ODYSSEY AI - 29 & 29 A with Shariar Karim's "MILESTONES AND MEMORIES"

LAST FLIGHT: AI- 28 on 15th October 2020, "70 TODAY"

THIS FLIGHT: AI-29 on 15th October 2020, "ON THE WINGS OF A DREAM" &

AI - 29A on 15th October 2020, " 88 TODAY"

NEXT FLIGHT: AI- 30 on 18th October 2020, "Jacaranda Days"

MICESTONES AL MEMORIES SURFARM

" MILESTONES AND MEMORIES - 29"

NAMASKAAR, WELCOME ABOARD FLIGHT AI-29, ON THURSDAY THE 15TH OF OCTOBER, 2020

Turning back the pages of history, Today we have reached the 15™ OF OCTOBER 2003.

THIS DAY, THAT YEAR, We Flew-

"ON THE WINGS OF A DREAM"

After every "Flight of Fancy" in the Mock-up, I was invariably asked by the Press and Media in their post flight Interviews, why we couldn't conduct these flights in an actual aircraft and take these children on real flights. I kept telling them that we would one day. Well that one day, finally came today - the 71st Foundation Day of Air-India, when we were given a real aircraft to take 400 children and adult patients from various hospitals in Mumbai on a real 'Flight of Fancy' joy ride from Mumbai to Pune and back. Bollywood actor Javed Jaffrey and I played games and entertained these special passengers in flight who were thrilled with the experience. This flight was operated to commemorate Air-India's first Foundation Day, 71 years ago as well as the Anniversary of J.R.D Tata's historic flight from Karachi to Bombay via Ahmedabad. It was indeed a Dream for most of the special passengers who were flying in an aircraft for the first time. It was a Dream come true for me too, to get a real aircraft to operate a real flight after conducting nine simulated 'Flights of Fancy' in a mock-up. I therefore composed this special poem for the occasion and aptly called it " On the Wings of a Dream" Air-India's Press Release about the Flight as well as some newspaper cuttings are attached for those who wish to read more about this Dream Flight.





NEWS

Air India Flies "Special People" on 71st Anniversary

ir India has flown millions of people to far off corners of the world in a wide range of aircraft over the years. But, today, to commemorate the 71st Anniversary o JRD Tata's historic flight from Karachi to Mumbai via Ahmedabad on October 15, 1932, the national carrier flew 340 Special Passengers over Mumbai in a Boeing 747-400 aircraft "Ajanta"..... with a message of love and hope.

This flight Al-071 was organized on the request of social service organisations viz. Make A Wish Foundation,
Indian Cancer Society, Jyoti Seva Sangh -- Apang Seva and Sulabha Trust
for Special Education and Research. Most of these special passengers are either terminally ill or mentally and physically challenged.

The children, many of whom have never had the opportunity of traveling in an aircraft, arrived at the Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport well in advance of the time of departure.

As passengers, they went through the normal procedure of being checked-in, issued their boarding card and security check, before emplaning. The children were welcomed on board by Air India's courteous cabin crew and introduced to the Air India 'Maharajah'.

The plane then took off on it's magical route over Mumbai in Maharashtra, after the flight safety demonstration.

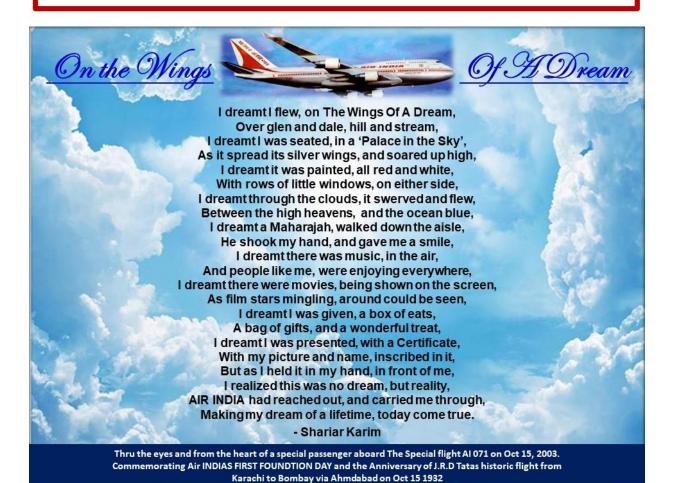
Captain D. Majumdar, made announcements on flight route information from time to time during the flight.

This unique message was conveyed by Air India to these special passengers through Inflight Supervisor, Shariar Karim, and his band of sixteen cabin crew. On board, the children were deeply engrossed in the Drawing Competition specially organised for them. Prizes and mementoes were distributed on board.

Flight Al-071 was made eventful by the presence of surprise visitor from Bollywood on board. He was Mr. Jaaved Jaaferi of "Boogy Woogy" fame.

The children all clamored for his autograph.

This was one flight which the children and Air India will not forget for a long long time. Air India's Maharajah, Mr. Yezdi Irani, has etched a strong bond and a special place in their hearts.



Dreams conquered on this special Air-India's commemorative flight

THE national airline celebrated the 71st anniversary of RDV historic light from A guest of the day, was called upon by the Karachi to Mumbal via Ahmedabad by treating around 340 children. afflicted was seen indulging in childish banter with the frequent of social service organisations like Make a Wish Foundation, Indian Cancer Society. Apang Seva and the Solabha Trust for special children. Chitralekha brief in Stight. We have 35 children between the age groups of 3 and 16 here here in the flight. We have 35 children between the age groups of 3 and 16 here and many of them suffer from cancer, thal lassemia, HIV and other Illnesses. Doctors say that making their choicest wishes

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2003 GULF NEWS

Special flight



In royal company

Air India's Maharaja entertains special needs children from Mumbai yesterday aboard a jet as the national carrier flew 340 youngsters to commemorate the 71st anniversary of J.R.D. Tata's historic flight on October 15, 1932.



