

# EQUATION

AN AUCTION FOR EQUALITY

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## FOUNDER'S NOTE



**RAHUL BOSE**

*Founder, The Foundation  
and former India Rugby international*

When all of us at The Foundation started brainstorming on how to raise funds for its work the most popular suggestion seemed to be an art auction. Sadly we found we knew as much about art as Van Gogh knew about cricket. But do know a thing or two about sport. (Sometimes it helps to have a sport-crazy founder). So we decided on holding, Equation- An Auction for Equality, India's most complete sport auction. An auction that would, in its first year, embrace the rainbow of Indian champions. What we were totally unprepared for is the sheer class of the items we would receive from pledging sportspersons. First thing first. Not one Indian champion said no. And, most heartbreakingly (in a good way), they gave their most precious or near-most precious memorabilia for free. So, in our very first year, we have Equation 2010 boasting of pieces of the caliber of Vishy Anand's world championship gold medal, Sachin Tendulkar's fourth highest one-day score bat and Abhinav Bindra's world championship-winning rifle. And because we were determined to host an evening that would enshrine the best of Indian sport we included a Masters section. So you will see never before items like Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi's 1961 test debut blazer and Ajit Pal Singh's hockey stick from 1975. Finally we have instituted an International section with memorabilia that will set any sports lover's heart racing. Ricky Pointing's World Cup gold medal donated by Dhiraj Malhotra. Tennis shoes played in and signed by Roger Federer (thank you Mahesh Bhupathi).

I am aware this is the moment I am supposed to capitalize on and speak of the work The Foundation has been doing but I will leave that to you and your curiosity. We are proud to have a new website. Do feel free to have a look. It's [www.thefoundation.in](http://www.thefoundation.in). Finally, a massive thank you to all the sports champions, from Sunil Gavaskar who lives 5 minutes away from my home in Mumbai to Bhaichung Bhutia in Sikkim. The Foundation owes you a debt we cannot possibly repay. What we can assure all of you is an evening unparalleled in India's sporting history, where under one roof, the best qualities of Indian sport will beat in the hearts of its champions. Thank you.

# CHAMPIONS

Everyday they make us proud with their courage,  
commitment and compassion.



**PANKAJ ADVANI**

Medal - World Billiards Champion, 2007  
Cue - International debut, 2000

*“Many people ask me what it feels like to be a seven-time world champion at such a young age. Well, it feels great, but there are also many hours of hard work that go with it! The work that The Foundation and other organizations like it accomplish is no less. If they ever need me to help again, they only have to ask.”*

- It gives us the greatest pleasure to have items pledged by India’s youngest world champion, Pankaj Advani who, astonishingly, won his first world title at 18 and now at 25 has seven world titles in Billiards and Snooker under his belt. (He’s also the only Asian to win world titles in Snooker and Billiards). On auction is the World Billiards Championship medal Pankaj won in Singapore, 2007. It’s a prized possession for the Advani family – his mother spent her childhood there but couldn’t make this trip. Before leaving, Pankaj said, “Don’t worry Mom. I’ll bring a bit of Singapore back for you.” He kept his word. The reigning Asian Games champion’s cue on auction is very special too - it was the cue he won innumerable state and national titles and made his international debut with, aged 15.



Courtesy: "India Today Images.com"

### **VISWANATHAN ANAND**

*World Championship (Match) medal, 2008*

*“As a child I thought becoming World Champion would be a very cool thing. In Bonn when I won the World Championship for the third time I had a feeling of complete satisfaction. I had won the title now in every possible format. I was one of the sport’s legends. Now even the sternest critics would have to really think of what to say about me! I am very happy this medal will be used to foster equality. We win medals but here we are winning hearts and smiles. I wish the Foundation and Rahul Bose all the very best.”*

■ When Viswanathan Anand gifted his World Championship (Match) medal to Equation, he immediately raised the bar for all other sportspersons pledging memorabilia. But there is another very special significance to this piece. By retaining his undisputed world champion status with this emphatic victory over Vladimir Kramnik he became the first player in chess history to have won the World Championship in all three formats – Knockout, Tournament and Match. Little wonder he was India’s first ever sportsperson along with Sachin Tendulkar to be awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 2007.



Courtesy: India Today Images.com

### **MAHESH BHUPATHI**

*Racquet – Mixed Doubles Champion, Australian Open, 2009*

*‘I have been continuously involved with Equation from its inception. Its logistics, planning, scale and scope are a result of Rahul’s passion for India and Indian sport. I am not surprised at the goodwill it has earned – The Foundation’s work is compassionate, deep and considered. Who would not support such an organization?’*

- It is difficult to write about Mahesh Bhupathi purely as a world champion tennis player as his ties with The Foundation run deep and wide. For Equation, he has donated Roger Federer’s tennis shoes, a personal gift to him, to The Foundation. And, he has of course pledged the racquet from the most treasured mixed doubles title in this country’s history – the only Grand Slam won by an all-Indian pair – Mahesh and Sania Mirza at the Australian Open, 2009. Since 1997 when Mahesh became the first Indian to ever win a Grand Slam – the mixed doubles crown with Rika Hiraki at Roland Garros, he has notched another ten under his belt, both in men’s and mixed doubles. While his place as an all-time doubles tennis great is assured, for us his champion status stands multiplied because of his unstinting support toward Equation and The Foundation.



### **BHAICHUNG BHUTIA**

*Jersey - Signed by Zinedine Zidane, Luis Figo, Bhaichung Bhutia and others. International Charity Match for Haiti earthquake, 2010*

*‘Rahul and I go back some years now. I respect his efforts at putting rugby on the Indian sporting map as I respect the work The Foundation does. When he called and explained the concept behind Equation, I told him he didn’t have to waste time on formalities. Whatever I had was his.’*

■ ‘God’s gift to Indian football’. That’s how I.M. Vijayan described Bhaichung Bhutia, the man who singlehandedly energized football in this country. The Sikkimese Sniper has since been honoured with the Arjuna Award and the Padma Shri, but we believe an equally great honour was being the only Indian selected to play an international charity match in aid of the victims of the Haiti earthquake. Not only did Bhaichung play alongside greats like Zidane and Figo, he also scored in the game! It is this jersey (with his, Zidane’s and Figo’s signatures) that he has donated to The Foundation. The only player in our footballing history to play 100 internationals, Bhaichung’s status in the world of Indian football is nothing short of legendary.



**ABHINAV BINDRA**  
Rifle - World Championship, 2006  
World & Olympic record

*“I have been very attached to this rifle of mine because it is with this rifle I made my breakthrough at the highest level. It’s also a system which had several technological advancements done specifically for me including a handmade calibrated trigger mechanism. I won approximately 25 international medals during the 6 years I shot with this system. I must admit it is a little wrenching to give this away, but also extremely satisfying. This country needs organizations like The Foundation. My best wishes are with them.”*

- Abhinav Bindra’s email id contains the number 12931 - the same as the registration number of this, his most illustrious rifle to date. It’s the system India’s only Olympic gold medalist has exclusively shot with from 2000 to 2006. Air rifle no. 12931 helped Abhinav break the Olympic record in Athens, two world records in 2001 and 2002, and then become India’s first ever World Champion gold medallist at Zagreb in 2006. Besides this he has won two golds, a silver and a bronze at two Commonwealth Games- Manchester and Melbourne, with this rifle.

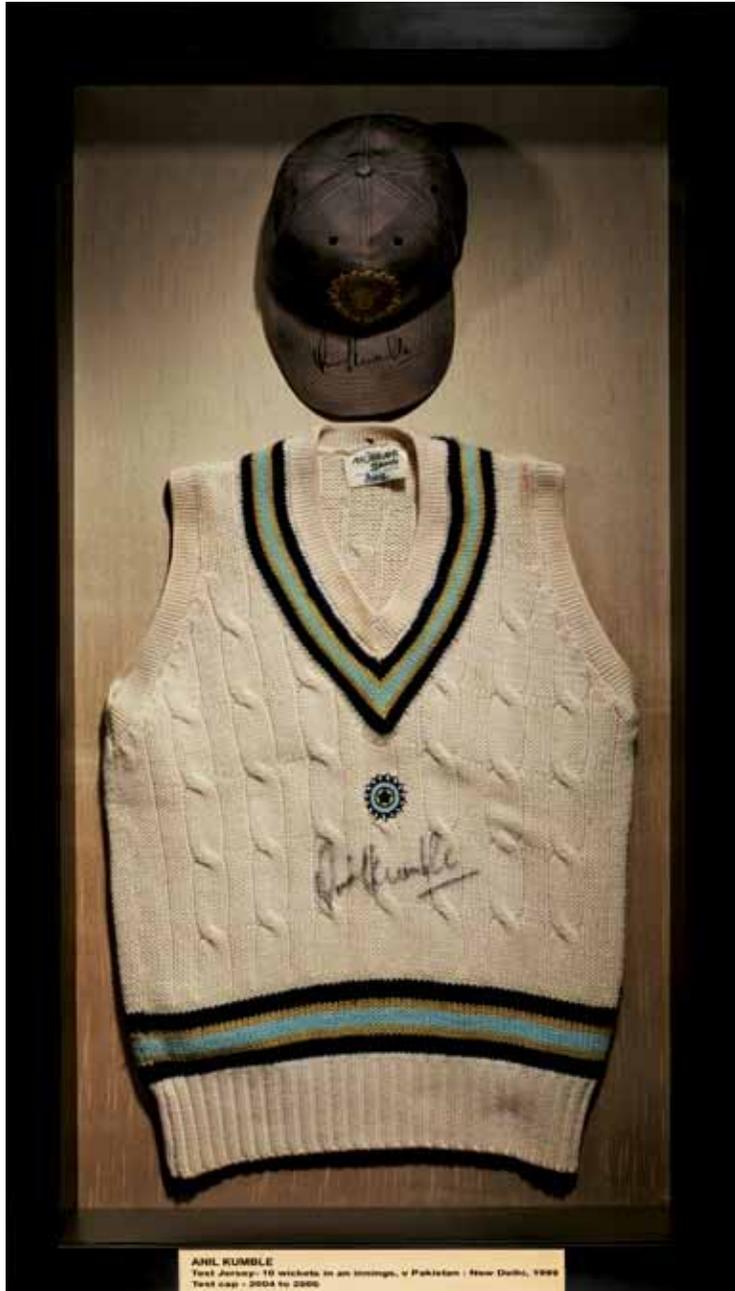


### RAHUL DRAVID

Bat - Century in each test innings, v Pakistan : Kolkata, 2005

*‘Supporting worthy causes is something every sports person does in his or her own way on many an occasion. But it gives me special pleasure in donating this bat to Equation. Over the years Rahul has kept me updated on the work The Foundation is engaged in. It is in-depth, informed and deeply sensitive work. I assure them of my continuing support.’*

— One might contend the genius of Rahul Dravid lies in his sublime batting. Or in his incredibly astute cricketing brain. Or even in his legendary mental resilience. We believe it lies in his ability to be grounded. To be, above all his records and his undeniable place as an all-time great, the person he has always been – thoughtful, compassionate, grounded. It is these qualities we salute in his pledge to Equation. The bat you see in the picture is one of Rahul’s most significant willows. A century in each innings is no mean feat for the best in the game and Rahul’s knocks in each essay in the Kolkata test piloted India to victory. A win in front of the famed Eden Gardens crowd is something every Indian cherishes. May there be many more.



Courtesy - India Today Images.com

### ANIL KUMBLE

Test Jersey - 10 wickets in an innings, v Pakistan : New Delhi, 1999

Test cap - 2004 to 2006

*“I was first acquainted with The Foundation and the work they do when I ran with the entire team and the kids from the Andamans at the Mumbai Marathon, 2008. It’s a great organization and one that really cares. This jersey is very, very special to me for obvious reasons, as is the test cap which saw me through thick and thin for three seasons. Equation as a concept is so powerful that I knew only something really meaningful would do justice to it. Good luck!”*

- It bears telling that the first person we asked to donate to Equation was Anil Kumble. A little secret – we knew he would not say no because he has supported The Foundation in the past! But, we can say with conviction, one of the greatest cricketers in history would not have said no even if we were strangers. He isn’t built like that. The class of Anil Kumble reflected on the Indian team when he was captain. It is that class that we doff our hats to, gratefully acknowledging the contribution of one of Indian sport’s favourite sons.



Courtesy: "India Today Images.com"

**SANIA MIRZA**  
Racquet – Wimbledon, 2010.

*‘This particular Wilson racquet is the one I used at Wimbledon, 2010, and won my first match at the Grand Slam level in doubles, returning from a career-threatening wrist injury. Every win at Wimbledon is special and this is the ‘tool’ that brought me a cherished win at the home of tennis! As for donating to Equation, if sportspersons like us, blessed with so much in such a short span of time, do not open our hearts to less fortunate Indians then what example are we setting? I look forward to hearing and reading much more about The Foundation in the years to come.’*

■ The immense good fortune of Equation has been receiving memorabilia from sportspersons without having ever exchanged a word of written or oral conversation with them. Sania Mirza is one such example. Her hectic tour commitments meant we had to rely on her long-distance generosity for her to agree to donate to the auction. She did so in a flash and that too, her racquet from Wimbledon, 2010. A classy gesture from the highest ranked Indian female tennis player in history. Thank you Sania. For your tennis and your compassion.



Courtesy: "indiatodayimages.com"

### **SAINA NEHWAL**

*Racquet – Singapore Open Super Series, Indonesian Open Super Series, Indian Open Grand Prix, all 2010.  
Gold Medal – Indian Open, 2010*

*“It was a fantastic feeling to win three important tournaments in the space of three weeks. It was very strenuous and I had to focus really hard. But my sentimental favourite was winning the Indian Open in my home town, Hyderabad. To give that medal and the badminton racquet that has been a part of the same set I have been using for three years to The Foundation is a matter of great joy for me. Keep up the good work!”*

— This is no ordinary badminton racquet donated by Saina. It’s the racquet that’s part of the set with which she’s won everything with from the time she reached the quarter-finals of the Beijing Olympics in 2008 to the astonishing three wins in a row in June, 2010 – the Indian open, Singapore Super Series and the Indonesian Super Series. Since then Saina has reached world no. 2 in the rankings. It is India’s first and only chance to own these most treasured pieces from a player tipped to be the future world no.1. We have to confess being totally overwhelmed by this champion’s generosity. She went way beyond the norm – just like her performance on the badminton court.



Courtesy: "indiatodayimages.com"

### LEANDER PAES

*Racquet - Mixed Doubles Champion, Wimbledon, 2010*

*'I have known Rahul as a rugby player for the past 25 years, and now as the founder of The Foundation. He has brought the same sense of commitment to his philanthropy as he did his sport. I am privileged to be included in this pantheon of champions and will always champion causes that make India a more inclusive, compassionate land.'*

- When Leander Paes (with Cara Black) won his 12th Grand Slam title at Wimbledon this year it was with the quick hands, mental toughness and fierce determination that have warmed the cockles of Indian hearts over the past eighteen years. Leander has also carried the proud legacy of Indian tennis players saving something special for the Davis Cup by notching some of his most memorable wins playing for the nation. But that's not all. No other player since Rod Laver has won Grand Slams over three decades, so it is with an incredible feeling of privilege that Equation accepts his pledge of the racquet he actually hit the winning volley at Wimbledon with this year. Leander's generosity comes as no surprise. He has always been there for any cause he believes in, he has always been there for India.



**VIREN RASQUINHA**

Hockey stick - Silver Medal, Asian Games, Busan, 2002

India blazer - Asian Games, Busan, 2002

*‘I have been aware of the philanthropic work Rahul has been doing for the last 5-6 years, so it was a no-brainer for me to say yes. But when he approached me for a piece for Equation, I responded to him as one former international sportsperson to another - both of us deeply care for the future of Indian sport. I wish him and The Foundation’s efforts to make this a world free of discrimination, all the success.’*

■ In the headiness of international acclaim there are few sportspersons who possess the farsightedness and certainty of where they want to be even before the applause has died down. Viren Rasquinha is one of them. One of the few hockey players in the world to have an equal measure of brains and brawn, experts agreed he still had a few seasons left in him when he called it quits. His retirement at the relatively young age of 28 to pursue an MBA makes his auction pieces even more coveted. Viren’s Asian Games silver medal-winning hockey stick is one of his most prized pieces as is his India blazer. His generosity is matched only by his uncomplicated largeheartedness.



Courtesy: [india.todaysimages.com](http://india.todaysimages.com)

### VIRENDER SEHWAG

*Batting gloves – 125\*, v New Zealand, 2009  
Fastest ODI hundred by an Indian.*

*‘These batting gloves mean a lot to me. The hundred I hit in Hamilton gave me great enjoyment. I remember hitting Vettori for a six to get the century and break the record. I hope The Foundation gets an equally record-breaking amount of funds from all the memorabilia to be auctioned in Equation 2010. Good luck!’*

— What can one say about Virender Sehwag? That he has one of the highest averages in test cricket? That he holds one of the highest strike rates in one day cricket? That he was the only Indian to be honored as the Wisden Leading Cricketer in the World, for his performances in 2008? Take your pick, but we would like to say Virender Sehwag is the cricketer who, in one day, agreed to donate the gloves that propelled him to the fastest ODI century (60 balls), by an Indian. Selected to be in the ICC World XI against Australia in 2005, He was just awarded the ICC Test Cricketer of the Year, 2010. Thank you, Viru. Never lose the magic!



**GEET SETHI**

*World Professional Billiards trophy, 1992  
and World Championship cue, 2007*

*“The trophy is special for me as it was won in front of my home crowd with my favourite actor, Amitabh Bachchan, handing it over to me. The emotion I experienced at the time of becoming the best in the professional world is embedded in this trophy. The cue I’ve donated is one of my favourites - I made the 764 in Singapore with it. I have known Rahul and the social work he does, for some years. It gives me immense pleasure to donate these pieces to his organization, The Foundation.’*

- It was a day Indian billiards had waited for. In September 1992, Geet Sethi became the first Indian to win the World Professional Billiards title, that too, in Mumbai. His world record break of 1276 in the quarter finals against Englishman Bob Close and his 818 against Mike Russell in the final encapsulated the qualities Indians have since come to take for granted in this champion – talent, concentration and a fierce desire to win. The two-piece maple cue that accompanies the trophy served him in both, the World Snooker Masters in 2007 as well as the World Billiards Championships in 2007 where Geet notched the tournament’s highest break of 764.



Courtesy "IndiaTodayImages.com"

### **SACHIN TENDULKAR**

*Bat - 163\* v New Zealand : Christchurch, 2009*

*Fourth highest one day score.*

*“A batsman remembers every knock he has made. I am no different. I remember the knock in Christchurch. It was satisfying not least because I kept up a decent strike rate. Another reason to feel thrilled is India won the game! When Rahul approached me I instantly said yes. As a proud Indian, there are some causes close to my heart. Working towards a society without discrimination is definitely one of them. May The Foundation grow from strength to strength.”*

— Every cricket-mad fan knows these numbers - 31,000 runs, 94 hundreds and still counting. The only contemporary player to be included in Sir Donald Bradman’s eleven, what can one say about Sachin Tendulkar that the world does not know already? This – he took less than 60 seconds to say yes to pledging memorabilia for Equation. It took just one more phone call to have his fourth highest one-day scoring bat in our hands. Signed by him. It is worth revisiting century no. 42 for a moment. Sachin’s hundred came of 101 balls and catapulted India to a massive 392. When he retired hurt in the 46th over, it was almost all over bar the shouting. Sachin Tendulkar, ICC Cricketer of the Year, 2010. India salutes you.

# MASTERS

Improbably, impossibly, incredibly,  
they ascended the world with nothing but genius and self-belief.



Courtesy: "India Today Images.com"

### VIJAY AMRITRAJ

*Tennis Racquet, Tennis Balls*

*‘Equation is just such a fantastic idea! It requires tremendous will and passion to put something like this together. I’ve never doubted that Rahul has both in abundance! He has on occasion, told me of the work The Foundation is engaged in – it is tough, sensitive, pathbreaking work. May this racquet, contribute generously to to the cause of non-discrimination.’*

- How do you not include an Indian great who was part of a tennis trio known as ‘The A,B,C, of tennis’ (Amritraj, Borg, Connors)? Who doesn’t know that famous epithet to the best players in the world at one time? What can one say about a tennis player who beat the top players of his (and any) generation at a time when Indian tennis sounded like an oxymoron? Vijay Amritraj beat them with a smile and sophistication that saw him after his playing days become a five-time president of the ATP. Vijay’s intelligence, wit and experience have made him one of the most sought-after tennis ambassadors on the globe. His own foundation, The Vijay Amritraj Foundation, is dedicated to ‘bring hope, help and healing to victims of natural and manmade calamities in India.’



Courtesy: "India Today/Images.com"

### SUNIL GAVASKAR

*Bat - Signed by 1983 World Cup-winning squad.*

*'What can I say about this piece and about the 1983 World Cup squad that has not already been said, except that I am extremely happy it happened in my lifetime, and I hope 2011 sees a repeat! The irony of life is most of my memorabilia was damaged during a particular heavy monsoon season in Mumbai leaving me with next to nothing to donate to a cause. Which is why I'm so happy I found this bat to donate to Equation. What a concept and how marvelous of The Foundation to honour Indian sport! My best wishes.'*

- India will forever idolise Sunil Gavaskar simply because he was the first sportsperson who showed us what could be achieved with a combination of belief, fearlessness, steel and genius. His was the cricket bat that absorbed our feverish hopes of success and, helmetless, he never backed down from the best bowling attacks in history. Gavaskar made us proud, he energized us, he pushed us to be our best. Today, this world champion honours us with a memento he talks about in his own words. But before we do, a few from us - Sir, you've made our day.



Courtesy: "India Today Images.com"

### KAPIL DEV

Bat - Signed by 1983 World Cup winning squad.

*‘Through all my sporting successes I never forgot the humble beginnings I came from. Growing up like that taught me that the problems in this country can only be surmounted if all of us work together, work tirelessly. The Foundation is one of the many organizations trying to do just that. The bat I have donated maybe precious to me, but the feeling I have done something to help create a more just world is of greater worth.’*

- What sports auction in this country could be complete without a piece from Kapil Dev Nikhanj? Each time he picked up ball or bat every Indian knew anything was possible (the 175\* v Zimbabwe in the 1983 World Cup is just one of scores of instances). We must admit to some trepidation at approaching one of the game’s legends, but Kapil was unbelievably spontaneous, incredibly largehearted. He has donated his last piece of 1983 World Cup memorabilia. It is a bat signed by the entire cricket team that made history 27 years ago. Today, the grace and fluidity of one of the most awesomely talented sportspersons is matched only by his warmth and passion for this country. Sir, you make us proud.



Courtesy "IndiaTodayImages.com"

### **PRAKASH PADUKONE**

*Silver Medal - Japan Open, 1981*

*‘Initially I felt bad at not being able to donate something to The Foundation. Then I found the Japan Open silver. While it was not the crowning moment of my career, it was one of the victories that gave me the belief I could be world champion. If this medal can benefit the needy that The Foundation works with, I will be the happiest person.’*

- Anybody who watched Prakash Padukone defeat Liem Swie King on that fateful day in 1980 at the All-England Badminton Championships will understand the immeasurable pride we feel in having memorabilia from the master in this year’s Equation. But it wasn’t easy! For the longest time Prakash could not find anything to pledge from his world champion days. 30 years is a long time. Nothing from 1980, his dream year when he won the Danish Open, the Swedish Open and the All-England Championships. Then one day he called and said he had found his silver medal from the Japan Open, 1981. We immediately asked for it! India and Indian sport have honoured this gentleman champion many times over. In donating one of his last pieces, he honours us.



Courtesy: 'indiatodayimages.com'

**MANSUR ALI KHAN PATAUDI**  
*Debut India Blazer v England, 1961*  
*Retiring India Blazer v West Indies, 1975*

*‘When Rahul approached me, it didn’t matter to me what the nitty-gritties of Equation were going to be. It was enough for me that he and his foundation were behind it. I know of him as a talented, ethical, deeply motivated man. He tells me I coached him briefly three decades ago. Well, I am glad to help him again!’*

■ We are proud to write a little bit of history on this page. This is the first time Mansur Ali Khan of Pataudi has ever donated any memorabilia for an auction. There are few sportspersons you can compare across different eras without their reputations crashing on the rocks of speed, fitness and ability. Not Tiger Pataudi. Who amongst the greatest in the game today can score a century against a top class bowling attack with one eye? Who would be better than him in the covers today? Who would make for a better captain and motivator of men? And, if we may add, which cricketer would donate his test debut and final test blazer, albeit for a noble cause? Not too many, Sir.



Courtesy: 'India Today Images.com'

### AJIT PAL SINGH

Hockey stick – (Exchanged with) Pakistan Captain, Islahuddin, World Cup Final, 1975  
Hockey stick - 1975

*‘When Rahul approached me and told me about the (excellent) work The Foundation was doing I made a trip back to Jalandhar where any memorabilia I might have had left was kept in storage. By the grace of God I found two sticks that hold my most treasured memories. I pledge them to Equation with my love and happiness.’*

- If there was one piece of memorabilia we at The Foundation had set our hearts on it was from Ajit Pal Singh. Some of the older members in the office remember listening to their radios as India beat Pakistan in that unforgettable World Cup final. The next day in the papers we saw photographs of Ajit Pal Singh holding the trophy aloft and every Indian felt ten feet tall. The fantastic news is the former India captain has not disappointed us. At the end of that final he exchanged hockey sticks with the Pakistan captain, Islahuddin. It is that very stick that Ajit Pal has donated to Equation. Not to worry, that’s not all. He has pledged one of the sticks he used in those halcyon days, too. Sir, India thanks you.

# INTERNATIONAL

Pieces from some of the greatest players overseas,  
donated by Indians with some of the biggest hearts.



**ROGER FEDERER**

*Tennis shoes - Winner, Cincinnati Open, 2010*

*'When I asked Roger for his shoes after he had won the final at the Cincinnati Open, I was not aware of the added significance of that win. Turns out it was his 63rd tournament title, tying him with Borg for most titles won by any player in tennis history. It is typically Roger and what makes him the greatest that when I asked him for his shoes, he didn't take more than a few seconds to say yes. I thought of donating them to The Foundation because given the event they were planning, it was a perfect fit!' Mahesh Bhupathi*

■ This August, when Mahesh Bhupathi called us from Cincinnati and said Roger Federer had just gifted him the shoes he wore to win the Open there, we were thrilled for him. Imagine our disbelief when he said he'd like to donate them to The Foundation! What a champion gesture! So there you have it. Shoes scuffed by, played (and won) in by the greatest tennis player of all time. One of the most precious jewels in the Equation crown this year.



**DIEGO FORLAN**  
*Football*

*When Diego Forlan curled that free kick past the Ghanaian goalkeeper in World Cup 2010, a star was born. Five goals in South Africa this year saw him receiving the Golden Ball as the best player. Speak to contemporary footballers and coaches and the consistent comment about Forlan's success is it is well-deserved, few footballers have such a rigorous work ethic. Speak to Forlan and he laughs it off saying he loves being on the field so much it translates into a lot of training!*

- Forlan's extraordinary talent had been on display in his performances for Atletico Madrid for the past two years. His standout performances for this modest Spanish club have made him a two-time winner of both the Pichichi Trophy (the first player to win it twice after Ronaldo's double in 2003-4), and the European Golden Shoe. The Foundation would like to thank Mahuaa TV for donating this once-in-a-lifetime piece for Indian bidders. The value of this lot is only matched by the spirit of philanthropy behind it.



Courtesy "IndiaTodayImages.com"

### **RICKY PONTING**

Gold medal - World Cup 2007

*Dhiraj Malhotra has been a friend of The Foundation since its inception. When he learned of Equation, Dhiraj called us and offered to donate Ricky Ponting's World Cup 2007 gold medal that Ricky had gifted him in the Windies. A cricket administrator by passion and profession, Dhiraj has been with the ICC for the last six years. 'I was with Ricky after the awards ceremony and quite boldly asked him for the medal as a souvenir, fully expecting him to say no. To my astonishment, Ricky just gave it to me. My donating it to Equation is nothing compared to his awesome gesture. Thank you, Ricky, and good luck to The Foundation. May this medal bring millions!'*

■ When Ricky Ponting lifted the World Cup on 28th April, 2007, it was the first time any team had won the cup three times in a row. It was the fourth time Australia were on top of the cricketing world. For Ricky Ponting nothing could have been more special than leading his team to World Cup victory. Yet, in characteristic Ponting style, when asked how he felt about the performance of the Australian team he said, 'I fully expect us to win every game we play, it doesn't matter what the make-up of the team is.' We salute a true champion.



**MARIA SHARAPOVA**

*Racquet*

*More than Maria Sharapova, this signed racquet up for auction at Equation 2010 is a story about generous friends. When Akshay Kulkarni, one of Equation's steering committee members gifted Maria's racquet to The Foundation, he became the first Indian to donate a piece for our international section. How he came to possess this racquet is another link in the generosity chain. Maria Sharapova is an IMG client and Ravi Krishnan, head of IMG India, gifted this piece to Akshay, a huge tennis fan. We thank them both.*

■ Perhaps the most photographed female tennis player in history, Maria Sharapova rose above her stunning good looks to silence her critics by winning three Grand Slams and becoming world no. 1 four times, the last time in May, 2008. For her fans, it's as much for the 22 WTA titles over the last six years, as a United Nations Development Project Goodwill Ambassador and the face of Nike, Prince and Canon, that Maria can truly claim to be one of the most recognisable names in world sport today. For us, her wins at Wimbledon, the U.S and Australian Opens is recognition enough!



Courtesy: "indiafoday/images.com"

**SHANE WARNE**  
*Retiring Cricket Victoria shirt*

*‘I hope you like this shirt, mate. It means a lot to me.’ These are Shane’s words in a letter that accompanied his autographed retiring Cricket Victoria shirt which he gifted to me. For me to donate this to my foundation is the most natural thing in the world. I did let Shane know what I was doing. He thoroughly approved. Good on him.”*

- If cricket fans know Shane Warne as one of Australia’s most patriotic sportspersons, it pales next to how patriotic he is about Victoria. Whilst his immense abilities catapulted him into the Australian team after only 7 first class games and prevented him from representing his state as often as he would have liked due to Australian team commitments, he cherished every moment he stepped out on the field for his beloved team. The Wisden cricketer of the year has dedicated himself to helping charities through The Shane Warne Foundation and has made it possible for Rahul to own a piece of history with this iconic top.

## TERMS & CONDITIONS OF THE AUCTION BY 'THE FOUNDATION'

For the purpose of this auction, which is a private event, wherein the participation is by invitation only, the following conditions shall apply:

The property offered in this sale would be offered and sold by 'The Foundation'. Any questions should be directed to 'The Foundation' and not to the Auctioneer, who serves merely as auctioneer for 'The Foundation' in conducting the auction sale and participates on the following terms and conditions, as may be amended by any posted notices or oral announcements during the Auction/ Sale, which govern the sale of all property listed herein.

- 1) The auction will be conducted in Indian Rupees.
- 2) The term "property" means 'a piece' and/or 'a lot of pieces' put to auction by 'The Foundation' on 29th October, 2010.
- 3) (a) Neither the Auctioneer nor 'The Foundation' assumes any risk, liability or responsibility for the authenticity of the ownership of any property, except a confirmatory certificate from the Sports person who have gifted sports-piece, which will be handed over to the purchaser of such property.  
(b) All property is sold with all faults and imperfections and errors of description and neither the Auctioneer nor 'The Foundation' makes any representations or warranties of any kind or nature, expressed or implied, with respect to the property, and in no event shall either of them be responsible for the correctness of any catalogue or notice or descriptions of property nor deemed to have made any representations of warranty of conditions, size, quality, rarity, importance, genuineness, attribution, authenticity, provenance or historical relevance of any property. No statement in any catalogue, notice or description or made at the sale, in any bill of sale, invoice or elsewhere shall be deemed such a representation or warranty or any assumption of liability. Neither the Auctioneer nor 'The Foundation' makes any representation or warranty, expressed or implied as to whether the purchase acquires any further rights in the property. Prospective bidders should inspect any property before bidding to determine its genuineness, quality, and condition.
- 4) 'The Foundation' may withdraw any property at anytime before the actual sale.
- 5) 'The Foundation' will only accept bids from bidders who have registered for and present a bidding paddle and reserve the right to reject a bid from any bidder. The highest bidder acknowledged by the auctioneer shall be the purchaser. In the event of any dispute between bidders, the auctioneer shall have sole and final discretion either to determine the successful bidder or to re-offer and resell the property in dispute. If any dispute arises after the sale, 'The Foundation's' sale records shall be conclusive in all respects, and the bidders hereby agree to be bound by the same.
- 6) If the auctioneer determines that any opening bid is not commensurate with the value of the property, he may reject the same and withdraw the property from sale, and if, having acknowledged in opening bid, he decides that any advance thereafter is insufficient, he may reject the advance.
- 7) In support of 'The Foundation' the Auctioneer is donating his services towards this charity auction, therefore there will be no buyer's premium and the highest bidder acknowledged by the auctioneer shall be the buyer of the 'Hammer Price'. The 'Hammer Price' means the price at which property is knocked down by the auctioneer to the buyer. On the fall of the auctioneer's hammer, the highest bidder shall be deemed to have purchased the offered property subject to all of the conditions set forth herein and thereupon (a) assume the risks and the responsibilities thereof (b) will sign a confirmation of purchase and (c) will forthwith pay the full purchase price thereof or such as 'The Foundation' may require. If the forgoing conditions and other applicable conditions are not complied with, in addition to other remedies available to 'The Foundation' by law, including, without limitations, the right to hold the Purchaser liable for the bid price, 'The Foundation' at its auction, may either (a) cancel the sale, retaining as liquidated damages all payments made by the purchasers, and/ or (b) recall the properties on three days notice to purchaser, and at the account and the risk of the purchaser, either publicly or privately, in such event the purchaser shall be liable to payment of any deficiency or other charges due hereunder and all incidental damages.
- 8) All property is being offered subject to a reserve, which is the minimum price below which such property will not be sold.
- 9) Under no circumstances will 'The Foundation' rescind any purchase made or refund the amount paid in respect of any property sold.
- 10) These conditions of sale, as also the purchaser's, 'The Foundation's' and the Auctioneer's respective rights and obligations shall be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of Mumbai. By

bidding at the auction whether present in person or by agent, order bid, or other means, the purchaser shall be deemed to have consented to all the terms set out herein, including submission to the exclusive jurisdiction to the Courts of Mumbai.

11) Settlement: immediately on the auction of a property, the buyer shall:

- a) Give to 'The Foundation' his name, paddle number and, if so required, proof of identity.
- b) Pay to 'The Foundation' the full 'Hammer Price', or at the option of 'The Foundation' pay to 'The Foundation' the sum of 25% of the bid amount and / or furnish an undertaking in the prescribed form and to pay the remaining balance in seven days.
- c) All payments can be made by demand draft/credit card/cheque drawn in favor of 'The Foundation'.
- d) 'The Foundation' reserves the right to accept / demand payment in any other manner that in its sole discretion as may deem appropriate.
- e) The Rules and Regulations and various Acts currently prevailing in Mumbai govern all payments made to 'The Foundation'.

12) Collections of Purchased item:

- a) The buyer hereby specifically acknowledges that 'The Foundation' agrees to store the property after the auction solely for the convenience of the buyer and assume no liability whatsoever in this regard. Neither 'The Foundation' nor their respective servants or agents shall thereafter be responsible for any loss or damage of any kind whether caused by negligence or otherwise while any property is in their custody or under their control.
- b) Purchases can be collected from the auction venue after the sale and against full settlement.
- c) The buyer shall at his own expenses take away the property purchased not later than seven days after the day of auction, but not before payment to 'The Foundation' of the total amount due.
- d) The buyer shall be responsible for any removal, storage and insurance charges on any property after the completion of the sale.
- e) After the date of the auction, the property can be collected after the payment of full amounts due from the venue specified by 'The Foundation'.
- f) In the event that any property is not collected within seven days from the date of auction, 'The Foundation' reserves the right to resell or otherwise dispose of such piece as 'The Foundation' in its sole discretion deems fit. It is specified that the foresaid right of 'The Foundation' to dispose off such pieces which are not collected would be without prejudice to its right to recover the amount due from concerned Bidder.

13) Buyer's responsibilities of property purchased:

If any payment towards property purchased is not paid in full and/or taken away in accordance with condition 11, 'The Foundation' will be entitled to :-

- a) Charge 5% of the Hammer Price as storage for every subsequent week thereafter or
- b) Dispose off such pieces as 'The Foundation' deems appropriate without giving any notice to the defaulting buyer and forfeit the advance paid, without prejudice to any other claims that 'The Foundation' may have against the buyer.

14) Guide for Absentee bidder:

- a) If you are unable to attend the auction in person and wish to place bids, you give 'The Foundation' instructions to bid on your behalf. Our representative will than try to bid for the property of your choice for the lowest possible price, and never for more than the top amount have you indicated.
- b) To place bids use the absentee bid form provided in this catalogue. Be sure to accurately record the property numbers and descriptions and in top price you are willing to bid for each piece. Alternative bids should be indicated by using the word 'OR' between the property numbers.  
Then if your bid on an early piece of property is successful, we will not continue to bid on other pieces for you. Or, if your early bids are unsuccessful, we will continue to execute bids for alternative pieces until a bid is successful. Bids must always be placed in the same order as the property numbers in the catalogue.
- c) Successful bidders will be notified and invoiced within three days and shall be required to pay within seven days thereafter and also collect relevant pieces within seven days failing which 'The Foundation' reserves the right to resell or otherwise dispose off such pieces and/or 'The Foundation', in its sole discretion deems fit. It is specified that the foresaid right of 'The Foundation' to sell off such pieces which are not collected would be without prejudice its right to recover the amount due from the concerned Bidder.
- 15) Miscellaneous: In addition to the hammer price the buyer will also pay an additional value added tax of 12.5% each piece and/or lot.

## THANK YOU

**Equation would not have happened without the generosity of many partners. A simple thank you from The Foundation to :**

**Raheja Universal**, our partners, who have borne the expenses of Equation 2010. They came on board literally within an hour of hearing the proposal. Their unwavering belief, support and warmth have made the difference between a dream and reality.

**Kingfisher Airlines**. Thank you for taking a considerable financial burden off us. Without you we would have had to dig deep into our pockets to fly our donors and guests for the evening.

**CNN-IBN**, our television partners. Thank you for understanding that while there will be only 250 people in the room witness to an evening that celebrates Indian sport and sportspersons at their best, the nation deserves to watch a little piece of history being made.

**The Trident, Nariman Point**. For their imaginative support, hospitality and the willingness to go the extra mile.

**Mallika Advani**. Your instant 'yes' to our request to conduct the auction reaffirms our belief that the best in their field have big, muscular hearts.

**Harsha Bhogle and Cyrus Broacha**. Classy, compassionate, sports-mad. You have friends at The Foundation for life.

**Globosport**. Thank you Mahesh Bhupathi. Thank you Mustafa for never stopping. Your optimism and belief that we could get partners for everything was only equaled by your skill at making that a reality.

**Red Box Productions**. Kalyani Karandikar-Kulkarni, apart from your faultless imagination and good taste, to you goes the Nobel Prize for Sorcery. You calmly agreed to our 1000 last minute demands and made them happen. It has to be black magic.

**Team Eye-D**. Divya, Meghna. You took Equation and made it bigger than we could ever imagine. We're never going to let you go!

**India Fine Art Gallery**. Penny Patel take a bow. Her art gallery played host to the press conference. Penny herself was the mastermind behind the mounting, encasing and engraving of all the pieces. If we started, we'd never stop thanking you, so we'll just say – don't ever stop believing in us.

**Survival by Design**. TV Narayan and Ramdas – we quite simply owe you everything the world sees of The Foundation and Equation's public face. Privately we owe you even more. Special thanks to Ramdas for thinking of the name of the event!

**Suresh Natarajan's Studio**. Suresh and his band of merry photographers shot all the pieces with excellence, patience and humour. Yet another debt in a lifelong of IOUs, Suresh!

**Design Temple**. Divya Thakur and her team - thank you for our new-look website. We'll try and live upto it's class.

**Comart** and especially, **Fred Poonawala**, who we desperately called (after fifteen years of not staying in touch), for a favour. He said yes. On the phone. Just like that. You're a star, Fred.

**IndiaTodayImages.com**. When you need top quality photographs of world champions and you don't have the money, call them. They were unfussily prompt, professional, and philanthropic. Thank you Kalli Purie.

**People magazine**. In an age where more editorial is purchased than earned, you showed us the old ways still exist. Thank you.

**The steering committee of Equation**. Hemang Raja, Rishikesh Joshi, Saurav Goswami, Bela Raja and the unbelievable Akshay Kulkarni. How all you incredibly busy professionals found the time and drive to do all you have done for the last six months will forever remain a mystery to us at The Foundation. All we can say is – if we can ever return the favour, you know you only have to ask.

**All the sportspersons who grace these pages**. Another reason for the world to feel proud of you.

*Thank you all.  
Again and again.*



THE FOUNDATION

**EQUATION**

AN AUCTION FOR EQUALITY



**RAHEJA**  
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