

'Sare Jahan Se Achha Hindustan Hamara' - played at the White House

May 15, 2024

May 14, 2024: **White House**, USA: The White House's Marine Band on Monday played "*Sare Jahan Se Achha Hindustan Hamara*" before scores of Asian Americans as they gathered to celebrate the annual **Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month** here at a reception with President **Joe Biden** and Vice President **Kamala Harris**.



*May 14, 2024: Annual Celebration of **AANHPI Heritage Month**, White House, USA: Marine Band played, Iqbal's song, written during India's Indendence Struggle, at the request of Indian Americans, invited by President **Joe Biden**.*

"This was an amazing celebration of White House's AANHPI Heritage Month at the Rose Garden. The best part was that as I walked into the White House, I was greeted by the musicians playing '**Sare Jahan se Accha Hindustan Hamara**'. (means "*Better than the entire world, is our Hindustan*")," Indian-American community leader **Ajay Jain Bhutoria** told PTI in an interview after the Rose Garden reception.

This is the second time in less than a year that the popular Indian patriotic song was played at the White House. The last time it was played was on June 23, 2023, during the 3-day State visit of Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**.

The Marine Band said that it had practiced this song ahead of the State Visit. (Reference: <https://tinyurl.com/wdbr3f7d>)



***Ajay Jain Bhutpria**, California-based Indian American community leader*

“I felt so good. I started singing with the Marine Band and then I requested them to play it once again,” Bhutoria said.

“President **Biden** has said that India is one of the most consequential partners. I was talking to (US Trade Representative) **Ambassador (Katherine) Tai**. I was talking about how you are looking at India as a trade partner and right now trying to balance with China. They are saying definitely, we are looking at more new partners and trying to balance China of course,” he said.

“The India-US relationship is growing at all stages from people to people. Over 4.4 million Indian Americans are the backbone of this relationship. We saw with Prime Minister **Modi** coming, signing the new defense agreements,” Bhutoria said.