



**16 February 2009**

**GORDON RAMSAY TO PROVIDE BELATED BIRTHDAY GIFT TO POPULAR  
INDIAN RESTAURANT**

Nottingham Indian restaurant The Curry Lounge celebrated its second birthday at the end of January, 18 months on since Gordon Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares appearance.

Restaurant entrepreneur Arfan Razak (known as Raz) is confident that Gordon's return in April will see him proud after such a vast change in how the business is run since his visit in 2007.

"Initially our menu was far too large and varied." Raz commented. "Our first few months in business went very well, and then people just stopped dining at the restaurant.

"After six months, we were approached by Channel 4 and decided to take up the opportunity proposed by the production company responsible for Kitchen Nightmares.

"As a result, Gordon demonstrated that we had to concentrate on producing authentic, home-cooked regional cuisine instead of offering such an extensive menu that included 'create you own curries'. He also made us realise that organisation and communication is key to running a restaurant.

"Naturally, Gordon's presence did aggravate some staff relationships, but overall it had a lasting and positive effect, with the resulting menu showcasing a good balance of authentic Indian and Punjabi dishes combined with some more conventional British elements."

Gordon will be returning to Nottingham in April to see whether The Curry Lounge has stuck to his advice, in order to see just how Raz is fairing against the plethora of Indian restaurants across the city, especially in the current economic climate.

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"I'm looking forward to Gordon's return as I believe he'll see that we've successfully turned the business around on such a dramatic scale, thanks to his advice and industry know-how."

For more information or to book a table reservation at The Curry Lounge, call 0115 941 8844 or visit [www.currylounge.co.uk](http://www.currylounge.co.uk).

**Ends**

**Notes to editors:**

Promising traditional Indian and Punjabi cuisine freshly cooked to order, The Curry Lounge has been praised by the toptable Top 100 Dining Awards 2009 as one of the top 10 restaurants that offers the best value meals when dining out in the UK.

Having opened the first Curry Lounge restaurant in Nottingham in 2007, the brand has gone from strength-to-strength since its appearance on Gordon Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares series.

Restaurant owner Arfan Razak (better known as Raz) is the brainchild behind Curry Lounge Ltd, and has set up a franchise venture that reaches right across the globe, with the London debut opening imminently. It's this entrepreneurship that got Raz noticed when he came in the top five of the Midlands Business Awards' Entrepreneur of the Year category in 2008.

The Curry Lounge has also been voted Best Indian Restaurant East Midlands 2008 by the Customer Excellence Awards in recognition for the quality of the food, service and authenticity.

Located in Nottingham's city centre, The Curry Lounge caters for dinner, corporate events and special occasions. Visit [www.currylounge.co.uk](http://www.currylounge.co.uk) for more information.

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**Picture Caption:**

Restaurant entrepreneur Arfan Razak (centre) celebrates The Curry Lounge's second birthday and recent award wins with his team.

