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Ambassador Meera Shankar accompanied by Ajay Shankar, Elder Bernice King, Councilman Kwanza Hall, Consul General Arora, Vice Consul Azad and members of GFUSA pay homage at the King Crypts at the King Center. Photo by Bharat Kotecha

## Ambassador Meera Shankar Visits Atlanta

Meets Indian-American Community Leaders  
BY MAHADEV DESAI

Atlanta: A diverse cross-section of Indian-American communities representing over sixty diverse ethnic, religious and cultural Associations of Georgia gave a red carpet welcome to India Ambassador Meera Shankar and her husband Hon. Ajay Shankar on their maiden visit to Georgia. Consul General of India Hon. Sanjiv Arora and Vice Consul Azad accompanied them to the glitzy banquet at the Ashiana Restaurant on April 30. The Banquet showcased over 250 who's who of the Indian-American Community.

U.S. Congressman John Lewis, SCLC President and daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Elder Bernice King; Sandy Springs Mayor Eva Galambos; National Center for Civil and Human Rights, Executive Director, Doug Shipman; Georgia State Senator Curt Thompson and numerous dignitaries ordained the list of distinguished guests.

In her keynote address, Ambassador Shankar said the Indian American community has become a vital bridge between India and the US. "The community has youth, entrepreneurial spirit, the values it imbibed in India, its adaptability and acceptance of diversity, its hard work and of course the opportunity that America has provided to hone their talents. With all this, the community must give back to India as well as to the adopted land," she said.

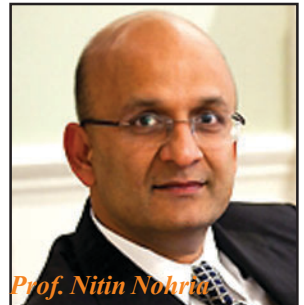
Ambassador Shankar said it was wonderful to see leaders of over 60 diverse associations in Atlanta at the event, who had come together in a spirit of community. "As I look around, I see people from various parts of India reflecting India's diversity. We had great visionary leaders like Nehru and Gandhi who gave people a strong belief in human values, human freedom and in social uplifting," she said.

She cited statistics to convey the complete stagnation in India due to colonial rule, particularly during fifty years before India's independence. "To remove inequities, poverty and chronic under development, the Indian state undertook its audacious experiment in its first and widest 'affirmative action' program which was constitutionally mandated. The result has been a huge broadening of democracy. Today we have a wonderful to and fro of ideas between India and America and particularly the Gandhi-King connection. For the world as a whole, Gandhi has enormous relevance.

In a lighter vein, she added: "We have seen in India the incredible resurgence of interest in Gandhi with the film called 'Lage raho Munnabhai' which has greatly appealed to the young generation. Its message that Gandhigiri is far more effective than Dadagiri has had a great impact.

## Indian-American Named Dean Of Harvard B-School

Boston: (IANS) Professor Nitin Nohria, an alumnus of the Indian Institute of Technology in Mumbai, has been named the first Indian-American dean of the prestigious Harvard Business School, a role he will take up from July 1.



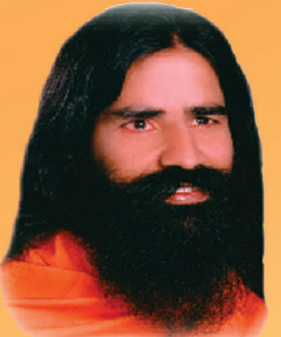
Currently the Richard P. Chapman Professor of Business Administration at the century-old institution and co-chair of its Leadership Initiative, Nohria will serve as the 10th dean of Harvard Business School.

"I feel a profound sense of responsibility for continuing Harvard Business School's proud legacy of ground-breaking ideas and transformational educational experiences," said the chemical engineer-turned-management expert who has co-authored 16 books.

"With business education at an inflection point, we must strive to equip future leaders with the competence and character to address emerging global business and social challenges," Nohria added.

### Katrina Kaif Interview

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