Khabbar

North American Konkani Newsletter

Volume XXIX No. 2 April, May, June - 2006

From:
The Honorary Editor,
"Khabbar"
P. O. Box 222
Lake Jackson, TX 77566 - 0222
XXIX-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.......

The theme of the Konkani Sammelan-2008 is <u>"Awakening</u> the Konkani in You" and I did not realize how appropriate it was till these two recent incidents:

In March 2008, as part of NAKA, I was involved with a fundraiser dinner for KS-2008 in Houston. The turnout was less than expected and I was a bit worried about the outcome. But to my surprise, the money we raised was much more than I had anticipated! Moreover, younger generation Konkanis came forward with substantial amount!! Asked one youngster why she gave a \$1k check, her reply was, "Vasanthmaam, these Sammelans are unique events that have helped us keep

our identity alive here. I wish I had given more. We look forward to these events and we want to support all the efforts".

During KS-2006 in Canada, the *Kalash Transfer* could not take place as we could not identify the host city for KS-2008. Soon thereafter, Bay Area Konkanis from CA agreed to host KS-2008, hence a belated but fitting *Kalash Transfer* function was held during the KISS picnic in TX in April 2008. Five key organizers of KS-2006 & KS-2008 (from CA & Canada) came to this hallmark event by **spending their own money**. Asked what motivated them to do this gesture, the unanimous response was, "These Sammelans are key to our & our kids' future, and we should do anything and everything to support this".

Don't these incidents clearly prove that the Konkani spirit in us has been awakened by these Sammelans?

SUBSCRIPTION FORM:

Dear Konkani family,

It is time to renew your subscription for 2006! 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 2006 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:

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 XXIX No. 2

April, May, June - 2006

Honorary Editor: Mr. Vasanth Bhat

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 222

Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222

www.ekhabbar.com

Tel: (979)-299-3210

Email: khabbar@hotmail.com

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 <u>ALL</u> families that have paid dues **at least** once since 2003. In other words, families who <u>have not</u> paid since 2002 will not be receiving this issue and for families that have paid only in 2003, this will be the <u>last time</u> 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 2003 and if there is any error let me know.

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 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 *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

<u>khabbar@hotmail.com</u> and rest be assured that I'll "khabbarize" them!

The KonCANi Sammelan – 2006 (KS-2006) in Hamilton will be an experience no Konkani in North America or in the world should miss! Already close to 1,600 people have registered for this gala event!! The various committees and their volunteers have put together a program that is worth your time and money. Visit their website (www.konkani2006.com) to find out more about this great event of 2006 and be a part of this great occasion.

Khabbar will publish all the developments and progress made by **The North American Konkani Association** (NAKA) on an on-going basis. Send your constructive suggestions to any of the Directors of the NAKA Board. NAKA will unveil the most anticipated project, "Konklish" CD & Book during KS-2006. Also, this quarter, NAKA provided the much needed seed money to KS-2006 by advancing \$20k.

The unofficial *Khabbar* correspondents in your area who send in the *hoon khabbars* on a regular basis are doing an outstanding job. **Remember, if it did not appear in** *Khabbar***, then it did not happen in North America!** 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).

On the Quiz front, *Khabbar* has still remained as an undefeated champion! Remember, anyone getting correct solutions to 4 consecutive issues will get free subscription to *Khabbar* for a year.

With the Foundation Stone laid for the ambitious project, **Konkani Kendra**, the **Konkani Bhas Ani Sanskriti Pratistan** is looking for more financial support. Thanks to **Basti Ganapathi Shenoy w**ho has devised a method wherein families wanting to help **Konkani Bhas Ani Sanskriti Pratistan** can do so with relative ease! Call him at (702)-341-6706 or email: bshenoy@cox.net if interested to extend your help for this worthy cause.

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

Hope peace & tranquility prevails on earth. Hope to see you all the Sammelan in Hamilton, Ont., Canada.

Devu Boren Karo.

<u>Vasanth</u> Honorary Editor

Letters to the Editor

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

Dear Shri Vasant Bhat,

I had the opportunity to go through the Oct to Dec 2005 issue of *Khabbar* from my daughter, Smt. Asha P. Dhume, and must congratulate you for your excellent efforts and yeoman services to the Konkani community abroad. I am giving, herewith, details of charitable activities carried out by G.S.B. Sabha, Mumbai and would request you to publish the same in the forthcoming issue of your magazine.

G.S.B. Sabha, Mumbai, was established in 1934 and is one of the oldest GSB institutions in Mumbai. Every year, the Sabha disburses educational assistance of about Rs. 2.00 lacs to needy and deserving students of our Community residing in Greater Bombay from its Vidyanidhi Fund. The assistance is given to students from K.G. to post graduate level.

Also, financial assistance is disbursed to needy families from the Marriage Assistance Fund.

Recently, the Sabha has launched a Senior Citizens Welfare Fund, from which financial assistance will be disbursed to destitute senior citizens for their medical and other financial needs. Disbursement from the Fund is starting for the quarter ending 31.03.2006.

The Sabha appeals to non-resident Indians in US and looks forward to monetary support for the above schemes so that more beneficiaries can be covered and higher amounts can be disbursed in the service of the poor and needy members of our community. Cheques may be sent in favour of 'G.S.B. Sabha, Mumbai'. With kind regards

Smt. Sudha G. Pai President sgpai@hotmail.com udaym@vsnl.com ***** Dear

Greetings from Singapore.

I got your contact thru the great web page of Konkani Sabha.

I am from Karkala, but based in Singapore and have come out with a book on the history and coinage of the Kings that once ruled South Kanara district and the vicinity. I humbly request you to forward the mail to all the Konkanis on the availability of the book.

It is available for sale. The Alupas, Coinage and history", Pages 200, 40 colour plates with 180 unique coins scans of Mangalore and Udupi district. The book has the forward from Sri Mukunda Prabhu, the historian and numismatist from Mangalore. It has been based on over 200 epigraphical studies and over 200 coins study. Every aspect of the history and coinage is dealt with preciseness and with proper reference. I feel it is an asset to our people who are from these routes.

http://prabhu.50g.com/alupas book/alupas book.html

Also, I have a web page (prepared in the year 2001) on the Indian dynastic history and coinage. Every other known dynasty has been dealt with in detail. The link is as follows:

http://prabhu.50g.com

or

http://forumancientcoins.com/india

I appreciate if you could provide a link of the above URL in the Konkani site section. I am grateful.

With regards

Govind Prabhu sgprabhu@india.com *****

Dear Vasanth Mam.

I would greatly appreciate it is you could publish the following URL in the next issue of the Khabbar.

http://www.cricbay.com: CricBay is a group formed to bring together likeminded teams in bay area, California. This group is used to schedule

matches among member teams and conduct informal tourneys, without an intention to generate revenue. This group is a consortium of cricket teams using tennis ball. There is no governing body or proprietorship to manage the proceedings. Come join the consortium, and help grow this association.

Thanks

Sunil Shenoy sunilsd@hotmail.com

Dear Vasanthmaam,

"Saga of Surnoli" published in the recent Khabbar is quite interesting to read. The author, Shiv Shanker Surkund has narrated a real life situation in a quite hilarious way. It took me back to my childhood in coastal India. Soon I purchased, "Adventures of a PR Man" the book published by the same author to read a bunch of similar articles. The author has hand picked episodes taken place in his childhood and later in his PR profession. The language spiced with rural Konkani words with a touch of humor, often burst me into laughter. Today it is my prized possession.

Devu boren koro.

Regards,

Manjeshwar Ganesha Kamath <u>mgkamath@hotmail.com</u>

Dear Vasanthmam,

Tarmaam (Pt. H. Taranath Rao) was a well acclaimed Tabla, Pakhawaj and Mridangam player, composer and teacher. He passed away 15 years ago in 1991. I found a article I had published in Bhanap "Antarang" in 1992, which I slightly modified. It would be a great honor to this brilliant soul to have this article published in *Khabbar*.

Regards,

Vivek Ullal vivekullal@sbcglobal.net *****

Letters to the Editor(cont.)

Dear Vasant Uncle,

My name is Athma Pai. I believe you know my parents Venkatesh and Vasanti Pai of Stamford, CT. I am going to be a senior at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and I am writing to you regarding my senior thesis research.

For the past 2 years, I have been conducting population genetics research at the Laboratory of Molecular Anthropology at UPenn. I recently received approval (along with a grant) to do an exciting senior thesis project on the diversity genetics of Konkani populations. I had thought up this project some time ago. Then I read the letter in Khabbar (Vol.XXVIII No. 3) from Dr. Vasudev Kamath of CT. With his help I have been able to set up collaboration with the laboratory of Dr. T. D. Dogra in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in New Delhi, India. I will essentially be conducting a smaller scale North American version of their project and sharing results and analysis with them.

Using DNA analysis, I would essentially like to investigate:

- (1) general genetic diversity present within the community,
- (2) degrees of genetic mixing with other Indian communities,
- (3) possible migration routes through India, and
- (4) possible comparisons with other non-Indian populations.

I will be analyzing the diversity and variation in mitochondrial (maternal line) and Y chromosome (paternal line) DNA from about 150 male North American Saraswat Brahmins. I have attached a more detailed background and summary information sheet about my project to this letter.

I have to collect all of these samples (through non-invasive cheek swab sampling) in the summer of 2006 in order to be able to complete the project before I graduate in May of 2007. In order to achieve this, I would like to contact Konkanis from

around North America to recruit them to participate in the study. I would really appreciate your help in contacting some of the regional leaders of Konkani organizations throughout North America to help in gaining access of lists of Konkani males to request as study participants.

Additionally, I have also contacted Mr. Ashok Bhatt, the President of the 2006 North American Konkani Sammelan in Hamilton, ON for help during the Sammelan or affiliated medical symposium. I am also working on contacting relatives and family friends to be able to collect some pre-solicited samples during the Sammelan.

Again, I would really appreciate your help in any way possible. Please do let me know what you think about the project. I would be happy to discuss this further with you, either by e-mail (aapai@sas.upenn.edu) or telephone (203-912-0533). Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Athma A. Pai

Biochemistry & Anthropology College of Arts and Sciences 2007 University of Pennsylvania <u>aapai@sas.upenn.edu</u> 203-912-0533

Editor's Reply:

Hi Athma.

Of course I know you and your parents and am glad to note your progress.

Here's what I will do.

- 1. I will publish this appeal in this issue of *Khabbar*
- 2. Your contact to Ashok Bhatt is very appropriate since most of the people will attend the KS-2006. You have a better chance of success there.
- 3. Here's the latest list of various Konkani organization contacts in the

US & Canada. This list may not be the latest!

Good luck

DEAR VASANTANNA,

NAMASKARU, AMMI KODIALANTU SWALP CHERKE OTTU JAVNU CHAR VARSA PHUDE EK SAAN TRUST KELLA, AMMI ATTA AMGELE TRUSTCHE WEBSITE KELLA.

AMGELE AASHA KASA MALLARE TUMMI AMGELE TRUST VISHAYU AMCHIKELE KITTLE JAN ASSA PALE TITLE JANAK KOLCHE VARY PRACHRU DIVNU AMKA AMMI KORCHE KAAMANTHU SAHAYA KOORKA MONU.

WEBSITE NAAV: www.mangaloresevanjali.com

Titlechi,

Tumgel viery vishwas,

Mangalpady Naresh Shenoy Email: nareshshenoy@dataone.in

Hello Vasanth,

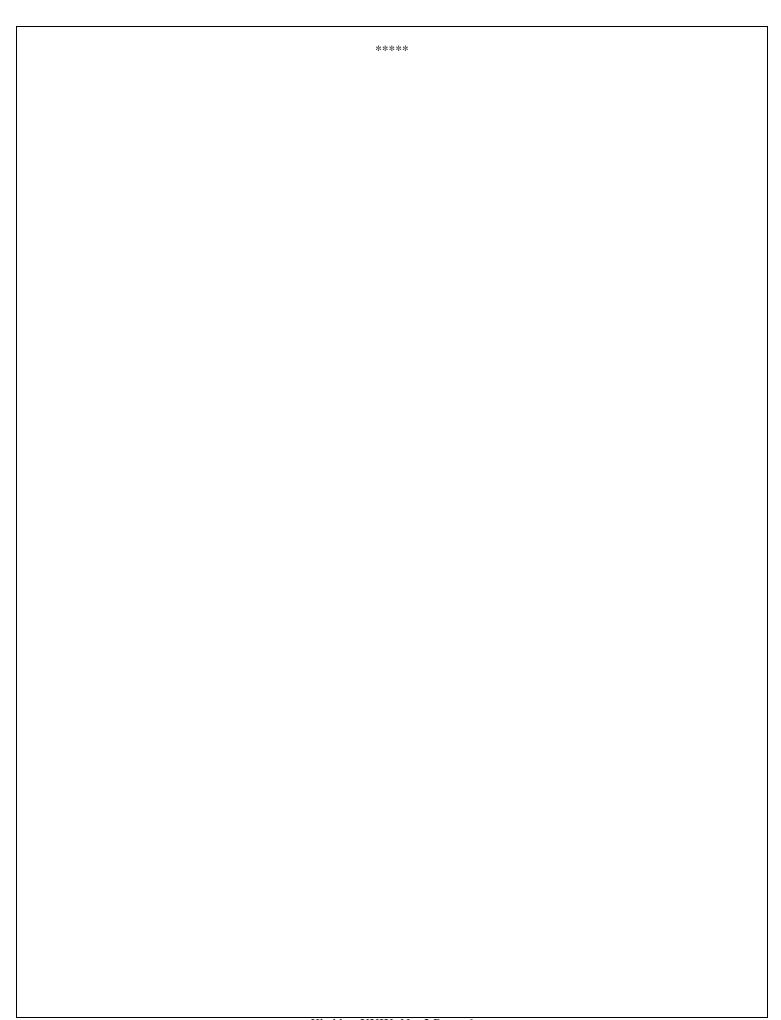
Thanks for your mail and the interest, which you have shown for the Konkani language.

As per our discussion I will be obliged if details of our Konkani utsav appears on the "Khabbar Magazine" and please do send me a copy of the same. I will update you with the progress of Konkani utsav.

Regards, Ulhas Kamat premulhas@hotmail.com

Editor's Reply:

Khabbar appreciates all the hard work gone into helping our community back in India, both cultural & charitable. I hope the readership will also appreciate your efforts and help you both to the best their ability.



Hoon Khabbar

Congratulations:

The March 20, 2006 edition of "India Today" published the 50 Power People of India 2006 that is dominated by the dreamers and doers of a globalized society. Among them were three Konkanis:

NANDAN NILEKANI of Infosys, VIJAY MALLYA, Industrialist, and K. V. KAMATH of ICICI Bank.

Sri. U. DAMODAR PRABHU of Pittsburgh, PA was invited by South Hills Interfaith Ministries of Pittsburgh to give a presentation on Hinduism at the Franciscan Spirit & Life Center on May 4th 2006 to an audience of about 100 people followed by a lively discussion. There were four other speakers, each talking on Buddhism, Judaism, Christanity and Islam.

AVINASH, s/o Ravi & Vidya Joshi of Mission Viejo, CA, a 10th grader at Capistrano Valley High School, Mission Viejo, CA, won Essay 1st prize, in the 2006 contest held by the United Nations Association of the USA and the Business Council for the United Nations, topic: United Nations Reform, from the Southern California Coastal Alliance in May. He was awarded a cash prize of \$500. Avinash is also the Secretary General of his school Model UN. Avinash, a sophomore. also co-chaired the Reflections Program at his school. Avinash has varied interests - he is a member of the Boy Scouts of America and the National Honor Society. He was also Youth Representative for 2005-06 for the local Konkani Association, the KASC (Konkani Association of Southern California). Avinash turns 16 this June. He and his parents, thank all well wishers and relatives for their love and blessings.

DEEPAK BHANDARKAR will be admitted as a partner at PwC in their San Jose Technology practice effective July 1, 2006.

IGI, INC. (AMEX:IG), a technology company focused on the development

of custom products using the patented Novasome(R) delivery technology, today announces the addition of **SUNIL PAI**, CPA, CFA of Washington, DC to its Board of Directors.

Sunil Pai is presently Director, Corporate Development, Mergers and Acquisitions at Capital One Financial Corporation. Mr. Pai is a seasoned professional with 18+ years of progressively senior roles in Corporate Development, Financial Analysis and Investment Management at major financial institutions.

Sunil Pai, a former Senior Auditor with Ernst and Young will also serve on IGI's audit committee.

"Management of IGI is pleased that Mr. Pai has agreed to join our Board. The addition of Mr. Pai will allow us to further enhance our efforts in corporate development and complying with Sarbanes Oxley," stated Frank Gerardi, Chairman, CEO.

IGI is a company committed to growth by applying proprietary technologies to achieve cost-effective solutions for varied customer needs. IGI offers the patented Novasome(R) lipid vesicle encapsulation technology contributes value-added qualities to skin care cosmetics, products, dermatological formulations and other providing consumer products, improved dermal absorption, low potential for irritations, controlled and sustained release as well as improved stability. IGI has licensed Novasome(R) lipid vesicle encapsulation technology to leading global dermatological and skin care companies including Johnson & Johnson Consumer Products, Inc., Estee Lauder Companies, Chattem Inc., Genesis Pharmaceutical, Inc. and Apollo Pharmaceutical, Inc.

IGI sub-licensed the rights to obtain FDA approval for and market IGI's PTH (1-34) compound using Novasome(R) lipid vesicle encapsulation technology for psoriasis,

which is being reformulated for Phase II clinical trials, to Manhattan Pharmaceuticals, Inc. IGI is also exploring the licensing of the topical

PTH (7-34) compound for the prevention/treatment of chemotherapy induced-alopecia in patients undergoing chemotherapy.

VASUDEO KAMATH, Konkani Portrait painter of Mumbai, Gold Medalist from J.J.School of Art, Mumbai was awarded a grand prize of \$5,000 and sponsored art materials award of \$2,100 at a conference held in Dallas from 2nd May to 7th May 2006 for the Portrait Society of America. His paintings on life of Buddha are displayed in Buddha temple in Japan. Additional information may be obtained at http://www.vasudeokamath.com or by Googleing Vasudeo Kamath.

Konkani Graduates:

Carnegie Mellon University junior **SATYAN PAI** was recently awarded the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. Pai, who is eligible to receive up to \$7,500 through the scholarship, was one of 323 college sophomores and juniors nationwide selected for the honor.

The son of Mukund and Surekha Pai of Solon, OH, Pai is majoring in biological sciences with a minor in chemistry. After completing his bachelor's degree, he plans to pursue an advanced degree in molecular biology and ultimately conduct research in a pharmaceutical or academic environment.

At Carnegie Mellon, Pai conducts molecular biology research with Peter Berget, associate

professor of biological sciences in the Mellon College of Science. His research involves analyzing a novel method of fluorescently labeling proteins so they can be visualized and their monitored inside cellular environment. In addition, he serves as a member of the Biological Sciences Student Advisory Council, which advises the department on ways to improve undergraduate education and plans events that impact department and broader community. Amy Burkert, teaching professor and

associate head of the Department of Biological Sciences, nominated Pai

for the Goldwater Scholarship. "Satyan is exceptional by every metric one could choose," she said. "He is dedicated to using his love of science to make a difference in peoples' lives, and I feel certain that many will benefit from his work."

This summer, Pai will intern at Merck Pharmaceuticals Research Labs in New Jersey, where he will conduct research pertaining to the treatment of diabetes.

The scholarship program honoring Senator Barry M. Goldwater was designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering. In its 17-year history, the foundation has awarded 4,885 scholarships worth approximately \$48 million.

DIVYA, d/o Panduranga & Shilpa Bhakta of Glendale, NY graduated majoring Language Pathology and Psychology as minor. She was in Deans List always and got Deans Award. She is a member of Alpha Chi National Honors Society. She has been accepted to do Masters in Long Island University this Fall.

DHIRAJ, s/o Panduranga & Shilpa Bhakta of Glendale, NY, a 11th grader, 6'-9" 250 lb., plays Centre in Basketball for Bishop Laughlin Memorial High School, Brooklyn, NY, has been approached by Dartmouth College Basketball Team NCAA 1st Division IVY League to recruit him as an outstanding student athlete.

SHILPA, d/o Dr. Vilas & Mrs. Sneha Prabhu of Lancaster, PA, graduated with a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Oklahoma on May 27th 2006. She will begin her residency in anesthesiology at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Health System in Richmond, VA. Shilpa's grandmother, Mrs. Lalita A. Prabhu, attended the graduation ceremony along with her family and friends.

ASHVIN, s/o Ramadas & Udaya Kamath of Apple Valley, CA, graduated with honors from the History Department at Princeton University. During his college career,

Ashvin wrote two independent research papers in constitutional history, performed in an Indian dance group and a rock band, volunteered in various health care settings, and served as a residential college advisor. In the following year, Ashvin is working for a non-profit law firm in Berkeley, CA while he applies to law school.

VIKRAM, s/o Dr. Rajaram & Mrs. Aneetha Shenoy of Shelton, CT will graduate third in his class from Shelton High School on June 20. Vikram was a member of National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, captain of the Tennis Team, President of the chess club, and captain of the Academic Bowl Team. He was also the Production Editor of the award-winning school newspaper Gael Winds, co-founder and treasurer of the Shelton High Junior State of America Debate Club and a member of numerous other school clubs. He was honored by Her Excellency, Jody Rell, the Governor of Connecticut as the Youth of the Year in a ceremony hosted by University of New Haven and New Haven Register on June 04. He is also the recipient of Youth of the Month award by the Huntington Exchange Club and is spotlighted as a role model by Yale University-New Haven Register for his academic prowess, leadership, and community service. Vikram is the recipient of Columbia Book Award, Rensselaer Medal for excellence in Science and Math. United **Technologies** Scholarship, TranSwitch Engineering Scholarship, University Connecticut Presidential Scholarship, and many other scholarships and awards. Vikram is accepted into the Combined Program in Medicine at the University of Connecticut and he will pursue Biomedical Engineering studies in the Honors Program at UConn-Storrs campus prior continuing his Medical Studies at UConn Medical Center in Farmington,

SHUBHA, d/o Subhas & Prabha Kamath of Las Vegas, NV graduated with high honors from Palo Verde High School, Summerlin, Las Vegas. She will join Purdue University, IN in

the Fall of 2006 as a Pre-Pharmacy major.

In School, Shubha was a member of the National Honor Society, KEY club, and the Science Club. She was also selected as a Nevada State Scholar.

Shubha is a former student of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Mangalore and Hyderabad, India.

SHYAMALEE HONAVAR (nee Deepali Deshpande) of Alpharetta, GA graduated with a Masters of Science degree in Information Systems from Kennesaw State University with a perfect 4.0 GPA in December 2005.

SHASHANK HONAVAR of Alpharetta, GA graduated with a Masters of Business Administration with a major in Risk Management & Insurance and a concentration in Finance from the J. Mack Robinson College of Business, Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia. The commencement ceremony was on Saturday, May 13th 2006. Shashank's photo appeared in the Sunday edition of the Atlanta-Journal Constitution.

BINA, d/o Gurudas Pai of Palm Beach Gardens, FL, graduated in May, 2006 from California State University, Northridge with honors in Biology.

NITIN, s/o Deepak & Asha Ubhayakar of Upland, CA, graduated from University of California, Berkeley in Psychology. He will pursue his further studies in fall.

VIVEK. s/o of D. & Pamela Narayanadas of Cerritos, CA. graduated in May, 2006 from University of California, Berkeley honors in History Economics. Vivek was a Regent's Scholar as well as a Boeing Scholar, and did a large amount of research work for the Berkeley Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Study Center, in addition to working on the Berkeley Fiction Review. He will be continuing his education at Columbia Law School this fall.

GITANJALI, d/o Gurudatt & Veena Borkar of Moorpark, CA, graduated

from University of California, Berkeley, with summa cum laude in Psychology and Political Science, in May 2006. Her future plans include continuing to work towards her Law degree as well as pursuing her career in Federal Government Policy & Administration.

NAMITA, d/o Shrinivas & Sharada Kamath of Downers Grove, IL graduated from Downers Grove South High School and will attend the St. Louis School of Pharmacy in St. Louis, Mo, this fall.

RAJEEV, s/o Raghuveer & Anita Nayak of Oak Brook, IL graduated from the Illinois Math and Science Academy in Aurora, IL and will attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) this fall.

New Arrivals:

RIVAN RAO, a 7-1/2 lb. and 19-1/2" long baby boy to Rupa & Ira Domnitz of Sugarland, TX on January 11th 2006. Visiting Rivan are the proud maternal grandparents Kusumalatha (Srimathi) & Narayana Rao of Chennai, India.

VISHAL, a 8 lbs 11oz and 20" long baby boy was born to Naren & Anitha Nayak of Stamford, CT on Wednesday Feb. 8th 2006. A brother to Sanjana. His paternal grandparents are H. Dinesh & Kusum D. Nayak of Bangalore, and his maternal grandparents are Dr. B. V. & Sunitha Prabhu of Belur.

NIKHIL, a baby boy to Dinesh & Anupama Kini of Marina Del Rey, CA on Feb., 15th 2006.

ANJALI, a baby girl to Vinay & Gauri Prabhu on the 14th April 2006 at Hayward, CA. She is the first grandchild to Shri R.L. & Smt. Priyalata Prabhu of Mumbai, India.

DIVYA, a baby girl to Shashank & Shyamalee (nee Deepali Deshpande) Honavar of Alpharetta, GA on Monday, May 22nd 2006 at 3:33 PM at Northside Hospital in Atlanta, GA. A sister to Sohum.

SIMIRIN, a baby girl, born on May 23rd 2006 to Jayen & Manini Madia

of New York. The proud maternal grandparents are Drs. Chandrakanth & Nandana Bhakta, of Burr Ridge, IL. Amar Bhakta is the new young maternal uncle. Smt. Mohini Bhakta of Mumbai is the great grandmother. Paternal grandparents are Drs. Dalsukh and Illa Madia of Ohio.

ROSHAN, a baby boy weighing 7lbs 10oz and 20.5 inches to Sunil & Jyoti Pai of Washington, DC on May 24th 2006. Fourth grandchild to proud grandparents Vasanth & Mala Pai of Lake Wales, Florida.

Thread Ceremony:

Chi. VALLAB (8), s/o Vinith & Divya Nayak of Edison, NJ had his Thread Ceremony on April 23rd 2006 Royal Albert's Palace in Woodbridge, NJ. The function was well attended by friends and family, Vallab's including maternal grandfather, Subrao Kasarkod, from Sirsi, India, Vallab's cousins, aunts and uncles from all over the U.S. came as well. Vallab sat patiently through the ceremony, and was very interested in what was being told to him. He says his Gayatri Mantras without fail every day. He is now officially a student of Hinduism.

Engagement:

Chi. NEVIN, s/o Suren & Vidya Kamath of San Antonio, TX got engaged to Kum. PRIYANKA, d/o Ram & Nalini Venkat of San Antonio, TX on May 27, 2006. They met during their undergraduate studies at University of Texas, in Austin, TX.

Chi. PAWAN, s/o Subash & Manda Nadkarni of Winfield, IL got engaged to Kum. PRIYA, d/o Jai & Revati Ghatnekar of Michigan. An official engagement ceremony will take place on July 15th, 2006 at the SVS Balaji Temple, in Aurora, IL.

Newly Weds:

Chi. VINODH, s/o Vasanth & Poornima Bhat of Lake Jackson, TX married **Sow. KALPANA**, d/o Gopal & Pratibha Bhandarkar of Bayport, NY on Saturday May 13th 2006 at the Palace at Somerset in Somerset, NJ.

Sow. ANJALI, d/o Gurudutt & Bina Trasy of Princeton, NJ married to **Chi. DAVID S. YEROW** of Boston,MA on Saturday May 27th 2006 at 4 O'Clock at the Hanover Marriott in Whippany,NJ followed by reception & dinner.

Sow. SARITHA, d/o Banur Dhruvakumar & Ramani Nayak of Sudbury, MA married to **Chi. NAVEEN,** s/o Dilip & Jayanthi Bhandarkar of San Ramon, CA on Sunday May 28th 2006 at The Northshore Ballroom, Sheraton Ferncroft Resort in Danvers, MA.

Chi. VINAY, s/o Dr. Vasudev & Smt. Sunita Prabhu of Mission Viejo, CA married to Sow. **Dr. TANYA**, d/o Reuben & Esther Chinniah on Tuesday May 30th 2006 at Windjammer Hotel Resort, St. Lucia, Caribbean Island. The wedding was in *Gandharva* style.

Chi. SHARAD, s/o Sudhakar & Nandini Mallya of Wanaque, NJ married to Sow. RUCHI, d/o Priti & late Satish Choksi, on Saturday June 10th 2006 at the Hilton Parsippany in Parsippany, NJ.

Relocation:

The NAYAK family, Naren & Anitha with their daughter, Sanjana, relocated from Ashburn, VA to 154-3 Pepper Ridge Rd., Stamford, CT 06905-3200. The new telephone is (203)-461-9223 and the emails are: coffeetime96@yahoo.com (Naren) and nayak_a_n@yahoo.com (Anitha).

The **KALLE** family, Hemu & Mamata, relocated within Camarillo, CA to 42024, Village # 42, Camarillo, CA 93012-8902.

The **PAI** family, Vasanth Kernir & Mala, have relocated from Naples, FL to 475 Lake Suzanne Dr., Lake Wales, FL. The new telephone is (863)-223-2057 and the email ID: monypro@yahoo.com.

The **NAYAK** family, Kiran & Geeta, relocated from Broad Brook, CT to 10 Duprey Dr., Enfield, CT 06082.

The **RAO** family, Venkatesha & Vasanthi have moved to another

location in Southern California to 3462 A Bahia Blanca West, Laguna Woods, CA 92637. The new telephone is (949)-855-6977 and email ID: veni rao@hotmail.com

The **BHANDARKAR** family, Deepak & Protima, together with their kids, Diya & Rohan, have relocated from South Sanfrancisco, CA to 521 Cherrywood Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087. The new telephone is (408) 774-1617.

60th Birthday Party:

Families and friends of **SUDHIR GOLIKERI** of Houston, TX
celebrated his 60th birthday on April
27th 2006 in Houston, TX.

75th Birthday Bash:

A surprise party was held on June 2nd for Mrs. INDIRA KAMATH to

celebrate her 75th birthday at Indian Garden Restaurant in Westmont, IL. Her children, Mr. Vasanth Kamath, Dr. Suman Bhat of Florida and Mr. Shrinivas Kamath, planned the event in great detail. Grandchildren Priyanka Bhat, Namita Kamath, and Kamath made excellent speeches for their grandma. Namita also made a memorable slide show presentation with pictures chronicling significant moments in grandmother's life, with memories dating from the 1960s to the present day. Son-in-law Dr. Ashok Bhat and daughters-in-law Jo Anne and Sharada Kamath added special touches to the evening.

The function was grand and well attended by many family members and friends. Indira Mai was thoroughly surprised and enjoyed the evening to the full extent.

Konkani Happenings:

Welcome back to America:

The **BANGALORE** family, Shrikar & Nirmala have relocated from India back to the U.S. for good. Their new address is 321 E. Arbor Circle West, Oak Creek, WI 53154-7571. The new telephone: (414) 520-9504 and Email ID: s nbangalore@yahoo.com

Obituary:

Mrs. SHOBHA PAI of Palm Beach Gardens, FL passed away on 6th April 2006 due to her continuous bout with cancer. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to her husband Gurudas Pai & family of Palm Beach Gardens, FL

KASC SHIVARATHRI 2006

Submitted by: Jaidev Chandavarkar, Thousand Oaks, CA

The Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC) observed Shivarathri 2006 on Saturday, February 25th, with an evening's program of bhajans and group meditation followed by a simple meal. The observance was just a day before the actual Shivarathri, which was on Sunday, February 26th.

A group of families that enjoy doing bhajans drove directly from Shiva Ubhayakar's 60th birthday celebrations to Cerritos's Shadow Park community, where they used the community's Recreation Room to set up a small colorful altar, complete with flowers, fruits and coconuts and pictures of many deities. Zhamkhaans (see Konkani-to-English dictionary for a meaning of this word, if you don't know) were spread on the floor, print-outs of bhajans transliterated in English were handed out, and soon the sound of booming Oms was heard, inaugurating the Shivarathri bhajans for 2006.

Bhajan after bhajan was sung, without break or any casual chatter interrupting the flow of music and devotion. Attendees simply waited for their turn and sang. There was an unrehearsed order to the whole event, which was a pleasure to experience. It was obviously an evening of indulging in the joy of prayer expressed through music.

The bhajans concluded with the Aarati closing prayers. Following the Aarati there was a guided meditation that visualized the flame from the little altar entering the devotees' minds and then cleansing and purifying their hearts. The meditation ended with visualizing this purifying love radiating out to the universe from the hearts of the assembled devotees.

A simple dinner ended the evening. The joy in everyone's hearts and the smiles on their faces spoke volumes for the austere, but deeply satisfying community bhajans that the KASC is happy to organize.

KASC Yugaadi

Submitted by: Vivek Ullal, Simi Valley, CA

The Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC) Yugaadi Celebrations were held at the City of Arcadia Community Center on Sunday, April 2, 2006. Like the Diwali celebration in November 2005, by coincidence it happened to be the daytime changed (Spring forward!). Thanks to friendly reminders, more than 100 members came, including more than half a dozen new faces. During the social hour, attendees were served delicious home made snacks prepared by Committee members. The invocation and aarati started promptly at 4.00 pm. This was followed by a beautiful Odissi dance performed by Makana Krulce of Carlsbad, CA, in the presence of her Guru, Pt. Yudhistra Nayak of Bhubaneshwar, Orissa, who gave her his appreciative blessings. This was followed by an energetic and rhythmic disco dance set to a popular Hindi film song by Ananth Pai of Loma Linda, CA. This was followed by a

game based on a Konkani quiz by Ravi Joshi of Mission Viejo, CA, for younger members of KASC, ably assisted by his son, Avinash (the master of ceremonies and outgoing youth rep). The kids and their proud parents had a grand time.

The star item was a Konkani-English skit, "Dream Works" that was written and directed by Sridhar Rao of Walnut, CA. It was hilarious and enjoyable. The participants were, Sridhar Rao, Nandini Rao, Purandar Mallya, Girijanand Bhat, Jyothi Bhat, Chetan Bhat, Vasanth Baliga, Vidya Baliga, Nita Baliga, Rajesh Prabhu, Deepa Prabhu, Ramadas Kamath, Aravind Shenoy, and Beena Shenoy. If you missed the premier show on April 2, do not despair. You can still enjoy it at the Toronto KonCani Sammelan in July. There was a flute and sitar recital by "Two Viveks of Ventura County", i.e. Vivek Ullal of Simi Valley, CA and Vivek Kaisare of Thousand Oaks, CA. The duo played a rustic folk tune from Uttar Pradesh state in India, called Kajri.

During the elections, the entire current office bearers minus Youth Rep, Avinash Joshi got re-elected. Perhaps they impressed everyone with their superb performance! We will miss Avinash, who did a stellar performance as a MC and organizer of games and activities for the younger crowd. In his place, Suraj Pai was elected as the new Youth Rep. Congratulations, Suraj, and welcome to the KASC Committee. The final item was a delicious catered dinner by Mother India Restaurant of Chatsworth, CA.

We thank all participants, volunteers, and the office members who brought delicious snacks and food items, and put up a wonderful Yugaadi celebration. The office bearers worked tirelessly through out the year, and organized many functions. We thank the staff of the Arcadia Community Center for helping with the setup, audio, and cleanup and making the whole evening pleasant and enjoyable for everyone. Finally, a hearty thanks to all the members who attended the function and made it worthwhile.

KAOCA & The Konkani Directory

In the first quarter of 2006, the committee members of the **Konkani Association Of California (KAOCA)** worked on a new project to connect all Konkanis in Northern America. The Konkani Directory is a service that aims to create a comprehensive listing of all Konkanis in USA and Canada.

KAOCA & ICC

KAOCA continued as a sister organization of the India Community Center (ICC) this year as well. As part of being a sister organization, KAOCA helped the Goa Sudharop Community Development Inc., conduct a successful Goa Day celebrations on March 19th 2006. Since for this year's entertainment program, the Goan community wanted a mixture of Christian and Hindu items, KAOCA helped by performing a Hindu prayer or Shloka. The devotional hymn was performed by Samhita Kamath (daughter of Mohan & Rekha Kamath) and was well received.

KAOCA Yugaadi

The Konkani Association Of CAlifornia (KAOCA) held their annual Yugaadi celebration at the Sunnyvale Hindu Temple on Saturday April 1st 2006 from 3:30 PM to 10:00 PM. The temple hall was filled with over 400 patrons (adults and kids) having a wonderful time partaking of the delicious food, enjoying every bit of the entertainment program and exchanging Ugadi greetings.

The mouthwatering amchi food was relished by one and all. The food committee members and several volunteers had worked very hard to cook several choice specialties to please the palate and received rave review for their hard work. For snacks there were separate items for Adults and children. For Adults there was Phova Chutney, chet ambado, jilebi, mixture, tea & coffee. For kids there was Jelly sandwich, chutney sandwich, chips, chocolate chip cookie & soda. Chutney sandwich was so good that some adults asked if they could also have them! For dinner there was Khola nonche, red bean & Kadgi koddel, bibbo upkari, garam masala mixed veggie curry, Sasam with avnas, ambo & grape, daalithoy, chapati, rice, vermicelli kheer, Lokoto aka(also known as) Chiroti & brownies for kids

Art Competition for kid's aged 5 and below, 6-10 ,11 and above went off very well with over forty children participating. Winners will be announced at the Diwali get-together later this year, It was a pleasure to see these kids get creative and enjoy themselves at the same time.

Over hundred families had registered as members of KAOCA by the time of this event. Out of which, more than a dozen are new members.

The Konklish book project team provided an update and began accepting early reservation of the book for \$10/- per copy to be released at the 2006 Sammelan in Canada.

There were some original art on display by artists Sham Agars, Cedar Shirley, Jan Nayak, Rekha Kamath & Matura Kabuki, which were well admired by all - many patrons even wanted to know if these unique pieces were available for sale!

A Silent auction was held, featuring original hand painted pots with live plants courtesy of committee member - Asima Souda. Several of these were auctioned off to the highest bidder. We thank her for this effort and also for the centerpiece decorations at each dining table that were well admired and appreciated.

The MC of the evening was Manohar Kamath who kept us amused and engaged throughout the program. The main program of the evening lasted for over 2 1/2 hours and consisted of very enjoyable entertainment items ranging from kids group dances choreographed by Dance Masti a well know bay area dancing school, solo dances, recitals, children's science quiz and a Konkani skit on the conundrum faced by Konkani youth today. Thanks to all the participants for their hard work.

We thank KUMUD groceries & Dr. Sachedev for advertising on our program card.

Overall, an excellent effort by the KAOCA committee members and everyone that helped to make this event enjoyable and fun. It was indeed a pleasure to work with such a close-knit team.

THE KISS PICNIC

The KISS (Konkanis In Southern States) held their 2006 picnic at Fort Parker State Park from 5 PM, Friday April 14 to noon on Sunday, April 16.

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. Everyone left the park after the Sunday brunch.

COOK Picnic

The Connecticut Organization of Konkanis (COOK) held a picnic this past Memorial Day Weekend on Sunday May 28th, 2006. Jaya and Dattu Shenoy, along with the help of Ajita and Manohar Shenoy, arranged the event at SunRise Park in Suffield, CT. Ten families enjoyed the fine hot sunny day playing activities, such as badminton and baseball, and shared various food dishes that were brought.

KONKANI SABHA PICNIC

The **Konkani Sabha** held their annual summer picnic on Saturday, June 10th 2006 from 10 AM to sunset at Mercer County Park East, New Jersey.

PANDIT HATTIANGADY TARANATH RAO – A RECOLLECTION

By Vivek Ullal, Simi Valley, CA.

(Slightly modified from an original article submitted to *Bhanap Antarang* in 1991)

It is nearly eight months since he passed away, and we miss his wonderful presence very much. Before I undertook the assignment to write this eulogy, I felt that I was the least qualified to write it, as I was neither his student, nor his relative. So I waited anxiously to see if any article was submitted by a more qualified person in every recent issue of Kanara Saraswat and Bhanap Antarang. Since I have yet to come across one, I hope this one does the full justice to his great personality, and his immense contribution to music.

I first saw Taarmam, as we affectionately called him, in the early seventies. I was learning Bansuri - flute from Pandit Devendra Murdeshwar and other disciples of Pandit Pannalal Ghosh, and the Pannalal Ghosh Bansuri Vidyapeeth had organized an annual music festival at Poddar College, Bombay, to commemorate Pt. Ghosh's birth anniversary. One of the main attractions was the tabla juggalbandi by Sadanand Naimpalli and Mohan Balvalli. As organizers and volunteers, we had come to the hall well in advance of the concert to welcome artistes and guests, and help to set up the stage. A distinguished gentleman in a silk kurta and vest-coat, and chudidars got out of a taxi near the entrance, and was immediately mobbed by a crowd of other famous musicians, critics, and other VIPs, who wanted to embrace him or touch his feet. "Who's he?" I asked Pt. Murli Manohar Shukla, a vocalist and my sister's Guruji, who was near me. " Don't you know? He is the great Pandit Taranath Rao, one of India's finest and most learned Tabla player and teacher!" When Sadanand and Mohan played, Taarmam sat between them playing the lehera on the harmonium. It was an excellent performance, and Taarmam was literally overcome with so much joy and pride to see his prime pupils excel, that he was enthusiastically swaying his head and body side to side vigorously, reciting difficult new and kaidas and bols, and challenging his shishyas to follow him on their drums. He was in real ecstasy, and it was a unique experience and a treat to witness the performance. Many years later, when I moved to the Los Angeles area, I visited him where he resided until last year, and I was surprised to meet such a down to earth man, devoid of the pretences and snobbery of Ustads and Pandits. He was affectionate and generous, and could put to ease anyone. Hailing from Mangalore, he knew my parents, and also knew my wife's family as they were his neighbors in Tardev, Bombay. In fact, both my brother-in-laws were his students. He would enquire about folks back home, as he was genuinely interested in everyone he knew.

He was born on March 6, 1915. His father Ramarao Lakshman Hattiangady was an ace mridangam player, dramatist in Yakshagana, and a businessman. His uncle Professor A.K.Rao was an eminent South Indian violinist. As a kid Taarmam studied mridangam and tabla from his father and other local artistes. At age of twelve, he heard the legendary Ustad Abdul Karim

Khan, with Ustad Shamsuddin Khan on tabla, in Mangalore. He was so impressed with Shamsuddin's dexterity and style, that after the concert he met him and begged him to make him a pupil. Shamsuddin complied. Many years later Taarmam himself accompanied Abdul Karim Khan.

In 1932, Taarmam migrated to Bombay to study art at the Sir.J.J.School of Arts. However, his twin desire to study tabla from Ustad Shamsuddin was temporarily postponed for seven years, as the Ustad was busy with his full-time duties at the All India Radio, which left him very little time to teach. Taarmam also studied with Pandit Subbarao Ankolekar (Subraimam), a disciple of Munir Khan and Shamsuddin Khan, and Laya Brahmabhaskar Khapruji Parvatkar {Khaprumama}. It seems Subraimam had initially declined to teach, but when his admirer pressed, he agreed to teach him from scratch. Ustad Shamsuddin was so fond and appreciative of Taarmam, that when he left for Haj (Mecca), he made Taarmam the trustee of his school, and encouraged all his other students to continue their studies under Taarmam's guidance. Unfortunately, the great Ustad passed away during his return trip from Mecca.

Taarmam distinguished himself as a soloist, accompanist and teacher. Often, he was selected as a talent judge at All India Radio, and in 1961, gave an hour and a half discourse on radio, comparing North Indian and South Indian rhythmic systems. He was honored in courtly fashion by the Maharajas of Baroda, Kolhapur and Savant Wadi. He used to be on the faculty at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bhatkhande University, and Ravi Shankar's Kinnara Schools in Bombay. For many years until 1990, he was on the faculty of the prestigious California Institute of Arts, a fine institution founded by the renowned Walt Disney, on the outskirts of Los Angeles. He was also on the faculty of the Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, along with Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Dagar, Guru M.S.Gopalakrishnan, Trichi S. Shankaran and other famous musicians.

If you asked him, "Have you played with (such and such) musician," he would grin and reply, "Yes, I have played with him. I also played with his father, and grand-father!" The unexhausting list would include old masters like Abdul Karim Khan, Allaudin Khan, Fayyaz Khan, Sawai Gandharwa, Pannalal Ghosh, etc., include all the famous and not so famous artistes of present and stalwarts like Pandit Chhidanand Nagarkar whom very few of the present generation had the privilege to listen. His brother Pandit Harihar Rao, a disciple of Ravi Shankar, organizes the most active music circle in Los Angeles area. So whenever musical luminaries would stop by in LA, they would descend to his home in Newhall, to pay their respect, chat about bygone days and relish Maami's delicious Goan dishes.

In fact, his home was always full of musicians, students, and music lovers that included both Americans and Indians. He and Maami were gracious hosts, and would press all visitors to stay over for meals. He had an excellent collection of Music, and would enthusiastically search for pieces that one liked among his tape spools and cassettes, and duplicate them on blanks without fuss. He also had collection of old photographs of musicians of yesteryears, often in concert with him, accompanying them on tabla, and would enthusiastically dish them out when you mentioned their names. Instead of lamenting the lack of raw materials for repair and construction of tabla parts, he had used locally available materials such as nylon woven tapes and fiberglass to improvise tabla fasteners and the base for the dugga. Like the expression, "Taking Coal to Newcastle", visiting tabla players would sometimes take his suggestions, and take materials from here back home to India, to use on their drums! Whenever I took pictures of him and Maami on our camera, he would like to inspect the camera, and a discussion on cameras, different models, new features, etc., would follow. He was a gifted artist, tailor, cook and photographer, and had a good collection of cameras, art supplies, stereo equipment, musical instruments and music. Pandit Ravi Shankar, Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, Ustad Imrat Khan, Ustad Rais Khan and Ustad Zakir Hussain were some of his regular visitors. Zakir had studied some compositions from him, and respectfully called him "Guruji".

Like him, Maami (his wife Sushila) was an affectionate and jolly person. She always welcomed us because she said she liked talking to people who could understand and speak Konkani. My son and daughter referred them as Ajja and Ammama, and loved being spoiled rotten by them, whenever we visited them. Like with adults, Taramam had excellent rapport with children, and could entertain them well. Unfortunately in early 1990, Maami had an extensive stroke of her dominant hemisphere, which paralysed her on her right side, and took away her ability to speak. Taarmam was devastated, but both of them were optimists and fighters. With encouragement, patience and hard work, she improved her motor functions and speech, thanks to Taarmam, his older daughter Lata, Lata's physician-husband Dr. Mellinkeri, and most of all to her own attitude. They left for India in mid-1990, and settled in Poona in their own new home, close to Lata's, where she made even more progress.

However, in spite of the cheerfulness, upbeat front that Taarmam portrayed, the stress of his wife's illness was too much for him. In November 1990, they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary and Taarmam's 75th birthday, but Taarmam was hospitalised in an intensive care unit for serious illness. However, he recovered and was discharged home. The optimist he was, he was planning to visit Los Angeles, retire and vacate his Newhall home in mid-January, 1991. He succumbed to a fatal myocardial infarction while chatting with his pupils and admirers in his own balcony, a few days before the day he was to leave for Los Angeles.

He is no longer physically with us, but he lives in our happy memories, musical recordings, photographs and videos. He has trained numerous excellent pupils (Indian and American), some of whom have made a name for themselves. His shishyas include, his twin nephews Shashi and Ravi Bellare*, Sadanand Naimpalli, Mohan Balwalli, Omkar Gulvady, Ashok Bellare, , Anand Badamikar, Vijay Kangutkar, Sudhir Naringrekar, Uday Raikar, Maruti Kurdekar, Jaywant Bantwal, Greg Johnson, Jeff Feldman,

Leonice Shinneman and many more. He is survived by his wife Sushila* who lives in Poona, daughters Lata Mellinkeri and Beena Kumtakar, their husbands and children.

(* Since this article was written, Maami (Smt. Sushila Hattiangady) passed away exactly 10 years to the day after Taarmam passed away, and Ravimam (Pt. Ravi Bellare) passed away on April 16, 2005.)

I "found" this inspiring story on the internet and am sharing with *Khabbar* family.....

Suresh Kamath of Udupi Leads Lasersoft on Humanity Path - 10,000 Disabled To Be Signed Up

By Viju Mangalore March 29, 2006

Mangalore: Maximizing profit is the basic objective of every business activity. But that's not all. Being a sensitized corporate citizen means that they have an obligation to the society. But how many business enterprises adhere to this unwritten norm?

In this muddled scenario emerges a refreshingly different icon of hope. Udupi is the powerhouse, which has churned one of the world's finest souls who is quintessentially a man of dedication and commitment and upholds the humane values. Suresh Kamath is that proud son of the soil, the chairman and managing director of Laser Soft Infosystems Ltd, a Chennai based public limited IT company with an annual turnover of Rs 20 crore. Amidst the hubble-bubble there is one man who has distinctly heard what the renowned economist the late Prof Ashirvatham said "Every Industry has two faces-one humane and another money." Kamath has spared a thought for the physically challenged and has set out to bring about a revolution by employing over 150 physically challenged people in his company.

Having born into a Burude family of Udupi origin, interestingly on the same day as that of Bill Gates young Suresh grew seeing suffering all around. He decided to do his bit in this material world to alleviate the suffering of people around him.

Having completed his M Tech in Computer Science and Engineering in 1982, young Suresh inspired by the ideal of service to mankind in general and Indians in particular decided to stay in India, while all his batch mates made it to US for greener pastures. It was in 1986 that Suresh Kamath launched his own outfit after working for four years in different software developers in the country. He had realised the potential of IT to absorb good number of employees. Besides unlike any other industry, software development is one are where the need for physical involvement is minimum and therefore very ideal for physically challenged. Today Lasersoft Infosystem Ltd the company promoted by Kamath has carved out a niche for itself as an uncommon company of rare vision. He has in his vision to empower the socially disadvantaged and physically challenged, employed over 15 per cent of his entire workforce of over 500 plus. In an exclusive interview, Kamath expressed his desire to recruit over 10,000 physically challenged in this company. Here are a few extracts from the interview.

DW: Your concern for the socially disadvantaged is virtuous. What inspired you to do this?

Kamath: The IT field has always favoured the cream of the society and employs people from very reputed institutions like IIT's, IIM's. I hail from a lower middle class family and I owe my education to my country and I felt and will always feel that I have to do something for our country. I thought the best would be to stay back in India and create jobs, for the disadvantaged. The IT industry is ideal for the physically challenged and I took upon myself the challenge to create jobs for them and the economically backward of our country.

DW: Catering to the needs of the physically challenged would call for an additional expenditure for the company. How is this managed?

Kamath: While most of the IT companies have been reaping huge profits with expensive products, my company provides quality products and services at an inexpensive price. It does not cost much to make the company disabled friendly. Investment in infrastructure does not cost much unless well planned. Once can find ramps in the office instead of shinning marble steps, you see three wheeled scooters instead of glitzy new cars. You find chairs all over inside the office. There are extra railings and special toilets for the use of such employees. That's all.

DW: In comparison with other IT companies of India, your growth and financial success seem to be low in spite of existing for 20 years. How do you explain this?

Kamath: We have been financially successful as proved by the fact that we are making profits throughout our existence. The IT field is well known to over-charge customers and end users to make huge profits. We do not do this. Some of our customers get back entire investments within a month's time. Further we practice what is called 'Light Top Management' wherein the top management of the company does not enjoy thick salaries but takes only decent figures. This 'saving' is channeled downwards.

DW: What measures have you taken to bring out the best from the physically challenged in your company?

Kamath: At our training center we train them and are later absorbed into the company. All our colleges identify with our vision. We get total support for our initiatives. We have identified number of our colleagues to take on more and more responsibilities. For example S M Parthathasarathy, a physically challenged is in charge of several prestigious projects. Selvakumar also physically challenged is in charge of training.

DW: As a visionary what needs to be done to ensure creation of jobs so that all are employed in India?

Kamath: Aptitude mapping needs to be done of every individual right from his/her younger days. Education should be based on their aptitude. This will ensure that every person does the job of his aptitude and is not a misfit otherwise.

DW: Do you credit your family upbringing to your visionary thinking and immense social concern?

Kamath: My upbringing yes, but its my country. India is our country and we should feel proud and luck to have taken birth here. I had the best of education the country could offer and its time that I give back to the country. Laser soft has today more than 25 innovative banking software products, which can easily interface with third party and in-house software already in use. They support different channels like ATM's, Mobile Phones and Internet. Laser Panacea, their top end product is a unique core banking solution, being operation in two leading public sector banks with over 1000 branches.

A feather to the cap of Lasersoft, Kamath is the recipient of the Best Placement Award from the county's president A P J Abdul Kalam for employing persons with disability. He has also been awarded the Shell Helen Keller Award for ensuring equal rights and gainful employment for persons with disabilities.

Kamath's company, which has a unique human resource development policy, is a model to not only IT companies but to the entire world of how a company can be humane and yet excel.

KONKANI APPEALS

Shri Gopalkrishna Aided Private Higher Primary School Tekkar, Belthangady Taluk, D.K. 574 241

APPEAL Date: June, 1st 2006

Respected Sir / Madam,

Sub.: Construction of New School Building

Late Sri B. Ganapathy Nayak, Nagarkody started a small school in the year 1952, at Thekkar village, Belthangady Taluk, Presently there are more then 300 students studying in the school. The present school building is more then 50 year old and in a dilapidated condition, need to be reconstructed, therefore the school committee, well wishers an ex-students decided to construct a new building with a total plinth area of 2000 sq. feet. The construction cost is estimated to be about Rs. 8 lakhs.

The foundation has been laid and construction done up till the "Columns level". But due to shortage of funds the entire project could not be completed.

The remaining work will cost about cost Rs. 5 Lakhs. The people in the surrounding areas are mainly poor farmers and are not able to contribute sufficiently due to the low rate of agricultural project.

Hence we are in need of good-hearted Donors to contribute for this educational project.

We sincerely request you to kindly Co-Operate and send your maximum contribution for the noble cause.

Please send your contributions by D.D. / Checks in favor of correspondent: S.G.A.P.H.P.School, A/c No. 20843 Syndicate Bank, Uppinangady Branch. And Mail it to any one of the following addresses:

1) Sri. Krishna Prabhu 32-57 86 Street, East Elmhurst New York - 11369-2144 E-Mail: kprabhu@earthlink.net (718) 458-3363 / (718) 255-5755 2) Sri B. Giridhar Nayak Correspondent, S.G.A.P.H.P. School S/o Late B. Ganapathy Nayak, Nagarkody House, Post, Thakkar, (Via Uppinangady) - 574 241

Tel. No.: 91-8256-231177

P.S. Names of Donors contributing Rs. 1000 and above will be displayed on a marble slab in a prominent place of the school building.

KONKANI TRIVENI KALA SANGAM, MUMBAI ®

A/43, Parijat Apts., Naikwadi, Goregaon (E), Mumbai 400 063. Tel: 28752059. Mobile: 98928 74819 Regd. Office: 5, Vagdevi, Ground Floor, 369/B, S. B. Marg, Mahim, Mumbai 400 016.

ABOUT OURSELVES

Konkani Triveni Kala Sangam (KTKS) Mumbai, is an institution of *kalakars* of a unique nature. It's sole objective is propagation, preservation and development of mother tongue KONKANI through performing arts. KTKS symbolizes a triangular venue where Konkani Art, Literature and Stage meet. It is indeed a place where writers, directors and artists interact. KTKS perhaps is one and the

only institution in Mumbai engaged in the vocation of patronizing Konkani language through theatre movement and has a vision to reach greater heights in spreading the glory of the language throughout the world.

The KTKS is stepping into 25th year of its formation through the sincere and dogged determination of its members and artists who undertake extensive travel throughout the country wherever they are called upon to stage Konkani performance.

The KTKS has staged many social dramas written by noted Konkani dramatists like Shri A.G.Kamath, Shri K.G.Kamath, Dr. C.N.Shenoy and Late Shri Devaraya Byndoor. Their most popular dramas are *Sarve Janaha Kanchanam ashrayante*, *Gruhini Gruham Uchyate* and *Nandadeep*.

In the first ever Vishwa Konkani Sammelan at Mangalore in 1995 KTKS was honoured by a special award "VISHWA KONKANI KALA RATNA" for the outstanding contribution in the promotion of Konkani language through theatre. During the first Vishwa Saraswat Sammelan in Mangalore in 1999, KTKS was honored by the august hands of Guruvaryas of all four Maths.

During the last 24 years we have presented 35 plays in over 200 shows allover India. We have also presented classical music programmes, social awareness lectures by eminent personalities and social workers. The KTKS wishes to serve for years to come! DEV BAREN KORO!

APPEAL - KONKANI UTSAV -2006 - Silver Jubilee function of KTKS

Konkani Triveni Kala Sangam - Mumbai (KTKS) is an institution founded in the year 1980 by like minded individuals engaged in the noble cause of creating awareness about the true needs of the society, such as healthcare, educational and social awakening through the medium of Performing Arts- The Konkani Theatre. Simultaneously, we have been conducting health camps, educational workshop and giving helps to the needy artists.

The Konkani language is spoken by millions of people irrespective of caste, creed and religion and forms a truly secular bond for all Konkani speaking people. Government of India has duly included Konkani in the VIII Schedule.

In the last 25 years, KTKS had over 300 Stage performances of Konkani dramas, Classical dances, *Yakshagana*, lectures and seminars by eminent personalities. KTKS is fortunate in having the support of SHREE SAMSTHAN GOKARNA PARTAGALI MATH, T.M.A. Pai Foundation & Konkani speaking institutions from allover India. With this support and the experience of last 25 years, we have planned to celebrate KONKANI UTSAV - 2006 under the dynamic and able leadership of Shree Suresh Prabhu - Member of Parliament. The purpose of this event is to initiate and perpetuate the already existing bonds of brotherhood and plan for future activities for the benefit of the needy and downtrodden.

We have planned following activities:

- 1) Medical and Educational aid with financial Assistance
- 2) Encyclopedia of eminent personalities is to be made available on a website
- 3) Centre for preservation of culture and heritage
- 4) Preservation and distribution of Konkani literature
- 5) Information centre accessible on web for
 - a) Persons with rare blood groups
 - b) Medical specialist
 - c) Trusts and Institutions offering financial aid
 - d) Job opportunities
 - e) Accommodation in India and Abroad for tourism and pilgrimages.

All these activities need tremendous organisational capacity with devoted workers and funds. We wish to reach every nook and corner of the world.

We have therefore invited eminent personalities from world over of different fields such as business, medical, media, entertainment, politics, finance etc. Over Ten Thousand delegates will attend the congregation. The outcome of this KONKANI UTSAV is certain to enrich the already abundant resources of Konkani speaking people of the world. This will also initiate many of the satellite ventures with ultimate benefit to the needy and poor of the society.

We therefore earnestly request you to participate whole-heartedly and contribute handsomely and help us to achieve this goal and make KONKANI UTSAV - 2006 a grand success.

All donations are exempted under 80G of Income Tax Act.

KONKANI CALENDER

July 2006	August 2006	September 2006
1 st to 3 rd KS-2006	5 th Yekadashi	3 rd Yekadashi
6 th Ashada Yekadashi	8 th Poornami	6 th Anantha Chaturdashi
10 th Poornami	11 th Sankashta Chaturthi	7 th Poornami
13 th Sankashta Chaturthi	15 th Shri Krishna Janmashtami	8 th Mahalaya
16 th Kark Sankranthi	16 th Simh Sankranthi	10 th Sankashta Chaturthi

24 th Amavasya	23 rd Amavasya	16 th Kanya Sankranthi
30 th Naga Panchami	26 th Gowri Thrithiye	21 st Mahalaya Amavasya
	27 th Ganesh Chathurthi	23 rd Navarathri Beginning
		27 th Lalitha Panchami
		29 th Sharada Pooja
		30 th Durgashtami

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, \$
Vishwanath & Shalini Bhat, Chino Hills, CA	60.00
Ravi & Vidya Joshi, Mission Viejo, CA	50.00
Vasant & Veena Kamath, Rehoboth, MA	65.00
Achuta & Kalavathi Shenoy, Naperville, IL	65.00
Ramesh & Sarita Kamath, Springboro, OH	100.00
Satish & Vidya Shenoy, Rego Park, NY	60.00
Burde Laxminarayan & Urmila Kamath, New Orleans, LA	51.00
Pundalik & Sheila Shenai, Hummelstown, PA	60.00
Ramchandra & Sheela Nayak, Doylestown, PA	60.00
Arvind & Maya Prabhu, South Riding, VA	180.00
Kochikar Ramnath & Rajashree Pai, Carlsbad, NM	200.00
Ashwin & Kasturi Bhatt, Houston, TX	65.00

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
Balance Carried over since Khabbar Vol. XXIX No. 1	4,830.00	
Money Received:		
Subscriptions (95) and donations	2,240.00	
Advertisements (4)	130.00	
Interest	5.00	
Sub Total:	2,375.00	
Money Spent (Khabbar Vol. XXIX No. 1):		
Printing- Khabbar (525) - 20 pages		577.50
First Class Mail-Khabbar (460)		289.80
Canada Khabbar (13)		11.70
Overseas (20)		60.00
Mail Fines, computer paper & labels, envelopes, service fees, etc.		561.00
Sub Total:		1,500.00
Final Balance:	5,705.00	•

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



The last quarter's quiz: Q: What food has the longest shelf life?

The Answer: HONEY. It was discovered in ancient Egypian burial site and was still edible!

The following gave the correct answer:

Govind Kamath, Austin, TX



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 <u>Moreover, if you get correct solution for 4 consecutive quizzes, you will get FREE subscription to Khabbar Newsletter for a year!</u>				
There was a major error in the last issue of <i>Khabbar</i> (Vol. XXIX No. 1). It is not typical spelling or grammatical one. What is it?				

NAKA, The North American Konkani Association

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).

If any North American Konkani have any constructive suggestions, please, contact any of the NAKA Board Members or send them to NAKA, 2465 Bergen Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234. Phone: (718)-251-4795 and Email: naka1@indiatimes.com

Here's the first question to NAKA:

Dear NAKA Board Members

I am writing to you to express the need of our Konkani Community. We have been lacking the services and advice of a Konkani priest in this country. Accordingly I urge you to sponsor one or make arrangements with other community temples to sponsor one. If you want, I can furnish a resume of one "Bhatmam" who has expressed interest. He can support himself with other professional work while at the same time could be an asset to our religious activities.

Very truly yours

Narasimha Kamath, Edison, NJ

Editors' Reply:

Dear Shri Damo Baliga,

This is just to acknowledge with gratitude, your kind Donation towards World Konkani Centre Project by your Ch. No.001002/ Feb 25, 2006 on (North American Konkani Association) JP Morgan Chase Bank, Brooklyn, 1509, Foster Avenue, NY 11230. We will send our official Receipt in near future. Devu Baren Koro,

- BASTI VAMAN SHENOY.

NAKA - Statement Of Accounts

Date	Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
3/10/2006	Balance from last report	59,171.66	
4/2/2006	Seed money for KS-2006		20,000.00
6/11/2006	Final Balance:	39,171.66	

Signed: Damodar Baliga Treasurer, NAKA

2006 Konkani Sabha Activities

Following are the highlights of the KONKANI SABHA activities for the year 2006

Diwali:

Date: Saturday, October 28th 2006.

Time: Registration counters open at 3 PM sharp

Entertainment events start at 3 PM sharp.

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

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

Location: Shri Venkateshwara Temple Community Center, 780 Old Farm Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Tel: (908) 725-4477

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

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

Advance Registration and payments will also be accepted at the picnic

Activities: Variety Entertainment, Socialization, Appetizer and Dinner

Anyone interested in receiving the Konkani Sabha flyers, please contact the office bearers, or, email your contact information including email addresses to KonkaniSabha@gmail.com

Visit our website at www.konkaniSabha.org for further details and updates on our activities. Anyone interested volunteering to organize the events and activities, and/or in performing at the Diwali function please contact the office bearers.

Title	Name	Phone Number	<u>Email</u>
President	Ganapathi Kamath	(732) 422-0175	gkamathcpa@yahoo.com
Vice President	Manoj Bijoor	(914) 923-4550	bijoor@ieee.org
Director of Communication	Vivek Pai	(201) 776-7466	wewakepie@yahoo.com
Secretary	Rajesh Nayak	(973) 779-3119	rajesh_nayak@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Gurudatt Kamath	(732) 274-9542	gurudatt kamath@hotmail.com



WELCOME TO CANADA: WE ARE READY TO PARTY WITH YOU! July 1 to 3, 2006

All preparations are almost complete. We are down to dotting the "i"s and crossing the "t"s. Anticipation and excitement are both building up as the big day approaches.

For those who are still planning to attend, there are approximately 100 rooms (as well as a shuttle bus to the events) available to you at the Holiday Inn in Burlington, Ontario. Registration can be made by visiting our website at http://www.koncani2006.ca/registrationMenu.htm

For those who are registered, we welcome our family, friends and cousins from North America, U.K., India, Australia, and elsewhere. Here are some of the things to consider:

- Please ensure that you are seated in the auditorium by 4:45pm for the opening ceremonies, as the doors will be locked from 5:00pm to 5:30pm.
- Please respond to any emails regarding the Share-a-Ride program so that we can arrange transportation from airports.
- The authentic food for the event will be prepared by Udupi Café of Pittsburgh, PA under the supervision of Ganesh & Saroja Nayak of Sona Caterers, Bangalore. We can look forward to having a variety of Konkani dishes from various Konkani regions over the three days.
- For the first time, you have a choice of attending either a classical recital or taking part in karaoke during the first two nights.
- We are offering 28 interesting and thought provoking seminars and workshops to choose from during the last two days. As commented by a delegate to the editor of the Buzz, the choices are so many that she wishes the Sammelan could have been held for five days!
- There are separate events for youth in three different age categories: 12 and below, 13-18 and 19-35.
- After the check-in for the Sammelan, please ensure that all the Konkani Youth head over to our Youth Desk. This helps us keep track of all youth at the Sammelan, and our sign-in package will give them an idea of what to expect from us. They will also receive a list of Youth numbers to contact, as well as a mini-map of the neighborhood. Youth can also sign our waiver form at the Youth Desk, to indicate that they will act in a responsible manner.
- Despite what you might have heard about Canada, IT IS HOT! So please, dress appropriately.
- You are advised to come with Canadian money, as some places will accept US currency but may not offer a favorable rate.
 Of course, bring your credit card and chequebook, as you may want to bid for the items at the auction or buy some items from various vendors and exhibitors.
- Visit the variety of vendors and exhibitors ranging from saris, kurtis, jewelry from India, property developers from Bangalore, Charity, etc. along with a separate section for our artists to display their art.
- Look for the official launch of the "Konklish" book and CD, which we understand, has come out really well. This will be a tool for our kids to understand Konkani.
- By popular demand the Mamu & Maye figures from LA are back. So bring your cameras to get a memorable picture.
- Lastly, please keep in mind that it is a Holiday weekend. All shops and amenities will be closed for the duration of the Sammelan.

SPONSORS & DONORS:

We sincerely thank our sponsors and all donors who have responded to our appeal as well as those who have contributed while registering for the Sammelan. Your generosity and commitment is a source of great inspiration for us.

Enjoy vibrant Canada! Get ready for three days of fun, entertainment, delicious food and merrymaking. Looking forward to meeting you at KonCANi 2006!

Klassified

Please patronize the Khabbar advertisers. Khabbar reaches over 1,700 families in North America. The advertisement rates are:

	Matrimonial (5 Lines)	1/4 Page	1/2 Page	Full Page
Subscribers	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$45.00	\$85.00
Non Subscribers	\$25.00	\$45.00	\$85.00	\$160.00
Non Konkani	\$50.00	\$90.00	\$170.00	\$320.00

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

WANTED:

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

MATRIMONIAL

Parents invite matrimonial correspondence for son, MD 27/5' 10", green card holder, graduate from reputed Indian medical school, finishing residency in the US in June 2006. Prefer MD or other well-qualified professional girls presently in the US. Interested parties may contact by e-mail: shenoysrini@yahoo.com or tel#: 608-277-1044.

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)

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

Please call during weekends only from 10:00~AM to 10:00PM~(EST)

APPEAL

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

Khabbar invites you to subscribe to RAVE Magazine.

The editorial mission of RAVE is quite simply to celebrate the power and beauty of being South Asian. RAVE will explore the personalities, politics, art, media, fashion, food, destinations, innovation, that is the South Asian experience both recording trends and defining them through provocative art and editorial.

Please log on to www.soulcitypubs.com/subscribe.htm to subscribe and type in code 'Khabbar' for extra savings! We hope you enjoy.

Klassified(Cont)

We specialize in:

Elaborate wedding decorations & mandaps of your choice, Church ceremonies & choopas, Reception set-ups, Engagement, Sangeet, Mendi & Garba decorations, Wedding favors, Fresh flowers for all occasions, Theme parties, Convention & corporate gatherings, Nationwide Services Contact:

ELEGANT AFFAIRS

The Event Coordinators

Show Room:

1275 Bloomfield Av., Bldg. 8, Unit 70 Fairfield, NJ 07004 Ph: 973-882-8001 FAX: 973-882-8002 www.elegant-affairs.com

For further information, Please Contact:

Sharda Shenoy (973)-334-7340

Shobha Rao (215)-957-1418 Suman Pai (817)-483-0133

Shri Laxmi Venkateshaya Namah RAGHUCHANDRA BHAT Konkani Priest

- Puja Services as per Vedic rituals
- Sudarshana Homa & Pavamana Homa
- Hindu weddings, Upanayanam, Naming ceremony, etc.
- Chandi Path, **Bhagavath Katha**, etc.
- Shanthi Paatha/Homa, Housewarming
- Religiousclass stotra's samskith etc.
- Shradha/Apara Samskara (last rituals)
- Astrological consultation by phone and in person
- Abhisheka-Vayustuti, Shiva, Vishnu, Ganesha Navagraha
- Satyanarayan Puja & other services
- All Puja/Homa services can be offered at the patron's/priest residence. For patrons' convenience, puja can be conducted in absentia by the priest at his residence and Prasad sent by mail.

366 Terrace Dr., Brookfield, WI 53045 (262)-717-9370 (H); (262)-424-6641 (Cell)

Email: rvbprb@yahoo.com

CORAL & JADE NOVELTY

80-35 159th Street, Jamaica, NY 11432

* CORAL * JADE *

Dark Red Coral strings . Big size dark red coral beads in barrel shape . Coral roses in dark red, pink and white . Coral rose and jade leave sets

* PEARL *

Top Quality Japanese cultured Pearls . Rice shaped Pearls

* FASHION JEWELRY *

Custom Designed Gold plated, Necklaces with precious and semi precious stones - such as Coral, red, pink or dark green Jade, Crystal, Goldstone, Cubic Zirconia, etc.

Also, earrings and bracelets to match.

Call Shanta Bhat: (718)-591-5154

Suresh & Usha Shenoy of

KIRTI JEWELERS

Welcome You to their Brand New Showroom located at:

5821 Hillcroft, Houston, TX 77036

Come, see our collection of gorgeous Gold and Delectable Diamond, Ruby, Pearl and Emerald Jewelry.

(713)-789-GOLD (4653)

Suresh & Usha Shenoy wish to thank members of the community for their support to Kirti Jewelers over the years and look forward to serving you for many years to come.

APPEAL

A great opportunity to serve an Indian Charity Organization (Anandashram) which shelters already 26 poor old people and which is also going to offer the services of a "Hospice" (Palliative Care center)-a home for the terminally ill Cancer patients of our society. Income Tax Payees in USA get the benefit of Income tax Exemption for their donations, if they donate directly to Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) - America with the suggestion that they should donate the same amount to Anandashram Seva Trust ®, Puttur, since CAF America has recognized Anandsharam as one of the recipients of their grants. Hence, the donors in USA can help us directly or indirectly thru CAF America, King Street Station, 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 150, Alexandria, VA 22314-2840, to build this Palliative Care Centre. Please, visit our website: www.oldagehome-india.org

Dr. (Miss) P. Gowri Pai

Anandshram Seva Trust ®, Darbe P. O. 574 202, Puttur, D. K., Karnataka, INDIA Email: drgowripai@gmail.com