

Khabbar

North American Konkani Newsletter

Volume XXI X No. 3

July, August, September - 2006

From:

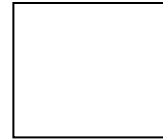
The Honorary Editor,
"Khabbar"

P. O. Box 222

Lake Jackson, TX 77566 - 0222

XXIX-3

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.....

No doubt, the KonCani2006 Sammelan was a success. The team was very efficient in almost everything they did. But, as this attendee from Texas found out that kind of efficiency was throughout Canada! Here is his account of that experience.

Dear Vasanth,
I want to share my experience with KS-2006.

Due to the surprise fire alarm wake up call at the Hamilton Sheraton on the 4th of July, we left in a hurry to cross into the USA to catch the plane at Buffalo, NY to go home to Texas.

When we were changing planes in Chicago we discovered that the beautiful KonCani2006 center piece was left behind in our hotel room! So we called the hotel and gave them our carrier account # .

To my pleasant surprise when I arrived at the office next day the package with the KonCani center piece was sitting on my desk! It got there before I did!!...

Kudos to the efficient Canadians...

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 Konkani's please pay cash or MO in US\$)

Name: _____

Spouse Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email ID: _____

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

Comments, if any: _____

Quarterly Newsletter
For Circulation to the Konkani Community in North America
Volume XXI X No. 3

July, August, September - 2006
Honorary Editor: Mr. Vasant Bhat

Mailing Address:
P. O. Box 222
Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222

www.ekhabbar.com

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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.

Based on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee of *Khabbar*, this issue has been mailed to **ALL** families that are in the latest Mailing List of *Khabbar*. This is done to inform all Konkanis in North America about **The KonCANi Sannelan – 2006 (KS-2006)**, which was held in Hamilton this summer. This issue has **not** been mailed to families that have specifically indicated that they will access ekhabbar.

The KonCANi Sannelan – 2006 (KS-2006) in Hamilton was an experience! Konkani in North America had a great time celebrating our rich culture and heritage for 2-1/2 days!! The article in this issue has been summarized eloquently. The various committees and their volunteer efforts really paid off. Visit their website (www.konkani2006.com) to find out more about this great event of 2006.

The tradition continues. The Youth Convention will be held in 2007 in Bay Area of California. Also, Bay Area Konkanis under the leadership of **Ramesh & Pratibha Kamath** will host the 2008 Sannelan. It is interesting note that the driving force behind these Sannelans are our younger generation!

By mailing this issue to all addresses in the mailing List gives *Khabbar* a chance to update the Mailing List. 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!

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.

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. This quarter, NAKA unveiled the most anticipated project, "Konklish" CD & Book during KS-2006. Also, NAKA provided the much needed seed money to the Youth Convention – 2007 by advancing \$5k.

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! The funny thing with last quarter's quiz was I was expecting readers to point out only one error! But, looks like there were more than one!! Just to make more motivating, this quarter's puzzle is from UK and let me see how many of you can tackle it. 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** who 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. Happy Diwali to you all.

Devu Boren Karo.

Vasanth
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 Sir,
As advised by Sri Basti Vaman Shenoy, I am sending the attached design along with his message to be published in the next issue of *Khabbar*.

Venkatesh Baliga
baligavenkatesh@gmail.com

Dear Vasanth Bhat,
I am sending an advertisement material for *Khabbar*. Kindly publish the same in your July, August, September 2006 issue, so that it will reach American Konkani who attend KonCANi Sammelan Canada 2006.

Excuse me for the delay.
Devo Baren Karo,

Basti Vaman Shenoy
bvs_193@hotmail.com

Editor's Reply:

I have published your appeal in this issue and hope the readership will contribute their might to this ambitious project. Good luck and thanks for all the hard work you are doing for our community.

Dear Friends,
Good day to you, Please find enclosed herewith the announcement matter of 'DAAIZ KONKANI SAHITIK SPORDHO 2006', which you may kindly publish in your esteem magazines/websites. For more details you may kindly refer to the webpage www.daaiz.com/dss2006.html or contact me at daaiz@daaiz.com

Please note: We have been conducting this competition from two years (from 2004 and 2005). Each year we have given Rs. 30,000 cash prize along with the certificates. As the response we get is increasing, we have increased the prizes for this year, (We will give First, Second, Third and also three consolation prizes - to make the total prize amount to Rs. 40,000). For more details you may kindly visit the below pages:

DAAIZ Sahithik Spordho 2004:
www.daaiz.com/dss2004.html
DAAIZ Sahithik Spordho 2005:
www.daaiz.com/dss2005.html

The attachment is in baraha5, if you receive it as plain text, please copy and paste into Baraha application to read it in Konkani. Also attached English matter for your kind information.

Looking forward to your support,
Kind Regards

Valley Quadras
valleyq@alshaya.com

Hi Vasanth Bhat,
Ava yogibhat. namaskaru. amgale swamijingale sahasra poorna chandra dharsana shanthi karikramu manjeshwara davarlale asa. te 26th oct- 30 oct thayi asa. thaje apple aje otu attach kartha. thae karikramak tumi maka salup help kornu salup vode vode seva dhar kornu divka monu ava magunu getha. anhi tumgale e-khaber malale paperari ye add galka monu prithin magunu getha. Megelle mobile- 919895395715, phone- 91 4672205715

yogibhat,
e-mail- yogibhat@yahoo.com

Editor's Reply:

This is the milestone event of our most revered Swamiji. I have published this appeal and I hope the readership will participate in this great event by supporting this function.

Dear Konkani Bandhu,
60th India Independence Day Greetings to you and your family members.

20th August 2006 is D Day for Konkani people World over for Konkani Language. As you know, this day Konkani entered in the VIII Schedule of the Constitution of India

and enjoying the status along with other major languages of India. Since Konkani people have spread all over the World, they have expressed their opinion that they also want to join in the Celebration of 'Konkani Manyatha Divas' (Konkani Recognition Day) even outside India.

In this connection, All India Konkani Parishad decided to celebrate 'Vishwa Konkani Divas', so that Konkani people all over the World can keep the Konkani movement alive.

Devu Baren Koro,

- BASTI VAMAN SHENOY.
bvs_193@hotmail.com

Dear Vasanth Uncle,
Hi. I hope you and your wonderful family are well. I wanted *Khabbar* readers to know about a terrific magazine called *Kahani Magazine*. As a children's book author, I have had the privilege of contributing to this magazine. *Kahani* is just a place where the stories of South Asian children living in America are told. The magazine features a vibrant mix of stories, activities, reviews and articles that empower, educate and entertain the readers. Every single word, every single brush stroke is original to the magazine. With the short stories, written by published as well as upcoming South Asian writers, *Kahani* lets South Asian kids be "cool" for a change. Written with the perspective of a South Asian child, growing up in America, *Kahani* is truly a multicultural, yet one of a kind. My daughters, Alyssa, India and Samantha love the magazine! Subscription and more information can be obtained by visiting www.kahani.com. Thanks for all you do for *Khabbar*.
Best Always,

Vanita Braver, M.D.
www.drvanitabraver.com

Hoon Khabbar

Congratulations:

ANITA NAYAK, Project Manager (TSX Datalinx Portfolio), Toronto Stock Exchange was honored for her professional performance at the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) Awards Gala Night on Saturday, June 10, 2006 as a Young Professional for "2006 Member of the Year Award". The Prime Minister of Canada, Hon. Stephen Harper was the Chief guest to grace this occasion. Anita is an Executive in the Young Professionals (YP) Committee of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce. YP Committee members are dynamic young men and women who are highly accomplished young professionals with proven leadership skills and organizations abilities. The Committee works within the broader framework of ICCC. The Mandate of the YP Committee is to foster a teamwork and integrity among young Indo-Canadians and provide a platform for future leaders.

Anita is a Project Management Professional (PMP). She is also on the Project Management Advisory Committee of Centennial College, Toronto, Ontario. Her proud parents are Raghunath & Veena Nayak of Toronto, Ontario Canada.

RAGHUNATH NAYAK (Prof. Ragu Nayak) has been elected as the Co-Chair of Panorama India for the year 2006-2007.

Panorama India is an umbrella organization of all Indo-Canadian Associations/Organizations in the Greater Toronto Area. Panorama India works closely in association with the Consulate-General of India in Toronto. Its main objectives are to exhibit and showcase India's arts and culture in Canada, and to foster a better relationship between India and Canada. Panorama India celebrates mainly Canada Day, India's Independence Day and Republic Day of India in a grand style. Raghunath Nayak is also the Founding President of Konkani Association of Ontario (KAO) and Immediate Past-President of IIT Alumni Canada (IITAC).

DEEPAK BHANDARKAR of Sunnyvale, CA was admitted as a partner at PwC in their San Jose Technology practice effective July 1, 2006. Deepak began with PricewaterhouseCoopers in New York in 1994 in their Entertainment practice, after completing his Masters in Accounting from Pace University and having worked at American Express. He was transferred in 1999 to the Technology practice in their San Jose, CA office and worked on large multinationals and IPOs. He lives in Sunnyvale, CA with wife, Protima, and kids, Diya & Rohan.

Sri. SUJIR GOVIND NAYAK of Mumbai on publication of his first Kannada novel, "*Satyam, Shivam, Sundaram*", in April 2006.

Sri Nayak was an active member of the Progressive Writer's Association in Mangalore between 1941 and 1954. He participated in social, cultural & literary activities of Dakshina Kannada District. As a young enthusiastic writer, he was known to readers of that time and received reviews in newspapers and magazines like *Navabharatha & Usha*.

He moved to Mumbai after becoming a Chartered Accountant in 1956. The pressure of striving to succeed in his profession left him no time to pursue his love for writing. Now in his retirement years, his enthusiasm for writing has been rekindled once again. He has penned 3 novels in last 3 years, first of which was just published.

Those interested in obtaining a copy of the novel, "*Satyam, Shivam, Sundaram*", please contact his sons, Ajit at ajitsnayak@yahoo.com & Radhakrishna at sujirrnayak@yahoo.com.

MEGHANA NAYAK, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Pace University in Manhattan, NY, was awarded "Teacher of the Year" by the American Political Science Association at their annual convention in Philadelphia, PA.

ANURADHA RAO, St. John's Newfoundland, is one of the six

Canadians honored by the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation for their potential impact on Canada's role in the world. She is a global activist with a focus on environmental conservation and human rights. She will focus her research on how climate change affects coastal regions in Canada and internationally.

The Global Youth Fellowship was designed to identify and support some of the best and brightest young and emerging Canadian leaders who demonstrate the potential to play an even greater role on the world stage in the future. This program was established because the Foundation believes that many Canadians, especially young Canadians, are playing a vital and creative role on the world stage and need to be recognized for their achievements.

KAUSHIK BALIGA (10) earned his First Dan in Taekwondo, which is ranked in Korea with the Kukkiwon (World Taekwondo Headquarters) and recognized with International Olympic Committee and Sports Canada, on May 28, 2006 from Master Thanh Chu of Chu's Martial Art World.

NANDAN SHANBHAG has been promoted as the Director of Foodservice Sales with Danamark Industries. In this new position he will be responsible for the sales of water treatment products to the major foodservice customers across Canada. The company deals into high purity water treatment systems for foodservice chain accounts.

SANKET ULLAL won the gold medal in the singles at 2006 under 16 South Western Ontario Badminton Championships in Waterdown, Ontario on April 16, 2006.

DEEPTI SHANBHAG's Kathak Dance Performance was held at the Burnhamthorpe Public Library Auditorium in April 2006 under the auspices of Taal Academy of Kathak Dance and the direction of her teacher Mrs. Shilpa Saave.

On July 20th 2006, **Sri. U. D. PRABHU** of Pittsburgh, PA gave a talk to about 50 students of the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science (PIMS) on Hinduism with special reference to various "Hindu Samskaras/Sacraments". A very lively discussion followed the talk.

Konkani Graduates:

VINOD, s/o Subraya & Shamala Shenoy of Wallington, NJ graduated on June 17. He got his MS in Information Sciences from Drexel University.

KIRTHAN, s/o Suresh & Usha Shenoy of Sugar Land, TX graduated from High School and has joined University of Texas at San Antonio, TX this Fall.

SHOBHA, d/o Bipin & Vrinda Pai of Munster, IN graduated from Munster High School, Indiana as a salutatorian. She will be attending Indiana University, Bloomington from Fall 2006. She was selected as a Kelley Scholar and as a direct admit into the Kelley School of Business. She also received the Hutton Scholarship from the Hutton Honors College and the Mitte Scholarship. While in Munster High School, she was a member of "We the People" team that qualified to go to the National Championship this year in Washington, D.C. She also went to the Speech and Debate National Competition in Dallas, TX, as a finalist in Humorous Interpretation. Shobha also represented Munster High School in Girls Tennis at the varsity level doubles and this year they went to the State Championship in Indianapolis where they placed second in Indiana State.

AJEET, s/o Pundalik & Padmini Pai of Las Vegas, NV has been named the recipient of the Jackson Walker LLP Award as the student with the highest G.P.A. after four semesters at the University of Virginia Law School, in Charlottesville, VA. His name will be engraved on the plaque in Hunton & Williams Hall. There is also a cash prize associated with the award.

AJAY, s/o Vilas & Sneha Prabhu of Lancaster, PA, graduated in Zoology-Biomedical Sciences from the University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK in May 2006. He plans to pursue his Post Baccalaureate studies at Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM), College of Pharmacy in Erie, PA.

New Arrivals:

RAHUL, a baby boy to Mohan U. & Shilpa Shenoy of Aliso Viejo, CA, on November 11, 2005 at Irvine, CA. A brother to Ruthie. The proud maternal grandparents are Ramesh & Rekha Prabhu of Bombay and his paternal grandparents are Umesh & Uthama Shenoy also of Bombay.

VIR, a baby boy to Kaustubh & Bakula Kamat of 144 The Promenade, Edgewater, NJ. Vir was born on 24th December 2005 in Bangalore. He is the first grandchild to Ulhas and Champa Kamat of Germantown, MD. H. Damodar Nayak of Bangalore is the maternal grandfather to Vir.

ARJUN, a baby boy to Prabodh & Sarita Hemmady of Scottsdale, AZ on February 23rd 2006. The proud grandparents are Kishore & Mangala Hemmadi of Agincourt, Canada.

DIVYA ELLIE, a daughter to Nitish & Jeanette Lyn Bangalore on July 5th, 2006, at West Allis, WI. A sister to Kiran. Proud grandparents are Shrikar & Nirmala Bangalore of Oak Creek, WI, and David & Mary Shook. Great-grandmother is Elinore Shook and Uncle is Samir.

SHLOK, a baby boy to Surendra & Akhila Bhat of Houston, TX at 2:36 PM on July 6, 2006. A brother to Samhitha. The proud grandparents are Shantharam & Vasumathi Bhat, Mumbai, India and Prashanth & Nandini Nayak, Mumbai, India. Shlok's maternal grandmother is currently visiting him. Visit <http://shlokhat.blogspot.com> to see more of Shlok.

KABIR, a baby boy to Yatin & Jyotsna Gokarn of Thousand Oaks, CA, on July 13, 2006. The proud grandparents are Raghunath &

Kumudini Gokarn of Mumbai and Padmanabh Rao of Bangalore.

Engagement:

Chi. AMAR, s/o Pundalik & Padmini Pai of Las Vegas, NV got engaged to **Kum. ALIZA**, d/o Anne & David Aber of New York in Mangalore on January 9th 2006. Amar works for Electronic Arts and Aliza for Leap Frog, both in San Francisco, CA.

Chi. SAMIR, s/o Shrikar & Nirmala Bangalore of Oak Creek, WI, engaged to **Kum. SHEILA**, d/o Ramdas & Chitra Bhandari of Miami, FL on May 13th 2006, at Chicago, IL. Samir completed his M.D. at Northwestern University, was Chief Resident in Neurology, and is currently doing a Fellowship in Epilepsy at the University of Chicago. Sheila completed her J.D. at Washington University in St. Louis, and practices corporate law at Miami, FL.

Newly Weds:

Sow. SHRADHA, d/o Shivdas & Sheetal Pai of Toronto, Ont. married to **Chi. LINCOLN**, s/o Martin & Sara Stein of Poundridge, NY on April 29th 2006. The wedding took place at Vedic Cultural Centre in Markham followed by a grand reception at the Payal Banquet Hall in Mississauga.

Sow. CHINMAYEE, d/o Ulhas & Champa Kamat of Germantown, MD married **Chi. GANESH**, s/o Shenbagaraman & Revathi Sastri of Mumbai, India on June 19th 2006 at the Sree Venkateshwara Temple & Community Center, Bridgewater, NJ. Ganesh lives in Arlington, VA.

Sow. ANURADHA d/o Prabhakar & Mangala Shenoy of Gaithersburg, MD married **Chi. AMIT**, s/o Suhas & Sushama Bhat of Mumbai, on Sunday May 21st 2006 at the Marriott Washingtonian Center Gaithersburg, MD.

Sow. SHILPA, d/o Vasant & Surekha Keny of La Palma, CA married to **Chi. SUJAI**, s/o Gopal & Bhagya Chari of NJ, on Sunday, Sept. 3, 2006 in a beautiful hotel in Huntington Beach, CA.

Relocation:

The **PRABHU** family, Pradeep & Latha, together with their daughter, Prital, have relocated within York, PA to 3094 Gemstone Lane, York, PA 17404. The telephone is (717)-779-0506.

The **RAO** family, Shashi Mallapur & Usha, have relocated from Dallas, TX to 949 Winged Foot Dr., Fairview, TX 75069. The new telephone is (972)-363-2377 and email ID: shashi_rao@sbcglobal.net

The **NAYAK** family, Pandurang & Jayanthi, with their kids, Atul & Tara, have relocated within Katy, TX to 23415 Fairway Valley Ln., Katy, TX – 77494. The new telephone is (281)-394-2758 and email: pandu@houston.rr.com

The **DHUME** family, Pankaj & Asha, with their children Mahima & Gaurav, have relocated from Pune, India to 3103 Williams Glen Dr., Sugar Land, TX 77479. The new telephone is (281)-313-2284 and email IDs: asha@dhume.com and pankaj@dhume.com

VASANT KAMATH has relocated within Boston, MA to 45 Commonwealth Ave. Apt 4, Boston, MA 02116 and his email ID: vmk612@yahoo.com

The **NAYAK** family, Ashwath & Hema, with kids relocated within Monmouth Junction, NJ to 704 Falcongate Drive, Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852. The new telephone is (732) -274- 2677 and email ID: ashfly555@hotmail.com.

NEVIN KAMATH relocated from Dallas, TX to 35 Magnolia Ave., # 5, Cambridge, MA 02138. He will be commencing studies at Harvard Law School this fall.

The **NAYAK** family, Drs. Vasudev & Shaila have relocated from Cranbury, NJ to 32 Vender Lane, Mays landing, NJ. The telephone is 609-625-0557 and email ID: Vdevnayak@aol.com

Mr. M. PUNDALIK KAMATH, has relocated from West Bloomfield, MI to 177 Willis Road, Sudbury, MA.01776. The email ID: mppkamath@hotmail.com

Dr. SHUBA KAMATH has relocated to 102 Queensberry St. Apt 12, Boston, MA 02215. She has joined the Pediatric faculty at The Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts-New England Medical Center.

Families and friends of **PUNDALIK PAI** of Las Vegas, NV threw a 60th Birthday Bash for him on January 9th in Mangalore. The lunch for the occasion was fabulous.

25th Wedding Anniversary:
Hundi Pandurang & Veena Kamath of Los Altos, CA celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary at a party hosted by Bay Area friends on July 14th 2006. More than 175 friends and relatives had a great time enjoying the roasting, hula dance, newly wed game and excellent home cooked Konkani food.

Welcome to America:
APARNA BHAT of Bangalore has joined University of Michigan at Ann Arbor for her Masters Program in Environmental Sciences.

Obituary:
Smt. SAROJINI BHAT (88) of Mangalore passed away in Udupi on Saturday August 19th 2006. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to her grand children, Dr. Shaila Bhat Bhardwaj of Winston Salem, NC, Durgesh Bhat of Houston, TX and Aparna Bhat of Ann Arbor, MI.

60th Birthday Party:

Konkani Happenings:

Konkani Association of Ontario (KAO) held their annual picnic at the Richards Memorial Park in Mississauga on July 22nd 2006. The annual General Body meeting was held and the following were appointed to the new executive committee for 2006-2007 year:

President: **Girish/Padmaja Shanbhag**

Secretary/Treasurer: **Nandan/Veena Shanbhag**

Entertainment Coordinator: **Gurunath/Vinaya Pai**

Youth Coordinator: **Samyukta Hattangadi**

The annual **Konkani Association of California (KAOCA)** picnic was held on a pleasant day - August 19, 2006 at the Central Park in Santa Clara, CA. The event was well attended by over 240 people (adults and kids), well exceeding the attendance seen in previous years! The Pavilion location was an ideal spot that provided a cool enclosure and enough room for such a large gathering.

There was foot tapping music and lots of food, drinks and games for all ages. A kid jumper was organized for the younger kids to enjoy for the entire afternoon.

The picnic started with grilled corn (aka butta) Mumbai style, with fixings of salt, chilly powder, chaat masala and lemon wedges. The corn was hand picked by our committee member Ramanand Kini from our local farmer's market. Folks relished the same with cups of beer, lemonade or soda and the usual panchadik.

This was followed by sports for children, which included Lemon and Spoon race, 100m dash and Three-legged race.

Following the children's sports, there was catered lunch of pakodas, tandoori chicken, chicken vindaloo, vegetable jalfrezi, chana masala, raita, naan and veg. pulao along with our very own khola knonche and chilly pickle that was made by our community member Pramila Nettar.

After lunch, the adult sporting events were held that included a game of Tug of War between Masala and Dosa teams and Idli and Sambar teams. Next, there was a 100m dash for men and women and three-legged race for couples. The day's MC was Vinay Pai.

While the games were going on the food committee and a few volunteers were refreshing one and all with fresh watermelon slices, popsicles for kids and mango and lychee ice cream for all. This was followed by a fun game of Bingo conducted by Satish Prabhu who punctuated each number with apt quotes that kept the audience amused.

The picnic concluded around 5.00 pm with Charmbure upkari (Baotoguude style) and tea/coffee. The whole day was enjoyed by members of all ages. The entire 2006 committee worked very hard to make the event enjoyable and fun.

KAOCA will be celebrating its Diwali function on Nov 4 2006 at CET Auditorium, San Jose. The 2006 committee is already at work to make it a memorable one.

Houston Area Amchigale Samaj (HAAS) celebrated Janmashtami on 12th August 2006 from 11 AM to 3 PM in the Sugar land Community Center in Sugar land TX.

The entertainment was organized by Mrs. Gauri Sirur; it included bhajans, dance, story telling, group bhajans, and recitation of 108 names of Lord Krishna. Participants in the fantastic program were Meera Lotlikar, Samhita Bhat, Varun Nayak, Radha Golikeri, Prem Bhat, Maya Prabhu & group, Pooja Nagarkar, Ramesh Kamath and Gaurav Nayak and many others. Dr Ramakrishna Prabhu did an outstanding job as M C for the program.

Konkani Social Club of South Texas was formed to promote social activities among like-minded Konkans. Initial meeting included Karaoke singing, dancing to the tunes of *Kajra Re*. **Neela & Arvind Kamath** of Houston, TX were elected as President and Vice President. Meeting was started by invoking Ganesha bhajans and kicked into full gear with singing, dancing and socializing.

The Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC) Summer picnic was at the beautiful Heritage Park, Cerritos, CA, on Saturday, August 26, 2006. About 80 members including a few new member families attended. The picnic began with introduction of all attendees including the new members, committee members, and others. This was followed with some teaser games organized by Secretary, Rajesh and Deepa Prabhu and VP, Mohini and Mohan Kamath. The activities included volleyball, basketball and a few athletic games for the younger crowd, who were happily joined by their older relatives. Snacks and lunch items were cooked or purchased by committee members. We thank Mohini and Mohan Kamath for booking the venue and also thank all the committee members for the preparing all the delicious food items. We also thank the organizers, volunteers, and every member that attended this fun event.

Dangal to celebrate Late Pandit Ravi Bellare's birthday:

Disciples and admirers of Late Pandit Ravi Bellare joined to celebrate and honor their beloved Guruji, by organizing an informal musical concert at the home of Jyoti and Vivek Ullal, in Simi Valley, California, on September 2, 2006, which happens to be the actual birthday of the twin virtuosos, Pt. Ravi and Pt. Shashi Bellare. We were treated to a tabla solo ensemble by Rupesh Kotecha, Narayam Kadekodi, Gregg Johnson, and Jeff Feldman. There were sitar performances by Paul Livingstone, Prahlad Chudasama and Vivek Kaisare, flute items by Rupesh Kotecha and Vivek Ullal, and vocal recitals by Jaidev Chandavarkar, Satyam Kotecha, Shubha Bhat and Pradeep Gulvady. Jeff Feldman played a solo in Pakhawaj, and Vibhav Pathak gave tabla accompaniment to Vivek Kaisare on sitar. While honoring Pandit Ravi Bellare, we also honored his maternal uncle and guru, Late Pandit H. Taranath Rao, who was also the guru to many of the performers. The students of Pt. Bellare have been assembling at least four times every year to perform in dangals. The word "dangal" actually means noise in Marathi, and this word was used to nickname such performances by Pandit Taranath Rao. Continuing this tradition, we still call such impromptu and informal musical get-togethers by this famous nickname!

SAMMELAN – EH! A CANADIAN PERSPECTIVE

By Minakshi Pai, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

The sixth North American Konkani Convention, the *KonCANi S sammelan 2006*, was celebrated in Hamilton, Canada from July 1st to 3rd 2006, under the banner of the NAKA. The venue for these celebrations was the grand Hamilton Convention Centre and the stunning Hamilton Place Opera Theatre.

The Konkani Association of Ontario were the proud hosts, welcoming Konkani brethren from the United States, Canada, India, United Kingdom, Australia and the Middle East to this biennial event that has helped bring together the Konkani Diaspora.

With Konkans now firmly entrenched in North America, the new generation of Konkans are now preparing to assume the mantle of perpetuating our culture; the S sammelan's theme of *Remembering our Past; Looking to our Future* reflected this transition. The youth put this theme to practice, by playing an integral role in the S sammelan programs and events, which included several youth centric seminars and workshops.

The 2006 S sammelan featured a diverse line up of cultural events: entertainment, educational seminars & workshops, speeches by enlightened Konkans, Youth-only events and events for under delegates under 18 years. There were also special events to recognize North American Konkans who have accomplished extraordinary achievements and those Konkani *Mhalgadi* (our 80+ seniors), who had graced the S sammelan with their presence.

An important feature of this Sarmelan was the fact that every one of the 330 performers and speakers were from North America. The youngest performer was an incredible 2-½ years old and the eldest 84 years. This truly was a *Sarmelan* - the *Coming Together!*

The Sarmelan was held in Canada for the first time and included several other interesting “Firsts”:

- A record number of 1,690 delegates.
- 204 child delegates between the ages of 6 – 12.
- 424 youth delegates between the ages of 13 – 32,
- All the talented artists were from North America.
- Simultaneous classical music performances and “Karaoke Night” events on both nights to suit individual tastes

The following salient features contributed to the success of the Sarmelan:

Registration

The registration was executed online and was paperless for the first time in Sarmelan history. Innovative E-tickets slashed check in times at the Sarmelan to a few minutes. For delegates’ convenience, a Share A Ride program was implemented, and buses were arranged to and from the Ramada Inn and Staybridge Suites.

The “Konkani Buzzzz”, a Youth Endeavor, provided regular updates on the Sarmelan, and was a great success.

Fund Raising

In spite of the appreciation of the Canadian dollar, the Fund Raising Committee had the task of ensuring that there were adequate corporate and personal donors. Generous Konkans opened their wallets and hearts and sponsored all the meals, snacks and even some seminars. A big Thank You!

Entertainment

The opening, morning, & evening sessions were all held at the Opera Theatre.

The Opening Ceremony started promptly at 5:00 p.m., with dazzling lights and loud music illuminating the stage. The opening item “Remembering our Past” depicted the history of Konkans dating back 5,000 years. This glorious story was narrated in 10 simple Konkani verses with rich literary content and an evocative musical repertoire. This was followed by a hilarious Jon Stewart themed K·O·N·K Newscast, which effectively formed part of the M.C.’s act. After the American and Canadian National Anthems, video footage of the blessings of the 4 Swamiji’s was shown on the screen. The well-received President’s Opening Speech alternating between Ashok Bhatt and Amita Bhatt became the first to include delivery by a lady in Konkani! Dr. Sheela Basrur, M.D., Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Deputy Minister, delivered the Keynote Speech, which was based on the theme of the Sarmelan.

The opening address was followed by various Folk, Oddissi, Bengali, Kathak and Goan dances. The program ended with a performance by the Konkani Choir.

The evening entertainment had a Sarangi Recital and a Vocal Recital, which formed part of the Shastreeya Sangeet. A Karaoke Night was also held at the same time for those who opted for non-classical events. Both shows were sold out!

Yoga on Sunday morning was followed by an authentic Konkani breakfast. Entertainment continued with a skit, a photo essay on Temples of Goa, Konkani plays, pop dance by children and a stand-up comedy. The NAKA sponsored “Konglish book” was also launched and sold thereafter, a project of NAKA, by the Bay Area Konkans.

The hilarious (and sold out!) Konkani play “Bayil Jai Bayil” was featured in the afternoon.

The evening saw the widely acclaimed Konkani Idol return, after its debut in L.A. The audience hooted and hollered for youth of all ages and regions, and the variety of acts kept the audience tapping their feet and clapping their hands. This event, organized entirely by the youth, was the highlight of the Sarmelan – and a Grand Success. The presentation of a rolling trophy has ensured that this will be an event at every future Sarmelan.

After dinner, Shastreeya Sangeet had a vocal recital and a Konkani Tabla Ensemble, while the Karaoke contest was in full swing on another floor. Yet again, both shows were sold out.

Monday morning commenced with Yoga. After another authentic Konkani breakfast, the entertainment consisted of classical dances, pop dances, a Konkani Qawali, Garba dances, funny stories, Devi Darshan, skits and a Country Western Dance. There was a speech on the Co-operative Movement and Konkans by Suresh Hemmady, Chairman, Shamrao Vithal Co-op Bank, which was very well received. The program ended with a musical debate between Chicago and Toronto in which the Toronto girls responded to the Chicago boys.

After lunch, the Studio Theatre hosted a musical afternoon comprising Raag Raas, Bhajans and Gazals and instrumental music.

The Closing Ceremony got underway with a Fashion Show and a showcase of Saris of India, followed by Konkani Musical Parodies. The traditional auction of paintings was then followed by a Koli dance and a Krishna dance drama that had the audience on their feet. Dr. Chekkera Shammi, a Coorgi by birth and a proud Konkani by marriage delivered the endnote speech. The Bollywood Dhamaka and memories of the first Konkani couple that migrated to North America (a continuation from the Opening ceremonies) concluded the farewell from Canadians.

Canada signed off on Monday night with a “Happy Hour” followed by “Disco Night”, where both the old and the young danced the night away!

Seminars and Workshops

The Youth spearheaded the organization of the seminars and workshops. These were held on Sunday and Monday afternoon at the Convention Centre, and provided a unique opportunity to discuss pertinent issues. The seminars and workshops were organized under various categories, i.e.:

Health:	Yoga
Under 18:	Drum Circle, Bust a Move on the dance floor
Arts & Culture:	Lost Konkani Arts, Kasle Khelche Not so arranged marriages Raag Sangeet – workshop on Hindustani Classical music Fresh and everyday cooking Music and diversity among Konkani speaking people Community, Compassion and Commitment Ancient Future: Fusion of Indian Music with other cultures Come; Discover the Bharat Natyam dancer in you Future of Youth Conventions
Business Law & Politics:	Konkanis and Non-Traditional Careers Konkanis in Politics: A growing voice Brief Primer in Intellectual Law NAKA forum
Health & Living:	Kundalini Yoga Feeling Well Bollywood Dance Experience Living & Health: Medicine, Science and Philosophy Aging Konkani Brain
Religion:	Everyday Hinduism: The multifaceted role religion plays in your life Bhagavad-Gita: A song for the soul & heritage village Growing up Hindu in North America

The seminars and workshops were well attended with delegates even squatting on the floor when chairs were unavailable.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

The Canadian Youth rose royally to the challenge, and went above and beyond the call of duty. Not only did they organize their own programs, they also made the time to assist with the adult-oriented programs. They formed a cohesive group, a fact that was noticed and admired by all delegates. The Youth also had their own check-in, for which they organized souvenir packages for youth delegates.

The effort and time invested by the youth helped stage a Grand opening ceremony and ensuing grander opening night. There were a variety of games, Karaoke corner, casino night, etc. that kept everyone entertained well past 1:00 a.m.

On Sunday night, the under 19 youth had “Dancing through the Ages”; where they set the dance floor alight to music from the classic 60s to the modern pop – another Sammelan First!

The young adults congregated at “Tonic Night Club” at the Sheraton, dancing and mingling with other youth well past 1:00 a.m., which really tested their stamina.

DISTINGUISHED AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Ten Distinguished Awards of Excellence were established to recognize the contribution of outstanding North American Konkanis to the community at large, and to inspire current and future generations to continue to excel in their chosen field. The categories, recipients and sponsors were as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Recipients</u>	<u>Sponsors</u>
Arts	Harihar Rama Rao	Gupta and Mallya family

Commerce	Sudhakar Shenoy	NAKA
Science	Dr. Parvathi Basrur	Nalini and Mohan Pai
Technology	Ravi Baliga	NAKA
Education	Achyuta Prabhu	Ramchandra Bhandarkar & family
Research	Dr. Nirmala Sundarraj	Jyothi & Girijanand Bhat
Public Service	Raghuv eer Nayak	Jyothi & Girijanand Bhat
Sports Youth	Sanket Ullal	KonCANi 2006 Youth
Youth Female	Sona Chikarmane	Shanta & Gurudutt Chikarmane
Youth Male	Nikhil Pai	Maya and Vivek Kulkarni

The award ceremony was a grand success, with details of the sponsors and the awardees displayed on the giant screen, accompanied by a compelling narrative.

PROMOTIONS

The S sammelan received extensive press coverage, with articles in various local media such as the Indian Express and Omni Television. The funding for promotions was made possible by the generosity of Ashok Kalle, whose company also sponsored the hosting of the applauded S sammelan

During the S sammelan, there were 16 vendors who showcased their jewellery, sarees and fashions, bangles, Real Estate, Food products and portrait photographs. The S sammelan also saw vendors from India displaying their wares.

SOUVENIR

The commemorative Souvenir had an artistic cover design entitled “Come With Me”, which showcased the fusion between the east and west. Numerous delegates expressed their intentions of getting the cover mounted, such was its beauty. The souvenir contained a message from the Prime Minister of Canada (a first!), as well as blessings from Swamijis of the four Maths. Articles included stories of early Konkani in Ontario, Munji Makeovers, Vhakal Sringar, non-Konkani perspectives, language, and cultural potpourri.

FACILITIES

The delegates were “wowed” by the Convention Centre facility, whose decorations were mainly overseen by the distinguished artist Sadanand Benegal (see Indian Express article below). The entrance hall was lorded over by a large map of India showing the path taken by the ancient migrant Konkani, and a dancing Ganesha adorned the primary landing. The Food Auditorium had a huge banner made up of a variety of printed leaves, which also formed the place mat design. Every table had a centerpiece that was designed and crafted by Sadanand, who made an astounding 102 pieces in total. This added to the overall “Konkani atmosphere” that was prevalent at the Convention Centre.

There was a room on the second floor, dedicated to the Arts: it featured sculptures, paintings, and a scrapbook of pictures by a Youth visiting the Karkala Terru! The venue provided an unparalleled opportunity for Konkani artists to display their talents with their community.

FOOD

There is no denying that Konkani love and cherish their food. The food committee therefore went to great lengths to ensure that this important part of the S sammelan exceeded the standards established. The food was prepared under the guidance of Saroja and Ganesh Nayak of Sona Caterers from Bangalore, who were flown specially for the event. Staff from the Udupi Café of Pittsburgh ably assisted them.

Every night had a different culinary theme. Saturday was Mangalore night, Sunday was Karvar night and Monday was Goan night. Each of these nights served authentic dishes from these regions. The quality of the food was unsurpassed, and ensured that over 80% of the delegates returned eagerly for breakfast in the morning, yet another S sammelan Record!

With the invaluable help from enthusiastic Canadian and U.S. volunteers, the service proceeded like clockwork. Lines moved fast with minimal waiting times, in spite of the 1,700 hungry people to be fed. Over 16,000 meals and snacks were served during the two and a half day event, no easy task!

GENERAL

Although some committees are mentioned above, innumerable other committees and volunteers toiled over two years to host what has been christened “the most successful Konkani S sammelan”. The commitment, dedication, enthusiasm and passion exhibited by each and every volunteer ensures that future generations of Konkani will take pride in their heritage, and continue with the biennial tradition of the Konkani S sammelan.

The Executive Committee worked tirelessly to co-ordinate the activities to put up a Grand Show for their 1,700 visitors. Comments from the delegates can be reviewed at the web site, www.Konkani2006.com. The atmosphere prevalent was that of a great community

who revel in each other's company, and who love to get together to have a great time. The most widely received feedback was that everyone wished it was held over five days, since the enjoyment and fun was sorely missed. KonCANi2006 was an event that will always remain embedded in delegates' memories.

Please note that although there have been a few mention of individuals, the organizers appreciate all the support, help and guidance received over the years. See you all in the Bay Area of California in 2008!

Sadanand Benegal: Chip of a famous block

RENU MEHTA

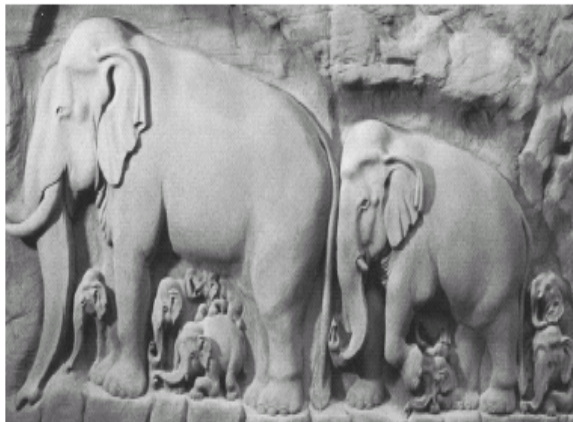
Scarborough

WHO has not heard of Shyam Benegal, India's renowned film maker and Guru Dutt's nephew, who has made films like *Ankur*, *Nishant*, *Manthan*, *Bhumika* and more recently *The Making of the Mahatma* and *Netaji—The Forgotten Hero*.

But what is little known is that Shyam Benegal has an equally famous brother in Canada who has contributed to another form of art. He is Sadanand Benegal with a passion for sculpture, an artist who uses motifs from classical Indian sculpture from Indian temples and monuments in his work.

It all began 35 years ago when Sadanand Benegal immigrated to Canada. A mechanical engineer, he was unable to get a job in his profession and decided to reinvent himself. He began to make scale models of aircraft, developing it into a fine art and over the years built scale models applicable to varying demands of industry including topographical, architectural, land development, etc.

"I had talents and capabilities of making scale models and working with wood and any other materials like plastics, etc. and I used these for the architectural modeling industry prevalent at the time. These scale models of land form were topographical generally used in depicting large tracts of land. These are applications in land development, in highways design and there are also illustrations of national parks", says Benegal.



His love for sculpture evolved through his work around 20 years ago when he began to make sculpted articles with bas-relief with polyurethane foam.

"When one thinks of sculpture, one thinks of bronze, or clay or stone. Polyurethane foam is brittle, fragile and incredibly delicate to work with," he says.

Today, Benegal has developed a

method befitting the medium to carve adaptations, replications and original designs of sculpture and bas-reliefs, which is his current occupation. He calls it a "Passion for Classical Indian Sculpture".

"I make classical Indian sculptures. I find there is so much creativity and beauty in our own architecture and temples of India. What I do is use themes from temples and

monuments. I usually find a form that catches my fancy and I go to work in it, replicating the pictures with my imagination", he says.

However, it's not as easy as he makes it to be. Benegal's first task is to create an enlargement of the painting and use his imagination to give it depth and also sketch out the rear side of the sculpture. The colour and shade of the foam piece is selected and the foam sheet has to have the correct requisite thickness.

Then the real task begins, the chiseling, cutting and shaping. According to Benegal, it's a painstaking labour intensive undertaking. "Many of the tools are small and require methodical attention to detail. I use small hand saws and an artist palette knife serve as chisels to hew away larger volumes of material in carving while special shaped files fashioned from a denser foam are used for carving, smoothing and putting in the finer details like creases and expression out of compliant artistic raw material," he adds.

He cannot afford to make any major mistakes even if he is almost finished, because the piece cannot be salvaged and has to be discarded.

Over the years, Benegal has sculpted horses, chariots and figures and has exhibited his work several times. His sculptures are a welcome sight at local Toronto performances.

The artist's 'The Wheel of Lord Surya's Chariot and The Horse of Lord Surya's Chariot' bas relief mosaic is an important example of his work. These were exhibited at a dance performance of the epic *Mahabharata*. "I was commissioned to make the sets for the performance

along with two chariots and eight horses. I also made a grand throne and four thrones and a boat for the Kurukshetra battle in the performance," he says.

His biggest accomplishment, says Benegal, is a chariot wheel made from plaster. "There is a sun temple in Konarak and the Maharaja of that place had a chariot made with 12 wheels on each side, each 12" high. I replicated two wheels from the chariot but mine are 6" high and each cost around \$8,000 in terms of time and money to build".

These chariot wheels were then exhibited at the Konarak Raas Lila, a performance by the Chitrlekha Dance Company, says Benegal.

He has made sculptures of several Hindu Gods including Lord Rama, Lord Ganesh and Lord Hanuman. "I made these sculptures not as idols but as objects of art," he says. Benegal believes art is in his genes and says his father was great inspiration for him. "My father was the first artist in the family and a photographer. He encouraged us to draw and paint, but he did not push us. Rather he let things take care of themselves. My eldest brother taught art at the Calcutta School of Fine Arts and my older sister went to Vishwa Bharti in Shanti Niketan. She was an art teacher till she retired and of course everyone knows about my younger brother Shyam who has made our family proud".

Benegal's work will next be seen at the Konkani Sammelan being held at the Hamilton Convention Center between July 1-3 this year where he is the Chair of Art and Direction.

Tradition

By Sachin Shenoy, of Sugar Land, TX

Excerpts of a speech given by Sachin during 2005 Diwali function at University of Houston

Tradition is the most important aspect of our culture. Not only does it define us as a people but it also allows us to keep our identity in an ever-changing world. Being a young Indian in today's society, I have realized that more than ever, we need to instill a strong foundation for our traditions. The celebrations and festivals of love, life and even light, have become increasingly significant in our lives

Rajasthan is the land of festivals and fairs. People in this sparsely populated state look for any excuse to assemble together in celebration and take a break from their otherwise rugged, tough lives. The elaborate rituals, fairs and festivals and also the gaiety with which they surrender themselves only prove to show the Rajasthani people's sheer zest for life. Celebrated every year in October-November, Diwali is perhaps the most popular of all Rajasthan festivals. It is a celebration of light, both literally and metaphorically.

The origin of this festival can be traced back to the ancient Hindu epic Ramayana, when Lord Ram returned to his kingdom Ayodhya after 14 years of exile. The whole kingdom was light up with diyas (earthen lamps) to celebrate his return. To date, on Diwali day, houses all over Rajasthan glow and twinkle with innumerable diyas, candles and electric lights. The night is illuminated with the flaming lights of fireworks, creating a kaleidoscopic of designs against the black canvas sky.

As the festival of light and beauty it encourages artistic expressions through home-decorations, stage-plays, singing and dancing programs, exchanging gift items and, my personal favorite, the making of delicious sweets. As a result many communities with varying cultures and customs mingle together to make the Diwali celebration a very happy occasion for all.

In today's world when pressing everyday problems continuously demand our attention, the celebration of Diwali continues to be an important festival in maintaining the love between people, for it is the day of food-sharing, gift-giving and reaching out into the inner most depths of the hearts.

Diwali on the whole has always been the festival with more social than religious connotations. It is a personal, people-oriented festival where conflicts are forgotten, families and friends meet, and many enjoy in a world full of closeness. We must continue to cherish these traditions so that generations in times to come can take part in these magnificent celebrations.

Happy Diwali and happy New Year

This appeared on *the daily buzz* section by Michael Rand of The Star Tribune of Minneapolis-St. Paul of Minnesota.

Last update: June 13, 2006 – 5:45 AM

WEB REVIEW

www.sportsvite.com

Like many big ideas, Vin Bhat's concept for sportsvite.com started as a solution to a small-scale problem.

Playing on a flag football team in New York, Bhat and a group of friends were tired of the flurry of e-mails that went back and forth trying to set up every weekend game. They were also tired of players bailing out shortly before games, forcing them to forfeit. They found other websites didn't meet their organizational needs, so they had a site built.

"As we were doing it, we heard stories from other people on other teams who were having the same problems," said Bhat, the site's co-founder. "That's when we decided to go commercial and to go national."

The result was the launch of the NYC-based sportsvite.com in late 2005. It aims to create yet another "web community," but this one has a specific focus. The site, which has more than 10,000 registered users -- and hopes to grow to 100,000 by the end of the year -- helps teams keep track of existing leagues. It also allows teams and individuals to search other users within a specified radius of a zip code for potential replacement players and organize new teams or pickup games with likeminded people.

The site has been most popular so far in New York, where nearly 2,000 of the registered users live -- in contrast to a scant 21 users within 25 miles of a downtown Minneapolis zip code. But the site has grown almost exclusively by word-of-mouth so far, and marketing is planned in the near future in an attempt to grow interest in the Twin Cities and other similarly sized areas.

Registration is free, and users list their location as well as sports they are interested in playing. Bhat said some users are also using the site to organize World Cup viewing parties and other similar outings.

"We want to build something that caters to people's needs," Bhat said.

KONKANI CALENDER

October 2006	November 2006	December 2006
1 st Ayudha Pooja	1 st Karthika Yekadashi	1 st Mukkoti Dwadashi
2 nd Vijaya Dashami	2 nd Uthana Dwadashi	4 th Poornami
3 rd Yekadashi	4 th Vaikuntha Chathurdashi	7 th Sankashta Chaturthi
6 th Poornami	4th KAOCA Diwali	15 th Dhanu Sankranthi
9 th Sankasta Chaturthi	5 th Karthika Poornami	20 th Amavasya (Dark Moon)
16 th Tula Sankranthi	8 th Sankashta Chaturthi	30 th Yekadsahi
20 th Naraka Chathurdashi	15 th Vrishk Sankranthi	
21 st Deepawali	20 th Amavasya (Dark Moon)	
28th Konakni Sabha Diwali	26 th Skanda Shashti	

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, \$
Praveen & Prema Prabhu, Greensboro, NC	60.00
Shashi & Usha Rao, Fairview, TX	50.00
Vittal & Maya Shenoy, Charlotte, NC	50.00
Govinda & Rekha Malya, Glen Mills, PA	115.00
Vinayaka & Shantheri Pai, Ruidoso, NM	145.00
Gajanan & Pramila Shanbhag, Duncan, SC	50.00

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
Balance Carried over since Khabbar Vol. XXIX No. 2	5,705.00	
Money Received:		
Subscriptions (45) and donations	1,152.00	
Advertisements)		
Interest	3.00	
Sub Total:	1,155.00	
Money Spent (Khabbar Vol. XXIX No. 2):		
Printing- Khabbar (500) - 20 pages		550.00
First Class Mail-Khabbar (441)		277.83
Canada Khabbar (9)		8.10
Overseas (20)		60.00
Mail Fines, computer paper & labels, envelopes, service fees, etc.		564.07
Sub Total:		1,460.00
Final Balance:	5,400.00	

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



The last quarter's quiz: Q: There was a major error in the last issue of *Khabbar* (Vol. XXIX No. 1). It is not typical spelling or grammatical one. What is it?

The Answer: Eventhough it was *Khabbar* (Vol. XXIX No. 1) all indices were wrongly noted as (Vol. XXVIII No. 4)!

The following gave the correct answer:

Vasanti Pai, Stamford, CT.

Surprisingly enough, unknown to me, Mr. Govind Kamath, Austin, TX found a mathematical error in the "Statement Of Accounts" in that issue!. He is also a winner!

This Quarter's Quiz

By

Dr. (Mrs) Shalini Gadiya, U.K.

*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!***

GSB Sudoku

Sudoku, the Japanese puzzle craze that has taken the globe by storm has come to "Saraswath Vani" and now to "Khabbar" with a twist. To complete, fill-in the gaps so that each row, column and 3 x 3 square within 9 x 9 grid contains each of the nine letters below. Purely a process of elimination and logic solves the puzzle.

Complete the puzzle and find the word (clue: It is the name of the sacred cow from Kannada literature)

This puzzle appeared in the August 2005 edition of "Saraswath Vani" of Gowda Saraswath Sabha (UK). Printed with permission)

I O N K P T Y A U

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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 has any constructive suggestions, contact any of the NAKA Board Members or send them to NAKA, 2465 Bergen Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234. Ph: (718)-251-4795 and Email: naka1@indiatimes.com. Please, NO anonymous letters!

NAKA - Statement Of Accounts

Date	Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
6/11/2006	Balance from last report	39,171.66	
8/10/2006	Seed money for Youth Convention -2007		5,000.00
8/28/2006	Final Balance:	34,171.66	

Signed: Damodar Baliga
Treasurer, NAKA

Letter from Ramesh & Pratibha Kamath of Bay Area of California:

The July 4th 2006 weekend at Hamilton, OT, Canada, venue of the bi-annual KonCANi Sammelan seems to be a distant past. Congratulations and many thanks to Amita & Ashok Bhatt, their team for successfully organizing the mega social Konkani gathering. We appreciate your hospitality, the incredible sacrifices & the efforts of countless volunteers.

When delegates from this recently concluded Sammelan, left for their hometowns, the venue of next Bi-Annual Konkani Sammelan scheduled for July 4th 2008 weekend was still undecided.

It's been a recent tradition with Konkani's from far & near to get together and celebrate food, have fun & strengthen friendship amongst the community, The popularity of Konkani Sammelan's have kept growing over the past decade. What started as a small gathering at New Jersey back in 1996 is now a mega event with over 1650 delegates at the recently concluded Sammelan.

To help keep this tradition continue, the Bay area Konkani's have agreed to host the 7th North American Konkani Sammelan during July 4th weekend 2008 in Northern California under the leadership of Ramesh & Pratibha Kamath.

Currently, the executive committee is in the initial stages of chalking out plans to make the 2008 July 4th weekend a successful & memorable event. For many on this executive team it will be a repeat effort. The 2nd NAKA Sammelan was held at Chabot College, Hayward during 1998.

The challenges to organize these Sammelan's have multiplied; the team is working hard to "Awaken the Konkani in you". We look forward to your continued support and will keep you posted as plans become clear. Stay tuned.

Devu Baren Karo

Konkani Sabha 2006 Diwali Function

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)

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	Email
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President	Ganapathi Kamath	(732) 422-0175	gkamatcpa@yahoo.com
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Vice President	Manoj Bijoor	(914) 923-4550	bijoor@ieee.org
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Director of Communication	Vivek Pai	(201) 776-7466	wewakepie@yahoo.com
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Secretary	Rajesh Nayak	(973) 779-3119	rajesh_nayak@yahoo.com
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Treasurer	Gurudatt Kamath	(732) 274-9542	gurudatt_kamath@hotmail.com
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The 2007 Konkani Youth Convention will be held in San Francisco, California. Youth conventions have served an important role in the Konkani community since the first one was held in Boston. They allow the Konkani Youth the opportunity to gather in an open and honest forum to get to know one another, explore a new city, and most importantly, learn more about Konkani Culture.

The Youth from the San Francisco Bay Area have planned an exciting weekend for the attendees.

- Amazing meals, including two dinners with some of the best food and views that the Bay Area has to offer.
- A tour of the city that highlights some of the most famous aspects of the Bay Area as well as some of the lesser known historical landmarks.
- Seminars on topics such as Konkani Language, Religion, Relationships, and Career Opportunities.
- Ice Breakers and Social events to ensure that you meet new people and leave the Convention with a newfound love of Konkani Culture.

We are still finalizing some of the details, particularly the Hotel/Conference Space. For this reason we still do not have the final attendance fee for the Youth Convention, but we will do our best to keep the registration cost low for those of you that register early.

The youth are the future leaders of our local associations. The youth are the future men and women that will plan Sammelans. We want to cultivate the youth now so we can be ready for that challenge when it comes. To keep registration costs low, and to ensure that we can offer the Youth everything the best experience possible, we are asking for donations towards the 2007 Youth Convention. All donations are tax deductible. All donors will be thanked in our official program.

Please make checks payable to **North American Konkani Association**, and mail donations to:

561 Osprey Drive
Redwood City CA 94065

For more information please visit our website at <http://www.bay2007.com> or you can email the planning team at bay2007@gmail.com

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Shaktinagar, Mangalore, A project of Rs. 5.00 Crores

Construction work already started and will be completed within 18 months

We require your generous Donations big or small to fulfill the aspirations for Konkani world over. Send your donations early.

SHORT STORIES AND POEMS OF THE CENTURY

Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Akademy has initiated a unique project to publish two books containing the selected short stories and poems of a century (1900-2000) written in any script in Konkani (Devanagari, Romi, Kannada, Malayalam and Urdu script.)

The book will be published in Kannada script and it is expected to be 800-1000 pages. Well-known writer, columnist Valley Quadras has been appointed to edit the short stories. Well-known poet Melvyn Rodrigues has been appointed to edit the poems.

Each writer will be given 5 copies of the book as royalty. Those who wish to be part of the book may contact us soon.

valleyq@alshaya.com or daaiz@daaiz.com

DAAIZ LITERARY COMPETITIONS 2006

[Total Rs.40,000 prizes]

DAAIZ announces the third consecutive literary competition in Kannada script Konkani - DAAIZ LITERARY COMPETITION 2006 is intended to encourage and recognize the talented writers. This competition includes the following categories:

1. Article Contest [Topic: Konkani Publications and Books] (Shouldn't exceed 4-6 full scale pages)
2. Short Story Contest (Shouldn't exceed 8 full scale pages)
3. Poetry Contest (Shouldn't exceed 1-2 full scale pages)

Each category will have the bellow prizes:

First prize: Rs.5000 and a certificate [Rupees five thousand only]

Second prize: Rs.3000 and a certificate [Rupees three thousand only]

Third prize: Rs.2000 and a certificate [Rupees two thousand only]

3 Consolation prizes [Each prize will carry a certificate and books worth Rupees 1000]

Rules and Regulations:

1. Anyone can take part in all the three categories, but one can send only one write-up in each categories.

2. The writing should be his own and shouldn't have published or sent for publication anywhere.

3. Last date to send the matter 31st December 2006.

4. Writers name, Contact details should be written in a separate paper and sent along with the snap.

5. Writings not comprising of the rules, without snap will not be considered for the competition.

[Those who have sent their snaps in the previous DAAIZ Literary Competitions may not send the snap again]

6. No communication regarding the competition will be entertained.

7. DAAIZ judges will review the writings and the result will be published in the leading websites and magazines during April-May 2007.

8. Prize winning writings will be published in www.daaiz.com, MITHR weekly and DAAIZ Special issue 2007.

9. Writing can be sent to the bellow address:

DAAIZ LITERARY COMPETITION 2006.

C/O Mithr Konkanni Weekly,

Saangaathi Media, 23 3rd Floor, Emporium Complex, Kankanady, Mangalore 575 002.

10. Those who wish to send by email, can send to editor@daaiz.com

Sahasra Poorna Chandra Darshan Shanti (Oct. 26th to 30th 2006)

His Holiness Shrimad Sudhindra Tirtha Swamiji,
Mathadhipathi of Sri Kashi Math Samsthan, Varanasi.

It is with great pleasure, we inform you that our **Paramapoojya Dharmaguru H. H. Shrimad Sudhindra Tirtha Swamiji** shall be completing Sahasra Poorna Chandra Darshan shortly. This is truly an event par magnitude and should be celebrated in a befitting manner with gaiety and devotion.

G. S. B. Seva Mandal requested H. H. Swamiji to bless us with the opportunity to celebrate this unique and divine event and we have pleasure to inform you that H. H. Swamiji has blessed this request and we have been bestowed with the responsibility of organizing the various festivities for this event. However, we are of the firm opinion that the event can only be celebrated with the wholehearted co-ordination of all Shishya Varga of the Samsthan. In order to represent all sections of the Samaj and to foster a sense of togetherness, a Special Committee called "**Sahasra Poorna Chandra Darshan Shanti Celebration Samiti**" has been constituted. The Committee requests you and all well-wishers to join in these celebrations with lots of enthusiasms so as to make this a grand success. We request your kind consideration on the following:

- There is no mention of Sahasra Poorna Chandra Darshan Shanti being performed in the history of the Samsthan at least for the past 200 years
- The entire programme has been delineated with the consent and blessings of H. H. Swamiji.

The Sahasra Poorna Chandra Darshan Shanti shall be celebrated from **26th to 30th October 2006** at the holy precincts of Srimad Ananteshwara Temple and Sri Kashi Math Manjeshwar, Kerala. Various Havanas and Poojas will also be performed for the good health of H. H. Swamiji and for the welfare of the Samaj. It is pertinent to note that the event shall also witness **Pattashishya H. H. Samyamindra Tirtha Swamiji** performing Suvarna Pushpa Arahana and Aarti to His Holiness. It is the desire of the Committee to offer 1001 Gold Sovereigns at the lotus feet of His Holiness. We request all Samaj Bandhavas to rise to this occasion and contribute generously towards this offering.

It is pertinent to note that the funds remaining surplus after the celebrations will be donated to Samsthan in commemoration of this epochal event and will be put to use by H. H. Swamiji for a project of His choice.

A Mahasabha shall also be arranged on 29th October 2006 at Mangala Stadium, Mangalore. Devotees from all over India are expected to participate in large numbers for this event. Samaj Bandhavas have a unique opportunity to get blessed by our Dharma Guru on this auspicious occasion.

As arranging such an event requires immense manpower and monetary resources, we earnestly request your kind cooperation to make this event a grand success.

Awaiting we remain, Yours in devotion

K.V. Kamath
Chief Patron

M. Jagannath Shenai
President

Nandkumar R. Kudva
Gen. Secretary

Dinesh S. Pai
Chief Coordinator

Don't miss this unique divine event; Participate in large numbers with family and friends and get blessed

Routine Programmes on all five days

Pavana Kalasha Abhimantrana
Abhisheka to Lord Narasimha
Pavamana Kalasha Abhisheka at Ubhaya Vrindavans

Other programme

10:00 AM to 12:30 PM and
2:30 PM to 6:00 PM
"Sri Kashi Math Parichaya"-Exhibition

SEVAS

Udayastamana Seva on Oct. 30 th	Rs. 10,00,005	Sahastra Bhojana Seva	Rs. 50,005
Udayastamana Seva on Oct. 29 th	Rs. 5,00,005	Santarpana Seva	Rs. 25,005
Vishnu Sahastranama Seva on Oct. 27 th	Rs. 5,00,005	Phalahara Seva	Rs. 15,005
Seeta kalyana Seva on Oct. 28 th	Rs. 5,00,005	Suvarna Kanika	Rs. 11,005
Annadana Seva for 5 days	Rs. 5,00,005	Vishnu Sahastranama Archana/Seeta	
Annadana Seva for 1 day	Rs. 1,00,005	kalyanotsav	Rs. 2,505

N.B.: Cheques may be drawn in favour of "Sahasra Poorna Chandra Darshan Shanti Samiti"

For More details please contact:

Mr. Dinesh S. Pai - Cell: 093222 11150 Mr. Raghuveer Bhandarkar - Cell: 093411 26501
Mr. N. R. Kudva - Cell: 098692 72199 Mr. Babu Rao - Cell: 093886 18638

Sahasra Poorna Chandra Darshan Shanti Celebrations Samiti
Shree Guru Ganesh Prasad, Bhokailash Nagar, Behind Sion Fort Gardens, Sion (E), Mumbai – 400 022.
Tel: 022-2407 8147/ 3951460909 and Email: chandrardarshanasamiti@yahoo.co.in

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The American Konkani Association (A. K. A.) is helping eligible Konkani youth by granting College Loan Scholarships. Send your generous contributions to: American Konkani Association, 1613 Maple Avenue, 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 Konkans 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 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)

Konklish

There are about 30 copies of Konklish left over. It is available on a first come basis. If interested, send a check for \$12.50 to Ramesh Kamath, 926 Governors Bay drive, Redwood City, CA 94065.

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 (PST)

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Dr. (Miss) P. Gowri Pai

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