

# Maize Masala

September 19, 2007

Volume 1, Issue 1

## Upcoming events

### Fall '07

- Hookah/Chai times
- Chaand Raat
- PSA Live
- Indo-Pak forum

### Winter '08

- Hookah/Chai times
- PSA Fashion Show
- PSA Mock Shaadi
- Laser Tag

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## A Welcome from the President

Dear PSA,

It's a new year for PSA and the Pakistani community in Ann Arbor. PSA is undergoing a massive change this year.

The three things that can describe PSA this year are: becoming bigger, bolder and the best among the South Asian organizations at the university.

The 'Maize Masala' is one of the most important aspects of this whole setup. It is an attempt to get PSA more recognized on campus and to keep members updated about

the current Pakistani news and events. Another development this year is the PSA radio which is going to be online after the mass meeting. We have a lot of fun-filled events lined up for this year and it would be great to see all of you participate. It's a good time for everyone to get involved, have fun, and have the Pakistani junoon rolling inside you.



Sincerely,  
Usman Shahid  
President of PSA

## Welcome from the editors

Before we start talking about anything else, let us welcome all the incoming freshmen and the returning Pakistani students to Michigan. We're off to a great start to the school year and to PSA as well. This is our very first issue of the PSA newsletter and we're all very excited and proud to be the ones starting it this year. PSA has many great opportunities to offer to everyone. This close-knit organization will take you from being com-

plete strangers one day, to the best of friends the next. Keep an eye out for our monthly newsletter 'Maize Masala' and stay updated with the latest Pakistani news – back home, and here at the university. If you have anything to contribute please let us know.

Sincerely,  
Aneeqa Ahmad & Beenish Ahmed  
Co-Editors

# Meet the 2007-2008 PSA Board

**Name:** Usman Shahid (*right*)  
**Position:** President  
**Year:** Senior  
**Major:** Economics  
**Hometown:** Karachi, Pakistan

Karachi Stock Exchange and cricket are his life.



**Name:** Burhan Uddin (*right*)  
**Position:** External Co-Chair  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Economics  
**Hometown:** Karachi, Pakistan

Don't even think of starting a Karachi vs Lahore debate with him. Give up! Before you regret it.



**Name:** Wasay Ahmad (*below*)  
**Position:** External Co-Chair  
**Year:** Junior  
**Major:** Business  
**Hometown:** Karachi, Pakistan

Thinks his receding hair-line looks sexy!!!



**Name:** Saba Raza (*left*)  
**Position:** Finance Chair  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Economics  
**Hometown:** Karachi, Pakistan

Famous for not being allowed to sit for a biology exam when she showed up 10 minutes late (thanks to the alarm clock).

**They may not be the prettiest bunch, but they're your board and you'll grow to love 'em!**

**Name:** Hamza Waqar (*right*)  
**Position:** Administrative Chair  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Economics  
**Hometown:** Lahore, Pakistan

Got a \$65 ticket on his first day at Michigan in freshman year.





**Name:** Basim Kamal (left)  
**Position:** Social Chair  
**Year:** Junior  
**Major:** Economics/Political Science  
**Hometown:** Lahore, Pakistan / Dharan, Saudi Arabia

Undisputed FOB / ABCD (depends how you categorize him) 'Guitar Hero' champion!



**Name:** Ahmed Zaidi (below)  
**Position:** Radio Master  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Engineering  
**Hometown:** Lahore, Pakistan

Proud Aitchisonian!



**Name:** Nikhil Padnis (left)  
**Position:** Webmaster  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Engineering  
**Hometown:** Pune, India

Tattoo boy!!! Jack of all trades.



**Name:** Aneeqa Ahmad (right)  
**Position:** Newsletter Editor  
**Year:** Senior  
**Major:** Biology/Spanish  
**Hometown:** Islamabad, Pakistan/ West Bloomfield, Michigan

The only 'Isloo chick' on campus. Thinks Lahore vs. Karachi debates are pointless 'coz clearly Isloo is the best! So what if everyone goes to sleep by 10? Early to bed, early to rise, makes a person healthy, wealthy and wise!



**Name:** Beenish Ahmed (left)  
**Position:** Newsletter Editor  
**Year:** Junior  
**Major:** Creative Writing/Political Science  
**Hometown:** Perrysburg, OH

Went to the wrong classes on the first day of school for the third year in a row thinking it was Monday when school ALWAYS starts on a Tuesday.





# From green and white to maize and blue

By Basim Kamal

Welcome to Michigan! You've finally arrived, and after two weeks of exploring Ann Arbor, you've had a small taste of one of the world's best universities. But in case you're still settling in, here are a few things to keep in mind while navigating yourself through this enormous, diverse campus.

You have probably heard a lot of rumors about the viciously cold weather here at Michigan. It's true. You may be used to the sweltering heat of Karachi summers, but the cold weather at places like Nathia Gali or Muree don't even hold a candle to the weather here. It's an icebox here; wear multiple layers.

There are so many things that this campus has to offer. Salsa dancing, working out at the CCRB, student performances, playing field hockey, and participating in recreational sports are to name a few. As well as PSA, there are thousands of other student organizations to get involved with. Be active, take part, and you'll find plenty of things to do.

Oh, and if you haven't already discovered a few good halal eateries, pay close attention. *Ahmos* has delicious gyros, *Pita Kabob Grill* has mouth-watering shawarmas, and *Hello Faz* has to-die-for chicken pizzas. Unfortunately, there are no sole Pakistani eateries here on campus, but there are a few Indian places that try to mimic good ol' Pakistani biryani. Of course, there is always your dining hall that has the best chocolate milk...

And what's the deal with all of those crazy football fans? You'll soon realize that football (and to Michigan there is no other version of the sport) is life. You think Pakistan-India rivalries are big? You obviously have not witnessed the Ohio State-Michigan fervor that holds precedence to everything else on campus. Go to a football game, seriously. You'll thank me later.

**Maize is the new green and blue is the new white. Bleed it, live it, love it.**

## Pakistani Students Association

[umich.edu/~pakistan](http://umich.edu/~pakistan)

[psa.board@umich.edu](mailto:psa.board@umich.edu)  
[psaproject@umich.edu](mailto:psaproject@umich.edu)

**SUBMIT ARTICLES TO  
BE PUBLISHED IN OUR  
NEXT ISSUE!**

## How to survive Ramadan in Ann Arbor by Burhan Uddin

I remember my first Ramadan in Ann Arbor last year. It was scary. The thought of not fasting the alleged 15 hour fast occurred to me, but as is tradition everybody keeps the first roza right? And so did I. It wasn't that bad and neither was the one after that or the one after. And voila! Suddenly Ramadan had finished and I hadn't skipped a single roza. Boy, was I proud of myself. But Ramadan is still different here in Ann Arbor than in Pakistan. There is no half day at school, no iftari time at home where chat and pakoras are a constant. But then again, it's easier in many ways as well because there is no scorching heat like that of Karachi where your throat completely dries up before iftari. This is a perspective of someone who is coming from Pakistan. I don't really know how Muslims who have lived here all their life fast. But I will take a shot at

imagining it.

I guess they wake up for sehri and sleep after that. Since school isn't especially oriented for Ramadan, they see people eating except for the few selected Muslims that are fasting. I know I would get angry if someone eats in front of me while I'm fasting! Food is something I don't ever compromise with. They probably eat iftari with family and then a lot at sehri...same old story isn't it? I guess our brothers and sisters who grew up here didn't have it much different. If anything, perhaps a little harder. To all of you who grew up in gora land, Respect yo!

In a final note to everyone: enjoy Ramadan and enjoy yourselves too. Revel in this experience away from home. Enjoy Ramadan...and look forward to Eid.

Ramadan Mubarak!