

World

Ads used for marriage

United Press International
NEW DELHI, India — They are all "attractive." They have "fair" and "fair" complexions. They are even "really beautiful." They admit they are "plain" or "sober" but boast they are "sober" and "hard-working." The descriptions apply equally to men and women and they are all to be found in one of India's great matrimonial markets — the Sunday edition of the Hindustan Times.

Every week the matrimonial columns in the newspaper's classified section list the appeals of hundreds, if not thousands, of men and women looking for marriage partners. They make for fascinating reading, for example:

"Wanted — suitable match for graduate girl, 24 years, wheatish complexion, attractive features, 155 cms. Belongs to family of doctors, very decent marriage."

Very straightforward, you think? Because the girl is of the Jain religion, she will be a vegetarian. The groom must also be a vegetarian, be skinned or at least "wheatish" in complexion and taller than 155 cms (about 5 feet 1 inch).

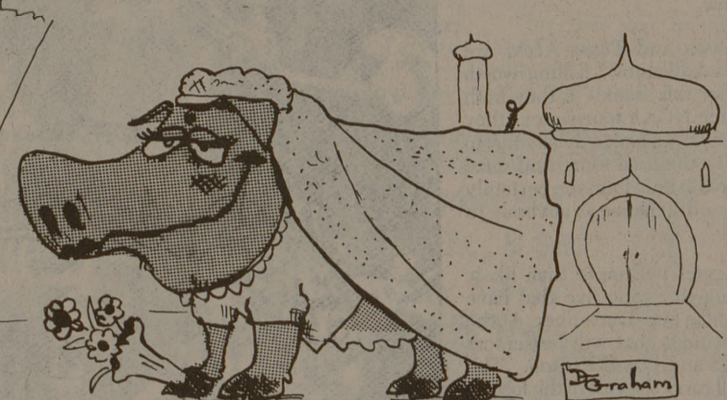
A prospective groom would seize the word "decent." In marriage parlance it means the bride's parents are willing to pay a dowry — despite government efforts to stamp out the practice.

The medical profession reference means the daughter's parents are healthy and could be expected to finance 100,000 rupees (\$12,500) to her married.

Other "decent" marriages would involve dowry gifts to the groom of an automobile, a motor scooter or, for poorer parents, a bicycle. There are suits, shoes, a gold ring, a watch and an umbrella for any groom a matter of course.

Many advertisements note no dowry is available but that the would-be bride has other attributes:

WANT ADS
NICE GIRL NEEDS HUSBAND...
UH... HAS NICE PERSONALITY...
CALL RUPEES 4... 5000
BEAUTIFUL GIRL SEEKS HUSBAND... EDUCATED, INTELLIGENT... UNRELATED TO ABOVE... CALL...



"Trained post-graduate Khatri virgin. Greedy sorry," said one ad, warning off dowry hunters.

Many men seeking partners also stress they do not necessarily want to marry a girl for her money. But they do have their standards:

"Wanted — suitable match, around 30, for legally divorced Punjabi Arora industrialist. Graduate. 175 cm (about 5 feet 7 inches). Teetotaler, nonsmoker, good personality. No bars, but only parents of well-educated, beautiful, unmarried girls need apply."

Another advertiser wanted a "really beautiful, slim, smart, convent-educated bride" as he himself was "slim, tall (175 cms), educated, very smart and highly established."

Other men, more desperate, write that they have no bar against any caste, do not seek a dowry and don't mind if a prospective bride is a widow or a divorcee, although one hedged that "a self-supporting woman is preferred."

Ads from parents often stress their daughters are virgins, and parents of grooms note their sons are seeking virgins. One man said he would consider even marrying a "virgin widow."

The attributes of some girls sometimes sound too good to be true:

"Punjabi girl, M.A. 21 years, 153 cms, smart, sweet-tempered, pretty, homely, sober, well-versed in domestic affairs, beautiful, fair and intelligent."

Some parents have their own ideas

of whom their daughter should marry and of her limitations.

One ad said simply, "Wanted — bachelor boy of around 40 for simple Agrawi girl."

Other parents reported they had two girls desiring marriage, "one with artificial eye but employed."

WE ARE LOOKING FOR TALENT

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AUDITIONS FEB. 24 - 26

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707 SHOPPING VILLAGE
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USSR airline to fly athletes

United Press International
MEXICO CITY — The Soviet Union's national airline will help transport athletes from "poor" countries to the summer Olympic Games in Moscow in an apparent attempt to counter the U.S. sponsored boycott of the games.

Mario Vazquez Rana, president of the Mexican Olympic Committee, said Monday the Soviet Union's Aeroflot Airline agreed to help transport the athletes.

All the details were not clear.

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OUR OWN BBQ SANDWICH \$1.00 This Week

A delicious combination of Bar-B-Que Beef, Onion and Pickle on Homemade Bread.
Special good through Sun., Feb. 10.

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329 UNIVERSITY NORTHGATE
OPEN FRI. & SAT. 'TIL 1 A.M. Across from the Post Office

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SUN TRIP TO ACAPULCO

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\$313.00 includes:
Roundtrip trip transportation
Four nights accommodations
Tickets to 3 discos
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\$75 Deposit; Signups close Feb. 6
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FEB. 8 in
MSC 216C

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YOUR CHOICE OF:
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Save 49¢
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This COUPON entitles you to a Single Hamburger, French Fries and a 16 oz. drink for \$1.69. (Cheese and tomato extra)
Offer expires: Feb. 29, 1980
Tax not included. Not good with any other offer.

This COUPON entitles you to one 8 oz. bowl of Chili, French Fries and 16 oz. drink for \$1.59 (Cheese extra)
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