Protesters call for justice in Iran

Chants including “Down with Islamic Republic” and “Human rights for Iran” could be heard in front of San Jose City Hall by tearful protesters Wednesday afternoon.

The demonstration was held by the Iranian Society of Human Rights in Northern California in opposition to Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi about the Sept. 16 death of Zhina (Mahsa) Amini, a 22-year-old woman who was arrested for allegedly violating Iran’s mandatory hijab law.

I see what happens in my country to people who are younger than I am, who are living a normal life and they get killed for it. It’s just, it’s just not OK.

Rojin

SJSU nutritional science senior

The Iranian Society of Human Rights in Northern California is a nonprofit organization that represents Iranian Americans in Northern California, according to its website.

Amini, who goes by her Kurdish name Zhina, was from Saqquez, a Kurdistan Province in Western Iran.

In front of San Jose City Hall Wednesday, a demonstrator holds up two flyers, one of which is an illustration of Zhina (Mahsa) Amini, a 22-year-old woman who was arrested for allegedly violating Iran’s mandatory hijab law and died on Sept. 16 after being detained by police.

By Nathan Camillas

MANAGING EDITOR

SJSU professors talk Puerto Rico hurricane tragedy

Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory, is in the midst of a humanitarian and natural disaster.

Hurricane Fiona, a Category 1 storm, made landfall Monday, knocking out power to almost the entire island and dumping more than 30 inches of rain in some areas of the island, according to a Monday Politico article.

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Hurricane Maria decimated Puerto Rico’s power, water and healthcare systems, which have never fully recovered, according to the Politico article.

As of Wednesday night, more than a million Puerto Rican homes were without power, according to PowerOutage.us, a website that says it collects, records and...
Local protestor Negar cuts her hair during the protest as a act of solidarity for Amini, a 22-year-old woman who was arrested for wearing a headscarf in Iran. The Islamic Republic of Iran, Negar said, “is trying to keep women down and make the issue of human rights to call on the Islamic Republic of Iran, “Kalbali said.

Amini’s death was not the first incident in which the Iranian government was accused of killing or imprisoning people. Amini’s death was not the first incident in which the Iranian government was accused of killing or imprisoning people. The Islamic Republic special forces allegedly killed 804 women and children in 2019 who protested against the Iranian government, according to a 2021 report published by Amnesty International. Amnesty International is a United Kingdom-based, non-governmental organization focused on human rights, according to its website. “There have been many women and young men in the past who have been shot in the streets by the Iranian government because they have a special voice when they are doing something kind of protest on the street,” Kalbali said.

Amini, a protestor who came with her two young daughters, and I want to go back home to Iran,” said Fatima, who ended up by the Iranian government because they have a special voice when they are doing something kind of protest on the street,” Kalbali said.

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South Asian NY Fashion Week thrives

SJSU community says first-ever showcase boosts pride & visibility

By Saumya Monga
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

South Asian New York Fashion Week, which was Sept. 8-14, was dominated by intricate, flowy lehengas worn on deep melanated skin and heapeded turbans worn by prince-like Sikh men. Lehengas are usually worn at weddings and feature short blouses, longer-length skirts and a matching dupatta or scarf, according to Vogue India.

It was a sight many at Fashion Week were not accustomed to seeing.

The February and September New York Fashion Week is an opportunity for designers to showcase the upcoming fashion season, according to a Feb. 13, 2015 Teen Vogue article.

Co-founder Shigra Sharma and Hetal Patel created South Asian New York Fashion Week as a way to highlight and share the history of South Asian fashion and culture, while celebrating the fashion pioneers who have been universal trailblazers, Sharma told Teen Vogue at the kick-off event for its Sept. 8 article.

“South Asian Fashion Week is so important because it lets other people know that we exist, that [South Asians] exist and other people who are so accustomed to only seeing a very specific type of face and body being captured all the time,” said Kevin Ho, a San Jose State alumna and photographer who shot at New York Fashion Week in 2020 and February this year.

Fashion week has predominantly featured white models who have worn fabricas by white designers, according to a Feb. 24 article by the fashion magazine The Fashion Spot.

Only five of the more than 200 brands have featured models of color or non-white models, according to the article by The Fashion Spot.

“When you see someone that’s outside of the very fair-skinned, white beauty standard, there’s something triggered in your brain where it’s like ‘Oh, this isn’t a white person, and they can still exist in this space and do the damn thing.’”

Ho said.

South Asian New York Fashion Week opened with India-based designer Mayyur Girotra, who incorporates colorful embroidery into high-fashion couture.

His lehengas, which are a combination of blouses and long skirts, were intriguing depictions of Desi-degrees as models wore intricate geometric designs that trimmed with bright colors.

Sanjana Solanki, Desi SJSU business junior, talked about the lengthy eye-catching designs and how she could see herself wearing those pieces to her own wedding, where lehengas are usually worn.

“Mayyur Girotra was a designer who had some of my favorite designs,” Solanki said. “The designs were very beautiful and traditional, with the touch of that royalty feeling [that] had me thinking about what I would want to wear to my own wedding.”

Millie Barman, founder of the East Bay-based fashion company Desi Is Me, features the pieces, which are typically meant to be a special kind of outfit for wedding days.

Barman said she focuses on creating lehengas through her fashion brand and is inspired by the Indo-Western fusions at fashion week.

“I really love it over it is what my brand attempts to do is to bring it onto a more
casual everyday kind of wear,” she said. “The lehenga is just the ultimate piece that a young South Asian girl grows up wearing.”

Barman said she believes her brand is considered Indo-Western, so the brands at fashion week gave her inspiration to create modern pieces in the future because they featured traditional lehengas and sarees that had modern cuts.

Another designer showcase was Ensemble by Ishan Sanghvi, whose designs range from more Pakistani to more traditional, with the touch of that royalty feeling, and I think that range of diversity is what makes the first-ever South Asian New York Fashion Week so exciting.

Barman said she loved the incredible energy in the room.

“We have had one or two, you know, more Western brands that use Indian textiles and Indian prints and patterns that are featured in New York Fashion Week,” Barman said. “But again, that is, 1 think, one brand and it’s one show but to have a fully dedicated show [to] showcase South Asian fashion, I remember when I heard that I was very excited.”

FASHION

Continued from page 4

South Asian New York Fashion Week showcase, Barman is excited to see how they continue to improve the show by including more diverse fashion designers.

There have been strides in diversity and inclusion at New York Fashion Week with the Council of Fashion Designers of America setting up an initiative to ensure inclusivity in all aspects of the industry, according to the council’s webpage.

The Council of Fashion Designers of America nonprofit organization composed of jewelry, women’swear and men’swear designers, according to its webpage.

About 25% of all fashion brands featured at the event are Black-owned, according to a Sept. 9 Vanity Fair article.

The historical lack of diversity is what makes the first-ever South Asian New York Fashion Week so exciting.

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“We have had one or two, you know, more Western brands that use Indian textiles and Indian prints and patterns that are featured in New York Fashion Week," Barman said. “But again, that is, 1 think, one brand and it’s one show but to have a fully dedicated show [to] showcase South Asian fashion, I remember when I heard that I was very excited.”
Skincare industry will clean your wallet, not face

Vanessa Tran START WRITER

Skincare products bein't real, TikTok does not equate to quality. If you are on social media, you are bound to come across ads and sponsorships from influencers because there is a real money to escape them or filter them out. Advertisements and sponsored content may easily persuade viewers into thinking they're missing out on holy-grail products. The average American comes across 4,000-10,000 ads a day in 2022, according to WebbEnreich, an independent review site dedicated to providing accurate information on personal care and beauty products, billions of products I bought, I only use about eight of them in my daily routine now! She said she bought any item that looked promising, from kopari, a French multinational retailer of personal care and beauty products, because her skin started to break out when the pandemic started and her acne was exacerbated by putting products to the test can be altruistic. Skincare routine consists of an oil cleanser, face wash, toner, niacinamide, serum and moisturizer, while their nighttime routine is composed of an oil balm, face wash, toner, niacinamide, serum and moisturizer. Niacinamide is a trending skincare ingredient that is considered a solution for many skin issues including acne and helps minimize and refine pores, according to a Feb. 21 Vogue article. Nguyen said they would occasionally do a sheet mask, a popular Korean face mask, every one-to-two weeks to hydrate their skin. "I used to only wash my face and then put on moisturizer," they said. "Once I started incorporating estuaries into my routine, my skin started to change slowly!" Exfoliation is the process of removing dead skin with several different techniques including a granular scrub, chemical exfoliant and stimulating tool, according to an Oct. 18, 2019 Healthline article. Nguyen and her routine have been consistent with their skin whenever it's dry. "I've spent a lot of money trying products that were a miss for me, but they understand that some people go the extra mile to achieve their ideal skin. If you're not sure whether to use a lot of money trying products that actually work, I've thrown out a lot of products that were a miss for me because I realized the skin wasn't reacting well to them," Nguyen said. "I think I was baited by so many ads and putting products to the test can be altruistic. If you are on social media, you are bound to come across ads and sponsorships from influencers because there is a real money to escape them or filter them out. Advertisements and sponsored content may easily persuade viewers into thinking they're missing out on holy-grail products. The average American comes across 4,000-10,000 ads a day in 2022, according to WebbEnreich, an independent review site dedicated to providing accurate information on personal care and beauty products, billions of products I bought, I only use about eight of them in my daily routine now! She said she bought any item that looked promising, from Kopari, a French multinational retailer of personal care and beauty products, because her skin started to break out when the pandemic started and her acne was exacerbated by...