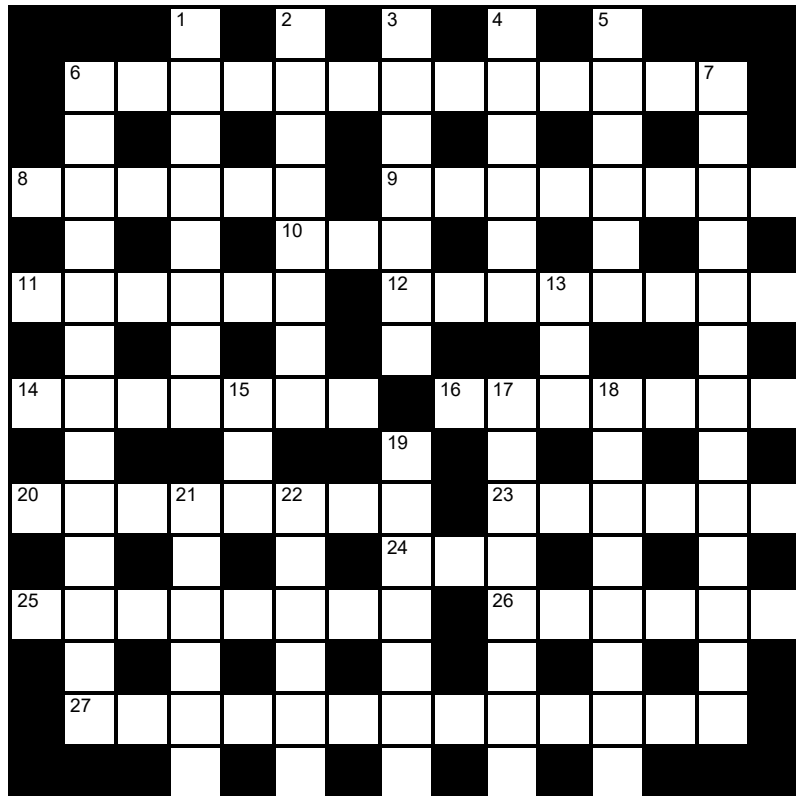


## A Puzzle for the Birthday Bash

By Rahmat Ali



### Across

- 6 It's hard to say tigers went out shivering (6,7)
- 8 Fellow allowed to receive golden bloom? (6)
- 9 Tammy Wynette album for solver and setter (3,3,2)
- 10 Last of all, Canada eliminates hoop snake (3)
- 11 Steers clear of Dave returning with sleeveless vest (6)
- 12 Keeping up with the times and ready for a romantic meeting (2-2-4)
- 14 Host Richard's sheltering big bird (7)
- 16 Call into question mischievous child and every one of them (7)
- 20 Back excellent team confused about cattle blood poisoning (8)
- 23 Japanese Buddhist school with an area providing Muslim female accommodation? (6)
- 24 Noticed in fête, aromatic drink (3)
- 25 Release covering African party's announcement (8)
- 26 Spinning club? (6)
- 27 Intent clear in representation of three hundred years (13)

### Down

- 1 Unwelcome guest at home initially turned more offensive (8)
- 2 Sit tight - fair case will be resolved (4,1,3)
- 3 Don't move sheep travelling north across river (4,3)
- 4 Casino's gambling arena welcoming that French card game (6)
- 5 Paid for a heavyweight editor (6)
- 6 TS Eliot envies extravagant entertainment apparatus (10,3)
- 7 Channel-hopper from distant authority (6,7)
- 13 Endless soaps for retiree (3)
- 15 Likely to embrace Eisenhower? (3)
- 17 Blue sea surrounding one-fifth of Azerbaijan (8)
- 18 One German beer mug for German-born genius (8)
- 19 Clients forgoing international copyrights? (7)
- 21 Nubia's spurious deity (6)
- 22 Stable controller dropping a trough for feeding horses (6)