

# Khabbar

North American Konkani Newsletter

Volume XXVII No. 4

October, November, December - 2004

*From:*

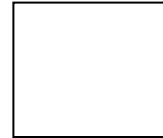
The Honorary Editor,  
"Khabbar"

P. O. Box 222

Lake Jackson, TX 77566 - 0222

XXVII-4

**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.....

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*Khabbar* and the annual dues of \$15.00 probably brings the best of humor amongst us all. A while ago, I got this letter from this family in MA:

“Hi Vasanthmaam,  
Is there a way you can remind us to pay the dues annually? Because I tend to forget and don't want to sound neglecting. Thanks”.

To assist this family and all the subscribers, the Advisory Committee of *Khabbar* decided to put **the year/s the dues for *Khabbar* has been received on the mailing label!** If the family has “forgotten” or missed to pay the dues for any year, then a “\_” is shown!!

I really do not know how many families really pay attention to this system I have used till I got this response from this enthusiastic Konkani who happens to be an “unofficial” Official *Khabbar* Correspondent from NV:

“Vasanth,  
I was just looking at the cover page of the *Khabbar* issue (Vol. XXVII No.3) after reading the 3<sup>rd</sup> para of your editorial to c if I have paid the dues for 04. There I noticed a “\_” after 03. Immediately I wrote this check.

Then it also occurred to me that the “\_” is little too long. So, I went to a Konkani friend to find out whether it is longer on his sticker. My friend, having not paid his dues also had a “\_” after 03 but sure like hell, mine “\_” was longer than his! And, my friend said to me being the local unofficial “Official” correspondent I got a longer “\_”!! That made sense. But, think of it, how many ways u know to tell the people that they have not paid.

Ha Ha ...”

\*\*\*\*\*

## SUBSCRIPTION FORM:

Dear Konkani family,  
It is time to renew your subscription for 2005! 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 remit your subscription for 2005 at \$15.00 a year. **Please, don't pay for future years!** 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. 4

October, November, December - 2004

Honorary Editor: Mr. Vasanth Bhat

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Annual Subscription: \$15.00

Make check payable to "Khabbar" & mail to P.O.Box 222, Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222

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 1997**. In other words, families who have not paid since 1996 will not be receiving this issue and for families that have paid only in 1997, 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 1997 and if there is any error let me know.

It is time to renew your subscription for 2005. 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 2005 *Khabbar* Mailing List will be mailed **only** to families that have paid their subscriptions for 2004. Please, note that this list is a prized possession of our community and help me to keep it up-to-date. Send names and addresses of Konkani families that are not in the list to P. O. Box 222, Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222, or email [khabbar@hotmail.com](mailto:khabbar@hotmail.com) and

rest be assured that I'll "*khabbarize*" them!

*Khabbar* will publish all the developments and progress made by **The North American Konkani Association (NAKA)** on an on-going basis. This should help us all in combining all our resources to make it into a *jawka* organization. Send your constructive suggestions to any of the Directors.

With the most successful **Konkani SammelAn - 2004** behind us, we all can concentrate on our youth and their next great event in 2005 - the **AmCHigale Youth Convention - 2005** in Chicago. NAKA will join American Konkani Association (AKA) to make this an event to remember.

Also, the preparations for the event of 2006 is taking shape on a grand scale. **The KonCANi Sannelan - 2006** in Toronto will be an event no Konkani in North America or in the world should miss! The various committees and their volunteers are already at work to prove that this will be worth your time and money. Visit their website ([www.konkani2006.com](http://www.konkani2006.com)) to find out more about this great event of 2006.

Based on the feedback of various Konkani families, **Konkani Bhas Ani Sanskriti Pratistan**, will be organizing a 22 day Summer Camp in Mangalore in 2005. Please make the best use of the program, if you can. Also, thanks to untiring efforts of **Basti Ganapathi Shenoy**, who has devised a method

wherein families wanting to help **Konkani Bhas Ani Sanskriti Pratistan** can do so with relative ease! Please extend your help.

Congrats to **Dr. Vanita Braver** and her book "Pinky Promise", the first in the "Teach Your Children Well" series books. All the best to you & your efforts.

The unofficial *Khabbar* correspondents in your area who send in the *hoon khabbars* on a regular basis are doing an outstanding job. If your area is not represented wholly, let me know and I'll recruit more volunteers. You send the news items via email ([khabbar@hotmail.com](mailto:khabbar@hotmail.com)).

On the Quiz front, *Khabbar* has still remained as an undefeated champion for a long time!

*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.

On a personal note, I thank **H. H. Sudhindra Theertha Swamiji** of Kashi Math for recognizing & showering His blessings on me for my work as honorary editor of *Khabbar*.

With the year 2005 fast approaching, I hope the struggle to rid terrorism from this world will materialize soon. Happy Holidays & Happy New Year to you all.

*Devu Boren Karo.*



# 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 Konkani brethren,  
Wish you, your family a very Happy Diwali.

I have every hope you are enjoying Diwali with your friends and families. Some of Konkani Associations are also celebrating "DIWALI" at special Konkani Picnics and local gatherings around your place. And I request you to put before them about World Konkani Centre- A Vision and dream project of Konkanis living in all parts of the World. We have put the contents of our Brochure (already copies sent to you) on Website [www.vishwakonkani.org](http://www.vishwakonkani.org). Please request them or log on.

During our visits to various States in U.S.A. and Canada during July - August 2004, Konkani parents have expressed their desire that their children be given basic training in Konkani language, culture, *Samskaras*, to keep `Konkani Identity (daiz) alive. We have decided to organise a summer camp for the young American Konkanis in Mangalore and the details are in this issue of *Khabbar*.

*Devu Baren Koro*,  
Yours sincerely,

BASTI VAMANI SHENOY  
[bvs\\_193@hotmail.com](mailto:bvs_193@hotmail.com)  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Vasanth,  
Quite a few Konkani families had asked me to find a way to avail the Charitable Donations Tax Shelter facility to fund the Konkani cause in India. I have made arrangements with Mr. Gopal Raju of Indian American Foundation (IAF), tax I.D. is: 51-016-1690, which I feel comfortable with. Those Konkanis who want to donate to the cause of constructing a World Center for the Konkani Language may write a check in favor of Indian American Foundation and mail it to my address : 8017 Celebreeze Crt., Las Vegas, NV 89145. I will forward it to IAF and they will send me back a check drawn in favor of KONKANII BHAS ANI SAMSKRITHI PRATHISHTAN after deducting 1%

handling charges. I will then send the checks to Vishwa Konkani Kendra in Mangalore once a month.

Hence, those members who were withholding the donations do not have to wait any longer.

Thanks

Ganapathi Shenoy  
Ph: (702)-341-6706  
[bshenoy@aol.com](mailto:bshenoy@aol.com)

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Dear Vasanth Bhatji,

A dedication ceremony of silver *Gaddige* (platform) with *Mantap* for Mariamma Temple was performed by Shrimad Sudhindrathirtha Swamiji during Navaratri at S.V.Temple, Kaup. But, the actual installation and its inauguration is scheduled to take place on Dec 28<sup>th</sup> 2004 & will be performed by Shri Gokarn Mutt Swamiji

This permanent structure with artwork consists of about 300 lbs of silver replaces the 75 years old current wooden structure. It is going to be one of the key events in the temple's history and probably all devotees would like to participate. Please make a note in your itinerary if you happen to be in South Kanara for Holidays.

M. K. Shenoy, Durham, NC  
[mks\\_us@yahoo.com](mailto:mks_us@yahoo.com)  
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Dear Konkani family,

It is with great sorrow that we have to announce that our beloved daughter, **Sagarika Savur**, succumbed to complications of Acute Myelogenous Leukemia (AML) on November 26<sup>th</sup> 2004. The end came just after 3 p.m. PST at the City of Hope Medical Center in Duarte, CA.

Sagarika would have turned 23 on December 28. She had been fighting the disease since March 1, 2004

We have been overwhelmed by all the messages of sympathy and support that we have been receiving from family and friends.

We thank everyone for the great support that you gave our family and

Sagarika in her long and painful fight against AML.

She wanted us to be proactive in the efforts to find a cure for AML that would not have to depend on finding a bone-marrow matching donor. Until that day comes, though, we need to keep recruiting potential donors, especially among ethnic minorities.

You may send tax-deductible donations made out to City Of Hope, in honor of Sagarika to:

City of Hope  
In Honor of Sagarika Savur  
1055 Wilshire Blvd.,  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90017  
Tel. No.: (800) 232-3314

Please make sure that on the donation you reference that it is in honor of Sagarika Savur and that it is for research in AML.

You will receive a receipt from City Of Hope acknowledging your donation.

You might also wish to do one or more of the following things:

1) Visit Sagarika's website at [www.sagarika.net](http://www.sagarika.net) Register on the website and spread the word to as many people as you can. We need to spread awareness of this disease.

2) Register to be a bone-marrow donor. You can call "Asians for Miracle Marrow Matches" in L.A. at 1-888-236-4673, or the National Marrow Donor Program at 1-800-MARROW2, or you could check out the website: [www.marrow.org](http://www.marrow.org)

3) Help organise bone-marrow drives. The same contact info given in 2) above will help. We had organized a bone-marrow drive at the Konkani SammelAn in July 2004 for Sagarika, with good response.

4) Say a prayer for Sagarika and have fond memories of her.

Once again, thank you for all your support, sympathy, good wishes and prayers.

Sincerely,

Anand & Sheila Savur,  
West Hills, CA

# Hoon Khabbar

## Congratulations:

The front page of the August 16 to 29 2004 issue of *Business India* featured ICICI as the BEST BANK 2004 in India. The Bank headed by **Sri. K. V. KAMATH** drew all-round appreciation for its aggressive market and customer acquisition strategy.

**V. LEELADHAR**, Chairman and Managing Director, Union Bank of India and Chairman, Indian Banks' Association, has been appointed Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India effective September 21<sup>st</sup> 2004.

Leeladhar will oversee department of information technology, department of administration and personnel management, human resources development department, premises department, rural planning and credit department, and urban banks department.

The appointment is for a period of four years.

Leeladhar has been the CMD of Union Bank of India for the past four years since April 24, 2000. Prior to this, he was the Chairman and Managing Director of Vijaya Bank, where his tenure was three years beginning April 23, 1997. The third Deputy Governor's post was vacant since Vepa Kamesam retired in December 2003.

Leeladhar is also a director in the boards of the Agriculture Finance Corporation, General Insurance Corporation and Export Credit Guarantee Corporation.

**Dr. VANITA BRAVER** of Warren, NJ released the book, "Pinky Promise", the first in the "Teach Your Children Well" series. The book is a well-written book for young readers to help them not only enjoy a good story but also learn the moral value of telling the truth. Visit her website: <http://www.drvanitabraver.com> to learn more about the book and the author. The proceeds are going to children's charities. The second book, "Party Princess" will be released on April 1, 2005. The book can be

ordered at any major bookstore or from [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) or from [www.cwla.org](http://www.cwla.org) which is the website of the Child Welfare League of America as they are being published by the Child & Family Press.

"Pinky Promise", is the story of little Madison. An ideal foundation of value is formed when little Madison opts to tell the truth. The story should capture the young readers mind to bring out the values of good qualities.

**VASANTH BHAT** of Lake Jackson, TX was one of the few distinguished Konkans honored by **H. H. Shrimad Sudhindra Thirtha Swami of Shree Kashi Math Samsthan Varanasi** during the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Ganesh Festival by the King Circle GSB Seva Mandal in September 2004. Also, the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of GSB Sarvajanic Ganeshotsav Samiti, Shree Ram Mandir, Wadala, Mumbai honored him for his services to North American Konkani community as honorary editor of *Khabbar*.

**Sri U. DAMODAR PRABHU** of Pittsburgh, PA was invited by *Geetha Mandal* of Greater Indianapolis to give a talk to a 2-Day Family Camp at Lincoln Park, Lincoln City (where Abraham Lincoln spent his boyhood days) near Evansville, IN on August 21<sup>st</sup> 2004. Around 140 parents & youths (ages 5 thru 70) attended the camp. The talk was on "My Dharma- that which elevates a man and helps him to reach the goal of life and attain knowledge is Dharma (righteousness)".

The November 2004 issue of *Business 2.0* featured an article "In Through the Outsourcing Door" **Sri NANDAN NILEKANI**, CEO of Infosys, discusses his ambition of turning his software giant Infosys into the first genuinely global IT services powerhouse.

**Mr. SUDHAKAR SHENOY** of Great Falls, VA, founder, chairman and CEO of Reston, VA based IMC

Inc. – a leading global Information management solutions provider – has been honored as Small Contractor-Executive of the Year by the Second Annual Greater Washington Government Contractor Awards.

The Northern Virginia Government Contractors Council, the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Special Council and the *Washington Technology Magazine* sponsor the award to honor people and industries vital to the government and the regional economy.

**RAVI SHANKAR**, s/o Narasimha & Meenaxi Kamath of Overland, KS was one of the 15 Indian Americans given the Global Indus Technovators Awards 2004 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA on November 16<sup>th</sup> 2004.

These awards were instituted in August 2003 by the Indian Business Club, an initiative of Indian Students Organization - Sangam - at MIT, to honor significant contributions by young innovators and entrepreneurs of South Asian decent working in the cutting-edge of technology with far reaching applications. Ravi shared the honors in the field of Biotechnology, Healthcare and Medicine.

**RAJANI**, d/o Rajaram and Aneetha Shenoy of Shelton CT, was commended by the Missile Defense Agency for her invaluable support to the analysis required to develop the Missile Defense Agency's annual briefing to the President of the United States. This effort was conducted in a fast paced, quick turnaround environment requiring exceptional focus and productivity on her part over an extended period of time. Rajani graduated from Cornell University in Dec.2003 and is employed by SAIC in Arlington, VA.

**VASANTH BHAT** of Lake Jackson, TX was invited to join the Brazosport Evening Lions Club. Since 1917, Lions clubs have offered people the opportunity to give something back to their communities. From involving

members in projects as local as cleaning up an area park or as far-reaching as bringing sight to the world's blind, Lions clubs have always embraced those committed to building a brighter future for their community. Today with more than 46,000 clubs in 193 countries and geographical areas, Lions have expanded their focus to help meet the ever-increasing needs of our global community. Lions programs are continually changing to meet new needs and greater demands, but the mission has never wavered: **"We Serve."**

### **Konkani Graduates:**

**VINAY**, s/o Drs. Pandurang & Pushpa Prabhu of Newburgh, NY was named the valedictorian of the Newburgh Free Academy class of 2004. Vinay finished first out of a total of six hundred students graduating with a cumulative average of 100.23. Vinay has been a member of NFA Varsity Debate team for five years, two of which he was a team captain. His team qualified for the National Debate team of Champions. He was a varsity tennis player and State recognized trumpet player. He also received scholar athlete award. He has joined Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, where he is majoring in Biology and intends to pursue career in Medicine.

**TRISHNA**, d/o Jayaram & Suhasini Kamath of Markham, Ont. graduated from High School in June 2004 and will pursue Kinesiology at McMaster University this Fall.

**PRAHLAD**, s/o Ravi & Jayashree Pai of Markham, Ont. graduated from Schulich School of Business – York University with a Bachelor of Business Administration Honours in April 2004.

**ARCHANA**, d/o Ashok & Amita Bhatt of London, Ont. received Honours B. Sc from University of Toronto in June 2004 with a double major in Human Biology and Bioethics. She is currently working for the Joint Centre for Bioethics at the University of Toronto.

**NIKHIL**, s/o Mohan & Nalini Pai Dundas, Ont. has joined McMaster

Medical School MD program after completing Honours degree at University of Western Ontario.

**KAVITA**, d/o Ramesh & Malati Padiyar of Dearborn Heights, MI, graduated with Highest Distinction from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. Besides being an Angel Scholar, Kavita also was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. In addition to her academic excellence, Kavita engaged in numerous extra-curricular activities during her college years. In recognition of her achievement during her presidency of the Golden Key International Honor Society, Kavita received the Distinguished Service Award. For her work with elementary school children via the University of Michigan K-grams, she was named SPC Most Valuable Player. Kavita also served as both a peer mentor as well as a board member of University Students Against Cancer. Her semester studying abroad in London, England as well as her extensive research in Civil Rights rhetoric strengthened her resolve to pursue a career in law. She is currently attending Harvard Law School.

**KARYN**, d/o Prakash & Lynne Mallya of Sierra Madre, CA, graduated from Polytechnic School in Pasadena. She was admitted to USC's BA/MD program and will attend that school as a Chemistry Major this fall.

**Prashanti, Pragnya, and Pranava** are the three daughters of Yogesh & Vidya Alekal of Lakewood, CA who went to a *gurukul* type of school in India from the age of five. After completing twelfth grade, they came back to Southern California and did their undergraduate studies.

**PRASHANTI** went to UC San Diego to major in Biosciences, subsequently went on to pursue medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin where she finished her M.D. in 2002. She is presently doing her third year of residency at the Loma Linda University Medical Center at Loma Linda doing a combined program of Pediatrics and Internal Medicine.

**PRAGNYA** went to UCLA Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Sciences where she did her undergraduate studies in Civil and Environmental Engineering. She worked for a year in an engineering firm in San Diego. She was selected through American India Foundation to go and volunteer in India. She spent a year in Tamil Nadu working in the villages and slums developing health education and literacy programs for women and children.

On her return, she was selected through a UNESCO sponsored program to go to Italy. She spent six months visiting schools in Assisi and the surrounding areas to promote world peace and tolerance. When she came back to the US, she was deputed to go to Seoul, Korea on a similar project for a month. She barely had a couple of weeks in between to prepare to go to the east coast. She is presently in MIT pursuing a master's degree in environmental engineering.

**PRANAYA** finished her schooling in India in 2002. After completing her general education courses in a junior college, she will be transferring as a junior to UC Berkeley in the coming semester. She is working towards doing her undergraduate studies in Computer Science and Engineering.

### **Baby Shower:**

Shrikar & Nirmala Bangalore of Elmhurst, IL hosted a Baby shower for their daughter-in-law **Sow. JEANETTE** on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> 2004 at the Balaji Temple Hall, in Aurora, IL. The function was well attended by a lot of Amchis. A slide show Quiz, games and good food was well enjoyed by all. The young couple are settled in Milwaukee, WI.

### **New Arrivals:**

**SANAYA**, a baby girl, born to Yatin & Ashwini Hoskote of Portland, OR, on September 15<sup>th</sup> 2004. Grandchild to the late Vasant & Smt. Lata Hoskote of Khar, Mumbai, and to Dinaker & Jyotsna Rao of Austin, TX.

**AAKASH**, a baby boy to Narendra & Jyothi Baliga of Santa Rosa, CA, on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> 2004. The paternal grandparents are Yeshavantha & Anasuya Baliga of Richmond, CA.

**UMA**, a baby girl to Ramesh & Aparna Kamath of Houston, TX on Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup> 2004. A baby sister to Rohit. Her paternal grandparents are Kakwa Surendra & Nirmala Kamath of Dahisar, Mumbai, India. Visiting Uma are her maternal grandparents are Mangalpady Niranjana & Muktha Shenoy of Mulund, Mumbai, India.

**DIYA**, a baby girl to Sachin & Kshama Agrahar of Simi Valley, CA on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> 2004. The proud grandparents are Avinash & Sumitra Mallapur of Mumbai, and Prakash & Nalini Agrahar of Baroda.

**SONALI**, a baby girl to Narayan & Malathi Prabhu of Bordentown, NJ, on Oct 29<sup>th</sup> 2004. The maternal grandparents are Yeshavantha & Anasuya Baliga of Richmond, CA

**RIYA TARA**, a baby girl to Raj and Sangeeta DeDatta on November 5<sup>th</sup> 2004; a fourth grandchild to Vasudev and Shaila Nayak of Cranbury, NJ. The paternal grand parents are Surajit & Vijayalakshmi DeDatta of VA.

#### **Engaged:**

**Chi. SANDEEP**, s/o Arvind & Neela Kamath of Houston, TX got engaged to **Kum. CHRISTINA LEE** of Dallas, TX on October 15<sup>th</sup> 2004. A small gathering for close friends was held in Houston, TX to celebrate this event on October 29<sup>th</sup> 2004.

**Chi. MANDAR**, s/o Dr. Purandar & Anuradha Mallya of Whittier, CA, got engaged to **Kum. SIMA**, d/o Ashok & Lata Surkund of Toronto, Ont., CAN on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> 2004.

#### **Newly Weds:**

**Sow. ASHWINI**, d/o Ramchandra & Malathi Nayak of Doylestown, PA married **Chi. SANTIAGO**, s/o Omar & Susana Lombryda on May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2004 in Blue Bell, PA. The newlyweds live in Pasadena, CA.

**Chi. MANDAR**, s/o Dr. Purandar & Anuradha Mallya of Whittier, CA, married to **Sow. SIMA**, d/o Ashok & Lata Surkund of Toronto, Ont., CAN on Friday November 26<sup>th</sup> 2004 at

Ghungroo Banquet Hall in Richardson, TX.

**Chi. REETESH** of Albuquerque, NM, s/o Kochikar Ramnath & Rajshree Pai of Carlsbad, NM married to **Sow. KATHERINE**, d/o John & Deborah Doeden on Friday November 26<sup>th</sup> 2004 at the Terrace, The Rio in Las Vegas, NV.

**Chi. NIKHIL**, s/o Ashok & Lata Nayak, the President and First Lady of AMKA, got married to **Sow. Dr. NAMRATA**, d/o Mr. & Mrs. Nand Kishore Kapoor of New York. Ashok & Lata Nayak hosted a reception for the newlyweds on November 26<sup>th</sup> 2004, at the Marriott Resort in Lincolnshire, IL. The ambiance of the place combined with the good food, and excellent music made it a very enchanting evening.

**Sow. ARUNDATHI**, d/o Bhamy Venkatraman & Suman Shenoy of Houston, TX married to **Chi. VIKRAM**, s/o Bhagvan & Suhasini Malladi on Saturday November 27<sup>th</sup> 2004 at Sri Meenakshi Temple in Pearland, TX.

**Chi. AVINASH**, s/o Dr. ShivBhusan & Padmini Sharma of Madras got married to **Sow. SIMRAN KHANNA** of Dubai, on November 28<sup>th</sup> 2004, at the Balaji Temple in Aurora, IL. Avinash is the grandson of Vijayalaxmi Koppikar of IL.

#### **Relocation:**

The **NAYAK** family, Devadas & Gowri, with their son, Kishan, moved from Southfield, MI to Farmington Hills, MI and their new address is 24720 Crescent Court, Farmington Hills, MI – 48335. The telephone is (248)-477-6384 and email ID: [gowripai@yahoo.com](mailto:gowripai@yahoo.com).

The new address of the **KOLPE** family, Vasant & Viju, is 662 Laura Court, Mendota Heights, MN 55118. Their email ID: [vivekkolpe@yahoo.com](mailto:vivekkolpe@yahoo.com)

The **SHENOY** family, Ashok & Malini, with their daughters, Sangeeta & Priya, moved from West Chester, PA to Warren, OH in July 2004 and their new address is 129 Hogan Lane,

Warren, OH 44484. The telephone is (330)-856-6080 and email ID: [Maurya1@aol.com](mailto:Maurya1@aol.com)

The **PRABHU** family, Vilas & Sneha have relocated from Weatherford, OK to South central Pennsylvania town of Lancaster and their new address is P.O. Box 246, Millersville, PA 17551. The new telephone is (717)-393-5866 and email ID: [vilasp48@yahoo.com](mailto:vilasp48@yahoo.com)

**Sandhya Nayak & spouse Mohan Kumar** have relocated to 2215 Cleaver Ave, Unit 26, Burlington, ONT L7M 4C5, Canada. The new telephone is (905)-315-1832 and email ID: [sandynayak@yahoo.com](mailto:sandynayak@yahoo.com)

The newlyweds, **SHENOY** family, Raghavendra & Keerthi, have relocated within Houston, TX to 11220 West Road, #425, Houston, TX 77065. The new telephone is (281)-894-1335 and email ID's: [krshenoy76@yahoo.com](mailto:krshenoy76@yahoo.com) & [keerthi\\_shenoy@yahoo.com](mailto:keerthi_shenoy@yahoo.com)

The **PAI** family, Gurudas & Shobha, have relocated from Irvine, CA to 206 Via Condado Way, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418 effective November 25<sup>th</sup> 2004.

**MULKI GIRIDHAR BHAT** has relocated from Philadelphia, PA to 300 Propect Ave., Apt. 16D, Hackensack, NJ 07601. The new telephone is (201)-880-8399.

The **BHAT** family, Rajeev & Sudha, with their daughter, Tanvi, have relocated within Plano, TX to 2721 Wickham Ct., Plano, TX 75093. Their new telephone (972)-596-7535 and email ID: [rajeevrbhat@yahoo.com](mailto:rajeevrbhat@yahoo.com)

The **DEDATTA** family, Raj & Sangeeta, have relocated to 502 Driscoll Place, Palo Alto, CA 94306. The phone number remains the same as (650)-424-0294.

The **NAYAK** family, Harish & Jennifer have relocated to 116 Aleta Drive, Rochester NY 14623. Their new telephone number is (585) 334-6474.



The **SHENOY** family, Basti Ganapathi & Gayathri, with their kids, Ashvin & Apoorva have relocated within Las Vegas, NV to 8017 Celebreeze Crt., Las Vegas, NV 89145. The telephone number remains the same at (702)-341-6706 and the email ID: [bshenoy@aol.com](mailto:bshenoy@aol.com)

### **Konkani Happenings:**

**The Konkani Association of Georgia (KAOG)** held their annual picnic on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> August 2004 at the Beach Pavilion in Fort Yargo State Park.

**The MAKA (Mid Atlantic Konkani Association)** community met in Winston-Salem, NC on Oct 30<sup>th</sup>, a Saturday. This gathering of the jovial, spirited Konkanis was held after a short hiatus due to the SammeLAN trips. It was hosted by the Triad Konkani - 6 families in Winston-Salem, High Point and Greensboro and attended by about 25 families from SC and VA. '*Jevan*' was '*ruchi ruchi*', '*Suddhi*' was '*huni huni*', and '*Gammath*' was funny funny. A good time was had by children, young adults and adults and the event inspired the younger Konkani families from Raleigh to talk about hosting the next get-together. It should be noted that some of the founding families were not able to attend and were missed by those present.

**Konkani Sabha** celebrated their annual Diwali on Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup> 2004 at the Sri Venkateshwara Temple Community Center (Bridgewater Temple), Bridgewater, NJ. The program included light refreshments, *Raas Garba*, Variety entertainment and sumptuous dinner.

**The Houston Area Amchigale Samaj (HAAS)** held their annual Diwali function at Sugarland Community Center in Sugarland, TX on Saturday November 13<sup>th</sup> 2004. The function included *Rangoli* Competition, variety entertainment and sumptuous food. The following were elected unanimously for the next two years:

**Ashwin Bhatt** (President),  
**Gauri Sirur** (Secretary),  
**Ranjisha Bhat** (Treasurer) &  
**Nivedita Prabhu** (Youth Rep).

### **Diwali Celebrated in Connecticut:**

from the Special Connecticut Reporter  
Konkani friends in Connecticut gathered and celebrated Diwali on Saturday November 13<sup>th</sup> 2004 in Stamford, CT. The gala event was organized by Anita Bhat and Vasanthi Pai of Stamford and Chitra Shanbhogue of Greenwich. Shankari Pai of Long Island catered Konkani meal. The evening was spent merrily with great performances, singing, *anthakshari*, conversations, food and desserts. The event had attendees from the tri-state area, Canada and India. Organizers of the next Konkani Sammelan attended and provided a wonderful overview of the coming 2006 Sammelan in Toronto. From the response of the attendees, this reporter could not help but conclude that Connecticut should have a good showing at the 2006 Sammelan!

**The Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC)** celebrated their annual *Diwali* function at Taal Restaurant in Fullerton, CA on Sunday November 14<sup>th</sup> 2004 from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. The SammeLAN 2004 sponsored function began with Invocation and *Arati* to the Almighty, and some announcements. There was a "Friendly Feud" game, in which individuals were chosen at random from the attending public. There was a raffle, and the gifts were donated by Indian businesses of Artesia, thanks to Mohini Kamath's efforts. The final item was a grand buffet style meal. Thanks to Mohini Kamath for bringing delicious Godu Phovu for everyone. Shantaram Pai was the MC for the occasion.

**The New England Konkani group** held their Annual Diwali Celebrations at the Westboro Church, MA on November 20<sup>th</sup> 2004. The celebration was well attended by about 35 families from the New England area. The auspicious event commenced with Konkani, Marathi, and Kannada Bhajan's for Goddess Laxmi and Lord Ganesha sung by Sumana Mallya, Chitra Shenoy, Sabitha Pai, Sujatha Pai, Sanjay Kamath, Vasudev &

Sudha Kamath and other members who joined in chorus. Concluding the Bhajan's, every family performed a pooja, with "Jay Jag Deesh Hare" sung in the background.

The Entertainment program soon followed, kept everyone glued to their seats. Shreya Pai, Sai Lee Pai, and Mithali Shenoy performed a Hindi Musical dance, followed by a piano recital by Mithali Shenoy. Shrenik Pai, a stand up comedian in the making, made the audience laugh with his jokes. Ramdas Pai vowed the kids and the audience with his Magic and Jokes.

This was then followed by Family Games organized by Sheila Kini. Every family participated in descrambling "15 Hindu Holidays" and there was also a Junior Trivial Pursuit that the kids enjoyed answering questions with their parents.

The highlight of the Celebration was the authentic Konkani dinner with delicacies like *Black Tori Ghashi*, *Patrado*, *Sambhar*, *Dali Toy*, *Alsande and tendle Upkari*, *Iddlis*, vegetable pickles, rice, *Kadgi chaccko*, and *Puliyogare*.

Families enjoyed the finale with a round of BINGO that was followed by Indian sweets like *Khaddi*, *Boondi Ondo*, *Shewya Payasu*.

Kudos to the ladies Chitra Shenoy, Sabitha Pai, Lata Banavalli, Sheila Kini and Sujatha Pai who organized this celebration and for other volunteers who pitched in, to make this annual event a resounding success.

Visiting from India, were Shri Vasanth Kamath of the erstwhile Strand Book Stall, Bombay.

**Konkani Association Of California (KAOCA)** celebrated the annual Diwali program on November 20<sup>th</sup> 2004 at the Sunnyvale Temple Hall. About 300 people were in attendance. The event started with a social hour followed by an outstanding entertainment program. The audience were treated to good music, dance, a skit and some competitive games. This was followed by a delicious dinner. New KAOCA leadership took over the management of next year's events. The President Elect are **Murlidhar Kamath** and his wife **Leelavathi**

**Kamath.** New Committee was introduced. The new committee instantly started assessing the level of interest from members on type of events to be held next year. Response was overwhelming. Everyone is looking for an exciting and fulfilled year of activities under the new leadership.

### **Phone Number Change:**

The phone number of the **MALLYA** family of Glenelg, MD has changed to (410)-489-4882 effective immediately.

The phone number of **KAMATH** family, Mukund & Lalitha of San Ramon, CA has changed to (925)-829-6902 effective immediately.

### **60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash:**

Families & friends gave a surprise 60<sup>th</sup> birthday party to **Dr. ASHWIN BHATT** at his brother's residence in Houston, TX in August 2004.

### **80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash:**

Rao & Kamath families held a celebration for Smt. **SITA J. RAO**, of San Antonio, TX on her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday on Nov 7<sup>th</sup> 2004 at her daughter Vidya's residence in San Antonio, TX. All her children with their families including 5 grand children and numerous guests and a special

guest Sheela(Indu) Rao visiting from Berkstedt, UK participated.

### **Return to India:**

The **KAMATH** family, Vasudev P. & Sudha of Shrewsbury, MA have returned back to Mumbai, India on November 28<sup>th</sup> 2004.

### **Obituary:**

**ANAND SALETORÉ (92)** passed away on Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> 2004 in Seattle, WA. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his wife, Smt. Saguna, of Seattle, WA, daughter Sudha Saletore of Seattle, WA, sons Dilip Saletore of Saugus, CA, and Vikram Saletore of Olympia, WA.

**Smt. SUNANDA BHANDARKAR (72)** passed away peacefully in London, ONT, Canada on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> 2004. Beloved wife of Prabhaskar Bhandarkar of Bangalore. Dear mother of Ramachandra (Detroit); Anuradha Shenoy and Suchitra Vaidya (California): Sister of Meera Acharya (Bombay) H.A. Sadanand (Bangalore), Ajit Rao (Camarillo, C.A), Ashok Rao (Warminster, PA) and Arun Rao(Bombay) Sister-in-law to Sudha and Ratnakar Bhandarkar, London, Ontario. Canada and Vijaya and Babu Rau (California)

Will be sadly missed by her seven grandchildren and her extended family.

**INDIRA DEVRAYA PAI (75)**, passed away peacefully in Mumbai on October 25<sup>th</sup> 2004. She grew up in Calicut, Kerala and migrated to Mumbai to join her husband Cochikar Devaraya Pai in 1943. She was an active committee member of the Matunga Gowd Saraswat Mahila Saka and was very active in several religious and charitable projects.. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to her son Gopi Pai & family of Germantown, TN.

**DIANE McGLEN (60)** passed away on November 17<sup>th</sup> 2004 in her house in Huntington Beach, CA, after long illness. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt sympathies to her daughter Jennifer Anand Rao & family of Aliso Vieja CA.

**SAGARIKA (22)**, succumbed to complications of Acute Myelogenous Leukemia on November 26<sup>th</sup> 2004 at the City of Hope Medical Center in Duarte, CA. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to her parents, Anand & Sheila Savur, and brother Raunaq of West Hills, CA

# AmCHIGale Youth Convention 2005

from Friday, In August 5<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday 7th 2005

at the Hilton Garden in the heart of the city of Chicago.

*Attendees will have to be at least 18 years old to attend the convention by August 5<sup>th</sup> 2005.*

Preparation has begun for the third Konkani Youth Sammelan. Head over to the exciting city of Chicago for a weekend of cultural and spiritual activities that will open your mind and enrich your soul. There will be interesting seminars, many ice breakers, fun trips around Chicago, great food and more! The convention is a great way to meet new people and reminisce with old friends. We have lots of surprises rolled up our sleeves, but you must come to find out! A portion of the surplus money will go to a hospital in India.

## **got questions?**

Please visit [www.konkaniyouth.com](http://www.konkaniyouth.com) and click on the link to the Youth Sammelan. The easiest way is to donate money. Send your tax-deductible donation to:

The North American Konkani Association (NAKA)  
2465 Bergen Avenue, BROOKLYN, NY 11234  
Attn: Damodar Baliga, 718-251-4795,  
[damobaliga@yahoo.com](mailto:damobaliga@yahoo.com)

American Konkani Association (AKA)  
1153 Tamarack Pl., MUNSTER, IN 46321  
Attn: Bipin K. Pai, Ph: (219)-922-6461  
[bipinpai@hotmail.com](mailto:bipinpai@hotmail.com)

## **Bhagavad-Gita as a Stress Management Guide - Cont.**

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

Psychiatrist in private practice in Cape Girardeau, MO

### Chapter Nine:

#### An interview with a Karma Yogi

"I touch your feet with my head, Mahatmaji!" I said with awe as Gandhiji came on the intercom. Gandhiji replied, "Namasthe, Kamathji! I am honored!" His voice rang clear as a bell. I sensed both compassion and firmness. "I have set aside exactly twenty minutes for you," said Gandhiji. "What would you like to know?"

'Looking at his watch again!' I thought to myself. "Mahatmaji, many wise men have told me that you were the greatest *Karma Yogi* - a person attached to Pure Action- who ever lived. I have learned from the reading of your life history that you applied teachings of *Gita* in all aspects of your life and work. Please tell me what is *Karma*?"

"Well, *Karma* means Action. An Act done with no selfish desire (4:19) for or attachment to its fruits (2:51), without regards to success or failure (4:22), and which dedicated to God (5:10) is Pure Action or *Nishkama Karma*. Such Acts bring joy to the one who practices them and debits from his *Karma* Account (3:31). Impure Acts, also known as *Kamya Karma*, are those acts which have selfish motives (3:36). Such Acts bring on stress to people, and add to their *Karma* Account (5:12). In other words, all selfish Acts have long term consequences. Pure Action ultimately leads to Peace, Tranquility and Self-realization."

Gandhiji continued, "The teachings of *Gita* were the foundation on which my entire life's work (Acts) rested. *Gita* was the inspiration for my decision to give up all material comforts (2:55); it was *Gita* that gave me the needed courage to give up fear (2:40), anger and greed in my heart (2:56). It was *Gita* that gave me the strength to destroy my inner, cultivated weaknesses so that my hidden, God-given strengths could find expression in my Actions, which I invested in the service of my countrymen. I became Action-oriented as a result of my Knowledge (*Jnana*) of *Gita*. It was from *Gita* that I learned that without selfless service to humanity a life is not worth living. *Gita* taught me the art of Pure Action, *Nishkama Karma* (2:47), which is Action without any expectation of returns (3:19,20). It was *Gita* that taught me how to control my Senses, how to regulate my life, how to moderate my habits, etc."

Having read about Gandhi, I knew all this was true enough. "I am wondering, Mahatmaji, how an ordinary person like me can apply *Karma Yoga* in managing stress in my everyday life." I asked. Gandhiji replied without any hesitation, "We are often tempted to indulge in Activities which are driven by our selfish Desires. Such Actions invariably lead to stress. We want to raise our standard of living (make more money) at the expense of quality of our life (no time for family, spiritual activities) (2: 44) to the detriment of our soul and welfare of others. Selfish Acts not only hurt others but damage us as well (3:36-41). We experience disappointments, anger, hate, resentments, etc., all toxic to our brain. For what? All for things we think we want but really do not need in the first place. At the end of the day how much do we need to make a decent living? We can eat only three meals a day; we need only one bed to sleep on; can wear only one pairs of clothes at a time. Everybody seems to be in a blind race to selfishly enrich themselves without realizing the long-term consequences of their Acts on themselves, their family and others.

"Instead, if we indulge in Activities without expectations of any fruits, we have nothing to feel disappointed about, nor would we be adding points to our *Karma* Account (2:51). Nor would we be indulging in greed and fraud. We must learn to see God in every person, and when we serve them we would feel as though we are serving God. When a person does his work with such attitude of detachment, he begins to experience peace and tranquility in his mind. That means no stress." (I was reminded of the saying: *Janatha seveye Janardana seve.*)

"Mahatmaji, I can understand giving up greed in my Actions. However, if I have no right for the fruits of my Action, how can I make a living?" Gandhiji had a good laugh at this. He said, "Renunciation means giving up selfish acts. You are well entitled to make a decent living by means of your profession as long as you are absolutely honest in your dealings and your Actions are pure. This is your just reward. Anything beyond that is a no, no. If a friend of yours asks you to water his indoor plants during his vacation, help him out without worrying about when you could ask him a favor in return. Keep doing good things to others without keeping an account of such deeds, and don't expect to cash in on those old favors. This attitude will free you from stress."

"Mahatmaji, I have read that Truth (*Satya*) and Non-violence (*Ahimsa*) were the two pillars on which your life's struggle rested. What is the role of *Ahimsa* in our life? How is it related to *Karma Yoga*?" I asked curiously. Gandhiji replied, "*Himsa* is an Act of selfish Desire perpetrated against others with the motive of getting something from them. *Ahimsa* is a refrain from such "violent" Action. When we renounce selfish Desire and fruits of all Action, we are, in effect practicing *Ahimsa*. In this "Inaction" of not doing selfish Action, we are Acting (4:18) in the spirit of *Ahimsa*. *Ahimsa* also means we avoid attacking people we disagree with, for we should never forget that they, too, have the image of God in them. Our Actions should not violate that Essence in them."

“Mahatmaji, *Gita* mentions the importance of doing one’s *Dharma* (duty) even if it means killing one’s relatives and friends. How is this consistent with the doctrine of *Ahimsa*?”

“I do not believe that *Gita* advocates wonton violence. However, I think violence in the performance of one’s *Dharma* might be justified to protect the innocent from the life-threatening Action of evil people. I believe that Lord Krishna urged Arjuna to kill Kauravas only because He believed that not killing them would cause a greater tragedy: the death of many innocent and good people. Even here, He urged Arjuna to wage the war in the spirit of Pure Action, which is without hatred or fear; without regards to victory or defeat; success or failure and in the spirit of his *Dharma*. He also urged Arjuna to dedicate this Action to Him. This would assure that no taint of sin would touch Arjuna. And Arjuna would be free from the stress of his Action, no matter how horrible. It would have been a greater sin to walk away from this righteous war (2:31-33). Even Lord Krishna took births as *Avatar* from time to time to protect the good and destroy the evil (4:7).”

At this point I remembered the story of the movie *Mother India*, in which a mother finally kills her own son after he turned into a brigand who terrorized a community by evil acts.

“Mahatmaji, what is the role of Truth in all this?”

“To me, the search for God, Soul, Self, Atman, Brahman, etc. means nothing but the search for the Truth. Each of us has a set of beliefs, which we consider to be the Truth. All spiritual roads ultimately lead to Truth. We call this God. I see God in every Pure Action in the path to that Truth. What if someone else’s Truth conflicts with my idea of Truth? My Truth said that the British rule of India was inherently evil. The British’s Truth said just the opposite. During India’s independence struggle, I was willing to sacrifice everything, including my own life, in the defense of my Truth, and I called this struggle *Satyagraha*, Truth Force, insisting on Truth. *Satyagraha* was a case of 100% Pure Action.”

“Mahatmaji, *Gita* seems to be so difficult to understand and practice. You have any words of wisdom for us?”

“Kamathji, it is true that *Gita* appears to be so complicated. If you read it a few times, you would be amazed how simple and easy it is to understand. Most of it is tedious repetition! Same message is said in a hundred different ways. Everything in this world is complicated until you understand it. Then it is just a piece of cake... oops! goat’s milk cheese cake. Did you not think in the beginning of your training that the human mind was so complicated? Now you seem to think it is so simple. The same is true of *Gita*. *Gita* simply says, selfish desire for and attachment to sense objects, and excessive attachments to fruits of Actions lead to greed, fraud, lying, cheating, violence, deceit, etc. which in turn create stress in our daily life. If we can raise our awareness about these in every one of our Actions, reduce our daily needs and wants, and make a conscious attempt to change for the better by giving up hate, anger, fear, greed and the like, we should notice improvement in our behavior, thus lessening the backlash from our Actions (negative consequences) (*Karma* Account). Naturally, our mind would be at peace.”

“Mahatmaji, can you give me the essence of *Gita* in a few words ?” Gandhiji gave out a little chuckle and said, “Sure! Renounce your attachments and enjoy life!”

I thanked the Mahatma for giving this twenty minute discourse on *Karma Yoga* and bid him goodbye. It was now *Bhakta* Kanaka Dasa’s turn.

[pkamath001@charter.net](mailto:pkamath001@charter.net) 11/8/2004

.....To Be Continued

## KHABBAR FROM KULAR

By: - Vishwa Konkani Sardar BASTI VAMAN SHENOY

Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Akademy celebrated Decennial Ceremony at Mangalore on 26th and 27th May 2004 at Mangalore Town Hall. Seminars on “Awareness about Mother Tongue among Konkani youth”, “Women in Konkani literature and art and culture”, “Konkan music and stage” were held, followed by Konkani Kavi Sammelan.

“Konkani Sanvasar” News Bulletin of All India Konkani Parishad was released by President Shri Basti Vaman Shenoy at Madgaon Goa on 8.6. 2004. Mr. Gokuldas Prabhu, Editor and Secretary, Mr. Nagesh Karmali, Executive President, Shri Uday Bhembre, Konkani writer, Dr. Tanaji Halrankar, Past President were present.

“Konkani Manyatha Diwas”(Konkani Recognition day) was celebrated on 20.08.2004 by Konkani Bhasha Mandal Karnataka(R.) at Mangalore. Leading lights of Konkani Movement participated in the Celebrations. Composition in Konkani and Konkani Cultural events competitions were held for the students of High Schools and Colleges of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi Districts. Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Akademy also held cultural events competitions for elementary School children of Mangalore City.

Linguistic Minority Commission meeting was held at Kochi, chaired by Mr.A.K. Antony, Hon. Chief Minister of Kerala and resolution was passed to reserve 5% seats in Kerala Schools and Colleges for Konkani Speaking people.

Mr. N. Yogish Bhat, M.L.A., Mangalore, Mr. K.K.Pai, Manipal, Chairman, Konkani Bhas Ani Sanskriti Pratistan, Basti Vaman Shenoy, President, Mr. Kudpi Jagadish Shenoy, Treasurer, Mr. M. Raghunath Shet, Chairman, World Konkani Centre Construction Committee attended the 5th North American Konkani Convention at Los Angeles. An Exhibition cum Sale of Konkani Books counter was arranged during the Convention and all the books brought from Mangalore were sold.

Mr. Basti Vaman Shenoy, Mr. Kudpi Jagadish Shenoy and Mr. M. Raghunath Shet visited Las Vegas, Houston, Chicago, Toronto(Canada), Washington, New York, Connecticut, New Jersey and addressed the gatherings about Development, future of Konkani language, Culture in America. And briefed them about the World Konkani Centre Projects and they also floated the idea of arranging 3 Weeks' Summer Vacation Camps for American Konkani Students (from 10-18 years) at Mangalore in July-August months as desired by parents at various meetings and places they attended in U.S.A. and Canada. There was also good response to the plan and projects of World Konkani Centre which will be constructed at Mangalore(costs Rupees 5 Crores).

*This man is sure he'll leave his stamp*

## **Umesh Shenoy has two silvers and one bronze at Olympics**

By: NITIN NAIR as posted online: Indian Express Wednesday, August 11, 2004 at 0000 hours IST

MUMBAI, AUGUST 10: Our best bet at the Olympics may just be a silver-haired gentleman from Dadar who is pushing 60 — but who has two silvers and a bronze from the past two Games. **UMESH V. SHENOY**, an assistant general manager with an insurance firm, is India's lone representative at Olympihex 2004, a show of Olympic coins, stamps and memorabilia during the Athens Games. The only non-sporting event at the Olympics, the Olympihex is the brainchild of former IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch, himself a keen philatelist. The first Olympihex was held in Atlanta (1996) and included displays of Olympic coins and Olympic memorabilia. 63,000 visitors made it the most-frequented cultural exhibition then.

Shenoy had won a bronze medal at Atlanta, 1996 and two silvers at Sydney 2000.

His fascination with philately began when he was a 12-year-old. Bored spending lazy afternoons in his dad's cycle shop, he befriended the postman. "No one who came to our house left without being served tea", recalls Shenoy, amidst answering "all the best" calls hours before his departure. "So the postman would give me stamps as we waited for tea. I was fascinated by the colour schemes."

The fascination grew until, 14 years ago, Shenoy met an elderly Parsi gentleman. "He saw me poring through stamp catalogues; we started chatting and then he got angry when he found out I wasn't specialising in anything", says Shenoy. "At his insistence, I chose a specific subject in philately."

Being a sports enthusiast (he was a national *kho-kho* player), Shenoy drifted towards the Olympics. "Sourcing the stamps was difficult in the beginning", he says, but he was hooked. When his employers sent him to London, he even skipped lunch to hunt for stamp vendors.

Encouraged by friends, he held his first exhibition in 1992 at Nehru Centre, coinciding with the Barcelona Games. Many accolades later, he made it to the Atlanta Olympics in 1996. And returned with a bronze. "I was a different man after that", says Shenoy.

Sydney 2000 saw Shenoy exhibiting his book Olympics, A Philately Journey Through The Eras, and finished with silvers in the exhibition and literature categories.

Shenoy's taking it one notch higher this time: He has his stamps and two books — one on the history of the Winter Olympics and Total Football, a philatelic study of football.

Today, the stamps are worth Rs 15 lakh but Shenoy insists it's not just about the money: It's a passion.

And to illustrate why, he shows you a stamp issued by the Dominican Republic in 1956. "India has eight Olympic gold medals in hockey, yet the Dominican Republic issued a stamp that featured a Sardar playing hockey with the tricolour in the background. Amazing, isn't it?"

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In 2004, in Athens, Sri Shenoy won the Silver-Bronze medal, for the category - The Olympics, From the Origin to Sydney.

**TIME WARNER CABLE OF NY & NJ CELEBRATES DIWALI WITH ADDITIONAL BOLLYWOOD PROGRAMMING**  
**More "Bollywood" Movies Available On Demand**

New York, NY - November 2004 - Time Warner Cable today announced that it will continue its successful Bollywood movie offering through Video On Demand (VOD) on various cable system in the United States. This announcement was made at the Consulate General of India in Manhattan with Consul General Mr. Pramathesh Rath and other notable Indian and South Asian dignitaries, elected officials and senior level executives. BODVOD's Bollywood movie programming aired on Time Warner Cable in conjunction with Diwali celebrations being held in New York City and will continue as a new programming service for South Asians. Bollywood, the popular nickname for the Hindi-language film industry, features India's most popular music videos and movies genres including drama, romance, comedy, action and adventure. Bollywood content featured on Time Warner's various system is supplied through BODVOD, a programming partnership developed by 212MEDIA and Schramm Sports & Entertainment.

"We're thrilled to bring Bollywood movies to our diverse customer base and participate in the celebration of this prominent culture within our communities," stated Barbara Kelly, Senior VP & General Manager, Time Warner Cable. "It's important for Time Warner Cable to continually enhance our program offerings to complement our customers and provide more choices and convenience."

Time Warner Cable digital cable customers can access Bollywood programming by tuning to Channel 1000. Movies are \$3.95 each.

To order DTV: Digital Television from Time Warner Cable, visit [www.twcny.com](http://www.twcny.com) or call 1-800-OK-CABLE in the tri-state area or call your local cable operator to request content from India.

BODVOD is a partnership of 212MEDIA, an entertainment and production company, and Schramm Sports & Entertainment, a 12-year old multicultural marketing and advertising agency that specializes in Cable TV, general entertainment and international sports properties. Both companies are based in New York, NY.

**Summer Vacation Programmes For Konkani Youths In India**  
**(Konkani Language and Cultural Foundation, K.S. Rao Road, Mangalore)**

During our visits to various States in U.S.A. and Canada during July – August 2004, Konkani parents have expressed their desire that their children be given basic training in Konkani language, culture, Samskaras, to keep `Konkani Identity (daiz) alive. Here is a programme:

**KONKANI SUMMER CAMP/VACATION IN INDIA**

During July-August 2005, a 22 days Summer Camp will be organized in Mangalore for the young Konkanis (age 11-18 years).

**Activities will include:**

Introduction of Basic Konkani language

Yogasana

Pranayam

Sarvang Sundar Vyayam

Introduction To Konkani Arts such as Literature, Poetry, Songs, & Skits etc.

Visits to famous places of worship in Mangalore, Udupi, Karwar and Goa. Opportunity to meet their Holinesses, Grand parents, Other Friends & Relatives

Package cost will include:

Grand Accommodation and Konkani food (Vegetarian & Non-Vegetarian)

Travel to other cities mentioned above.

Last date of Entry May 30<sup>th</sup> 2005

Contact for details : e-mail: [bvs\\_193@hotmail.com](mailto:bvs_193@hotmail.com) / [baraya@vishwakonkani.org](mailto:baraya@vishwakonkani.org)

PRESIDENT

KONKANI BHAS ANI SAMSKRITI PRATISTAN

VISHWA KONKANI OFFICE

NAVARATHNA PALACE, K.S.RAO ROAD

MANGALORE-575 001. (D. K. DISTRICT, Karnataka, INDIA).

## KONKANI CALENDER

January 2005	February 2005	March 2005
9 <sup>th</sup> Amavasya (Dark moon)	8 <sup>th</sup> Amavasya (Dark moon)	8 <sup>th</sup> Maha-Shivaratri
13 <sup>th</sup> Makara-Sankranthi	12 <sup>th</sup> Kumbha-Sankranthi	9 <sup>th</sup> Amavasya (Dark moon)
20 <sup>th</sup> Yekadashi	14 <sup>th</sup> Ratha Saphami	13 <sup>th</sup> Meena-Sankranthi
24 <sup>th</sup> Poornami	19 <sup>th</sup> Yekadashi	21 <sup>st</sup> Yekadashi
28 <sup>th</sup> Sankashta Chaturthi		25 <sup>th</sup> Holi- Poornami
		28 <sup>th</sup> Sankashta Chaturthi

*Khabbar thanks Sri P. V. Kamath of Mumbai 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, \$
Kochikar Ramnath & Rajashree Pai, Carlsbad, NM	100.00
Rajeev & Sudha Bhat, Plano, TX	50.00
Govinda & Rekha Malya, Glen Mills, PA	80.00
Dattananda & Shantha Bhat, Jamaica, NY	55.00
Ravi & Vidya Joshi, Mission Viejo, CA	60.00
Damodar & Shobha Baliga, Brooklyn, NY	50.00
Ramkrishna & Namita Nayak, Sugarland, TX	60.00
Krishna & Savitri Kamath, Scottsdale, AZ	130.00

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
<b>Balance Carried over since Khabbar Vol. XXVII No. 3</b>	<b>3,790.00</b>	
<b>Money Received:</b>		
Subscriptions (45) and donations	1,000.00	
Advertisements (1)	25.00	
Interest	5.00	
<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>1,030.00</b>	
<b>Money Spent (Khabbar Vol. XXVII No. 3):</b>		
Printing- Khabbar (875) - 20 pages		787.50
First Class Mail-Khabbar (819)		491.40
Canada Khabbar (22)		18.70
Overseas (20)		60.00
Mail Fines, computer paper & labels, envelopes, service fees, etc		442.40
<b>Sub Total:</b>		<b>1,800.00</b>
<b>Final Balance:</b>	<b>3,020.00</b>	

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

## KWIZ

**The last quarter's quiz:** What 5-letter word, if you take out 1st, 3rd and last letters, still sounds the same?

**The Answer:**

Take "E", "P" and "Y" from "EMPTY", you still got "MT".

Take "A", "S", and "E" from "AISLE", you still got "IL".

**The following gave the correct answers:**

Manjeshwar Ganesha Kamath, Morristown, TN

## 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.*

**How far an "ideal" bouncing ball will travel before it comes to rest, dropped from 10 feet high, and on each rebounding exactly half its height?**

## **NAKA, The North American Konkani Association**

NAKA, once dormant since its inception after the successful completion of the first Konkani Sammelan in NJ in 1996, got a fresh lease of life in 2002 when the Houston Konkani Sammelan 2002 gave all its surplus to NAKA. **Khabbar will make every effort to publish all the progress made by NAKA so that the North American community will be kept abreast of its activities.**

During SammeLAn-2004, NAKA held a seminar "Konkani Sammelans-Path Forward" and the following were made part of the NAKA board to represent NAKA to ensure Konkani Sammelans and culture will prevail in North America:

**Vasanth Bhat, Damodar Baliga and Nina Padukone (Founding members), Ramesh Kamath & Bharat Shiralkar, Vasant Acharya & Sandhya Kamath, Suren Kamath, Sudhir Golikeri & Suresh Shenoy, Ramadas Kamath, Ashok Bhatt & Sadanand Mankikar and Seema Kamath (Youth).**

Also, an action item, **Ramesh Kamath et al** are working on Konkani/English Easy Reference Guide. If any North American Konkani have any constructive suggestions, please, send them to NAKA, 2465 Bergen Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234. Phone: (718)-251-4795 and Email: [naka1@indiatimes.com](mailto:naka1@indiatimes.com)

### **Statement Of Accounts**

Date	Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
1996-2002	Not-For-Profit Incorporation		500.00
12/12/03	Donation - <b>Shobha Baliga</b>	200.00	
12/15/03	Deposit - Konkani Sammelan-2002 surplus	17,879.44	
12/17/03	Bank charges (Check Book)		19.25
12/17/03	Seed Money Paid to SammeLAn-2004		15,100.00
3/17/04	Advertising (SammeLAn-2004)		150.00
03/04/04	Donation - <b>Poornima Bhat</b>	200.00	
08/04/04	Rec'd Seed Money back from SammeLAn-2004	15,100.00	
11/15/04	<b>Final Balance:</b>	<b>17,610.19</b>	

Signed: Damodar Baliga  
Treasurer, NAKA

**REEN**

By

*Rajalekshmi Rao*  
Kayamkulam, Kerala

**HAAVU EK KUD NIMGEEVCHAKEY  
THUNE MAKA BANGALA DILLE**

**HAAVU EK HKOLLO UDHAAK NIMGEEVCHAKEY  
THUNE MAKA SAMUDR DAKEYLE**

**HAAVU EK PAN SHEETH NIMGEEVCHAKEY  
THUNE MAKA GADHE - GAJENI DEEVNU ANUGRAH KELLE**

**UGVADU MELUNKL EK VATHI NIMGEEVCHAKEY  
THUNE MAKA SOORYAK DARSHAN KEREYLE**

**MIGE MOGACHI ADARANEY DEVI  
HYE SEG ANUGRAHALE REEN HAAVU KASSHI BHORTHELI?**



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### 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  
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### SammeLAN – 2004 DVD's

We hope by now you have received your copy of the SammeLAN DVD that you ordered. If your copy of the DVD is defective for any reason, please, send an email to Shankar Baliga at [baligas@cox.net](mailto:baligas@cox.net)

### SammeLAN 2004 Souvenir Books

A few SammeLAN 2004 souvenir books are still available. The cost is \$10.00 per copy plus \$7 for shipping and handling within USA. Send checks addressed to "North American Konkani Association", to Vivek Ullal, 5604 Indian Hills Drive, Simi Valley, CA 93063. For inquiries, email to [viveku@yahoo.com](mailto:viveku@yahoo.com)

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### MATRIMONIAL ASSISTANCE

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### 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  
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## KonCANi2006

### An update from the Executive Committee

KonCANi2006 will be held in Toronto on July 1st, July 2nd, and July 3rd 2006. Registration for the Sammellan will commence on July 1st 2005.

Fellow Konkans and Friends,  
Here is the latest news on the KonCANi 2006 Sammellan.

#### UPDATES:

- **REGISTRATION** begins July 2005. Please make your plans and register early! Keep in mind that attached to the Hamilton Convention Centre is the Sheraton Hotel and therefore early registration will ensure your stay in the hotel.
- KonCANi 2006 invites authors to contribute articles of interest to our **Souvenir**. Personal essays, profiles of extraordinary "Amchis," culinary advice we need them all. Seen any unusual places of interest in Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra or anywhere else that Amchis inhabit in large numbers? WE NEED YOUR IDEAS EMAIL US AT [arunajay29@hotmail.com](mailto:arunajay29@hotmail.com)
- There will be an **EXHIBITION** at the 2006 Sammellan. We are inviting applications from vendors to grab this opportunity to showcase or sell their products/services. We invite both local and international vendors. Variety is encouraged i.e. Jewelry, saris, books, packaged Konkani food etc. Allotment will be on a first-come first-serve basis, so hurry and send in your offers.
- **WEBSITE:** Our website is expected to be launched by the end of March, 2005. Valuable advertising space is available for those who are interested in using it to reach out to prospective clients. For more information on advertising on our website, taking a stall at the Exhibition, or advertising in our souvenir, please contact Madhuri and Avinash Gaitonde at [snehatec@hotmail.com](mailto:snehatec@hotmail.com)
- **PROGRAMS:** We need your help to find Speakers! If you know of anyone who can fill the role of keynote speaker/end note speaker, please contact the Chikramanes at [programs@konkani2006.com](mailto:programs@konkani2006.com) Please visit the website to participate in the various surveys and give your input!

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