

Calendar 2023: A selection of aphorisms on the theme APOLOGY AND FORGIVENESS

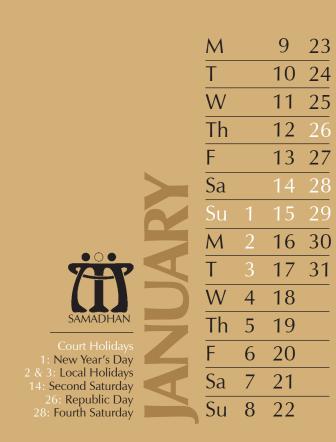
n mediation, "I'm sorry" and other similar expressions of regret are not ordinary words. They pave the way for more fruitful dialogue and create a positive environment for collaboration without making specific admissions of liability. Similarly, true forgiveness is an equally therapeutic aspect of collaborative reconciliation. Therefore as mediators we believe only mediation can provide the parties a safe environment to acknowledge and forgive mistakes. Together 'apology' and 'forgiveness' often become the heart and soul of the transformative journey of mediation.

In long-standing conflicts, the parties establish a negative pattern of interaction in which they are more focused on establishing their rights against each other than on reconciliation. When disputants come traumatised and feel victimised, even fair financial compensation may not end the conflict. This pattern is hard to break and results in painful emotions for both sides that ends in non-settlements. Over the last 16 years, mediators at Samadhan have mastered the skills of conflict management and dispute resolution. They deal with parties who ignore the potential of apology and forgiveness and lawyers who shrug off a client's willingness for an apology or forgiveness as secondary to the goal of more tangible monetary or injunctive relief. While an apology or forgiveness may not be a direct substitute for monetary compensation, they can often empower parties in driving them closer to resolution and creating a situation where they are no longer committed to their stances as the accuser and the accused.

Samadhan believes that if mediators are equipped to help disputants in using apology and forgiveness and, if lawyers support this approach, it will lead to a transformative process of human healing and consequently a more harmonious society. This calendar illustrates it.

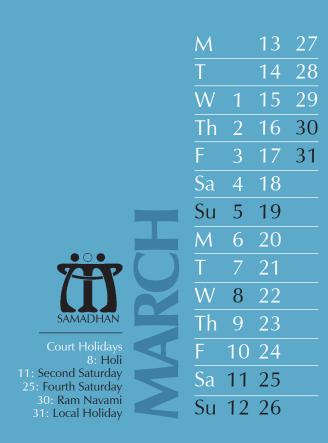


Justice Manmohan Chairman, Overseeing Committee Preface



The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong. Mahatma Gandhi





Apologies are not meant to change the past; they are meant to change the future.



If someone has the courage to admit they were wrong, you should have the grace to give them credit for admitting it. Rubbing it in encourages them to never admit being wrong again.

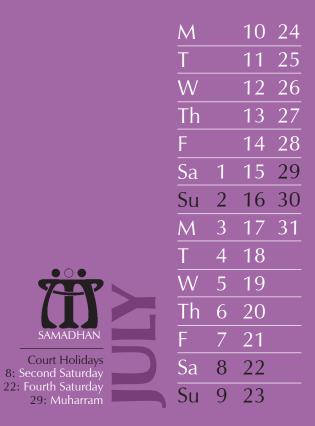


Court Holidays

5: Buddha Purnima

Apologizing does not mean you're wrong and the other person is right. It just means you value your relationship more than your ego.





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Forgiveness is the fragrance that the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it.



Forgiveness is a sign that the person who has wronged you means more to you than the wrong they have dealt.



Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; you are the one who gets burned.

Buddha

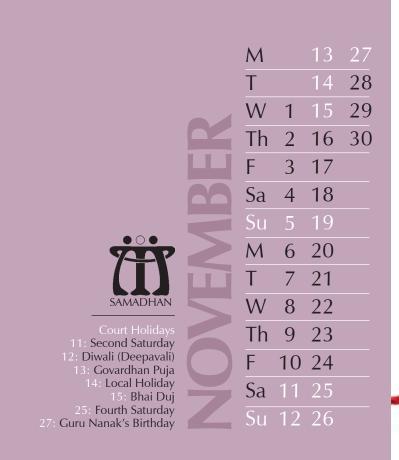


As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn't leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I'd still be in prison.

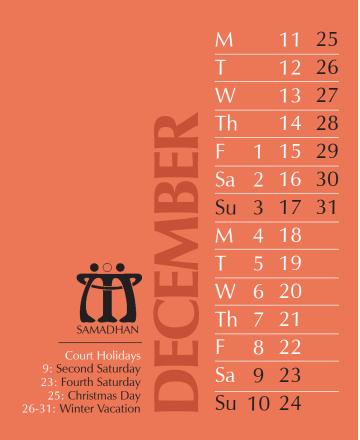
Nelson Mandela

Court Holidays 2: Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday 14: Second Saturday 22: Maha Ashtami 23 & 25-27: Local Holidays 24: Dussehra (Vijaydashami) 28: Maharishi Valmiki's Birthday

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Forgiveness is the needle that knows how to mend.



The practice of forgiveness is our most important contribution to the healing of the world.





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