L'Union fait La Force

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*Views expressed by contributors are their own*




## A Break for Gaza?

With the likely departure of the Israeli criminal will the bloodshed in Gaza, the West Bank and Palestine as a whole stop? Colonial Britain responsible for the slave trade is also responsible for all the crimes in Gaza committed by the Jews who came from Europe. The culprit was a coloniser by the name of Balfour. Hereunder is a note, issued by 5Pillars of how he is remembered. Creature like this makes one question the existence of a supreme being who can tolerate such nastiness on the part of bullshitters who impose themselves as masters of the planet.

Nadarajen. Gounden

5Pillars 2 November

109 YEARS SINCE THE BALFOUR DECLARATION: BRITAIN'S BETRAYAL OF PALESTINE

On this day in 1917, Britain issued the Balfour Declaration, promising its support for the establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine — a land that was not Britain's to give away.

In a letter just 67 words long, British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour made a commitment to the Zionist movement without consulting the Palestinian population, which made up around 90% of the country's inhabitants.

Palestinians were not even mentioned by name. Instead, they were dismissed as the "existing non-Jewish communities", with no explicit recognition of their national or political rights.

Britain subsequently took control of Palestine and facilitated Jewish immigration and the development of Zionist institutions, laying the foundations for the establishment of Israel in 1948.

**The consequences for Palestinians were catastrophic**

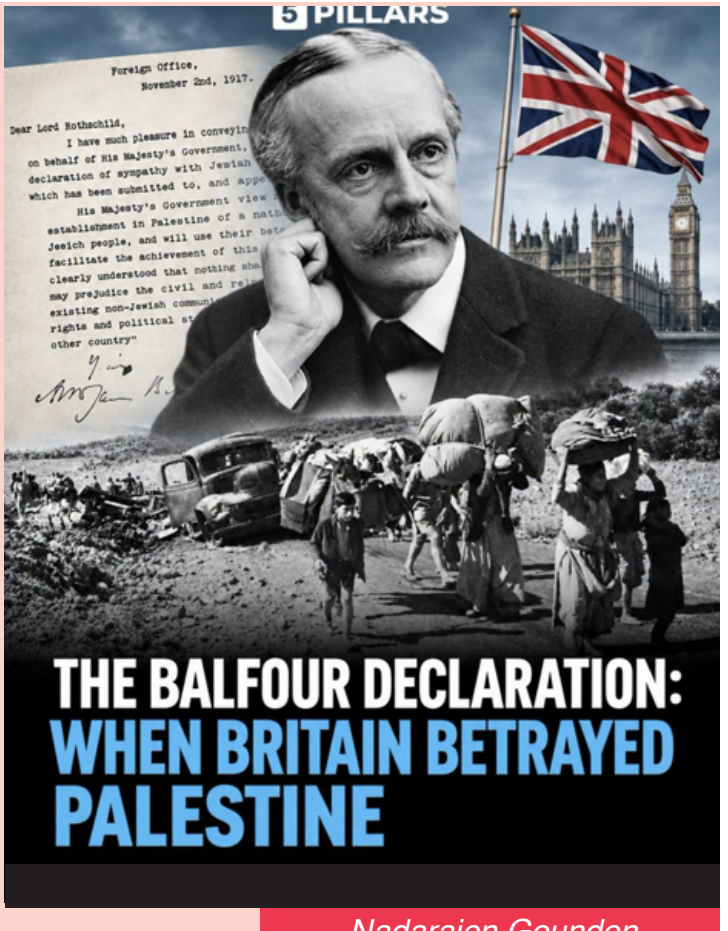
During the Nakba of 1948, around 750,000 Palestinians were expelled or fled from their homes, hundreds of Palestinian villages were destroyed or depopulated, and an entire people was left dispossessed and scattered. More than a century later, millions of Palestinians remain refugees, and have suffered apartheid, ethnic cleansing, occupation, oppression and genocide.

The Balfour Declaration remains a symbol of British colonial betrayal: one power promising another people's homeland to a movement seeking to establish a state there by force, without the consent of the people who lived on that land.

109 years on, Palestinians are still living with its consequences.

Palestine was never Britain's to give away. Colonial Britain occupied Palestine as a protectorate.

M.I.M Note: It is situation like this that makes one reflect whether there is a god who could sit in his heaven surrounded by his angels and contemplates such nastiness a Lord Balfour

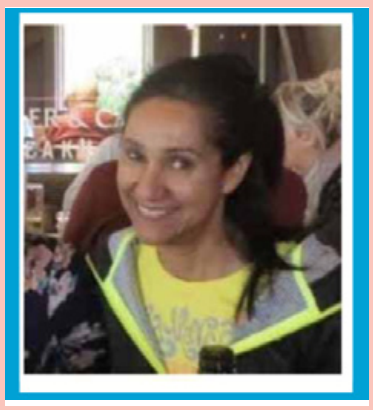



*Nadarajen Gounden*

*With winter ahead*

# WARMING UP TO JAPANESE WINTER HOT POTS

*From Mylene, Japan*



***The first snow fell in Hokkaido the other day, a sign of the extreme cold to come***



## Nabe or Japanese hot pot.

Nabe typically features thinly sliced meat, fish, tofu, mushrooms and seasonal vegetables, all simmered together in a communal pot at the centre of the table.
A portable gas burner keeps the broth gently bubbling as everyone tucks in.



The first snow settles gently on a Doudan-tsutsuji shrub. Though this light snowfall will soon melt away, the feeling of winter lingers in the air.
Can you spot the snow on the shrub?



O-den: A One Pot Dish. is a traditional Japanese comfort food featuring ingredients such as Japanese radish, boiled egg, fish cakes, konnyaku ( a firm jelly-like food made from konjac) and Fried tofu, all gently simmered in a savoury broth until they absorb its rich flavour.

Japanese winter hot pots are about much more than food. Family and friends gather around the table, helping themselves to ingredients as the food simmer in the communal pot. The cooked food is often dipped into a tasty sauce before eating.



**Shabu - Shabu**



Motsu Nabe

These shared meals offer more than warmth for the body, they bring people together, creating a sense of comfort warm cold winter evenings.
As winter takes hold outside, homes become warm and cosy havens, while kitchens come alive with steaming pots and wholesome dishes that bring comfort and warmth to even the chilliest

## Reassuring Message From The Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority

**Despite some isolated incidents of unrest in certain specific residential areas of Mauritius on the night of the 13 October 2026 and following our last communique, Government Authorities have rapidly restored calm, in these areas following an overnight curfew across defined areas of the island effective Tuesday 13 October 2026 at 8.30pm and until 6.00am on Wednesday 14 October 2026.**

### Situation on the ground

• The police and authorities have restored calm across the specific areas and are continuing in that direction.
• No tourists on the island and during their holidays have been affected.
Travel and operations are normal
• Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport is fully operational. Both inbound and outbound flights are running normally as scheduled.
• Hotels, Resorts are fully opened together with excursions across the island
• DMC's and Travel agents are fully operational for transfers and their other scheduled activities.

### Support for visitors

The MTPA, together with the Ministry of Tourism, the national authorities, AHRIM and our industry partners, is continuously monitoring the situation closely. A 24/7 visitor assistance email is available at : secretary@mtpa.mu

In line with our previous communique, we still advise visitors to avoid any public gatherings, to follow guidance from their hotel, tour operator, DMC and rely only on official communication channels for updates. The Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority (MTPA) will issue further updates as needed on its website www.mytravel.mauritius and Social media channels (Linked In and Facebook).

Mauritius has always been known for its welcoming hospitality, peace and the warmth of its people. This has not changed while the country continues to welcome our visitors.

# Mauritius and Rodrigues at the World Travel Market 2026

**Mauritius brought 30 operators of the travel industry on one stand to sell their products at the World Travel Market (WTM) that was held at London Ex-Cel exhibition centre from 3 to 5 November 2026. The World Travel Market is one of the biggest, if not the biggest, travel trade fairs the world over. It is certainly the first one to bring under one roof all the countries of the world.**

**The WTM is a business to business fair, as a supplier to the tour operators and travel agents but not to the travellers themselves. Another tourism exhibition, Destinations: The Holiday & Travel Show is meant for the general public to plan and buy.**

The stand of the MTPA also provided space to Rodrigues Island to market its holiday products. The stand comprised the participation of the national airline, Air Mauritius, the major hotel owners and the association of hotel owners, and companies that promote the two islands as favourite destinations

The Mauritius delegation to the WTM 2026 was led by Tourism Minister Hon Richard Duval, Mr Dinesh Burrenchobay, Chairman of the Mauritius Tourism Authority (MTPA), Mr Benoit Harter, Director, and Ms Zeenath Gangee, Promotion Officer of the MTPA. As far as we know Mauritius has had a presence at the WTM since its first days in the 1980s at Olympia then. I remember Jean Descelles from Mauritours being there. As a personal friend, he was the one who introduced me, editor of Mauritius News to the WTM. Mauritours has always been present.

As Minister Duval said it is very important for Mauritius to be present at the WTM to achieve all its tourism objectives·

**P.C.**



Tourism Minister Richard Duval with Deputy High Commissioner, Mr Kevin Payendee

## On the Mauritius Stand. Pictures from Michel Marain




Air Mauritius area (left)




MTPA area on the right

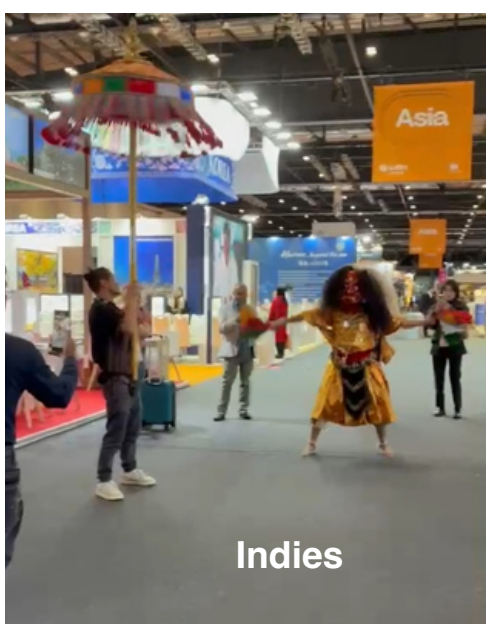



Major hotels include The Lux Collectives

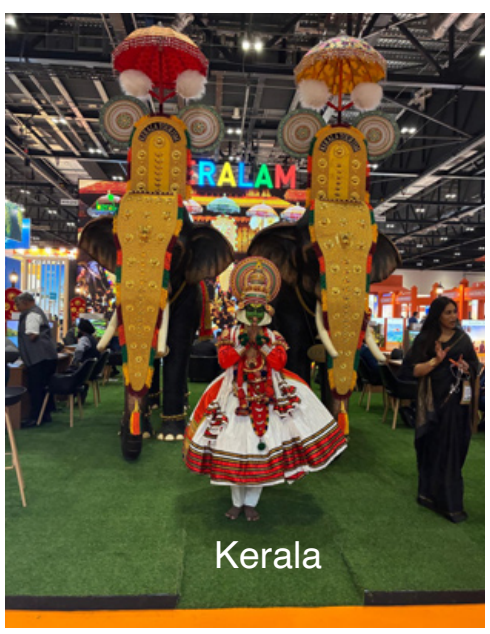
The major hotel groups and resorts comprise Beachcomber, Attitude, Sunlife, The Lux Collective, Heritage & Veranda,

## Tourist Attractions from other countries at WTM

*Pictures from Lee Boolaky*




**Indies**




Kerala



Egypt

