

# Khabbar

North American Konkani Newsletter

Volume XXXVI No. 4

October, November, December - 2013

*From:*

The Honorary Editor,

"Khabbar"

P. O. Box 222

Lake Jackson, TX 77566 - 0222

XXXVI-4

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



**FIRST CLASS**

TO:

# Khabbar Follies

In this section, Khabbar looks into the Konkani community and anything and everything that is Konkani from a Konkani point of view. The names will never be published but geographic location will be identified in general terms.

There is no doubt in my mind that *Khabbar* is a part & parcel of life of Konkanis in North America. In fact, *Khabbar* has developed a special relation with most of the Konkani families and here are some examples of those close encounters of a different kind.....

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It is fact that most of the unofficial "official" *Khabbar* correspondents pursue Konkani news items in North America with due diligence. But, not all the news items make it to *Khabbar* and I think, I know one of the reasons.

Here it is:  
During Konkani Sammelan 2012 I ran into this ever young looking Konkani lady whom I had not seen over 15 years and

believe me, she looked the same I had seen her last time. Catching up with all the *panchadiks*, I find that the lady's kids got married and she even has grand kids! And, all these news did not appear in *Khabbar*!!

I commented, "You know, if these news items did appear in *Khabbar* means it did NOT happen."

The lady replied, "I know, I purposely did not give these news items. Then, everybody will know that I am getting old!"

Tell me, how can I win here!?!  
\*\*\*\*\*

## SUBSCRIPTION FORM:

Dear Konkani family,

**It is time to renew your subscription for 2014.** The numbers on the mailing label clearly indicate the year/s the dues for *Khabbar* has been received since 2011. Please, note that you have the FREE access to the *eKhabbar*, the electronic version of *Khabbar*, by logging on to *eKhabbar.com*. If you want hard copy, then only remit your subscription 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 XXXVI No. 4

October, November, December - 2013

Honorary Editor: Mr. Vasanth Bhat

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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 2011**. In other words, families who **have not** paid since 2010 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 2011 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.

Please, note it is time to renew your subscription for 2014. The 2014 *Khabbar* Mailing List will be mailed **only** to families that have paid their subscriptions for 2013. The *Khabbar* Mailing List is a prized possession of our community and please 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](mailto:khabbar@hotmail.com) and rest be assured that I'll "Khabbarize" them!

The newly re-organized **North American Konkani Association (NAKA)** is already busy in making progress. Please note that this is an interim Board who are making every effort to make a NAKA a viable organization in North America. *Khabbar* will publish all the developments and progress made by **NAKA** on an on-going basis. NAKA has made a bold statement about hosting the Konkani Sammelan in 2016 and hold general elections to hand over the reins of NAKA to the newly elected Board in 2016. Please, extend all your help in making NAKA a viable organization in North America.

*Khabbar* will also publish progress made by **Konkani Charitable Fund (KCF)** on a regular basis. I welcome **Dr. Gopal Bhandarkar**, the most respected Konkani in North America, to KCF. The team KCF needs all our support to help our folks anywhere in the world. I must say that team KCF is doing a great job. Keep it up

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](mailto:khabbar@hotmail.com)).

On the Quiz front, *Khabbar* has still remained as a champ. By some luck, we had 17 with correct solutions for last quarter's quiz! A *Khabbar* record indeed!! Let us see how you will do with this 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: [bastishenoy@gmail.com](mailto:bastishenoy@gmail.com) if interested to extend your help for this worthy cause. Indeed, the Kendra has become a center of attraction and I urge all North American Konkani 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.

*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 or thru KCF if approved by KCF. *Khabbar* firmly believes in helping our people whether it is in India or here. Here's a link to all the appeals I gotten so far:

<http://www.eKhabbar.com/SpecialAppeals.htm>

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

Happy Holidays & Happy New Year 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.*

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## **KS-2012 Special Notice**

**Dear Friends,**

We are excited to inform you that the **Konkani S sammelan DVDs** are now available for purchase. A set of 9 DVDs can be ordered from our website (<http://www.konkani2012.org/>) at a **SALE price of \$20**. The DVDs cover entirely all the events on the Main Stage as well as edited parts of Seminars, Friday's Reception, Luncheons, and Sunday's grand Farewell Party.

Thank you for supporting the Konkani S sammelan 2012. These DVDs will bring back fond memories of the S sammelan for everyone who attended. For those who could not attend the S sammelan, this is your chance to get a glimpse into what happened at the S sammelan and to relive the event vicariously by watching these high quality DVDs. In either case, the DVDs are a collector's item and we are sure you will like them. Please do not wait too long as we have limited number of DVDs and they may be sold out soon. Please visit our website (<http://www.konkani2012.org/>) to pay and order your DVD copy today...

**Please note once they are sold out, we will not reprint them. To avoid disappointment ,please order DVD sets as soon as possible**

Visit [konkanisammelan.org](http://konkanisammelan.org) & [konkanisammelan.com](http://konkanisammelan.com)

Devu Baren Karo,

Organizing Committee - Konkani S sammelan 2012

Gopal Bhandarkar M.D.

President, KS-2012

<http://www.konkani2012.org>

[bhandarkar11705@gmail.com](mailto:bhandarkar11705@gmail.com)

Hi Vasanth,

Recently, I read this excellent book in Kannada "Swapna Saraswat" and thought of writing the attached review so that others would be encouraged to read it and understand some of the history of Konkanis. If you feel it is suitable for publication in e-Khabbar, please go ahead and publish it in the next issue..

Best regards

Sadanand

[sadanand.mankikar@gmail.com](mailto:sadanand.mankikar@gmail.com)

Dear Vasanth maam:

Namaskaru!

If possible, can you print the attached (Shree Shantika Parameshwari Dev Kumta (U.K.) Earnest Appeal) in the next issue?

Thank you in advance.

Mukund Pai

[balancedpai@hotmail.com](mailto:balancedpai@hotmail.com)

### **Editor's Reply:**

Done. See page 20 of this issue

Dear Vasanth,

Please be kind enough to publish this piece of news in the next *Khabbar* issue, responsibility for which has been bestowed on me.

"The alumni of the Kasturba or Manipal Institutions (medical, engineering etc.) in Malaysia will be hosting the 1st Global Alumni Health, Science and Technology Convention in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 7th and 8th August 2014. A world class CME program for 12-15 units for the physicians is being put together by Dr Vasudeva Kamath of New York ([markadvasu@msn.com](mailto:markadvasu@msn.com)), which will be helpful for doctors from USA/UK/Australia/NZ wanting to attend this important get-together hosted by the MAAM (Manipal Alumni Association of Malaysia). Enquiries may be sent to Dr. Vasudeva Kamath. Readers may recall that Kasturba Medical College, Manipal/Mangalore just celebrated its 60th anniversary in June 2013".

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vasu

[markadvasu@msn.com](mailto:markadvasu@msn.com)

# Hoon Khabbar

## Congratulations:

The Indian Music Society of Houston, Houston, TX under the able leadership of **Suresh Shenoy & Govind (Shetty) Shenoy** hosted a Konkani brother and sister in a music program on Saturday October 5, 2013 at Jones Hall of University of St. Thomas in Houston, TX. The twin feast of Instrumental and vocal music - A Tabla solo and Hindustani classical recital - by young Konkani brother and sister pair: **Pandit Yogesh Samsi and Aditi Upadhaya** was held hosted by The tradition of Ustaaad Allarakha expresses the beauty of percussion as defined by the Punjab Gahanna.

**SAMHITHA**, d/o Surendra & Akhila Bhat gave a Music Recital at their new house at 20223 Mariposa Blue Ln., in Cypress TX on Sunday October 13, 2013 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Samhitha performed under the guidance of her guru **Smt. Shruti Sample** on harmonium. **Sri. Govind (Shetty) Shenoy** graciously accompanied on tabla. The expert sound system was managed by **Suresh Shenoy**.

**Sri DAMODAR U. PRABHU** of Pittsburgh, PA was the guest speaker during the celebration of Mahatma Gandhi Day at Frick Art Theatre of University of Pittsburgh on October 6, 2013. Sri Prabhu talked on "Harmony of Religions and Beauty of All Religions" to an audience of more than 200 people.

## New Arrival:

**LUKAS**, a baby boy born to Sanjay & Bethany Pai on August 16th, 2013 in Wichita, KS. A brother to big brothers Nikhil and Zackary. The proud paternal grandparents are Gopi & Sheila Pai of Germantown, TN.

**AARYA**, a 6 lbs. 11 oz. baby girl to Amita Kamath & Sanjay Pamnani of New York, NY born on Wednesday, October 2nd at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. A sister to big sister Sanaya and big brother Vikash. The proud maternal grandparents are Suren & Vidya Kamath of San Antonio, TX and the proud paternal grandparents

are Ram & Janki Pamnani of Mumbai, India.

**DHANYA ELIZABETH**, a 7 lb. 3 oz. baby girl to Harish & Jennifer Nayak of Rochester, NY on October 10, 2013 in Rochester, NY. A sister to Kiran Rose and Ariana Devi. Eighth grandchild to Vasudev & Shaila Nayak of Mays Landing, NJ.

## Newlyweds:

Upendra & Meera Pai of Jackson Heights, NY celebrated the marriage of their daughter, **Sow. SAVIRA with Chi. VASANTH**, s/o Sridaran & Viswajanani Kilvidi from 11:30 AM on Sunday, October 13, 2013 at the Green Tree Country Club in New Rochelle, NY followed by a gala reception at the same venue.

Dr. Devdutt & Vasudha Nagarkar of Sugar Land, TX celebrated the marriage of their daughter, **Sow. POONUM with Chi. SAGAR**, s/o Pravin & Purnima Chokshi of CA on Friday November 29<sup>th</sup> 2013 at 6:00 PM at the Grand Ballroom of Sugarland Marriott Town Square in Sugarland, TX.

## Relocation:

The **PAI** family, Ashok & Pratibha, together with their daughter Ankita moved from Clearlake, TX to 2814 Silhouette Bay Dr., Pearland, TX 77584-3468. The new phone is (832)-328-9197 and emails [ashokpai\\_in@yahoo.com](mailto:ashokpai_in@yahoo.com) and [pratibhapai2000@yahoo.co.in](mailto:pratibhapai2000@yahoo.co.in)

The **KINI** family, Manohar & Mitra have moved recently from Medford, NJ to West Palm Beach, FL. Their new address is 1801 S. Flagler Dr. # 1102, West Palm Beach, FL 33401. The new telephone is (561)- 623-7828 and email ID: [pmkini@gmail.com](mailto:pmkini@gmail.com)

The **NAYAK** family, Devadas & Gowri, with their son, Kishan, moved within Jupiter, FL to 3430 Greenway Dr., Jupiter, FL 33458. Their email ID: [devadas1@hotmail.com](mailto:devadas1@hotmail.com)

The **BALIGA** family, Shankar & Bindya, have relocated within Irvine,

CA to 218 Wyndover, Irvine, CA 92620-2168. The new telephone is (714)-389-4062 and email: [baligas3@yahoo.com](mailto:baligas3@yahoo.com)

The **NAYAK** family, Chaitanya & Sangeetha together with their daughter, Alisha, have moved to 54 Walker Road, Toronto, Ont. M2N2K5, Canada.

**Dr. VASUDEVA MARKAD KAMTH** has relocated within NYC to 60 Sutton Place S, #4BN, New York, NY 10022. The telephone remains the same at (212)-421-3273 and email: [markadvasu@msn.com](mailto:markadvasu@msn.com)

**VIVEK YELLORE** has moved from Los Angeles, CA to Nashville, TN. His new address is 370 Oakley Drive, # 308, Nashville, TN 37211. His telephone remains same at (310)-612-8104.

## 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash

Meetha & Kyle Gould of Cleveland Heights, OH celebrated her mother **SHANTHI PAI's** 70th Birthday Party at the Jersey Beach House in Ocean City, NJ. Friends and families from all around the country attended the gala weekend party.

## Obituary:

**Sri PRABHASHANKAR BHANDARKAR (83)**, passed away peacefully in West Bloomfield, MI, on Sunday, October 27th, 2013. Husband of Late Smt. Sunanda Bhandarkar and dear father of Ramchandra (Novi, MI), Anuradha Shenoy and Suchitra Vaidya (California). Prabhaskar retired from Nestle India after a long successful career as Chief Electrical Engineer and spent his retired years with his family in Michigan, California and his home in Bangalore. He will be sadly missed by his grandchildren, children, brother, sisters, extended family and many friends in the U.S. Canada and India. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to Bhandarkar family and members of the extended family.

## KONKANI HAPPENINGS

### Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC):

The Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC) Diwali Celebration for the year 2013 was held on Saturday, November 2 at Laguna Woods Club House. The evening started with an hour of socializing and delicious snacks. The formal program began with invocation of Lord Ganesh and Goddess Lakshmi followed by Arathi. At the conclusion of the puja, our master of the ceremony and cultural coordinator **Devika Shenoy** set the stage for a variety of programs that dazzled the crowd. This year we had invited **Akshay Hari**, a USC student and SRGMP Mumbai top 50 contestants to entertain the crowd with his melodious songs ranging from classical bhajan to the old and the new Bollywood hits. This was followed by a mythological costume parade by the Konkani toddlers, dressed in characters like Chota Bheem and Shakuntala which was adorable. The bubbly **Aadhya Shenoy** took us back to the Madhuri days with her ek do teen...dance number. **Shreya Pai** displayed her excellent kathak dancing skills. **Brenna Rao** gave all a taste of western music accompanied by **Raj Pai** on the piano. The orange county kids enacted the Panchatantra Stories rekindling our childhood memories. The mother daughter duo **Maya and Niveditha Pai** graceful presented a classical dance followed by Bharatnatyam by **Devika Shenoy**, both drawing a great applause from the audience. The highlight of the program was the interesting and hilarious Konkani skit "*Kalyugache Ramayan*" written by **Rajesh Prabhu** and enacted by **Nandini and Sridhar Rao, Deepa and Rajesh Prabhu, Karthik Gadiyar, Priya Nayak, Nitin Sujir and Ashish Pradhan**. The event ended with a delicious catered buffet dinner from Mayura restaurant. A "Big Thank You" to all the KASC office bearers and volunteers who contributed to the resounding success of the function. Also special thanks to **Venkatesh and Padma Rao** for arranging the venue for this occasion.

### KONKANI SABHA DIWALI:

The Konkani Sabha celebrated its annual Diwali program in the Bridgewater temple community hall in New Jersey on Saturday, October 26, 2013. This eagerly awaited community event saw over 300 attendees eagerly looking forward to connect and bond with their fellow Konkani friends and relatives.

The organizing committee members worked diligently to ensure a unique and spectacular array of programs that appealed to all ages and sensibilities. The event opened its doors to registrants at 2.45pm and everyone was welcomed with "garama-garam" snacks and "hun-hun" panchadika! Setting the tone for the variety entertainment, our colorfully dressed Konkani Bandhavas and their beautiful ladies swirled and danced to dandiya beats, opening the dance floor and beckoning all to join the revelry. Any auspicious occasion can be a grand success only by invoking the Almighty's choicest blessings. With immense fervor and faith, all those gathered offered their prayers as they took turns performing "Aarti" to goddess Lakshmi, the presiding deity for culture and prosperity.

The variety entertainment commenced on stage at 4.00pm sharp. Led by the articulate and entertaining team of MC's : **Maya Shenoy, Sudhesh Nayak, Naina Kamath and Akshay Kamath**, the audience was in turns amused, and amazed by the little anecdotes and trivia that they shared. Sequencing of programs was planned in advance and the entertainment was an ideal mix of solo, group, kids' and adult performances. Apart from celebrating Diwali together, this event also provides a platform to all our talented Konkanis to showcase their talents, either in individual capacity or as a team. We witnessed kids as young as 3 years of age and adults, shed their inhibitions and revel in the opportunity to showcase their skills and versatility. The performances included bhajans, a bharatnatyam, classical dances, tabla performances, classical singing, festival dances and bollywood dances by kids and adults.

One of the highlights of the evening was the felicitation of **Dr. Gopal Bhandarkar** and **Elegant Affairs** for their selfless service to the community. Dr. Bhandarkar has been an active supporter of the Konkani community and led the Konkani Sammelan 2012 to its grand and resounding success. He was honored with a plaque for his commendable leadership and his continued moral support to the Konkani Sabha and Konkani events. The spirited team at Elegant Affairs (**Sharda Shenoy and Shobha Rao**) deserved special recognition because of their generosity and community spirit. Each year, Elegant Affairs sends in their team to build a backdrop for the Diwali stage, which is nothing less than spectacular. Not only does it elevate the program platform, it also enhances our celebratory spirit. Since work commitments required their presence elsewhere, **Mr. Ravi Shenoy** kindly accepted the token of our appreciation on their behalf.

Konkani Sabha outgoing President, **Mr. Santosh Kamat**, gave his 'President's Speech' highlighting the challenges faced by the committee in the past, and their efforts to handle over-subscribed performance entries and registrants. He thanked the attendees, performers and volunteers for their continued support. Mr. Kamat encouraged new volunteers to come forward, participate and help organize the event in future. He also announced committee rotation and introduced the newly appointed committee members, listed below, for the year 2014. This was followed by an acceptance speech by the incoming President, **Mr. Vivek Shenoy**, and a Vote of Thanks by **Mr. Prakash Shenoy**.

Highlights of the event can be seen at: <http://meshenoy.com/diwali2013.htm>

### Konkani Sabha Committee - 2014

**Vivek Shenoy - President**  
**Amit Kantak - Vice President**  
**Prakash Shenoy - Treasurer**  
Dev Baren Karo,

**Venkatesh Kamat - Secretary**  
**Vinatha Pai - Joint Secretary**

Santosh Kamat, President, Konkani Sabha  
[kamats2008@gmail.com](mailto:kamats2008@gmail.com)



## Konkani Social Club (KSC)

The Konkani Social Club (KSC) of South Texas celebrated their annual Diwali function on Friday October 26<sup>th</sup> 2013 at the Madras Pavilion in Sugar Land, TX from 7:00 PM to past midnight. The hall was decorated with authentic Diwali items including the Akash Goodu. The program started with invocation of Goddess Lakshmi . There were quite a few fulfilled entertainment events like Karaoke, Bhajans and Dance. After the sumptuous dinner and sweets by **Govind Boloor**, the attendees danced to popular music until the wee hours. The whole event was sponsored by **Suresh & Usha Shenoy** of Sugar Land, TX.

By: KSC Staff Reporter

## Houston Area Amchigale Samaj (HAAS) Diwali:

The 2013 HAAS Diwali Gala event held on 2nd Nov at Madras Pavilion Sugarland was a memorable and resounding success! The venue was well decked up and decorated. The warmth and the splendor of the hall were fit for the grand function that followed. Appetizers were aplenty, while drinks flowed as guests gathered and met friends and family and did 'panchaitikato chit chat and catch up with all the latest in the community.

**Manikyam pachi, Meera pachi and Latha pachi** started off the event with the lighting of the Diya and the invocation prayer was sung by **Chaitra Shenoy**.

Group performances as opposed to individual performance was a distinguishing feature of this year's Diwali event. With great appreciation we applaud all the performers for their diligent work in rehearsing for the event, taking time off their busy schedules. Needless to say, it required all of the participants to co-ordinate and accommodate the practice schedules in their busy life. Thanks to you all for your preparation in making this a grand success.

The 'Date with Dave' was much talked about play and wholly enjoyed by the audience. We laud the performance of every actor and director / writer for the wonderful conceptualization of the theme. 'Jai Ho' dance performance by the 'Young !!' husbands of the committee members also was a "Talk of the Town". The audience was kept entertained by Lungi Dance, Health is Wealth play by the kids, Hot Mamma's Dance, Nritya Jugalbandi and different other dance and singing performances by various Konkani Talents.

The sumptuous diner was served at 8.30 PM and followed by DJ Dance.

The event was emceed by **Surendra and Akila Bhat** keeping the audience engaged with anecdotes from 'Amchigale' Languages, Konkani satire etc... We thank both for wonderful compilations.

We would like to thank **Govind Boloor** for the 'Mithai Undo' and "Jeelebi" that he made specially for this event. Ymmmm.. Our sincere thanks to **Chetan Bhat, Narendra Rao** for helping setup the venue, sound systems and **Gurudutt Kamath** for DJ (and training the youth in managing the sound systems) and all other volunteers in helping out the committee in different aspects of managing this event.

Thanks

HAAS Management Committee  
[www.ourhaas.com](http://www.ourhaas.com)

# AMKA Volunteering

AMKA referred to the song, "Heal the World" by MICHAEL JACKSON to ask for volunteers for the annual volunteering event held on Oct 26th, Saturday at FMSC (Feed My Starving Children) located in Aurora, IL. The message was to get involved in the community and make a difference and in turn make the world a better place.



This message was carried over by many volunteers who came to participate which included many children and not just made a difference but had fun too. At the end of the two hours of non-stop packing of food for children all around the world, the AMKA group {along with a Church group} were able to pack 96 boxes with each box containing 32 packets of food and costing \$50 to pack.

All volunteers were given instructions on how to come dressed for the packing and were asked to wash their hands before going into the packing area. Each group was asked

to pack at tables named after the countries that FMSC supply food to. When any food item was over in the bin the group had to shout out their country name with the item needed to the warehouse "boys" {our President and WebMaster} to supply the group with a bin filled with that item. Also once they packed a box they were required to shout out the number they had packed. This led to some healthy competition between the groups.





With children helping out, the adults were also motivated to pack more boxes ensuring that their group packed the most. The enthusiasm showed by the kids was amazing & shows how much joy they get participating along with their Parents. The children were switching between adding the vitamin to adding rice to the packets & weighing them before handing them over for sealing and boxing. Some danced to the music being played. This is an event that AMKA started a few years ago and already some of us are looking forward to the next year's event to have more fun.

## Konkaribbean (Picnic)

Konkaribbean, AMKA Summer Picnic 2013 was a super blast!!!



An amazing factor this year was that all members came dressed up for the event & participated with enthusiasm. Kids went the extra way and were rewarded for their efforts. Dressing for the Caribbean theme brought about such cohesiveness to the AMKA team that it demands an extra special mention.

The Picnic was held at the Blackwell Forest Preserve North Shelter, which is well placed & has enough space for everyone, whether it is for volleyball, cricket, or kids crafts and games. The whole Shelter was decorated in the Caribbean theme with Pineapples, Hibiscus, palm tree cutout and Flamingos with the welcoming table professionally dressed up with fresh leaves and flowers.



Members drove from different directions & participated in all the planned activities and kids enjoyed doing crafts & dancing to some Goan music. Everyone participated with a lot of enthusiasm especially when it was time for the Limbo Dance. Young or old, everyone had a good time.

After a whole day eating and enjoyment, the event ended with prizes being given out for special categories, like Best dressed Female and male, best dressed new couple or Old member couple and a game of Bingo. Special mention has to be made of the "roadside" Mumbai style eating of the chaat & pain puri...folks especially enjoyed that the most.





## KHABBAR FROM KULAR

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

Vishwa Konkani Students Scholarship Distribution Ceremony was held on 2nd Sep 2013 at T. V. Raman Pai Hall Mangalore. **Hon. R.V. Deshpande**, Minister for Higher Education Govt. Of Karnataka and Chairman (Emeritus) World Konkani Centre was the Chief Guest. **Sri T.V. Mohandas Pai** Chief promoter Vishwa Konkani Students Scholarship Fund. **Sri Ramdas Kamath U**, Chairman Vishwa Konkani Students Scholarship Fund. **Basti Vaman Shenoy** and **Venkatesh N. Baliga** President & Secretary World Konkani Centre were present. For the 2013-14 Academic Year 639 Engineering and Medical students received Scholarships worth Rs. 2.50 crores.

Sri Gowri Parab and Sri Ganesha Chaturti festivals were celebrated in India with Pomp and gaiety on 8th and 9th Sept 2013 respectively.

World Konkani Centre organized a "Out Reach" Specialists Clinic Medical Camp for the public of Shaktinagara in association with K.M.C doctors and Staff on 15-09-2013.

"MANIPAL UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS (INCUBATOR) Innovation Programme. 60 members of 4th year scholars (beneficiaries of Vishwa Konkani Students Scholarship Fund) got their (INCUBATOR) Training in the Innovation Workshop at Manipal Institute of Technology Campus from 25th to 27th October. An agreement between MUTBI & World Konkani Centre was signed in the presence of **Sri Dr. Ranjan Ramdas Pai** and **Sri T.V. Mohandas Pai**.

Navaratri for 9 days from 5th October to 13th October 2013 and Vijayadashami on 14th October and also Deepavali from 2nd to 4th Nov 2013 celebrated throughout India.

"**Basti Vaman Shenoy-80 Sambhrama**" celebration was held on 10-11-2013 at S.V.S. High School Bantwal. Hon. Minister, Government of Karnataka **Sri B. Ramanath Rai**, Hon. Chairman and Donor, Philanthropist **Dr. P. Dayananda Pai** Hon. President and Shri **Manoor Laxman Kamath** (Managing Trustee, S.V.S. Temple, Bantwal) were Executive President of the Celebrations Committee were present. **Prof. T.C. Shiva Shankar Murthy**, Vice Chancellor, Mangalore University, **Dr. Meena Chandavarkar** Vice Chancellor of Karnataka State Womens University, Bijapur **Sri Ramdas Kamath U**, senior Vice President of Infosys, Bangalore, **Dr. K. Mohan Alva** Chairman Alvas Educational Institution. **Arya Lakshmi Narayan Alva** Senior Kannada writer were present in the morning.

An All India Konkani Kavita Gosti held in the afternoon session in which Konkani poets from Mumbai, Goa, Kerala and Karnataka participated. Poets including **Nutan Sakardande**, **Guadalupe Dais**, **Wilma Bantwal**, **Dimple Fernandes** and **Venkatesha Nayak** attended the Gosti. In the evening **Basti Vaman Shenoy**, Founder President of World Konkani Centre was felicitated at a Gala function in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the socio-Cultural sphere of the country. His Auto Biography and a Commemorative Souvenir were released during the function.

World Konkani Centre organized 2 days Konkani Children's Drama Festival "Rampampo" at Mangalore Town Hall on 16th and 17th Oct 2013. About 160 Konkani Childrens from 7 Konkani Viz, Kharvi, Christian, Kudal Deshasth, GSB, RSB, Chaptekar and Kudubi dialects participated and all the 7 Konkani Drama troupes were hailed by the public.

World Konkani Centre published 4 Konkani books & released in a function held on 20-10-2013 at Panaji in association with Goa Konkani Academy. 1. "Vishwa Konkani Parichaya Kosh" part-2 (Dr. Tanaji Halarankar Chief Editor.) 2. "Vaishaki" (translation of Rashtakavi Majeshwar Govinda Pai's Kannada book to Konkani by Prof. M. Madhav Pai) 3. "Saiba Bhogos" (Konkani Novel Of Late Sri V.J.P. Saldhana transliteration to Devnagari by Mr. Melvyn Rodrigues ) and 4. "Opera House" (Kannada Short stories of Jayanth Kaikini to Konkani by Sri Ramesh Lad) were released by **Dr. Jayant Kaikini**, **Sri Aravind Bhatikar**, President, All India Konkani Parishad, **Sri Pundalik N. Naik** President of Goa Konkani Academy, **Shri K. Gokuldas Prabhu**, **Sri Ramesh Laad**, **Dr. Kiran Budkuley**, **Sri Melvyn Rodrigues**, **Sri Ramdas Kamath U** Vice President of Infosys Technologies Ltd, Bangalore, **Basti Vaman Shenoy**, World Konkani Centre Founder President were present.

## **Basti Vaman Shenoy honoured on his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday with befitting event**

**As appeared in Daijiworld**

Daijiworld Media Network - Bantwal (NM)

Bantwal, Nov 11: The 80th birthday of veteran Konkani activist and founder of World Konkani Centre **Basti Vaman Shenoy** was celebrated in a grand manner with a day-long event at SVS High School here on Sunday November 10. The programme was organized by Basti Vaman Shenoy 80 Sambhrama Committee, Bantwal

The main celebration was held in the evening with a stage programme wherein **T V Mohandas Pai**, chairman, Manipal Global Education, Bangalore was chief guest, minister for forests **B Ramanath Rai** presided and renowned Kannada writer **Arya Laxminaranaya Alva**, Goa Konkani Sahitya Academy president **Pundalik Naik** and **Ramdas Kamath U**, vice-president of Infosys Bangalore were the guests of honour.

**Mannur Laxman Kamath**, executive president of the organizing committee welcomed the gathering and introduced the guests.

On the occasion, **Basti Vaman Shenoy** was felicitated and wished by several organizations and individuals for his outstanding contribution to socio-cultural sphere of the country. His autobiography 'Ek Bhikshuk Chakravarthili Kanni' was released by **Arya Laxminaranaya Alva**, while **Pundalik Naik** released a souvenir 'Basti Sambhram'.

**Mohandas Pai** in his address said, "The fact that so many people have attended this ceremony only suggests that **Basti Vaman Shenoy** spent the best part of his life serving the community. He is a living legend, the torchbearer of culture and language. We are inheritors of a great culture, but today there are very few people who pass on the tradition and culture to the next generation. Most people are engaged in earning for a living and fail to enjoy human existence to the fullest. However, **Basti Vaman Shenoy** has embodied the entire culture and worked for it."

**Arya Laxminaranaya Alva** said, "Basti Vaman Shenoy is not only known for his Konkani writings but also for his works in Kannada. He has brought good name to Bantwal where he was born, and has successfully lived his 80 years. He was not only born for one community but lived for all communities, and therefore he is recognised by society."

Acknowledging the honour, **Basti Vaman Shenoy** said that with this honour his responsibility had also increased. Recalling his early life, he said he was inspired by his father and others in his family who lived a selfless life. He narrated how some of the great people in his locality moulded him and thanked people who enabled him to grow, **T M A Pai**, **Dayanand Pai**, **Ronald Colaco**, **Mohandas Pai**, **Ramadas Kamath**, **Eric Ozario** and others. "Due to the support of these people, it was possible to build World Konkani Centre and host the World Konkani Convention," he said.

"Whenever I did something good, people encouraged me which kept me motivated to continue doing good. I am no great man, all that I did in my life was to collect from the rich and give it to the poor; I was only a bridge, and the 2.5 crore scholarship provided by WKC to students is an example of it," he said.

"We will again get together here for my 100th birthday," he added in a lighter tone.

**Minister Ramanath Rai** recalled his association with **Basti Vaman Shenoy** and said that age has not been a limit or hindrance to him. "He mingled with everyone and treats everyone equally. It is said that a hard working person finds rest in his work; this saying is apt for **Basti Vaman Shenoy**. Even at this age he travels from place to place for the sake of society, if not for himself. The young generation should follow the example set by him.

"Today the society is ruled by money, humanity is nowhere and love among mankind is missing. Society should learn **Basti Vaman Shenoy**. He is a man of love, one who has worked for the betterment of society. I'll be very happy to attend the 100th birthday of Shenoy," he added.

#### Birthday surprise

As a birthday surprise to **Basti Vaman Shenoy**, **Venkatesh Baliga**, secretary of WKC in his address announced the institution of Basti Vaman Shenoy Seva Puraskar, which will be conferred on a man and a woman for their exemplary service of outstanding order in the field of community development, education, health, political action, social movement, sports, or any other profession. There will be no age limit and deserving persons from Konkani speaking community from all over India will be selected for the award. The award will consist of a cash prize of Rs 1 lac.

**T Narayan Kamath**, chief convener of the organizing committee, **B Prabhakar Prabhu**, secretary, and **Puttur Narasimha Nayak** present.

There was also a musical programme by **Puttur Narasimha Nayaka** and group.

Earlier in the day, a seminar was held on the topic 'Youth in public service and cultural life - today and tomorrow', followed by an All India Konkani poetry meet wherein poets from Mumbai, Kerala, Karnataka and Goa participated.

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#### Letter of Appreciation of Shri Shenoy by his brother Ganapathi Shenoy of Las Vegas, NV:

Daiji World is a Konkani periodical published from Mangalore. They covered our Annaa's 80th birthday celebration in Bantwal on Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013. They covered it very well with great photos and articles. They also printed the comments from a lot of people about Vaman Annaa. The comments provoked me to write a few words. And here it is.

If your time permits, click on this link below to see the festivities that went on in Bantwal on his 80th birthday. We all should consider ourselves as lucky that he is related to us from a very close quarter. Chuck Schedel, Ashvin's father in law had this to say about Vaman Annaa after their meeting in Las Vegas in 2012 July, quote "HE IS THE GREATEST MAN THAT I EVER MET, THOUGH I DON'T KNOW HIM A LOT , THE AURA OF GREATNESS IN HIM COULD BE FELT ALL AROUND HIM" unquote.

Link to Daiji World:

[http://www.daijiworld.com/news/news\\_disp.asp?n\\_id=200765&n\\_tit=Bantwal%3A+Basti+Vaman+Shenoy+honoured+on+80th+birth+day+with+befitting+event](http://www.daijiworld.com/news/news_disp.asp?n_id=200765&n_tit=Bantwal%3A+Basti+Vaman+Shenoy+honoured+on+80th+birth+day+with+befitting+event)

I am one of the 8 beneficiaries who could claim that the greatest Konkani that I know of, Basti Vaman Shenoy, is my sibling, though that's where the similarity between him and the other 8 ends. All of his siblings have done very well in their lives but, we don't hold a candle in front of his glory, achievements, dedication to the cause of bringing back greatness to the Konkani language and culture. No matter by what standard one tries to measure him, he can't escape coming to the same conclusion that Vaman Shenoy was a child of destiny, like of whom come only once in many generations. No doubt he had the benefit of observing our father's glorious life, like of which I have seldom seen. Rest of us who lost our father when we were quite young can't use it as an excuse for not doing much in our lives except leading a good life. Consequently the impact of our father Motor Madhav Shenoy's life on my life was not as profound as you can see it over Vaman Shenoy's life. Our father's dedication to Gandhian principles in life must have had a great influence on Vaman Mam's (That's how he is known all over by Konkani speaking Hindus, Muslims & Christians) life. I had the benefit of watching Vaman Annaa from very close quarters and I can say with unequivocal authority that he is a unique person born with a caliber not 99% of the human race is blessed with. All those who claim Konkani as their ancestry should feel lucky that this man is Konkani. Had he taken any other cause to promote, he would have done the same excellent job because he just doesn't know how to do it any other way. I was only 6 when he contested for the Bantwal SVS High School Captain's position at the age of 16 and he raised the tempo of that election like of which never happened in Bantwal High School again. Since then, be it the cause of Saraswathi Kala Mandir or Yashwanth Vyaayamashaala, or Adding rooms to Bantwal High School or Kumbhaabhishekha at the Bantwal Temple, or Vishwa Konkani Sammelan, no matter what the cause was, if he was involved in it, the event ended like of which never happened before. Settling for a second rank was never his trait. He is a First Class Man and always strived to do everything in a First Class manner.

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**Letter of Appreciation from Vasanth Bhat, Hon. Editor, Khabbar:**

Dear Shri Shenoy,

Happy 80th Birthday. It is a true honor to convey my deepest appreciation to you, through this letter, and mention a few good words about you and some of your great accomplishments. Your attendance at the first Konkani Sammelan in 1996 rekindled the Konkani spirit in North America. Ever since then, you have kept the Konkani community aware of all the developments to Konkani language and culture back at home by publishing regularly the "Khabbar from Kular" column in *Khabbar*. On behalf of the North American Konkani community, I can say that we are really indebted to your humble service.

Your selfless service to the global Konkani community has not gone unnoticed. Your involvement with Konkani Bhasha Mandal, Karnatak and Konkani Academy helped create the Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Academy. The first World Konkani Convention in 1995 was a grand success. Your love for Konkani helped to introduce Konkani in the Schools of Karnataka as the optional third Language. Your accomplishments with Konkani Kendra are plentiful and all in the love for a language Konkani, which we cherish. No wonder the Konkani Sardar is an honor you deserve.

Thank you for all that you do to advance the Konkani community. May Lord give you all health and strength to continue this important work.

## **A Book Review: Swapna Saraswat – A Kannada Kadambari**

Author: Gopalkrishna Pai

Book reviewed by: Sadanand Mankikar, Burlington, Ontario, Canada

Published by Bhyagalakshmi Prakashana, Bangalore

Pages xxii + 476 Price: Rs. 325, US \$ 25

This Kannada novel by Shri Gopalkrishna Pai is based on the history of Saraswat Brahmins. The book vividly narrates trials and tribulations of the Saraswats who were prospering in Goa 400 years back but following the barbaric invasion by Portuguese were forced to migrate southward to save their lives, beliefs, culture, religion and most importantly treasured idols of their Kul Devatas. The first half of the book starts with one Vittu Pai of Kumble of Kaunshya Gotra telling the story of his ancestors to his grandson Ramchandra Pai. The rest of the book covers the life of Vittu pai and Ramachandra Pai and their siblings, children and grandchildren, their rise to the glory days and destruction of siblings through natural causes as well as infights. Vittu Pai was born in Verne in 1542 AD, the day the Portuguese first set their feet in Goa. He was born with Naag Shapa/dosha as a result of his ancestors not respecting the Naagas which was to affect 22 generations. He was a grandson of a wealthy and well settled Narasappayya who was a son of Mhalsharma. They were highly successful in both agriculture and commerce. They built their wealth by interacting with people of different casts and tribes and local as well as foreign Muslims from "Arabasthan". Ramachandra Pai not only owned 400 acres of fertile land in Ballambetti, he also helped his brothers and step brothers settle prosperously in the nearby villages.

As Vittu Pai was growing up the Portuguese were forcibly converting Hindus to Christianity and mercilessly destroying temples and idols. As this was getting unbearable under the express guidance of Nagdo Betaal, their enlightened leader and protector, many started migrating southward. The journey was long, treacherous and tiring, especially, with women and children and limited provision. Unknown territories, lack of roads and means for travel, wild animals, horrible weather, sicknesses and attacks by dacoits hindered their progress. As the caravans proceeded, the weaker and the unwilling were left behind in different places to start their own settlements. Thus, small groups of people settled in places like Gangolli, Udupi, Nileshwar, Karkala, Mulky, Bantwal, Mangalore, Panemangalore, Ullal, Kocchi, Manjeshwar, Kumble, Kasargod, Talcheri, Alpalli etc. Nagdo Betaal had ordered the 44 families to settle each in different villages. In many places the local rulers offered them shelter. Wherever they settled they prospered because of their hard work and commitment to preserving their children, culture, religion and traditions. By the way, the constant and continuous influence and spirit of Nagdo Betaal throughout the story as a dependable spiritual guide, make one wonder whether this character is a real person or the spirit that protected the people through a number of generations. He had promised Saraswats that whenever and wherever they were in troubles he would come to protect them. He had instructed Vittu Pai to leave Verne with the rest of his relatives and idols, promising him to come later to help them. But he only appears at the end of the story when Ramachandra Pai was on his deathbed thirsting for his reappearance.... whether he really comes or it is just Ramachandra Pai's illusion is left to the readers to decide.

The book spans over nine generations and covers the intertwined lives of numerous people, hence it is difficult to cover everything and everyone in this short review. Also explaining events in much detail would diminish the element of suspense which the author has interwoven so painstakingly and intelligently.

Many characters and events in this book may not be real and if they are real may not be familiar to the Konkani but characters like Dhadda and Nagdo Betaal seem to creep in discussions on traditions, customs and rites. For example, a custom of making a small boy sitting next to the Munja and next to the groom represents Dhadda as a direct result of the curses by Nagdo Betaal on Vittu Pai. Dhadda was left at the doorsteps of Vittu's house when he was just a toddler by an unknown person. Out of pity, Vittu's mother brought him up as her own. He was deaf and mute. Little did they know the major role this little toddler would play when he grew up.

Under Nagdo Betaal's guidance, Dhadda had taken Mhalsimai's idol from the temple and hid it in the forest so that the Portuguese could not destroy it. Nagdo Betaal had told this only to Vittu as he was cursing Dhadda when the later was missing. When the Portuguese officers could not find the idol, they gathered prominent Saraswats and started questioning and torturing them. When Vittu Pai could not bear anymore he told the Portuguese officers that Dhadda had hidden the idol. The Portuguese released all Saraswats who were already beaten to near death and captured Dhadda and interrogated and tortured him to death. Enraged Nagdo Betaal ordered Vittu Pai and prominent Saraswats to leave Verne and told them that they had no right on the water of Verne and no right to worship Mhalasamai. He also put a curse that Vittu's family will be decimated as one in every four generations would not produce a progeny. But when Vittu Pai repented and begged for leniency, Nagdo Betaal told them that after 400 years they will be able to go to Goa and start worshiping Mhalsamai and the women will be able to bear up to 12 children each, thus Saraswats will continue to flourish. He decreed that all Saraswats belonging to 108 kulas worshiping the 11 deities of Goa must address each other Mam and Manyi and Saraswats among themselves must talk in Konkani. When they fail to do so, the women will stop bearing the progeny. He immortalized Dhadda by building seven temples for him and decreed that whenever Saraswats visit their Kuldeavatas in Goa, they must remember to pay respect to Dhadda by visiting these temples

The author's mastery of the language is quite evident. Painstaking research over the years conducted by the author is also obvious. The routes taken and the places visited by the ancestors to reach a safe destination to start fresh livelihood, are described so vividly that as one turns the pages, it feels like one is watching a movie or a TV serial. The explanation of events, the sufferings gone through by the travellers, and the familiar places raise goose bumps. Once start reading, it is extremely difficult to put the book down. Many events are narrated in such a lucid way that at times it is difficult to separate facts from fiction.

This book is a must read for every Konkani who can read Kannada. However, some of the torrid affairs by the heads of the households, gruesome events involving torture, and the deceitful practices, traditions and rites such as "Maata, Mantra, Anjana" may require reader's discretion. It is hoped that this book gets translated into other languages including in English so that Konkani who cannot read Kannada will have the joy of reading the book as well as becoming aware of the troubles our ancestors had taken to preserve our culture, religion and traditions.

## **Anugraha Daughter Gets Married**

Umadevi walked into the marriage pandal along with the love of more than 30 foster mothers. A resident of Narmada complex run by Anugraha Charitable Trust, Thammanam, Uma Devi got married on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2013. The lucky groom is the son of Alungaparambil Ramananda Kamath and Radhamani.

Three siblings were adopted ten years back by the Trust, thanks to Dr. Narmada & Dayanand Kamath Endowment Fund and were staying at the "Home" along with thirty other inmates. Elder daughter Hema was married two years back and their brother is continuing his studies. Marriage ceremony was conducted with all customs and traditions of a GSB marriage on the auspicious Muhuurtham of Abhijit Lagnam. It seems the whole society was blessing the couple with their attendance and every one enjoyed the function which was held with pomp and gaiety.

Submitted by: **Bhaskar Sheno**, [remanse@hotmail.com](mailto:remanse@hotmail.com)



## Yale University Student Wins Rhodes Scholarship

As appeared in *desitalk*

A student of Yale University, New Haven, CT, has won the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship. **Vinay Nayak**, s/o Raghuv eer & Anitha Nayak of Oakbrook, IL is majoring in political science and is the only Indian-American among the 32 who won the coveted scholarship this year. The American Rhodes Trust announced the scholars on Nov. 23. The total value of the scholarship averages approximately \$50,000 per year and up to as much as \$200,000 for Scholars who remain at Oxford for four years.

Nayak's academic work has focused on how the internet can be used to enhance citizen engagement in elections, government and policy making. He has also applied these interests to political campaigns, including Obama 2012 re-election campaign where he managed many national digital programs and social media accounts. Nayak also interned for the White House Office on Digital Strategy and managed the social media presence for Sandy Hook Elementary School parents whose children lost their lives, a release from Rhodes said. He has won many Yale prizes, and in forensics and debate was chosen as National oratory Champion.

Nayak plans to do the master of public policy and will have an all-expenses paid two or three years of study at the University of Oxford in England starting October 2014.

The academic award was created in 1902 by the will of Cecil Rhodes, British philanthropist and African colonial pioneer. The first class of American Rhodes Scholars entered Oxford in 1904. Nayak was among a short-list of 208 applicants from 91 different colleges and universities who reached the final stage of the competition. The 32 Rhodes Scholars chosen from the United States will join some 48 scholars chosen from several other countries including India and Pakistan.

## Vin Bhat and Param Singh of Saavn to be honored among others

New York: The first-ever Global Indian Achievement Awards American Edition ([www. GIAA.co](http://www.GIAA.co)) will celebrate and honor the phenomenal success of the Indian community living and working in the United States. Presented by Etihad Airways and HindustanTimes.com and initiated by India Unlimited, a property of Evolve, GIAA will be an annual roll call of notable Indian achievers across various fields and industries. Some of this year's recipients include **Ajay Banga** – CEO, MasterCard, **Deepa Mehta** – Film Producer/Director, **Manoj Bhargava** – Founder, 5 Hour Energy, **Preet Bharara** – U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, **Salman Rushdie** – Author/Filmmaker, **Surya Mohapatra** – CEO & President, Osborn Group, Inc, **Soumitra Dutta** – Dean, Samuel Curtis Business School – Cornell University, **Sri Srinivasan** – U.S. Circuit Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit and **Zarin Mehta** – Former President & Executive Dir. of NY Philharmonic Orchestra, a press release here said. Young Achievers to be honored are **Vikas Khanna** – Michelin Starred Chef and Host of Master Chef india, **Nina Davuluri** – First Indian Miss America, **Waris Ahluwalia** – Founder, House of Waris & Gap Model, **Payal Saha** – Founder, Kathi Roll Company and **Vin Bhat and Param Singh**, co-founders, Saavn. The Awards Gala, to be held in March 2014, will start with a cocktail reception/red carpet, followed by the awards presentation and a dinner banquet at the Taj Pierre, the release added. - See more at: <http://theindianeye.net/global-indian-achievement-awards-to-honor-young-achievers-on-dec-15/#sthash.WLFHeEjr.dpuf>

## Dr. Bhat named “King of Queens”

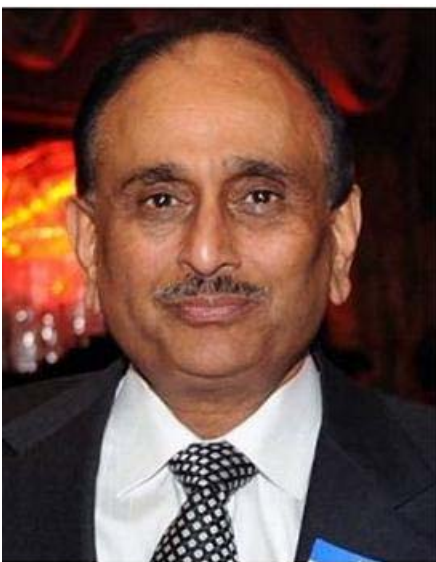
As appeared in the recent edition of *The South Asian Times*

New York: Dr. J. Ganesh Bhat, founding Managing Partner of the Atlantic Dialysis Management Services chain, has been recognized as a “King of Queens” by the Queens business community.

The Kings of Queens Award recognizes influential men in business whose major achievements and participation in the community have made a difference. Past honorees have included NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and NYS School Chancellor Joel Klein. The 6th Annual Kings of Queens Breakfast Award event will take place on September 26.

Eminent nephrologist Dr Bhat was appointed by the then Governor Paterson to the New York State Public Health and Health Planning Council for a six year term till 2016. A philanthropist, he also serves as the Chancellor of Xavier University School of Medicine, Aruba, since 2008. Dr. Bhat holds MBBS and MD degrees from University of Mysore in India.

An avid music lover, Dr Bhat is proud father of a son and daughter and a grandfather.



## All Children of One God

Submitted by: A Sai Devotee

God belongs to all. He is Universal. All of you have to give up differences of every kind. Give no room to narrow parochial and national loyalties. Consider yourselves as the children of one God. You may worship God in any form of your choice, but recognize the truth that God is only one. The observance of holidays like Christmas is an occasion for realizing the importance of Love and Harmony among human beings.

- Sanathana Sarathi – Jan 2009.

## In Memoriam: K. Sudhaker Rao, MD (1940-1993)

Twenty years ago, our family, our community - local and extended - lost a very special man.

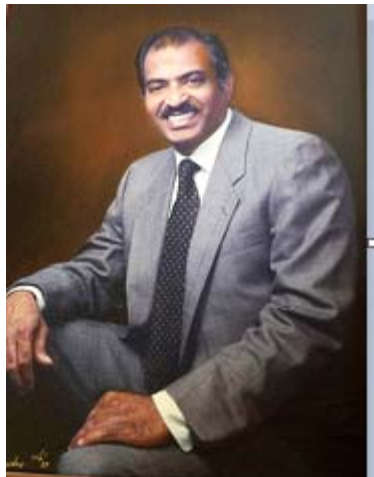
Hard to believe that twenty years have passed, a mixed set of emotions have overcome us during this past fall. Feelings of sadness and reminiscing of course as every year, but also for the three of us a sense of deep reflection, acceptance and peace.

To many he was Dr. Rao, Rao, or uncle, mama, bappa, bhavaji, to us just dad, daddy, husband and life partner. As many Indian fathers of his generation, he wasn't the type to sit us down for advice sessions or tell us what to do. His was a quiet resolve – at home and at work. He was hard-working, generous of purse and heart, intelligent and goal-oriented, emotional, gentle, kind and sincere sometimes to a fault. He believed in the power of knowledge, to always seek out more and never stop learning. The Gandhi quote comes to mind: "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."

A dedicated father and husband, he was somewhat non-traditional at the time – doing late night calls and school carpooling, watching sports or the news and cooking up traditional Konkani dishes (his chicken curry was a fave!), studying his medical books yet seeking out the latest electronic gadgets for the family. Though, he certainly held to tradition as well - respect your elders, give back to others, education is of utmost importance. He was that did not stop a passion to serve, to learn, to do - for happiness and success. He taught us by your principles, to have faith in yourself and to

To the many good times and memories we basement Konkani parties; the record and coin he'd wait in for our cabbage patch dolls, Atari of affection; his "Indian Santa" appearances; aim for perfection whether it be well-tailored dictating charts, the way he managed his

He passed before achieving a few more things of his labor." But he taught us to never stop define it. "Good, better, best, never let it rest best." The best is yet to come...



special person for whom time, pain, obstacles even with challenges and struggles he strove way of doing how important it is to live by never give up, even with hardship. clutch - like setting up the disco ball for collections he began and we add to; the lines and Sega; family vacations and special terms NYC theater and parade adventures; and his suits, ties and those stylish Cosby sweaters or practice, and treated his patients.

and certainly way too soon to enjoy the "fruits believing and aiming for success however we until your good is better and your better is

And to get here from there, we cannot pass without acknowledging the great and undeniable support, love and caring of our Konkani family and friends then and through these years. It was weeks and months of understanding and comfort in various forms from around the world and while we didn't have it in us then or even these years truly to realize it all then, we THANK YOU. We THANK each and every person who helped us get through all these years with their kind words, phone calls and visits, warm hugs, memorable stories, comforting food, shared car rides, sometimes silence, and always thoughtful intentions. After many years, we can finally think about the past and reflect on that incredibly painful and difficult time, to find peace and be at peace with the fact that our father's/husband's soul is at rest.

This year, we celebrated his life, his accomplishments, his successes and his dreams for all of us. We hope and pray that we all can continue to live, as he did, simply yet fully an influence as he was to family, patients, friends and colleagues guided by the example he provided to continue to seek knowledge and work hard. His spirit in us always, the light of his memory as bright as can be, we miss you, we love you.

"Work for a cause, not for applause. Live life to express and not to impress. Don't strive to make your presence noticed, just make your absence felt." Indeed, it is.

In remembrance and with gratitude,

**Sabitha, Shammi and Shailesh**

## Konkani Calendar

January 2014	February 2014	March 2014
11 <sup>th</sup> Yekadashi	5 <sup>th</sup> Ratha Saphami	11 <sup>th</sup> Yekadashi
13 <sup>th</sup> Makara Sankranthi	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Yekadashi</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> Meena Sankranthi
15 <sup>th</sup> Poornami	12 <sup>th</sup> Kumbha Sankranthi	16 <sup>th</sup> Holi Poornami
20 <sup>th</sup> Sankashta Chaturthi	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Poornami</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> Sankashta Chaturthi
30 <sup>th</sup> Amavasya (Dark Moon)	18 <sup>th</sup> Angaraka Chaturthi	30 <sup>th</sup> Amavasya (Dark Moon)
	27 <sup>th</sup> Maha Shivaratri	31 <sup>st</sup> Ugadi (New Year Day)
	28 <sup>th</sup> Amavasya (Dark Moon)	

*Khabbar thanks My Astrologer-version 1.0 by Mr. Muralidhar Shenoy, Durham, NC and Vedamoorthy Raghuchandra Bhat of Brookfield, WI*

## 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, \$
Shrikanth & Sujatha Prabhu, Oslo, Norway	50.00
Pradeep & Geetha Bhandarkar, Bloomfield Hills, MI	100.00
Ravi & Sharda Shenoy, Montville, NJ	100.00
Nandan & Sudha Pai, Basking Ridge, NJ	100.00
Vasant & Chitra Shanbhogue, Riverside, CT	150.00
Gopal & Pratibha Bhandarkar, Bayport, NY	60.00
Ravi & Asha Baliga, Danville, CA	100.00

## Statement of Accounts

Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
<b>Balance Carried over since Khabbar Vol. XXXVI No. 3</b>	<b>2,775.00</b>	
<b>Money Received:</b>		
Subscriptions (33) and donations	1,105.00	
Ad (1)	85.00	
Interest	2.00	
<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>1,192.00</b>	
<b>Money Spent (Khabbar Vol. XXXVI No. 3):</b>		
Printing- Khabbar (350) - 20 pages		475.74
Mailing - First Class Mail-Khabbar (321 )		211.86
Mailing Canada Khabbar (10 )		11.00
Overseas (20)		60.00
Mail Fines, computer paper & labels, envelopes, service fees, etc.		391.40
<b>Sub Total:</b>		<b>1,150.00</b>
<b>Final Balance:</b>	<b>2,815.00</b>	

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

## Kwiz

**The last quarter's quiz:** Each row, column, and diagonal produces the same figure when its three numbers are multiplied! All numbers must be different!! What is the value of a, b, c, d?

4	512	a
b	32	8
64	c	d

**The Answer:**

a=16, b=128, c=2, d=256

**The following gave the right answers:**

Ashwin Bhatt, Houston, TX  
Anil Rao, Friendswood, TX  
Krishna Kudva, Alta Loma, CA  
Mohan Arkal Shenoy, Demar, CA  
Srirammohan Beltangady, Old Lyme, CT  
M. A. Bhakta, Farmington Hill, MI  
Vivek B. Pai, Walnut Creek, CA  
Praveen Kamath, Centreville, VA  
Sreesh S Shenoy, Spring, TX

Chandrakanth Mahale, High Bridge, NJ  
Jay Jayakumar, Austin, TX  
Govind Kamath, Austin, TX  
Shivdev Ubhaykar, Rancho Pales Verdes, CA  
Sundaresh Kamath, Missouri City, TX  
Vindya Bhat, Atlanta, GA  
Akshay Kamath, North Brunswick, NJ  
Sridharan Raman, Atlanta, GA

**This Kwarter's Kwiz**

By "Vasanthmaam"

*Continuing with the Konkani tradition of quizzing, here's the brainteaser for this quarter. If you can solve this correctly, send it to Khabbar address to have your name published in the next issue if your subscription is current.*

What 5-digit number has the following features?

If we put the numeral 1 at the beginning, we get a number three times smaller than if we put the numeral 1 at the end of that number!

**The North American Konkani Association (NAKA) Quarterly Update**



Dear Fellow Konkanis,

Here's the quarterly update on NAKA for this quarter:

The Interim NAKA team meets regularly on a bi-weekly basis to discuss how to make NAKA a viable organization in North America. The team now consists of **Sheila Shenoy Reddy, Sadanand Mankikar, Vasanth Bhat, Suresh Shenoy and Ranjit Shiralkar.**

Despite the best efforts and hard work by the Los Angeles Konkani Youth committee, the 2013 Konkani Youth Convention had to be cancelled. NAKA worked alongside the committee to raise funds, awareness and enthusiasm, however due to extremely low registration numbers, both committees felt it was best to cancel the event. The 2013 KYC committee has reimbursed all attendees and are working on recouping all costs associated with the event. We wanted to thank all those that supported KYC. NAKA is working diligently with the 2013 KYC committee to minimize the financial loss incurred and whatever surplus is left will be noted by NAKA for Konkani youth related efforts. In addition, NAKA is looking to other initiatives to bolster the Konkani youth in North America and are looking into other programming that would be best suited in the changing times.

We are proud to announce that NAKA will be launching a website in the next month highlighting ways you can get involved in national Konkani programming. In addition, we will be publishing the amended by laws and constitution. Again, thanks for all your support!

All the financial dealing of NAKA will be transparent are here's the statement for this quarter:

**NAKA - Statement Of Accounts**

Date	Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
8/31/2013	Balance from last report	<b>108,238.90</b>	
	Donation Sheila Shenoy Reddy	100.00	
11/30/2013	<b>Final Balance:</b>	<b>108,338.90</b>	

Signed: **Damodar Baliga/Suresh Shenoy**, Treasurer, NAKA

Dev Baren Karo.

Interim President, **North American Konkani Association**, Email: [northamericakonkaniassociation@gmail.com](mailto:northamericakonkaniassociation@gmail.com) Sheila Shenoy Reddy





*Gopal & Pratibha Bhandarkar*  
*Gopal.bhandarkar@konkanicf.org*

*Vinayak & Radha Kudva*  
*vinayak.kudva@konkanicf.org*

*Ashok & Amita Bhatt*  
*ashok.bhatt@konkanicf.org*

*Ananthkrishna & Sulatha Prabhhu*  
*ananth.prabhhu@konkanicf.org*

*Surendra & Shalini Shenoy*  
*surendra.shenoy@konkanicf.org*

*Ganesh & Seema Bhat*  
*Ganesh.bhat@konkanicf.org*

*Konkani Charitable Fund, Inc.*  
*43 Spray Court, Bayport, NY 11705*  
*(631)472-1418*  
*www.Konkanicf.org*  
*Registered Charity under 501 (3)(c)*  
*Quarterly Update*

From the humble beginning the Konkani Charitable Fund (KCF) has grown beyond our initial expectations in just five years. Our initial goal was to provide an opportunity for all the Konkanis in North America. The initial task was to identify the needs of the community and set some guidelines to make sure that the help reaches truly deserving people. The committee has so far certified 25 charitable institutions in India who provide verifiable humanitarian services. The variety of services provided include educational support for the deserving students, medical help for children, support for the elderly and a helping hand for an orphanage. The total value of your support through KCF has exceeded Rs. 2,50,00,000. This is far beyond our initial expectation. Our special thanks to all who contributed to various charities.

Our initial board of directors consisted of six members. As per by-laws two members will retire every five years to bring in new members into the executive committee after providing valuable service to KCF. In their place two new members will join the executive committee starting January 1, 2014. Dr. Gopal Bhandarkar and Dr. Ganesh Bhat will join the team. Dr. Gopal Bhandarkar whose leadership made the 2012 Konkani Sammelan a resounding success has been elected as the new President of the KCF.

The KCF will continue to provide the following services:

1. All contributions will continue to receive tax benefits as applicable by existing law.
2. 100% of all your contributions will be directed to charities of donors choice provided they meet the guidelines. These guidelines assure us that the contributions are used for humanitarian purpose without any conflict of interest and they have legal basis as per applicable laws of the land.
3. There are NO administrative fees.
4. KCF will continue to identify and certify more charitable organizations that deserve our support.

As we welcome the New Year, please, remember that any contributions made before December 31, 2013 will qualify to tax benefits. So please open your hearts to help those who are less fortunate. Let us start giving back to our community. You will experience the greatest joy when you give to the needy. Please visit the website: [www.konkanicf.org](http://www.konkanicf.org) to learn more about KCF. Now is the best time to write a check and make that contribution. You can make a difference.

Thanks to all of you on behalf of KCF  
Devu Baren Koro  
KCF Board of Directors

#### **Letter from Ramesh Kamath, soon to be Past President, KCF:**

Hello Konkani Bandhavas,

It was five years back that some of us decided to explore the feasibility of establishing a Konkani Charitable Fund. I was nominated to lead the effort. Very quickly we came up with the mission statement and charter for KCF. Following that we obtained 501 (3) C status from IRS and from California State. What started off as a modest effort has really grown beyond my expectations. In the last five years we have donated **\$430,000** to various charities that support Konkani community back home. This translates to more than two and a half crore rupees at today's exchange rate. I am really happy about this and proud of our community. We have approved more than 25 charities as eligible to receive grants from KCF.

In developing the charter for KCF we decided that the leadership should be term limited to five years. This would facilitate new leadership and new ideas. I am therefore stepping down as Chairperson of KCF effective Jan 14th 2014. Along with me Ravi Baliga will also step down. Thanks to Ravi for his outstanding support and contribution to KCF. **Gopal Bhandarkar** was chosen as the new Chairperson by the KCF Board. A new member **Ganesh Bhat** from New York will join the Board. With this change KCF will be an even stronger and active organization.

I want to thank the current KCF Board members for working together as a team and growing the organization. I am particularly proud of our zero overhead policy. I have agreed to provide continuing guidance as needed to the new Board. I also want to thank **Vasanth Bhat** for his unconditional support and encouragement. I hope our community will continue to support KCF in a much bigger way.

*Devu Baren Koro*

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

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Any Hoon Khabbar, sunshine news, your or your child's promotion or achievement, articles of interest, etc. are always in need to be published in Khabbar. Share your news with fellow Konkans. Send your contribution to: Khabbar, P. O. Box 222, Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222. email: [khabbar@hotmail.com](mailto: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, 1153 Tamarack Pl., Munster, IN 46321

## KONKANI CHARITIES

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

## 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](mailto:bastishenoy@gmail.com)

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

## A P P E A L

The *soirika* magazine edition (<http://www.soirika.com>) has been named as SAMBHANDU and will be done by: Sambhandhu, C/o Bangalore Sri Kashi Math, # 14, Sri Kashi Math Road, Malleshwaram, Bangalore 560 055

## 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

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## A P P E A L

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 Konkani Charitable Fund (KCF) Inc., with the suggestion that they should donate the same amount to Anandashram Seva Trust @, Puttur. The donors in USA can help us directly or indirectly thru KCF, 43 Spray Court, Bayport, NY 11705, to build this Palliative Care Centre. Please, visit our website: [www.oldagehome-india.org](http://www.oldagehome-india.org)


## F O R S A L E


2008 Sammelan DVD set, which includes 8 DVD's, is on clearance sale. Send us \$10 ,which includes shipping and handling, and you can have this memorable event DVD set for your collection. If interested please send the check payable to KAOCA addressed to the following:  
Bab Rau, 1730 Kinglet Court, Sunnyvale, CA 94087

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