

Khabbar

North American Konkani Newsletter

Volume XXVIII No. 2
April, May, June - 2005

From:

The Honorary Editor,
"Khabbar"

P. O. Box 222

Lake Jackson, TX 77566 - 0222

XXVIII-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.....

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The Annual *Khabbar* Mailing List is probably one of the best thing that has happened to us and lots and lots of people appreciate the usefulness of this. Here is a sample of one of the congratulatory notes I normally receive and this one is from this family in IL:

“We very much appreciate your publication of “*Khabbar*”, especially the annual mailing list. For retired people like us it is a blessing! Thanks again”

But... At the same time *Khabbar* & the List has become a scapegoat too....

This person from CA wanted to reach me via phone but did not and here’s the alibi I got:

“Sorry I missed your call yesterday. You won't believe the excuse! I don't have your telephone number!! My wife just left for India and it looks like she took the *Khabbar* directory with her!!!”

Khabbar has really brought us close! Here is a proof how that has happened.....

When this family moved, they gave their forwarding address. Because of the closeness to all *Khabbar* readers, this family extended invitation to all *Khabbar* readers with a note saying:

“Dear Vasanth: Pl. let all our Konkani Bhandavas know that we have moved. Our phone # and email address remain the same. Pl. let everyone know that there is an invitation waiting for all *Khabbar* listed members of Konkani Language and they are most welcome to come and stay with us if they are visiting our area.”

Editor’s Note:

The City & State info withheld to protect this family from the flood of Konkani visitors & *Khabbar* readers!

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
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Honorary Editor: Mr. Vasanth Bhat

Mailing Address:
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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 1999**. In other words, families who have not paid since 1998 will not be receiving this issue and for families that have paid only in 1999, 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 1999 and if there is any error let me know.

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

It is a proud accomplishment that for the first time the US Congress has officially recognized the significant contributions of the Indian American community and the graduates of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT).

Khabbar will publish all the developments and progress made by **The North American Konkani Association (NAKA)** on an on-going basis. This quarter the **Konkani Sammelan – 2004** gave all the surplus funds to NAKA. This has boosted NAKA's role in preserving our culture here in North America. We all can make this into a *jawka* organization. Send your constructive suggestions to any of the Directors.

The next big event for 2005 will be the **AmCHIGale Youth Convention - 2005** in Chicago. NAKA has joined American Konkani Association (AKA) to make this an event to remember. **I request all families to encourage eligible youngsters to attend this event.**

Also, the preparations for the event of 2006 are taking shape on a grand scale. **The KonCANi Sarmelan – 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. The venue, city of Hamilton is a sister city to Mangalore! Visit their website (www.konkani2006.com) to find out more about this great event of 2006.

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.

The unofficial *Khabbar* correspondents in your area are sending the *hoon khabbars* on a regular basis. This quarter, their input was above the norm and hence some of the feature articles had to be postponed!

If your area is not represented wholly, let me know and I'll recruit more volunteers. You can send the news items via email (khabbar@hotmail.com).

On the Quiz front, *Khabbar* has still remained as an undefeated champion for a long time! Just to make it interesting, based on the suggestion of this family in NY, anyone getting correct solutions to 4 consecutive issues will get a years subscription to *Khabbar* free. Let's see who will try to win this prize!?!

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.

This quarter saw quite a few Konkani elders leave this earth for heaven. The profiles and eulogy for these people show their greatness and accomplishments.

Congrats to all the grads and wish you all the best Have a great summer.

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 Vasanthmam,

Pandit Ravi Bellare, who passed away two weeks ago, was a great artiste, scholar, dancer, painter, and teacher. He contributed a lot to performing and graphic arts. I have written a eulogy on him. Also attached are two photographs.

Please feel free to edit, but kindly do publish this tribute to this great person in the next *Khabbar* issue.

Thanking you,

Vivek Ullal.

vivekullal@sbcglobal.net

Hi Vasant Mam,

Would it be ok to include a eulogy to **my Mamama** in the next *Khabbar* release? Pls see attached.

Thanks,

Aarti Pai

aartipai@yahoo.com

Dear Vasanth,

Subject: Fwd: US Post Office Release of Diwali Stamps

The US post office needs 500,000 signatures to have the stamp released on special occasions. So far 160,000+ people have signed it. So please do sign and forward it to all your Indian friends. Please follow the link to get more details and to sign up for the petition. Also please forward this message to all your email contacts.

<http://www.petitiononline.com/diwali03/petition.html>

vimala bhatt

vimalabhattach@hotmail.com

Mohan Pai

Mohandaspa@aol.com

Vasanthi Rao

veni_rao@hotmail.com

Editor's Reply:

Hope appeals from you will bolster the request that had already been published in *Khabbar* once (Vol. XXVI-4 Oct., Nov, & Dec 2003).

Dear Vasanth Mam:

Greetings! I hope this message finds you well. I am writing because a full-length play of mine, called CELESTIAL MOTIONS, is having

readings in both Los Angeles and Chicago this summer.

Here is a summary of the play:

CELESTIAL MOTIONS tells the story of what happens when 25-year-old Leela's parents, who immigrated to the US from India, are forced to confront a big mistake-they had forgotten to take daylight savings time into account when they had Leela's Hindu astrological chart drawn at her birth. Accordingly, they have the chart redrawn, and the startling prediction sets the young woman on a journey of arranged dating and cyber romance, as her parents desperately try to preserve their family's identity. Little do they realize that Leela's destiny is closer than either they or Leela can imagine. An intercultural romantic comedy.

I'm hoping to pack the houses at both readings. The reading in Los Angeles is actually part of winning first prize in the Got Laughs? Asian-American Comedy Play Competition, sponsored by the East West Players. They will have an option to produce the play for one year from the date of the reading, and I'm hoping that a good, responsive crowd encourages them to put on a full-production. Any help is much appreciated!

Sincerely,

Mrinalini Kamath

mk@mkwriter.com

www.mkwriter.com

Dear Mr. Vikram (!?) Bhat

It has been a pleasure to talk with you regarding offering of our matrimony services to Konkani community in USA. Please visit our web site at <http://www.matrimonyconnection.com> for more details. We would be glad to offer Free matrimony services to your members. Free registration, free communication with members, free photo upload.

Regards

Krishna

matrimonyconnection@gmail.com

Dear Vasantha Bhat,

One Sri Vaikunta Prabhu, a Karkalite who is now in Virginia on H1 visa,

has started a web page of Karkala Venkataraman Temple, which, as you will certainly know, is also called "Padutirupathy". The URL of the web page is as follows: <http://www.padutirupathi.org/>.

I have seen the web page. I find it very interesting. Vaikunta initially requested me to send him E-mail addresses of those from Karkala who are residing in the USA. Later he requested me to contact them myself. He mentioned about "*Khabbar*" and asked me whether I would inform "the editor" about the web page. I have already sent e-mail to a few of my hometown friends.

Kind regards:

Radhakrishnu

rshenoy@nyc.rr.com

Hi Vasanth Uncle,

My name is Smita Kamath, I am on the planning committee for the 2005 Chicago Youth Convention. I know we've been putting in ads in *Khabbar* every so often for the Youth Convention, and I wanted to know what the possibility is for us to put in a couple of more ads before the Convention. Can you please tell me what the deadline is for submitting ads? When we submit the ad to you, do we need to be aware of any spacing issues or letter requirements? What is the maximum amount of room we could have to place this ad?

I also wanted to know if you had any suggestions for us as to how to get the word out to the rest of the Youth about this convention. I know my parents and their friends are avid readers of *Khabbar*. I'm just not sure how many youth read *Khabbar* cover to cover like our parents.

I apologize for inundating you with a lot of questions. The Chicago Youth Committee has planned a fantastic weekend for the rest of the youth, and we're trying our best to promote this event as much as possible.

I look forward to hearing from you soon,

Smita

smitakamath@gmail.com

Hoon Khabbar

Congratulations:

The U.S. Congress passed HR 227 with much support! **This is the first time that the US has recognized an institution outside of the United States.** With this Resolution, sponsored by Congressman Tom Davis (R-VA-11th), the United States Congress has officially recognized the significant contributions of the Indian American community and the graduates of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT). House Resolution 227 states that the U.S. House of Representatives recognizes the valuable and significant contributions of Indian Americans to American society; Honors the economic innovation attributable to graduates of the Indian Institutes of Technology; and Urges all Americans to recognize the contributions of Indian Americans and have a greater appreciation of the role Indian Americans have played in helping to advance and enrich American society.

U. DAMODAR PRABHU of Pittsburgh, PA gave a keynote address at the WAVES (World Association for Vedic Studies, Inc) of India on January 2nd 2005. Sri Prabhu talked about his experiences in USA since 1970 in promoting *Sanatana Dharma*. He was also invited by The Guardian Club of Bangalore to give a talk on Hinduism on January 7th 2005.

At the Eleventh Annual Women for Women Dinner hosted by The Women for Brookhaven Memorial Hospital, **Smt. PRATIBHA BHANDARKAR** of Bayport, NY was honored for her outstanding commitment to the women's health issues.

This year, all the women have embraced the theme, "All You Need is Love..." in honoring Pratibha for her unwavering dedication to BMHMC. Since 1995 she has served on the Women for Women Committee. In addition, since 1991 she has been an active volunteer along with her husband Gopal, on the Hospital Ball Committee. Pratibha, who is the mother of three and grandmother of two, also found time to volunteer for

Academy Street Elementary School, Long island India Association, Tri-State Konkani Association and the Bi-Annual Konkani Convention Organizing Committee.

It is through love and dedication that the Women for Women event has been such a tremendous asset to Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Medical Center. Last year \$127,000 was raised and this year \$140,000. These funds assist Brookhaven Memorial Hospital's Women's Center, which provides quality care for women throughout the community.

The function featured live musical performance by "Strawberry Fields" who took the audience on a Magical Mystery Tour through the 1960's beginning with the year 1964: complete with mop top hair, black suits with thin ties.

Over the past ten years the Women for Women Dinner has provided funding for Breast Cancer Mapping Program conducted by BMHMC, a Fuji Mammography Film-Processor, a Color Doppler Ultrasound Unit, a portable Sonosite Ultrasound Unit, new gynecological laparoscopic equipment, a LORAD IV Mammography Unit and furnishings for the women's suites at the Clare F. Rose Emergency, Trauma & Chest Pain Pavilion.

Mrs. SHARDA SHENOY of Montville, NJ of Elegant Affairs, was elected as secretary of the Asian American Association of Wedding Professionals. The association is dedicated to enhance its business acumen as well as broaden their creative range.

Sri BASTI GANAPATHI SHENOY, Las Vegas, NV was the chief guest at a function releasing the First Konkani Ovyo Cassettes and CDs "OVYO GAVUYAN (KONKANI LAGNA PADAM)" produced by Basti Visions of Basti Gardens, Thumbay, Bantwal, Karnataka, at 6 pm on Tuesday, 10th May 2005 at Bangalore Sri Kashi Mutt, 18th Cross Malleswaram, Bangalore.

Mr. K. V. KAMATH, CEO, ICICI Bank Ltd and **Mr. SUDHAKAR SHENOY**, Chairman & CEO of IMC Inc., Fairfax, VA were among the few distinguished speakers at the Global IIT Alumni Conference held from May 20-22 at Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in North Bethesda, MD. The three-day conference brought together IITians from all over the world to relive the IIT magic of Intellect, Inspiration and Technology.

Dr. VASUDEV PRABHU of Mission Viejo, CA has joined California State University, Long Beach, as part time associate professor in Chemical engineering department.

SANJAY BHATT, of Seattle, WA, s/o Ashwin & Kasturi Bhatt of Houston, TX, won a first-place award in a five-state newspaper contest sponsored by the Society of Professional Journalists, the nation's most broad-based journalism organization. He won first place for an online special report marking the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Brown vs. board of education. The online report, which included digitally recorded interviews and demographic charts showed where Seattle's efforts to close the gap in achievement between white and minority student groups have succeeded and where they have fallen short.

SAMEER (10), s/o Deepak & Sheila Kini, Westford, MA won the 5th Grade Spelling bee at his Crisafulli Elementary School. He will be representing his School district at Middlesex Regional Spelling bee.

VEENA A. MITCHELL of Petaluma, CA was quoted in the *Wall Street Journal* article profiling her former boss, John O'Connor, the lawyer who revealed the identity of Deep Throat in the Vanity Fair article. (How A Lawyer Finally Unveiled Deep Throat, Wall Street Journal, June 2, 2005, p. B1; I'm The Guy

They Called Deep Throat, Vanity Fair, July 2005, p. 86.) Mitchell, an attorney since 1992, is a senior associate at Sedgwick Detert Moran & Arnold, a firm with over 350 lawyers in ten offices worldwide. She joined the Sedgwick firm upon leaving Howard Rice Nemerovski Canady Falk & Rabkin and her association with Mr. O'Connor in April 2004. The Sedgwick firm and the Howard Rice firm were recently ranked No. 9 and No. 10 respectively in the Daily Journal's list of Top 20 San Francisco Law Firms. (Top 20 San Francisco, Daily Journal, May 16, 2005, p. 19.) Mitchell is a member of Sedgwick's Commercial Litigation Practice. Her recent clients include Pacific Gas & Electric Company, NaviSite Inc. and Zurich North America. Mitchell also serves as a judge pro tem for the Sonoma County Superior Court (1996-present) and for the San Francisco Superior Court (2004-present). Prior to her position at the Howard Rice firm, Mitchell was associated with another top ten San Francisco firm, Bronson, Bronson & McKinnon and she served as Deputy County Counsel for the County of Sonoma.

Konkani Graduates:

MANJESHWAR GANESHA KAMATH of Morristown, TN graduated in December, 2004, with Master of Science in Polymer Engineering with specialization in Textiles and Nonwoven Technology, at University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. He is employed at Jones Fiber Products, Inc. Morristown, TN.

VIDYA, d/o of Dr. Vivek & Gita Pai of Walnut Creek, CA will graduate from Northgate High School in June, where she was an honors student, concertmistress for the school's orchestra, president of the American Cancer Club, Site Council student rep., youth educator, peer tutor, and Varsity tennis player. In addition, Vidya is a five-year veteran of the Oakland Youth Orchestra as a first violinist, a two-term representative to the Board, and a participant in the 2001 Italy tour (an internship at the Lawrence Berkeley Labs prevented her from joining the 2004 Australia tour). Vidya also plays the piano and

has won several awards for her performances. Her community service activities include tutoring in a women and children's shelter in Oakland and volunteering at the Kaiser hospital in Walnut Creek. This fall, Vidya will attend the University of California, San Diego as one of twelve students selected for the eight-year (BS/MD) Medical Scholars Program, where she hopes to major in human biology and minor in music.

MAYA GOPIKA, d/o Pundalik & Vijayalaxmi (Hegde) Prabhu of Kingston, ONT has been working for the Independent Inquiry Committee into the United Nations Oil-for-Food Program (headed by Paul Volker). After completing her undergraduate degree from Harvard, and a master's degree from the London School of Economics, Maya obtained her medical degrees from Canadian Universities. Maya worked at Davis, Polk & Wardwell in Manhattan as a litigation associate prior to joining the Volker investigation last September.

GITA PAI of Walnut Creek, CA has been awarded the nationally prestigious Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (\$21,000) for India (she has been awarded the American Institute of Indian Studies Junior Research Fellowship and the Fulbright Institute of International Education Fellowship as well, but has declined these awards in favor of the Fulbright-Hays). She is a doctoral candidate in the department of South and Southeast Asian Studies at the University of California at Berkeley. In 2006, she will travel to south India where her interests lie in researching the late medieval material culture of Thanjavur in Tamilnadu. Gita has also been awarded the 2005-2006 Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities Research Fellowship in the amount of \$18,000 for her innovative dissertation project. Gita was selected from a competitive pool of PhD students writing their dissertations. For the 2004-2005 academic year, she was awarded UC Berkeley's Dean's Fellowship (\$20,000) for her academic excellence and timely completion of her comprehensive oral examinations.

Gita is the wife of Dr. Vivek Pai and the mother of Vidya and Vinay.

VIDYA, d/o of Dr. Vivek and Gita Pai of Walnut Creek, CA won a \$4000 college scholarship from the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation for her academic excellence and her school and community extracurricular activities. Vidya was one of 250 students, chosen from a pool of 100,000 applicants nationwide, to win scholarships from the foundation. The winners were honored in a Scholars Weekend last month in Atlanta, where they took in the sights, heard from inspirational speakers and spent an afternoon refurbishing a youth center. Vidya is also the recipient of the Target-All Around Scholarship and the Kaiser Permanente Asian Association Scholarship for her volunteer work and academic achievements.

SHEILA, d/o Suresh & Usha Shenoy of Sugarland, TX, a senior at University of Texas (UT) at Austin, TX was named to the prestigious Dean's Dozen List, an honor that recognizes students who are altruistic, responsible, committed and involved in transforming lives of their fellow students. Sheila graduated majoring in Mathematics and Actuarial Sciences in May 2005. This past summer she was an actuarial intern at the Mellon Financial Corporation in Houston, TX. She has been active in student affairs as president of India Students Association at UT, and has worked as a political aide to state senator Rodney Ellis and state representative Glen Lewis.

RAJANI, d/o Dr. Rajaram & Aneetha Shenoy of Shelton CT., was accepted for admission to Graduate Studies in the top ranked Industrial & Systems Engineering (ISyE) School at Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta. She will be starting her studies starting Fall 2005. Rajani Graduated from Cornell University and is working on National Missile Defense at Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) in Arlington, VA. since 2004.

PRASHANTH, s/o Dr. Jayaram & Mrs. Surekha Kamath of Sumter, S.C

graduated from the University of S.C at Columbia, in medicine and will be doing his residency in internal medicine at Greenville S.C starting this summer.

VINAY, s/o Dr. Vasudev & Mrs. Sunita Prabhu of Mission Viejo, CA, graduated from University of Southern California, Los Angeles, with MBA degree on May 13, 2005. He will be working for J.P. Morgan in L.A. in Corporate Investment/finance department.

SUNIL, s/o Arvind & Neela Kamath of Houston, TX graduated on May 27th 2005 from George Bush High School, FBISD *Magna Cum Laude* and with Rank #6 in Senior Class of over 500 students. He will continue his education in Bio Medical Engineering at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN.

AJIT, s/o Balachandra & Vijaya Pai of Cherry Hill, NJ graduated from Drexel University College of Medicine (formerly MCP-Hahnemann School of Medicine) on May 20th 2005. He will be starting an internship in medicine in July 2005 at Virginia Commonwealth University/Medical College of Virginia(VCU/MCV). Following the internship, he will complete a residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation(PM&R)in the ensuing 3 years at VCU/MCV.

RAJIV, s/o Chandrakant & Sheila Mahale of High Bridge, NJ graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in "Integrated Business And Engineering" with honors from Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA on 23rd May 2005. Rajiv plans to go to Europe backpacking with his friends this summer. He will be working at " Standard and Poors" Company in corporate value consulting group, Morristown, NJ.

AMOGH, s/o Govind & Pratibha Bolor of Houston, TX graduated as Patent Attorney for drugs from University of Texas at Lubbock, TX. He moved to San Diego, CA with his new job.

VIJAY UDYAVAR, s/o Manohar & Meera Rao of Hillsborough, NJ

received Doctor of Medicine (MD) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degrees at the commencement ceremonies of the Medical University Of South Carolina held at Charleston, SC on May 20th 2005.

Vijay will be starting a residency program in Internal Medicine at Duke University, Durham, NC on June 28th 2005.

RITA, d/o Sudhir & Ranjana Golikeri of Clearlake, TX, graduated *Magna cum Laude* from Clear Lake High School in Houston, TX. She will major in Public Health at Tulane University in New Orleans, LA. Rita has been selected by the Houston Chapter of Amigos de las Americas to serve as a volunteer in Oaxaca, Mexico this summer. The mission of Amigos is to facilitate cross-cultural understanding among the people of the Americas and to promote community development and public health in Latin America.

ROHAN, s/o Nandu & Neetu Balsaver of Sugarland, TX graduated from High School and will join Rice University, Houston. TX this Fall.

ANUSHRI, d/o Gaurang & Anita Haldipur of Sugarland, TX graduated from High School and will join Texas A&M at College Station TX this Fall.

POOJA, d/o Devdutt & Vasuda Nagarkar of Sugarland, TX graduated from High School and will join Northwestern University, IL this Fall.

POONAM, d/o Devdutt & Vasuda Nagarkar of Sugarland, TX graduated from High School and will join Northwestern University, IL this Fall.

NIKHIL, s/o Ramakrishna & Namita Nayak of Sugarland, TX graduated from High School. He received a number of very encouraging Awards/Certificates- Award for Academic Excellence, Award for being among the Top 5% (He was 24th in a class of 589), "Texas Scholar" Medal, National Honor Society Scholar, Spanish National Honor Society Scholar, Award for Perfect Attendance over 4 years, Recognition of his Volunteer Work during High School years, Award for participation

in the School Band (He played the marching trumpet). He will join University of Texas, Austin TX this Fall.

SUDHIR, s/o Ramachandra & Geeta Shenoy of Pearland, TX graduated from High School and will join University of Texas, Austin TX this Fall.

MALAN, d/o Gautam & Usha Shiralkar of Sugarland, TX graduated from High School and will join Baylor University, TX this Fall.

VARUN, s/o Pradeep & Geetha Bhandarkar of Bloomfield Hills, MI graduated from high school and will join University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, MI this Fall.

CHAITRA, d/o Varadraj & Kumuda Shenoy, Cupertino, CA. graduated from Washington School Of Law, American University, D.C. on May 22, 2005 with Juris Doctor (JD) degree. Chaitra was also awarded Year 2005 Outstanding Law student from National Association of Women Lawyers. Chaitra will be starting her career with Washington DC based non-profit organization Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) as Legal resource Administrator beginning August 2005.

SHONA, d/o Divakar & Sandhya Kamath of Barrington, IL graduated from Barrington High School and will attend Western Illinois University in Macombe, IL this fall.

NEHA, d/o Ramdas & Purnima Nayak graduated from Schaumburg high school and will attend University of Illinois in Urbana, Champaigne, this fall.

AYESHA, d/o Dilip & Patricia Saletore of Santa Clarita, CA, graduated *cum laude* with a degree in Business Administration with concentrations in International Business and Honors in Business from California State University, Northridge. After traveling to India this summer, she will pursue a career at Twentieth Century Fox, where she has just completed an internship.

VIKRAM, s/o Shankar & Bindya Baliga of Irvine, CA, graduated from Woodbridge High School in Irvine. He will be attending University of California, Berkeley in Fall, 2005.

NINA, d/o Nanda & Anita Brahme of Oak Park, CA, graduated from Oak Park High School. She will be attending University of California, Berkeley in Fall, 2005. She has received alumni scholarship.

ROHAN, s/o Vinod & Radhika Hattiangadi of Tustin, CA, graduated from Tustin High School in Tustin. He will be attending University of California, Irvine (UCI) in Fall, 2005.

KAVITA, d/o D. Narayandas & Pamela of Cerritos, CA, graduated from Whitney High School in Cerritos as a Valedictorian. She was involved with Yearbook, as Sports Editor, and her school's chapter of California Scholarship Federation, as a cabinet member for 3 years. She is a CSF Seymour Award finalist, National Merit finalist, Bank of America Math & Science Plaque Award recipient, Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award winner and AP Scholar with distinction. She has been volunteering as a teacher's aide in Chinmaya Mission Bala Vihar in Anaheim, which she has attended as a child. She has spent two summers volunteering in research labs in Rancho Los Amigos and UCLA Medical Center. She will be attending Harvard University in Fall, 2005 and plans to major in Biology.

DIVYA, d/o Padmanabh & Anita Shenoy of Mission Viejo, CA, graduated from Mission Viejo High School with an International Baccalaureate Diploma. She is a Varsity Tennis player, has earned her Girl Scout Gold Award and also completed the Certificate of Merit (Advanced Level) in piano. She will be attending University of California, Berkeley in Fall, 2005 and plans to major in Biochemistry.

AJAY, s/o Vivek & Jyoti Ullal of Simi Valley, CA, graduated from Santa Susana High School in Simi Valley. He is a member of the California Scholarship Federation for

last three years and AP Scholar with Distinction. He is a recipient of Saraswat Foundation scholarship (East Coast based) for highest SAT score. He will be attending University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in Fall, 2005.

ANITA, d/o Rajiv & Veena Vishwakarma of Cerritos, CA, graduated from Whitney High School in Cerritos. She will be attending University of California, San Diego (UCSD) in Fall, 2005.

ASHVIN, s/o Ganapathi & Gayathri Shenoy of Las Vegas, NV graduated from Pepperdine University, in Malibu, CA with a Bachelor Of Science in Sports Medicine with *Magna Cum Laude* grade. He will attend the medical school at University of Nevada, Reno.

APOORVA, d/o Ganapathi & Gayathri Shenoy of Las Vegas, NV graduated from Bonanza High School, Las Vegas, NV, with high honors. She was recognized as a Nevada Scholar. She has been accepted at Babson College in Boston, MA. She will be majoring in Entrepreneurship.

MAYA, d/o Ramanath & Vidya Kamath of Hamilton, Ont. graduated from McMaster University with a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering and Management in June 2005.

VEENA, d/o Ramanath & Vidya Kamath of Hamilton, Ont. graduated *Magna Cum Laude* from the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia in May 2005 receiving her Doctor of Pharmacy degree. She was awarded the Joseph Cantor Memorial Prize for academic distinction and excellence in undergraduate research. Veena will be starting a pharmacy practice residency at Union Memorial Hospital in June.

Baby Shower:

Ajita Shenoy gave a baby shower to her daughter **Smt. MANISHA KAMATH** of Greenville, SC. All the relatives and close friends attended this celebration. Manisha is the daughter-in-law of Amembal Suresh and Vijaya Kamath from Indonesia.

Vijaya Kamath from Indonesia gave a grandbaby shower to her daughter-in-**Smt. MANISHA KAMATH** of Greenville, SC. All the close relatives from USA and some from India came to attend this celebration.

New Arrivals:

AHAN NIKIL, a baby boy to Krishna & Sudha Kamath of Calgary, Alb., Canada on Nov. 16th 2004 in Calgary. A brother to Megha Uma. The paternal grand parents are Vanamala and Annappa (late) Kamath of Merritt, BC.

KAVYA, a baby girl to Akash & Manisha Kamath of Greenville, SC on Dec 27th 2004. The paternal grand parents are Suresh & Vijaya Kamath and maternal grandparents are Manohar & Ajita Shenoy of Suffield, CT. Kavya is the first great grand daughter of Smt. Uma Kamath of Mangalore and Sri Keshav Nayak of Mangalore.

NAVEEN, a baby boy, born on January 17th 2005 to Ramesh & Saritha Kamath of Springboro, OH. Brother to Pooja and a grandchild to Mulki Narayan & Vimala Kamath of Bangalore, and to Udupi Dayanand & Shakunthala Kamath of Manipal.

AASHA MAHALE, a 5 lb 7 oz, 18" tall baby girl to Richard & Priya Page of San Francisco, CA on February 18th 2005. The paternal grand parents are Michael & Olwen Page and the maternal grand parents are Chandrakanth & Sheila Mahale of High Bridge, NJ.

NEIL, 6 lb. 12 oz. & 19-3/4" tall baby boy to Praveen & Shanthi Kamath of San Jose, CA on March 7th 2005. The paternal grand parents are Sri & Smt. Bola Annappa Kamath of Mumbai and the maternal grand parents are Balkunje Sudhakar & Prathima Shenoy of Houston, TX.

ADITYA, a baby boy, born on April 4th 2005 to Chetan & Chandrika Prabhu of Jersey City, NJ, a brother to Tanvi.

NIKHIL KOCHIKAR, a 7 1/2 lb baby boy to Sanjay & Bethany Pai of Toledo, OH on May 2nd 2005. The

paternal grand parents are Kochikar Gopi & Sheila Pai of Germantown, TN and the maternal grandparents are Joseph & Carol Carone.

ADITYA, a baby boy to Anirudh & Sunita Rao Borkar of Brooklyn, NY on May 19th 2005. Visiting Aditya is his maternal grandmother Suman Rao of Mumbai.

TEAGAN SANDHYA, a 20" tall, 7 lb 3 oz, baby girl to Chetan & Kelli Nayak of Laurel, MD on Thursday May 26th 2005. The paternal grand parents are Satish & Suman Nayak of Pittsburgh, PA and Jim & Peggy McDermott of Worcester, MA.

1st Birthday Bash:

Vivekanand Shenoy & Neeta Shenoy of Avenel, NJ celebrated the 1st birthday of their son **VINIT** at Akbar Restaurant in Edison, NJ with family and friends.

All had a good time.....

Engagements:

SIDHYA, d/o Jay & Shanthi Jayakumar of Austin, TX, was engaged to **MANEESH**, s/o Amaresh & Jyoti Amancharla of Houston, TX on February 26th 2005.

Kum. MONA, d/o Arun & Geetha Pai of Canonsburg, PA to **Chi. NEAL**, s/o Vijay & Sheela Karwande of Novi, MI. A November 2005 wedding is planned.

Newly Weds:

Sow. JYOTHI, d/o Sudhakar & Jaya Pai of Manipal, India married to **Chi. ASHISH**, s/o Vilas & Alka Pradhan of Ahmedabad, India on Feb. 16th 2005 in Malibu, CA.

Sow. NEETA, d/o Arun & Sheela Manelkar of Edison, NJ married to **Chi. AMIT**, s/o Chandramohan & Rita Shenoy of Bangalore, India on Saturday April 9th 2005 at 11:00 AM at Chand Palace in Parsippany, NJ.

Sow. GEETA, d/o Vanamala & Annappa (late) Kamath married Chi. **Dr. VELAN**, s/o Dr. Pakkirisamy & Mrs. Meena Sivasubramanian on 21st May 2005 at Hindu Temple of Calgary with a grand reception in the evening at Devonian Gardens of

Calgary. Wedding was well attended by families of both sides and friends of Annappa from Merritt and Vancouver.

Sow. REINA, d/o Dayananda & Vidya Pai of West Chester, PA married to **Chi. JASON**, s/o Robert & Joyce Bender at the Concordville Hotel in Concordville, PA on Sunday May 29th 2005.

Sow. SHVETA, d/o Vasant & Surekha Keny of La Palma, CA, married to **Chi. AMIT**, s/o Arun & Purnima Mujumdar of Canada, on Saturday, June 4, 2005 in Long Beach, CA.

Yeshavantha & Anasuya Baliga of Richmond, CA, celebrated the marriage of their youngest daughter, **Sow. SHAMBHAVI**, to **Chi. SHAILESH**, s/o Sarvottam & Suma Kini of Kunjalu, India, on April 28, 2005, at Sri Krishnanugraha Hall of Shamili, Udipi, India, in the presence of a large number of both family members and friends. The newlyweds reside in Newark, DE.

Wedding Reception:

Drs Gajanan & Pramila Shanbhag of Duncan, SC held a reception to celebrate the wedding of their son, **Chi. Dr. ASHISH**, to **Sow. MEENU**, d/o Anand & Usha Potdar of Ajmir, India on Saturday January 29th 2005 at 6:30 PM at Summit Pointe Conference Center in Spartanburg, SC.

Email ID Change:

Sri. GURPUR DATTANANDA BHAT of Jamaica, NY has changed his email to: dattbhat3@yahoo.com.

Relocation:

Dr. SHYAMALA B. SHENOY has relocated within Basking Ridge, NJ to 211 Arrowood Way, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920. The telephone remains the same at (908)-604-4435 and email ID: sbshenoy@verizon.net

The **PAI** family, Prakash & Rekha with their son, Nilesh, have relocated from Dallas, TX to 8312 Fountain Springs Dr., Plano, TX 75025. The email ID is rekha_pai22@yahoo.com

The **PRABHU** family, Arvind & Maya have relocated from Fairfax, VA to 42712 Sandman Terrace, South Riding, Virginia 20152. The email ID: maya_prabhu01@yahoo.com

The **SAVGUR** family, Srinivas Bhandary & Rashmi with their daughter, Anoushka have relocated from Marlton, NJ to 1304 Weaverville St., Chula Vista, CA 91913. The email ID is rashmisavgur@yahoo.com

The **KAMATH** family, Krishna & Sudha, with their kids have relocated within Calgary, Alb., Canada to 120 Pumplebay South West, Calgary T2V4L6, Canada. The phone remains the same at (403)-254-0368.

The **BHANDARKAR** family, Pradeep & Geetha, together with their sons, Varun, Deepak & Karthik, have relocated from Farmington Hills, MI to 4353 Sprucehill Lane, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301. Their new telephone is (248)-539-2260 and email ID: msbhandarkar@hotmail.com

Konkani Happenings:

The **Houston Area Amchigale Association (HAAS)** held "Chat-Chat" function on Saturday March 5th 2005 evening at Eldridge Park Community Hall in Sugar Land, TX. Konkani families enjoyed chatting with each other along with the catered Mumbai *Chat*. *Dandiya* was the peak of the function with good participation. The evening was concluded with a game of Bingo.

The **KISS (Konkanis In Southern States)** held their 2005 picnic at Fort Parker State Park from 5 PM, Friday, March 25th to noon on Sunday, March 27th 2005.

Over 100 Konkanis from the Southern States attended. The Friday events included Bingo game, Karaoke, Untakshari, etc. The Saturday events included Volleyball, Cricket, Childrens games, etc. The evening was filled with variety entertainment programs. The grand finale was the dance by the Silver Bullets and their Sparks. The night campfire and the marsh mellows added more fun to the event. Everyone left the park after the Sunday brunch. This Konkani, who

has probably attended almost all the Konkani picnics in North America, said this was the BEST event yet!

The American Midwest Konkani Association of Greater Chicago (AMKA) held their annual Yugadi celebration on Saturday April 9th 2005 at the Sri Venkateswara Balaji Temple in Aurora, IL. The evening's cultural program included bhajans, songs, skit, speech about the upcoming Konkani youth festival, karaoke, sari fashion show and raffle. Finally, a potluck dinner of traditional Konkani dishes like valval and channe ghashi was served. AMKA picnic is going to be held on July 16th 2005 at Busse Woods, IL. For further info please check their website at www.amkaonline.com

The Konkanis Association of Southern California (KASC) Yugadi celebration was held at a new venue: The Norman P. Murray Community and Senior Center, Mission Viejo, CA, with beautiful landscaped areas around the hall, and large windows on Sunday, April 10, 2005. After a social hour, during which delicious snacks were served, we enjoyed meeting old friends and made new acquaintances. The official program began with invocation and arati, during which melodious vedic hymns and Marathi bhajans were sung, lead by Radhika Hattiangadi and Bharat Kundaje. Anant Pai sang the American National Anthem. This was followed by an ingenious poster presentation on Yugadi by Chetan Bhat, Anant Pai, Roshan Pai, Shefali Dutt, Sonali Nayak and Rusheel Nayak. The idea for the poster presentation was by Mithra Nayak, with help from Sujata Dutt and Bindya Baliga. K. Raghuram Pai (Raghumam) gave an interesting and enlightening talk in chaste Konkani about Yugadi, its significance, a few historic notes, and facts about Panchang (Hindu lunar calendar). Sabitha Pai, Sujata Dutt, Lakshmi Malleya, and Bindya Baliga sang a beautiful Hindi film song from Swades. Ajit Pai played three melodious songs on keyboard. This was followed by a series of hilarious jokes presented by Anant and Roshan Pai. All the youngsters did a great job. Hope we will see their more performances in future. Bharat

Kundaje sang two Marathi Natya sangeet, a gazhal popularized by Mehdi Hasan, and a madhyalaya composition in Puriya Dhanashri by Pt. Bhimsen Joshi. He sang with a lot of feeling and in a melodious voice, fully displaying his skill, talent, and training. This was followed by a lilting Hindi film song Karaoke by Sridhar Rao, who also conducted the KASC Election of Office-bearers.

Adults and kids participated in a quiz-game created by Sujata Dutt, based on Yugadi. The winners were Rashmi Savgur (first prize) and Aparna Bhat (second prize).

The program ended with a delicious dinner entirely cooked by many talented Konkani chefs within the KASC membership. We thank all participants, volunteers, members that cooked and brought the delicious food items, outgoing and incoming Committee members and all the members that attended the Yugadi celebration.

KASC Election of new Officers:

The new officers of K.A.S.C. were elected unopposed. We thank the members of the outgoing committee, who did an excellent job for the last two years, and congratulate, thank, and welcome the new officers. They are:

Girijanand and Jyothi Bhat (President),

Jaidev and Meena Rao (Vice-president),

Rajesh and Deepa Prabhu (Secretary),

Shankar and Bindya Baliga (Treasurer),

Mohini and Mohan Kamath (Cultural coordinator),

Avinash Joshi, (Youth coordinator),

Prasad and Deepa Upasani (Webmaster) and

Vivek and Jyoti Ullal (Editor).

The Konkani Association of California (KAOCA)

(www.kaoca.org) had its Ugadhi function at the Sunnyvale Hindu temple on April 16th. With attendance at over 425, the Bay Area members celebrated this occasion with over 2 hours of entertainment including a Konkani talent show highlighting the

talents of the kids and adults alike, a kids art competition, donations to the second harvest food bank, and food prepared by the local community with authentic Konkani flair for both high tea snacks and dinner.

During the month of May, KAOCA also had a sports day held at the local India Community Center (ICC) in Milpitas. As a sister organization of ICC, KAOCA leveraged the elaborate facilities available there to hold table tennis, carom and chess competitions. This was attended by over 40 local talented members, and a fun time was had by all.

7 Amchigele families from Raleigh/Cary organized and hosted the **Mid Atlantic Konkani Association (MAKA)** Spring Picnic on April 30th at Lake Crabtree Park. About 65 adults and their children attended including the founders of MAKA - Jayaram and Surekha Kamath from Sumter, SC. It was also refreshing to meet and converse with new, young and first-time attendees from the area. Jayant/Pratima Baliga, Gayatri Bhat/Srikumar, Ganapaty/Devika Kamat, Vinod/Chandrika Kamath, Ganesh/Shaila Prabhu, Ramesh Pai and Sharad/Sheela Prabhu worked hard to make this get-together an enjoyable day for all. Apart from the traditional amchigele dishes for lunch, homemade 'Shevai' (prepared by Chandrika, Gayatri and Sheela) was served with 'tamde nonche' and 'narle tela'.

Children of all ages spent time before lunch on an educational Scavenger Hunt of objects listed in Konkani thanks to Pratima and Jayant Baliga. A little rain in the afternoon did not dampen any spirits since everyone was totally engrossed in a rousing game of Konkani Pictionary also developed by Pratima and Jayant Baliga. (Watch out for these cards to be marketed!) Youngsters Sanjana Prabhu, Vaibhavi Kamat, Rohan Prabhu and Varun Kamat sang some children's konkani songs. Sanjana played keyboard too.

Everyone felt satisfied with amchigele food, conversation and camaraderie.

60th Birthday Bash:

A 60th birthday Bash to **MANOHAR SHENOY** of Suffield, CT was given by his sons Manoj and Ajay and wife Ajita. All the close relatives and close friends attended this gala function.

50th Wedding Anniversary:
Shalini and Gurunandan Kelkar of Camarillo, California, are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in June, 2005. There is a party arranged by their sons, Anand and Krishnu and their families. Congratulations to both of them.

Return to India:
The **KAMATH** family, Drs. Sanjay & Varsha, together with their kids, Mihir & Neha, have returned back to Mumbai, India.

Obituary:
Bharatanatyam guru **UBHAYAKAR SHIVARAM KRISHNA RAO (92)**, husband of Late Chandrabhaga Devi, passed away in Bangalore on March 6, 2005. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt sympathies to his son Shivadev Ubhayakar & family of Rancho Palos Verdes, CA.

H.H. SHRIMAD SATCHIDANANDA SARASWATI SWAMIJI, the visionary pontiff of

Shri Kaivalya Mutt Saunsthana attained *mahasamadhi* in early March 2005. His Patta Shishya, **H.H. Shrimad Shivananda Saraswati** has become the 77th Mathadipati of the Shri Kaivalya Mutt, (also called Kavale Mutt or Goudapadacharya Mutt). The mutt was first established by Shrimad Goudapadacharya, the first pontiff in the 8th century. H.H. Shrimad Satchidananda Saraswati Swamiji was a visionary, and founded Sanskrit pathashalas, Hindu Vidyarthi Sahayak Goa Vidya Prasarak Sangh and Saraswat Vidyarthi Sahakar Mandal. He was also instrumental in starting the Goudapadacharya Public Health Clinic in Belgaum, Karnataka.

Smt. AHALYA KAMATH (90), w/o the famous physician of Mangalore late Dr. V. P. Kamath, passed away in Mangalore on March 20, 2005. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt sympathies to her grand daughter Ms. Neema Kudva Driskell & family of Ithaca, NY.

Smt. LEELAVATHI KRISHNA SHENOY (83), w/o Bhami Krishna Shenoy, passed away in her home in Vile Parle East, Mumbai on April 1st 2005. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to her daughters Mrs. Chandrakala Y Kamath of Princeton,

NJ & family and Mrs. Vasanthi S Baliga of Monroe, NJ & family.

Pandit Sri RAVI BELLARE (78), of Chino Hills, CA passed away on April 16th 2005. He was extremely gifted, multi talented, hard-working and knowledgeable person, phenomenally creative, yet so gentle, patient, loving, modest and un-assuming *Khabbar* sends heartfelt sympathies to his wife Uma, sons Prakash & Nilesh, and daughter Shobha.

Smt. JANABAI KAMATH (85) of Houston, TX passed away peacefully on May 5, 2005 at 11:11 PM. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to her daughter, Sharda Pai & family of Houston, TX, grand sons, Vinay Pai & family of Palo Alto, CA, Vivek Pai & family of Princeton, NJ, & Vijay Pai & family of West Lafayette, IN and grand daughter, Sandhya Shenoy & family of Spring, TX.

KHABBAR FROM KULAR

By: - Vishwa Konkani Sardar **BASTI VAMAN SHENOY**

`Shastyabdhi Poorthi' (60th Birthday) of **H.H. Sri Vidyadhiraja Thirtha Swamiji** was celebrated in Mumbai, Goa, Uttara Kannada District and Mangalore by disciples of the Mutt.

`Teach Konkani in Schools' project is getting shape and Ist Grade Konkani Text Book is published on the basis of Government of Goa `Education Department Syllabus' using Devanagari and Kannada Scripts. This project is envisaged by Konkani Linguistic Minority Institutions Association for 5000 students in Grade I will be introduced in June 2005 in all Schools managed by Konkanis in Karnataka.

Akhil Bharatiya Konkani Sahitya Sammelan was held at Kumta on 19th and 20th February 2005 at Kumta (Uttara Kannada Department) was inaugurated by **Dr. Chandrashekhara Kambar**, well known Kannada Literary Giant, **Shri Basti Vaman Shenoy**, President, All India Konkani Parishad welcomed. Leading Konkani Writer **Mr. Mahabaleshwar Sail** presided over the 2 days' Konkani Sahitya Sammelan. There were good number of papers in the field of Konkani Literature, future plans, Kavi Sammelans, Cultural programmes were also held. Thousands of people attended the Sammelan on both the days. Government of Karnataka has donated Rs.7.00 lakhs for the Sahitya Sammelan. Thanks to the efforts of **Hon. Mr. R.V. Deshpande**, Minister for Co-operation.

Following Konkani Books (1) `Suragyasar', a collection of `Ovyo" and `Humanyo' is collected by **Dr. Jyotsna Kamath** and (2) `Chindiyanche Gombe', collection of poems by Navayaths - **Poet Mr. Shabbitt Byda** (3) Biography of `Madhav Manjunath Shanbhag' by All India Konkani Parishad were released during Konkani Sahitya Sammelan along with other 10 books.

H.H. Sri Sachidananda Saraswati Swamiji of Shri Samsthan Kaivalya Goudapadacharya Mutt expired on 3rd March 2005 at His age of 69 years. **H.H.Sri Shivananda Saraswathi Swamiji** has ascended to the Holy Gaddi at Kaivalya Mutt, Goa.

Vishwa Konkani Kalaratna Mr. Eric Ozario as President and 11 others as members are nominated to Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Academy for 3 years.

80th Birthday of ParamGuru **H.H. Sri Sudhindra Thirtha Swamiji** of Shri Kashi Mutt Samsthan and 60th Birthday of **H.H. Sri Vidyadhiraja Thirtha Wader Swamiji** of Shri Jeevotham Gokarn Parthagali Mutt Samsthan were celebrated with religious Yajnas, Shri Vishnu Homa, Shatakalahabhisheka to deities at various places throughout India.

In Haridwar *Sahasra Shankhabhisheka* to Lord Vyasa Raghupathi at Vyasashrama, Haridwar was performed by **H.H. Sri Sudhindra Thirtha Swamiji**. More than 5,000 Saraswats assembled during the programme at Haridwar from 18th to 22nd May 2005.

A 6 days' Konkani Vovyo Humanyo Workshop was organised by Basti Prakashana on the lines of Suragyasara directed by **Dr. (Smt.) Jyothsna Krishnanda Kamath**, Traditional music was taught by famous Hindustani classical singer and Konkani Maestro **Smt. Anuradha Dhareshwar** and technical advice rendered by **Mr. Puttur Narasimha Nayak** at Kashi Mutt, Bangalore from 19th to 24th April 2005. 27 Konkani ladies coming from Kumta, Sirsi, Gokarn, Bantwal, Mangalore and Bangalore have participated. The *Vovyo Humanyo Shobane* were recorded and documented and are available in Cassette and Video Audio C.D. with **Basti Vaman Shenoy, Basti Visions**.

Shri K.P.Lakshmana.Rao, I.A. & AS, Principal Accountant General(Audit) Karnataka, Shri P.Dayananda Pai, President, Shri Kashi Mutt, Bangalore, Shri Bhadrageeri Sarvothama Pai were present.

Shrimad Satchidananda Saraswati Swamiji: the visionary pontiff

by Ramnath Raikar

Text of the article that appeared in Nav Hind Times of Panaji, Goa.

The temples of Shree Manguesh and Shree Shantadurga, and two of the most revered patron deities of the Hindu Goud Saraswat Brahmin community (Shaivaite sect) are located at Mangueshi and Kavalem, respectively, in the Ponda taluka in North Goa. Shree Kaivalya Muth Saunsthan also known as Shree Kavale Muth Saunsthan, is the oldest muth saunsthan of Goud Saraswat Brahmin community (Shaivaite sect) and is a religious institution running parallel to Shree Gokarn Partagali Jivottam Muth Saunsthan which has large followers from the Vaishnava sect.

The demise of **Shrimad Satchidananda Saraswati Swamiji**, the 76th pontiff of Shree Kavale Muth Saunsthan has been a sad news and a great loss for the Hindu community in Goa, especially the followers of the Shaivaite sect. Late Swamiji who was initiated into Sanyasa by his Guru Shrimad Poornanand Saraswati Swamiji, at Khanapur, in 1950, had been functioning as the religious head of the muth for past five-and-a-half decade. The muth was originally situated at Muthagram (Margao) where Shrimad Goudapadacharya, the first math pontiff was staying. Later on when the goddess, Shree Shantadurga was brought to Kavalem from Keloshi, the muth was shifted to Kavalem. During the 8th century, Shrimad Goudapadacharya, a great scholar and protector of sanathana dharma, started his work of comparing the perceptions of sanathana dharma and other religions like Buddhism and Jainism. He established the union of the individual Jiva with the supreme Purusha - Shiva, when compared to the concept of Nirvana of Jainism and Buddhism. He propounded the Mayavad or the illusionary nature of the world and the reality of Parabrahmam for the first time. He maintained that the world appears to be real due to Maya or illusion and is not real at all.

Most of the Goud Saraswat Brahmins residing in Goa and other places have been the followers of Shree Kavalem Muth Saunsthan from the 8th century to the 15th century. When Shree Gokarn Partagali Jivottam Muth Saunsthan and Shree Kashi Muth Saunsthan were founded in 1476 and 1542, respectively, many of the Brahmins started following these two new muths. However some still continued to follow Shree Kavale Muth Saunsthan. During the 16th century, when the Portuguese had already arrived in Goa and were razing down the muths and temples, the 57th Guru - Shrimad Vidyananda Saraswati Goudapadacharya had to leave Goa and find shelter elsewhere. Shrimad Vidyananda Saraswati, followed by Shrimad Sahajananda Saraswati and Shrimad Purnananda Saraswati had to stay at Golvan Math Bhavan. Shrimad Ramananda Saraswati, the 60th Pontiff stayed at the Chinnar Math Bhavan. Later he left for Banares along with Shrimad Bhavananda Saraswati, his successor. In the year 1630, Vittal Sharma (Rangnekar) was initiated by Shrimad Bhavananda Saraswati to head the Kavalem Muth and he had to return to Goa. Since then 14 more religious heads have headed the Muth.

Shrimad Satchidananda Saraswati Swamiji, after his initiation as the pontiff celebrated the first four Chaturmas at Kavalem since he wanted to know and study the affairs of various muths. Besides religious affairs, Swamiji also took interest in educational, social and charitable fields and their development. The visionary pontiff founded Sanskrit pathshalas, Hindu Vidyarthi Sahayak Mandal, Kavale Goa Vidya Prasarak Sangh and Saraswat Vidyarthi Sahakar Mandal. Shree Goudapadacharya Public Health Clinic was also found by him at Belgaum. He followed the glorious tradition of Shrimad Goudapadacharya who revived Adwait system and though Adi Shankaracharya propagated it all over India.

Shrimad Shivananda Saraswati Swamiji who will succeed the departed Swamiji as the 77th pontiff of the muth, has been the Patta Shishya, the disciple of Shrimad Satchidananda Saraswati Swamiji for over a decade.

Profile

U S Krishna Rao (1912 – 2005)

Bharatanatyam guru **Ubhayakar Shivaram Krishna Rao** passed away at 8:38 am in Bangalore on March 6, 2005. He was 92 and is survived by two sons, Jayadev and Shivadev, and five grandchildren, Anjali, Arjun, Arya, Savita and Sonali. U S Krishna Rao was a dancer, choreographer, renowned teacher and author of books on dance in English and Kannada.

Krishna Rao was born on 31 December 1912 in Mallapura, North Kanara District of Karnataka State and grew up in Bangalore. He completed his M.Sc. in Chemistry from the University of Mysore and was a lecturer for many years. He was also captain of the Bangalore United Cricket Club. A pioneer in the Mysore school of Bharatanatyam, he started learning from Guru Kolar Puttappa (1939-40) and Kathakali from Guru Kunju Kurup (1941-42). In 1943, Krishna Rao and his wife Chandrabhaga Devi underwent extensive training under Pandanallur Meenakshisundaram Pillai in Tanjavur. It was unheard of those days for a Brahmin male or female to pursue Bharatanatyam and they were virtually ostracized by the Konkani society. Surmounting all difficulties, they went on to become one of the most eminent dancing couples in the field of Indian classical dance.

The duo did a lot to promote and propagate Bharatanatyam. They started their school in 1942 in Bangalore and their disciples are scattered all over the world today. Well-known dancers like Indrani Rahman, Sonal Mansingh, and a host of others were their students. One of their pioneering innovations was giving lecture-demonstrations on dance, even as early as 1940 in Mysore. These highly educational sessions attracted a lot of male and female students. Krishna Rao was appointed as the honorary Professor of Dance in Bangalore University from 1973 to 1977 while his wife was Professor of Dance at the Dance School of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan from 1971 to 1985.

Krishna Rao choreographed spectacular dance-dramas like The Temptation of Buddha, Rani Shantala, Geeta Govinda and Kama Dahana. They performed extensively in India and abroad and raised lots of funds through their performances for various causes. Krishna Rao was not only a good dancer, but an accomplished musician too. He could play a number of instruments including the harmonium, flute and tabla. He trained many vocalists and instrumentalists for dance.

Krishna Rao's first book was written in Kannada, 'Adhunika Bharatadalli Nrityakale' –Art of Dance in Modern India. In 1980, he co-authored 'Nritya Kale' (Art of Dance) with Chandrabhaga Devi. A standard reference for both dance teachers and students, 'A Dictionary of Bharata Natya' published in 1980 and 'A Panorama of Indian Dances' (1993) are very well known works. 'Bharata Natya Nighantu' in Kannada meaning 'Bharatnatya Dictionary' was released in 1994. He has written on arts and artists for the Kannada Encyclopedia and his articles have been published in many leading journals.

Krishna Rao and Chandrabhaga Devi, who passed away in 1997, received many awards like the Rajyotsava Award, Shantala Award, Karnataka Nritya Kala Parishat and Central Sangeet Natak Akademi award. Krishna Rao received the E Krishna Iyer Medal for 2002 from The Sruti Foundation.

Eulogy to Jannabai Kamath, Our Mamama

Aarti Pai

(Wife to her grandson, Vinay S. Pai)

Dearest Mamama,

I'm having a hard time concentrating at work. I'm having a hard time sleeping. I'm having a hard time dealing with the regret that I didn't say a few words at your Eulogy during your funeral two days ago. I'm having a hard time coming to grips that I have to say Goodbye. It has happened all too fast. I have had thoughts swarming around my head, and they all sum up to: Few words can do you justice.

I was taught to "Always respect your elders". Quite frankly, I never fully understood what that meant, until I met you.

You were only 5 feet tall; but you are the tallest person I ever met. You couldn't hold your great-grandbabies for too long, but you are the strongest person I ever met. You didn't have a B.S., an M.S., a PhD., or an M.D; but you had the knowledge, the wisdom, the education, earned from 85 years of living. You gave birth to and raised 5 girls in India, were widowed at an early age, married off your daughters during hard times. You lived with one of your daughters and migrated to the US to help raise your 3 grandsons. You were able to spend time with many of your great-grandkids. You traveled. You lived a full life. More importantly, you lived a life of giving – giving of yourself.

I remember whenever you came to visit us, you always said , “I haven't brought much with me” (in the form of tangible gifts). I hope you left the world knowing what you brought to us. The things that you brought to me, my husband, my children, my parents, the family are irreplaceable. The love, encouragement, devotion you gave to the family - those are the things worth having.

I will always treasure the many memories I have of you. If I do the math, you were 50 years older to me. You were raised in India. I was raised in the US. I prefer rock-n-roll. You preferred bhajans. I like lasagna. You liked vaingana sagle. (We exchanged recipes - mostly yours.) I am a working mother. You were a stay-at-home mother/grandmother. We lived very different lives. We were generations apart. Yet, I always felt close to you. I could laugh with you. I could cry to you. I could be myself with you. On occasion, I even looked to you for advice. You accepted me for who I am despite the differences. To me you are a role model; a woman of accomplishment; a friend; a devoted mother- grandmother -great-grandmother. I am privileged and proud to have known you.

May you rest in peace knowing you are adored by many.

The Renaissance Man : The Late Pandit Ravi Bellare, 1927-2005

By Vivek Ullal, Simi Valley, California, USA

Pandit Ravi Bellare (Ravimam to our family) was a remarkable individual. He was extremely gifted, multi talented, hard-working and knowledgeable person, phenomenally creative, yet so gentle, patient, loving, modest and un-assuming. He was a great artiste and teacher. He left us on April 16, 2005.

Ravimam was my Guru since 1994. I first learnt tabla, and then bansuri (flute) from him. He and his twin brother Shashi Bellare, were renowned as child prodigies, and made a name as superb tabla soloists and accompanists. Ravimam was born in a very talented family. His maternal grandfather, Hattangadi Rama Rao of Mangalore, was a mridangam player and a performer in Yakshagana tradition of South Kanara District. His uncle, Pandit Taranath Rao Hattangadi was a virtuoso in tabla, pakhawaj and mridangam, and made a name as a premier soloist, accompanist and teacher of the science of percussion. Another uncle, Pt. H. Harihar Rao, is a sitar and tabla teacher, performing artiste and Professor of Music in the Los Angeles area. At a very young age, Ravimam was adopted by his uncle Taranath Rao. His proximity to Tarmam, brought Ravimam in close contact with many big names in classical music and dance of every discipline. He gave his first tabla concert on All India Radio, at a tender age of eight years !

Ravimam learnt tabla from some of the most eminent teachers: Pt.Taranath Rao, Ustad Shamsuddin Khan, Ustad Ahmed Jan Thirakwa, and Pt. Sunder Prasad, being some of them. He also learnt vocal music from eminent vocalists of all four gharanas (schools): Ustad Vilayat Hussain Khan, Ustad Khadim Hussain Khan (Agra and Agra Atrauli,) Pt. Saratchandra Arolkar and Prof. B. R. Deodhar (Gwalior), Ustad Shamsuddin Khan (Kirana - the Khansaheb was the premier tabla accompanist to the maestro of Kirana, Ustad Abdul Karim Khan, and also his pupil,) and the senior Dagar brothers (Dhrupad). He learnt Bharatnatyam from Guru Chandrashekhara Pillai, and Kathak from Pt. Lacchu Maharaj (Lucknow Gharana) and Pt. Sunder Prasad (Jaipur Gharana). After dabbling in different art forms and excelling in each of them, Ravimam also studied at the famed J. J. School of Art, Mumbai, following in the footsteps of his uncle, mentor and , Tarmam. Ravimam and his twin brother Shashimam were most sought after tabla performers from the fifties through the sixties. However, in mid fifties, Ravimam joined the dance troupe of Ram Gopal, famous Bharatnatyam performer and teacher par excellence, and spent almost a decade in Europe teaching and performing the ancient South Indian dance. He also painted pictures for a living while in Paris, and researched Indian classical music at some German Universities. When he returned to Mumbai, he did stints as a principal of Ravi Shankar's Kinnara School, and Vallabh Sangeetalaya in North Mumbai. After that for almost two decades he put his talents and arts on the back burner, and successfully pursued a business of manufacture of electronic equipment, in North Mumbai.

In 1992, a year after the death of his beloved Uncle Pt. Taranath Rao, Ravimam immigrated to Los Angeles area. He was almost close to seventy then. He sold his business and his beautiful Chembur bungalow, and decided to go back to his beloved music, art and dance. He concentrated entirely on teaching music, dance and art from his homes in Val Verde, Pomona and Chino Hills successively.

Ravimam had pupils of every age, learning art form of vocal music, instrumental music (tabla, pakhawaj, mridangam, sitar, keyboard, harmonium, and bansuri). His home was also a hospital for sick and damaged musical instruments: He repaired harmoniums, sitars, tanpuras, tablas and pakhawaj with a lot of TLC (tender loving care). I had witnessed him reconstruct the broken soundbox of a good tanpura, using the shell of a locally grown pumpkin – the type used for Jack O' Lanterns of Halloween. He continued teaching and encouraging some of Pt. Taranath's senior students, who were suddenly orphaned musically, by Taranath's untimely demise in 1991.

What type of teacher was he? Truly phenomenal! He made difficult musical compositions easy by explaining them patiently, sometimes splitting them into pieces, and then putting them together later. There was never a rebuke, threat or an insult for a half-hearted or poor performance by any student. He inspired excellence and perfection by setting an example His studio in his home, was surrounded by excellent sound equipment, speakers, microphones, electronic instruments for creating tabla rhythms and tanpura drones, and the lehra machine for tabla solos, and of course several tablas, duggas, pakhawajs, harmoniums, books and his many

paintings. He combined the best of the old art and the latest technology to teach music. He was an outstanding musician. Yet he never sought wealth or recognition. His pleasure came from pursuit of art and music. His only mission in life appeared to be to impart the knowledge he acquired from his gurus, and teaching them to his students: making sure that the Indian classical music and dance is understood and appreciated forever everywhere. Ravimam's gentle and affectionate wife Umapacchi (Appuli to some), treated his many students and admirers as her own family members. She would shower love and attention to all visitors, and treat them to her delicious gourmet food.

At his funeral, one of his many admirers called him an avatar of Goddess Saraswati. His void will be difficult to fill. All music lovers will miss him immensely. Ravimam is survived by his wife Uma, sons Prakash and Nilesh, daughter Shobha, grandson David and granddaughter Pallavi. We pray that his soul rests in eternal and blissful peace.

KONKANI CALENDER

July 2005	August 2005	September 2005
5 th Amavasya (Dark Moon)	4 th Amavasya (Dark Moon)	3 rd Amavasya (Dark Moon)
15 th Kark - Sankranthi	10 th Naga Panchami	6 th Gowri Thrithiye
16th AMKA Picnic	15 th Yekadashi	7 th Ganesh Chaturthi
17 th Ashada Yekadashi	16 th Simh Sankranthi	14 th Yekadashi
20 th Poornami	19 th Poornami Yajurpakarma	16 th Anantha Chaturdashi
23 rd Sankasta Chaturthi	22 nd Sankasta Chaturthi	16 th Kanya Sankranthi
	25 th ShriKrishna Janmashtami	17 th Poornami
		18 th Mahalaya
		20 th Angaraka Chaturthi

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

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, \$
Pandurang & Jayathi Nayak, Katy, TX	80.00
Vasudev & Shaila Nayak, Cranbury, NJ	160.00
Premanand & Suneethi Nayak, Cincinnati, OH	101.00
Vittal & Maya Shenoy, Charlotte, NC	50.00
Sachin & Sangeetha Kamath, Plainview, NY	66.00
Jnaneshwar & Vidya Nayak, Cupertino, CA	176.00
Maitreya & Nina Padukone, New York, NY	75.00
Bab & Vijaya Rau, Sunnyvale, CA	100.00
Ganesh & Nandini Baliga, Brentwood, NY	100.00

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
Balance Carried over since Khabbar Vol. XXVIII No. 1	4,230.00	
Money Received:		
Subscriptions (76) and donations	2,089.00	
Advertisements		
Interest	1.00	
Sub Total:	2,090.00	
Money Spent (Khabbar Vol. XXVIII No. 1):		
Printing- Khabbar (700) - 20 pages		630.00
First Class Mail-Khabbar (641)		384.60
Canada Khabbar (20)		17.00
Overseas (20)		60.00
Mail Fines, computer paper & labels, envelopes, service fees, etc		408.40
Sub Total:		1,500.00
Final Balance:	4,820.00	

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

KWIZ

The last quarter's quiz: What is the least-frequently used letter of the English alphabet?

The Answer:

Letter "Q"

The following gave the correct answers:

Shivadev Ubhayakar, Rancho Pale Verdes, CA

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. **Moreover, if you get correct solution for 4 consecutive quizzes, you will get FREE subscription to Khabbar Newsletter for a year!***

If February is the shortest month of the year, what is the second shortest month of the year in the US?

NAKA, The North American Konkani Association

NAKA, once dormant since its inception after the successful completion of the first Konkani Sannelan in NJ in 1996, got a fresh lease of life in 2002 when the Houston Konkani Sannelan 2002 gave all its surplus to NAKA. Now, Sannelan-2004 gave all their Sannelan 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.**

The NAKA Board now consists of:

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.

Seema Kamath, Ranjit Shiralkar & Sheila Shenoy (Youth).

This quarter, NAKA received all the surplus from LASannelan. The Board is busy in revising the Constitution and explore ways to help the Youth Convention

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

NAKA - Statement Of Accounts

Date	Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
2/28/05	Balance from last report	10,710.19	
4/8/05	Received from LASannelan	54,395.47	
5/30/05	Final Balance:	65,105.66	

Signed: Damodar Baliga
Treasurer, NAKA

Upcoming Konkani Activities:

2005 The American Midwest Konkani Association (AMKA) Activities

The American Midwest Konkani Association (AMKA) of Greater Chicago will hold the annual Picnic on **July 16, 2005** at Busse Woods. For more information, please call Ashok Nayak at (847) 541-9342 or Manohar Kamath at (847) 882-9866.

2005 Konkani Sabha Activities

The KONKANI SABHA will hold their annual Diwali function on Saturday, October 29th 2005. Visit their website at WWW.KonkaniSabha.org for further details and updates.

KONKANI APPEALS:

Dear Friends,

We started an Organization "Raaga Sangama Sangeetha Sabha" in Puttur to promote mainly Hindustani and also Karnataki Music, both vocal & instrumental. The Inaugural Function was on 20th of March, was a grand success, more than 1,000 people attended the function. **Miss. Mahalaxmi Shenoy**, a seventeen old girl (D/o Dr. Shenoy) who gave a wonderful recital and our own **Pt. Upendra Bhat** gave Concerts. Fortunately, all the committee members of the Sabha are music lovers and enthusiastic.

Aim and Purpose:

1. To promote Hindustani and Karnataki Music both Vocal and Instrumental
2. Identify young upcoming Artist and provide them with the stage
3. Artist of repute – to arrange their programs and to encourage young artist to mingle with them.
4. To Organise lecture demonstration.
5. To help the young Artist financially (if needed).
6. To have competitions at least once a year for the young.
7. To associate our self with other organizations (named above)

We have kept the membership as follows:

Major Patron	Rs. 10,001.00
Patron	Rs. 5,001.00
Life Member	Rs. 3,001.00
Yearly membership	Rs. 500.00

Donors - no limitations
Sponsors – The cost of the program or 2/3rd of the total expenses incurred to arrange the program.

To arrange all this we need your best wishes and support from you all.

With thanks and regards,

Dr. Nayak.

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The Advisory Committee of Khabbar has unanimously decided NOT to accept any ads. wherein the advertisers prefer to stay anonymous by using Khabbar reference.

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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 Konkanis. Send your contribution to: Khabbar, P. O. Box 222, Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222. email: khabbar@hotmail.com

KONKANI CHARITIES

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, Berwyn, IL 60402

KONKANI CHARITIES

The Saraswat Foundation is helping poor deserving Bhanaps in India. Send your donations to: Saraswat Foundation
178 Norman Drive, Morrisville, PA 19067

KONKANI CHARITIES

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

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

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

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 baligas3@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

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>

MATRIMONIAL DIRECTORY

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
8017 Celebreeze Crt., LAS VEGAS, NV89145
Phone: (702)-341-6706; Email: bshenoy@cox.net

MATRIMONIAL

Parents are looking for a suitable match from Konkani families for their son (31). Please contact (281)-480-5447.

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Parents invite correspondence from stable families for 30yr old fair, athletic media professional settled in Seattle, WA. Prefers fair, athletic and educated girl. Interest in the arts, politics or community service a plus. Please send photo/bio-data to Ashwinbhat@aol.com or 5080 Cedar Creek Dr, Houston TX 77056.

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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.

As the Canadian Countdown to **Sammellan 2006** begins, we would like to invite all our Konkani brethren to visit our website: www.konkani2006.com where you can access all information on the venue, facilities, tourism and the host teams. We will be updating as we go along, so do look us up every once in a while to see our new and exciting features. Please, remember, Registration begins in July 2005. Register early and reserve your spot at this prestigious event! And just in case many of you are not aware... **the City of Hamilton, our venue, is the Official twin city of Mangalore since 1968!** So, folks, let this be a memorable "home coming"... Let's celebrate together!

AmCHIGale Youth Convention 2005

from Friday, In August 5th 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 5th 2005.

What are you doing August 5-7? How does a weekend in Chicago sound? Even better, how about a weekend in Chicago with Konkani Youth from all over the country? Still unsure? Maybe this will help you decide:

"We all know that there are cliques, and unless you know someone, no one is willing to take a chance on you." Or so **Mona Pai**, a Konkani youth from Pittsburgh, thought about the Konkani Youth Conventions. However, her experiences at the 2003 Austin Youth Convention proved her wrong. "I met a ton of new people through ice breakers and team building exercises. I kept in touch with many of the people that I met in Austin and it was their friendship and support that made the family Sammellan in Los Angeles so much fun."

If you are debating whether or not to attend the Chicago 2005 Youth Convention, take a chance like Mona did. We know it can be hard to meet people when it seems like everyone already has their own groups of friends. That's why we've planned several icebreakers and events designed to force people to venture outside their usual cliques and mingle with others. We promise you will leave the convention having made several new friends and even having learned a thing or two about our culture.

So what are you waiting for? We know you've been visiting the site, checking out who's already registered. Come to Chicago, meet new people, eat great food, do a little sightseeing, and come back happy! Check the website for details on how to get discounted airfare and hotel accommodations: <http://konkaniyouth.com/ks05/index.html>

Remember, the registration deadline is July 1st! Don't be the only one to miss out on all the fun! If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail the youth committee at amCHIGale2005@yahoo.com.

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

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