ખોટા ઘમંડને પણ આપણે વિના કારણે પોષવો કે ખમવો પડે છે. ''એ ન હોય તો આપણું શું થાય ?'' એ આપણી મૂંઝવણ હોય છે. પણ 'સૂર્ય નહીં તો કોડિયું' એ દૃષ્ટિ રાખીને જો આપણે આપણો જીવનવ્યવહાર ગોઠવીએ તો કશી મૂંઝવણ ન રહે.

પ્રા.શ્રી નટુભાઈ આર. ઠક્કર

Happy Independence Day

વંદે માતરમ્

From the Desk of President

Dear LAGC Members,

Summer is almost over, and ready to welcome the Fall Season. The month of August is the auspicious month, as well as a month for our kids to start the school, college and universities for their educational goal. Behalf of LAGC Committee Members, I would like to extend Congratulations to Lohana student for all ages for the brighter start of their academic term 2017-2018.

LAGC "Picnic" event on 06/18/2017 turned out to be a successful event, only because of your participation. I would like to extend our Thanks to Bhavanaben for managing food for the picnic and to all the committee members for their dedicated support.

Please **save** the dates for upcoming LAGC event(s):

KITE FLYING Event - Saturday, August 19th, 2017

Time: 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM **Place**: Community Park, 8 Bridges Dr., South Barrington, IL 60010

- Upcoming NEXT Event: LAGC Garaba:
  - (Garaba: 1) Saturday, September 23rd 2017 &
  - (Garaba: 2) Saturday, September 30th 2017

  Sponsorship per Garaba: Silver **$250,** Gold**: $550,** Platinum**: $750**

  Place: The Centre of Elgin, 100 Symphony Way, Elgin, IL 60124 (four-story parking deck)

If you are interested in sponsoring **ANY** LAGC upcoming events, please contact me at (630) 440-7481 / tusharmt@att.net or to any committee members. Please remember, your contribution is tax exempt.

Annual Members are requested to please pay your pending membership (if any) through Quick Pay, People Pay or any online payment services using LAGC email – ourlagc@gmail.com or by mailing your check to our treasurer Mr. Pratik Raval, 205 Springside Dr., Elgin, IL 60124. Annual membership is $20 per person and Lifetime Membership is $200 per person.

Thank you everyone for your time, trust, and all your support in making our LAGC, a strong and fun filled organization.

Sincerely,

Tushar Thakkar
(630) 440-7481

અભિનંદન

- બહેનશ્રી નીર્સગીબેન(જાનકી) (ભુપેન્દ્રભાઈ અને શોભનાબેન)ઠક્કર અને અર્પીતકુમાર (યોગેશભાઈ અને રોહીણીબેન) જોષીને તેમના લગ્ન (wedding) પ્રસંગે.
- ભાઈશ્રી શનીભાઈ(Sunny)(ભરતભાઈ અને સાધનાબેન)ઠક્કર અને બ્રીન્દાબેન(ગુણવંતભાઈ અને ઈન્દુબેન)પટેલને
- તેમના લગ્ન (wedding) પ્રસંગે.
- બહેનશ્રી સીમાબેન અને ફલકભાઈ ભટને તેમની પુત્રી શોરી (Sorie)ના જન્મ પ્રસંગે
- બહેનશ્રી કૃપાબેન અને સમીરભાઈ પારેખને તેમના પુત્ર રાજવીર (rajvir) જન્મ પ્રસંગે
- ભાઈશ્રી દિશાંકભાઈ અને નિશિતાબેન (વિજયભાઈ અને જયશ્રીબેન)ઠક્કરને તેમના પુત્ર નીવ(Neev)ના જન્મ પ્રસંગે.
- બહેનશ્રી ખુશીબેન (ઉમેશકુમાર અને ડીંપલબેન) ઠક્કરને તેમના ભરત નાટયમ્ આરંગેત્રમ્ પ્રસંગે .
- ભાઈશ્રી ઈશાન અને અમન(ક્રાંતીભાઈ અને ઝરણાબેન) ચીકુલાને તેમની ધોતી Cerimony પ્રસંગે

આભાર

- ભાઈશ્રી વિજયભાઈ અને જયશ્રીબહેન ઠક્કરનો, તેમના પુત્ર ભાઈશ્રી દિશાંકભાઈ અને નિશિતાબેન ન ઠક્કરને ત્યાં તેમના પુત્ર નીવ(Neev)ના જન્મ પ્રસંગે લોહાણા એશોશીએશનને ૫૧ડોલરનુ ડોનેશન આપવા બદલ.

શ્રધાંજલિ

- ભાઈશ્રી યોગેશભાઈ (માયાબેન), અને રૂપલબેન(સંજયભાઈ) ઠક્કરના માતૃશ્રી અને એકતા(રવી), પાયલ(જય), વિવેક, દેર્વષ(દીશાલી), હર્ષ(પ્રાચી), મૌલિક(ખુશાલી), અને હાર્દીક(કીંજલ)ના દાદીમા અને હસમુખભાઈના સાસુમા તથા કનુભાઈ(નીરંજનાબેન),અને બીપીનભાઈના ભાભી પુજયશ્રી મધુબેન મણીલાલ ઠક્કરના દુખદ અવસાન બદલ. પરમાત્મા પુજયશ્રીના આત્માને શાંતિ અને સદગતિ આપો એવી પ્રભુને પ્રાર્થના.
- બહેનશ્રી મંજુબેનના પતિશ્રી અને બહેનશ્રી ડીંપલબેન(વિજયકુમાર)પટેલ, રાજાભાઈ(વિશવાની) અને અંજલી ઠક્કરના પિતા અને આકાશ અને મેલોનીના દાદા અને રમેશભાઈ,જગદીશભાઈ, કીંતિભાઈ(ભાવનાબેન), જીતેન્દ્રભાઈ(પારૂલબેન)નંદાણી અને હંસાબેન(વિનોદભાઈ)ઠક્કરનાબનેવી તથા નીર્મલાબેન નાગરદાસ નંદાણીના જમાઈ પુજયશ્રી જયેન્દ્રભાઈ રણછોડલાલ ઠક્કરના દુખદ અવસાન બદલ. પરમાત્મા પુજયશ્રીના આત્માને શાંતિ અને સદગતિ આપો એવી પ્રભુને પ્રાર્થના.
- ભાઈશ્રી પરેશભાઈ(પીકીબેન), શીલ્પાબેન(મીતુલકુમાર), શીતલબેન(અમરીષકુમાર)ઠક્કરના પિતાશ્રી, અને નૈશલના દાદા તથા જગદીશભાઈ, ચંપાબેન(માણેકલાલ), સરલાબેન(રજનીકાંત), ઈન્દીરાબેન(બળવંતભાઈ), રમાબેન(રમેશચંદ્ર), અને હસુબેન(પ્રફુલભાઈ)ઠક્કરના કાકાશ્રી કનુભાઈ લલ્લુભાઈ ગોળવાળા(બચુકાકા)ના દુખદ અવસાન બદલ. પરમાત્મા પુજયશ્રીના આત્માને શાંતિ અને સદગતિ આપો એવી પ્રભુને પ્રાર્થના.
- બહેનશ્રી રેખાબેન આઝાદભાઈના માતૃશ્રી , કૃણાલભાઈ(બંસરીબેન), અને માનસીના દાદી, અને હસમુખભાઈ(કોકીલાબેન) અને જગદીશભાઈ(દક્ષાબેન)ના ભાભી પુજય ગોદાવરીબેન કનુભાઈ ઠક્કરના દુખદ અવસાન બદલ. પરમાત્મા પુજયશ્રીના આત્માને શાંતિ અને સદગતિ આપો એવી પ્રભુને પ્રાર્થના.
- ભાઈશ્રી પ્રવિણભાઈ(દમયંતીબેન)ની પુત્રી, અને કનુભાઈ(શાંતાબેન)ની પૌત્રી(Grand doughter), અને પરેશભાઈ(જીજ્ઞાબેન), ઉષાબેન(અરવિંદભાઈ), અને જયશ્રીબેન(રસીકભાઈ), અને જીજ્ઞાસાબેન(ભાવીકભાઈ)ના ભાણી પુજયશ્રી પારૂલબેન વિકાસભાઈ ઠક્કર ના દુખદ અવસાન બદલ. પરમાત્મા પુજયશ્રીના આત્માને શાંતિ અને સદગતિ આપો એવી પ્રભુને પ્રાર્થના.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Arvindbhai Thakkar

1. A Dalit (untouchable), Ram Nath Kovind elected as the 14th President of India in place of Pranav Mukerjee who retired after his four-year term ended.
2. M Venkaiah Naidu elected as the 15th Vice-President of India.
3. Pakistan's top court disqualified Prime Minister Navaz Sharif on corruption charges. Sharif resigned his post and an interim Prime Minister, Shahid Khaquan Abbasi takes over. Indians will be surprised that Pakistan has a Hindu Minister in the new cabinet.
4. Desperate efforts by the majority party, Republican Party, in both Houses of US failed to win a majority to replace Obamacare with a new law for Health Care. Interestingly, veteran Republican Senator, John McCain of Arizona voted against the Health Care Bill. McCain is suffering from brain cancer and made a special trip to Washington to defeat his party's bill in the Senate.
5. Government of India approves a plan to privatize Air India. Air India has been consistently losing money, year after year.
6. More than 200 people died due to heavy floods in Gujarat State.
7. Indian Cricket team wins two test matches against Sri Lanka in a current three match test series, thereby winning the series.
8. Politics can take any turn, especially in our mother country. You may remember, Lalu Yadav and Nitishkumar formed a Government in Bihar State defeating BJP in the state elections. Now Nitishkumar has dropped Lalu's party and formed a new Government with BJP.
9. United Nations impose stricter economic sanctions against North Korea to punish that country's dictator for his uncontrollable Nuclear weapons program primarily aimed against US. Surprisingly, China voted in favor of the US sponsored sanctions.

Think it Over

Out of 190 nations in the world, the most honest nine countries are: New Zeeland, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Singapore, Norway and Netherland, Switzerland, Australia and Canada.

India ranks 95th.

In the above countries, there are no Ram kathas or Satyanarayan kathas. No Rathyatra. No Ganesh Chaturthi and Ganpati Visarjen. No Hanuman Temple or Hanuman Chalisa or Sunderkand Path. Not many temples. No beggars. No saints or pandits. Eat meat freely, there is nothing like sin or no donations for religious causes.

We, Indians don't eat onion and garlic, but eat bribes. We do Lakshmi Pujan, but spend on wine, clubs and luxuries. We worship parents only till we get their wealth.

Good deeds (Karmas) and honest dealings is the real religion.

From a WhatsApp Message.

Life is too short! Don't waste another minute!

From the book, "30 Lessons for Living" by Karl Pillemer, he interviews over 1200 wise and experienced people. The primary question is what most important lesson you've learned that you'd like to share with younger people. The most common answer was "Life is short."

The truth is we don't recognize the passing of life, we waste some of it. Life is long enough to do great things if we spend our time well. My suggestion: Don't focus on the amount of time spent (like working 8 hours a day, or walking 30 minutes a day), but focus on the accomplishment.

A great example when I spend 1 hour plus mowing the lawn. My accomplishment is improving how the lawn looks, physical exercise, and peaceful thinking time.

What are the top 10 of those lessons which came as elderly advice?

1. **Time is of the essence:** Live as though life is short — because it is. Make sure to do important things now. What's the most important 3 things you can do now that you've been putting off?
2. **Choose a career for the intrinsic rewards, not the financial ones**: The biggest career mistake people make is selecting a profession based only on potential earnings. A sense of purpose and passion for one's work beats a bigger paycheck any day.
3. **Act now like you will need your body for a hundred years:** Stop using "I don't care how long I live" as an excuse for bad health habits. Bad behavior like poor eating habits and inactivity are less likely to kill you than to sentence you to years or decades of chronic disease.
4. **Say "Yes" to opportunities:** When offered a new opportunity , you are less likely to regret saying yes and more likely to regret turning it down. Take a leap of faith when opportunity knocks.
5. **Choose a life partner with extreme care:** The key is not to rush the decision, taking all the time needed to get to know the prospective partner and to determine your compatibility with them.
6. **Travel more:** Travel while you can, sacrificing other things if necessary to do so. Most people look back on their travel adventures (big and small) as highlights of their lives and regret not having traveled more.
7. **Say it now:** People wind up saying the sad words "it might have been" by failing to express themselves before it is too late. The only time you can share your deepest feelings is while people are still alive. If you have a grudge against someone, why not try to make it right by talking to them now. There may not be another opportunity.
8. **Happiness is a choice, not a condition:** Happiness isn't a condition that occurs when circumstances are perfect. Sooner or later, you need to make a deliberate choice to be happy in spite of challenges and difficulties. **Take responsibility for your own happiness throughout your life.**
9. **Time spent worrying is time wasted:** Stop worrying. It's a waste of your precious lifetime. One of the major regrets is realizing all the time you've wasted worrying about things that never ended up happening.
10. **Think small:** When it comes to making the most of your life, think small. Attune yourself to simple daily pleasures and learn to savor them now. Stop to smell the roses, watch the kids grow, and so on.

By Ketan J Thakkar. Email me at ketanthakkar@yahoo.com.9

Stories of Hope

Jayashree R Raju

It's easy these days to feel down. The current state of affairs is complex. Life is hard. There are stories of struggle everywhere.

When we are struggling however, we can be consumed by our problems and worries. As an eternal optimist, however, I keep searching for the positive. So, just as there is difficulty, there is also inspiration. Stories of hope and courage. I thought I would

Share one of my recent encounters with patients. Some details have been changed so they protect patient confidentiality. But I feel these stories are worth sharing.

The first is a 68 year old patient admitted to the ICU for pneumonia. She was put on the ventilator due to low oxygen saturation.

When I see her, she is biting on her tube but I could see the smile in her eyes. She asks for paper and pen. On a clipboard,

She writes, "When are you taking this tube out?" I learn that she has only one lung due to previous lung cancer, so she had to have one lung removed. The ventilator, then, is not new to her. But in her eyes, I could see the determination and strength.

She was not giving up. Her family was all at her bedside and attentive to her every need. I could see she was surrounded by love. But I was most touched by her strength. She then wrote, "I am going to get better!" And I knew she would.

But it had been six days on the ventilator. After one week on the ventilator, we are often asked to discuss further plans with the patient. This includes a tracheostomy, which is a tube placed in the front of the neck, and can stay in longer periods if a person is not going to Be able to come off the ventilator. Often though, patients are then transferred to another facility and it becomes harder to get them off the ventilator the longer they are on it. It often spirals downward from that. But more importantly, patients tend to lose hope at that point.

I was NOT going to take away her determination to get better. So we told her that we were going to wait another 72 hours before making any new decision. She nodded in agreement. And the next day, she was breathing better and taken off the ventilator. She went to rehab eventually and then came to the office. Though she thanked me, I thanked her more. I had learned more about hope and courage from her than what I had given her.

I often wonder how some people can be so strong in difficulty. It continues to amaze and inspire me. From my 90 plus year old patients I learn patience and gratitude. There is so much to smile about every day as long as we look for the inspiration. Smile, be humble and grateful. Life is wonderful!

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Organize

FREE HEALTH FAIR

On

Sunday, September 10, 2017

Registration from 8:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Testing will be done by 1:00P.M.

At

Midwest Swami Narayan Temple

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(866) 838-4778

Free Health Screening

Height/Weight	**Blood Pressure**	**Blood Testing**	**Blood Sugar**
Bone Density	**EKG**	**Urinalysis**	**Eye Screening**
Dental Examination	**E. N, T Exam**	**Physical Exam**	**Chiropractic consultation**
Hearing Test	**Physical Therapy**	**Diabetic Education**	**Diet/nutrient Consultation**

This Year again we will have Free Flu Shot. Social Services and Benefits for seniors.

Approximately 25 Physicians & 75 Health care Professionals will provide volunteer services
12 Hours fasting required for blood tests. No food or drinks except water (after 8:00P.M. Saturday)
Registration on premises only. No pre-registration.

We welcome any medical volunteer or Sponsor who wants to help in the health fair. Please call Jayanti Thakkar at 630-213-6440 or 630-956-2677 or E-mail at suryajay@sbcglobal.net

For information please call:

Jayanti Thakkar (630) 213-6440 Coordinator

VISA for September 2017

F1	**May 1, 2010**
F2A	**October 1, 2015**
F2B	**November 1, 2010**
F3	**July 8, 2005**
F4	**January 1, 2002**

Life of Dreams – Kajal Thakkar

Raksha Bandhan is a festival which celebrates the bond of affection between brothers and sisters. It is a day when siblings pray for each other's' wellbeing and wish for each other's happiness and goodwill. It's a symbolization of a brother's love and protection for each of his sisters and vice versa.

An open letter to all my brothers,

Thank you. Thank you not only for enduring the many Raksha Bandhan pujas from all your sisters, but also accepting each rakhi, no matter how outrageous, and promising to continue protecting us for years and years to come. This bond between us is more meaningful that piece of thread I tie around your wrist each year.

Thank you for all the bickering, arguing, and fights. You make me realize what things are important in this life and that it's okay to mess around and have a good time. Thank you for all the advice, jokes, and laughter. You make me let loose and get silly when the time is right. Thank you for carrying me, in funny pictures and in life. You will always give me the support I need, the shoulder to lean on.

For someone who's been a part of my life longer than I can remember, you never seem to get boring. You keep finding new ways to make me smile and laugh. From childhood memories to even now when I am hundreds of miles away at school, I know you are always there for me. We've enjoyed long nights up watching movies and playing games together. You've seen me at my 6am worst and at my 6pm best. You've loved me with and without my hair or makeup done. You've cared for me in my highest heels and in my sneakers too. You'd call me beautiful whether I was wearing a new saree or my old grey sweatpants. Thanks for passing me the ball even though we both know I'll miss the basket. Thanks for standing up for me, even if maybe I was wrong. We've seen how crazy family can get and yet we've stayed shoulder to shoulder through it all. I can count on you to be at every family party so I'm not lonely. I can count on you to be up for midnight Taco Bell on the nights we feel like being adventurous. I can count on you to cherish our brother sister relationship the same loving way even after months apart.

So on this day of Raksha Bandhan, I offer you all my blessings for the coming year. I hope you are successful in achieving your dreams. I hope you find people that make you happy and enhance your life. I hope you live to the fullest and don't regret anything. I hope we always stay this close and share this bond. I will accept your love and protection for as long as I live and will give you the same each and every day.

Until next time, I love you with all my heart. Kajal

1. વતન
(શિખરિણી છંદ)

શહેરો મોટામાં
જરી ન રુચિ, ન્હોતું ભટકવું
મકાનો બિલ્ડીંગો
ગગન ચૂમતાં ઉતરું ચઢું.
તમાશા મેં પોષ્યા
નથી કદી શિકાગો નગરમાં.
નથી મેલા ઘેલા
અઘટિત કર્યા નાયણ નશા.

વસ્યું તે છે નાનું
ગરીબ અમથું ગામ ઉરમાં
મગોડીથી* કોણે
પરભૂમિ ધકેલ્યો સહજમાં?
હતા દાદાના બે
નજીવી મૂડી આંબા મુખરતા,
મગોડી ગામે જે
સ્મરણ કરતો, ખૂબ ગમતા.

હતાં ઢેફાં ખેતી
બળદ કચરો લીંપણ ઘરે,
છતે કાણાં ચુવે
અહીં ત્યહીં,વ્યથા થતી ઉરે.
ફરી જોઈ આવું
ગલી ગલી, નદી તાંડવ કરે,
દુઃખી મારું ગામ,
અતિ ગભરાયેલું ટળવળે.

ઝુરાપો માયા ના,
વળગણ મને છે વતનનું,
શિકાગો ના સ્પર્શ્યું,
વતન મહીં ભાથું કવનનું.

*મગોડી ગામ, ખોબા જેવડું મારું વતન.

2.મારું ગામ મગોડી

ખોબા જેવડું
મારું ગામ મગોડી
નદીના ખોળામાં સમાયું.
અમદા'દ જો હાથી તો
કીડી જેવડું ગામ મગોડી.
દહાડે રમતું ધમધમતું,
રાતે ગભરું, એકલવાયું.
મારું ગામ ક્યાંય કશે ના ગવાયું.

બહારવટિયા રાત પડ્યે આવે,
કરે બે ચાર ધડાકા,
ગામ લૂંટીને ભાગે ફરી કરે ભડાકા.
ઠાકેડા તલવારો કાઢી
મ્હોં વકાસી જોઈ રહે.
શાહુકાર સંતાતા ફરે
હોંશિયારી ખુદની બતાવે.
ના કોઈ ફરિયાદ, ના તપાસ.
સૂનમૂન સહી લેવામાં ગામ અટવાયું,
મારું ગામ ક્યાંય કશે ના ગવાયું.

મંદિર બે ચાર ગામમાં,
ભગવાનોથી ભરપૂર મગોડી.
મુસલમાનોની જૂજ એવી વસ્તી.
ના મસ્જિદ, ના કબ્રસ્તાન.
હળીમળીને હિન્દૂ ભેળાં રહેતી.
ઢેડાં ભંગી વાઘરીથી તો
શાહુકાર જાત ખૂબ અભડાતી.
એમનાં જ ખેડ્યાં શાકભાજી
રોજ રોજ ઉકાળી વઘારી ખાતી.

મગોડીના કીડી જેવડા પગ.
દોડી દોડી કેટલું દોડે,
ગાંધીની આઝાદીનું ગૌરવ
મગોડીને ના સમજાયું,
મારું ગામ ક્યાંય કશે ના ગવાયું.

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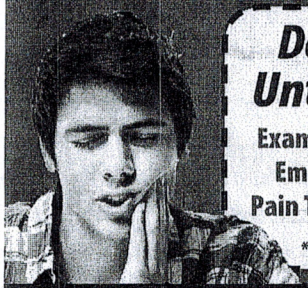

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