

Record-breaking Bangladesh ambushes South Africa

After the Shakib-Mushfiqur combine takes the Tigers to 330, the Proteas batsmen fail to overhaul the challenging total against an inspired attack



REUTERS
LONDON

Bangladesh piled up its highest One-Day International score and bowled superbly to upset South Africa by 21 runs at The Oval on Sunday.

It was a major scalp for Bangladesh, underlining its reputation as a dangerous outsider at the tournament, while South Africa slumped to its second successive defeat.

Mushfiqur Rahim (78) and Shakib Al Hasan (75) put together a record partnership as Bangladesh made 330 for six after being asked to bat.



Driving force: Mushfiqur Rahim was in full flow. • AP



Star-of-the-match: Shakib Al Hasan complemented his impressive half-century with some productive spin bowling. • REUTERS

Under threat

It meant South Africa needed to pull off the highest run-chase in World Cup history, but it ended on 309 for eight and with its next game against India on Wednesday, the chances of making the semifinals are already under threat.

Mushfiqur and Shakib added 142 runs for the third wicket to notch up Bangladesh's highest World Cup partnership in an aggressive batting display backed by enthusiastic support.

Bangladesh moved on to 217 for two before Shakib was bowled for 75 by Imran Tahir, playing his 100th ODI. Mushfiqur went for 78 not long after, caught on the boundary.

But South Africa was unable to apply the brakes and continued to leak runs.

Mahmudullah hit an unbeaten 46 and Mosaddek Hossain scored 26 off 20 balls as the Asian side smashed 54

runs off the last four overs.

"It was one of our top innings. We've had some previous upsets but this is a World Cup where we really want to do well," said man-of-the-match Shakib. "It's the way we wanted to start."

South Africa's gamble to put Bangladesh, four places below it in the ODI rankings, into bat and hoping to bounce it out cheaply with its pace attack fell flat on a docile wicket, and was exacerbated by a hamstring injury to Lungi Ngidi.

South Africa's target was a tough one and after Quinton de Kock departed, Aiden Markram (45) was bowled by Shakib to make the top-ranked all-rounder, playing his 199th ODI, the fastest to the double of 5,000 runs and 250 wickets.

Captain Faf du Plessis threatened to lead a successful chase but was bowled for

INNINGS SCAN

BAN	RSA
1	1
37	23
3	3
142 (3rd)	55 (4th)
6.60	6.18

TOP SHOWS

For	Batting	Bowling
Bangladesh	Mushfiqur 78 (80b, 8x4)	Mustafizur 3/67 (10)
South Africa	du Plessis 62 (53b, 5x4, 1x6)	Phehlukwayo 2/52 (10)

PROGRESSION

BAN	RSA
65/1	51/1
124/2	105/2
190/2	169/3
244/4	228/5
330/6	309/8

Next assignment

SOUTH AFRICA
June 5 vs India, Southampton, 3 p.m.

BANGLADESH
June 5 vs New Zealand, The Oval, 6 p.m.

63, followed by David Miller (38) and Rassie van der Dussen (41) as South African hopes slipped away.

Mustafizur Rahman had the best figures (three for 52) but all six bowlers contributed to keeping South Africa in check.

STAT SPHERE



1 First time South Africa has lost the opening two matches of a World Cup

1 Bangladesh's 330 for six is its highest in the World Cup as well as ODIs. This is also the 'lowest' highest total among the 12 Test-playing nations

5 Shalib (199 matches) became the fifth player to achieve the double of 5,000 runs and 250 wickets in ODIs. He is the fastest to the feat

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IN ODIs
330/6 vs SA, The Oval, 2019

329/6 vs Pak, Dhaka, 2015

326/3 vs Pak, Dhaka, 2014

324/5 vs SL, Dambulla, 2017

This is the first 100-over game of the tournament

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2 Bangladesh scored its second win against South Africa in the WC, after the one at Providence in 2007. This is more than what India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka have managed -- one win each

12 This is Bangladesh's 12th victory in the World Cup. It has defeated England, Scotland and South Africa twice and got the better of Pakistan, India, Netherlands, Afghanistan, Ireland and Bermuda once

14 Number of times South Africa has conceded 300-plus after opting to bowl first in ODIs. It has won just one of those games

SCOREBOARD

BANGLADESH
Tamim Iqbal c de Kock b Phehlukwayo 16 (29b, 2x4), Soumya Sarkar c de Kock b Morris 42 (30b, 9x4), Shakib Al Hasan b Phehlukwayo 78 (80b, 8x4), Mohammad Mithun b Tahir 21 (21b, 2x4, 1x6), Mahmudullah (not out) 46 (33b, 3x4, 1x6), Mossadek Hossain c Phehlukwayo b Morris 26 (20b, 4x4), Mehedi Hasan (not out) 5 (3b, 1x4); Extras (lb-9, w-12): 21; Total (for six wkts. in 50 overs): 330.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-60 (Tamim, 8.2 overs), 2-75 (Sarkar, 11.4), 3-217 (Shakib, 35.1), 4-242 (Mithun, 39.4), 5-250 (Mushfiqur, 42.1), 6-316 (Mossadek, 48.6)

SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING
Ngidi 4-0-34-0, Rabada 10-0-57-0, Phehlukwayo 10-1-52-2, Morris 10-0-73-2, Markram 5-0-38-0, Tahir 10-0-57-2, Duminy 1-0-10-0.

SOUTH AFRICA

Quinton de Kock run out 23 (32b, 4x4), Aiden Markram b Shakib 45 (56b, 4x4), Faf du Plessis b Mehidy 62 (53b, 5x4, 1x6), David Miller c Mehidy b Mustafizur 38 (43b, 2x4), Rassie van der Dussen b Saifuddin 41 (38b, 2x4, 1x6), Jean-Paul Duminy b Mustafizur 45 (37b, 4x4), Andile Phehlukwayo c Shakib b Saifuddin 8 (13b, 1x4), Chris Morris c Sarkar b Mustafizur 10 (10b, 1x4), Kagiso Rabada (not out) 13 (9b, 1x6), Imran Tahir (not out) 10 (10b); Extras (b-4, w-9, nb-1): 14; Total (for eight wkts in 50 overs): 309.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-49 (de Kock, 9.4 overs), 2-102 (Markram, 19.4), 3-147 (du Plessis, 26.4), 4-202 (Miller, 35.1), 5-228 (van der Dussen, 39.1), 6-252 (Phehlukwayo, 42.5), 7-275 (Morris, 45.5), 8-287 (Duminy, 47.1).

BANGLADESH BOWLING
Mustafizur 10-0-67-3, Mehidy 10-0-44-1, Saifuddin 8-1-57-2, Shakib 10-0-50-1, Mortaza 6-0-49-0, Mosaddek 6-0-38-0.

Toss: South Africa.
MoM: Shakib Al Hasan.
Bangladesh won by 21 runs.

Injured Indian skipper 'doing fine'

There is nothing to worry, say team sources

INDIA CAMP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
SOUTHAMPTON

India captain Virat Kohli "is doing fine" despite being hit on his thumb in a training session ahead of the team's World Cup opener against South Africa here on Wednesday.

"He is doing fine. There is nothing to worry," team sources.

Kohli hurt his right thumb during practice at the Ageas Bowl here on Saturday, prompting physiotherapist Patrick Farhat to attend to the Indian skipper.

Farhat was first seen using magic spray on the thumb and then applied tape on it. Later Kohli was seen leaving the field with his thumb dipped in a glass of ice.

India, one of the favourites for the title, was hit by injuries in the run up to the World Cup.

While all-rounder Vijay Shankar had to sit out of the warm-up game against New Zealand after hurting his elbow, Kedar Jadhav is still recovering from a shoulder injury he picked up during IPL and missed India's both warm-up games against the Kiwis and Bangladesh.

Having made significant recovery from his shoulder injury, Jadhav's active participation in successive net sessions augurs well for the Indian team even though he remains a doubtful starter for India's opener against South Africa.

Close to full fitness

Jadhav has batted without any apparent discomfort during the sessions, which was a fair enough indication that he is nearing full fitness.

He has also started bowling in the nets, something he was not doing during the IPL due to his dodgy hamstring.



In holiday mood: Virat Kohli and some of his team-mates hit the gym on their off-day in Southampton.

• COURTESY: VIRAT KOHLI/INSTAGRAM

The Indian team had an off-day on Sunday.

However, most of the players, including Kohli, Jadhav, Hardik Pandya, Jasprit Bumrah, K.L. Rahul, Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Vijay Shankar, hit the gym.

PREVIEW

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
NOTTINGHAM

England captain Eoin Morgan played a straight bat when asked about the chances of bolstering his pace attack for the side's second match against Pakistan at Trent Bridge on Monday.

The way Pakistan's batsmen were undone by a barrage of bouncers from the West Indies in their opening defeat has led to suggestions England could recall fast bowler Mark Wood.

But given World Cup host and favourite England started its campaign with a 104-run thrashing of South Africa at the Oval on Thursday, it may decide to stick with a winning formula rather than bring Wood in alongside fellow 90 mph plus paceman Jofra Archer.

"I think there's a good case for playing any of our bowlers," Morgan told reporters on Sunday.

"We'll have to adapt to anything the wicket throws up.

"If there is anything to exploit, hopefully we'll select



Time to regroup: Skipper Sarfaraz Ahmed, centre, will hope that his batsmen handle the short-pitched stuff better. • AFP

the right team."

But Morgan was well aware of the attraction of the Archer-Wood partnership.

"It is exciting. It's like saying can you add a Jason Roy 180 to a Jos Buttler 150 off 70 or 80 balls -- it might happen and if it does that would be awesome."

England has twice set world records for the highest score in a one-day international at Nottinghamshire's headquarters -- posting 444

for three against Pakistan in 2016 before closing in on the 500 barrier with 481 for six against world champions Australia last year.

But having seen England beaten by eventual tournament winner Pakistan in the semifinals of the 2017 Champions Trophy in Cardiff, Morgan was taking nothing for granted.

"We're preparing for Pakistan at their best," he insisted.

WORLD CUP DIARY

Windies can cause a few upsets, says Lloyd

The current West Indies team has the firepower to cause a few upsets, said Clive Lloyd. Lloyd, who captained the West Indies in three World Cups, said: "I thought the West Indies were quite clinical against Pakistan. They used the pitch to their advantage in the sense that it had a bit of life and they put pressure on Pakistan. I'm sure they will upset a few of the big boys if they play like that."



Lloyd said West Indies was capable of making the semifinals. "From what I've seen so far, though, I think the West Indies do possess enough to qualify for the last four," he said.

No one in the team believes in my bowling, but I do: Kohli



Virat Kohli. • FILE PHOTO

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
SOUTHAMPTON

He broke many a records with his batting but Virat Kohli, the medium-pace, could have had a lot more than eight international wickets if his teammates believed in his bowling ability like he himself does.

Kohli, albeit in a lighter vein, explained why he has not bowled in internationals since December 2017.

"It was during the ODI series in Sri Lanka (in 2017) where we had almost won everything, I asked MS [Dhoni] if I could bowl. Just when I was getting ready to roll my arm over, Bumrah shouted from the boundary

and said 'no joking around, it is an international game'.

"No one in the team believes in my bowling, but I do. After that I had back issues and never bowled," said the Indian captain.

Kohli, however, still bowls in the nets, most recently in a practice session here earlier this week.

The star batsman also shared an anecdote which shows that he has always taken his bowling seriously. "I used to follow James Anderson's action when I was at the academy [in Delhi]. Later, when I got to play alongside him, I told him about that story. We had a good laugh over it."



Aussies shut out the boos

Australia launched its World Cup campaign with an efficient victory over Afghanistan -- and appeared totally unfazed by the hostile reception given to Steve Smith and David Warner. Warner and Smith, both banned over the 'sandpapergate' scandal, were subjected to jeers from the crowd after suffering a similar fate during last week's warm-up match against England.

Two fans even watched the game in Bristol from a nearby balcony dressed as sandpaper.

Leg-spinner Adam Zampa, who took three wickets, said Australia was prepared for barracking from spectators throughout the tournament.

"We have spoken a bit how we are going to handle that situation," he said. "Obviously, we copped it in the warm-up game against England, too. But I think we are expecting it." • AFP

Get ready for chin music, Coulter-Nile tells West Indies

Australia has warned Chris Gayle and company to be ready for 'chin music'. Nathan Coulter-Nile said the bowlers were ready to give West Indies a taste of its own medicine -- bouncers.

"You've got to give it (bouncers) to the Windies, otherwise they just get on the front foot and hit you everywhere," he said. "We'll definitely give it to them -- we give it to every team. You've got to use your two (permitted bouncers per over).

"The grounds are so small and the wickets are generally pretty flat, so you've got to use bouncers when you can," he added.

In Coulter-Nile, Mitchell Starc and Pat Cummins, Australia boasts of a fiery pace battery.

"Oh Starc (Mitchell Starc) will knock his off pole out. It will be easy," he said jokingly about the 39-year-old Gayle.



Liverpool earns redemption in Europe

Wins its sixth Champions League title beating Tottenham in a less than exhilarating final

REUTERS
MADRID

Liverpool ended an incredible season by winning Europe's biggest prize after beating Tottenham Hotspur 2-0 in Saturday's all-English Champions League final, earning sweet redemption after agonisingly missing out on the Premier League title.

Mohamed Salah scored the second-quickest goal in a Champions League final by converting from the penalty spot in the second minute while Divock Origi sealed victory in the 87th after Liverpool survived some heavy late pressure from Spurs.

Tottenham, in its first European Cup final, kept its heads after the early setback and came to life when semifinal hat-trick hero Lucas Moura was brought on but, with Harry Kane lacking sharpness, another European comeback was beyond it.

Debatable

Liverpool, which missed out on the Premier League title to Manchester City by one point, did not produce its usual whirlwind attacking game but Salah's debatable penalty and Origi's arrowed finish sealed a sixth European Cup triumph.

The win at the Wanda Metropolitano was sweet redemption for Salah and especially Klopp, who had suffered defeat in his last six major finals, including Champions League showpieces with Borussia Dortmund in 2013 and Liverpool last year.

His opposite number Mauricio Pochettino praised his team's determined efforts to get themselves back into the game.

It was Liverpool's first Champions League triumph since its incredible comeback against Milan in 2005 and, while this victory lacked the blockbuster drama of that night in Istanbul, it was not exactly a smooth ride in a lacklustre affair.

Gamble backfires

Tottenham manager Pochettino took a bold but ultimately misguided gamble in fielding Kane, who had only returned to full training a week ago after almost two months out with a serious ankle injury and struggled to influence play.

The England striker was far from the only player from both sides who lacked sharpness in a game with few moments of quality, a possible effect of neither side having played any competitive games for three weeks after the domestic season.

Under pressure

Spurs put Liverpool under real pressure in the latter stages as Dele Alli headed over and Son Heung-min and Moura forced impressive saves from Alisson, who also pulled off his best effort to



Cup that matters: Manager Jurgen Klopp leads the celebrations after engineering Liverpool's return to continental glory. ■ AFP



Stat Attack

0 No opposition player has completed a dribble past **Virgil van Dijk** in any of his last 64 appearances in all competitions for Liverpool

1 Trent Alexander-Arnold (20y 237d) is the first player aged below 21 to start in consecutive finals

1:48 Mohamed Salah's opener for Liverpool is the second fastest goal in a final behind Paolo Maldini (00:50) for AC Milan versus Liverpool in 2005

2 Divock Origi is only the second Belgian to score in a final after Yannick Carrasco for Atletico against Real Madrid in 2016. He scored with all three of his shots in the CL this season

4 Jurgen Klopp is the fourth Liverpool manager to win the title after Bob Paisley, Joe Fagan and Rafa Benitez

5 Salah is the fifth African player to score in a final after Rabah Madjer, Samuel Eto'o, Didier Drogba and Sadio Mane 6 Liverpool's triumphs in the European Cup/Champions League. Only Real Madrid (13) and AC Milan (7) have won more. It also means that the Reds have twice as many titles as any other English team (Manchester United 3)

8 Alisson Becker has made more saves without conceding than any other goalkeeper in a final since at least 2003/04

11 Harry Kane had just 11 touches during the first half, fewer than any Tottenham player

14 Tottenham attempted as many shots after half-time as Liverpool in the entire final

24 There has been at least one French player on the pitch in 24 of the 27 finals in the history of the CL, more than any other country

35.4% Liverpool is the first side to win the final despite having less possession than its opponent since Jose Mourinho's Inter Milan beat Bayern Munich in 2010, also in Madrid

2576 Klopp has won his first major trophy after 2576 days and 6 losses in finals

beat away a free kick from Christian Eriksen.

The Brazilian keeper's reliable display was in stark contrast to what happened last year in Kiev, when Liverpool's Loris Karius made two horrendous errors which cost his side two goals in the painful 3-1 defeat by Real Madrid.

When the final whistle went, Alisson was mobbed by his team mates while Klopp ran on to the pitch to embrace Origi, one of the heroes in the stunning semifinal second-leg turnaround against Barcelona, who killed the game with a ruthless finish.

We were crying on the pitch: Klopp

Promises to go mano-a-mano with Guardiola next season

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MADRID

Liverpool's celebrations stretched long into the night after it became six-time European champion, giving a first win in seven finals for coach Jurgen Klopp.

"We were all pretty much crying on the pitch, because it was so emotional, it was so big, it means so much to us," Klopp said.

Klopp revealed he had received a congratulatory call

from Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola.

"We promised each other already that we will kick our butts next year again," Klopp said of his brief exchange with Guardiola.

"We will go for everything and we'll see if we get something."

Centre-back Virgil van Dijk, named man of the match, said the team would try to put the disappointment of losing the Premier

Salah inspired by 2018 loss

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MADRID

Mohamed Salah revealed he had drawn motivation from the disappointment of losing the final in 2018, a match in which he left the pitch in tears with a shoulder injury.

"Before the game, I looked at a picture of last year and we were so disappointed to lose the final," Salah said.

"I was very disappointed after that injury, I went off after 30 minutes and we lost the game. It motivated me to win today. When you know how it feels to lose, you say to yourself 'Let's go and win that'."

"I think our game is more mental. You have to believe in yourself," added Salah.

Proud Spurs

Meanwhile, Spurs manager Mauricio Pochettino said, "it's so painful but at the same time we need to be calm in the way that we talk and analyse things. Because the season was fantastic and we need to feel proud."

Wawrinka wins a marathon

Sets up mouth-watering quarterfinal clash with Federer

ROLAND-GARROS

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

Former champion Stan Wawrinka downed Greek star Stefanos Tsitsipas in the longest match of this year's French Open on Sunday to set up a quarterfinal clash with Roger Federer.

Wawrinka sealed a stunning 7-6(6), 5-7, 6-4, 3-6, 8-6 fourth-round victory with a magnificent winner from yards behind the baseline after five hours and nine minutes on Court Suzanne Lenglen. He has a 23-3 losing head-to-head record against close friend and fellow Swiss Federer.

"It's incredible, lots of emotions. Thanks to all the fans for staying and (the) support," said the 34-year-old Wawrinka after the third longest match in the last 20 years at the French Open.

It is the first time Wawrinka has reached a Grand Slam quarterfinal since losing to Rafael Nadal in the 2017 Roland Garros final, and completes an amazing turnaround from 12 months ago.

Earlier, Federer made short work of Argentinian Leonardo Mayer to become the oldest man in 28 years to reach a Grand Slam quarterfinal at Roland-Garros on Sunday.

The 37-year-old claimed a 6-2, 6-3, 6-3 win over World

Monday's picks

MEN

- 1-Djokovic vs Struff
- 4-Thiem vs 14-Monfils
- 5-Alexander Zverev vs 9-Fognini
- 8-del Potro vs 10-Khachanov

WOMEN

- 3-Halep vs Swiatek
- 8-Barty vs Kenin
- 14-Keys vs Siniakova

No. 68 Mayer in a sweltering 32 degrees.

Federer, the 2009 champion in Paris, is the oldest man to make the quarterfinals of a Slam since Jimmy Connors at the 1991 US Open.

"It's fabulous that I can spend this time in Paris," said Federer, who last played the tournament in 2015 when he lost in the quarterfinals to Stan Wawrinka.

Federer said he still remembers his quarterfinal loss to his friend in Paris four years ago. "I have a bad memory of it. Stan beat me in three sets with his terrible shorts! But he played really great that year and won the title."

Nadal's 90th win

Defending champion Rafael Nadal racked up his 90th win at Roland Garros as he stormed into the quarterfi-

nals for the 13th time. Nadal, bidding for a 12th title, swept past Argentina's Juan Ignacio Londero 6-2, 6-3, 6-3.

"It's an incredible feeling to be in another quarterfinal at this tournament which has been the most special of my career."

In a wide-open women's draw after the shock exits of top seed Naomi Osaka and 23-time Grand Slam champion Serena Williams on Saturday, 19-year-old Marketa Vondrousova reached her maiden major quarterfinal by thrashing Anastasija Sevastova. The unseeded Czech, ranked 38th, eased past Latvian 12th seed Sevastova, winning 6-2, 6-0 in only 59 minutes.

THE RESULTS

Men: Fourth round: 24-Stan Wawrinka (Sui) bt 6-Stefanos Tsitsipas (Gre) 7-6(6), 5-7, 6-4, 3-6, 8-6. 3-Roger Federer (Sui) bt Leonardo Mayer (Arg) 6-2, 6-3, 6-3; 2-Rafael Nadal (Esp) bt Juan Ignacio Londero (Arg) 6-2, 6-3, 6-3.

Doubles: Third round: Dusan Lajovic & Janko Tipsarevic (Srb) bt Rohan Bopanna & Marius Copil (Rou) 1-6, 7-5, 7-6(8).

Women: 7-Sloane Stephens (USA) bt 19-Gabrine Muguruza (Esp) 6-4, 6-3; 31-Petra Martic (Cro) bt Kaia Kanepi (Est) 5-7, 6-2, 6-4; Marketa Vondrousova (Cze) bt 12-Anastasija Sevastova (Lat) 6-2, 6-0; 26-Johanna Konta (GBR) bt 23-Donna Vekic (Cro) 6-2, 6-4.



Gung ho: Stan Wawrinka needed five hours and nine minutes to overcome Stefanos Tsitsipas. ■ REUTERS

Move out Thiem, Serena is here

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

Austrian star Dominic Thiem was left fuming after apparently being kicked out of his Roland Garros media conference so that Serena Williams could be accommodated instead.

Thiem, the fourth seed and 2018 runner-up, was conducting his post-match press obligations after reaching the last 16 on Saturday. However, he was informed that the main interview room was needed by American superstar Serena who had



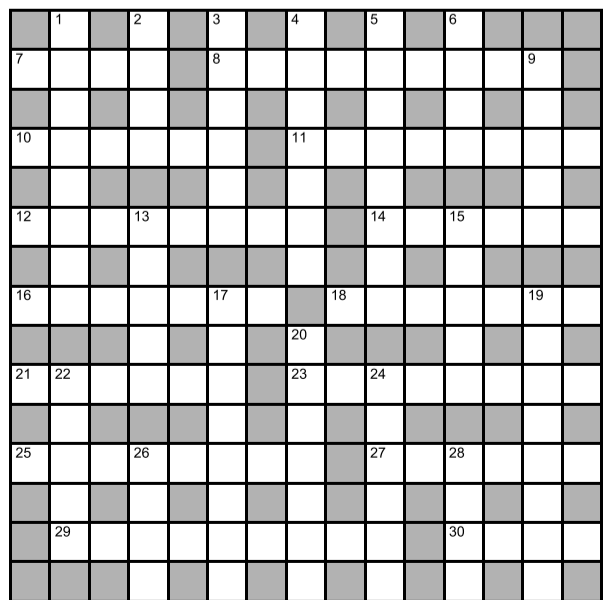
Thiem. ■ AP

officers after being told he should finish his interviews in a smaller room. "I have to leave the room because she's coming. What the hell, I don't care. I can also do whatever I want."

There was no indication as to who had decided to shift Thiem mid-stream. However, French sports daily L'Equipe claimed that Serena had no preference over where she carried out her press conference.

"Put me in another room, a smaller one, but now," she was reported to have said.

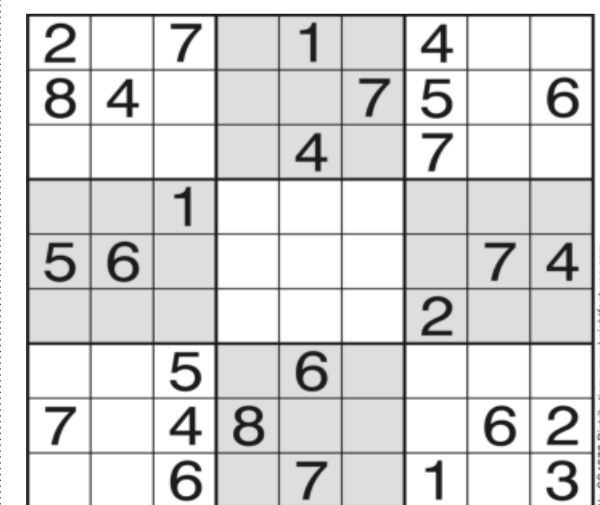
THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12642



- (set by Incognito)
- 12 Spanish fortress where, initially, Public Relations Information Officer went around after reorganising side (8)
 - 14 Mother's with graduate setter in Bombay (6)
 - 16 On the way, defeat in east-north-east (2,5)
 - 18 "Undress United Nations doctor! Copy?" (7)
 - 21 Relatives behind tree produce 9 imperial gallons of beer (6)
 - 23 Persons held in captivity for long periods behind Head Office by saint (8)
 - 25 He hid behind cot before alien got a coverlet (3,5)
 - 27 Enjoy a condiment (6)
 - 29 Form filled in with expectation of a refund (3,6)
 - 30 Eat food somewhere in the midst of sardines (4)
 - 3 Dancing aboard overseas (6)
 - 4 Choirs arranged by Frenchman producing baptismal robe (7)
 - 5 Sentries arranged new match (8)
 - 6 Nile was diverted to get some security (4)
 - 9 Greek letter for Ms. Garbo (5)
 - 13 Spy's trail where one king replaces another (5)
 - 15 Trapp stepmother returned a top quality male sheep (5)
 - 17 Soft editor made an offer (8)
 - 19 Almost please soldier, being nice (8)
 - 20 Type of wedding where groom is seated next to the driver? (7)
 - 22 Inefficient in English exercises (5)
 - 24 Trick-cyclist's contract (6)
 - 26 Religious extra-terrestrials have a prayer at noon (4)
 - 28 Boy with unknown female (4)

- ACROSS
- 7 Stop Hindustan Aeronautics Limited transportation at first (4)
 - 8 Engineer's direction leads to decapitation (9)
 - 10 Slow music played by Lady Lovelace and soldier with love (6)
 - 11 Irrate since den is demolished (8)
- DOWN
- 1 Male venturing to take a risk (though not fully) for a type of Chinese fruit (8)
 - 2 Does not allowed at this party? (4)

SUDOKU



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

- Solution to puzzle 12641**
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- Solution to yesterday's Sudoku**
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FAITH

Sin and virtue

Duryodhana says he knows about dharma and adhama and yet he is unable to follow the former, while he is compulsorily drawn towards the latter. He accepts that pursuit of dharma is not his way. He then alludes to the Divine Will that is behind every action. All this makes one wonder about sin and virtue and why people engage in sin even when they know that it is to be avoided and that it brings sorrow? Even Arjuna wonders whether individuals are led to commit sin as if by force, even against their will. Krishna puts an end to all vague notions and specious arguments through His insightful reading into human nature and its propensities towards sinful acts, Nannilam Sri V. Rajagopala Ganapadigal said in a discourse.

Sin arises not because an individual is forced to commit it even against his will but owing to his succumbing to desire and anger, the enemies within each one that are nurtured by rajas. They prompt people to do either good or bad deeds, and there is no external instigator. One should try to overcome these and avoid being victimised by them. One may think that desires can be quelled by fulfilment, that is, enjoyment of the objects of desire. But sadly it is not the case. Desires only rise again with greater vigour and attack the individual even when one keeps them well fed just as the fire to which fuel is added blazes.

Krishna then provides three illustrations to show how wisdom is enveloped by desire which is the only perennial foe. Just as the smoke and soot can hide the fire, or the mirror laden with dust cannot reflect objects and the foetus is enveloped in the womb, the raga and dvesha nurtured in one's mind prevents the recognition of one's atma jyothi within each one.