

# Ballet between elephant and dragon only right choice for India-China ties, says Chinese foreign minister

**RETURNED TO THE LORD**



**SOFIA PAIS**

— CUNCOLIM —  
Born: 06.05.1941  
Died: 07.03.2025

Beloved wife of late Louis Pais.

Loving mother / mother-in-law of Sheila / Amesh, Lepociano (Leo), Jolyon / Cifora.  
Grandmother of Sanchia / Steven, Avi and Juliska.  
Great grandmother of Ivyrose.  
Sister / sister-in-law of late Aniceto, late Adriano, late Franklin / Aurita, Effie / late Sanderson, late Romao / Mercia (Inna), Irineu / Samantha.  
Sister-in-law of late Cornelio, late Melkit, late Benedit / late Gracy.  
Passed away peacefully on 7th March 2025.  
Funeral cortege will leave her residence Milleamvaddo, Cuncolim, at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, 8th March 2025 (TODAY) at Our Lady of Health Church, Cuncolim, for Eucharistic celebration and burial.  
Relatives, neighbours and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

**NO CONDOLENCE VISITS PLEASE.**

Confidant Advtg. & Funeral Service, Margao 9823022194

**PTI, BEIJING:** A ballet between the elephant and the dragon contributing to each other's success is the "only right choice" for India-China relations, Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Friday as he acknowledged positive strides in bilateral ties after the end of the military standoff in eastern Ladakh.

There is every reason for us to support each other rather than undermine each other or undercut each other, Wang, who is also a member of the powerful political bureau of the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC), said at his annual press conference here.

A "cooperative pas de deux" between the dragon and the elephant is the "only right choice for both sides," Wang said while replying to a question on how Beijing views the course of bilateral ties after the two countries ended the four-year stalemate in the ties.

Bilateral relations between the two Asian giants froze after the Galwan valley clash in eastern Ladakh in June 2020. The four year military standoff ended last year.

China-India relations have made positive strides over the past year after last year's breakthrough, he said.

The successful meeting between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Kazan last October provided strategic guidance for the improvement and development of the bilateral ties, he said.

After that "both sides have earnestly followed through on the important common understandings of our leaders, strengthened

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exchanges and practical co-operation at all levels, and achieved a series of positive outcomes," he added.

In an apparent reference to India stressing the importance of peace at borders for the development of relations, Wang reiterated China's oft repeated stand that the differences over the boundary or on other issues should not affect the overall bilateral ties.

As two ancient civilisations, India and China have enough wisdom and capability to maintain peace and

other or undercut each other, he said, adding that both the countries should work with each other rather than guard against each other.

"This is the only path that truly serves the fundamental interests of the two countries," Wang said.

As important members of the Global South, China and India have the responsibility to take a lead in opposing hegemonism and power politics, he said in an apparent reference to the United States.

The two countries must not only safeguard legitimate rights and interests of respective countries but also uphold the basic norms governing international relations, he said.

"If China and India join hands, the prospect of greater democracy in international affairs and the stronger Global South will improve greatly," he said.

Wang said 2025 marks the 75th anniversary of China-India diplomatic relations. "China stands ready to work with India to sum up past experience and forge a path forward and advance China-India relations on the track of sound and stable development," he said.

In 2024, India and China completed the disengagement process after firming up a pact for the withdrawal of troops from Depsang and Demchok, the last two friction points in eastern Ladakh, ending the over four years of freeze in ties.

After the finalisation of the pact, Modi and Xi held talks in Kazan on October 23 when the two sides decided to revive the various dialogue mechanisms.

**DEATH**



**Isabel Souza**

(Vasco-da-Gama)  
Born: 3/7/1947 - Died: 6/3/2025

Wife of late Vincent Joaquim De Souza, Mother/Mother-in-Law of Pascoal Andre (Pasku)/ Daisy Gomes, Delfina De Souza, Antonetta/Walter De Souza, Natalina/Shantilal Kanoji.  
Grand Children: Kistod/Odría, Velancy/Jesus Antao, Joseph, Kavita (Diana)/Jowel Caiado, David De Souza/Rima, Glen Dossel, Svara, Whitney, Vrshchika & Great Grand Children.  
Peacefully Expired on 6/3/2025.  
Funeral will be held on 8th March 2025 at 3:30pm at St. Andrews Church, Vasco followed by Burial.  
Relatives & Friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

(Vishwasurya, Vasco 9850490431)

## 26/11 accused Tahawwur Rana seeks fresh stay on extradition to India

**PTI, NEW YORK:** Mumbai terror attack accused Tahawwur Rana has submitted a renewed application to Chief Justice John Roberts seeking a stay of his extradition to India after the US Supreme Court rejected his emergency bid.

Rana, 64, a Canadian national of Pakistani origin, is currently lodged in the Metropolitan Detention Center in Los Angeles. He had submitted an "Emergency Application For Stay Pending Litigation of Petition For Writ of Habeas Corpus" on February 27 with Elena Kagan, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and Circuit Justice for the Ninth Circuit.

A note dated March 6 on the Supreme Court website said that "Application ...denied by Justice Kagan."

Rana has now renewed his "Emergency Application for Stay Pending Litigation of Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus" previously addressed to Justice



from July 2024 that confirm Rana has multiple "acute and life-threatening diagnoses", including multiple documented heart attacks, Parkinson's disease with cognitive decline, a mass suggestive of bladder cancer, stage 3 chronic kidney disease, and a history of chronic asthma, and multiple COVID-19 infections.

"Accordingly, petitioner certainly has raised a credible, if not compelling, factual case that there are indeed substantial grounds for believing he would be in danger of torture if surrendered to Indian authorities."

"Further, because of his Muslim religion, his Pakistani origin, his status as a former member of the Pakistani Army, the relation of the putative charges to the 2008 Mumbai attacks, and his chronic health conditions he is even more likely to be tortured than otherwise would be the case, and that torture is very likely to kill him in short order."

It cited medical records

## Migrant boats capsized near Yemen, Djibouti; 2 dead, 186 missing

**AP, CAIRO:** Four boats carrying migrants from Africa capsized overnight in waters off Yemen and Djibouti, the UN migration agency said Friday. At least two people died, and 186 others were missing.

Two of the boats capsized off Yemen late Thursday, said Tamim Eleian, a spokesperson for the International Organisation for Migration. Two crewmembers were rescued, but 181 migrants and five Yemeni crewmembers remain missing, he told The Associated Press.

Two other boats capsized off the tiny African nation of Djibouti around the same time, he said. Two bodies of migrants were recovered, and all others on board were rescued.

Despite a nearly decade-long civil war, Yemen is a major route for migrants from East Africa and the Horn of Africa trying to reach Gulf countries for work, with hundreds of thousands attempting the route each year. To reach Yemen, migrants are taken by smugglers on often dangerous, overcrowded boats across the Red Sea or Gulf of Aden.

The numbers making it to Yemen reached 97,200 in 2023 - triple the number in 2021.

Last year, the number dropped to just under 61,000, probably because of greater patrolling of the waters, according to an IOM report this month. Over the past decade, at least 2,082 migrants have disappeared along the route, including 693 known to have drowned, according to the IOM. Some 380,000 migrants are currently in Yemen.

**DEATH**



**FRANCISCO MARTINS**

BORN: 03/12/1965 DIED: 07/03/2025

Retired Teacher, Our Lady of Mercés High School, Mercés

Beloved husband of Celina Emitteria Vales; loving father of Marina and Delaia; son/son-in-law of late Mariano Piedade Martins and late Maria Rita Martins; late Castilho and late Isabel Vales; brother/ brother-in-law of Dorothy/late Jerome; late Exaltação/Damian; Roque/ Rita and Xavier/Fatima; uncle of Prescila, Flory, Delia, Evisha, Rochelle, Jubia, Mariano and Mark.  
Passed away peacefully on 07/03/2025  
Funeral cortege will leave his residence on 08/03/2025 at 3:30 pm for Eucharistic Celebration at 4:00 pm at Our Lady of Mercés Church, Mercés, followed by burial.

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS KINDLY ACCEPT THIS AS THE ONLY INTIMATION.

**DEATH**



**DANISON SEVERO D'SILVA**

(BAIRO BAINAQUE, ASSOLNA)  
BORN: 04/04/1968 DIED: 06/03/2025

Coming Home, Coming Home  
Never move to your  
Open Wide Thine Arms of Love  
Lord, I'm Coming Home.

Most beloved son of late DELANO/IDA D'SILVA.  
Everloving brother of PRAMILA, DEEPAK (DIPY)/WILMA.  
Most caring uncle of DANIEN.

Funeral cortege will leave his residence on 8th March 2025 (TODAY) at 9:45 A.M. for Eucharistic celebration at Regina Martyrum Church, Assolna followed by burial.

RELATIVES, FRIENDS & NEIGHBOURS KINDLY ACCEPT THIS AS THE ONLY INTIMATION

## Trump says he sent letter to Khamenei over country's advancing nuclear programme

**AP, DUBAI:** US President Donald Trump sent a letter to Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, seeking a new deal with Tehran to restrain its rapidly advancing nuclear programme and replace the one he withdrew America from in his first term in office.

Iranian state media immediately picked up on Trump's acknowledgment, given in portions of a Fox Business News interview aired on Friday, though there was no confirmation from Khamenei's office that any letter had been received. The interview is expected to air in full on Sunday.

It also remained unclear just how the 85-year-old supreme leader would react, given that former President Barack Obama had kept his letters to Khamenei secret ahead of the start of negotiations for Tehran's 2015 deal with world powers.

Trump's acknowledgment comes as both Israel and the United States have warned they will never let Iran acquire a nuclear weapon, leading to fears of a military confrontation as Tehran enriches uranium at near weapons-grade levels - a purity only sought by atomic-armed nations.

"I've written them a letter saying, I hope you're going to negotiate because if we have to go in militarily, it's going to be a terrible thing," Trump said. He later added that he had sent the letter "yesterday" in the interview, which was

Iran and I think they want to get that letter," Trump said. "The other alternative is we have to do something because you can't let them have a nuclear weapon."

Iran long has maintained its programme is for peaceful purposes, even as its officials increasingly threaten to pursue the bomb as tensions are high with the US over its sanctions and with Israel as a shaky ceasefire holds in its war against Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

Since Trump returned to the White House, his administration has consistently said that Iran must be prevented from acquiring nuclear weapons. A report last month, however, by the United Nations' nuclear watchdog said Iran has accelerated its production of near weapons-grade uranium.

Iran long has maintained its programme is for peaceful purposes, even as its officials increasingly threaten to pursue the bomb as tensions are high with the US over its sanctions and with Israel as a shaky ceasefire holds in its war against Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

"I would rather negotiate a deal. I'm not sure that everybody agrees with me, but we can make a deal that would be just as good as if you won militarily," Trump added. "But the time is happening now. The time is coming up. Something's going to happen one way or the other."

"I hope you're going to negotiate because it's going to be a lot better for

**RETURNED TO THE LORD**



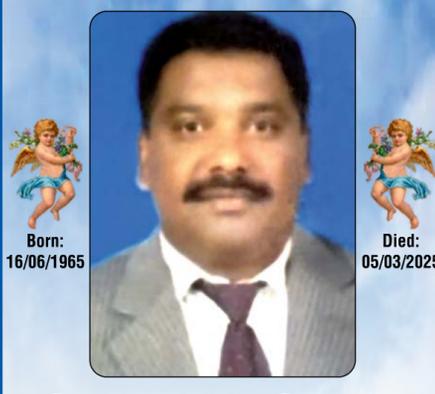
**CUSTODIO NAZARETH FERNANDES**

— KHAMAMOLL, CURCHOREM —

Beloved husband of Juliana Fernandes.  
Father / father-in-law of Blanche Fernandes, Flavia Fernandes / Joaquin Fernandes, Jack Fernandes / Sheetal Fernandes.  
Doting grandfather of Dylan Fernandes and Dia Fernandes.  
Brother / brother-in-law of late Benedita Fernandes / late Pascoal Carzodo, late Maria Fernandes / late Denis Fernandes, late Milagrina (Maggie) Afonso / late Norbert Afonso.  
Passed away peacefully.  
Funeral cortege will leave his residence at 3.30 p.m. on Sunday, 9th March 2025 (TOMORROW) to Guardian Angel Church, Curchozem, for mass & burial.  
Relatives and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

Confidant Advtg. & Funeral Service, Margao 9823022194

**DEATH**



**CAJETAN CYRIL FERRAO**

Born: 16/06/1965 Died: 05/03/2025

Your life was a blessing Your memory a treasure You are loved beyond words And missed beyond measure...

Son of: late Antonio and Elizabeth Ferrao  
Husband of: Nisha Ferrao  
Father of: Calvin, Nigel & Leonardo,  
Brother in law of: Edward Cardoz

Funeral cortege will leave on 8th March 2025 (Today) at 16:00 hrs for Eucharist Celebration at St Diego Church, Guirim, Sangolda, followed by burial.

RELATIVES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS KINDLY ACCEPT THIS AS THE ONLY INTIMATION.

J.J. UNDERTAKERS CALANGUTE 9823012874

## Clashes in Syria's coastal region between govt forces and Assad loyalists kill more than 70

**PTI, LATAKIA:** Clashes between Syrian security forces and gunmen loyal to former President Bashar Assad in the country's coastal region have left more than 70 people dead and an area outside government control, a war monitor said Friday.

Government forces sent major reinforcements overnight to the cities of Latakia and Tartus as well as nearby towns and villages that are the heartland of the minority Alawite sect and a base of support for Assad, to try to get the situation under control, state media reported.

The clashes are the worst since Assad was removed from power in early December by insurgent groups led by the Islamist Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS. Since Assad's fall, there have been some sectarian attacks against members of his minority Alawite sect. These incidents have occurred despite the fact that officially the new authorities have said they are against collective punishment or sectarian vengeance.

**CONDOLENCE**

**THE PARISH PRIEST, ASST. PARISH PRIEST AND FABRICA DA IGREJA DE RAIÁ CONDOLE THE DEATH OF CECILIA AMELIA CARVALHO e BARRETO Mother of Our Attorney WILLIAM BARRETO**



**MAY HER SOUL REST IN PEACE**

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS KINDLY ACCEPT THIS AS THE ONLY INTIMATION.