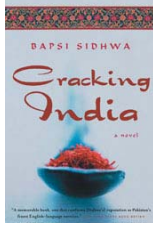


Join us for a very special Chai Time with



BAPSI SIDHWA

“India is going to be broken. Can you break a country? And what happens if they break it where our house is?” As the young daughter of an affluent Parsee family in Lahore, Lenny—who is crippled by polio—is keenly observant of the city’s astonishing diversity. As Lahore descends into sectarian violence due to the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947, Lenny’s innocence is lost, and with it, the fragile unity of the subcontinent.

DATE: Sunday, April 26th

TIME: 2 pm – 5 pm

WHERE: Potomac Community Center

11315 Falls Road – Potomac, MD Call for Directions: 240-777-6960

CHAI-TIME presents BAPSI SIDHWA, the renowned Pakistani-American author of *Cracking India, An American Brat, The Crow Eaters, Water, and Bride*. BAPSI SIDHWA has been widely celebrated as the finest novelist produced by her country. Internationally acclaimed author Bapsi Sidhwa was born in Karachi and raised in Lahore, Pakistan; she now lives in Houston Texas. She graduated from Kinnaird College for Women, Lahore. Her 5 novels: *Water, An American Brat, Cracking India, The Bride, and The Crow Eaters* have been translated and published in several languages. Her anthology: *City of Sin and Splendour [aka] Beloved City: Writings on Lahore*, was published in 2006.

Among her many honors Sidhwa received the Bunting Fellowship at Radcliffe/Harvard, the *Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writer's Award*, the *Sitara-i-Imtiaz*, Pakistan's highest national honor in the arts, and the *LiBeraturepreis* in Germany and the 2007 Primo Mondello Award in Italy.

Sidhwa, who was on the advisory committee to Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on Women's Development has taught at Columbia University, University of Houston, Mount Holyoke College, Southampton University and Brandeis.

Cracking India (a New York Times Notable Book of the Year and a Quality Paperback Book Club selection), was made into the film *Earth* by Canadian director Deepa Mehta. Her latest novel *Water* is based on Mehta's film of the same name. Sidhwa's play, *An American Brat*, was produced by Stages Repertory Theater in Houston March 2007. It played to full houses and received critical acclaim. Her play, *Sock'em With Honey*, played in London in 2003.

Ms. Sidhwa's books will be on sale at a special Chai-Time discounted price.

Suggested donation: \$3 per person

Please RSVP to Rashid and Bano Makhdoom at (301) 424-0751.