

Proclamations, Citations and Letters - Tribute to Late Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan on 100th birth anniversary

Born: March 22, 1918 - Port Mourant, Berbice, Guyana

Died: March 6, 1997 - Washington, D.C, USA.

Spouse: Janet Jagan (b. 20 October 1920 (USA); m. 5 August 1943; d. 28 March 2009)

Children: Cheddi Jagan Jr. (USA) USA; Nadira Jagan Brancier (Canada)

Education: Northwestern University (USA), Howard University (USA)

Books: The West on Trial (1966); Forbidden Freedom: The Story...(1954)

Political Career: Chief Minister: 1953; Premier: 1961-1964; President: 1992-1997





STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

March 18, 2018

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to members and guests of the Indian Diaspora Council gathered for this special occasion at which you pay tribute to the respected Guyanese political leader and activist, the late Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan, in commemoration of his 100th birthday.

The people of New York State are proud to join in remembering the life and legacy of a man who inspired a nation and its people with his lifetime of public service, his remarkable professional accomplishments, and his drive toward positive, meaningful change. As Chief Minister and Premier of British Guiana, and later as President of what would become Guyana, Cheddi Jagan devoted himself to bettering the lives of others through his tenacious efforts and his advocacy of progressive values in order to create a better society. Through his own example of compassion and worldly vision, he provided a voice for those without one, leading the fight for economic, educational, and social justice and reform, and bringing the needs of the working class to light.

In 1995, Dr. Jagan was welcomed at the United Nations, where he stood at the podium and called for a global effort to help developing nations, with the interests of international and individual peace and security in mind. By honoring him today, you remember and celebrate his life as an instrument of change, acting in the interests of the poor, the underrepresented, and the disadvantaged, and as an effective messenger for a nation. His tireless work on behalf of many causes – from basic human needs to foreign trade – left an indelible mark on his homeland and his people, who will always be thankful for the contributions he made over the many decades he gave of himself in faithful and dutiful leadership of Guyana.

Warmest regards and best wishes to the family of Dr. Jagan and the community he loved.

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. CUOMO

WE WORK FOR THE PEOPLE
PERFORMANCE * INTEGRITY * PRIDE

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THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

March 18, 2018

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to join with Indian Diaspora Council International to welcome everyone to today's event.

The five boroughs have long been defined by the unmatched diversity of our residents, and the people who come here from all over the world have added so much to the rich fabric that unites our neighborhoods. We are proud of the tremendous impact that our dynamic Indian community has made on our city, and organizations like Indian Diaspora Council International have been a leader in celebrating the heritage and legacy of people of Indian origin in New York City and across the globe. In addition to focusing on women's equality, advocacy, and empowerment within the Indian diaspora and its incredible diversity and countless achievements, today's event will also pay tribute to the legacy and leadership of the past Guyanese president Cheddi Jagan. I am proud to applaud this organization for continuing to foster cross-cultural exchange as we forge a brighter future for New Yorkers of all backgrounds.

On behalf of the City of New York, I offer my best wishes for a wonderful event and continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill de Blasio".

Bill de Blasio
Mayor

Office of the President

Borough of Queens

Declaration of Honor

This Declaration acknowledges

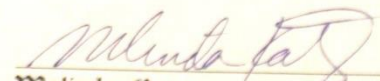
Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan

in recognition of his outstanding service to the people of Guyana. Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan (born March 22, 1918 – died March 8, 1997) was a Guyanese political leader who was elected Chief Minister of British Guyana in 1955 and later served as Premier of British Guyana from 1961 to 1964. A dentist by training, Dr. Jagan became a key figure and played an important role in British Guyana's struggle for independence from Great Britain, which was ultimately achieved in 1966. He later served as President of the independent Co-operative Republic of Guyana from 1992 to 1997. Today Dr. Jagan is widely revered in Guyana, where he is regarded as the "father of the Nation" in recognition of his many contributions during the struggle for independence and in acknowledgment of his lifelong service to Guyana. He also remains a popular figure thanks to his tireless efforts on behalf of Guyanese workers and his persistent advocacy on behalf of the large number of Guyana's residents who are of Indian heritage. On behalf of the 2.5 million residents of Queens, "The World's Borough," we recognize Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan for his many accomplishments and acknowledge the noble legacy of selfless public service that he has left behind.

Therefore I, Melinda Katz, President of the Borough of Queens in the City of New York, do hereby proudly present this Declaration of Honor to the family of Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan on the occasion of the Indian Diaspora Council International's event recognizing the 100th anniversary of the abolition of Indian indenturedship.

Done at Queens Borough Hall, New Gardens, in the City of New York, on this the eighteenth day of March in the year two thousand and eighteen.




Melinda Katz
President of the Borough of Queens

Citation

Recognizing

Indian Diaspora Council International

Upon the Commemoration of the

100th Birthday Celebration of the Late Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan

WHEREAS a Great State is only as great as those individuals and organizations that perform exemplary service on behalf of their community for the advancement of society. The quality of service rendered by the *Indian Diaspora Council International* is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, embodiment of strength and courage – doing ordinary things extraordinarily well.

I, ROXANNE J. PERSAUD

As a duly elected Member of the State Senate of New York, recognize that in the *Indian Diaspora Council International* we have an organization worthy of the esteem of both the Community and the Great State of New York;

WHEREAS, the *Indian Diaspora Council International* is a global non-profit organization established September 3, 1997 with the objective to embrace, engage and enhance the shared heritage, aspirations and interests of persons of Indian origin with optimum inclusivity. The Council includes members indigenous to the Co-operative Republic of Guyana - one of whose former presidents was the Late *Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan*; and

WHEREAS, *Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan* was born on March 22, 1918 and was first elected to Chief Minister in 1953 and later Premier of British Guiana from 1961 to 1964. He played a key role in Guyana's struggle for independence from Great Britain. He later served as President of Guyana from 1992 to 1997. He was considered one of the Caribbean's most debatable political leaders for half a century. In recognition of his contribution, struggle and enduring service to the nation of Guyana he was called "the greatest son and protector that has ever walked this land;" and

WHEREAS, *Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan* was a transformational leader whose uncompromising dedication, message of hope, unity and vision have been instrumental in producing progressive significant changes in the lives of the people he served; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we acknowledge the *Indian Diaspora Council International* as they recognize the contributions of the Late *Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan* during their commemoration of his 100th Birthday Anniversary.

Dated: March 18, 2018



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO
SET MY HAND AND SIGNATURE

Roxanne Persaud

ROXANNE J. PERSAUD
NYS SENATE
19TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT

Proclamation

from

Senator Leroy Comrie

HONORING THE MEMORY OF DR. CHEDDI B. JAGAN

WHEREAS, A GREAT STATE IS ONLY AS GREAT AS THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO PERFORM EXEMPLARY SERVICE ON BEHALF OF THEIR COMMUNITY, WHETHER THROUGH UNIQUE ACHIEVEMENT IN PROFESSIONAL OR OTHER ENDEAVORS, OR SIMPLY THROUGH A LIFETIME OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP; AND

WHEREAS, IT IS THE PRIVILEGE OF THIS LEGISLATIVE BODY TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF DR. CHEDDI B. JAGAN ON THE OCCASION OF WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY; AND

WHEREAS, DR. CHEDDI JAGAN WAS BORN IN PORT MOURANT, GUYANA IN 1918. HE SERVED AS PREMIER OF BRITISH GUIANA FROM 1961 TO 1964, PLAYING A KEY ROLE IN GUYANA'S STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE FROM GREAT BRITAIN. HE LATER SERVED AS PRESIDENT OF GUYANA FROM 1992 TO 1997. HE IS WIDELY REGARDED AS THE "FATHER OF THE NATION"; AND

WHEREAS, DR. JAGAN WORKED TIRELESSLY IN HIS EFFORTS TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY IN HIS COUNTRY AND THROUGHOUT THE CARIBBEAN. THE GRANDSON OF INDENTURED LABORERS, DR. JAGAN CAME TO THE UNITED STATES AT THE AGE OF 18. HE ATTENDED HOWARD UNIVERSITY AND NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY. HAVING MET AND MARRIED JANET ROSENBERG WHILE A STUDENT THERE, THEY BECAME UNIFIED IN THEIR LIVES AND IN THEIR COMMITMENT TO ALLEVIATING THE BURDENS OF THE WORKING CLASS; AND

WHEREAS, IT IS THE BELIEF OF THIS LEGISLATIVE BODY THAT WHEN INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS OF SUCH NOBLE AIMS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION IT IS APPROPRIATE TO PUBLICLY PROCLAIM AND COMMEND THOSE INDIVIDUALS FOR THE EDIFICATION AND EMULATION OF OTHERS; AND

WHEREAS, SUCH SERVICE, WHICH IS TRULY THE LIFEblood OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE STATE, SO OFTEN GOES UNRECOGNIZED AND UNHERALDED; NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, THEREFORE I, STATE SENATOR LEROY COMRIE, RECOGNIZE THAT IN DR. CHEDDI B. JAGAN WE HAD AN INDIVIDUAL WORTHY OF OUR HIGHEST RESPECT AND ESTEEM; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THIS PROCLAMATION BE TRANSMITTED TO THE FAMILY OF DR. JAGAN ON THIS DAY WHICH MARKS THE 100TH YEAR SINCE HIS BIRTH.

DATED: MARCH 18, 2018

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO
SET MY HAND AND SIGNATURE



LERoy COMRIE
NEW YORK STATE SENATE
14TH DISTRICT



New York State Assembly Citation

Whereas, a Great State is only as great as those persons who give exemplary service to their community, whether through participation in voluntary programs, through unique personal achievement in their professional or other endeavors or simply through a lifetime of good citizenry; and

Whereas, such service, which is truly the lifeblood of the community and the state, so often goes unrecognized and unrewarded; now therefore be it

Resolved, that as a duly elected Member of the State Assembly of New York, I recognize that in

Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan

we have an outstanding citizen, one who is worthy of the esteem of both the Community and the great State of New York.

Date March, 18, 2018

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand and Signature

Alicia L. Hyndman
Member of Assembly





New York State Assembly Citation

Whereas, a Great State is only as great as those individuals such as, Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan, who gave exemplary service to their community, whether through having promoted health awareness, through having enriched and empowered depressed classes or simply through a lifetime of good citizenry; and

Whereas, Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan was born on March 2nd, 1918 on a sugar plantation in rural Port Mourant in the county of Berbice in what was then known as British Guiana; He was the eldest of 11 children born to Indian immigrants who were indentured laborers on a sugar plantation; He was sent to secondary school in the capitol city of Georgetown, which was a considerable financial expense; At this early time in his life he was exposed to the realities of poverty and suffering amongst his fellow citizens; and

Whereas, Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan, at the age of 18, enrolled at Howard University in the United States with his family's life savings; He continued his education at Northwestern University and met his future wife and political partner Janet Rosenberg; He returned to Guyana in 1943 and began early efforts to organize the East Indian community and the plantation workers; He subsequently co-founded the Political Affairs Committee, a labor oriented political party, and was elected to the legislative Council in 1947; In 1950 he founded the Peoples Progressive Party and was later elected to the position of Chief Minister; and

Whereas, Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan was deposed and imprisoned by the British government unjustly on the suspicion of being a communist shortly after taking office; He was released and returned to office in the 1961 election as Premier of British Guiana on the platform of Guyanese independence and empowering the Indian majority; Because of his tireless efforts he became known as the Father of the Nation; He was elected President of Guyana in 1992; He suffered a heart attack and later died on March 6th, 1997; and

Whereas, Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan is being honored posthumously for his diligence and efforts in improving the lives of the citizens of Guyana; Vrinda Jagan Esq. his granddaughter residing in New York will accept this proclamation on his behalf; and

Whereas, acknowledging that this State is only as great as those individuals whose tireless efforts foster tolerance for people of all races and cultures; and who have demonstrated good will to our fellow citizens; and

Whereas, such exceptional individuals are the lifeblood of our community, our Great State of New York and our whole United States of America; and therefore let it be

Resolved that as a duly elected Member of the State Assembly of New York, I recognize that in

Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan

we had an outstanding individual, one whom is worthy of the esteem of the country, the community and the great State of New York.

Date: March 18th, 2018

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set
My Hand and Signature

DAVID I. WEPRIN
Member of Assembly

