Khabbar

North American Konkani Newsletter

Volume XXXI No. 3
July, August, September - 2008

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

The Konkani in us has been awakened (by Biennial Sammelans) and here are couple examples:

I got an email from Gokarn Mutt Swamiji, who is going to conduct a Vishwa Shanthi Abhishek in India in Nov 2008 using water sources of major oceans, seas and rivers from all over the world! That meant, I had to collect water samples from 13 sources in the US and couple in Canada!!

I contacted Konkani families living close to these 13 water sources to see whether they could help. To my surprise, they all agreed whole heartedly. Each and everyone collected 1-liter water sample from their respective areas and shipped it via USPS airmail to India. One family went close to US/Mexico border to collect the water sample at the watchful eye of US Border patrol! This family from NM drove all the way to AZ to collect their designated water source!! I wanted to share their shipping charges (~$35). All of them said that they will bear the expenses. Because nobody agreed for reimbursement, I said, I will send $420 in their name to Gokarn Mutt. This family from NY found out about this and was disappointed that they were not approached. But, to be a part of this great event, they sent me a check of $100!!!

For the Konkani Youth Convention in 2009, I got a call from the Houston representative who wanted some guidance. I offered to donate some money without him asking for it. Says this young man, "Vasanth uncle, thanks. But, wait a minute; I want to talk to you and other Konkani elders in North America about our convention. We, the youth, want to earn your trust and when you feel that we deserve it, then only you can donate to our convention."

Aren't these a proof that Konkani in us has been awakened?

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SUBSCRIPTION FORM:

Dear Konkani family,

It is time to renew your subscription for 2008, if you've not done so. The numbers on the mailing label clearly indicate the year/s the dues for *Khabbar* has been received since 2006. Please, note that you have the FREE access to the e*Khabbar*, the electronic version of *Khabbar*, by logging on to eKhabbar.com. If you want hard copy, then only remit your subscription at $15.00/yr. ***Please, don't pay for future years!*** Fill the form below and send your subscription with a check payable to *Khabbar* to P. O. Box 222, Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222. (Canadian Konkanis please pay cash or MO in US$)

Name: _____

Spouse Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Telephone: _____

Email ID: _____

……**Children**……

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

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_____

Comments, if any: _____

_____

_____

_____

Quarterly Newsletter
For Circulation to the Konkani Community in North America
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July, August, September - 2008
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The Editorial Committee reserves the right to exclude, edit and correct all material received for publication and does not accept any responsibility for views expressed by authors of the publications.

EDITORIAL

Dear Konkani family,

I hope all is well with you and your family.

The Year 2008 will be a year to remember. The **North American Konkani Association (NAKA)** sponsored event, the **Konkani Sammelan – 2008 (KS-2008)** has indeed successfully awakened the Konkani in all of us in North America! All said and done, KS-2008 has been one huge success. Kudos to all the people behind this. This event has materialized surplus money which will help NAKA to help our community in North America or India. Already plans are underway for the next Sammelan in Chicago in 2010! *Khabbar* will publish details as they become available.

To spread the news about this successful event KS-2008, this issue of *Khabbar* has been mailed to **one and all** in the *Khabbar* Mailing List. That means, your name and address is in the *Khabbar* mailing List. If you do not want to be in the list, please, send an email khabbar@hotmail.com and I will remove your name from the list. Also, here is an opportunity for non-subscribers to subscribe to *Khabbar*, if they have not done before. Please, fill-in the subscription form in Page #2 to ensure you are *khabbarized*.

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

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 khabbar@hotmail.com and rest be assured that I'll *"Khabbarize"* them!

Khabbar will publish all the developments and progress made by **NAKA** on an on-going basis. Send your constructive suggestions to any of the Directors of the NAKA Board. This quarter, NAKA has advanced seed money to the Konkani Youth who will be hosting the Konkani Youth Convention in 2009 in Washington DC area. Visit their website (http://www.kyc2009.com) to find out all the details of this great event. Also, NAKA is planning on establishing a Charity trust that should really help our community in general.

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 a champ.

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. Join ***Khabbar* Kares Email List** if interested in helping the needy.

On the sad note, I must mention the passing away of one of my dear ones, **Sri M. R. NAYAK** of Hyderabad. He was indeed a great champion for Konkani causes and an ardent fan of *Khabbar*. I'll certainly miss his constant encouragement and inspiration.

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 Vasanth,
This is just to inform you that I have recently launched a new blog: www.yogaofmind.com/ by popular demand (Yes!). Please pass on this address to interested people. As we go along, this blog will deal with all aspects of eastern as well as western psychology and spirituality. Thanks.

Prabhakar
pkamath001@gmail.com

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Dear Sri Vasant Bhat,
Some time back I had sent you an article on Our Dharma Guru Shri Sudhindra Theerth Swamiji, giving Prasad to widowed ladies. There were quite a number of enquiries on this subject. Recently a very learned Sri Venkatraman Bhat of Mumbai had sent an article to be in reply to our earlier article and in turn I sent it to Panchkadai Magazine published from Manipal. This article is a well appreciated article.
I am enclosing this article to you. Kindly go through this and if suitable please publish this in your prestigious '*Khabbar*' magazine.
With kind regards,

Gita R.Pai
gitarpai@hotmail.com

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Dear Sir,
Radio Idli has had the support of a great Konkani and Saraswat culture promoter - Shri Ramesh Pai, Abu Dhabi.
He has contributed this time a rare recording from 1992 - Bhovvali Gaayi. It was recorded at the Kerala Konkani Academy, at one of its functions. He has also presented a commentary about the meaning of the song and its values to us and humanity as narrated and cited by Shri Uday Bhembre.
I invite you to hear the same at the following link:
http://www.radioidli.net/2008/07/konkani-folk-tale/
You may pass on the same to lovers of our culture and our language.
We also have an email update service where you will get an email (typically once a week or fortnight) with the links and description of the latest content uploaded on the website.
You may subscribe for the same through the link below:
http://www.feedblitz.com/f/f.fbz?Sub=382935
Warm Regards,

Nagesh Pai
nagesh.pai@gmail.com

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Konkani Appeals:

Unique Abhisheka with holy water obtained from all over the World

Unique Abhisheka with holy water obtained from all the 5 Oceans in the world, 37 Sea in the world, 51 longest rivers of the world !
Dear Vasanth Bhat,
We met in Wadala Shree Ram Mandir last year.
H. H. Swamiji has asked me to correspond with you about the 10-day Global Event (Nov.28 - Dec.7) at Shantikunj Sevashram, Harigram, Panvel. Shri K. V. Kamath, CEO, ICICI, is the Advisor there. Event is to coincide with the Decennial Celebration of our NGO. We expect H.E. President of India and a large number of global celebrities, NRIs and locals to attend. Food arrangement for 3 lac people during ten-day event is being organised.
All our Swamijis will be camping at the venue.
Final day, there is unique Abhisheka with holy water obtained from all the 5 Oceans in the world, 37 Sea in the world, 51 longest rivers of the world and all the rivers across the Indian peninsula - one litre each (never held such a fiesta so far). We need your help, co-operation for giving widest publicity through your possible source, Konkani Sammelans, Get-togethers etc., also incidental fund raising thereon for the Project / Event. You may please arrange to send holy (water drawn with Prayers to Lord) water from your part of the world (USA / Canada / Arctic) through your contacts in one litre sealed plastic bottle in luggage item any time from now upto November 25.
I am sending herewith scanned copy of relevant brochures that furnishes the details of the event and the NGO (Trust).

Vaman R. Kamath, Vaman.Kamath@ril.com
Handset 98677 44979 / Res. Land line 91+22+32659909
(See the detailed appeal at: http://www.ekhabbar.com/appeal.htm

Sahasra Kumbha Kanakabhisheka to Shree Mahalasa Narayani Devi

We are forwarding the appeal of Sahasra Kumbha Kanakabhisheka to be performed on 8th Dec 2008 to Shree Mahalasa Narayani Devi at Konchady Shri Kashimutt Mangalore. We request you to kindly publish this information in your *Khabbar* magazine/Website & also intimate all the members of your *Khabbar* network by E-Mail with a request to donate generously for this first time ever religious event to be performed in the history of Shri Kashi Mutt Samsthan.
Attached is the appeal in .pdf: http://www.e*Khabbar*.com/appeal.htm
Regards,

Committee Members, Shree Mahalasa Narayani Temple, maroorpai@dataone.in

Hoon Khabbar

Congratulations:

ROHAN KAMATH, s/o Dr. Radhakrishna & Nilima Kamath of Shawnee, OK, graduate of Georgetown Law School, was inducted into the New York Bar in October 2007. He practices Corporate Law in a major law firm in NYC.

Dr.T.M.A.Pai Foundation, Manipal has selected for the Dr.T.M.A.Pai Best Konkani Book Award 2007 the Konkani book **"MATOLI"** in Devanagari Script, an ethno botanical study of flora used during Ganesh Festival in Goa. The book is edited by Sri Bhushan Bhave, Lecturer, P.E.S Shri Ravi S. Naik College of Arts & Science, Ponda-Goa and published by Dr.Anil S.Dinge, Principal of the College.
The award carries Rs.25,000/- in cash and a citation.
The Foundation has also selected the following four books for Dr.T.M.A.Pai Konkani Books Appreciation Awards which carry Rs.5,000/- in cash and a citation.
(1) "GHANAGAI NIYATICHE" - a novel in Devanagari Script by Sri Ashok Kamat, Retd. Teacher, Curchorem, Goa
(2) "DAVARNE" - essays in Devanagari Script by Sri Prakash S. Parienkar, Lecturer, Dept. of Konkani, Goa University, Goa.
(3) "NAAD" - a collection of Editorials in Kannada Script published in ' RAKNNO ' by Fr. Eric Crasta, Mangalore.
(4) "SURAGYASAR" – a collection of Wedding Songs in Kannada/Devanagari Scripts by Dr.Jyotsna Krishnanand Kamat, Retd. Director, All India Radio, Bangalore.
The Awards will be presented at a function to be held in Manipal shortly.

The National AIDS Control Organization (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, India) has offered **SADANAND MANKIKAR** a three-month contract as Consultant to help develop a framework for their National Blood Program. After working with Canadian Blood Services for 27 years where he was responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining Corporate Quality Assurance Program, in June 2006 he took early retirement. Shortly thereafter, as Quality Consultant, Sadanand facilitated the development and implementation of Inception Biosciences" Quality System for Cord Blood Program and obtain relevant accreditation. In the new project he will be responsible for preparing a framework for establishing National and State Blood Transfusion Authorities and a roadmap for transition from current programs to new entities. The project will start in August and is based in New Delhi. The venture is supported by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), an agency owned by the German federal government.

Dr. SUBHASH KINI of Scarsdale, NY was featured in the article in the New York Daily News of 8-06-08 "Bariatric surgery worth the weight when all else fails" by Katie Charles.
The article highlights how as a weight-loss surgery specialist at Mount Sinai, Dr. Subhash Kini helps patients get and stay thinner. As a bariatric and laparoscopic surgeon, Dr. Kini provides patient care, does research and performs about 250 operations a year, 60% of which are bariatric "weight loss" surgeries.
More at
http://www.nydailynews.com/lifestyle/health/2008/08/06/2008-08-06_bariatric_surgery_worth_the_weight_when_-1.html

25th Issue of Konkani Fortnightly, '*Kodial Khabar*' Released:
Mangalore, Aug 5: Dr T M A Pai Foundation Manipal chairman **K. K. Pai** appreciated the role being played by small publications *like 'Kodial Khabar'*, a Konkani fortnightly, in imbibing a sense of self-respect among the members of the Konkani speaking community. For any community to prosper, a sense of self-respect among its members is of paramount importance, he said.
He was speaking at a function organized on the occasion of the release of the 25th issue of Konkani fortnightly, *'Kodial Khabar'* being published from the city.
Well-known entrepreneur and philanthropist from **Bangalore P. Dayanand Pai** released the 25th issue of the publication. He said that nurturing the publication towards taking it to greater heights, is the responsibility of the Konkani community and pledged his whole-hearted support for the publication.
A book on cookery titled *'Vasarentu Hanv'* authored by **Geetha C Kini**, dealing primarily with food items specifically prevalent among the G S B community, was jointly released by GSB Mahila Vrinda Mangalore president **Shobha Kamath** and Konkani Cultural Association president **Hundi Prabha Kamat** on the occasion.
Konkani stalwart **Basti Vaman Shenoy** presided over the function. He wished that the publication will succeed in creating a sense of belongingness among the community members towards the cultural, literature and art heritage of the community.
'Kodial Khabar' editor **Venkatesh Baliga** welcomed. He appealed for the full-fledged support of the community for his endeavours, supported with a demonstration. **Vidya Baliga** proposed vote of thanks. **Usha Mohan Pai** compeered the programme.
Corporation Bank general manager **B R Bhat**, Srikrishna Dairy Private Ltd managing director **Pradip G Pai**, Shree Venkatramana Temple managing trustee **C L Shenoy, G Vishwanat Kamath** of Canara Chamber of Commerce, **Dr K Mohan Pai** of Karnataka State Minority Konkani Linguistic Schools Association, **Kasargod Chinna, T Ganapati Pai** and several other dignitaries were present.

SANJAY BHATT of Seattle, WA, s/o Ashwin & Kasturi Bhatt of Houston, TX, a senior reporter for Seattle Times (the Seattle Chapter) won the first

place this year among the Asian American Journalists.
The link for the complete story is http://www.aajaseattle.org/

AAJA Seattle wins Chapter of the Year award:

CHICAGO — The Seattle chapter of the Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) has been named the 2008 Chapter of the Year, recognizing its success in establishing a $100,000 endowment for minority journalism scholarships.

Sanjay Bhatt, AAJA Seattle Chapter Co-President, accepted the award on behalf of the chapter. Bhatt co-chaired the past two years' endowment campaigns, which culminated last year with a record-setting $45,000 in donations. The average individual donation was about $25.

"I'm honored to accept this award on behalf of all AAJA Seattle members, who have demonstrated their commitment to encouraging tomorrow's journalists of color," Bhatt said. "I also want to thank all of our donors, whose generosity allowed us to achieve our vision."

The endowment supports AAJA Seattle's Northwest Journalists of Color (NJC) program. The NJC scholarship was started in 1986 by local leaders like Lori Matsukawa (KING TV), who raised $5,000 each year to fund the scholarships. NJC has awarded scholarships to more than 100 student journalists. NJC alumni have gone on to work at major news organizations, such as The Seattle Times, The Los Angeles Times, The Associated Press, CBS News and Sony Pictures.

The endowment drive kicked off four years ago under the leadership of then-AAJA Seattle Chapter President Sharon Chan, who is running for AAJA National President. Seattle's success story can be replicated, says Chan, who will lead a national AAJA endowment campaign dubbed "The Power of One."

"What Seattle's success simply shows," Bhatt said, "is that individuals — co-workers, friends and family — support diversity in our profession. It's our job to give them a concrete way to express that belief in our mission."

The Konkani holy man, **Swami JYOTIRMAYANANDA,** presented a paper on "The Significant Role of Temples and the Religious Institutions", at the World Association for Vedic Studies (WAVES) international Conference (14 to 16 June 2008) at the University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL. The PDF of the brochure can be accessed at: http://vivekajyoti.blogspot.com/2008/07/motivating-youth-to-actively.html

CXO today.com featured an article by Pankaj Maru on Jul 4th 2008 "I want to influence people positively" on **PANKAJ DHUME,** of Pune, India, CEO & President of BMC Software India-a company that provides global enterprise management solutions. The whole article can be accessed at: http://www.cxotoday.com/India/CXO_Lifestyle/I_want_to_influence_people_positively/551-90850-1005.html

The 61st India Day Parade held by Federation of India Association (FIA) in NYC during August 16th & 17th 2008, featured two prominent Konkanis - **DEEPIKA PADUKONE** as Grand Marshall and **Dr. VIJAY B MALLYA** as Chief guest.

Dr. RAJARAMA SHENOY of Shelton CT has been named to the Advisory Council of Georgia Tech School of Aerospace Engineering for a Four-Year term starting August 2008.

An article "New technology can reduce home heating oil use- As fuel prices climb oil burner developer is trying to make furnaces burn efficiently" by Tom Incantalupo appeared on Sep 4th 2008 issue of *Long Island Newsday* highlighting the burner designed & developed by **Dr. BOLA RAGHAVENDRA KAMATH** of Ridge, NY. Kamath's company, Heatwise Inc., is developing the "high-low" burner with financial help from the state Energy Research & Development Authority, and with technical help from Brookhaven National Laboratory on an earlier model. The burner can cut fuel use by 15-20 percent and use a third of the electricity of most of the burners that produce heat and hot water in LI homes.

Konkani Graduates:

GITA V. PAI of Walnut Creek, CA is the recipient of a 2008-09 American Dissertation Fellowship from the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Educational Foundation. She was selected for her scholarly excellence, teaching experience, and active commitment to helping women through service in her community and profession.

Gita is a doctoral candidate in the South and Southeast Asian Studies Department at the University of California, Berkeley. Her dissertation explores issues of power and representation in the literary and artistic vision of Nayaka kingship in Tamilnadu (mid-16th to early 18th century) and it examines subsequent colonial reinterpretations of this vision.

Gita is also the wife of Vivek Pai, mother of Vidya and Vinay, and daughter of Ananda and Syamala Rao of Pleasant Hill, CA..

TRISHNA, d/o Jayaram & Suhasini Kamath graduated *Summa Cum Laude* from McMaster University's, B Kin (Honours) program in June 2008. She will be pursuing Master of Science in Physical Therapy program at University of Toronto in September, 2008.

PRIYA G. NALKUR, d/o Anil & Meeta Nalkur and daughter-in-law of Ravi and Jayashree Pai, was awarded her Doctoral degree in Human Development & Psychology from the School of Education at Harvard University. For her thesis, she traveled several times to Tanzania to study street children and orphans. In September, she will begin a postdoctoral fellowship at the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania.

ANSHUL, s/o Bharat & Kalpana Kundaje of Buena Park, CA, completed his Ph.D. this August in Computer Science (Computational Biology & Machine Learning) from Columbia University, NY. He will pursue post doctoral research in Functional Genomics at the Computer Science Dept. at Stanford University, CA.

PRAVANA, youngest d/o Yogesh & Vidya Alekal of Lakewood, CA, graduated from University of California, Berkeley with an undergraduate degree in computer science and electrical engineering. She has joined Intel.

ANUSUYA, d/o Jayant & Kanchan Kabad of Sugar land, TX and grand daughter of Sadanand & Kumud Nilekani of Sugar land, TX graduated from High School and has joined University of Chicago majoring in Public Policy.

ANEIL KOCHIKAR PAI, s/o Amar & Teresa Pai of Whitehouse Station, NJ, recently joined the prestigious law firm of Cravath, Swaine, and Moore in Manhattan, NY as a para legal. After a two year program at the firm, Aneil hopes to pursue degree in law. He is a recent graduate of George Washington University, DC.
Aneil is also devoting his spare time as a freelance writer for the Foreign Policy Digest (http://www.foreignpolicydigest.org/) where his article on Tibet/China conflict was recently published.

New Arrivals:

NIKHIL, a baby boy to Drs Ashwini & Atul Vaidya of Tulsa, OK on March 27th 2008. A brother to Mira. The proud grandparents are Dr. Radhakrishna & Nilima Kamath of Shawnee, OK and Drs. Makarand & Kumud Vaidya of Oklahoma City, OK

GAURAV, a baby boy to Shrinath & Arundhati Shenoy of San Diego, CA on May 1, 2008. The proud grandparents are Narayan & Malathi Shenoy of Kundapur and Devadas & Prathima Nayak of Shimoga, India

NAREN, a baby boy to Suraj & Shivany Bhat of St. Charles, MO on June 7th 2008 in St.Louis, MO. The proud grand parents are Srinivas & Lalitha Bhat from Bangalore, India and Muralidhar & Sudha Shenoy, Durham, NC.

KIRAN KOCHIKAR, a baby boy to Dr. Reetesh & Dr. Kathryn Pai of Menlo Park, CA on July 7th 2008. Proud and happy grandparents are Ramnath & Rajashree Kochikar Pai Tampa,FL.

SAHANA DEETYA, a 8 lb 6.5 oz (3.8 kg) and is 22' (56 cm) tall baby girl, to Mahesh & Sheetal Sashital of Houston, TX on July 23 at 3:33 pm in Houston, TX.

JEEVAK ANANTH, baby boy to Amar & Neeru Bhandary of Oklahoma City, OK on August 6th 2008. A brother to Maya. The proud grand parents are Manorama & late Ananth Bhandary and Usha & late Ravinder Midha of Chandigarh, India.

KEIRA LAKSHMI, a 6 lbs 10 ounces and 19 1/2 inches tall baby girl to Murali & Sandy Kamath of Fullerton, CA on August 16th 2008. The proud grandparents are Mohan & Mohini Kamath of Cerritos, CA. and Pete & Onsri Pandhumas.

Arangetram:

Jayant & Kanchan Kabad of Sugar land, TX celebrated the *Bharathanatyam Arangetram* of their daughter, **Kum. ANUSUYA,** grand daughter of Sadanand & Kumud Nilekani of Sugar land, TX on Saturday July 26th 2008 at Stafford Civic Center, Stafford, TX.

Brahmopadesha:

Sunil & Sandhya Shenoy of Spring, TX celebrated the sacred thread ceremony of their son, **Chi. SREESH** (grand son of Sri R. G. K. Shenoy & late Smt. Prema G. Shenoy and Sri D. N. Pai & late Smt. Meera D. Pai) at 10:15 AM (*Simha Lagnam Muhurtham*) on Friday July 11th 2008 at GSB Sabha's Shree Sreenivas Kalyana Mantap, in Vashi, Navi Mumbai.

Anil & Pramita Shenoy of Bloomsburg, PA celebrated the sacred thread ceremony of their son, **Chi. ANISH** (grand son of Sri R. G. K. Shenoy & late Smt. Prema G. Shenoy and Dr. Sri Madhukar Rao & Dr. Smt. Prabha M. Rao) at 10:25 AM (*Simha Lagnam Muhurtham*) on Friday July 11th 2008 at GSB Sabha's Shree Sreenivas Kalyana Mantap, in Vashi, Navi Mumbai.

On Aug. 24th 2008, Krishna Jayanthi day, Nandan & Superna Kalle of Manhattan Beach, CA, performed the upanayanam of their son, **Chi. TARAN.** Family and close friends attended the function. Priest was Shukavakdas of the Laxminarayan Temple from Riverside, CA.

Needless to mention, the vatus are extremely busy doing sandyavandanams

Engagement:

Bharat & Kalpana Kundaje of Buena Park, CA, announced the engagement of their elder son, Chi. **ANSHUL** to Kum. **NALINI**, d/o Krishnan & Asha Kartha of Bangalore, India. Nalini did her M.S. in Computer Science from Columbia University and works for IBM at San Jose, CA.

Newly Weds:

Mohan & Vishaya Pai of Somerdale, NJ celebrated the wedding of their daughter, **Sow. NANDITA with Chi. DANIEL,** s/o Mr. & Mrs. Barton Marshall on Saturday June 21st 2008 in Collingswood, NJ.

Ravi & Jayashree Pai of Markham, Ont. celebrated the marriage of their son, **Chi. ROSHAN** with **Sow. PRIYA**, d/o Anil & Meeta Nalkur of Ottawa, Ont. on Saturday July 12th 2008 at Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Toronto, Ont. followed by reception at Holiday Inn Select at Brampton, Ont.

Mohan and Malathi Bhat of Bangalore celebrated the wedding of their son, **Chi. DURGESH**, of Houston, TX with **Sow. SWATI,** d/o Aniruddh and Sujata on Friday August 8th 2008 at Ganjam Mantap, Bangalore.

Sow. PRASHANTI, d/o Yogesh & Vidya Alekal of Lakewood, CA, got married to **Chi. JOHNNY LE LUU**, s/o Xu & Tien Van Luu on August 10th 2008 in a Hindu ceremony in Lakewood, CA. She is doing her fellowship in infectious diseases at Cedar-Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles, while Johnny is doing his fellowship in pediatric intensive care at Loma Linda University Medical Center.

Relocation:

The **BALIGA** family, Prabhakar & Kamakshi together with their sons, Abhay & Uday, have relocated within Mt. Pleasant, SC to 259 Coinbow Circle, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464. The telephone remains the same at (843)-849-8020.

The **PAI** family, Ratnakar & Jayanthi moved from Farmington Hills, MI to 1485 Club Dr., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302.

The **NAYAK** family, Devadas & Gowri, with their son, Kishan, have relocated from Farmington Hills, MI to 11024 Legacy Drive, #303, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410. Their telephone (561) 626-5866 & email ID: devadas_nayak@hotmail.com

Change of email:

Dr. RAMADAS KAMATH of Apple Valley, CA has changed his email to: ramkamathmd@gmail.com

Change of Phone & email:

The **PRABHU** family, Raghurama & Rakhee of Elkridge, MD changed their residential phone to (410)-379-8320 and email ID: rahgup7@yahoo.com

Change of Zip Code:

The zip code of the residence of the **DOMNITZ** family has changed from 77478 to 77498 effective immediately.

70th Birthday Bash:

Friends and families of **Dr. GOPAL A. BHANDARKAR** of Bayport, NY celebrated his 70th Birthday in Dublin, Ireland on Sunday July 13th 2008.

Obituary:

Dr. PREM J. BHATT (80) of Sugar Land, TX passed away in NJ on Wednesday June 18th 2008. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his daughters, Namita Nayak & family of Sugar Land, TX and Nilima Palekar & family of Watchung, NJ.

Sri. M. RANGAPPA NAYAK (88) of Hyderabad, A. P., India passed away on July 17th 2008. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his son, Ravi Nayak & family of Flanders, NJ.

(As appeared in *Udayavani)*
Smt. SHANTHI R. PAI (77), w/o Late Shri T Ramesh U Pai - former head of Manipal Group passed away in Manipal after a brief illness on July 18, 2008.
Born on 06-11-1931 into the well known Baliga family of Mangalore, she was the daughter of Late Shri B Vaikuntha Baliga, former Speaker of Mysore Legislative Assembly. She was the Correspondent of Manipal High school Trust which runs Manipal P U College, the President of Manipal Education Foundation which runs Madhav Pai Memorial College, President of The Hindu Orphanage, Manipal; the former Vice Chairman of Manipal Academy of Health & Education, Goa; the Director of Manipal Holdings Pvt Ltd. Above all, she was the greatest inspiration and motivation behind her illustrious husband Late Shri Ramesh U Pai who is one of the architects of modern Manipal along with Late Upendra Pai and Dr T M A Pai. She is survived by 2 sons (Shri Sudhakar Pai - Head of Kurlon Ltd. and Dr Shantharam Pai - a Medical Professional based in the U S A), 2 daughters - (Smt Shobha Pai - U S A and Dr Sheela Pai - a Medical Professional based in Dubai) and a large number of friends and relatives. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to the beleaguered families.

KONCHADY BABURAYA SHENOY (86) passed away in Iselin, NJ on August 23rd 2008. He was the Corporator - Mangalore City Corporation (1992-95) and BJP President of Gandhinagar, Mangalore (1985-90). *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his daughters, Neeta S Acharya & family of Jackson Heights, NY, Sheela V Baliga & family of Jackson Heights, NY, Chanchala M Nayak & family of Jackson Heights, NY and Roopa G Shenoy & family of Abu Dhabi, UAE and sons, Devanand Shenoy & family of Jackson Heights, NY, Jaywant Shenoy & family of Abu Dhabi, UAE, Krishnanand Shenoy & family of Jackson Heights, NY and Vivekanand Shenoy & family of Iselin, NJ.

KONKANI HAPPENINGS

YUGADI FUNCTION 2008:

The Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC) Yugadi Celebration was held at the beautiful club house of the Laguna Hills Country Club on March 22, 2008, thanks to Venkatesh and Padma Rao, who generously paid for the hall. The program started with *arati* and prayers, lead by Mohini Kamath and Radhika Hattiangadi. President Ramdas Pai welcomed all members, introduced new faces, and made a few announcements. This was followed by Karaoke songs by Sridhar and Nandini Rao. Jaidev and Chitra Chandavarkar presented an interesting slide show with commentary of their recent trek to Nepal, Tibet, Mount Kailash and Lake Manasarovar. This was followed by another equally captivating slide show and commentary of the *Pada Yatra* and Tercentenary of the Sri Chitrapur Math of Shirali, North Kanara District, by Bharat Kundaje. At the end Radhika Hattiangadi sang nostalgic film songs. It ended with a delicious catered dinner. The entire slate of members of the Executive Committee were re-elected for an additional year. Congratulations to Board Members, and thank you for doing a wonderful job. Special thanks to Mohiniakka (Kamath) for bringing delicious Madgane for everyone and all volunteers and members for making this event a grand success.

By: Vivek Ullal, Simi Valley, CA

Konkani Sabha 2008 Picnic:

Thank you all for coming to the Konkani Sabha Picnic at Reichler Park at South Brunswick Township, New Jersey on Saturday, June 14th, 2008. It was great weather, perfect for the picnic. The early birds treated themselves to a sumptuous breakfast dished out by the organizing committee families comprising of Idli, Batato Ambado, Chutney and Upma.
Our thanks Rajesh and Radhika Mallya for their $60.00 contribution towards gifts and prizes. We also like to thank Arun Manelkar for the contribution and participation in the prize distribution. Thank you for all binging authentic Konkani dishes.

Children's competitions grabbed kids' attention and energy. There was plenty of 'Panchadik' to engage in and make new friends and acquaintances. Bingo game and raffles were enjoyed by all.
Everyone had a great time throughout and the wholehearted participation made the picnic a great success.

By: Ganapathi Kamath, President, Konkani Sabha

The Konkani Association of California (KAOCA) held KAOCA Sports day at Sanatan Dharma Kendra on Saturday July 19th 2008 and Konkanis of all ages participated in this event. Participants enjoyed the chess, carom, X-box, and basketball competitions.

The Konkani Association of Ontario (KAO) held their annual picnic & general meeting on Saturday July 26, 2008 at Area # 15, High Park, Toronto from 10.00 AM onwards. The event included social hour, Games for adults and kids, Potluck Lunch and Dessert by KAO) and Annual General Meeting (with Bhel).

Michigan Konkani Association celebrated their annual summer picnic on Saturday July 26th at Marshbank Park, W. Bloomfield, MI.

The Saraswat Foundation Bhanap picnic was held on August 2nd 2008 at Reichler Park, South Brunswick, NJ

Houston Area Amchigale ladies under the leadership of **MAYA R. PRABHU** of Houston, TX, sponsored the CHUDI POOJA & HALDI KUMKUM on Sunday, August 3rd, 2008 at 11:00 am at Sugarland Community center in SugarLand, TX. The program included the exchange of Chudi Pooja/Haldi kumkum by ladies followed by sumptuous luncheon cooked by the ladies.

Konkani ladies of Scarborough and Markham performed a traditional Shravan Tulsi Pooja at Markham on Sunday August 24th 2008. Tulsi pooja was performed with aarti. Choodis were tied and exchanged.

Konkani Association of California (KAOCA) held their annual summer picnic on Saturday September 6th 2008 at Fremont Central Park Area A in Fremont, CA from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

BHARATNAYAM DANCE BY KARISMA NAGARKATTI

Festival of Solos, An evening of Indian Classical Dance by Rangoli Foundation for Art & Culture was presented on Saturday, 12th July at the newly opened Edye Second Space Santa Monica Performing Arts Centre in Santa Monica. This was the first show to be staged by an Indian Dance company**. Karisma Nagarkatti** and Hema Iyer danced to a sold out house full audience. Karisma dedicated her first solo show to her friend, **Sagarika Savur**, partial proceeds of the ticket sales will benefit the City of Hope Medical Center and go towards the Sagarika Savur Fund. This dance program's Artistic Director & Dance Conductor was Smt. Malathi Iyengar. Musicians from India were Shri Nandakumar U.: Vocal, Shri Gurumurthy G: Percussion and Shri Vivek U.: Flute.

Houston Area Amchigale Samaj (HAAS) held the *Krishna Janmastami* celebration on Saturday August 23rd 2008 at the Sugarland Community Center in Sugar Land, TX at 6:00 PM. The function included reciting 108 names of Lord Krishna, bhajans, dandiya raas and good food.

KHABBAR FROM KULAR

By: - Vishwa Konkani Sardar BASTI VAMAN SHENOY

Konkani icon **Mr. K.V. Kamath,** CEO, ICICI Bank Ltd. has been conferred with `Padmabhushan' award by Government of India. Konkani Samaj World over pray God Mr. Kamath gets `Bharat Ratna' soon.

Ravindra Kelekar, one of the greatest Konkani Writer from Goa was conferred with `FELLOWSHIP' Award from Kendra Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi. He is the first to get the award in Konkani literary field. He is also awarded with `BHASHA BHARATHI SAMMAN' AWARD by Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore. A collection of essay in Konkani of Mr. Kelekar, translated to English by Mrs. Vidya Pai of Kolkata, will be released in July 2008 at Goa. `Kaleidoscope' will be the first book to be released through World Konkani literature Akademi(Vishwa Konkani Sahitya Akademi) of World Konkani Centre, Mangalore.

Mr. K. K. Pai, Konkani Bhishma was awarded `Madhav Manjunath Shanbhag Award' by Digambar Kamath, Hon. Chief Minister of Goa State for Mr. Pai's significant contribution to Konkani language, art and culture and promoting Konkani activities in India.

Mr. M. D. Mallya has been approached as C.M.D. of Bank of Baroda, one of the three Biggest Banks in India. Mr. Mallya was previously in Corporation Bank and C.M.D. of Bank of Maharashtra.

Mr. K. K. Pai laid the foundation stone for the new building for Chetana School at BalaMaruthi Vyayam Shala premises at Mangalore for the physically challenged children on 10th May 2008.

Konkani Biography `Ullal Srinivas Mallya' Architect of New Mangalore District, written by **Basti Vaman Shenoy** is translated to Kannada and Tulu languages by Basti Prakashana, Bantwal.

Government of India has selected Manipal University, Manipal to start a University for the students of persons of Indian origin and Non-Resident Indians. World Manipal University was selected from the list of 37 big and foremost Universities of India. Congratulations to **Dr. T. Ramdas M. Pai**, Chancellor, Manipal University !!

First phase of **World Konkani Centre** consisting of World Konkani Library, World Konkani Museum, Administrative Block, Research wing, Mini-Convention Theatre, Seminar Hall and Hall of fame is under completion with a cost of about Rs.200 Lakhs. Muhurtham will be held on 27th June 2008.

Bharathiya Janatha Party formed the first BJP Government in South India headed by Mr. S. Yadiyurappa, Dr. V.S. Acharya, Shri J. Krishna Palemar from Udupi and Mangalore are among 31 Ministers. **Shri N. Yogish Bhat** has been elected as successful 4th time MLA to Vidhana Sabha.

SOCIAL REFORM

By: - Sri V. S. Bhat

Recently I read an article in Panchkadai on 'Widow's status,-Social Reform' It was heartening to learn that such changes are gradually taking place in our community which is an elite and erudite community but are a victim of blind faith. We all must join hands and heartily welcome our Dharmaguru, Srimad Sudhindra Thirtha Swamiji's big step in giving the status to the widowed ladies in our community who are the strength of our community in looking after the children and guiding them in the right path and teaching them 'Hindu Samskruti' Our grateful salutations to Swamiji.

Great Sage, Sankaracharya respected widows. He gave them darshan like any other devotees would get. He would treat them as equals.

At this juncture I would like to put forward some of our outdated systems, which in the guise of traditions, we have been blindly following. Some of our marriage vidhis are too outdated. Rituals like, 'Going to Kashi' has no meaning in the present context. On those gurukula days, a boy is supposed to have finished his basic studies and was about to go to higher studies and would continue living as a sanyasi with his Guru. At that time the bride's father pleads with him to accept his daughter in marriage, and get into grihastashram. ., But now the boy has already completed higher studies, has taken up earnings, well settled financially and needs a partner. We all take this ritual with a pinch of salt. All the people present at the wedding ceremony have hearty laugh at the situation and finish this small ceremony hurriedly. IS THERE A NEED FOR SUCH A CEREMONY AT THE PRESENT CONTEXT? The priests who perform these ceremonies are also helpless. They have to follow the prevailing customs.

SAPTAPADHI is an all time true ritual. The couple must be made to understand what 'Saptapadi' is. They are jointly taking the 7 steps and are supposed to understand the guidelines of their future life. This must be the true ritual of the whole marriage ceremony

The intrusions in our traditions will have to be analysed and rectified according to the changing timings. The tradition which was good may not remain good for all time in the present changing circumstances of technology.

Society will perish if it is to run on traditions only. We should follow the Sanathana Dharma in full faith. Changes in the society should take place according to the needs of the people. The traditions have crept into the society to satisfy the ego of some people and have been thrust on the weaker sections of people who have been blindly following them. The Mumbai University emblem has these precious words,
Let the noble thoughts come from every corner of the world and we accept them. There lies the progress, or we perish. We cannot question the fundamentals, because they are important pillars of the whole structure.

Recently I had an occasion to interact with my son-in-law who was totally shattered by the sudden death of his father. As a true son he flew back to India to participate in the next thirteen day ceremonies. My logical explanation to him referring to modern technology had very much convinced him. Ganesh , my son-in-law was wondering why this tradition of inviting 'pitra's for accepting 'pinda' ? I explained to him, that in sending a mail it reaches the person in whichever corner of the world he resides, with the click of a mouse because of the id. Similarly with love and respect if you invite your deceased parents, and forefathers, who are equally wanting the well being of their younger ones, come immediately in their spirits at the tap of the 'darbe' on the 'pinda' to participate with the offering so lovingly given.

We need to have Atmajnana. Atma is pure. Our Dharma is pure, traditions are Kalmashas. Without knowing the full truth, merely following the tradition is to 'blind fold us' Our Dharma guru has warded this blind faith
I am now reminded of the story "Rome thuntovchi Kani" of four cows. The cow behind the first one, did the job of pulling the worm on the back of the cow that was in front of it, and thereby pulled one hair along with it ,fully realizing what he is doing. What the other cows followed was just 'andha shraddha' The present youth is an intelligent one. Let us not thrust on them the blind faiths. Explain to them why we are following the rituals. This is one way of clearing the generation gap. Let us try to become little more knowledgeable rather than putting them in this web of blind faith. Let us educate the younger generation on the right path, fully realizing they are the intelligent lot and will understand everything if taught logically.

The Secret Revolution of Lord Krishna
The Historical Context of the Bhagavad Gita
Chapter: Outlines of the Upanishadic Revolution in the Bhagavad Gita

By: - K. P. S. Kamath, M. D., Cape Girardeau, MO

As we studied earlier, Brahmanism rested on the doctrines of the Gunas and Karma (3:5, 27, 33; 18:59-60). Kamya Karma, desire-driven sacrifice geared to earn as much Karmaphala as possible, was rooted in these two doctrines, and became the symbol of decay of Brahmanism Dharma. In the Historical context, as the *Dwandwa-ridden* upper classes were busy earning *Karmaphala* by means of Kamya Karma, the society at large suffered much *Grief* over the state of affairs. Wholesale abandonment of Brahmanism ensued. In the Mahabharata context, *Grief, Dwandwa* and obsession with *Karmaphala* were the very three issues Arjuna grappled with in the battlefield of Kurukshetra.

As Brahmanism declined steadily and heterodox Dharmas flourished, a revolution was urgently needed *from within* to overthrow Brahmanism, or reclaim what was left of it. Some great Upanishadic seers of theological genius and outstanding literary skills must have decided that time was ripe for drastic action. It took some brave Upanishadic seers to finally declare that the Brahmanism doctrines of the Gunas and Karma *were the cause* of societal turmoil, and they must be replaced with the Upanishadic doctrines of Knowledge of Atman and Buddhiyoga (2:39-40). They decided to reveal that profound secret (4:3) in the Gita, a *Smriti* which could be read, heard, and studied by anyone, including women and Sudras (9:32). In other words, they converted the modified Original Gita into an Upanishad for the masses.

Setting the stage

First, they promoted prince Krishna to the position of an Upanishadic Guru and demoted prince Arjuna to the position of his humble disciple (Shishya, 2:7). This enabled Guru Krishna to impart to Arjuna –and to the world- the secret doctrines of the Upanishads: Knowledge of Atman and Buddhiyoga (2:39-40).

Second, they introduced the Upanishadic format (4:34) of *thoughtful discourse* between an enlightened Guru and a novice Shishya. The 64 shloka long Original Gita was basically a *lecture* by prince Krishna to distraught prince Arjuna about the merits of doctrines of the Gunas and Karma.

Third, a little bit later they elevated Guru Krishna to the position of the Lord of beings (4:6), a position equal to that of Prajapati of Brahmanism, to protect the revolutionary shlokas from being destroyed by the Brahmanic vested interests; and to reform Brahmins (BG Chapter Four) and Kshatriyas (Chapter Three).

The basic strategies of the Upanishadic Revolution

1. They discredited the doctrine of the Gunas: The revolutionaries did this by exposing the Gunas as the source of various human weaknesses such as desire, attachment, delusion, jealous rage and ignorance, and therefore as the enemy of man (3:37-40). The Gunas cause ignorance of Atman, which leads to *Grief.* The Gunas cause *Dwandwa* by means of desire for and attachment to sense objects. The Gunas are the cause of one's ruin (2:62-63) and evil acts (3:37). They countered every pro-Guna shloka in the Original Gita with anti-Guna shloka (3:7; 3:28-29, 34; 14:19-27).

2. They replaced the doctrine of the Gunas with the doctrine of Knowledge of Atman (2:39): They introduced Atman, the divine essence of man, as the force greater than the Gunas (2:16-30; 2:45; 3:43; 14:19). Whereas the Gunas caused *Grief* here on earth, Knowledge of Atman gave Bliss here on earth.

3. They discredited the doctrine of Karma: They said that earning Karmaphala merely promotes Samsara (9:20). Permanent liberation (Nirvana) from Samsara should be one's goal in life (15:4).

4. They recommended Buddhiyoga as a means to control *Dwandwa* and to break the bonds of *Karma* (2:40): by controlling the Guna-rooted weaknesses such as desire, attachment and delusion, the mind connects with the Buddhi and becomes Buddhiyukta (steady) (2:50). When the Buddhiyukta mind comes into contact with the Atman, it attains the state of Sthitaprajnya (2:54-58). This they called *Sanyasa.* They recommended performing all actions selflessly, so that one's actions earn no Karmaphala (2:47-51). This would end Samsara. This they called *Tyaga.* Thus *Sanyasa* and *Tyaga* became the two pillars of Yoga.

5. They attacked all the remaining aspects of Brahmanism: the Vedas (2:46, 52-53), Kamya Karma (2:43, 49; 3:17-18; 15:1-4), Vedic ritualists (2:41-44), Varnashrama Dharma (5:18-19; 9:29), and Samsara (15:1-4).

6. They attempted to reform the ritualists: they divided Buddhiyoga into two Yogas, and gave Jnanayoga (Knowledge of Atman, Sanyasa) to the brainy Brahmins and Karmayoga (Yoga of Action, Tyaga) to brawny Kshatriyas (3:3).

7. They consolidated the revolution by explaining the basic tenets of the Upanishadism –Atman, Brahman, Yoga, and Nirvana in BG Chapters Five, Six, Eight, Thirteen and Fifteen.

Basic tactics of the Upanishadic revolution

The Upanishadic seers chose their words carefully in launching the revolution. They used various tactics to express their views, leaving room for ambiguity. Most of their revolutionary shlokas superficially appear to be applicable to Arjuna's predicament. As we will read in the next chapter, deeper analysis would prove this not to be the case.

1. Clever use of multiple meanings of words Karma, Dharma, Shruthi, Veda, etc.: The words Dharma and Karma have multiple meanings, depending upon the context and intent of their use.

2. Using metaphors to convey the message (2:22-24; 4:37; 15:1-4).

3. Double entendre: Using the same shloka to give dual meanings, one with reference to the Mahabharata context and the other the Historical (2:47-49). As we will read later, their shlokas did not fit the Mahabharata context as well as they did the Historical context.

4. Using pun (2:29; 52-53) to convey the hidden message. They used words such as Karma, Dharma, Shruthi, and Veda in such a way that the discerning reader would know their hidden, anti-Brahmanism intent.

5. Pretending as if the shlokas were meant for Arjuna when, in fact, they were meant for errant ritualists. They gave a clue to this fact by addressing Arjuna as *sinless* (3:3; 15:20), and a person with divine qualities (16:5) meaning, these shlokas did not apply to him. It is a like a good scolding given by a father to his noble son within the earshot of his errant nephew. The scolding given was meant for the waywardly nephew, not for the noble son.

Choice of the Gita as the manifesto of the revolution

1. Firstly, the *theme* of the Original Gita came rather handy. In it the noble prince Arjuna suffers from *Grief* and *Dwandwa* due to his attachment to his relatives and friends (sense objects), and obsesses over earning *bad Karmaphala* from his actions. Unable to deal with this predicament, he desires to abandon his Dharma. The post-Vedic society was riddled with the same three maladies. A large number of Kshatriyas were abandoning Brahmanism full of *Grief* over its decadence. The upper classes of Brahmanism were suffering from *Dwandwa* due to their obsession with earning *Karmaphala* by means of Kamya Karma.

2. Secondly, the Brahmanism seers had already set the precedence by adding pro-Brahmanism shlokas into the Original Gita to shore up their Dharma. Being part of a Smrithi, the Mahabharata, the Gita was a very popular scripture even among the masses. The Upanishadic seers must have concluded that the modified Original Gita was a fair game to initiate their revolution.

3. Thirdly, as we read in an earlier chapter, the Upanishadic concepts of Knowledge of Atman and Buddhiyoga had been declared as top secret by Brahmanic vested interests as their basic tenets were diametrically opposed to the Brahmanic concepts of the Gunas and Karma. By means of the Upanishadic Gita, this top secret was revealed to one and all. By adding Upanishadic (Shruthi) concepts into a Smriti, the vested interests could not conceal them from the public by reclassifying them as Shruthi. In contrast to Shruthis, which could be listened to only by twice-born (dvija), Smriti could be listened to by even women and lower classes of the society. The days of intrigue were over, at least for now. (To be continued)

8/21/08. pkamath001@gmail.com. www.yogaofmind.com

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, $
Radhakrishna & Nilima Kamath, Shawnee, OK	51.00
Shanti Pai, Sun City West, AZ	50.00
Balakrishna & Indumathi Pai, Bloomfield Hills, MI	116.00
Gopal & Pratibha Bhandarkar, Bayport, NY	60.00
Damodar & Shobha Baliga, Brooklyn, NY	100.00
Praveen & Prema Prabhu, Greensboro, NC	60.00
Vasudev & Sunita Prabhu, Mission Viejo, CA	51.00
Ratnakar & Jayanthi Pai, Bloomfield Hills, MI	51.00

Statement of Accounts

Description	Credit, $	Debit, $
Balance Carried over since *Khabbar* Vol. XXXI No. 2	**4,020.00**	
Money Received:		
Subscriptions (52) and donations	1,294.00	
Interest	6.00	
Sub Total:	**1,300.00**	
Money Spent (*Khabbar* Vol. XXXI No. 2):		
Printing- *Khabbar* (415) - 20 pages		406.48
First Class Mail-*Khabbar* (370)		218.30
Canada *Khabbar* (13)		12.48
Overseas (20)		60.00
Mail Fines, computer paper & labels, envelopes, service fees, etc.		452.74
Sub Total:		**1,150.00**
Final Balance:	**4,170.00**	

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

Konkani Calendar

October 2008	November 2008	December 2008
4th Lalitha Panchami	**1st KAO Diwali**	3rd Skanda Shashti
4th KAO Dandiya	**8th MichKon Diwali**	8th Vaikuntha Yekadashi
5th Sharadha Pooja	**8th KAOCA Diwali**	9th Mukkoti Dwadashi
7th Durgashtami	**8th HAAS Diwali**	12th Poornami
8th Ayudha Pooja	9th Karthika Yekadashi	15th Sankashta Chathurthi
9th Vijaya dashami	10th Uthana Dwadashi	15th Dhanu Sankranthi
10th Yekadashi	11th Vaikuntha Chaturdashi	26th Amavasya (Dark Moon)
14th Poornami	12th Karthika Poornami	
16th Tula Sankranthi	15th Sankashta Chathurthi	
17th Sankashta Chathurthi	15th Vrishk Sankanthi	
25th KAO Diwali	27th Amavasya (Dark Moon)	
25th Konkani Sabha Diwali		
25th KASC Diwali		
25th AMKA Diwali		
27th Naraka Chaturdashi		

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.

Kwiz

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

The Answer: AISLE or EMPTY

The following gave the correct answers:

Manjeshwar Ganesha Kamath, Gastonia, NC (AISLE) Praveen Kamath, Centreville, VA (EMPTY)

This Quarter's Quiz

By

By Krishna Kudva, Alta Loma, CA

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.

Ten fish I caught without an eye,
And nine without a tail,
Six had no head, And half of eight
I weighed upon the scale;
Now who can tell me as I ask it,
How many fish were in my basket?

APNA Event raises funds for new IT campus at College in Mangalore

(As appeared as an article from The Indian Express , North American Edition Aug 1st 2008)

The Aloysians and Partners in North America (APNA), an organization comprising the alumni and friends of **St. Aloysius College (SAC)** in Mangalore and Aloysian Partners International (API), organized an event at the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan in Manhattan last week to gain support for their new campus. The SAC will build this campus for management and information technology, estimated to cost a whopping $15 million and will be spread over an area of 17 acres in Beeri Ullal, 10 km from Mangalore. Speaking at the event, Fr Denzil Lobo, vice principal of the 128-year-old college and the chief architect of the project, said, "It's our mission to make our business school one of the top 10 in India. The 1st phase of the construction is expected to be completed by June 2009 after which we are going to move in."

API, the umbrella organization for Aloysian Partners, which was officially launched at the meet, has undertaken the gargantuan task of raising funds within a period of three years for the project. "We have planned to create similar Aloysians and Partners bodies in India, Middle East, Europe, Oceania and Africa. We are yet to decide on the people who would spearhead the job of creating databases in their respective zones, which is our primary objective," said Victor Pais, president of Sigma and a VP of APNA.

Leading by example, Pais contributed $250,000 for the project, but the biggest contribution came from Prem Watsa, CEO and chairman of Fairfax Financial Holdings in Toronto, Canada, who pledged $1m despite being a non-Aloysian.

Interested? Contact: Tony D'Silva at trdsilva@hotmail.com OR call (917)-558-1945

नमस्कार ! तुम्ही सर्वान्क आमगेल धन्यवाद!

We sincerely want to thank delegates for being a part of the "Awaken the Konkani in You" experience. 1307 delegates from all parts of the world attended the convention. Most cherished was this opportunity to meet friends and relatives. The Panchadik Lounge with backdrops from Mangalore, Goa & Kumata was a perfect place for socializing.

Delegates enjoyed a festive look to the Santa Clara Convention Centre decked like wedding halls back in India. Konkani men, women & children from all over North American continent (Canada & USA) were there in large numbers. A sprinkling of Indian parents, in laws, Cousins were there to add Indian flavour and old world charm to the meet. The environment was fantastic, Colorful & Vibrant. Delegates were quick to share their experience. Here is a sample of what they had to say…

Prof. Dr. B. M. Hegde's report on the event in http://Mangalorean.com said "Starting on the dot at 9 am with the Jagante call, the programme went like a precision clock work belying the age old Indian adage of IST (Indian Stretchable Time). The compeers did a good job too, neither too much nor too little-with just the right amount of spicy comments like the seasoning of Indian curries. The program included ancient Indian dances, songs and drama, story telling in the old Konkani style clubbed with the recent American stage plays as well. I was really amazed at the younger second generation Americans' fluency and accent of their mother tongue and was reassured that the great Indian culture is still alive among the second generation Konkani Americans."

Dr. Shailini Shenoy from St. Louis said "Kudos to all the people that worked tirelessly to ensure a thoughtful, well-rounded, gastronomically delectable, and FUN Sammelan! Congratulations on pulling it off so well -

Chicago we are there! I want to share with you that our 12 year old daughter has insisted on conversing with us only in Konkani ever since we returned, what an influence!"

Our Chief guest, Prakash Padukone & his wife Ujjala had a memorable experience and shared the following with us "Hearty Congratulations to all of you, for the spectacular show, and flawless arrangements. Your team spirit, and active participation by all age groups of Konkanis, of Bay Area as well as other parts of US and Canada, to keep the Konkani spirit alive, is indeed very commendable."

"Hats off to everyone who spent countless hours behind the scene to make this event a hit. The food was excellent, entertainment programs were awesome and atmosphere was wonderful. Childcare was a bonus to people with kids. This was our first sammelan and we realized how much fun we have been missing. C U all in Chicago!!!" by Tulsi & Neetu Prabhu from Fremont, CA

Rajesh Prabhu from Monterey Park, CA felt "Everything was as perfect as "salt" in a tasty dalitoy. The location, the entertainment, food, registration, seminars and everything associated with Konkani Sammelan 2008 was well planned, coordinated and executed. Kudos for keeping Konkani tradition alive. We youngsters have to carry forward your hard work of keeping the Konkani torch burning."

A Critic from Los Angeles wrote "An absolutely delightful, productive and entertaining convention. Kudos to the organizers, volunteers and helpers in making this convention the most successful one. Each convention raises the bar relative to expectations, and as a past organizer, I know the kind of commitment, attention--well, truthfully, the kind of heart and mind---it takes to bring off a convention that not only meets these expectations, but exceeds them. Northern California surely did--a second time! Congratulations and Three Cheers!!!"

Shenoy Maam from San Jose, CA was impressed because "The food was yummy and there was absolutely no wait at the buffet tables. And at the end of the event, 100s of people were unwilling to desert the Dance Floor even past the midnight. It was also good to see Mr.K.V.Kamath and president Mr.Ramesh Kamath being on the dance floor till the shutdown. The 3 days of sammelan flew past and we had no clue how fast they went by. Now I am indeed looking forward the 2010 one at Chicago; I am sure there would be every attempt to surpass the high standard laid out in Santa Clara."

"It is an understatement that the sammelan met the expectations of the Konkanis who attended. It is my humble opinion and from what I heard from others that the Sammelan exceeded our expectations. Every bit of program was on schedule. No waiting, no lines, and everything happened in a very relaxed way. It gave us plenty of time to socialize - meet old friends and make new friends. My hats off to the organizers - those who were visible and those who were behind the scene. At the end of the sammelan one gentleman asked me to comment on all the activities. It was 10 out of 10 all the way. Thank you, thank you, and thank you again", were the comments from Belvai Vinayak Kudva of Williamson, West Virginia

And to top it all, the following conversation heard in SCCC hallways during the Sammelan hit it all for us…"Two young Konkani boys who had never met before were enjoying playing a handheld game together. And, As the time came to say good bye, the boy with the hand held game, gifted it to the younger boy and promised to meet again at the next Konkani Sammelan in 2 years". Wow, Sharing is Caring; Seeds of a great friendship was sown.

And now to a report on the 3 perfect days at Santa Clara……

The Medical Symposium was held on July 3rd morning. Hyatt Hotel was the venue for this well attended educational discussion. Sammelan Registration process was smooth & started on schedule at 3PM at the Convention center lobby. Delegates got a good feel for the arrangements, looked comfortable with the environment. The Happy hour provided opportunities for everyone to socialize and have a wonderful time. The Santa Clara Convention Center began to buzz with Konkani chatter and this continued for the next three days. Dining hall was a unique experience.

No waiting, no lines. All delegates were able to dine in one seating. They enjoyed mouth watering, delicious & authentic Konkani style dinner

The classical music performance on July 3rd evening by Mahesh Kale captivated the audience. His "Natya Sangeet" kept the listeners enthralled every second. He even sang a Goan Konkani song composed by his guru, Pt. Jitendra Abisheki.

Youth had a party of their own, the icebreaker provided and opportunity to meet and make new friends. Young & Young at heart were all there until midnight

On July 4th, the day started early with breakfast served in Jevan Hall at 7AM. And, as the clock struck nine, in the main auditorium, the Opening ceremony started promptly with the Ganesha Vandana. The melodious Konkani songs & lilting music that were woven together with the cultural theme still keep ringing in our ears. Vaaga Veshu took us back to our Indian villages & reminded delegates of the various Indian festivals. Our chief guest, Indian ace badminton star, Prakash Padukone, youth keynote speaker Dr. Sumeeth Bhat and keynote speakers K V Kamath & Jaya Row inspired the audience with their speeches. This was followed by a witty talk by Dr. Sobel of Kaiser, an American psychiatrist. Seminar topics were educational and well attended. Seminar parallel tracks covered topics like "Teens & the Law"; "Hindu Cosmology"; "Invest in Yourself"; "Vedic Rishis & Scientists". Open Mike Karaoke was perfect during the Social hour. Talented Konkani's took us thru many decades of bollywood tunes. In the evening, Konkani Youth from Bay area along with Prasanna entertained us with a unique blend of classical & modern music. Konkani Youth stole the show with amazing talent and versatile voice.

On July 5th, Konkani youth had a blast with the "Konkani Idol" competition. Karaoke singing, held during the happy hour on July 3rd & July 4th in the Dhingdo Lounge was quite a popular and successful event. The plays, skits and dances in the regional programs were greatly appreciated. Konkani Idol participants provided enthusiastic performances and made us proud to be Konkani!. The day's programs culminated with the Closing ceremony which presented various skits, dances and the "Bailatta" which reiterated the theme and tried to "Awaken our Inner Konkani". The executive committee was presented in quite a unique fashion. They waltzed on the stage to a customized tune in dark suits and swirling ball gowns.

Dining hall arrangements were another highlight of this convention. All delegates enjoyed delicious and authentic Konkani food in one seating during each meal. The festivities finally ended with a banquet & joyous dancing on July 5th. Konkani people of all ages moved across the dance floor to popular Hindi tunes.

The Organizing Committee feels quite gratified that the Sammelan met the expectations of the attending delegates. We really appreciate and acknowledge the incredible sacrifices and efforts of the volunteer teams over the past two years, the open hearted generosity of the many donors and sponsors, the talented performers who entertained the gathering, the professional Convention Center staff & vendors and most of all, "You" - the enthusiastic Konkani delegates who came from far and wide to attend the Sammelan.

See you all in Chicago for the Sammelan 2010!

Devu Baren Karo

2008 Konkani Sammelan Committees

Konkani Sammelan 2010

The much anticipated event, the next Konkani Sammelan, will be held in Chicago in 2010. The details of this superb event will be published in *Khabbar* as they become available.

Upcoming Konkani Events

The 2009 Konkani Youth Convention will be held in Washington, D.C from Aug 7th to 9th 2009. 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 Washington, D.C. metro area have planned an exciting weekend for the attendees.

- Amazing meals, including two dinners with some of the best food and views that Washington, D.C. has to offer.
- A tour of the city that highlights some of the most famous aspects of the D.C. area.
- Seminars on topics such as Konkani Language, Religion, Relationships, and Career Opportunities.
- Ice Breakers and Networking 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 2009 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:
North American Konkani Association (c/o Kiran Shenoy)
1020 N Highland Ave. Suite 709
Arlington, VA 22201
For more information please visit our website at http://www.kyc2009.com or you can email the planning team at info@kyc2009.com

Konkani Sabha

Following is the highlight of the KONKANI SABHA activity for the year 2008

Diwali:

Date: Saturday, October 25th 2008
Time: 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Location: Shri Venkateswara Temple Community Center, Bridgewater, NJ
780 Old Farm Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807. Tel: (908) 725-4477
Cost: Registration and Payment by October 1st - $16 (12 years and older) and $9 (ages 6 to 12)
Registration after Oct 1st and at the door - $18 (12 years and older) and $11 (ages 6 to 12)
Activities: Variety Entertainment, Socialization, Appetizer and Dinner

You are welcome to bring authentic Konkani Appetizers and sweets to Konkani Sabha 2008 Diwali Function. This is an opportunity to **show off your culinary skills**. 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, directions and updates on our activities. **Anyone interested in volunteering to organize the events and activities, and/or in performing at the Diwali function please contact the office bearers.**

President	Ganapathi Kamath	(732) 422-0175	gkamathcpa@yahoo.com
Vice President	Gurudatt Kamath	(732) 274-9542	gurudatt_kamath@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Rajesh Nayak	(973) 779-3119	rajesh_nayak@yahoo.com
Secretary	Ganesh Kudva	(908) 251-5162	ganeshmkudva@yahoo.com

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 Reddy (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

This quarter, the NAKA Board approved on the following:

1. To give $6.6k seed money to the Konkani Youth Convention – 2009.
2. To form a Charitable Foundation with **Ramesh Kamath, Ashok Bhatt, Ravi Baliga, Surendra Shenoy, and Vinayak Kudva** as a sub committee members (per NAKA initiative #6 published earlier). An amount of $20k from NAKA will be deposited here with each committee member giving $1k. Through *Khabbar* NAKA will publish this Foundations progress on a regular basis

NAKA - Statement Of Accounts

Date	Description	Credit, $	Debit, $
05/31/2008	Balance from last report	**44,770.38**	
8/9/2008	Donation Rec'd for KS-2008	5,000.00	
8/20/2008	Seed Money-Youth Convention 2009		5,000.00
8/30/2008	Seed Money-Youth Convention 2009		1,600.00
8/31/2008	Interest	45.70	
	Final Balance:	**43,216.08**	

Signed: Damodar Baliga
Treasurer, NAKA

Konkani Appeals:

Srimad Anantheshwar Temple (SAT) Schools

Brief History and Appeal for Donation for School Development

S.A.T school was founded by the Management of Srimad Anantheshwar Temple" with the sole purpose of imparting 'education with values' in non urban areas like Manjeshwar. The school was founded in 1925 when there were no facilities for education for an area around 20 Kilometers. Hence, students from far away places such as Kumbla, Kodlamogaru, Miyapadavu Moodambail and Ullal benefited from our Institution. Noon meal was also provided by the Temple Management for those students. Over the years, 1000's of students have studied in this institution and at present are very well off, in better positions allover India and abroad.

With the changing times, everything changes and medium of instruction is not an exception. We see that, today, majority want to send their wards to such schools where the medium of instruction is in English. Hence, the school management has decided to begin sections where the medium of instruction is English, where L.K.G and U.K.G sections were commenced this year as the first step. In the coming years, this will be extended till the Tenth Standard.

The Govt. of Kerala had issued an order to all the Managements of the schools to renovate the old Buildings in accordance with the specifications mentioned in K.E.R and hence, many classrooms needs to be substituted. The Govt. provides Mid-day meals to the students for which a Dining Hall is necessary. In the near future, the management has decided to construct sufficient classrooms and a Dining Hall. This project requires a sum of approximately Rs. 18 lakhs, where the old students of this school as well as Philanthropists and the general public are requested to donate generously for the noble cause of imparting quality education to the needy people of this area.

Donations are accepted through S.B A/c No. 220/56732
Syndicate Bank, Manjeshwar

School Management Committee
and
School Development Committee

http://manjeshwar.org
Srimad Anantheshwar Temple
Manjeshwar -671 323, KERALA STATE, INDIA.
Phone : (04998) 272221 274477

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

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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

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

Mr. Basti Ganapathi Shenoy
8017 Celebreeze Crt., LAS VEGAS, NV 89145
Phone: (702)-341-6706; Email: bastishenoy@gmail.com
Please call weekends only 10:00 AM to 10:00PM (PST)

A P P E A L

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

MATRIMONIAL ASSISTANCE

As a service to Konkani community, Sri. B. Srinivas Kamath will offer free matrimonial assistance. Contact:
B.S.Kamath
Block #5, 1st Floor, Deepak Building,
Hari Shanker Joshi Road
Dahisar East, Mumbai-400068
Tel: 011-91-22-2828-3392

WANTED

Khabbar is looking for official "unofficial *Khabbar* Correspondents" in your area. If interested, send an email to khabbar@hotmail.com and *Khabbar* will send you quarterly reminders to send in news about North American Konkanis that is fit to publish.

Appeal: Join the KHABBAR KARES Email List

I get numerous appeals, mostly from India for a cause that is worthy to them. It could be for a scholarship fund; it could be to help a temple project; it could be an arts project; just to name a few. But**, these are really dear to them**. I publish all of them in *Khabbar*. *Khabbar* being a quarterly publication, sometimes, the urgency of the appeal is lost.

Recently, the response from Konkani families in North America for an appeal was overwhelming. The appeal was from the Gokarn Mutt Swamiji to get water samples from North America. It was accomplished even before I could publish it in *Khabbar*!

Hence, this idea came to me- If you are **REALLY** interested in helping, then join the "***Khabbar* Kares**" email list. Any appeal I get, I will forward it to you. There is absolutely **NO** pressure. If you want to help, go ahead and if you don't, no feelings are hurt.

Contact khabbar@hotmail.com if you want to an elite member of *Khabbar* Kares!

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