



## ***Meet the Ambassador – Fiji***

HE Mr Ajay Bhai Amrit, High Commissioner of Fiji to Australia  
in conversation with John Richardson

Wednesday 17 April, 5.30pm for 6pm – 7pm AEST at Level 13, 356 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

Australia and Fiji share a strong and enduring bilateral relationship underpinned by the Fiji-Australia *Vuvale* ('Family') Partnership signed in October 2023, building upon the previous partnership signed in 2019.

In May 2022, in her first week as Foreign Minister, Senator Penny Wong travelled to Fiji, demonstrating the importance placed on the relationship with Fiji and on Australia's Pacific engagement.



Co-deployments between the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and the Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) have demonstrated the value of Pacific partners responding to regional crises, and under the Pacific Maritime Security Program, Australia handed over the first of two Guardian-class patrol boats to Fiji in March 2020 to support maritime security in the Pacific region.

Australia and Fiji have extensive people-to-people links, and of course both nations share a deep love of sports...

As both countries work to navigate their bilateral relationship in a more globalised world order, what opportunities are there for greater cooperation between Australia and Fiji? How are the two countries navigating the changing political/security dynamics of the region? And how can they cooperate to meet the challenge of climate change?

In the next instalment of our *Meet the Ambassador* series, AIIA Victoria invites you to join High Commissioner Amrit in conversation with John Richardson.



***HE Mr Ajay Bhai Amrit*** is a long-term Fijian journalist and businessman. In 2023 he was appointed as the High Commissioner to Australia, replacing Mr David Kolitagane, who served in the role for less than a year. He was commissioned to the role by President Ratu Wiliame Katonivere at the State House in late September. Mr Amrit has served as the President and Executive Board Member of the Rotary Club of Suva, and worked as a freelance journalist before entering the political arena. He co-founded The People's Alliance party and subsequently acted as the board chairman of the Fijian Broadcasting Corporation (FBC). In his new role as a diplomat and representative for the Fijian government, Mr Amrit has discussed a strong commitment to advancing the terms and conditions of the Fiji-Australia *Vuvale* Partnership. He has encouraged a greater bilateral dialogue between Australians and citizens of the Fiji diaspora.

**Please note that this event will be held under the Chatham House Rule.**

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**In-person:** AIIA Premium and Young Professionals members free. AIIA Members \$20. Non-Members \$30. Student Non-Members \$10

Registered Office: Level 13, 356 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000  
Telephone (03) 9654 7271 Email: [admin.vic@internationalaffairs.org.au](mailto:admin.vic@internationalaffairs.org.au)  
Website: [www.internationalaffairs.org.au/victoria](http://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/victoria)