


**The Photographic Society of America – Photo Travel Division
Digital Study Group 1**

Round:	1	Maker's Name	N. Sukumar
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Image No:	1	Image Title:	Chanting of the Names	
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BURKE COMMENTS AND RATINGS

Comments: This image tells a reasonably strong Photo Travel. The apparent exchange between the man and the woman adds interest. The story might have been stronger yet if you had been able to move a step or two to the left so the woman's was more visible. The colors appear quite true and reasonably well saturated. There is plenty of detail also.

Improvements: Some cropping from the left and the right would be an improvement as some unnecessary elements would be removed; thus placing greater emphasis on the center of interest. There is some room, as well, for a small amount of color enhancement, added contrast and sharpening.

Visual Feedback: Yes

Interest: Above average **Technical:** Above average **Composition:** Above average

DOERRIE COMMENTS AND RATINGS

Comments: Hello,

Nice job of photographing a group of people without cutting off or cropping anyone in an awkward place.

Improvements: I did find the guy to the right with his hand out to be in a somewhat distracting position, but when I played with the cropping, I decided there was no good way to crop him out without creating a very awkward cropping situation with the woman and child. It also really would be a shame to lose the color in his shirt and the red/orange of the wall on that side. Although I understand your reasoning for including the leaves at the top as a "frame" to the image, I decided it drew my attention more directly to the people to crop a bit tighter and get rid of some of the bright wall and ornate part of the lamp post that competed a bit for my interest. Technically, the depth of field looks good. The exposure no doubt was quite the challenge with dark skin tones, bright clothes, and the combination of shadows and highlights. Overall, I think you handled that challenge pretty well. I did try to burn in the whites just a little bit since they were really bright on my screen. I also did a little bit of dodging on the mother and child. Of course, photo travel is supposed to be more about conveying the time, place and events than the technical aspects, though, and you definitely have done a good job of capturing a time and place in this image.

Visual Feedback: Yes

Interest: Above average **Technical:** Good **Composition:** Above average

DONG COMMENTS AND RATINGS

Comments: Nice image for photo travel division. Story telling. Good sense of place.

Improvements: Little too busy. Maybe we should concentrate on the interactions between the group and the lady. More shadow details would be nice.

Visual Feedback: Yes

Interest: Above average **Technical:** Good **Composition:** Good

RAU COMMENTS AND RATINGS

Comments: The colors are very striking. The facial expressions on the men give substance to the image, indicating seriousness and attentiveness. It is evident that this is a procession of some kind in India. There is a story here and the caption helps explain it. The photo leaves me with a couple questions: why are several men looking at the woman in the foreground? Is she a part of the group or for some reason being singled out because she is not in the group?

Improvements: I think the image could have been improved if the photo had been taken before or after the group had moved beyond the woman and child. Because several men are looking at her, she becomes a center of attention, but this viewer does not know why. Perhaps the reason is meant to be a mystery, but I would like to know more about her presence and why she receives the attention of the men.

Visual Feedback: No

Interest: Improvements helpful

Technical: Changes needed

Composition: Improvements helpful

Image No: 2 **Image Title:** The Chicken and the Dish



BURKE COMMENTS AND RATINGS

Comments: The story in this scene is interesting because depicts a contrast of cultures, which are very peacefully co-habituating. You have included enough of the surroundings to adequately appreciate the setting.

Improvements: There is room for some color enhancement (especially the reds) and sharpening. The overall composition would be stronger some of the right side were cropped; this would also eliminate some of the bright area located in the upper right corner.

Visual Feedback: Yes

Interest: Above average **Technical:** Above average **Composition:** Above average

DOERRIE COMMENTS AND RATINGS

Comments: This story does come through strongly in this image, as it made me shake my head about people having to have their TV no matter what else they may do without from the moment I first opened it. I'm impressed you were able to capture it as well as you did from a moving car. When I try to do that, I end up getting mostly things in need of deletion.

Improvements: The image is slightly soft on my screen, but not too much so considering the circumstances, and sharpening it a bit did seem to help with that. Technically/compositionally, I am somewhat distracted by the bright upper right corner. I tried burning it in, but there just wasn't enough information there for that to work. I then tried cropping it out, but that made the image feel "off balance" to me, particularly since I did not want to cut out or cut off the shirt/laundry hanging out there. Thus, I'm not sure there is much I would recommend doing that would be a good fix. Overall, if the judges do follow the rule of valuing the story telling aspect more than the technical quality, the story does come through well, and I'm impressed by your quick reflexes in capturing it.

Visual Feedback: No

Interest: Above average **Technical:** Good **Composition:** Good

DONG COMMENTS AND RATINGS

Comments: Story telling. Good contrast between modern and primitiveness.

Improvements: Very difficult place to shoot. Cannot think of ways to improve.

Visual Feedback: Yes

Interest: Good **Technical:** Good **Composition:** Good

RAU COMMENTS AND RATINGS

Comments: The photo tells a story: an old, small, grass covered house (all suggesting limited income), but with a satellite dish outside the doorway, with a wire probably leading to a TV. The contrast is striking. The chicken in the doorway conveys a full sense of rural locale.

Improvements: Perhaps a bit of cropping on the bottom (less dirt) and on the right would work, but the photo works without cropping.

Visual Feedback: No

Interest: Above average **Technical:** Good **Composition:** Above average