

ODYSSEY AI – 52
with Shariar Karim's
“MILESTONES AND MEMORIES”

LAST FLIGHT : AI-51 on 4th February 2021 “Namaskaar Israel”

THIS FLIGHT : AI-52 on 8th February 2021 “FLIGHT DELIGHT”

NEXT FLIGHT: AI-53 on 8th February 2021 “My C. I. Ps”



“ MILESTONES & MEMORIES - 52 ”

NAMASKAAR,

Welcome Aboard Flight AI-52,
On Monday, 8th February, 2021

Turning back the pages of history,
Today we have reached the
8TH OF FEBRUARY, 2000.

This Day, That Year,

I experienced the ultimate

“ FLIGHT DELIGHT ”

" FLIGHT DELIGHT "

Air-India is renowned for its warm Indian hospitality, courteous Inflight Service and its delectable cuisine. Sometimes, travelling as passenger one gets an opportunity to relax in flight and experience the total ambience. On February 8, 2000, I was travelling from Mumbai to Abu Dhabi as a passenger in the Executive Class. It was an ethereal experience viewing the sunrise out of my portside window, listening to soothing music on my headphone, inhaling the appetizing gastronomical aroma emanating from the galley, relishing a delicious Breakfast and feeling like a true Maharajah. All five senses were heightened to a level of celestial bliss.

A sense of gratitude filled my heart and I felt a deep urge to show my appreciation for the total experience. I decided to express my thankfulness in writing, thru a poem which I needed to complete and hand over to the Crew, before deplaning. What I composed in the remaining time available in flight was – " FLIGHT DELIGHT."

Flight Delight !

Where ...

.... The table cloth is nice and white,
The serviette, crisp and bright,
The juice is fresh and chilled,
The mushrooms are buttered and grilled,
The appetizer, fresh and fruity,
The cutlet, minced and tasty,
The yoghurt, smooth and creamy,
The omelette, soft and savory,
The potato, brown and hashed,
The butter, pasteurized and packed,
The jam, potted and preserved,
The glassware, sparkling and 'Centoured',
The croissant, warm and fluffy,
The bread roll, hot and spongy,
The coffee, hot and smoking,
The towels, moist and steaming,
The crockery, Royal and Doulton,
The cutlery, shining and silver,
where ...

In the world would this come my way?
But on an AIRINDIA breakfast tray,
Served to me with charm and grace,
By a warm and friendly smiling face.
These are the ingredients that made my FLIGHT
And filled my heart with complete DELIGHT
- Shariar Karim



Written on flight AI 741 from BOM to AUH
on 8th Feb 2000.

... after a hearty Breakfast travelling as passenger in the Exec. CLASS

This poem was later presented as a tribute to the Catering Section of our In Flight Service Department