

ISSUE 05 | AUGUST 2015

THE MEMON



WORLD MEMON ORGANISATION NEWSLETTER

To Sir, With Love

Mr. Shahid Sangani

Africa

Humanity, Unlimited

The Cup of Life

Inception of MPL

*"The function
of Leadership
is to produce
more leaders,
not more
followers."*

MR. ASHRAF SATTAR

The Leader who had no Title

Z



M

E

M

E

T

H

INTRODUCTION

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader"

A quote, most befitting Mr. Ashraf Sattar.

Immaculate integrity, courage to follow the righteous path, insatiable quest for knowledge, dynamic vision, strong desire for success and an inherent ability to motivate others.

Leading a massive business conglomerate, mammoth workforce of ten thousand employees, an exciting, global fashion brand, Harvard Business School Alumni, devoted family man, an admired colleague, trusted friend, avid traveller and the constant learner.

As the leadership paradox states, "The best way to lead is to serve."

A man born to Lead and Serving Mankind as the honourable Deputy Chairman of the WMO Board of Trustees.

**The Impeccable,
Mr. Ashraf Sattar.**



Serving Mankind

WHAT'S INSIDE

To Sir with Love	Page 3
Ashraf Sattar	Page 4, 5 & 6
Middle East & India Chapter	Page 7
Africa Chapter	Page 8
Memon Connections	Page 9
The Cup of Life	Page 10

To SIR with *Love*

I distinctly remember his words when I invited him as the chief guest to Mumbai for the inauguration of the WMO youth wing of India in 2013.

As we walked into the hall with his name plastered on a large banner atop the stage, he nudged me uncomfortably and whispered, "I am not used to seeing my name in such big letters at public gatherings. I prefer to do my work quietly and move on from one project to the next without getting too much attention to myself."

That is WMO COO, **Shahid Sangani** to you in a nutshell.

As he rose in the ranks of the organisation to become the crucial component and vital cog of the WMO machinery that make it tick. I often thought our former President Sattar Dada had made a robot with a human exoskeleton in one of his Research and Development labs for the smooth functioning of the organisation, world-wide.

I cannot recollect everything that he has done for WMO but I can definitely say that the youth wing is his baby. Right from its birth, to the nurturing, guidance and the evolution of us boys to men. He has always been there for us.

He was a hard task master, set the bar very high and was very sparse in praise. But he fought equally hard for us, stood shoulder to shoulder and never let us down on any occasion.

He is one of those special teachers who you never forget because of the important education he imparted on life. More importantly he embodies all the fine qualities that he expects you to live with.

A visionary, an exemplary humanitarian and a firm optimist.

For all the motivation, inspiration and lessons.

Thank You, Sir.

Shahid Sangani; A mentor, a leader, & a brother I couldn't have wished for a better person for guidance. Above all, a great human being who's taught me a thing or two about life - Salmaan.

THE IMPECCABLE MR. ASHRAF SATTAR

Mr. Ashraf Sattar, the eldest son of Mr. Abdul Sattar grew up in Colombo, Sri Lanka where he completed his primary, secondary education and obtained his Bachelor's degree in Science. After graduation he joined the family apparel business. He took over the reins of business as the Group Chairman of Timex and Fergarsam Garments (Pvt) Ltd. in late 2001.

T&FG (Timex and Fergarsam Garments (Pvt) Ltd) owns state of the art manufacturing facilities in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka with offices in the UK, Hong Kong, India, Europe and employs a work force of more than 10,000 people. T&FG was the first Board of Investment (BOI) approved apparel maker to establish a manufacturing plant at the end of the war, in the Mannar region of Sri Lanka, a region which was devastated by conflict.

Timex & Fergasam Group (T&FG), started its retail journey in June of 2010 in the form of Aviraté, an exciting, contemporary, global fashion brand. Aviraté first made its way into the biggest departmental store in Colombo, Sri Lanka and later, in the same year, launched its first, retail Flagship Store in the very city. It followed up with 5 more Aviraté retail stores across Sri Lanka, and 12 outlets in India. The next step is to make its presence felt through out the Asia-Pacific by aggressive retail expansion in the region.

"The success of my company rests on the growth of its people. The function of Leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers and one has to lead by example. As they transform my vision into reality so must I instill in them, the will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach their full potential. I want to encourage, empower, enable and groom them to become future leaders, resolute anchors for their families and providers of a brighter future for their children. My employees are my family and for me, family always comes first."

Mr. Sattar always looks up to his employees and he believes that the vitality of his company resides in its people and the country they live in. They collaborate, they engage, they achieve. They hold themselves accountable to the highest standards. In the face of difficulties and challenges, they don't compromise.

Apart from Apparel, Mr. Sattar has a diverse business portfolio. A Power Plant project, Hotel Investments, equities and many more.

Mr. Ashraf Sattar, an active and committed trustee of the WMO, is also the Deputy Chairman on the Board of Trustees. He is an extremely generous man who does extensive charitable work for the upliftment of his Community and the betterment of Humanity. His dedication to community work is unparalleled and he is a very well respected member of the global Memon community, playing an important role in the leadership of the World Memon Organisation.



The WMO Family



Ashraf Sattar was awarded with the "HBS ALUMNI" status.

BELIEF AND PASSION

"Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family."

Mr. Sattar's belief is, "Life is about constant learning. Your thirst for knowledge should be insatiable and this quest for wisdom will increase your intelligence and improve your skills; I am very passionate about learning anything new and meeting people from all over the world with similar interests."

In 2015, as a result of his belief, he enrolled himself at the Harvard Business School, Boston, USA to follow an "Advanced Management Program (AMP)". AMP is a life-altering and career-changing program designed to accelerate one's personal and professional growth. Through a fully immersive format, AMP will forever change the way a person and their company do business. Each year, the Harvard Business faculty reframes the eight uninterrupted weeks program to reflect the current challenges and emerging opportunities created by innovation, socioeconomic trends, and market volatility.

Upon his successful completion of Advanced Management Program, Ashraf Sattar was awarded with the "HBS ALUMNI" status. He gained exclusive access to their vast global alumni network and an array of resources that facilitate lifelong learning, growth, and success.

My Father, My hero!

Mr. Abdul Sattar - A life less ordinary.

"The supreme quality for leadership is unquestionably integrity. Without it, no real success is possible."

My father lived his life on the firm principle that Integrity and Honesty are the highest values a man can have. This was my father's legacy to me. I have adhered to these values all my life, in my business and intend to instill them in my future generations.



With Mr. Shiv Khera, is the author of the current best seller "you can win"

"I have great admiration for individuals who have started with nothing in life and achieved greatness. There are so many ordinary people who have lived extra ordinary lives. For me my father is my "hero", my inspiration and motivation. He came to Sri Lanka as an immigrant with nothing in his pocket. In 2001, when he left for his heavenly abode he had built a mammoth business empire which employed over 5,000 people.

A self made man, with steely resolve, incredible will power, unmatched perseverance and remarkable business acumen to always arrive at the right decision. A caring and patient man who looked after his family and took out time for his children My father taught me the importance of hard work and urged me to exploit my true potential by pushing my limits to attain excellence. He taught me to never take things for granted. He has always been there for me and has encouraged me to question his decisions so that I understood them and him, better.

He provided guidance and secured a good life for his family and his employees. Contributed to society, community and humanity. He was the perfect role model and an exemplary human being. The greatness of my father was not in how much wealth he acquired , but in his integrity and his ability to affect those around him positively.

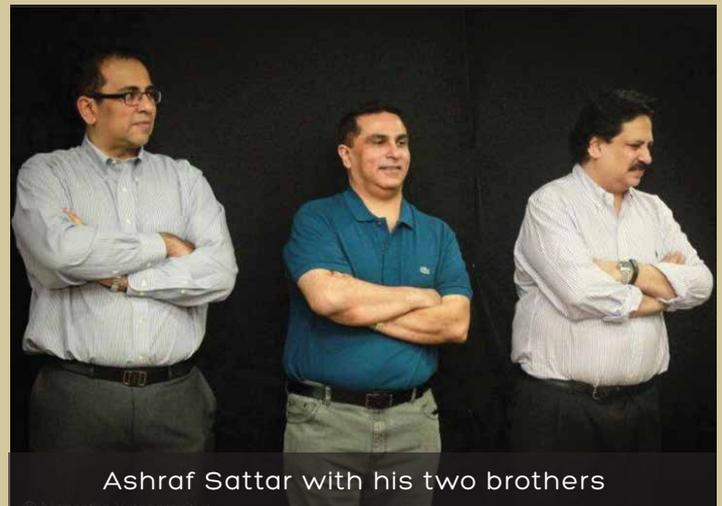
FAMILY

"Family is not an important thing. It's everything."

Mr. Sattar being the eldest in the family, has always been a mentor to his younger siblings,

There are many reasons why family always comes first. My family is always there to give me their unconditional support, love, and honesty. They are the individuals who have known me and been with me from the moment I was brought into this world. Whether it is a family vacation or just relaxing around the house, at the end of the day I know it's time well spent, surrounded by the people whom I love and the people who love me. I truly believe "You don't choose your family. They are God's gift to you, as you are to them."

Ashraf Sattar married to Gulshan , from Madurai in 1985 and the father of four says that he has a wonderful family who is understanding, and always stands by him and supports him in every way to achieve his goals in life.

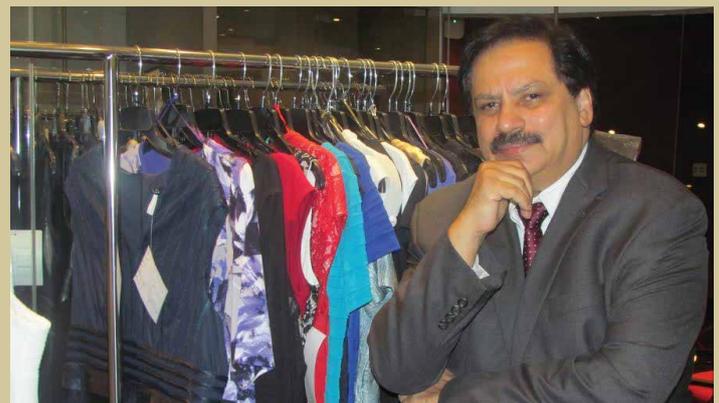


Ashraf Sattar with his two brothers

"Family has been the single most important influence in my life. I stand undaunted in any situation as I can always count on their steadfast support. My family is always there to pick me up when I'm down and get me going. Knowing that I have such a strong support system to fall back on, makes me want to push my limits and better myself. I have been able to thrive due to their positivity, constant encouragement and realized that much of my success is owed to my supportive family. For me my family always comes first."

In conclusion, Life is a gift that you, yourself must unwrap. It's up to you to determine if what's inside will lead you to happiness or dismay. You have the power to make that decision for yourself.

I believe the best way to live a meaningful life is simple: continuously grow as an individual and contribute to others in a meaningful way. Growth and contribution. That's the way I have lived my life and I wouldn't have it any other way.



Middle East Chapter Youth Wing

Dubai: The Middle East Youth Wing paid tribute to one of the trustees and most respected personality in WMO, Mr. Farook Kassim.

Mr. Farook Kassim has been a professional bowler in his prime days and had been a regular fixture in the newspapers of UAE.

Mr. Farook Kassim was also the chief guest during the inaugural Memon Bowling Championship in 2013, but this year marking its third season, the Youth Wing decided to name the tournament after the great man himself.



The tournament favorite, Muhammad Saleh continued his golden run by clinching his 4th Trophy of the year while participating in WMO events.

Saleh during his tough first round showed his true potential by scoring a massive 257 with 8 strikes.

The finals went down to the wire with Umer Pardesi notching up 156 points. With the final's underdog Ismail Zaveri already surprising Faizan Sangani; the winner of the 2nd Season by scoring a fiery 153 to secure 3rd Position.

Saleh, winner of the inaugural Bowling Championship came back strongly to clinch a 1 point advantage over Umer to score a winning 157 and secure the 1st Place in the tournament to add to his 1st Position in Football and Badminton tournament organised by the Youth Wing.

India Chapter Youth Wing

Let it Rain!

The onslaught of the Indian monsoons is especially hard on the under privileged, with most people not owning a single item of relief. As the Youth Wing we took it upon ourselves to aid people in whatever capacity that we could. The entire team started off with a visit to a specially down-trodden area of Reay road, moving on to the Garib Nawaz and Noori Musafirhanas.

On all three locations umbrellas were distributed to the poor. Many amongst them are cancer patients including young children.



It was heart breaking to say the least, but their cheer, sheer will to fight and survive is and will continue to be an inspiration. Finally we reached the streets behind Tata Hospital where hundreds of patients live on the streets. Tarpaulins were distributed to them to provide some aid in their immense struggles. We do not think what we achieved that day by any means was a great achievement, specially in view of the battles most of these people are fighting. But we do believe that by providing hundreds of people some relief even in a small way and with a smile it made them believe they aren't alone. May Allah accept our endeavours and alleviate their pain.

Africa Chapter - Humanity, Unlimited.

According to the Charles Darwin theory of Evolution, Africa was the Cradle of Life. The continent was believed to be the place of origin for the evolved Humans. A very questionable theory raising many doubts.

With extensive charitable work done all year round by WMO - Africa, the Chapter is in contention to be named the Cradle of Humanity. And if there are any doubts, let's put them all to rest.

South Africa, God's own country is blessed with mesmerising beauty. The pristine beaches of Durban, the resplendent Cape and the alluring Kruger landscape. It has also been blessed with individuals who have beautiful hearts.

Leading from the front is the honourable WMO President and his better half, Mr. Solly and Zohra Noor followed closely by Mrs. Fazila and A.K. Ismail, Mr. Yunus and Khatija Suleman, Mr. Solly Suleman, Mr. Yusuf and Fazila Kamdar, Mr. Feizul and Sherbano Ayob, Mr. Haroon and Shaeda Joosub, Mr Haroon and Fereil Gutta, Mr Moosa and Azmina Carrim, Mr Sayed Mia, Mr Ridwaan Mia, Adv Farook Moosa, Mr. Shafique Tayob, Mr. Aslam Kalla, Mr. Abdul Razzak Ghani, Mr Azim Omar and many other distinguished members of WMO who have dedicated their lives towards Serving Mankind.

Distribution of wheel chairs, blankets and clothes. Innumerable food packets disbursed in multiple cities during the holy month of Ramadan, degs of Haleem and quantities of khajoor. Structures being built for Madrassahs, shelters and medical supplies for Xenophobia victims, funds and relief packages for flood ravaged Malawi. An upcoming community centre with an orphanage and old people's home in Erasmia.

Neighbours, Botswana have their own respected philanthropists in Mr. Abdul Sattar Dada (Former WMO President) and Mr. Gulaam Abdoola. Both epitomise generosity and go about their humanitarian work with the belief, "When thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth". They are amongst the biggest donors of WMO and have contributed immensely towards the global upliftment of Mankind.



Malawi, the Warm heart of Africa has its own pride in their energetic youth wing and inspirational leadership of Mr. Haroon Sacranie (WMO Trustee). The outstanding humanitarian work done by them for the Malawi flood victims was applauded by one and all.



Africa is often called "the motherland", the very birthplace of the human race and her children are definitely making Mother proud.



WORLD MEMON ORGANISATION

Memon Connections

A WMOLADIES WING INITIATIVE
PERSONALISED AND CONFIDENTIAL



Serving Mankind



“Memon Connections” is a new & exciting service specially designed to help Memon families find life partners for their sons & daughters as we understand the need for Memons to retain their culture & heritage.

We aim to provide a “Confidential, Matrimonial, Introduction” service that ensures complete privacy & anonymity.

If you wish to apply please log onto: www.memonconnections.com and fill the application form

WMO INTERNATIONAL LADIES WING

Admin & Support - Sadaf (memonconnections@qmail.com)

Africa Chapter - Jameela & Feroza (memonconnections@qmail.com)

Europe Chapter - Shamim Osman (shamimosman@hotmail.co.uk)

Far East Chapter - Shazia Sangani (shazu26@hotmail.com)

India Chapter - Razia Chasmawala (raziachasmawala@yahoo.in)

Middle East Chapter - Rashida Vahedna (r.vahedna@hotmail.com)

Pakistan Chapter - Aisha Anwer (benefiting.you2@gmail.com)

Pakistan Chapter 2 - Shamim Tahir Bawany (shamimbawany@gmail.com)

The CUP of Life

"When you've got something to prove, there's nothing greater than a challenge."

It took one man to dream it and a remarkable team which believed in it. Rest, was their steely resolve, incredible fortitude and stout hearts which got the job done. This is the story of the inception of the MPL by the Far East Chapter. A spectacular, global sporting event, a 20 million LKR cricket celebration, hundreds of frenzied fans, 6 countries, 6 days of thrilling matches and one worthy Champion.

The Memon Premier League (MPL) is a T20 format, cricket tournament organised by WMO, courtesy the Far East Chapter for Memons across the globe. The teams include players from India, Pakistan, England, South Africa, U.A.E and Sri Lanka.

The inaugural MPL began on the 18th of February 2013 in Colombo and the feat is being repeated on the 24th of August 2015 by the same chapter, in the very city. Good is not good when better is expected. The Far East Chapter is burdened with the unbridled expectations of going one better than the inaugural edition. Not an easy task but then, these are not ordinary mortals.



Mr. Abdul Cader Saleem is the visionary who conceptualised the MPL and the outstanding team of Mr. Ashraf Sattar (Trustee, Deputy Chairman BoT), Mr. Shahid Sangani (WMO COO), Mr. Aslam Sattar (Reg Asst Sec), Mr. Anjum Asmath (Regional Treasurer), Mr. Naser Latif, Captain Mohamed Ameen, Mr. Kadeem Bhoja, Mr. Hameed Karim, Mr. Saeed Mulla, Mr. Osman Jafar, Mr. Munnawar Ahmed, Mr. Abdul Jabbar Abdul Razak, Mr. Altaf Ismail along with many other distinguished gentlemen, including hundreds of young, enthusiastic volunteers that transformed the dream into a reality.

The first MPL was a colossal success. The grounds were world class, the facilities were of international standards, the cricketing skills were captivating and the hospitality was exceptional. Each boundary was cheered, every dropped catch drew a gasp and every passing day brought in even greater crowds.

The cup was eventually lifted by the Pakistan chapter. I often hear our brothers from Pakistan gloat about winning the next one too but trophies gather dust my friends whereas memories live forever.

For all the wonderful memories, the hardships faced, the long hours endured, the sweat and guts shown in pulling off an extraordinary phenomenon like the MPL, Mother Lanka deserves all the glory.

For proving "If you can dream it, you can do it!" You are the true **Champions**. Take a bow!

Editors:
Zubair Chashmawala & Salmaan Hussain



Designed & Published by:
Haazir Events (www.haazirevents.com)