

Khabbar

North American Konkani Newsletter

Volume XXVII No. 2
April, May, June - 2004

From:

The Honorary Editor,
"Khabbar"

P. O. Box 222

Lake Jackson, TX 77566 - 0222

XXVII-2

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



FIRST CLASS

TO:

Khabbar Follies

In this section, Khabbar looks into the Konkani community and anything and everything that is Konkani from a Konkani point of view. The names will never be published but geographic location will be identified in general terms.

There is no doubt in my mind that *Khabbar* is a part & parcel of life of Konkanis in North America. In fact, *Khabbar* has developed a special relation with most of the Konkani families and here are some examples of those close encounters of a different kind.....

It is quite evident that the Unofficial "Official" Correspondents of *Khabbar* are doing a great job in giving news from their respective regions on a regular basis. Some times though, they go over and beyond their call of duty! Here are some of the extensions of the news coverage received by *Khabbar*:

This newly become grand father from NC writes about his new grand child and adds, " The new parents are enjoying the company of the new addition to the family, awake for many hours in the night!"

This veteran grandpa from NJ writes about his third grand child and added -

The mom and daughters spent some time in "*kular*" where the older sibling learnt (more accurately "tried") some Konkani and remarked that her little sister cried in "American"!

This father from NJ gives a news coverage about his daughter's graduation by claiming it to be "Some really *hoon* (*Khatkati*) *Khabbar*"!

This cute correspondent from NY had nothing to report from her region. Instead sends this news item, " My love has been working out in the gym. His workout has proved successful and the biceps are getting bigger by the week!!"

SUBSCRIPTION FORM:

Dear Konkani family,
Please, note that you have the FREE access to the eKhabbar, the electronic version of Khabbar, by logging on to ekhabbar.com. If you want hard copy, then only renew your subscription for 2004 at \$15.00 a year. **Please, don't pay for future years!** Please, fill the form below and send your subscription with a check payable to Khabbar to P. O. Box 222, Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222. (Canadian Konkanis please pay cash or MO in US\$)

Name: _____

Spouse Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email ID: _____

Children.....

Name	Boy/Girl	d.o.b.	Hobby/Interest
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Comments, if any: _____

Quarterly Newsletter
For Circulation to the Konkani Community in North America
Volume XXVII No. 2

April, May, June - 2004

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Annual Subscription: \$15.00

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The Editorial Committee reserves the right to exclude, edit and correct all material received for publication and does not accept any responsibility for views expressed by authors of the publications.

EDITORIAL

Dear Konkani family,

I hope all is well with you and your family.

This issue of *Khabbar* has been mailed to **ALL** families that have paid dues **at least once since 1995**. In other words, families who have not paid since 1994 will not be receiving this issue and for families that have paid only in 1995, this will be the last time they will receive the hard copy of *Khabbar*. The numbers on the mailing label clearly indicate the year/s the dues for *Khabbar* has been received since 1995 and if there is any error let me know.

It is time to renew your subscription for 2004. The Advisory Committee of *Khabbar* is glad that the annual dues will remain the same at \$15.00 a year and for that you get:

- Four issues of the *Khabbar*,
- Annual Mailing List and
- Discounted advertisement rates.

The on-line version of *Khabbar*, *ekhabbar*, will be on the web a **quarter** after the hard copies have been mailed. This issue has **not** been mailed to families that have specifically indicated that they will access *ekhabbar*.

The next month will probably go in the North American Konkani history as the finest time ever. The efforts to have the best Konkani SammelAn in July of this year are underway. Do not miss out on this great function of the year! All the committees have put in their time & effort to make it worthwhile for each and everyone of you. Visit their website:

www.konkani2004.com to get the latest information.

The North American Konkani Association (NAKA) is slowly but steadily gaining strength. With support & encouragement from all the Konkanis in North America, NAKA can look after our interest for years to come. If you have any constructive suggestions, send them to naka1@indiatimes.com.

Also, NAKA will conduct a seminar during the SammelAn-2004, an event not to be missed! All the previous, present & future executive office bearers of Konkani Sammelans together with a youth representative will present a white paper on "Konkani Sammelans - Path Forward".

The committee members of **Vishwa Konkani Parishad** will be attending the SammelAn. They will also visit various places in North America to drum up our support for a Rs. 4 crore project, "**Vishwa Konkani Kendra**" (VKK) to revive the Konkani literature and culture by **Konkani Bhas Ani Sanskriti Pratistan**. I hope North American Konkanis will participate in this great undertaking by donating generously.

Congrats to **Dr. VILAS PRABHU** of OK who was appointed as Provost and VP for Academic Affairs of Millersville University in PA.

I must thank young **Mr. Rajeev Nayak** of Indiana, PA for a series of financial articles that has been appearing in

Khabbar. Hope you will all benefit from his experience and knowledge.

The Advisory Committee of *Khabbar* is pleased to report that there are quite a few unofficial *Khabbar* correspondents in your area who send in the *hoon khabbars* on a regular basis. It is quite evident that this quarter these correspondents have done a great job. If your area is not represented wholly, let me know and I'll recruit more volunteers. Also, most of the articles and news item come voluntarily on a regularly basis. If you send them via email (khabbar@hotmail.com) it makes the editing job much easy.

On the Quiz front, *Khabbar* has remained as an undefeated champion for a long time! **NOBODY** got the correct solution to the last quarter's quiz!! **That's two times in a row!!!** Probably, this quarter's quiz is easier!! Let us see, how many of you will get them right this time around?

Khabbar will always publish appeals for charity free of charge but cannot collect money on behalf of any charity. Families are encouraged to send the money directly to the concerned charities. It is amazing to see so many appeals come to *Khabbar* on a regular basis. *Khabbar* firmly believes in helping our people whether it is in India or here.

See you'll at the **SammelAn**. Have a great summer. Hope peace & tranquility prevails on earth
Devu Boren Karo.

Vasanth
Editor

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication unless the writer requests otherwise. Letters may be edited for publication. Editor reserves the right not to publish anonymous letters. Initials only on request if the writer includes his or her name.

Dear Vasant,

Thank you for sending me the complimentary copy of *Khabbar*, which I received two days after we spoke.

As I mentioned to you, my wife Padmini is a senior singer of the *Kirana Gharana*. She was recently interviewed by the *Hindu* Newspaper in Bangalore. I am enclosing an excerpt from the interview in case it is of interest. You can also access the article on the web directly by keying in the URL given below [publication of the 18th July 02].

<http://www.hinduonnet.com/mp/2002/07/18/stories/2002071800540300.htm>

Best regards

Kishore
kishorenrao@hotmail.com

Editor's Reply:

Thank you. I have published it in this issue of *Khabbar*.

Note:

Smt. Padmini Rao is a featured artist for the **SammeLAN – 2004** and my best bet is that her music will be a treat to all the attendees. The website: www.padminirao.com has more information of this accomplished artist.

My dear Vasanth Bhat,

Thank you very much for publishing my appeal for charity in *Khabbar* (Vol. XXVII No.1). Thanks for your short coverage in the Editorial also. I am really very grateful to you. I shall meet you all at the Konkani SammeLAN in California, in July, if I succeed in attending it.

With regards,

Dr. P.Gowri. Pai
gowri_pai@sify.com

Dear Sir:

My name is Kalpana Mallya. My friend Sujatha Bhat and I run a Home

for elderly bed-ridden senior citizens at Bangalore, called Asha Jeevan Home for the Aged and we have been doing so for the last four years. Your contact was suggested to us by Mr. Shankar Baliga, one of the organizers of the Konkani Sammelan 2004.

We currently have forty-one residents staying with us ranging in age from twenty-eight years (mental retardation) to one hundred and two years. They have a wide range of disabilities ranging from Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Paralytic stroke victims, people with progressive, degenerative disorder and schizophrenia, bipolar problems and epilepsy all of whom need care-giving in their activities of daily living. Some of them are from our GSB community also. There are seventeen staff members to look after them.

We are now operating from three rented premises and our new building is under construction. In the first phase it will house our forty-one residents and at the end of the next phase we will have seventy residents plus staff. Our building is being completed with the help of a loan of Rupees twenty-five lakhs from Canara Bank. The project is estimated to cost Rupees sixty-two lakhs. We provide vegetarian food, nursing care, and regular doctor visits; have our own Ambulance, emergency medical equipments, wheelchairs, etc. Please scan our website: www.ashajeevan.org to know more about our work.

We are also constructing twelve cottages across the road from the Home described above. These are row houses for independent senior citizens with all services provided. Advance booking is also available.

We request for help from the GSB community in the form of sponsorships/ contributions/ donations to help us finish the construction of our building. Please let me know if your esteemed Magazine can help us in this matter. We have sent some material with Mrs. Vatsala Kini of Bangalore/ Milwaukee, who is

attending the Konkani Convention at Anaheim.

With regards,

Kalpana
4th May 2004.
kalpanamallya@hotmail.com

Editor's Reply:

Khabbar appreciates all the efforts done to help the needy in our community. *Khabbar* will always publish appeals for all Konkani charity free of cost and hope the readers will send the money directly to the concerned charities.

Hi,

I am Venkatesh Kamath from Udupi, India. Sri M.K.Shenoy of TeroTech Consultanats, Durham, NC presently at Udupi advised me to write this message to you.

At Udupi a trust "Samagra GSB Samanvaya Samithi," under presidentship of Dr. Ravindranath Shanbhag is functioning since last 2 years. Presume u know him too. One of the services rendered by the samithi is matrimonial. At our Udupi office have registration of boys and girls seeking suitable alliances.

A Newsletter "Saraswat Jagruthi" is published fortnightly and we are publishing the names with brief biodata of boys and girls, registered with us in it, in phased manner.

Horoscopes and brief details made available at our office and provided to the needy samaj bhandavas on their request, that too free of cost. Mr. M. K. Shenoy provided us his astrological software for casting of horoscopes and match making purpose. Computerised list of boys and girls are made available to other units/organisations of GSB community.

The main purpose of writing this letter is while browsing ur website www.ekhabbar.com matrimonial services are available in it. Can we get list of brides and grooms? If so, send a detailed list to us.

Our contact e-mails are as follows:

Dr. Ravindranath Sahnbhag
r_shanubhag@hotmail.com
samanvaya_udp@yahoo.co.in - in the name of Mrs. Vidhya Shanbhag, exclusively used for the matrimony of Samanvaya, Udupi Office.

Dr. Shanbhag family conveyed their personal good wishes to you.

With regards,

Venkatesh Kamath
prerana_02@yahoo.co.in

Dated April 11th 2004

Editor's Reply:

Dear Sri Kamath,

Congrats to you, Dr. Shanbhag and all the people behind the Samithi for a great service you are rendering to the community.

Khabbar does not have a list of eligible Konkani brides & grooms. I will publish this appeal in the *Khabbar* on a regular basis if and when space and time permits and let the readership get in touch with you if they are interested.

Thanks for your patronage to *Khabbar*.

Dear Vasanth:

President of World Konkani Congress (Vishwa Konkani Parishad) will be attending the Konkani SammeLan 2004 along with other officials. **Basti Vaman Shenoy**, the revered President of the Parishad will be speaking at the SammeLan on Konkani Heritage, Culture, Language and the FUTURE of Konkani and what we as members of the society need to do to preserve it for the sake of the future generations.

The words "Future of Konkani" and "Preserving It For The Future Generations" rings sweet in the ears of all Konkanis. But, the question is what are we doing about it? While answer is "very little" the good news is a group of activists are working very hard in India to do just that. There is very little they can do for our kids here in preserving the Konkani Heritage but there is a whole lot we all can do to help these volunteers to accomplish what they have started.

What they have started is a gigantic project by Konkani Standards, which is to construct a building as a World Center for all kinds of Konkani activities. The budget of this project is Rs. 4 Crores. That is a very ambitious goal by any standard. What this kind of money is going to produce is: An administrative building, a school for the students who are interested to learn Konkani, a dormitory for the students who come from other parts of India and abroad, a research and development center for the Konkani Language and many other facilities.

Vaman Shenoy and the group are coming to Los Angeles to raise funds for the World Konkani Center project. I feel, even though there is very little this project can do for our children in America, by US donating to the best of our ability can:

1. Make us proud about ourselves that we did our best no matter how little it was in the whole mosaic of things to preserve Konkani.

2. On any future day if any of our children decides to rejuvenate Konkani in this country, there is a place he or she can go to seek direction and help.

3. By conducting research in our history by employing professional anthropologists and other experts in the field of Geology and History, a very well documented answer to many questions that linger in our minds such as:

Why some of us are called Saraswaths and others are called Gouda Saraswaths?

When did we separate and what caused the separation?

How come we don't have an authority like a Pope and we have all these different Mutts like Kashi Matt, Gokarn Matt etc. and many other questions for which I have found as many answers as the number of books I have read.

I feel it is time we support this project whole heartedly by donating to the best of our ability so that we have answers for all the questions.

We, and our children who live in America need to remember that we are the progeny of a group of people who refused to give up their Religion, Culture, Heritage and the Language in the face of dire consequences from the Portuguese, Muslim hordes and the British. They gave up their lucrative businesses and other properties in Goa and elsewhere but refused to give up their culture. The question we need to ask ourselves is, being the children of such valiant people, are we ready to give up our heritage just because we moved to America? Are we ready to give it up in just one generation what our forefathers fought and even died to preserve for centuries.

I request all the members of our community to look for the booth of the Vishwa Konkani Parishad and donate to the best of their ability.

Ganapathi Shenoy, Las Vegas
bshenoy@aol.com

Dear Vasanthmam,

As per our conversation a few weeks back, I wanted to ask for your help in conveying some important information to our Konkani youth. We will be having Robert Arnett, author of "India Unveiled", as a speaker at the Konkani SammeLan 2004. He will also conduct an interactive seminar specifically for the youth as a follow-up to his speech. This is a great opportunity for our youth to listen and interact with Robert Arnett who speaks quite passionately about our rich cultural heritage. Please help me in conveying this information to our Konkani youth. Thanks for your help.

With best wishes,

Mithra
Smnayak@aol.com

Editor's Reply:

Certainly this interactive seminar should be of interest to our younger generation and I hope they will seize up this opportunity to enrich themselves.

Hoon Khabbar

Congratulations:

AVINASH, s/o Ravi & Vidya Joshi of Mission Viejo, CA won the Geography Bee from Newhart Middle School and qualified for State Championship in Sacramento, CA. He was a finalist among 102 students who qualified from 3500 schools. He tied for 6th place in the State.

REENA of NYC, d/o Ravindra & Vidya Nayak of Flanders, NJ submitted her abstract on the quality of life of prostate cancer patients treated with two types of radiation therapy to the American Brachytherapy Society. She gave the oral presentation of this abstract at the Joint Brachytherapy Meeting being held in Barcelona, Spain this May.

The April 30th 2004 issue of *India Abroad* featured an interview with **NANDAN NILEKANI**, Managing Director, CEO and President of Infosys. The Infosys Technologies, set in 1981, had announced in April 2004 that it had touched \$1.03 billion in revenues for the first time. Mr. Nilekani said the next billion will be much quicker and highlighted how the billion-dollar company will benefit its customers, brand, investors and the employees.

Vinodh Bhat and Neal Shenoy of NYC recently helped launch an online business-networking venture called ContactSpan (<http://www.contactsparn.com>) in conjunction with former executives and academics from Microsoft and MIT. It is currently a free service, and they invite all Konkans to join and increase opportunities to network for developing business, financing businesses, recruiting teams, finding jobs, and finding experts for research amongst one another.

Dr. KRISHNA NAYAK of Grosse Pointe Farms, MI has been honored with Fellowship in the American College of radiology. The convocation ceremony formalizing his induction took place in May 2004 in Washington, DC.

Dr. Nayak has been active member of the American College of Radiology, including the Michigan chapter, since 1971. Dr. Nayak's involvement with the local chapter activities, such as the Technical Advisory Committee and the Equipment Committee, supported his nomination. His significant accomplishments also include: Assistant Professor of Radiology, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI and his outstanding performance as Chief Diagnostic Radiology at the John D. Dingell, VA Medical Center in Detroit, MI.

Aside from his professional duties in radiology, Dtr. Nayak has taken an active role within the community. He was one of the founding members and the first president of the Michigan Konkani Association, established in 1985. Dr. Nayak was also one of the founding members of the Bharatiya Temple in Troy, MI. Established in 1974, the Bharatiya Temple has more than 800 families as members.

Konkani Graduates:

NEHA, d/o Prashant & Shobha Kamat of Granger, IN was selected as a Semifinalist in the 2003-04 Siemens Westinghouse Competition in Math, Science & Technology. Of the entries from 980 students, Neha was one of the 294 semifinalists.

Also, Neha was named a semifinalist in the 2004 Intel Science Talent Search. This Science Talent Search was created to discover and encourage high school seniors who demonstrate exceptional ability in Science and Engineering.

Neha will graduate from John Adams High School in South Bend, IN in June 2004.

VINAY, s/o of Venkatrao & Prabha Pai of Houston, TX is attending M. D. Program at University of Missouri in Kansas City as of January 2004. He completed a BS in Microbiology (Hon) from UC Davis, CA. Vinay worked for 2 years as a research scientist with Microgenics Corporation developing clinical diagnostic tools for therapeutic drugs.

SANDEEP, s/o Arvind & Neela Kamath of Houston, TX has completed his residency in Internal Medicine and accepted four year Fellowship in Cardiology at South Western College of Medicine in Dallas, TX.

SHUBA KAMATH, MD, d/o Narasimha & Shantha Kamath of Edison, NJ, received the FleetBoston Community Fellowship, an educational scholarship awarded by Brown Medical School and FleetBoston. This award recognizes her work as a pediatrician in an underserved community along with her community advocacy efforts.

VAISHALI, VINITA and VANDANA triplet daughters of Vasant & Veena Kamath of Rehoboth, MA have graduated from Tufts University and the University of Pennsylvania respectively. Vaishali graduated from Tufts University majoring in Biology. She will be attending Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine in Grafton, MA in the fall. Vinita graduated from Tufts University majoring in Clinical Psychology and minoring in Peace and Justice. She has been awarded the Fulbright Scholarship and will be going to India for a year to research women's mental health issues in Mumbai. Upon returning from India she plans to attend law school. Vandana has graduated from the University of Pennsylvania majoring in Biology as the Basis of Behavior and minoring in South Asian Studies. She is taking a year off before attending medical school.

PREETI, d/o Satish & Suman Nayak of Pittsburgh, PA graduated from the College of New Jersey with a Master's in Education.

AMITA, d/o Suren & Vidya Kamath of San Antonio, TX received MD degree from the Duke University Medical School. She was the recipient of Glasgow-Ruben Achievement citation and was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha National Honor Society.

Amita will continue her medical training in the specialty of Diagnostic Radiology at UCSF after completing an internship in internal medicine at Duke.

NEEL, s/o Javali & Rama Aroon of Lexington, KY, received BS degree in Economics and Political Science. He will be joining the Masters program in Diplomacy and International Commerce at University of Kentucky

NEVIN, s/o Suren & Vidya Kamath of San Antonio, TX received a BBA degree in Business Honors from the University of Texas at Austin, TX with a Minor in MIS and a BA degree in Government. He was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society. He plans to take on a project to install PACS and a new MRI system at Southwest Diagnostic in San Antonio, TX prior to pursuing graduate studies.

PREETI, d/o Javali & Rama Aroon of Lexington, KY, will be joining the Masters program in Public Policy at Duke University, NC.

KALPANA, d/o Gopal & Prathiba Bhandarkar of Bayport, NY will join Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, MD this summer to pursue her Masters in Public Health (MPH) degree.

NEETA, d/o Arun & Sheela Manelkar graduated with honors from Rutgers College with a major in Economics. She has joined the management team at Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Co in NJ.

PRATYAKSH, s/o Murali & Chandrika Pai of Germantown, MD has graduated majoring in Information Systems Management from University of Maryland Baltimore Campus on May 20th 2004. He is been employed by Advanced Systems Development, Inc., a primary consultants group to the Defense Department located at Pentagon in Washington, DC.

Ms. SHIVANY BHAT of St. Charles, MO graduated with *cum laude* in Electrical Eng. (A joint program of University of Missouri and Washington University in St. Louis,

MO). Simultaneously she completed a 6 month co-op training at GE. She is looking for a suitable graduate program to continue her studies.

New Arrivals:

ARYA, a baby girl to Prashant & Anupama Kalle of Trabuco Canyon, CA, on March 3rd 2004.

MAYA, baby girl to Mahesh & Sharan Nayak of Troy, MI on March 10th 2004. A little sister to Tara. Her grandparents are Arun & Geetha Pai of Pittsburgh, Pa and Krishna & Padmini Nayak of Grosse Pointe, MI. Her great grandparents are Sharada Nayak of Hyderabad, India, Ullal Pundalika & Sulochana Mallya of Mangalore, India and Kochikar Vittaldas and Bhavani Pai of Pittsburgh, PA.

BRENNA, a baby girl, to Anand & Jennifer Rao of Aliso Viejo, CA on March 18th 2004. Proud grand parents Venkatesh & Padma Rao of Walnut, CA and Tom & Diane McGlenn of Huntington Beach, CA.

ROHAN, a baby boy to Deepak & Protima Bhandarkar of S. San Francisco, CA on Thursday, March 22nd 2004. A brother to Diya. The paternal grand parents are Gopal & Pratibha Bhandarkar of Bayport, NY and maternal grand parents are Tharanath Rao & late Geetha Rao of Bangalore.

DASHRAM, a 6 lbs and 4 oz. baby boy to Kochikar Rish & Elizabeth Pai of Cleveland Heights, OH at 7:53 am EST (Tuesday) March 23rd 2004. The paternal grand parents are Kochikar Ramnath & Rajashree Pai of Carlsbad, NM and maternal grand parents are Ann Hilton & William Fisher.

PRAKASH, a baby boy to Suresh & Mukta Nayak of North Brunswick, NJ on March 30th 2004, a baby brother to Aakash.

NIKITA, a baby girl to Praveen & Prathima Shenoy of, Santa Clara CA on Mar 30th 2004.

NADIA, 6lb 4oz, 19", born on April 6th 2004 to Brian & Namrata Wheeler

of Rockville, MD, a little sister to Kiran (3 yrs, going on 16). Maternal grandparents are Mohan & Vishaya Pai of Somerdale, NJ and paternal grandparents are Frank & Barbara Wheeler of Lafayette, IN.

NAVYA, a baby girl to Gopal & Sandya Shenoy of North Chelmsford, MA and a baby sister to Meghana on April 9th 2004. Proud grandparents are Nithyananda & Sumangala Shenoy of Ernakulam and Dr. G.P. Bhatt & Vasantha Bhatt of Cochin.

ROHAN NARENDRA, a baby boy to Sunil & Anupama Gandhi of La Jolla, CA on May 12th 2004. Rohan is the 1st grandchild to Prema and Praveen Prabhu of Greensboro, N.C.

Relocation:

The **ULLAL** family, Jathin & Vidya, with their son, Aditya, have relocated within Northern California from Milpitas to 20480 Walnut Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070. Their new telephone is (408)-867-7704 and email ID: jullal@yahoo.com.

The **ADUR** family, Ashok & Ameeta, with their son, Ashwin, have relocated within Westlake, OH to 31230 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake, OH 44145. The new telephone number is (440) 835-1994 and email ID: MASHOKG@aol.com

The **SAVKUR** family, Sanjay & Sucheta, have relocated within Lisle, MI to 5480 Burr Oak Road, Lisle, MI 60532.

The **BYKER** family, newlyweds Shalini & Erik, have relocated within Washington, DC to 1430 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20002. The new telephone is (202) 398-8727 and email ID: rickandi@hotmail.com.

The **BHAT** family, Mulki Shreedhara & Suman, have relocated from Elmira, NY to 9 Sail Fish Dr., Palm Coast, FL 32137. The new telephone is (386)-986-1787.

The **PAI** family, Ajit & Rekha, together with their daughters, Malavika & Sanjana, have relocated from Irvine, CA to 370 Powderhorn Court, Rochester Hills, MI 48309.

Their telephone is 248-375-0801 and email ID: rekhapai@hotmail.com

The **KULKARNI** family, Sharad & Beth, have moved within the Greater Houston area and their email ID will be kulkarni@pobox.com and the new telephone number is (281)-364-7799.

The **PAI** family, Rakesh & Ajnya, have relocated from Albuquerque, NM to 2245 South Beverly Glen Blvd., #303, Los Angeles, CA 90064-2499. The telephone is (310)-470-4700 and the email ID: rajnya@hotmail.com

Konkani Happenings:

On Saturday Oct. 25th 2003 the **Connecticut Organization of Konkans (COOK)** held their 8th Annual Diwali celebration party at Manohar and Ajita Shenoy's place in Suffield, CT. The function was well attended by 75 people. Everyone enjoyed the "*Falaru*" made by Cook members, such as *Churmundo, Nevari(karanji), Kodbale, Chivado, Cashew-Burfi, Kachari, Tukadi, Dhudh-pedho, Shevo* and *Rulavu*. The auspicious occasion commenced with Lord Ganesha's Bhajan, sung by Manohar, Ajita, and Manoj Shenoy. Vidya Shenoy did the invocation of Goddess Laxmi "*Bhagyada Laxmi*" in her sweet voice. Krishna Aradhana was done in Konkani by Manohar Shenoy "*Krishna Mhonuya*". Ajita sang 2 Marathi bhajans "*Tooch Karata*" and Lord Vitthal Aradhana "*Darshan dere, dere Bhagvanta*". Manoj sang "*Om guru*" praising guru. Accompanying Tabla, Divakar Shenoy sang God Hanumanta's Bhajan "*Jai Hanuman Maruti Raya*" and "*Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram*". Then Vidya Shenoy sang Karnatak Classical song, "Sada Palaya", in Mohan Rag, accompanying her was Ajay Shenoy on the Synthesizer. After the Bhajan's, the entertainment program started with melodious 60's song "Pyar Kiya Dil Ne Kaha Ho Tum" sung by the couple Manoj and Vidya Shenoy. Divakar Shenoy sang Saigel's melodious song "Do Naina Matvale". Then Ashish sang Marathi song "Tya Phoolanchya Gandh Koshi". Manoj and Vidya sang the duet "Jara Akho me kajal laga lo sanam" Ajay Shenoy did the honors of "DJing" the entertainment program and providing musical accompaniment

on his synthesizer. Hemachandra sang a Hindi song "lift kara de". A small children's dance number with Archana Shenoy, Shivani Prabhu and Anjali Pai was also a part of the program. Antakshari, men vs. women was the finale of this Diwali celebration and all the members took part in it. At 10, the authentic Konkani dinner was served, again living upto the Cook's tradition, with delicious food items like Chana-ghashi, Valval, Dahi-vado, Daletoi, Masala-Bhath, Pulav, Ubbati, Puri, Khichdi, Bendi, koshimbeeri and Konkani Karanda Nonche etc. We are very glad to welcome the new members Trivikram and Anita Bhat from London. The function was concluded with all the little children and adults giving off firecrackers to celebrate the festivities.

The youth of **Konkani Association of Ontario (KAO)** organized a skiing event on Saturday March 13th 2004 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Chingacousy Ski Centre, Brampton, Ont.

The Konkans Association of Southern California (KASC) celebrated their annual Yugadi celebration and election of the office-bearers for the 2004-2005 KASC Executive Committee on March 21st 2004 at the City of Arcadia Community Center. Shantaram Pai, President was also the Master of Ceremonies for the event. The function was begun with invocation to the Almighty, with aarati and few bhajans by Prasad and Deepa Upasani, and Jaidev Chandavarkar. After that we got an update on the North American Konkani Convention (SammeLAN 2004) by President Ramadas Kamath. Shivadev Ubhayakar (Entertainment), Girijanand Bhat (Volunteers and Recognition), Vivek Ullal (Souvenir), Malavika Gangolli (Youth), Venkatesh Rao (co-ordinator of the Konkani Golf tournament), and Prasad Upasani (Web-master and Registration), gave updates on their individual committees. This was followed by a Konkani song chorus, composed and set to tune by Ravi Joshi. The singer participants were Nandini Rao, Shivadev Ubhayakar, Anita Shenoy, Padmanabh Shenoy, Lakshmi Mallya,

Ravi Joshi, Deepa Upasani and Lata Ubhayakar. Prasad Upasani (keyboard) and Avinash Joshi (tabla) gave instrumental accompaniment. Introduction of new KASC members was the next item.

A beautiful bhajan was sung in Raag Chandrakauns by Shubha Bhat. Arvinraj Borkar artfully played the drum-set, to accompany Chuck Mangione's popular tune "Feel So Good". Sonali Nayak gave an eloquent talk on "What is Yugadi?" The next item was the Couples' Quiz" organized and compered by Ravi Joshi. Three couples were randomly chosen by lottery, and quizzed on their spouses, using various subjects. The aim of the quiz was to find out how much a spouse knew about each other. The winners were Shankar and Bindya Baliga (first prize), Prakash and Lynn Mallya (second prize), and Sudhakar and Vijaya Kamath (third prize). The questions were tongue in cheek, and Ravi's comments were witty and hilarious. The audience had a great time witnessing the embarrassment of the poor couples on the stage, who took it very sportingly, however.

Venkatesh Rao conducted the annual election of office-bearers of the KASC, and the entire Committee were re-elected unopposed. Congratulations, Committee members and keep up with the good work! The stage events were concluded by a chorus singing the Indian National Anthem. The singers were Prasad Upasani, Jaidev Chandavarkar, Padmanabh Shenoy, Chitra Chandavarkar, Anita Shenoy, and Deepa Upasani. Vivek Ullal gave flute accompaniment. The night ended with a delicious meal catered by Jaibharat Restaurant of Artesia. We thank all participants who unanimously performed very well, volunteers, and Committee members who worked so hard to make this a great success, and all members who attended the event, and made it worthwhile. Special thanks to Mohini Kamath for bringing delicious madgane and mango pickle (as usual), and Chitra Chandavarkar, Sujata Dutt, and Mamata Kalle for preparing very tasty upma, and Vasanthi Hegde for preparing delicious Phova Upkari.

Also thanks to all other members for bringing other eatables and helping in serving the food and with cleaning up after the event.

The **Michigan Konkani Association** celebrated the annual Ugadi festival on a grand scale on March 27th 2004 at Southfield Civic Center of Detroit, MI. Dr. Chalpady Satish Kamath and his wife Rekha lit the lamp and inaugurated the ceremonies. President Raj Pai welcoming the new members called on the stage all the new members of the committee elected for 2004. They were: Pundalika Kamath, Rajiv & Anuradha Nagarkatti, Raj & Srimala Pai (Presidents), Harish & Lalitha Pai, Niranjana & Premalatha Shenoy and Jagdish & Trupti Sorab (Past Presidents).

The program began with songs & dances by various groups of children followed by light music by Venu Baliga, Niranjana Bellare (Tabla), Dr. C. K. Kamath, Naren Kamath, Anuradha Nagarkatti, Radha Netrawali, Harish Pai, Lalitha Pai (Harmonium), Raj Pai and Anil Shanbhag. Poornima & Pratima Nayak (sisters) gave an excellent Bharatnatyam program. Naren Kamath & Malavika Mendonza and Radha Netrawali gave Karaoke recitals. A group dance on "Radha Kaise Na Jale" was performed very well by Venu Baliga, Sushma Bhakta, Naren Kamath, Sneha Kamath, Rajiv Nagarkatti, Pallavi Neriya, Raj Pai & Srimala Pai. This was followed by an interesting Konkani skit "Ugadi with Changing Times" by Deepti & Ram Bhandarkar, Mohan Kamath & Rajiv Nagarkatti. Poornima & Pratima Nayak (sisters) again offered a beautiful Kashmiri folk dance "Bhoombro". The main program concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Srimala Pai.

Thanks also to various volunteers, a sumptuous typical Konkani dinner was served for nearly 200 attendees with typical dishes like, Dalithoy, Chana Ghashi, Ambe Sasam & Madgane. Overall, it was a great gathering for all the young & the old Konkani.

Reported by Dr. C. K. Kamath
Exclusive Michigan Correspondent.

Konkani Association of Ontario (KAO) held their annual Yugadi

function on Saturday, April 3rd 2004 at the Earl Bales Community Centre Banquet Hall, 4169 Bathurst Street, Toronto. The function included Panak Panwar, Panchang Reading, Social Chit Chat and Games, and catered dinner.

The Konkani In Southern States (KISS) picnic, organized collectively by Austin, Dallas, Houston & San Antonio, TX. to the theme: "Sweet Sixteen" was held at Cleburne State Park 5800 Park Road 21, Cleburne, TX from Saturday April 10th to Sunday, April 11th 2004.

Konkani Association of Ontario (KAO) held their annual Shri *Satyanarayan Pooja* on Saturday, May 1st 2004 at Kalibari Temple, Professional Court.

The Saraswat Foundation held their annual Yugadi function on April 24th at The Balaji Mandir in Bridgewater, NJ

Konkani Association of Ontario (KAO) held their 15th Anniversary Celebrations on Friday, May 28th 2004 at Golden Palace Banquet Hall in Ont., Canada. The Gala Dinner and Dance function included felicitation to **Dr. Sheela Basrur** on being appointed Chief Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Health for Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

Konkani Sabha held their annual picnic on Saturday, June 5th 2004 from 10 AM to sunset at Mercer County Park East, NJ. A good time was had by one and all at the Picnic....good food, games-Cricket and Volleyball, games for kids-Treasure hunt, sack race, Raffle and Bingo.

Email ID Change:

Effective April 1, 2004, the email ID's of the Ubhayakar family has changed to:

Madhav: madhavnu@earthlink.net &
Chaya: chayamu@earthlink.net

The **SHENOY** family, Subraya & Shamala of Wallington, NJ changed their email from ssshenoy1@aol.com to ssshenoy@verizon.net

Sri. GURPUR DATTANANDA BHAT of Jamaica, NY has changed his email to dattbhat@nyc.rr.com and gbbhat1@nyc.rr.com.

25th Wedding Anniversary:

Jagdish & Jothi Gangolly of Claremont, CA celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary on Mar. 13th 2004. It was a surprise party given by their daughters, Malavika and Priya and was well attended by their family & friends.

50th Wedding Anniversary:

Jayanth, Kanchan, Atma & Anasuya Kabad of Sugarland, TX, Ajit, Kalpana, Sona, Meghan, Ambika Chikarmane of Hazelton, PA and Nitin, Kirthi, Niyati, Aditi, Avanti Rangnekar of Columbia, MO celebrated the Golden Wedding Anniversary of **SADANAND & KUMUD NILEKANI** of Sugarland, TX at the Chinmaya Mission in Houston, TX from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM on March 13th 2004.

Sri. Ramadas V and Smt. Meenakshi Rao's Golden (50th) Wedding Anniversary took place on May 22nd 2004 and was celebrated on May 29th & 30th on the long weekend of Memorial day in Germantown, MD. The entire family (four daughters & sons-in-law and son & daughter-in-law and all grand children) got together to celebrate and make both the events very successful. Many relatives have sent their greetings of wishes through video from India and a lot of near and dear family came from long distance and close friends attended and participated in both the events. Their children and grandchildren entertained them with a function that started with a Puja, slide presentation of memorable family events and songs & dances. The couple were not only overwhelmed but also touched by everyone's love & affection towards them.

Along with Mrs. & Mr. Ramadas V. Rao's Golden Wedding Anniversary the Silver Wedding Anniversaries of their four daughters Usha Sarma, Mangala Shenoy, Chandrika Pai & Keerthi Prabhu (all sisters were married 25 years ago within the 10

months time) were also highly acknowledged as the part of the celebrations on May 29th & May 30th.

Obituary:

KAUP ANANDRAYA SHENOY (87) passed away on March 14th 2004. He was in Manipal hospital for a brief period. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his sons, Kaup

Mohandas Shenoy & family of South Easton, MA. and Kaup Muralidhar Shenoy & family of Durham, NC.

Sri. Shenoy was the oldest surviving member of Kaup Shenoy Family, which has over 200 years old history. To know little more about him please visit www.kaupshenoy.com (click on Kaup Anandaraya Shenoy).

Shri K. NAGENDRA KAMATH (84), retired Commissioner of Railway, passed away peacefully in the early hours of Tuesday April 6th 2004 in Bangalore, India. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his daughters Nirmala Ganguly & family of Houston, TX and Sharada Kamath & family of Downers Grove, IL.

KHABBAR FROM KULAR

By: - Vishwa Konkani Sardar BASTI VAMAN SHENOY

Fr. Eric Crasta was elected unanimously as President of Konkani Bhasha Mandal Karnataka (R), Mangalore, **Shri M. Raghunath Shet** as Vice-President, **Shri Kudpi Jagadish Shenoy** as Treasurer, **Shri Venkatesh Baliga** and **Shri Joachim Stany Alvares** as Secretaries on 22.02.2004.

On 27.03.2004, 24th Foundation Day Celebration of **Konkani Triveni Kala Sangam** Mumbai (Regd.) was held at Mumbai. Noted Cine Actor **Shri Amol Palekar** was Chief Guest. **Shri Eric Ozario**, President, Mandd Sobhann, Mangalore, **Shri Mohan Hemmadi**, Vice-President, Chitrapur Math were Guests of Honour.

On 06.03.2004, "**Emily**" Book, a collection of Konkani short Stories, written by **Shri Basti Vaman Shenoy** was released by **Smt. Sandhya S. Pai**, Manipal. **Shri Gokuldas Prabhu** reviewed the book. **Fr. Eric Crasta** presided.

Basti Vaman Shenoy (President), **Shri Kudpi Jagadish Shenoy** (Treasurer) and **Shri M. Raghunath Shet** (Chairman-World Konkani Centre Construction Committee) toured Dubai and Abu Dhabi for Fund raising programme for **World Konkani Centre**. **Shri Ullas D'Souza Kamath**, **Shri Gokulnath Prabhu** co-ordinated the tour. At Dubai, Mangalore Konkans and Daiji Dubai headed by **Shri Melwyn Rodrigues**, **Shri Roney D'Cunha**, **Shri Jocelyn Mascarenhas**, **Shri Dyan D'Souza** took keen interest in arranging huge meeting at India House, Dubai. Large number of Dubai Konkani people attended and there was very good response for the World Konkani Centre project.

They also visited Abu Dhabi. **Shri Gokuldas Hegde** was the co-ordinator. A meeting of Konkanis was held at India Social Centre under the President of **Shri Leo Rodrigues**. **Mr. Thomas Sequeira** and **Mr. Shivaram Nayak** were elected as co-ordinators for organising future work at Abu Dhabi.

In the recent Elections held in India for Parliament **Mr. Gurudas Kamath** (President Mumbai Town Congress Committee) and **Shri Suresh P. Prabhu** (Ex-Central Minister) and **Shri George Fernandes** were elected as Members of Parliament. In Karnataka **Mr. R. V. Deshpande** (Ex-Minister), **Shri N. Yogish Bhat**, Mangalore were elected as Members of Legislative Assembly.

Celebrations of **Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Academy** "Decennial Programme" was held on 26th and 27th May 2004 at Town Hall, Mangalore. Hon'ble Minister **Shri R.V. Deshpande** inaugurated the Celebrations. On the Valedictory function, **Shri M. Veerappa Moily**, Former Chief Minister of **Karnatakam** **Shri P. Dayananda Pai**, **Shri Ronald Colaco** were honoured. **Vishwa Konkani Sardar Shri Basti Vaman Shenoy**, President, All India Konkani Parishad presided. In connection with the Decennial Programme of the Konkani Academy, good number of Parisamvad on important subjects related to Konkani Language and Culture and also cultural programmes were held.

See the moon tonight!

S. SUCHITRA LATA

Excerpts from the July 2002 interview of Ms. Padmini Rao by the Hindu Newspaper in Bangalore.

When Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Dagar asked Padmini K. Rao to go look at the moon, she unquestioningly did so. The next day he explained a musical nuance she will never forget...

THE BEAUTIFUL Padmini K. Rao could have continued as an actress, or taken up a career as a chemist. She had done some experimental work on the Mumbai stage, and was contemplating a B.Tech when music embraced her fully into its fold. She is now acknowledged as one of the most gifted voices to emerge from the *Kirana gharana*, a style that has produced such legends as Pandit Bhimsen Joshi and Gangubai Hangal.

Dr. Gulvady, Padmini's father, specialises in industrial medicine. The Konkani-speaking family hails from Karnataka and has lived in Mumbai for many years. Padmini now lives with husband Kishore Rao in New York. She performs, teaches, and conducts lecture demonstrations.

Initially Padmini thought she didn't have the voice to be a singer and started learning the sitar. But when she discovered that singing was her first love, she took rigorous lessons in voice culture from Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Dagar, *the dhrupadia and rudra veena* maestro revered by discerning audiences the world over. The family was so attached to the ustad that they named their flat, a stone's throw from his, *Guru Chaya* (or guru's shadow).

While her talent flowered under the care of the ustad, Padmini obtained her master's degree in music from SNTU University. That course laid the foundation for a long and fruitful association with the famous vocalist, Dr. Prabha Atre. Padmini has learnt from Dr. Atre for over 16 years. Her music is thus a blend of two of India's most enchanting musical streams: *the dhrupad* and *the khayal*.

Her first classical album, with *ragas Bhoop, Kirvani, and Desh*, will be released in Mangalore on July 26. After a hectic recording and mastering session in Bangalore, she spoke about her life and art.

How did you get into music, and how did you meet and learn from two virtuosos?

As a child I was not interested in music at all. I did not even listen to music. I don't come from a musical lineage. My father is a doctor. My mother was a teacher, but they were deeply interested in music. In fact my father started learning the sitar, just so I could get to listen to music. My parents believed that way there would be no generation gap because a love of classical music transcends generations. It forms a binding factor when my grandmother, mother, and I can sit and listen to the same artiste and enjoy it.

I started learning when I was 15. We were in Chembur in Bombay. My guru Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Khan Dagar, and his brother, Ustad Zia Fariduddin Khan Dagar, used to live there. Every Sunday we used to have musical soirees at their place. I was unwillingly dragged to them. I was eight or 10, and I couldn't sit in one place. When I was 15, I started learning the sitar with Pramila Dagar. I also learnt some vocal with Pt. Manohar Otavkar. The Dagar brothers were not in the country then. I went back to my guru when I was 19.

You were very good in studies. Did you have to make a choice between music and academics?

I finished my graduation and then I didn't know which way to go, whether to do my B.Tech. I was also involved in theatre with Jayadeva and Rohini Hattangadi. That was for a short time. To decide, I took a year off, and my parents were so patient. I studied the B.A. syllabus for music and went through the entrance test for the M.A. course at SNTU. Dagar Saab pushed me into it; he valued education. He was a very learned man, but not educated, and it was important for him that I do this. This was when I started learning from Dr. Prabha Atre, again at Dagar Saab's insistence.

What do you remember most about your guru, as a musician and as a person?

For most people who know him only from the outside, he is a very strict classicist, a musician of musicians. I don't know how this sounds, but he was the closest I have come to god. He never led you, he walked with you. Even if you faltered, he inspired faith in you to go on. Like a father holding out his hands to his child and asking it to jump. It was an act of faith on the child's part and it would jump blindly. His teaching method was so natural. It was like learning one's mother tongue. Once you learn it, it always stays with you, but you don't know how you learnt it. One day, he was teaching me the difference between *ragas Puriya* and *Marwa*, in which the second note is the same and only the *vaadi* and *samvaadi swars* make a difference. He said at the end of class, "*Ek kaam karna beta, aaj chand ko dekhna*" (Do this, child, see the moon tonight).

"*Accha, aaj chand ko dekhna hai.*" (Ok, I will see the moon tonight).

When I returned the next day he asked, "*Kal chand ko dekha tha?*" (Did you see the moon yesterday?)

"*Zyada dikha nahin mamaji, badal bhi the.*" (It was not very clear, there were clouds.)

"*Tumne dekha badalon se chand kaise nazar aa raha tha. Puriya ka rishab aisi hi hai, abhi dikhaiya diya ab nahin!*" (You saw how the moon looked from among clouds? Puriya's rishab is like that, now you see it, now you don't!)

And then he said, "*Marwa ka rishab to bilkul saaf nazar aatha hai.*" (Marwa's rishab shows up very clear.)

I will never forget it all my life. At the same time he would say never believe anything just because I say so.

Was there any training that taught you to realise each note with precision? Even when you sing your taans and fast phrases, each note can be discerned individually.

That is again his teaching, I had my first child and he came to look me up. He said now that you are a mother, you will understand the tenderness you feel when you look at your child sleeping in your lap. Look at every note the same way you look upon your child! Especially in the *alaap*. You should have that when you sing the *alaap*. He has left behind such a legacy of respect and love. My mother Sita was depressed that I had not taken to music. He told her not to worry and to let me be. He said that when I turned 19, I would learn on my own and be very immersed in music. And that is exactly what happened.

You are equally close to Dr. Prabha Atre, and I hear you also had some lessons from Sheila Dhar.

Dagar Saab told me to go to Prabhatai. And she welcomed me with open arms. No looking askance that I was learning from him. She gave me her all. It was up to me to do what I could. I learnt so much from her. She was not in the least possessive about her knowledge of music. Almost all compositions I sing are hers. Another person in my life was Sheila Dhar. I was entranced by a Shuddh Sarang composition she was singing and asked for her permission to write it down. She said, of course, what use is music otherwise, like perfume shut up in a bottle, of no use to me or to you?

How do you combine the dhrupad and khayal styles? Do you feel there is a conflict in approach?

Actually I see *dhrupad* as straight lines. The curls and curves of *khayal* are not there. I put them together. My basic voice production is from the Dagers, straight to the note. I have also learnt how to go gently to the note. The way you modulate your voice is the difference. I am not a practising *dhrupad* singer. But I can relate as fast, if not faster, to instrumental music because of my sitar learning. Sometimes my taan structures are influenced by that, and some listeners ask me about my instrumental approach.

Where do you see classical music going?

A minimum amount of hard work is non-negotiable. That hard work is for the teacher and student. It is getting more difficult, finding gurus like mine, or even dedicated students. The tastes of the public have changed. People want fast *taans* and pyrotechnics. Dagar Saab used to say, "*Drut mein tayari nazar aathi hai, alap mein samajhdari nazar aathi hai*". In the fast composition you can see the preparation, and in the *alaap*, you can see the understanding. Our music is supposed to makes us feel calm and good, but sound levels today inspire you instead to go and jog. Anyway that is ultimately an individual's choice.

Appointment of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

As appeared on www.Millersville.edu

Millersville University is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Vilas A. Prabhu as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs effective August 1, 2004.



Dr. Prabhu comes to Millersville University from Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU), where he has served since 1980. For the past two years, he has held the position of Associate Provost for Academic & Student Affairs and Research Administration. In this capacity Dr. Prabhu is a senior advisor to the provost with direct responsibility for enrollment management, marketing and promotion, assessment and testing, distance learning, continuing education, research administration and sponsored programs. Dr. Prabhu also provides direction and leadership to the Dean of Students, Registrar, Director of Admissions, Director of Counseling Services, Director of Career Services, and the Director of Health Services. As a member of the Executive Council, the Administrative Council, and the Council of Deans, Dr. Prabhu has experience in strategic, financial, and budgetary planning. In addition, he serves as a permanent member of the Planning and Resource Council, an oversight committee for reviewing and implementing the University's five-year strategic plan.

Dr. Prabhu was promoted to his current position from that of Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, a post he held at SWOSU since July 1998. As dean, he was the chief academic officer of the largest school on campus, with twelve academic departments and twenty-four degree programs. During this time, the school employed 140 faculty, generated approximately 68% of student credit hours, and offered the great majority of general education courses.

Dr. Prabhu served as a faculty member for 25 years and in the Faculty Senate for 13 years, including a year as its president. Dr. Prabhu has held a number of leadership positions in the community, including President of Weatherford Rotary Club, President of the Board of Education for the Weatherford Public Schools, and as a member of the Board of Directors of Leadership Oklahoma. He has received numerous awards for his involvement in university and community service activities including the Bernhardt Academic Excellence Award, SWOSU's highest faculty honor, Rotary's International's Paul Harris Fellow Award, and the Citizen of the Year Award from the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

Dr. Prabhu was awarded a Ph.D degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry from the University of Texas at Austin in 1977 and holds an M.S. in Pharmaceutical Chemistry from Idaho State University and a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Bombay, India. In 1991, Dr. Prabhu was awarded an M.B.A. in Management and Finance from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. His expertise is widely recognized through his selection as a Consultant Evaluator for the North Central Association Higher Learning Commission. He has successfully obtained grant awards, both as an individual and as a member of a collaborative consortium, from the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Aeronautic and Space Administration. He is highly regarded for his research in the areas of pharmaceutical biotechnology and pharmacological management, which has made him a widely sought speaker for numerous conferences and professional meetings.

Dr. Prabhu is highly respected by faculty, administrators, staff, students, and the community. He is regarded as a strong leader and a strong proponent of both academic and student initiatives, with a commitment to and an understanding of cultural diversity.

Dr. Prabhu was selected after an extensive national search. After refining the candidate pool of over 80 applicants, the Search Committee initiated a preliminary "airport interview" process and met with and interviewed each of 14 semifinalists. From this pool, five candidates were invited for a two-day visit to campus. All members of the University community were extended an invitation to meet the candidates and to provide written assessments to the Search Committee.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Prabhu to Millersville.

The University also wishes to express its appreciation to the members of the Search Committee for their outstanding work in conducting a successful national search.

The Power of Options

By: Rajeev Nayak

Many people have traded stock at some point in their lifetime. While buying stock in a company is not uncommon, there are other types of securities that not only are able to make as much profit for an investor, but are also able to do so with careful risk management. One of these financial instruments is known as options. Options are a powerful but little known area in investing. Many people refer to them as risky investments. However, if applied properly they can be among the most effective weapons in an investor's arsenal.

An option is a right to buy or sell an underlying instrument at a certain price (strike price) on or before a particular date (expiration date). There are two different types of options, a call and a put. (To keep things simple only the long call and long put strategies will be discussed) If you buy a call option you are basically betting that the stock will move up in value within a certain period of time. The amount that you pay is known as the premium, and by buying the call you are paying for the right to ownership in the stock. If you buy a put, you are betting that the stock value will go down within a certain period of time. This is somewhat similar to short selling, except that you don't have to short the whole stock, but just pay for the premium. Irrespective of which type of option is chosen, the beauty of options is that you are investing a lot less to potentially make a lot more return on your initial investment.

The chart below gives an example of an options chain for the company General Electric (GE). The call option symbols are shown on the left, while the put option symbols are shown on the right. If you buy one of the call options (i.e. GEFY), then you are hoping that the corresponding stock (General Electric) will increase in price to make a profit. Likewise if you purchase a put option (i.e. GERZ), you hope that the stock will decrease in price. As an example, let's say you buy the GE June 30 Call (symbol GEFY) at \$1.25 per contract. If you buy 5 contracts (each contract is equivalent to 100 shares), your maximum risk is \$625 no matter what the stock does. However if the stock advances significantly over the next few weeks, your profit could double or even triple. How often can you expect to double your initial investment by purchasing regular stock?

CALLS					STRIKE			PUTS						
<u>GEFE</u>	6.20	+0.20	192.00	6.00	6.20	4,200.00	25.00	<u>GERE</u>	0.05	-0.05	9.00	0.05	0.05	19,746.00
<u>GEFY</u>	3.60	+0.20	8.00	3.50	3.70	9,986.00	27.50	<u>GERY</u>	0.05		10.00	0.05	0.05	23,471.00
<u>GEFF</u>	1.25	+0.05	1,750.00	1.20	1.30	75,626.00	30.00	<u>GERF</u>	0.15		1,156.00	0.10	0.15	100,912.00
Symbol	Last	Change	Vol.	Bid	Ask	Open Int.	31.10				Last as of 6/2/2004 4:01:00 PM			
<u>GEFZ</u>	0.10		3,556.00	0.05	0.10	101,689.00	32.50	<u>GERZ</u>	1.45	-0.20	588.00	1.45	1.50	30,808.00
<u>GEFG</u>	0.05	-0.05	2.00	0.05	0.05	43,519.00	35.00	<u>GERG</u>	3.90	-0.10	147.00	3.80	4.00	14,917.00
<u>GEFS</u>	0.05	-0.05	24.00	0.05	0.05	7,942.00	37.50	<u>GERZ</u>	6.20	-1.20	3.00	6.40	6.50	45.00

Hopefully you've been able to gain some basic insight into how options function. There are many other option strategies besides the long call or put methodologies (i.e. covered calls/puts) that, when combined with fundamental or technical tools, can help make gains for an investor with even more limited risk. For now, it suffices to understand some of the basic components of options and use that as a foundation to learn more about this exciting field. Best of luck on your investing!

For more information or to share ideas, feel free to email at nayakrj@yahoo.com
Rajeev Nayak is an equity trader that resides in Indiana, PA

Bhagavad-Gita as a Stress Management Guide - Cont.

By: K. P. S. Kamath, M. D.

Psychiatrist in private practice in Cape Girardeau, MO

Chapter Seven:

A Pilgrimage to the Temple of *Atman*

In my wanderings around the world over the years, I once passed through a place called the Land of the Mind. I had always wanted to see the world famous Temple of *Atman* in that land of which all wise men often talked about, but few were fortunate enough to lay their eyes on. At last I found it, and posing myself as a curious tourist, I approached the large area outside the massive, high granite wall surrounding this Temple. I could get no glimpse of the Temple within for such was the formidable nature of this massive wall. There were thousands of people milling around in colorful clothes in the area where I was, called the *Maidan* of the Mind.

This *Maidan* was surrounded by a low, easy to scale, wooden fence with five wide Gates distributed around the *Maidan*. The five Gates led to a large surrounding area where hundreds of retail shops selling every conceivable type of Materials one could imagine that would appeal to one's Senses. There were food courts serving every variety of tasty ethnic foods; shops that sold clothes, jewelry, gold, silver and precious stones; shops full of exotic perfumes; shops that blared angelic music; shops that showed sensual movies, videos and DVDs, and offered every conceivable kind of sensual pleasure. There was much traffic of vendors, hawkers and sellers of various goods through these Five Gates. People gathered here and there in large crowds to see *tamashas*, magic, dance, dramas, and what have you. The din of drums and the sound of music, were at once deafening and hypnotic. The piled up sweetmeats, fruits, flowers, and whatnot made my mouth drool and my senses excited. The sights, sounds, smells, the foods and touches I felt there were truly overwhelming to my Senses. I soon forgot the main purpose of my visit while enjoying all these wonderful worldly pleasures.

I experienced a great sense of happiness in this festive environment; and yet at times I felt uneasy, insecure and scared. At once I felt I knew everyone I saw there; and yet I was a total stranger to them. I was getting too distracted by all the sensory onslaught when I realized that I was forgetting my main goal: to see with my own eyes the famous yet elusive Temple of *Atman*.

It was quite a struggle for me to tear myself away from the area outside the Five Gates where the main action lay. Pushing myself through the thick crowd, I started walking along the great wall in search of its entrance gate. Soon I was face to face with a massive wooden gate with no bolt from outside. I stood there for a while looking around for help. No one seemed to know how one could enter the temple compound. Then I saw a small notice on the wall close to the gate. Coming as close to it as I could, I started reading the notice: "NOTICE: The Temple of *Atman* is closed to general public at all times. Only *Yogis* may enter. For more information, push the button on the wall and wait for the gate keeper."

Apprehensive about the unknown, I pushed the red button once and waited. A Gentle Voice came through a speaker over the gate, "May I help you?" Encouraged by this quick response, I said, "I am a tourist from America. I would like to see the inside of this compound as well as the world famous Temple of *Atman*. I have heard a lot about its beauty and splendor. I have heard wise men say there is Absolute Knowledge, Absolute Peace and Absolute Tranquility inside the Temple." The Gentle Voice replied, "Only one in several thousand is allowed inside it (Gita:7:3). You must be a true *Yogi* to enter it. If you were a true *Yogi*, this gate would have opened instantly and you would have found yourself inside the compound already. You are too enamoured by all the fun and frolic going on in the *Maidan* and outside it."

"Obviously I am not a *Yogi*, O Gentle Voice. All I want is a glimpse of what it is like inside, no more." I said. The Gentle Voice said, "In that case, let me look at your *Karma* Account with us and see if there is any way we can let you in." "This must be good bureaucrat!" I said to myself. 'My *Karma* Account! I did not know I had an Account at this temple!' I exclaimed to myself. I asked anxiously, "What *Karma* Account are you talking about?" The Gentle Voice said, "It is Your *Karma* Account. It is an account of all that is coming to you for your selfish deeds on this Earth. Every time you do something with selfish Desire, we credit it to your *Karma* Account. Every time you give up a selfish intention (*Sankalpa*) in your action, and every time you perform a selfless service to your fellow beings we debit from this account. (Gita: 3: 31) The greater your *Karma* balance, less likely you would be allowed inside. Yoga is the only way by which you can hope have a zero balance in your account. That is when you get in."

"Goodness gracious!" I said, "In that case, I stand no chance whatsoever of getting in." Then I remembered. "Well, I have regularly put in some money in the *hundi* at our family temple. I have performed *yajnas* and *poojas* now and then. Would these count?" I asked. The Gentle Voice said impassively, "No. You always did so hoping God would give you success in your endeavors. You had selfish motive." I was disappointed by this bad news.

Just as I was about to leave in dejection, the Gentle Voice came back on the megaphone. "Well, all is not lost. Looks like you do have some debit here. Looks like you took care of a lot of mentally ill people. Is that true?" "That is true, but I did charge them money for my services," I said timidly. The Gentle Voice said, "It looks like a lot of them got free service from you over the years. Also, it shows here you served some poor people for over 11 years without much compensation." I was happy at this turnaround. The Gentle Voice

went on, "I see here in my computer, you performed some selfless service for your country of birth twenty three years ago. Is that true?" I said incredulously, " How did you know? That is true, but it lasted only for 18 months. Then I walked away from it." The Voice replied, "Well, in spite of your walking away from it, those eighteen months of selfless service will reduce your *Karma* Account (Gita: 2:40, 6:37- 42) since it was a selfless service for which you sacrificed all you had in addition to putting your family through hell in the name of serving humanity!" Tears of joy welled up in my eyes.

After a brief pause the Gentle Voice continued, " Sorry, you still can not get in as your *Karma* Account is still quite too big. You are still under the spell of *Rajas GuNa* even though it shows here that of late you have attempted to simplify your life, reduced your needs and cultivated an attitude of detachment from Sense Objects. The only way you can get in is if you practice Yoga and clear your huge *Karma* Account. You should start reading Bhagavad Gita." "I have read Bhagavad Gita many times. But it is so difficult to understand and even more difficult to practice," I said in frustration.

"Not my problem. You have not tried hard enough. Is there anything else I can do for you?" the Gentle Voice asked. I said, " Well, since I can not get in and I do not know exactly what Yoga is, is there anyway you can arrange for me to talk with some *Mahatmas* inside the compound? It is one thing for me to read about Yoga in Gita and entirely another to learn it directly from a Mahatma. Do you not agree?"

I heard a soft chuckle. The Gentle Voice said, "Well, since you do come across as sincere and you do have some debit in your *Karma* Account, I will let you talk with three *Mahatmas* who are inside the compound. But you can do so only from outside. I will give each of them the microphone in turns. You can carry out the conversation with each one of them at a time. Now, pick three names and get ready."

My mind started to think very fast. I must pick three *Mahatmas* who had, through their life-long *Yogic* efforts and discipline, renounced attachments to Sense Objects and fruits of their actions; controlled their Senses; steadied their Mind and become *Sthithaprajnya* by subjugating their selfish Desire, Possessiveness, Anger, Fear and Greed and pairs of opposites (pleasure and pain; success and failure, etc.); united their Mind with their Intellect (*Buddhi*), and finally merged their Mind with the *Atman*, the Self, to become Self-realized *Mahatmas*! (Gita: 6:27-29; 18:51-53)

Gita says that three main *Yogas* that pave the way for attaining Peace are *Jnana Yoga*, *Karma Yoga* and *Bhakti Yoga*. Each of these *Yogas* has elements of the other two and they all share the same goal (Gita: 5:4, 5). However, we can identify each *Mahatma* primarily with one particular *Yoga* if we study their life history. Names of all great spiritual leaders of Mother India from her mythical past (*Vashista*, *Vyasa*), her ancient history (*Buddha*, *Mahavira*), her Middle Ages (*Shankaracharya*, *Ramanuja*, *Madvacharya*), the period of 16th to 19th century (*Kanakadasa*, *Purandaradasa*, *Tukaram*,), and from more modern times (*Ramakrishna Paramahansa*, *Vivekananda*, *Gandhi*) came to my mind. I was still lost in my thoughts when I heard the Gentle Voice once again, "Kamti! Hurry up! Have you made up your mind who you would like to talk with?"

"Sure," I said confidently. "I would like to talk with Ramakrishna Paramahansa to learn from him the secrets of *Jnana Yoga*; with Mahatma Gandhi to learn from him the secrets of *Karma Yoga*; and with Bhakta Kanaka Dasa to learn from him the secrets of *Bhakti Yoga*."

"Great choices!" said the Gentle Voice with obvious satisfaction. "Very well, then. Let me get hold of them one by one. When they come on the microphone, just speak to them with your normal voice. Don't panic. Even though they are *Mahatmas*, they are humble, down-to-earth folks. They are used to talking intimately with frustrated travelers and crazy Truth Seekers like you!"

Jubilant about having secured an expert panel of three *Mahatma Yogis*, I prepared myself to interview them about Stress Management according to Bhagavad Gita!

pkamath001@charter.net 4/20/04

.....To Be Continued

KONKANI CALENDER

July 2004	August 2004	September 2004
1 st Poornami	3 rd Angaraka Chaturthi	1st Sankashta Chaturthi
2nd – 4th SammeLAN-2004	15 th Amavasya(Dark moon)	5 th Shri Krishna Janmashtami
4 th Sankashta Chaturthi	15 th Simh-Sankranthi	14 th Mahalaya Amavasye
15 th Amavasya(Dark moon)	20 th Naga Panchami	17 th Gowri Thrithiye Ganesh Chaturthi
24th KAO Picnic	26 th Yekadashi	24 th Yekadashi
27 th Yekadashi	29 th Poornima - Yajurpakarma	27 th Anantha Chaturdashi
31 st Poornami		28 th Poornami
		29 th Mahalaya

Khabbar thanks Sri P. V. Kamath of Shrewsbury, MA for furnishing the Panchang and My Astrologer-version 1.0 by Mr. Muralidhar Shenoy of Durham, NC

My Sincere Thanks to

Some readers go out of their way to help Khabbar. Monetary means is one of them. The Advisory Committee of Khabbar has decided on publishing the names of the families that has contributed \$50.00 or more to Khabbar. This quarter, the following have extended their help and thanks to you

Names	Amount, \$
Vasudev & Shaila Nayak, Cranbury, NJ	150.00
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STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
Balance Carried over since Khabbar Vol. XXVII No. 1	3,145.00	
Money Received:		
Subscriptions (77) and donations	2,462.00	
Advertisements (1)	25.00	
Interest	3.00	
Sub Total:	2,490.00	
Money Spent (Khabbar Vol. XXVII No. 1):		
Printing- Khabbar (800) - 20 pages		720.00
First Class Mail-Khabbar (752)		451.20
Canada Khabbar (23)		19.55
Overseas (20)		60.00
Mail Fines, computer paper & labels, envelopes, service fees, etc		349.25
SammeLAN Ad		150.00
Sub Total:		1,750.00
Final Balance:	3,885.00	

Money spent on this issue was not available during press time.



The last quarter's quiz (Khabbar Vol. XXVI-4) was: How many English words can you name that has at least 23 alphabets?

The following gave solutions of words with more than 23 alphabets! Somehow, Khabbar missed publishing their names and they are:

- Praveen Kamath**, Centreville, VA "FLOCCINAUCINIHIPIILIFICATION"
Mukund Kamath, San Ramon, CA "ANTIDISESTABLISHMENTARIANISM"

The last quarter's quiz: WORLD'S EASIEST QUIZ (Passing required 4 correct answers!)

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years War last? ***116 years**
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats? ***Ecuador**
- 3) From which animal do we get cat gut? ***Sheep and Horses**
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution? ***November**
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of? ***Squirrel fur**
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal? ***Dogs**
- 7) What was King George VI's first name? ***Albert**
- 8) What color is a purple finch? ***Crimson**

- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from? *New Zealand
10) What is the color of the black box in a commercial airplane? *Orange, of course.
As expected, NOBODY gave the correct solution !!!!

This Quarter's Quiz

By

“Vasanthmaam”

Continuing with the Konkani tradition of quizzing, here's the brainteaser for this quarter. If you can solve this correctly, send it to Khabbar address to have your name published in the next issue.

Palindromes

Palindromes are fun, such as “toot”, “Madam, I’m Adam” spelled forward or backward, or palindromic numbers like 747 or 1001. Now, answer this. How many palindromes are there from 1 to 1,000, inclusive?

KONKANI SAMMELAN 2004 – UPDATE

**Contributed by the Executive Committee, SammeLAn-2004.
KONKANI SAMMELAN 2004- FINAL PHASE**

With very few days left for the SammeLAn 2004, the entire Konkani community in Southern California is excited and looking forward to host the delegates from all over North America for an eventful 3 day period July 2-4, 2004. Most of the office bearers with the help of their committee members are calling weekly meetings and trying to put finishing touches on the tasks they are handling. All programs are on track to be enacted as scheduled. The program schedule on our website lists the distinguished artists and speakers that are lined up to participate, besides very talented youth entries who will showcase their attractive programs. **You are reminded that our Convention closes Sunday July 4th night with a grand dinner. So stay until Sunday and plan your return trip on Monday.**

Registration is picking up at a brisk pace. The number has exceeded 1300 already and climbing. Procrastinators and busy bodies, we have good news for you. You do not have to despair. We have reduced the late registration fees to a nominal increased amount of only \$10.00 above the early bird specials. So go and register now! Please come to enjoy all the festivities and to personally honor, salute and celebrate the outstanding achievements and contributions of exemplary Konkanis who will be recognized by presentation of Distinguished Excellence Awards in various categories. You would not like to be left behind to hear from others, how enjoyable the SammeLAn was, the food, the program and the camaraderie!

For more information go to our website: www.konkani2004.com

2004 Konkani Sabha Activities

Following is the highlight of the KONKANI SABHA activity for the remainder of the year 2004

Diwali: Saturday, November 6th, 2004; Time: Registration counters open at 3 PM sharp

Ras Gharba and entertainment events start at 3 PM sharp.

Note: We have strict time constraints with the hall, and need to vacate by 8 PM.

We will be starting the events at 3 PM sharp to meet this time constraint.

Location: Shri Venkateshwara Temple Community Center, 780 Old Farm Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807; Tel: (908) 725-4477

Cost: Registration and Payment by October 5th - \$13 (12 years and older) and \$6 (ages 6 to 12)

Registration after Oct 5th and at the door - \$15 (12 years and older) and \$8 (ages 6 to 12)

Please contact Vasanthi Baliga, Treasurer, for advance registration and payment details.

Advance Registration and payments will also be accepted at the picnic

Activities: Ras Gharba, Variety Entertainment, Dinner

Diwali flyers will be emailed to all members of the Konkani community in the NJ, NY, PA, CT and DE areas whose contact information is on record with the Konkani Sabha. The flyers **WILL NOT** be mailed by post anymore. Anyone interested in receiving the Konkani Sabha flyers, please contact the office bearers, or, email your contact information including email addresses to KonkaniSabha@hotmail.com. Visit our website at WWW.KonkaniSabha.org for further details and updates on our activities. Anyone interested volunteering to organize the events and activities, and/or in performing at the Diwali function please contact the office bearers.

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Any Hoon Khabbar, sunshine news, your or your child's promotion or achievement, articles of interest, etc. are always in need to be published in Khabbar. Share your joy or grief with fellow Konkans. Send your contribution to: Khabbar, P. O. Box 222, Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222. email: khabbar@hotmail.com

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The American Konkani Association (A. K. A.) is helping eligible Konkani youth by granting College Loan Scholarships. Send your generous contributions to:

American Konkani Association, 1613 Maple Avenue,
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The Three river Area Konkani Association (TAKA) is a non-profit organization helping the needy Konkans in North America and India. Send generous contributions to:

Three river Area Konkani Association
111 Volpe Dr., MONROEVILLE, PA 15146

World Konkani Conference (WKC)-1995 Video

As a fundraiser, the Konkani Basha Mandal of Mangalore has provided a rare video-"**Coming Together**" of the WKC-1995. This 35-min. video covers the highlights of the December 1995 historic event held in Mangalore. The social and cultural events are a treasure every Konkani should have.

Please, send \$20 (cash or check made out to WKC-1995) and mail to:

Ms. Nina Padukone, 430W 22nd Street, New York, NY 10011

KONKANI COOK BOOKS

The two Konkani Cook Books, "Indian Cooking Konkani Style" and "Millennium Masala Konkani Style" published by American Konkani Association (A. K. A.) are for sale. The cost per book is \$12.00 + \$1.50 for S & H. Mail check payable to A.K.A. to:

Mrs. Sandhya Kamath, 440 Glencrest Dr.,
Barrington, IL 60010, Phone: (847)-277-9771
skamath@aol.com

MATRIMONIAL ASSISTANCE

As a service to Konkani community, Sri. R. C. Nayak will offer free matrimonial assistance. Contact: Sri. R. C. Nayak
Pais Compound, Microwave Station Road
Mangalore 575 006 (INDIA)

A P P E A L

I hope you are aware of my free service of Matrimonial Information to our Samaj since 1988. To meet the expenses towards the free publication of the SOIRIKA, your financial help is required. Your contribution will also be utilized to provide Mangalasutra, Sarees, and marriage expenses of the poor brides and also for the remarriage of young widows. Your contribution, big or small, may kindly be sent to by way of DD or check in favor of "GSB Matrimonial Trust" and sent to: Sri B. N. Baliga, 5th Main, Near Band Box, Bangalore 560 009 (INDIA) <http://www.soirika.com>

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Mr. Basti Ganapathi Shenoy of Las Vegas, NV is maintaining a list of Konkani youth that are eligible for matrimony. Interested boys and girls can send in their information to:

Mr. Basti Ganapathi Shenoy
8301 West Charleston Blvd., # 2078,
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