

Rishi Sunak becomes Britain's first non-white Prime Minister

The 42-year-old former Chancellor of the Exchequer is of Indian descent; he vows to fix 'mistakes' committed by former PM Liz Truss; Labour Party leader tweets that he has 'no mandate and the British people have had no say'

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LONDON

Tuesday was a historic day for the United Kingdom, which got its first-ever non-white Prime Minister in Rishi Sunak, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer and Britain's youngest Prime Minister in recent times.

Mr. Sunak, 42, is of Indian descent and was born to parents who migrated to Britain from East Africa. The former investment banker and hedge fund manager will have the daunting task of trying to get the British economy back on the rails while attempting to unite the Conservative Party, which has produced three Prime Ministers in under two months.

"Rishi Sunak becoming



In the hot seat: British PM Rishi Sunak outside No 10 Downing Street on Tuesday. GETTY IMAGES

the first British Indian Prime Minister is an historic moment. This simply would not have been possible even a decade or two ago," Sunder Katwala, director of British Future, a

think tank that works in the area of identity and race, wrote on Monday when Mr. Sunak became Prime Minister-designate.

"This will be a source of pride to many British

Asians – including many who do not share Rishi Sunak's Conservative politics," he said.

Mr. Sunak is married to an Indian citizen, Akshata Murty, who is the daughter

of Infosys founder N.R. Narayana Murthy, and they have two daughters.

He was chosen by his fellow Conservative MPs to lead the party and country, following former Prime Minister Liz Truss's announcement last Thursday that she was resigning, having lost the support of her fellow MPs after a failed 'mini budget' that deeply rattled markets.

"Rishi Sunak has been crowned by Tory MPs. It's a coronation not an election," Angela Rayner, deputy leader of the Labour Party tweeted on Monday.

"He has no mandate and the British people have had no say. #GeneralElectionNow," she said.

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