

Khabbar

North American Konkani Newsletter

Volume XXXII No. 1

January, February, March - 2009

From:

The Honorary Editor,
"Khabbar"

P. O. Box 222

Lake Jackson, TX 77566 - 0222

XXXII-1

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 *Khabbar* Mailing List is one of the benefits to *Khabbar* subscribers and I get quite a few calls from people asking for the latest list, especially, from overseas visitors.

Recently, I received a call from a gentleman who was visiting his family in CA and the conversation went like this:

“Hi, I am visiting my daughter and it will be great if you can send me the latest *Khabbar* list so I can call and talk to my friends and relatives in North America”

“Ya, but, doesn’t your daughter have the list?”

“Oh no, they don’t”

“Do they subscribe to *Khabbar*?”

“No”

“Is there name in the list?”

“No, they are busy in their own world. Both husband and wife are extremely busy and have no time for socializing”

“I see, would they like to have their name in the list?”

“I will ask them. Meanwhile, can you send me a list though?”

“Well...” I hesitated

“If it is hard, don’t worry. I will ask a friend of mine to make a copy and send to me!”

SUBSCRIPTION FORM:

Dear Konkani family,

It is time to renew your subscription for 2009, 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 e*Khabbar*.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

Comments, if any: _____

Quarterly Newsletter
For Circulation to the Konkani Community in North America
Volume XXXII No. 1

January, February, March - 2009
Honorary Editor: Mr. Vasanth Bhat
Mailing Address:

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

www.eKhabbar.com

Tel: (979)-299-3210

Email: khabbar@hotmail.com

Annual Subscription: \$15.00

Make check payable to "Khabbar" & mail to P.O.Box 222, Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222
The Editorial Committee reserves the right to exclude, edit and correct all material received for publication and does not accept any responsibility for views expressed by authors of the publications.

EDITORIAL

Dear Konkani family,
I hope all is well with you and your family.

This issue of *Khabbar* has been mailed to **ALL** families that have paid dues **at least once since 2006**. In other words, families who **have not** paid since 2005 will not be receiving this issue. The numbers on the mailing label clearly indicate the year/s the dues for *Khabbar* has been received since 2006 and if there is any error let me know.

Even in these tough economic times, the Advisory Committee of *Khabbar* has decided 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.

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 *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 Konkani Youth 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. Extend your support to our youngsters who are doing such a great job in maintaining our culture here in North America.

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, the NAKA Board is busy in helping the Youth Convention in raising much needed funding for their event of the year. Please, extend your help to our youngsters.

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 can send the news items via email (khabbar@hotmail.com).

On the Quiz front, *Khabbar* has still remained as a champ. Only one person got the right answer to the last quarter's quiz!

The progress of the ambitious project, **Konkani Kendra**, the **Konkani Bhas Ani Sanskriti Pratistan** is good. 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. On a personal level, I thank Konkani Kendra for honoring me and my wife

during our short visit to Mangalore in Feb 2009. Indeed, the Kendra has become a center of attraction and I urge all North American Konkanis to visit the Kendra to see what way they can benefit from this. Also, see in what way we can help our brethren who are doing an outstanding job in preserving our culture.

Hope the Tirupathi courts judgment declaring **H H Sreemad Sudheendra Theertha Swamiji** as the Mathadipathi of Sree Kashimath Samsthan will end the legal battle and unite the community.

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 the legendary Konkani statesman, **Sri K. K. Pai**, in January of this year. It will be difficult to bear his loss but, hope the community will recover.

I hope the struggle to rid terrorism from this world will materialize soon. Hope Peace & Tranquility will prevail.

Happy *Yugadi* 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 friend,
It is my proud privilege to up-date you on the progress of Satchidananda Institute of Medical sciences at Kanhangad in North Kerala. PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHMENT. Our Web site is

www.anandashramfoundation.org

I am personally involved with the project as Co- Managing trustee. I have visited the institution four times last year and intend to spend more time there in the future.

Your support and encouragement are very much appreciated. You are cordially invited to visit the institution. We wish you and family a very happy new year.

With regards,

Jay K Raman MD FACS FRCS(C)
President
Anandashram Charitable Foundation
(USA)
6 White pillars Lane
Houston, TX 77024
(Tax exempt #20-0216788)
jaykraman@yahoo.com

Editor's Reply:

Commend on you your dedication in helping the needy. Here's the link for donors to get more details about this Foundation:

http://www.ekhabbar.com/ACF_1.PDF

All the best.

Dear Vasant-mam,

The 10-Day Event was just a great show, indeed, for all the Konkans across the world to feel proud of Padma Bhushan Shri K.V.Kamath, the President of the Celebration Committee was with us for three days, and his wife for four days, despite a great deal of security concerns in Mumbai due to 26/11 Mumbai attack by Terrorists. H.H.Swamijis of Shree Samsthan Gokarn Math, Kavle Math, Chitrapur Math camped there. Sri Sri Ravi Shankar rendered us a spiritual lecture coming by chartered flight from Arunachal Pradesh. Similarly

many VVIPs attended. We shall update photo-gallery in website very soon. Gokarn Math Swamiji proceeded for next camp on 12th Dec. Khabbar's efforts were widely acclaimed during Vote of Thanks on the concluding day, a Maha Sabha that was attended by about 7,000 persons. Pandal was total about 200,000 sft. with a height of 23 feet. Maha Sabha pandal was 45,000 sft in size. The entire Show was just spectacular indeed. We are yet to deposit your cheque in the Bank. Ram-Naam books were received. We shall give you more details in a few days. Khabbar's efforts in collecting holy waters from your end of the globe were highly lauded and all who were instrumental in getting us that are immensely blessed by all the Swamijis.

More soon,

With respectful regards,

Raghuram Vaman Kamath
raghuramkamath@gmail.com

Dear Editor,

GSB Scholarship League has recently launched a website to create an awareness among community people and to tell them what this 96 year old Institution does for the needy and poor students of the community. I am attaching a brief write up on this . Can you kindly publish it in your 'Khabbar' magazine and oblige us?

With best regards,

Gita R.Pai

gitarpai@hotmail.com

(Trustee, GSB Scholarship League)

Dear Vasanth,

Here is this year's analysis of the 2009 Khabbar Mailing List dated 12-08-2008:

Of the 2,086 families in the list (it was 2,160 last year!); we have Konkans living in 45 states & DC (one more than last year!). We still do not have any Konkans living in Alaska,

Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming!!

Also, we have:

207 Kamat(h)

201 Shenoy, Shenai, Shanbh(o)ag(ue)
195 Pai

163 Nayak (Naik)

111 Prabhu

85 Rao (u)

75 Bhat(t)

44 Baliga

36 Kini

32 Nadkarni(y)

30 Mal(l)ya, Mallia, Mahale

21 Kudva

20 Bhandarkar, Bhandari(y)

17 Hegde

13 Acharya.

11 Hatt(i)angadi(y)

11 Kop(p)ikar

The Kamat(h) families have maintained their lead. California still leads with 522 families (12 more than last year!) and San Jose, CA has the highest number of Konkani families living (83)! It was 74 last year!!

Keep up the great work.

Ravindra Nayak,
Flanders, NJ

Editor's Reply:

Thanks for timely evaluation of the Annual List. To make aware of the most successful Konkani Sammelan ever, KS-2008, Khabbar (Vol. XXXI No. 3) was mailed to ALL the families in the Khabbar Mailing List and nearly 5% came back with no forwarding address! So, we actually have "lost" few addresses in the list. You are right, we still do not have any Konkans in those 5 States and hope someone will discover Konkans in those States!

Send your "hoon Khabbars" to:
Khabbar,
PO Box 222
Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222
Email: khabbar@hotmail.com

Hoon Khabbar

Congratulations:

RAHUL, s/o Shrinivas & Sharada Kamath, and grandson of Mrs. Indira Kamath of Downers Grove, IL and a senior at Downers Grove South High School was named the Illinois State Winner of the Wendy's High School Heisman Award for 2008-2009. The Wendy's High School Heisman Award was created to showcase high school students who excel in academics, athletics and community/school leadership. Rahul is the captain of the tennis team and last year set a new school record for number of victories in a season; member of the scholastic bowl ; President of the school orchestra; and an All-State Violist. Rahul was picked from more than 5000 entries across the State of Illinois. He is the first student from his school to ever have been selected for this honor. Recently he was introduced on the "Chicago Huddle" show taped at Chicago's ESPN Zone, which airs on ABC before the Chicago Bears games.

UDAY RAU s/o Bab & Vijaya Rau of Sunnyvale, CA has been promoted to Partner at the law firm of Raj Abhyanker LLP where he will compliment the firm's core patent law practice with corporate law expertise in entity formations, technology transactions, venture capital and angel round financings, mergers & acquisitions, initial and secondary public offerings, cross-border transactions, strategic alliances and corporate partnering and related labor, employment and executive compensation matters. Mr. Rau currently represents or formerly has represented a vast array of venture-backed companies, both public and private, as well as prominent venture capital firms such as Kleiner Perkins, Khosla Ventures, Accel Partners, Benchmark Partners, DCM Partners, New Enterprise Associates, Adams Street Partners and August Capital. He specializes in transactions ranging from \$100,000 to \$500 million. Please feel free to check out his career profile at www.raipatent.com

VINAY PRABHU of Santa Monica, CA got promoted to V.P. of Corporate Investment division of J.P. Morgan, effective immediately. Proud parents are Dr. Palimar Vasudev & Sunita Prabhu of Mission Viejo, CA. His wife Tanya wishes best luck also.

A book "Proximity Approach To Problems In Topology And Analysis", containing research done by **Dr. SOM NAIMPALLY**, of Toronto, Ont. is being published in Germany in January 2009 by Oldenbourg. It contains applications to general relativity, mathematical economics, digital images and music.

Also his book "Proximity spaces", first published by Cambridge University Press, UK in 1970 (out of print for 20 years) was reprinted as a paperback in December 2008.

Dr. Som Naimpally is the main coordinator of Konkani Association of Ontario (KAO) Scholarship Committee which decides the winner of the scholarship among the students who have just entered the University. The scholarship award is given during KAO's annual Diwali event.

The 2009 TV season of Platinum wedding hosted by the We channel premiered on super bowl Sunday February 1st 2009. The show featured the May 31st 2008 grand wedding of **Sow. SHEILA**, d/o Suresh & Usha Shenoy of Sugar Land, TX with **Chi. SANTOSH**, s/o Prabhu & Kanta Reddy of Woodlands, TX. The 1/2 hour show highlighted the 3-day fun filled events of the wedding with unique features of the Baraat with elephant, elegant jewelry, fantastic decorations, sumptuous food, and entertainment. Certainly an event that will remain in people's memory for a long time.

Smt. PUSHPA SHENOY of Houston, TX was nominated for the Women Entrepreneur of the Year Award by the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston (IACCGH). The following appeared in the January 30th 2009 edition of

Voice of Asia, the local Houston weekly:

The Shenoy's migrated to the US in 2001. They started a new business from scratch and within two years turned around a startup into a very successful business. After the untimely death of her husband in 2006, Pushpa was left alone to shoulder the responsibility of a big business and she carried on bravely. She has carved for herself and her business a very secure place in the Houston granite market.

The Feb 16th issue of the *Time* magazine and the Feb 6th 2009 edition of the *Wall Street Journal* published an article on SAAVN (an acronym for South Asian Audio Visual Network). The articles highlighted how Saavn controls global distribution rights, outside India, to a massive number of Bollywood films, songs, albums and music videos, all downloadable to iPods, MP3 players, cell phones and computers. And if consumers in America are captivated by the song-and-dance extravaganzas of Bollywood — the umbrella name for Mumbai's film industry — Saavn believes its offerings will be attractive marketing tools for U.S. companies. The article also featured photos of SAAVN's co-founders **VINODH BHAT, PARAMDEEP SINGH and NEAL SHENOY** in New York City office.

Sri S. G. NAYAK of Mangalore, who published his second Kannada novel "*Sambrama*" in January 2009. He was honored by the press club of Mangalore and featured on all the local TV network news in Mangalore as well as in newspapers.

His first novel "*Satyam Shivam Sundaram*" was published in September 2006. His collection of short stories that were published in the 1950's was also reprinted in 2006.

Sri Nayak has completed a novel in English based on the freedom struggle in India. It will be published later this year.

Sri Nayak is an active member of the Progressive Writers Association in Mangalore between 1941 and 1954.

He participated in social, cultural, and literary activities of Dakshina Kannada District. As a young enthusiastic writer, he was known to the readers of *the Time* and was received reviews in newspapers and magazines like *Navabharath* and *Usha*. He was the editor of the college magazine at St. Aloysius College, Mangalore.

He moved to Bombay 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 two more Kannada novels that will be published soon.

Those interested in obtaining a complimentary copy of the novel "*Sambrama*" or the previous two books please contact his son Ajit at AjitSnayak@hotmail.com in USA or Radhakrishna at SujirRNayak@yahoo.com in India.

Konkani Graduates:

ANUSHRI, d/o Gaurang & Anita Haldipur of Sugar Land, TX graduated in December 2008 from Texas A & M University. She is pursuing a Master's in Health Administration program at University of Southern California in Los Angeles, CA.

SONA, of Brookline, MA, d/o Dr Ajit & Dr Kalpana Chikarmane of Hazelton, PA and grand daughter of Sadanand & Kumud Nilekani of Sugar Land, TX won the Radiological Society of North America – Research Medical Student Grant (2008-09), Brigham Radiology Research and Education Foundation Award (2007-08), Paul Dudley White Traveling Fellowship, Harvard Medical School (2005). She is a Research Fellow, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Department of Radiology, Breast Imaging Division. Boston, MA. Sona will graduate from Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA this Fall. She is a 2003 graduate of Duke University, Durham, NC.

ARCHANA, d/o Ashok & Amita and Ashok Bhatt of London, Ont. will be leaving for India to work in the Planning & delivery of drugs/medicines for infectious

diseases. She is planning to be based in Bangalore for a period of two years if possible.

PAWAN, s/o Mahesh & Manisha Nileshwar of Scarborough, Ont. has been promoted to Flight Corporal in his Blackhawk 110 Squadron (Air Cadets). Pawan has also passed the recently conducted Royal Conservatory of Music Piano Grade 8 practical exam with Honors.

New Arrivals:

SARIN, a baby boy to Vijay & Shika Nayak of Lexington, MA on December 13th 2008. A brother to proud sisters Mira and Indra. The proud grand parents are Suresh & Anu Nayak of Houston, TX and Brij & Kamal Anand of Franklin Lakes, NJ.

AYLA MARIE, a baby girl to Ajit & Amie Pai of Richmond, VA on December 16, 2008 at 7:55am weighing 5 lbs 15 oz and measuring 17.5 inches. The paternal grand parents are Balachandra & Vijaya Pai of Cherry Hill, NJ

VINEET, a baby boy to Suhas & Aparna Mallya of Sunnyvale, CA on Monday Nov 24th 2008. The paternal grand parents are Madhukar & Bharati Mallya of Goa and maternal grand parents are Basti Keshav & Shanti Shenoy of Mangalore.

PADRAIG SACHIN, a 7lbs 15oz baby boy, to Chetan & Kelli Nayak of Laurel, MD born on Feb 2nd 2009 at 09:48AM. A brother to Teagan and Declan. The proud grand parents are Satish & Shalini Nayak of Wexford, PA.

Twins, **ETHAN & SERENA** to Shailesh & Aarti Bhat of Simi Valley, CA on Feb. 10th 2009. The proud paternal grandparents are Vishwanath & Shalini Bhat of Chino Hills, CA and maternal grandparents are Chaitanya & Gayatri Maskeri of Simi Valley, CA.

NIKHIL GOPAL, a baby boy to Drs. Madhav & Sheetal Rao of Chicago, IL, born on March 1st 2009. Proud paternal grandparents are Dr. Vijaykumar & Mrs. Prema Rao of Oak

Brook, IL and proud maternal grandparents are Mr. Prakash & Mrs. Shaila Khedkar of Carol Stream, IL. Grandparents from both sides are rejoicing at the birth of their first grandbaby. Joining them are Mitha akka, Manoj bappa and soon to be Pooja Pachi.

SURYA, a baby boy to Raj and Sangeeta DeDatta of Palo Alto, CA on March 6th 2009; a brother to Riya; a sixth grandchild to Vasudev and Shaila Nayak of Mays Landing, NJ. The paternal grand parents are Surajit & Vijayalakshmi DeDatta of VA.

KARTHIK, a 7 lb baby boy to Sharad & Ruchi Mallya of New Providence, NJ on Sunday March 8, 2009. The proud grand parents are Sudhakar & Nandini Mallya of Wanaque, NJ. Visiting Karthik is his maternal grand mother Priti Choksi of India.

Brahmopadesha:

Prashant & Seema Bhat of Goodyear, AZ celebrated the sacred thread ceremony of their younger son **Chi. SARTHAK** on December 29, 2008 at Puttur (DK), India at the residence of Sarthak's maternal grandparents Sri Panduranga & Smt Mohini Kamath. Family and close friends attended the joyous function.

Engagement:

Chi. AKSHAY, s/o Ashok & Aruna Kalle of Thornhill, Ont. got engaged to **Kum. RIYA**, d/o Girish & Padmaja Shanbhag of Mississauga, Ont. Relatives and friends attended the engagement ceremony which was held at the Kalle residence on Saturday December 13, 2008.

Chi. AJAY, s/o Dr Narayan & Nirmala Nayak of Lafayette, CA engaged to **Kum. ASHITA**, d/o Ashok & Amita Bhatt of London, Ont. In February 2009. Ajay is a bio-medical engineer from Berkeley & Stanford University. Ashita Bhatt is joining the full time Tepper School of Business MBA in Bio-technology at the Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA in August of this year.

Chi. NIKHIL, s/o Dr. Mohan & Nalini Pai of Dundas, Ont. engaged to

Kum. NISHA, d/o Mr. & Mrs. Sivagurunathan. Nisha completed her Masters in pediatric food and nutrition at McMaster University. She is currently studying for dietetics certification at Ryerson University, before starting her PhD in clinical nutrition. Nikhil is currently in the midst of his pediatric residency at Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto.

Newly Weds:

Balkunje Divakar & Geetha Shenoy of W. Simsbury, CT celebrated the marriage of their daughter, **Sow. DIVYA to Chi. SUNIL**, s/o Dr. Taltikonda Madhusudan Gupta & late Kamala Gupta of USA on Sunday December 28th 2008 at 11:50 AM (Kumbha Lagnam) at Sri T. V. Raman Pai Convention Centre in Mangalore, India. The *Phool Mudhi* ceremony on Friday December 26th 2008 at 6:30 PM at Dr. T. M. A. Pai International Convention Centre in Mangalore and the Mehendi party on Saturday December 27th 2008 at Eden Club in Mangalore preceded the wedding. The bride is the grand daughter of Late Balkunje Srinivas & Radha Shenoy of Karkala and the groom is the grand son of Late Taltikonda Jayaramulu & Susheela Gupta of Hyderabad.

Sow. ROMITA, d/o Uday & Sucharita Maitra of Mississauga, Ont. and grand daughter of Late Kochikar Narasimha & Paramanandi (Pommi) Pai of Madras, India married **Chi. PRADYUT**, s/o T. N. & Kalpana Pratap on January 5 2009 in Bangalore, India.

The newly weds presently live and work in Dubai. Romita graduated from McGill University, Canada and Pradyut graduated from Carnegie Mellon University, USA.

Suren & Vidya Kamath of San Antonio, TX celebrated the wedding of their son, **Chi. NEVIN with Sow. PRIYANKA**, d/o Ramani & Nalini Venkat of San Antonio, TX on Friday January 30th 2009 at Scottish Rite temple in San Antonio, TX followed by a wedding reception at Hilton Palacio del Rio on Saturday January 31st 2009.

Chi. ANSHUL, s/o Bharat & Kalpana Kundaje of Buena Park, CA, married to **Sow. NALINI**, d/o Krishnan & Asha Kartha of Bangalore, India, on December 25, 2008 in Kochi and the reception was on December 28th 2008 in Mumbai.

Krishana & Tara Prabhu of East Elmhurst, NY celebrated the marriage of their son **Chi. ANIL with Sow. SATTY**, d/o Smt. Ramdai Khan, London, UK (Granddaughter of Late Smt. Drupattie Seoparson & Late Pandit Ramrup Tiwari Seoparson) on Friday February 27th, 2009, at 11.00 AM (Muhurtham: 12:30) At "Parvati Hall", Hindu Temple Society of North America, in Flushing, NY

Relocation:

The **KAMATH** family, Subhas & Prabha, with their daughters Shubha & Swathi, have relocated within Las Vegas, NV to 11046 Desert Dove Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89144. Their telephone remains the same at (702)-242-2128 and email:

kscamath@yahoo.com

The **PRABHU** family, Umesh & Jayanthi, together with their sons, Vivek & Neetin, have relocated within Yarmouth, NS to 56 Greenhills Drive, Yarmouth, NS B5A 4T4.

Change of Address:

The **PRABHU** family, Vilas & Sneha, changed address to 2420 Water Valley Rd., Lancaster, PA 17603. The telephone is (717)-872-5021 & Email: vaprabhu@hotmail.com

The new mailing address of the **MAVINKURVE** family, Mangesh & Meghana, is 44, 470 Faith Drive, Mississauga, ONT L5R 4E8. The email ID:

mangeshmavinkurve@yahoo.com

Relocated to India:

The **BHAT** family, Dattananda & Shanta of Jamaica, NY relocated to India. Their new address is Flat No. 54, "Madur Milan", 14 B Road, Khar, Mumbai 400 052. Their new telephones: 26055859 (H) and 9920525660 (Mobile) and email ID:

dattbhat2@yahoo.com

60th Birthday Bash:

Family and friends celebrated the 60th Birthday Party of **RAVINDRA R. NAYAK** of Flanders, NJ on Jan 9th 2009.

Obituary:

Sri NARAYAN GAITONDE (78) passed away peacefully on Tuesday, December 09, 2008 at around 10 p.m. at his home in Brampton, Ont. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his son, Avinash Gaitonde and family of Brampton, Ont.

Dr. VIVEK KUSUMAKAR (57) of Princeton, NJ, s/o late H.Kusumakar and Sumitra Kusumakar passed away unexpectedly on 14 Jan '09 in Washington D.C.

Khabbar sends heartfelt condolences to his wife Shalini, his mother Sumitra Kusumakar of Bangalore, India, his son Siddharth and family of London, UK, daughter Smitha of London, UK, sister Chandrika Niksch and family of Iphofen, Germany, and grandson Ruari Vivek Kusumakar.

Dr Kusumakar was a scholar, an innovator with numerous awards in his dual fields of Psychiatry and Neuroscience and an all round great human being. He will be sorely missed by everyone who knew him and loved him.

MULKI VITTAL RAO (82) expired after a short illness on 3 March 2009 in Mumbai. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his wife Maya (Mumbai) and daughters Sheela Manelkar & family of Edison, NJ and Sandhya Pai & family of Mumbai.

Mrs SRIMATHI RAO, also known as KUSUMLATHA N. RAO (72), passed away in her sleep as a result of sudden cardiac infraction on Monday March 9th 2009 at 6:45 am. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to her daughter, Rupa Rao Domnitz & family of Sugar land, TX and brother Umesh Baliga & family of Sugar Land, TX

Send your "hoon *Khabbars*" to:
Khabbar,
PO Box 222
Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222
Email: khabbar@hotmail.com

KONKANI HAPPENINGS

Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC) Diwali Function was held at the beautiful club House of Leisure Village in Laguna Woods on October 21, 2008. After an hour of social time with snacks and beverages, the program was heralded by invocation to the Almighty, lead by **Sridhar and Nandini Rao, Radhika Hattiangadi, and Mohini Kamath**. **Shubha Bhat** sang melodious bhajan. Youth representatives **Ajit Pai and Kedar Gulvady** gave an informative and humorous explanation on “Significance of Diwali” using imaginative PowerPoint presentations. This was followed by President **Ramdas Pai** welcoming all members especially the new ones, their introduction, and introduction of the KASC Committee members. **Ramadas Kamath** enacted a monologue skit, “Quest for an ideal wife” that was very hilarious.

Sridhar and Nandini Rao sang a few melodious Hindi Film Songs using Karaoke. This was followed by a Raffle. The gifts items for the raffle winners were generously presented by Indian businesses from Artesia and Cerritos, thanks to **Mohini Kamath**. She motivated the donors to make the presentations and brought the items to the venue. The next item was a Quiz on Modern India, arranged by **Venkatesh Rao**. The participants were 1) Los Angeles County – **Sandeep Nayak and Sunayana Prabhu**, 2) Orange County- **Shankar and Bindya Baliga**, and 3) Ventura County – **Chitra Chandavarkar and Vivek Ullal**. The last cultural item was reading of excerpts from his book on “Humor” by **Shyam Amladi**. The program ended with a delicious catered dinner by Vasanth Bhavan of Artesia.

We thank all Committee members for doing an excellent job, volunteers and participants that took part in the staged events, the Indian businesses of Artesia that generously presented gift items for the raffle winners, and finally, to **Rahul and Divya Kamath**, who did an excellent job as joint Masters of Ceremonies, punctuating their sentences with a lot of wit, prose and Hindi shayaries. Special thanks to **Purandar and Anuradha Mallya** for paying rent for the beautiful venue.

Houston Area Amchigale Samaj (HAAS) held the first event of the year, *Satyanarayan Pooja* on January 11th 2009 at Eldridge Park Community Hall in Sugar Land, TX. **Drs. Ramakrishna & Maya Prabhu** of Houston, TX sponsored the entire event.

Dated: Jan 28th 2009

Tirupati court has passed its judgment by declaring **H H Sreemad Sudheendra Theertha Swamiji** as the Mathadipathi of Sree Kashimath Samsthan and also directed Raghavendra to return the deities and all articles within 30 days. Raghavendra is also restrained from interfering in the affairs of the Math.

This is a historical judgment bringing close to a 9 year old legal battle in the Trail court which has affected 40 lakhs devotees of the Math. Jubilation is continuing in the GSB temples all across India. Thousands have converged In Mangalore when Swamiji reached the city as part of the tour programme.

The judgment added more flavour to the annual festival at T D Temple Ernakulam. Thousands participated in the celebrations by cracking fireworks and distribution of Sweets.

The Konkani Association of Ontario (KAO) participated in the 60th Republic Day of India celebrations hosted by Panorama India on Sunday, February 01, 2009. KAO presented a Kathak dance by **Deepti Shanbhag, Pranati Suri & Akhila Jog** and a play “Jago India” written and directed by **Niranjan & Geethanjali Kamath** with music by **Pramod Udiavar**. **Girish Shanbhag, Sanket Ullal, Narendra Kamath, Nivedita Kamath, Gurunath Pai, Abhijeet Pai and Sanjana Kamath** participated in the play.

The annual **Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC)** sponsored Shivaratri Bhajan was held on Saturday, February 14, 2009 at the Laguna Woods Club House #3 in Laguna Woods, CA.

At one end of the hall a temporary, but beautiful altar had been set up and decorated with flowers and other articles of worship. After the social half-hour, we started with an arati. This was followed by a bhajan dedicated to Ganesha, as the auspicious start to the event. Then there were kirtans sung by **Bharat Kundaje and Radhika Hattiangadi**. After the kirtans, we all enjoyed bhajans for about 20 minutes, sung by **Sridhar Rao, Nandini Rao, Chitra and Jaidev**.

The difference between a kirtan and a bhajan is that kirtans are sung solo and do not involve the audience. A bhajan does involve the audience, which follows each line immediately after that line is sung by the singer. The devotional event was concluded by a brief guided meditation, since Shivaratri is dedicated to Lord Shiva, who is so closely associated with the practice of meditation.

After the singing was over, **Raghunam (Pai)** related some stories in connection with Shivaratri to which the audience listened with keen interest. Raghunam is a wonderful storyteller, and the audience was in the mood to hear more stories, but we were running out of time, and had to move on to the next item in the evening’s program, which was to see the slides that **Nandini and Sridhar Rao** had made recording their pilgrimage to Northern India, which included visits to the Kashi Muth in Benares, Kashi Vishwanath Mandir, the Ghats on the banks of the Ganga, Sarnath, Hardwar, Bodh Gaya, and other places of pilgrimage. This too, was like an appetizer for the audience, who wanted to see more such slides.

But it was time for dinner, and we wound up the afternoon’s program to go for dinner. The attendees all had a wonderful time.

- By: Jaidev Chandavarkar, Thousand Oaks, CA

Piano Concert by Luke Laxman Gould

Phenomenal... Awesome... Can't find words with which to express the intense emotion felt after attending the Piano concert performed by **Luke Laxman Gould**, grand on of Gopal & Shanthi Pai, son of Meetha & Kyle Gould, brother of Ian and Lily . On Friday, February the 6th 2009 as select senior soloist at the Cleveland Heights high school winter concert, Luke brought the audience to a standing ovation. Luke's Ravel concerto for Piano in G Major first movement is a memory to be savored.

When Luke first came out on stage in a classic black tuxedo, tall and handsome, I start to tear with joy. He approached the piano center stage with a full orchestra behind him, then flipped the tails of his tuxedo (oh so cute) and sat down at the piano bench. As he started to play, with concentrated intent, his music was complimented by a piccolo solo with the full orchestra soon blossoming into a crescendo of sound.

Then the music slowed to almost silence as Luke began to sway and play the refrain (the main theme of the piece). We were amazed at the intense emotion he was able to inspire in the audience when suddenly, the orchestra built up speed surrounding the piano with short intervals of solos by trumpet, oboe, and finally a calming harp, echoing the refrain of Luke's piano. Then Luke began the climb to the climax of the piece--hunched over the piano as his graceful, nimble fingers seem to dance up and down the keyboard. He played faster and faster, racing the orchestra to a fantastic, grand ending. After a pause of surprise as the audience came to itself, there was a giant applause.

As he took his third bow, Lily, his sister, came to the stage and gave him a dozen red roses. Then Luke, in proper Indian tradition, honored his teachers and mentors with a bouquet of flowers each, starting with his elementary school piano teacher and ending with the orchestra conductor. Surprising his parents, he gave them his thanks and a bouquet of flowers. The audience, wonderfully receptive in this new twist to the senior solo performance, clapped at the introduction of our tradition honoring our Gurus and our parents.

Of course, after the reception at home, I made sure that *dhristi* was taken of Luke and the entire family to complete the tradition. Do look for Luke's performance on the Youtube soon and share my joy. Here's the link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5iejcOs-VL4> or you can just search "Luke Gould Senior Solo" and it should be the first thing that comes up. Hope you enjoy watching!

By: Nikhila Pai (Email: nikpai@gmail.com)

Indian origin Scientist unlocks way to speed up the Net

(as appeared in Mar 1 2009 issue of Times Of India) By V Shoba

New Delhi: Think of it as the Internet on steroids. For those who have waited long enough for broadband connectivity, and longer still for webpages to load, the wait could be just about over. HashCache, a system developed by **Vivek Pai** of Princeton University and his colleagues, enables you to locally store practically every website you visit so that subsequent page loads are faster, with the content accessed from your disk rather than from the network.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Technology Review has named HashCache in its annual list of 10 emerging technologies that have the potential to change the world. "When people access the Web, very often the same content gets accessed repeatedly. There is a technique called Web caching that stores this content on a disk, rather than pull it from the Internet each time. But current approaches to caching do not allow you to easily use very large disks. As large disks are getting very cheap, we needed a new way to use such storage," Pai told The Sunday Express.

HashCache allows you 10 times more disk storage than was possible earlier. "Conversely, if you want to use the same disk space as other systems, HashCache requires one-tenth the memory to access it," Pai added.. It has been successfully test-deployed on relatively low-end computers in Ghana and Nigeria, where it was found to be operating unobtrusively and speeding up Internet access. Pai and his colleagues at Princeton and PlanetLab, a global research test bed, are testing the technology with a wider audience.

KHABBAR FROM KULAR

By: - Vishwa Konkani Sardar BASTI VAMAN SHENOY

Mr. K.K. Pai, Manipal, Former Chairman, Syndicate Bank, Doyen of Konkani Movement, died on 14.01.2009. He was Chairman of Syndicate Bank from 1971 - 1978, President of All India Konkani Parishad from 1974 – 1976, Hon. Chairman of First World Konkani Sammelan held in 1995 in Mangalore and Founder Chairman of Konkani Language & Cultural Foundation. He was President of Dr. T.M.A. Pai Foundation Manipal, Registrar Academy of General Education. He was highly loved and respected by thousands of people living in India and abroad. K.K.Pai's death was a great loss to Konkani community. Thousands of people from all over India rushed to Manipal to pay their homage to the departed soul.

The long awaited dream project of Konkani people world over, 'World Konkani Centre' became a reality and was inaugurated by Hon. Chief Minister of Goa **Sri Digambar Kamat** on 17.01.2009. There was very big crowd at the Konkani Gaon, Shaktinagar, Mangalore, people coming from far away places from New Delhi to Kochi. **Sri R.V. Deshpande**, former Minister of Karnataka and

Chairman emeritus Konkani Language & Cultural Foundation presided. **Padmabhushan Dr. Ravindra Kelekar**, who recently honoured with India's most prestigious 'Jnanapith' literary award and first in Konkani language was honoured during the Inaugural function, **Fr. Eric Crasta**, President Konkani Bhasha Mandal Karnataka delivered the felicitation speech on the occasion. **Sri P. Dayananda Pai & P. Satish Pai**, Chief Patrons, **J.M. Garg, Chairman Corporation Bank, Ronald Colaco (NRI) and S.M. Khaleel, financial advisor Dubai spoke**. Sri Basti Vaman Shenoy President Konkani Language & Cultural Foundation, the visionary of World Konkani Centre was honoured by Hon. Chief Minister and others. **Smt. Sandhya Pai**, Manipal released the 'World Konkani Centre – A VISION' of World Konkani Centre. Konkani book on the life and works of **Late Rashtrakavi Manjeshwar Govind Pai - Editor Dr. Sunitha Bai (Kochi)**. **Mr. M. Raghunath Shet**, Vice-President gave details of World Konkani Centre. **Sri Venkatesh Baliga** proposed Vote of Thanks. Prayer and Swagat Geet was Choreographed by **Smt. Vasanthi R. Nayak** and Konkani Kudumbi dance was delivered by **Mr. Gopal Gowda** and his team. Two minutes silence was observed to condole the death of **Mr. K.K. Pai**, Manipal, Founder Chairman, World Konkani Centre and great Konkani leader 'Konkani Bhishma'.

Foundation Stone was laid to Canara High School, CBSE building at Mangalore by **P. Dayananda Pai**, philanthropist, Bangalore on 19.11.2008. **Sri N. Yogish Bhat**, M.L.A., **Dr. B. Madhav Bhandary** were present **Dr. U.S. Mohandas Nayak**, President, Canara High School Association presided.

Second phase of 'Kalangann' Cultural Centre of Mandd Sobann was inaugurated on 30.11.2008 by famous Cine personality **Mr. Shyam Benegal**, Lord Bishop of Mangalore **Dr. Aloysius Paul D'Souza** blessed the project. **Ronald Colaco**, NRI, Bangalore, **Albert W. D'Souza, John D' Silva** Mumbai, **Roy Castelino**, builder and Donor were honoured.

ATM of Corporation Bank at World Konkani Centre building was declared on 17.01.2009 opened by Hon. Mr. **Digambar Kamat**, Chief Minister of Goa, **Mr. J.M. Garg**, Chairman & Managing Director, Corporation Bank was present.

Padmabhushan Dr. Ravindra Kelekar Goa was awarded Jnanapith award which is the highest one for literary works in India. And this is the first one for Konkani literature.

Basti Ananda Shenoy, grandson of Basti Vaman Shenoy won POGO Award for clay Animation in the All India level competition on 13.12.2008. He is 12 years old boy.

Seminars on Konkani short stories and Konkani Kavi Sammelan were held at World Konkani Centre with collaboration of Kendra Sahitya Academy New Delhi on 16.12.2008.

Konkani book 'Divyamrut' written by Veteran Konkani writer **J.B. Moraes** Mumbai was released by **Mr. Uday Bhembre**, Goa at World Konkani Centre Seminar Hall on 17.01.2009. **Basti Vaman Shenoy** presided.

Mr. P. Dayananda Pai was elected as Chairman, Konkani Bhas Ani Samskriti Pratisthan, World Konkani Centre in place of Late Sri K.K. Pai founder Chairman.

Mr. T. Mohandas Pai was elected as President of Dr. T.M.A Pai Foundation Manipal and **Dr. T. Ramadas Pai** as Registrar, Academy of General Education Manipal in the place of Late K.K. Pai.

19th All India Konkani Sahitya Sammelan was held at Kundapura, Udupi district on 7th and 8th February 2009. Famous Konkani poet, literateur **Ramesh Veluskar** presided. Konkani writers and poets participated in two days' literary Sammelan. Konkani Yakshagana Bayalata was performed by Konkani ladies of Shimoga. **Dr. H. Shantharam**, Manipal and **Mr. U.S. Shenoy**, Kundapur were Chairman and Convener of the Sahitya Sammelan, respectively.

Dr. Suresh Shenoy, Wallingford, CT (U.S.A), Dr. Narayan Nayak, California, (U.S.A) Mrs. & Mr. Vasanth Bhat (U.S.A), Smt. Meera Pandit, Boston (U.S.A), Mr. Kishore Kumar Pai Dubai, visited World Konkani Centre.

Mr. Venkatesh Baliga (Secretary, World Konkani Centre) and Kasargod Chinna famous Hindi Kannada Konkani Cine artiste have been nominated to Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Academy by Government of Karnataka state.

Daijidubai Konkani Channel celebrated Decennial celebrations at Mangalore from 16th to 22nd February 2009. There was Konkani Drama competition 6 Konkani drama troupes participated 'Ratnagiricho Sardar' written by **Mr. John Permanner** was adjudged the best Konkani drama, Konkani weekly 'Daijidubai' was also released by **Mr. Ronald Colaco** (NRI) Bangalore.

Mr. Vasanth Bhat and Mrs. Poornima Bhat, Editor, 'Khabbar' U.S.A were felicitated at World Konkani Centre on 28.02.2009. **Basti Vaman Shenoy** welcomed the guests. **Sri Gilbert D'Souza**, industrialist presided. **Venkatesh Baliga** (secretary) thanked the guests.

Former Chairman of Syndicate Bank, Sri K. K. Pai, No More

As appeared in the Jan 15th 2009 issue of *Udayavani*

Former Chairman of Syndicate Bank **Kalsanka Kamalaksha Pai (K K Pai)** expired on Wednesday in Manipal Kasturba Medical hospital. He was 87 years old.

He was born on 26th of June 1921. He did his primary education in Udupi and completed his intermediate from Mangalore. Later he went to Mumbai to perceive his commerce degree. He began his carrier in 1943, by serving in Mumbai Port branch as an Assistant Manager. He latter occupied several posts there and finally retired after becoming the Chairman.

During his tenure the bank witnessed expansion of branches, increase in deposits and accrued profits. In 1975 the bank celebrated its golden jubilee.

He took keen interest in social service activities. He had also served as the 4th President of Udupi Municipal Corporation.

He had cordial relations with Asthmaths. He was the President of the Paryaya Mahotsav's welcome committee and had been a part of many such programmes. He was the Registrar of Manipal Academy of General Education.

Although he served in banking sector he delivered lectures on his experiences about agriculture, animal husbandry, education, literature, culture and traditions.

He was born in Udupi and had from his very childhood keen interest in Yakshagana, Harikathe and skits. At times he squatted down on the floor and watched the programmes. After he grew up he became the President of Udupi Sangeeth Sabha and organised several programmes.

For the past few days he was suffering from ill health and had been unable to attend any programmes of Academy Education institutes. He is survived by two sons, two daughters and many other relatives and friends.

A Tribute to my Role Models

By: - **Nirmala S. Bangalore (nee Koppikar)**

Every day should be Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day. This Mothers' Day (May 11), I started to pen some thoughts regarding my parents (Dr. Vasant R. and Mrs. Uma Koppikar), but life intruded and I did not complete my piece to honor them. One awful summer in 1978, we were devastated by my father's fatal heart attack on July 2. Within a couple of months (Sept. 3) my mother lost her brave fight against leukemia. Doubly mourning, numb with shock, we could barely function. All 5 sisters (I am the second) consoled each other, drew strength from our spouses, and managed to live through bereavement. Sadly, the third of the daughters, Padmini Rao, succumbed to multiple myeloma in Sept. 2006. This article is dedicated to her memory, with thanks to her husband, B. Udayanand Rao for being such a dedicated care-giver.

In the preface to "Manache Shloka" (24 Feb. 2000), H.H. Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji writes " Our Parama Guru, Swami Anandashram used to speak of three Shankars in our community. They were Justice K. Shankarnarayan Rao, HSR and A.V. Shankar Rao." I am proud to call the first-named Shankar my maternal grandfather. He bequeathed to us a precious legacy of caring and sharing which we hope to pass on to future generations. My parents were karma-yogis and are my role models. They touched many lives and helped make this world a better place. Even after 30 years, people remember my parents and speak respectfully of them. They express gratitude for their kindnesses: e.g., being surrogate parents to homesick young brides, assisting families over rough patches, lending a helping hand in financial crises, and simply being there when needed. All this was done quietly, unobtrusively, and with no strings attached. We grew up surrounded by warmth and affection, compassion for the less fortunate, and kindness and consideration for all. Our household was the opposite of the "himTee" (miserly, penny-pinching) reputation attached to Koppikars. Indeed my parents were generous almost to a fault. Hardly a day went by when they were no guests. Doors were open and no alms-seekers were turned away. Midway between Mumbai/Pune and southern destinations such as Shirali, Mangalore, Bangalore, travelers would halt in Belgaum and were treated as part of the family. If there were people travelling with no stops, my mother brought tiffin carriers full of home-made food to them. Rather than purchasing a railway platform ticket each time, she would buy a season pass for convenience. On the off chance that someone may come in on a late bus etc., extra food was put aside. She followed the tradition of her parents' home (nicknamed "Liberty Hall") where many young men from smaller places lived to complete their education, and generosity was the byword. My paternal grandparents also created a haven. A well-known ophthalmic surgeon, Dr. Ramdas Koppikar was also a reputed dentist, and patented and manufactured affordable medicines.

My parents' house was "KuLaar" for everybody, regardless of gender or age. Entire families would come over if one person had eye surgery. My father was Ophthalmologist to our revered Swamijis. Rich and poor alike were treated with equal care. Patients with modest incomes sometimes voluntarily paid in kind. He was one of the few to treat inmates of the missionary leper colony. He set up one of the first eye banks in that part of the world and participated in the Lions Club, cooperating in vaccination drives, fundraisers,

eyeglasses for the needy, etc. Even after death he kept on giving the gift of sight via organ donation. His corneas have been successfully implanted in 2 individuals. My mother was his partner in all ways, from helping him at his clinic to working side-by-side for deserving causes. She taught Hindi to poor children, found homes for neglected kids, helped unwed mothers, and volunteered for the Red Cross. Many a bride was given a mangal-sutra and a sari for her wedding if the parents could not afford these marriage must-haves. It was a warm and jolly household, filled with laughter, brimming with art projects in various stages of completion, observation of festivals, etc. Along with good food and fragrant filter coffee, classical music and dancing, books in various languages, Winsor and Newton paints, easels, beads, embroidery hoops and colorful yarns were part and parcel of our lives. Encouraging our hobbies, tolerant and non-judgmental, forgiving our childish transgressions, my mother let each of us pursue our interests in our own fashion with no pressures. She was ahead of her time and was a true feminist. The best advice she gave us was that we should be self-sufficient, see the bright side of everything, that every individual has something they excel at and can share, and that we should walk in another's shoes before criticizing. We grew up believing that beauty is skin-deep and actions speak louder than words. "Handsome is as handsome does" is a motto we still strive to live by. Though he brought us up with firm discipline, my father advised us not to take ourselves too seriously and find humor in everyday situations. "Even if everyone around you is goofing off, do your work diligently and do the right thing. Remember good actions as well as bad ones have consequences, so behave accordingly." We got an education for life, one which no school or university can ever offer. They taught us by example as well as precept. I can never forget how, even during her terminal illness, my mother treated the visiting Ranisahebs of Kurundwad and Sawantwadi with the same courtesy as the humble "bhaajiwalis" whose produce she bought. Nor can I forget how, on the heels of my marriage expenses, my father emptied out his savings account so I could join my husband in the U.S. after the rupee was devalued and my own tiny savings as a college lecturer got swallowed up. These were lessons in grace under fire.

My father was born in Karwar. Educated in Karwar, Dharwar, Mumbai and London, he got married to K[undapur] Uma Rao. After a distinguished career in the Indian Army Medical Corps, he worked for the government touring seven districts with a mobile unit. He settled down in Belgaum and made a name for himself in his profession as well as social work. Born in Shimoga, brought up in Bangalore, my mother married at the tender age of 14. She was yanked away from her loving home and parents (K. Shakarnarayan and Mrs. K. Shyambhavi Rao). The sheltered teenage bride had to cope with the vagaries of being an Army wife. Together my parents accomplished the tough job of bringing up 5 daughters, educating them, finding husbands for each and marrying them off. My father used to joke that they only got the "Pancha kanya" portion of the traditional marriage blessing and ignored the "ashta-putra" part! Though they had no sons, they gained 5 great sons-in-law. Today, scattered over 3 continents, they have 9 accomplished grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. My second son (Dr. Samir Bangalore) met and married a brilliant corporate lawyer, Sheila, granddaughter of my father's friend and fellow ophthalmic surgeon, Dr. (M.) Ramanath Bhandari. Among all the eligible matches, he chose this gem of a young woman to join our family. What an amazing coincidence! I thank God for this and all His Blessings. If we can pass on even a minuscule portion of the values they brought us up with, we will truly honor the memory of my parents. May their souls rest in peace

Gurbini Kaappad, a Konkani Tradition

(A baby shower Konkani Style)

On February 8, 2009 we celebrated Gurbini Kaappad for Deepa Prabhu, wife of Palimar Rajesh Prabhu who is my cousin (with generation gap). Deepa's mother has flown from Udipi for "*Balaanteere*" (a Konkani tradition during daughter's delivery time, servicing for mother and arrival of baby at home). During my childhood I used to attend this type of events with my mother as a child. This was exclusive events for females only except future Baby's father in old days. In those days everything was nearby, walking distance or within easy reach by available transportation. Even in Bombay moving around by rail or bus or by taxi was easy those days. Because of difficulty in commuting, (even in native places like South Kanara), in Bombay nowadays, it is like a whole day family affair. In present days in big cities, ceremony like Gurbini Kaappad is almost a full day ceremony; and many times it is held in rented halls with catered food, Konkani or Punjabi style.

When Deepa called a few weeks before February 8, I and my wife Sunita were excited as I had not attended a typical Gurbini-Kaappad for a long time and wanted to witness authentic ceremony. I changed my flight and made plans to fly that weekend from Bay area to Orange County (I work in Bay area and fly every other week to my home in Mission Viejo). Konkani Folks in South Kanara and North Kanara still celebrate this event with the same tradition for generations when Konkanis settled in Goa and southwards.

On that day, after an early bird Konkani snack in the morning, the ceremony began at about 11:30. Rajesh and Deepa were seated on a pair of chairs (tradition is Husband be seated right side of the wife). Being a PalimarKaar (a family member from Palimar group), Sunita had a first privilege (being elder) to do "Aunthee" (blessing with rice sprinkle on both of them) and Aarti. "Aunthee" plate is a large steel or copper plate (called Poleroo), and four coconuts on rice bed are placed inside. On top of those coconuts, Sari (Gurbini Kaappad) is placed and then silver or brass five sided oil wick lamp is placed. Sunita made alternate Aarti and sprinkling rice (called Akshataa) to Rajesh and Deepa five times then followed by Deepa's mother. This step is like blessing to arriving child and his (gender is known nowadays) parents. Then Sunita presented a new Kaappad to Deepa. Per Tradition, Deepa went inside and changed her sari with the new Kaappad she was presented. Again this step of Aarti is repeated by all other ladies present in the house. This is the only time males in the family can watch but cannot take part in the Aarti step. In authentic case (as I remember during my mother's days),

ladies start sing songs related to this occasion, but Deepa had a recorded DVD songs sung by her Grandma from Udipi. Rajesh played that video during the Aarti.

This was followed by sumptuous and delicious Konkani lunch (jevan) prepared by Deepa's mother. Highlight was Daalito, Devastahna Saaru, Khichhdi (Godi) and Kuvale Khadi(sweet dish).

Everybody dispersed by 4 pm and I was on the way to LAX to catch a flight to Oakland. I thought on the way what memorable family event and worth every minute to enjoy!

Vasudev Prabhu, Mission Viejo, CA

Engineer's small footprint leaves big mark on world

BY KRISTIN BUTLER

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Submitted by Muralidhar Shenoy, Durham, NC

Jayant Baliga is a man of average size, but he probably has the world's smallest footprint.

Carbon footprint, that is. Baliga, a professor of electrical and computer engineering at N.C. State, is the inventor of a power-saving switch that prevents 1.4 trillion pounds of carbon dioxide from being released into the atmosphere each year, at a cost savings of \$300 billion.

And by saving 125 gigawatts of power each year, Baliga has offset the carbon footprint of 175 million people. You'd have to plant tens of millions of trees to achieve the same effect.

Now he may make big changes in the nation's electrical grid. He's a finalist for a National Science Foundation grant that would support research into how to deliver energy more efficiently.

Meanwhile, consumers already use Baliga's technology every time they turn on a television, power up a computer or switch on the air conditioning. Each year, 100,000 cardiac arrest victims are shocked back to life with his help, while, across the globe, Japanese bullet-train riders are whisked to work each morning because of his breakthrough.

Baliga, who also directs N. C. State University's Power Semiconductor Research Center, likes to joke that, "everybody uses my devices, but nobody knows it," Baliga's chief invention, called an insulated gate bipolar transistor, or IGBT, is an improvement to the original transistors developed at Bell Laboratories in the 1940s.

As the building blocks of all modern electronics, transistors are arguably the most important invention of the 20th century, the devices amplify and switch electrical signals, and their low cost and ease of production means that millions of them can be lined up on a single microchip. But before Baliga they were very energy inefficient.

Baliga likens the concept to a garden hose: "If you think of a garden hose, you have water running through the spigot and into the hose at full speed. But if you want to control that flow, you must use a damper somewhere inside the hose to decrease the water coming out, a lot of energy is lost at the damper."

But if you could decrease the flow of the water at the spigot--instead of sending it through at full speed and then choking off the flow with the damper -- you'd save a tremendous amount of power, Baliga says. And that's precisely what the IGBT does.

Modest, yet proud

Baliga made the IGBT breakthrough while working at General Electric. "Actually, I invented it under duress," Baliga said, since his boss had given him an ultimatum to do something profitable in six months. His innovation has made him a star in the electrical engineering community.

Scientific American has named Baliga, the author of 15 books and more than 500 scientific articles, one of eight heroes of the semiconductor revolution, The University of North Carolina's Board of Governors presented him with the O. Max Gardner award in 1998, which recognizes the member of the 16-university UNC system who has made "the greatest contribution to the welfare of the human race."

Among the few physics awards Baliga still hasn't won is the Nobel Prize. When pressed, Baliga smiles coyly and acknowledges that, at age 61, there's plenty of time left for that, Three of his fellow seven "heroes of the semiconductor revolution" are Nobel laureates.

As he discusses his many accolades, Baliga comes across as neither embarrassed nor immodest. He is visibly proud as he talks of being among the youngest men ever elected to the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers and the National Academy of Engineering, yet there is no hint of self congratulation is his tone.

Sitting in Baliga's small, tidy office on N.C. State's Centennial Campus -- he could move, but he likes the view-- it would be easy to overlook the man's importance.

A soft-spoken man who excels at describing his work to nonscientists, Baliga eschews jargon or hyperbole. His many awards are located toward the back of the room, behind visitors, and his broad, bare desk dominates the space.

Baliga does what he does, not for the accolades, but for the intellectual challenge. Even the environmental effect of his breakthroughs appears to mean little to him. He's clearly amused to have the one of the world's smallest carbon footprints, but calls it a happy byproduct of his work.

Father was catalyst

A second-generation electrical engineer, Baliga says he gets his love of intellectual challenge from his father. A world-renowned engineer himself, Baliga's father was instrumental in setting up India's post-independence television and radio networks.

The first Indian television broadcast took place in Baliga's New Delhi home. Widespread commercial television did not come to India until the 1970s, Baliga explains, but his father was ready to transmit the first television signal for an international audience in 1957.

"At some point, my father said, "Why don't we see if we can get it all the way to the house," Baliga says, and so it was in his living room that India's first grainy, black-and-white television frames danced across their screen,

By his teens, Baliga wanted to follow his father into engineering. He took the entrance exam for the Indian Institutes of Technology, which are among the world's most selective universities. Of 200,000 teens who took the test that year, just 2,000 were offered places, Baliga ranked No. 47.

Leading a revolution

Baliga credits his time at the IIT with giving him a multidisciplinary foundation that has been essential to his professional success. For that reason, he goes out of his way to teach an introductory electrical engineering class for non-majors at N.C. State each year. "Many of them don't like the class, but this information is very important for them to know," Baliga says.

Never content with being No. 47, however, Baliga graduated first in his class from IIT in 1969. Today, IIT graduates are in high demand around the world, but back then, Baliga says, he had a difficult time finding an American graduate school that would take him. Finally, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., agreed to accept him as a doctoral candidate.

There, he helped develop the materials that spawned the modern semiconductor industry. After receiving his PhD. in 1974, Baliga was lured to General Electric, where he developed the IGBT in 1980.

Baliga joined N.C. State in 1988, saying the university was one of just a few in the world

that had the kind of materials science facilities he needed to do his work. Since then, he has worked to achieve a second-generation breakthrough: A silicon carbide-based semiconductor that is more efficient than the IGBT.

Baliga says retirement is not something he's thought about yet. And his legacy only continues to grow: Baliga's sons have chosen to become electrical engineers --they did, however, pursue different subspecialties, he notes with a grin -- and the dozens of graduate students he's mentored over the years typically graduate with at least five job offers.

Konkani Calendar

April 2009	May 2009	June 2009
3 rd Shri Rama Navami	4 th Yekadashi	3 rd Yekadashi
4 th KAO Ugadi	7 th Shri Narasimha Jayanthi	7 th Poornami
5 th Yekadashi	8 th Vaishakhi Poornami	10 th Sankashta Chaturthi
9 th Shri Hanuman Jayanthi	9 th KAO Satyanarayan Pooja	14 th Mithun-Sankranthi
10 th - 12 th K.I.S.S. Picnic	12 th Angaraka Chaturthi	22 nd Amavasya(Dark moon)
11 th AMKA Yugadi	14 th Vrisbh-Sankranthi	
12 th Sankashta Chaturthi	23 rd KAO 20 th Anniv. Dinner Cruise	
13 th Mesh-Sankranthi	24 th Amavasya(Dark moon)	
14 th Saura Ugadi		
24 th Amavasya(Dark moon)		
27 th Akshaya Thritye		

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, \$
Ramesh & Pratibha Kamath, San Carlos, CA	50.00
Kochikar Ramnath & Rajashree Pai, Tampa, FL	125.00
G. K. Bhat, Mooresville, NC	51.00
Surendra & Shalini Shenoy, Olivette, MO	50.00
Jnaneshwar & Vidya Nayak, Cupertino, CA	100.00
Shrikar & Nirmala Bangalore, Grafton, WI	51.00
Mohan & Mohini Kamath, Cerritos, CA	51.00
Chandrakant & Geeta Shanbhag, Roebuck, SC	51.00
Narayan & Vidya Baliga, Kenosha, WI	50.00
Muralidhar & Sudha Shenoy, Durham, NC	50.00
Vasant & Kirti Acharya, River Forest, IL	51.00

Statement of Accounts

Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
Balance Carried over since <i>Khabbar</i> Vol. XXXI No. 4	1,010.00	
Money Received:		
Subscriptions (90) and donations	2,081.00	
Interest	4.00	
Sub Total:	2,085.00	
Money Spent (<i>Khabbar</i> Vol. XXXI No. 4):		
Printing- <i>Khabbar</i> (425) - 20 pages		447.50
Printing- <i>Khabbar Mailing List</i> (350) – 29 pages		517.50
First Class Mail- <i>Khabbar</i> (386)		227.74
First Class Mail- <i>Khabbar Mailing List</i> (248)		188.48
Canada <i>Khabbar</i> (14)		13.44
Canada <i>Khabbar Mailing List</i> (7)		14.00
KAO-Ad		60.00
Overseas (20)		60.00
Mail Fines, computer paper & labels, envelopes, service fees, etc.		471.34
Sub Total:		2,000.00
Final Balance:	1,095.00	

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

Kwiz

The last quarter's quiz: How many commonly used words in English language end in "dous"?

The Answer: tremendous, horrendous, stupendous and hazardous

The following gave the correct answer:

Praveen Kamath, Centreville, VA

This Quarter's Quiz

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.

Using only three 9's along with elementary math symbols, see if you can arrange them to represent the number 20?

Upcoming Konkani Events

KAOCA UGADI 2009

Greetings for a new KAOCA year!! As you all know, this is the **25th Anniversary of KAOCA**, and we have some outstanding and unique programs planned for the year!! To celebrate KAOCA's Silver Jubilee, our goal is to offer you something that is truly different and memorable!

To usher in Ugadi and our first program of the year, on April 4th we have planned something that is not only mind-boggling but mind-blowing!! **Master Mind-Reader Deepak Rao** from Mumbai with his amazing ESP (Extra Sensory Perception) powers will present a show that will totally baffle and spellbind you at the same time. He will delight you with stunning demonstrations of telepathy, telekinesis, bending keys without touching, scanning your mind, shattering glass and many more acts. The press has described Deepak in these words: "Applauded as the Single Most Classy Form of Interactive & Edutaining Session in Asia today !" He has performed for over 180 of the top corporations in India to rave reviews. Please see the attached flyer on our Ugadi Program.

We will also have a hilarious play, once again written and directed by our own funmeister, the incomparable **Pradip Rao**.

So come one. Come all, let's celebrate Ugadi with great entertainment and great Konkani food!

On behalf of the 2009 KAOCA Committee,
Shyam and Kanchan Taggars

KISS 2009 PICNIC

It is time for a weekend of fun and excitement with family and friends at the **KISS (Konkanis in Southern States) 2009 Picnic**. It will be held at Bastrop State Park from 5 p.m. Friday April 10th to noon Sunday, April 12th. The park is located at BASTROP, Texas. (35 miles southeast of Austin). For more information, visit Bastrop State Park website at

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/bastrop/>

We will start off on Friday with an informal evening, where you can enjoy “all you can eat pizza” while socializing with other picnic goers. Saturday’s agenda includes a host of activities including sports, entertainment and of course amchigale food! The full day menu will comprise of breakfast, lunch, evening snacks and dinner catered by UDIPI Restaurant. Our picnic will conclude with a Sunday “Brunch”.

Agenda:

Friday, April 6th:

5.00 P.M. to 8.00 P.M. - Registration, Panchadika & Pizza

8.00 P.M. to 11.00 P.M. - Karaoke, Bhajan, Anthakshari & Dance.

Saturday April 7th:

7.00 A.M. to 8.30 A.M. - Breakfast

9.00 A.M. to 12.00 P.M. - Volley Ball, Cricket, outdoor games for adults (Kids will have face painting & other activities)

12.00 P.M. to 1.30 P.M. - Lunch

2.00 P.M. to 4.30 P.M. - Kids only time: Entertainment, games, Easter Egg Hunt

4.30 P.M. - Light Snacks, Tea & Coffee.

5:00 P. M. to 7:00 P. M. – Break/Refresh time

7.00 P.M. till Midnight - Entertainment, Dinner, Camp fire, Jokes & Dance

Sunday April 8th

8.00 A.M. Onwards: - Brunch, Easter egg Hunt for the Kids, clean up.

Registration Charges:

Adults (10 and above) \$40 (\$50 at the park)

Senior Citizens (65 and above) and Children (between 5 and 10) \$30 (\$40 at the park)

Children under 5 - FREE

Park admission fee is NOT included in the registration charge. The admission fee is \$4 per day per person 13 years and older.

Accommodations:

We have negotiated discounted rates for KISS picnic guests at Super 8 (512-321-6000) located one mile from the park. The rates are \$79.95/night up to 4 people in a room. There is also Day’s Inn (512-321-1157) for \$ 65.00 per night and Comfort Inn (512-321-3303) for \$ 71.99 which is about 4 miles from the park on Hwy 71. Comfort Inn is recommended as the facilities seem pretty good for a reasonable price.

Please mention KISS Picnic or KONKANI Reunion (SHENOY at Comfort Inn) when booking the rooms.

Please book Motel Rooms ASAP.

Cutoff date for discounted rate is April 1st, 2009

Area Coordinators:

Austin: Ashlesha and Rajiv Hattangady (512-347-9681), Dinkar Rao (512-837-7159), Anu Bajekal (512-795-8627)

Dallas: Prakash Kagal (972-633-5605)

Houston: Mridula Rao (281-992-0132), Sunil Shenoy (281-320-1851)

Entertainment: Contact Please contact Neela Kamath (281-498-3188) if you or your kids would like to perform at the Picnic.

Please return the Registration Form with following information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State & Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E Mail: _____

	# of People	Registration Fees
Adults Each @ \$40.00.....		
Senior Citizens (Above 65 Years) Each @ \$30.00		
Kids (Between 5 and 10) Each @ \$30.00.....		
Kids Below 5 Free.....		
Grand Total		

Please make checks payable to Neela Kamath and mail with this registration form to:

Neela Kamath, 8810 Heatherly Drive, Houston, TX 77083; Phone: 281-498-3188 & e-mail: neelakamath@yahoo.com

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.



We are proud to announce that the 2009 Konkani Youth Convention will be held in our nation's capital- Washington, D.C. from August 7-9. The purpose of this convention is to promote the interaction of Konkani youth among one another through various activities such as seminars, ice-breakers, entertainment and sight-seeing. The committee has worked tirelessly to plan a wonderful weekend for all the Konkani youth. There are currently 72 registrants and we anticipate more as details are revealed.

For our culture to remain intact for future generations in North America, we must continue the tradition of carrying out youth conventions. We hope that through these conventions, the present and future generations of Konkani youth will be brought together with a sense of cohesiveness, companionship, and a true feeling of community. We have greatly appreciated contributions from families like yours to help us continue to keep the tradition going strong among youth. We strongly encourage those who can, to make a donation to help us fund this convention. Please visit www.kyc2009.com for more information. Help us keep the Konkani spirit alive!

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

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, Ravi Baliga. 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 has been busy in finding ways to help the Konkani Youth succeed in raising funds for their Event of the year, the Konkani Youth Convention.

NAKA - Statement Of Accounts

Date	Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
11/30/2008	Balance from last report	118,466.80	
2/28/2009	Interest	109.42	
	Final Balance:	118,576.22	

Signed: Damodar Baliga
Treasurer, NAKA

Konkani Charitable Trust

Following is an update on The Konkani Charitable Trust:

After a detailed review of the NAKA charter we have concluded that the Konkani Charitable trust should be separately incorporated as an entity and then file for tax exempt status with IRS and California . We want to make sure that what we do should be a legal. We have engaged a lawyer and will develop the charter and file the incorporation document within the next three months. IRS approval can take six to nine months. We will provide an update as we make progress. We collected \$6000 as donation and donated \$4,000 to Anandashram in Puttur. The donations were made through NAKA. Once we get the Tax ID we will begin the fund raising efforts for the charitable trust. We are hoping that the Konkani Community will support us with generous donations.

Ramesh Kamath
On behalf of the Konkani Charitable trust

GSB Scholarship League – to our foreign friends

GSB Scholarship League is a 96 year old organization continuing the activity of supporting the education of community children. We mostly get applications from villages of South and North Karnataka, Kochi, Mumbai etc.

Ours is a vidyadayini organization. The more vidya one gives the Saraswati's blessings become more powerful. We need the support of people, so that the League can support more deserving and needy people in the community. One student in a family gets the financial assistance means one family's future is strengthened.

To spread this message and also the awareness of GSB Scholarship League's existence a Website has been recently created giving full information of the institution. www.gbscholarshipleague.org

Kindly open this website and you will be surprised to know the work of this NGO doing from one corner of Mumbai for the benefit of the community.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY, TO SUPPORT THE YOUNGER STUDENTS TO BECOME GOOD AND HEALTHY CITIZENS OF TOMORROW.

Appeal - Bantwal Shri Kashi Math Jeernodhara Project

By the divine grace of God and with the blessings of Gurudev the Managing committee has now taken up the expansion project with all earnestness. Accordingly, the following works have been taken up i.e.

1. Construction of houses for Archakas
2. Construction of an auditorium
3. Extension of present Pooja Griha
4. Kitchen Room and such other improvements.

We hereby appeal to all the Bhajakas and disciples of Shri Kashi Math Samsthan for kind cooperation, support and generous contribution for this noble cause.

H. Vedavyasa Prabhu, Managing Trustee

Manoor Laxman Kamath, President

Bhamy Narayana Shenoy, Secretary

Purushotharna.Shenoy, Treasurer

B. Shivaraya Prabhu, N. Sudhakar Shenoy, B.Venkatraya

Pai, Members of the Vyavasthapaka Samithi

Please, follow the link for more details of this project: <http://www.ekhabbar.com/BantwalTempleAppeal.PDF>

Shrinivas Charitable Trust

www.sctrust.ind.cc

GOLD AGE HOME

Raghavendra Nagar, Herwatta, Kumta 581332, U.K., Karnataka

Shrinivas Charitable Trust's 'Gold Age Home' is now open for senior citizens at nominal charges.

Gold Age Home facilities consist of

- Hot Water Facility
- Bed Linen
- Purified Drinking Water
- Laundry Facility
- TV/VCR System
- Library
- Indoor Games
- Jogging Track along garden
- Medical Facility
- Solar Lighting
- Meditation and Yoga
- Pure Vegetarian Food

The residents can also participate in Raghavendra Vrindavan's activities adjutant to Gold Age Home.

Rules and Regulations

- Senior citizens of sixty & above are admitted.
- The right to admission of resident is reserved by the board of trustees.
- Gold age home has facility for self-contained accommodation for two in each room.
- Each room is well equipped with two single beds, two cupboards, two chairs and tables.
- A well maintained and clean kitchen along with a spacious dining hall with full ventilation is provided.
- A separate hall is provided for bhajans, meditation and yoga.
- A 24 hour water facility in addition to hot water and potable drinking water is provided.
- An attractive garden and recreation on both sides of the building.
- The residents are provided with cable TV, VCR, tape recorder and radio facility for entertainment in common lounge.
- Gold Age Home will organize quarterly excursion trips to nearby picnic spots for residents.
- Kid-playing area around premises
- Around the clock attendants will be provided
- A pure, satvic and notorious fresh vegetarian food will be served to residents.

India Contact

Meera Shanbhag

+91 8386-224391

+91 94489 96202 (Mobile)

meera.sctrust@yahoo.com

US Contact

Mukund Pai

(440)-349-3550

paikula@yahoo.com

Klassified

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

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

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

WANTED:

Any Hoon Khabbar, sunshine news, your or your child's promotion or achievement, articles of interest, etc. are always in need to be published in Khabbar. Share your joy or grief with fellow Konkanis. Send your contribution to: Khabbar, P. O. Box 222, Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222. email: khabbar@hotmail.com

KONKANI CHARITIES

The American Konkani Association (A. K. A.) is helping eligible Konkani youth by granting College Loan Scholarships. Send your generous contributions to: American Konkani Association, 1613 Maple Avenue, Berwyn, IL 60402

KONKANI CHARITIES

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

KONKANI CHARITIES

The Three river Area Konkani Association (TAKA) is a non-profit organization helping the needy Konkanis in North America and India. Send generous contributions to: Three river Area Konkani Association 111 Volpe Dr., MONROEVILLE, PA 15146

KONKANI COOK BOOKS

The two Konkani Cook Books, "Indian Cooking Konkani Style" and "Millennium Masala Konkani Style" published by American Konkani Association (A. K. A.) are for sale. The cost per book is \$12.00 + \$1.50 for S & H. Mail check payable to A.K.A. to: Mrs. Sandhya Kamath, 440 Glencrest Dr., Barrington, IL 60010, Phone: (847)-277-9771 skamath@aol.com

FREE (For North American patrons only)

"Proud To Be Konkani" CD

Courtesy of KS-2002, the hit song "Proud To Be Konkani" CD's are available for FREE. Contact: khabbar@hotmail.com to get your FREE copy.

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, NV 89145

Phone: (702)-341-6706; Email: bastishenoy@gmail.com

Please call weekends only 10:00 AM to 10:00PM (PST)

APPEAL

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

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

KS-2008 DVDs for Sale

Please send a check for \$40.00 (per set) payable to "KAOCA" and mail to:

Shyam Taggars, 20169 Chateau Drive, Saratoga, CA 95070

Please, include your name and address with your order.

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

APPEAL

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