

Khabbar

North American Konkani Newsletter

Volume XXXVIII No. 4

October, November, December - 2015

From:

The Honorary Editor,

"Khabbar"

P. O. Box 222

Lake Jackson, TX77566 - 0222

XXXVIII-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.....

In the second page of *Khabbar*, there is a subscription form where in subscribers are requested to fill out basic information (like name, address, spouse, phone number, etc) during subscription renewal.

Also, tries to get information about their kids like name, boy/girl, dob, hobbies, etc. This newly married couple with no

kids of their own yet, sends their subscription with the following information about their “daughter”:

Name: “Gondi”

Boy/Girl: Girl

DOB: 1/7/2009

Hobby/Interest: Playing fetch, barking, getting scratched on belly

SUBSCRIPTION FORM:

Dear Konkani family,

It is time to renew your subscription for 2016. The numbers on the mailing label clearly indicate the year/s the dues for *Khabbar* has been received since 2013. 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*, P. O. Box 222, Lake Jackson, TX77566-0222. (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 XXXVIII No. 4

October, November, December - 2015

Honorary Editor: Mr. Vasanth Bhat

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The Editorial Committee reserves the right to exclude, edit and correct all material received for publication and does not accept any responsibility for views expressed by authors of the publications.

EDITORIAL

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

This issue of *Khabbar* has been mailed to **ALL** families that have paid dues **at least once since 2013**. In other words, families who **have not** paid since 2012 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 2013 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 latest *Khabbar* Mailing List will be mailed to all the subscribers who have paid their dues for 2015. The *Khabbar* Mailing List is a prized possession of our community. 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 and rest be assured that I'll "Khabbarize" them!**

The progress made by **Konkani Sammelan - 2016** is really great. Please

extend all your help to make KS-2016 the best ever. There are many ways you can help- register, participate, write an article of interest, donate, etc. The Team NAKA is also busy in making NAKA a viable organization in North America by holding an election for NAKA during KS-2016. Already three Volunteers (2 from US and 1 from Canada) have come up with their plan on how to conduct the election and will publish them soon. Please, extend your support to them.

Khabbar will publish all the developments and progress made by NAKA on an on-going basis.

Khabbar will also publish progress made by **Konkani Charitable Fund (KCF)** on a regular basis. The team KCF needs all our support to help our folks anywhere in the world. **Dr. Gopal Bhandarkar** and his team are doing a fantastic job in making our community aware of KCF and hope you will help him to help our people.

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, it is the same story! *Khabbar* has still remained a champ!! What a pity, only 5, I repeat, only 5, people were able to solve last quarter's

practical quiz! 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 volunteered his services to help **Konkani Bhas Ani Sanskriti Pratistan**. Please, call him at (702)-341-6706 or email: 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 in 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 special appeals I have gotten so far: <http://www.ekhabbar.com/special%20appeals/special%20appeals.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



KONKANI SAMMELAN 2016

Atlanta, Georgia ♦ July 1-3

Namaskaru,

2015 will soon be in the history books. 2016 is the year of the monkey according to the Chinese zodiac. But as per our auspicious Amchigele Jaatak (horoscope), 2016 is the year of the...you guessed it right...The Konkani Sammelan!

The holidays are here again, a time for remembering our friends. It's a real pleasure at this time of year to say "thank you", as all of us here wish you a full year of happiness and success. The Konkani community in Atlanta, GA is all excited about the Konkani Sammelan to be held in Atlanta in July 2016. We are counting down the days to the Sammelan and we believe all of you are excited as well. We are a relatively smaller group and we are treating this like a family event. We always treat events in this way, except this time our family has extended beyond Georgia. Our Committee members and volunteers are very busy planning every single detail to make your participation in the Sammelan and visit to southern hospitality city of Atlanta a memorable one. Please do come and visit us!

The Sammelan registration site has been busy lately. Almost 800 guests have registered. Both Marriott and SpringHill suites are 80% booked. Please register before December 31st to take advantage of early registration discount. Grab a hotel room of your choosing at either of the hotels while they are still available. On January 1st, registration fee will increase from \$180 to \$205 and registration fee for seniors will increase from \$145 to \$170. If you have any questions regarding registration, please send an email to ks16_registration@konkanisammelan.org or call 404.931.0719

The deadline to submit your entries for Entertainment and Seminars is approaching fast! The last day to submit your entertainment or seminar entries is December 31st. Please submit your entries and share your talent and expertise with our Konkani community! If you have any questions about submitting an entry for Entertainment, please send an email to ks16entertainment@konkanisammelan.org and for Seminar, please send an email to ks16_seminars@konkanisammelan.org

The Konkani families in Houston had a fund raising dinner to support 2016 Sammelan. It was a huge success, with donation and pledges totaling \$30,000. Konkani Association of Georgia (KAOG) is planning to host a similar fund raising event on Sunday, December 13th. Special thanks to the following people who publicized the event during their local Diwali events. Some have even conducted fundraising events for the Sammelan.

Vinatha Pai, Konkani Sabha

Mr Sadanand Mankikar & Sujit Kini, The Ontario Konkani Association (OKA)

Krishnanand Nayak, American Midwest Konkani Association (AMKA)

Bharat and Nandini Shenoy, Konkani Association of California (KAOCA)

Suresh Shenoy and Vasanth Bhat, Houston Area Amchigele Samaj (HAAS)

We need your generous financial support to make this Sarmmelan a success! If you would like to know more about different donation packages, please visit the donor section of our website or contact Sheila Reddy, President of NAKA at Sheila.Reddy@me.com For more information regarding renting a booth to display your products and services or buying a print advertisement in the Souvenir book, please send an email to souvenir@konkanisammelan.org. Guidelines to submit articles, art, poems, original essays, short stories, recipes, kids' corner, youth musings, senior advice and reflection, health information and yoga, culture and heritage, financial and legal advice are published on the Sarmmelan website (konkanisammelan.org) under the Souvenir tab.

Also, we request you to nominate Konkani super-achievers from your friends and family circles for various award categories by filling the nomination form that's available under the nomination section of our web site.

In the days to follow, you should see more updates related to the Sarmmelan activities. We want to remind you that this is your Sarmmelan and we seek your help to make it a grand success. Please visit the Sarmmelan site www.konkanisammelan.org for updates, and if you have not yet registered, please register. If you have already registered, please spread the word and make sure that your friends and relatives have registered as well. Finally see how you can help, and sign up the volunteer sheet if you are interested. In any case, please be involved and send us your suggestions to help us meet your expectations.

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to all of you!
Devu Baren Karo

Konkani Sarmmelan 2016 Committee
Celebrating Konkani Heritage - Song and Toi on my mind

Speech Given at the Houston Fund Raising Event for KS-2016

By: Suresh B. Shenoy, Treasurer, NAKA

Welcome! We are so glad you all came in support of the 2016 Konkani Sarmmelan in Atlanta, GA. Support can be shown in various ways from attending the Sarmmelan, submitting an entertainment piece and donating money, to name a few. Tonight we hope to explore these options to see in which way your family can contribute to yet another successful Sarmmelan!

In 2012, the NAKA board convened and elected an interim Board of Directors to ensure that NAKA was a viable organization but also support and plan the next Konkani Sarmmelan. The number one objective when NAKA was creating a financially sustainable model for Sarmmelans was to ensure a model that relied more on corporate donors and primarily registration. We researched various cities with Konkani groups and looked for the most economical cities without compromising the quality and integrity of the Sarmmelan. This is why we approached the Konkani Association of Georgia, also known as KAOG, to host the 2016 Konkani Sarmmelan. Together we worked with the KAOG team to create a budget that really tried to minimize excess spending and produce an amazing Sarmmelan. Some of the key points we have agreed upon and put into action are the following but are not limited to:

1. We have raised the registration costs by 15-20%;
2. We have reduced the overall fundraising requirements by at least 25-30%;
3. We have reduced the overall cost by approximately 20%; and
4. We are only contacting local North American Konkani talent for entertainment programs with minimal financial subsidies.

These guidelines are the stepping stones to really ensuring the financial sustainability of the Sammelans — as the phrase goes, Rome wasn't built in a day, and neither can this venture but we have to start somewhere.

Why are Sammelans important?

Our generation was extremely fortunate, we all grew up in towns and cities in India where we were able to immerse ourselves effortlessly in the Konkani culture — walking down the street and talking to friends and family in Konkani; attending Konkani programs; and even having the opportunity to attend Konkani functions on a regular basis. We all moved here for better opportunities for our families, however this has come at the cost of our children not having the opportunity to experience the same cultural environment as we did. Konkani functions, associations, and get togethers are what provide the next generation the opportunity to learn about our culture, cultivate it and help us grow as a community. This is the reason we all have worked together in our cities to ensure a successful Konkani picnic, Yugadhi function or Diwali party.

The Konkani Sammelan provides this environment on a greater scale, not only do our children have the opportunity to reconnect with family members across North America but also helps build new relationships with fellow Konkanis. I have seen this connection first hand through my kids, to this day my children have great friends that they made at Sammelans — these friends have attended their weddings, shared in their joys and have been a great resource in times of need. This is why we do this, this is why we organize Sammelans.

Now, the reason why we are all here today - How can we contribute to the 2016 Konkani Sammelan?

The Sammelan Committee is working hard to ensure all participants have a memorable experience at the Sammelan in July, while maintaining a cost efficient approach. Our goal is to minimize the cost to the participants so we have kept the registration fees as low as possible. However, the registration fees alone are not sufficient to cover the full expenses of the convention so we are asking registrants that are able to contribute additional funds to do so. Please consider making a donation to support the event.

There are various ways — contributing an entertainment piece; contributing an article in the Souvenir; attending the Sammelan; but most importantly donating time by volunteering at the Sammelan and money! Every bit helps in the preservation of our culture, so please know that any amount is not too small and we humbly request any amount you are willing to give to this great cause. We do have incentives for larger monetary donations, so please take this into account when opening your checkbooks, and most importantly your hearts.

The following tiers will receive benefits at the Sammelan, which I am more than willing to discuss in-depth if interested:

VAJRA (DIAMOND) - Monetary Commitment Level:	\$20,000 or more
BHANGAR (GOLD) - Monetary Commitment Level:	\$10,000 to \$19,999
MOTI (PEARL) - Monetary Commitment Level:	\$5,000 to \$9,999
RUPPE (SILVER) - Monetary Commitment Level:	\$2,500 to \$4,999

There are other opportunities available as well, that have been disseminated via a sheet on various tables throughout the hall. Thank you for your time, most importantly your support, and cannot wait to see all of you at the 2016 Konkani Sammelan in Atlanta, GA from July 1-3, 2016.

Register soon to get the best rates and look for more information at:

www.konkanisammelan.org

Hoon Khabbar

Congratulations:

Dr. URMILA PAI (Vidya Kamath) of Long Island, NY recently published a children's book titled "Nervous Nellie: A book for Children Who Worry." It is a story about a girl getting treatment for her worries. The book is validating for anxious children and depicts treatment in a positive manner.

She is a board certified child and adolescent psychiatrist practicing in Long Island, NY.

Here's the link:

<http://www.amazon.com/Nervous-Nellie-Book-Children-Worry/dp/0692493174>

It is also available on Amazon and her website:

www.urmilapai-md.com

"AstroPro" an astrology app developed by **Muralidhar Shenoy** of Durham, NC is now available for Windows 10 devices (PC/Tablet/Phone). A

complimentary version AstroLite would also be released in a weeks' time.

Konkani Graduates:

SIDDHARTH, s/o Muralidhar & Sudha Shenoy of Durham, NC graduated from UNC Chapel Hill, NC this fall with Ph.D. in Bio-medical Engineering. His Ph.D. dissertation was on "Mechanics of Cilia and Airflow-Mediated mucus clearance" as a part of Cystic Fibrosis (lung disease) research. He will continue his work as a Post Doctor at Cystic Fibrosis center at UNC Chapel Hill, one of the few research centers in US dedicated to find cure/remedy for this disease.

Relocation:

The **PRABHU** family, Pundalik & Vijayalaxmi have relocated from Glenburnie, Ont to 1572 St. Lawrence Ave., Treasure Island, Ont K7L 4V1

The **SHENOY** family, Dr. Rajarama & Aneetha have relocated from Stratford, CT to 41 Bristol Lane, Newark, DE 19711 effective end of June 2015. The new telephone is (302)-235-2359 and the email ID: rajarama.shenoy@gmail.com

The **PAMNANI**, family, Amita Kamath & Sanjay together with their kids Sanaya, Vikash and Aarya have relocated from New York, NY to 2108 W 10th Street, Austin, TX 78703. The email ID: amitakam@gmail.com

The **BHAT** family, Sandesh & Sahana, together with their daughters Neha, Nidhi and Nisha, have relocated back in the US after a three year assignment in India. Their address is 86 Canterbury Hill Rd., Acton, MA 01720. The telephone is (978)-263-1096 and email ID: sandesh@ebhat.com

The **SHENOY** family, Suresh & Usha, have relocated within Sugar Land, TX to 818 Alkire Lake Drive, Sugar Land, TX 77478. The email ID: shenoysuresh7@gmail.com

The **KAMATH** family, Ashok & Sapna of Mangalore have relocated from India to 3120 Naamans Rd., Apt "O"-14, Wilmington DE

19810. Their home Telephone is (302) 304-8685.

The **BELTANGADY** family, Sriramohan & Shamal, have relocated from Old Lyme, CT to 13773 Charismatic Way, Gainesville, VA 20155. Their telephone remains the same at (860)-434-1423.

Newlyweds:

Dr.Panduranga & Mrs., Shobha Kini of Swansea, IL. celebrated the marriage of their son **Chi. SANDEEP with Sow. Ms. KARINA WALKER** d/o Steve & Kristine Walker of Spokane WA on Saturday Oct.24th 2015 at the Hollywood Schoolhouse, Woodinville, WA. The wedding was celebrated both in Hindu as well as in Christian style, followed by a reception dinner at the same venue. The newlyweds reside in Seattle WA.

Obituary:

Dr. Savitri K. Kamath passed away in Ridgeland, MS on November 8, 2015 at the age of 85. She was preceded in death by her husband Krishna I. Kamath and her nine siblings: Narahari, Tara, Shanta, Meera, Leela, Vishwanath, Radhakrishna, Manmohan, and Vittal, all from the Kotecheri Shenoy family of South Kanara, India. She is survived by numerous nieces and nephews both in the United States and in India. Khabbar sends heartfelt condolences to the family.

KONKANI HAPPENINGS

Konkani Sabha (KS) Diwali 2015

The Konkani Sabha celebrated its annual Diwali program in the Bridgewater temple community hall in New Jersey on Saturday, November 7, 2015. This hallmark event included variety entertainment program and delicious Konkani food (catered). Nearly 300 people attended the function.

Ontario Konkani Association (OKA) Diwali 2015

The Ontario Konkani Association held their annual Diwali function "Anokhi Diwali – 2015" on Saturday November 28, 2105 at SVBF Community Hall in Etobicoke, Ont. The function included Socializing, enticing appetizers, Rangoli and gala performances. The event ended with sumptuous Konkani food.

Houston Area Amchigale Samaj (HAAS) Janmashtami 2015:

Dear HAAS Family,

Thank you to all of you who attended the Janmashtami event on September 12th! We had a higher than usual group of members who attended this time and we are glad that the whole community is participating in celebrating our holidays together as a family!

We started the function with our HAAS President- **Sunil Shenoy's** welcome speech. He mentioned the different upcoming events - the **NAKA Fundraiser for the Konkani Sannelan** on October 3rd, **Mahalakshmi Shenoy concert** on October 10th, **Diwali Party** on November 14th and **Shri Satyanarayana Temple fundraiser dinner** on November 21st. He then introduced everyone to **Vasanth Bhat** of NAKA who spoke about the Konkani Convention in 2016. Three new families (**Gautham & Rajani Pai, Rukmananda & Vijetha Mallya and Ravichandra & Sowmya Bhat**) then introduced themselves. We are thrilled to have them join our Houston Konkani Family!

The stage was then handed over to our Youth Committee young MCs for the evening- **Pooja Nayak and Rohit Kamath**, who conducted the entertainment program very efficiently and with a lot of enthusiasm. It started off with some devotional bhajans of Krishna by **Madhuri Bedre and Aparna Kamath**. It was followed by a beautiful dance by **Uma Kamath and Reim Rao**, some bhajans sung by **Chaitra Shenoy** accompanied by her parents **Raghvendra Shenoy** on the tabla and **Keerti Shenoy** on the harmonium, Geeta shlokas and the explanation by **Saisha Bellare**, a bhajan and also a graceful dance by **Sneha Shenoy**. We then moved on to our annual tradition of Krishna puja performed by our elders in the HAAS family and the eagerly awaited Dahi Handi for all the young children in our group!

After all the fun entertainment and excitement of Dahi Handi, everyone was hungry and appreciated the dinner catered by Annam. All our volunteers helped us clear out the chairs and tables after dinner to make room for Dandiya which ended the evening celebrations of our Lord Krishna's birth.

We appreciate all of you who helped us with this event. Special thanks to **Aarti Kamath, Sandhya Shenoy and Shobha Shenoy** for bringing the prasada for the puja, and to **Arundhati Nagarkatti, Narendra Rao, Aparna and Ramesh Kamath, Sachin Bellare** and many others for helping us with this event. Our next Major HAAS Event is the Diwali Gala Night on November 14th and we look forward to celebrating the festival of lights with all of you!

With warm regards,

The HAAS Committee
haas110902@yahoo.com

Houston Area Amchigale Samaj (HAAS) Diwali 2015:

Dear HAAS Family,

Thank you for your wonderful participation at the HAAS Diwali Gala night!

We had the Diwali event this year at a Great W'kana Grill on Nov 14th @ 5:00 PM. We started off the night with a welcome address by our President - **Sunil Shenoy** who summed up the events that we had this year and re-iterated that the committee would welcome ideas and suggestions from our members.

After a few minutes of "panchadik", everyone helped themselves to some delicious appetizers!

The MCs for the entertainment programs were **Ria Rao and Pooja Nayak**, who did a wonderful job! The cultural programs for the evening started off with some bhajans by our sweet **Kumud Nilekani pachi**, followed by a Bollywood dance by **Prakruti Shenoy**, Bharathnatyam dance by **Sayali Rao**, a Kathak dance by **Sneha Shenoy**, a classical Bharathnatyam dance by **Meera Nagarkatti**, a Bollywood dance by **Saisha Bellare**, a very entertaining musical skit by **Ansh Rao, Rohan Bhat, Gurudutt Kamath, Aparna Kamath, Aparna Shenoy, Aarti Kamath, Reim Rao, Archana Rao and Uma Kamath**, an acrostic poem recital on Diwali by **Sahana Sashital**, a poem on Diwali composed and recited by **Mallika Nagarkatti**, an enthusiastic **Gayathri Rao's** graceful Mohiniyattam dance, Bollywood karaoke songs by **Suresh and Usha Shenoy, Sunil & Sandhya Shenoy** and some jokes by **Deepa Karkal**.

All the talented children who had participated in event(s) this year or volunteered received a certificate of appreciation and a gift card. This was introduced this year in order to drive more youth participation.

Much to everyone's delight- we had a lot of door prizes and fun raffle prizes arranged by the Committee this year. There were some gifts given to our newest additions to the HAAS family- **Neil Dell, Samvit Karkal and Priya Sashital**.

HAAS members enjoyed the delicious dinner catered by W'kana.

The fun night ended with everyone dancing to some lively Bollywood music.

Thank you all for those who could attend it- and those who could not- we hope to see you at the next event!

Thanks

HAAS Management Committee
www.ourhaas.com

Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC) - DIWALI 2015

The festival of lights, Diwali was celebrated with pomp and enthusiasm by KASC with young and old all joining together to have a joyful evening with good music, good food and a lot of fun. The venue was Bombay Tandoor Restaurant in Torrance, California on November 22nd, 2015 from 4:30 to 8:00 pm. The event featured dances, songs and even flute and whistling performances.

The event began with the offering of prayers to God and all attendees performed the aarti to God. Following this, our MC for the evening, Priya Gadiyar, welcomed everyone. All attendees introduced themselves one by one. Evening snacks were served which included samosas, pakodas and coffee.

Following the introductions and the snacks, the evening's entertainment started. The entertainment included dances by both adults and children to songs as varied as "Uptown Funk" to "Gallan Goodiyaan". There was also a whistling recital to the song "Nammamma Sharade" by **Archini Nayak**. **Vivek Ullal** played old Hindi Film Songs on flute. In addition, there were also Karaoke performances which included the songs "Kaisi Paheli Zindagani", "Chura Liya Hai" and "Main Shayar Toh Nahin". All the performances were greatly appreciated by the guests. There was also a "Are you smarter than a fifth grader" game which was won by **Gautam Shanbhag**.

There was also a Mithai competition held which had entries like a Nutella Laddoo, Pineapple pudding, mysore pak etc. The winner was **Prafulla Shenoy** for her tasty paper thin Bombay Halwa (Mahim Halwa). Following all this, the dance floor was thrown open to everyone and KASC members were given a chance to shake a leg to hits such as "Baby Doll", "Laila Main Laila" among others, Our President **Srinivas** also gave us a karaoke performance of "Chookar mere man ko"

to encourage further dancing. The dancing helped us build an appetite for the scrumptious dinner that followed. We thank all Committee members, volunteers and other members for making this event a great success.

By: Vivek Ullal,
vivekullal@sbcglobal.net

The Konkani Association of Georgia (KAOG) Diwali - 2015

The Konkani Association of Georgia (KAOG) celebrated their annual Diwali function on Sunday, November 15, 2016 at Ashiana Restaurant in Norcross, GA. The ambiance of the room was colorful and lively, with Diwali decorations set up by the Youth Committee. The room was buzzing with excitement, with a promise of a fun-filled evening of entertainment, with focus on goodwill and celebrations with family and friends.

KAOG Youth Committee held their 8th year of 'Gift of Giving' charity event with Annual Toys for Tots donation drive. A table was set up for collecting donated toys.

The function began with an invocation to Goddess Lakshmi and Lord Ganesha; followed by socializing with delectable appetizers. A melodious bhajan 'Vakratunda Mahakay' was sung by **Guru Kamath, Santosh Naikankatte, Rekha Prabhu, Lalitha Kamath, Sudha Shenoy, Radhika Rao, Ganapati Kotharkar and Vosudesh Pai**. KAOG President, **Anand Saokar** gave a welcome speech with honorable mentions, announced new members in the community and felicitated some of the volunteers. Youth Committee gave a vote of thanks for contribution made towards Toys for Tots donation drive. Once the Masters of Ceremonies, **Shashank Honavar and Deepali Honavar** announced the commencement of the entertainment program, thus began an eagerly awaited "Dhoom Dhamaka" evening! KAOG kids and teens showcased their talent with graceful and upbeat group dances; a Gujarati folk dance by 6-8 year old girls, a Bharatnatyam dance to "Ganeshay Dheemahi" by 10 to 12 year olds, and a Bollywood medley, "Selfie Le Re" by 9 and 10 year old boys, mesmerized everyone. The audience was kept enthralled by kids' ages 7 to 10 year olds, with their solo performances on the keyboard, electric guitar, and by a melodious vocal rendition in Hindustani classical music. Teens involved the audience with their amusing and unique 'Catwalk' performance. A short skit comedy sequel from last year's Diwali, 'DIL MIL Ka Khushi Jalle Ek Ghadi' directed by **Banur Nagesh Rao**, with a special appearance by KS -16 President, **Raj Kini**, was enjoyed by all. The finale and highlight of the evening was a comedy skit, 'JAZZ' (*Javai Atlantache Zavnu Zavka*), directed by **Banur Nagesh Rao** involved a lot of talented KAOG members, where many were novices to stage acting. It was a hilarious play about the search for a bridegroom from Atlanta, so the family can attend the Konkani Sarmelan in 2016. After the entertainment finale, while everyone was relishing a sumptuous spread of buffet dinner, **Rohan Ullal** sang Sarmelan theme song, and later **Raj Bhat**, Program Manager for KS-16, gave a short update about KS -16 with a brief overview about each committee. The Master of Ceremonies acknowledged the performing artists and the evening was concluded after a vote of thanks by the KAOG President, **Anand Saokar**.

Once again, a small community with their enthusiasm, team work and commitment made our Diwali function a grand success. The memories of the evening, and new friendships forged during the practice sessions, are going to be cherished for a long time to come.

KAOG wishes all of you A Happy, Healthy and a Prosperous New Year.

Devu Baren Karo

Konkani Sarmelan 2016
Celebrating Konkani Heritage – Song and Toi on my mind

Konkani Association Of CALifornina (KAOCA) Update:

KAOCA ended this summer with a very typical Konkani picnic in Santa Clara's Central Park. Highlights of the event were of course the delicious food which included chicken tika, saag paneer, and a Chipotle style burrito station for the kids. The burritos were an instant hit with the kids. Volleyball was of course the game of choice and in line with our last Sport's Day, we continued a very competitive and fun volleyball tournament. We had both kids and adults participate in lively athletic competitions which included three-legged race, tug-o-war, and lemon/spoon race. We are happy to say that there were no injuries for the adults but probably some sore muscles the next morning. Our flagship, finale event of the year was Diwali which took place at the CET Center in San Jose. We had a record attendance and many new members attended. We also had many new participants in our entertainment program. Such great talent exists within our Bay Area

community and we were glad to see this show during the event. Some unique performances included a Patanjai yoga demonstration choreographed to beautiful music, a dance adaptation of a famous Ramayan story, and surprise ending dance finale from the classic Cheez badi song. Kids across all age groups did a great job during their performances and their hard work really showed. Impeccable stage direction made this a truly world-class entertainment program and we are very proud of our 2015 KAOCA committee for stepping up to make this our best event of the year. Of course, we cannot forget the fantastic snack and dinner served on time and hot. There was a special addition this year to the DJ music which included a live dhol player. This led to some serious bhangra moves. This is our last update as 2015 KAOCA presidents. We have enjoyed hosting the Bay Area community during the year and we hope that everyone enjoyed spending time together strengthening our roots and traditions.

Bharat Shenoy
nshenoy108@yahoo.com

The 2015-2016 Executive Committee of Ontario Konkani Association (OKA)

The 2015-2016 Executive Committee of Ontario Konkani Association (OKA):

President -	Vanita and Sujeet Kini
Treasurer -	Savita and Manoj Pai
Entertainment -	Sunita and Uday Hattangadi
Food -	Nishant Mankikar
Web/Social Media -	Shraddha Pai Stein and Lincoln Stein
Youth -	Upasana Nayak, Shwetha Kamath and Divya Kamath
Vice President -	Shefali and Kashinath Nayak
Jt. Treasurer -	Shilpa and Prasad Ganguli
Jt. Entertainment -	Niveditha and Narendra Kamath
Jt. Food -	Deepali and Vinayak Shanbhag
Jt. Web/Social Media -	Sadhana Nayak and Sachin
Jt. Youth -	Aparna Udiaver, Deeksha Nayak, Diya Kamath and Neha Kamath

Obituary: Dr. SAVITRI KOTECHE RI KAMATH

Savitri K. Kamath passed away in Ridgeland, MS on November 8, 2015 at the age of 85. She was preceded in death by her husband Krishna I. Kamath and her nine siblings: Narahari, Tara, Shanta, Meera, Leela, Vishwanath, Radhakrishna, Manmohan, and Vittal, all from the Kotecheri Shenoy family of South Kanara, India. She is survived by numerous nieces and nephews both in the United States and in India.

She obtained a B.S. in Chemistry from Bombay University in 1950 and a M.S. in Nutrition from the M.S. University of Baroda, India in 1963. She was the recipient of a Ford Foundation Fellowship at Iowa State University, where she earned a PhD in 1966—making her the first woman in the family and community to pursue both an advanced degree and a professional career. She held various teaching positions at the University of Illinois—Chicago. Dr. Kamath was foundational in the development of the Department of Human Nutrition at UIC from a small professional Dietetics program into a world class Nutrition research program. Her leadership as a wise mentor with vision continued in her position as Dean. She retired in 1999 after 27 years of service as a professor of human nutrition and dietetics and the Dean of the College of Associated Health Professions.

She and her husband Krishna established endowed scholarships at Pennsylvania State University, University of Illinois—Chicago, and Iowa State University. They moved from Chicago, IL to Clinton, MS in 1999 to be near their nephew Deepak Rao, his wife Maya, and their children Angie and Jay.

Her passion for books, movies, poetry, writing, and traveling made her an extremely well-cultured individual, always eager to learn from others and to share stories from her own experiences. Her generous and kind spirit made her a joy to be around, and she will forever be remembered as a wonderful aunt, sister, and friend.

KHABBAR FROM KULAR

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

Rashtakavi Manjeshwar Govind Pai Foundation

Governments of Karnataka and Kerala have jointly founded **Rashtrakavi Majeshwara Govinda Pai Foundation** at Manjeshwar near Mangaluru with a grant of Rs. 5.00 crores to construct a conference Hall, Research Centre , Renovation of Late Rashtakavis old house, Guests houses and a Library etc. The foundation has decided to digitize all his 5000 plus books in 22 languages of the world.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between **RMGPai Foundation and Konkani Language and cultural Foundation** at World Konkani Centre Mangaluru in the matter of digitization purpose on 12-09-2015 at World Konkani Centre.

Veteran Konkani Movement leader **Mr. M. Purushotham Mallya** Kochi was felicitated by Sevanjali Trust at S.V.S temple Mangaluru for his life time services to promote Konkani Language.

Sri Ganesha festival Chowti and Sri Gowri Festival (Tayee) was celebrated on 16th and 17th Sept all over India.

World Konkani Centre has distributed free School Bags, Rs. 1000/- Cash and books to 400 plus Konkani learning students in 16 High Schools in Karwar , Udupi and Mangaluru districts in Karnataka State.

Karnataka state Government has founded Konkani Research Chair in Mangaluru University with a corpus of Rs. 2.00 Crore to promote Konkani Research and studies. Vice Chancellor **Dr . K. Bhyrappa** is the Chairman, **Dr. Jaywanth Nayak** is the co ordinator . **Basti Vaman Shenoy** President World Konkani Centre, **Roy Castelino**, (President Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Academy) and 10 others are nominated as Members.

All India Saraswath Cultural Organisation is going to organize “**All India Saraswat Sammelan**” in Goa in Jan 2016. A meeting of Mangaluru Saraswaths was held on 10th Oct 2015 at Sri Srinivasa Kalyana Mantap. **Basti Vaman Shenoy, Sri K. Jayaraj Pai** , Trustee Sri Venkatramana Temple Mangaluru, **Kudpi Jagadish Shenoy, Venkatesh N. Baliga**, etc. attend the meeting. Addressed by **Dr. Ajit Gunjekar**, President, Vice President **Sri Kishore Masurkar and Sri Subhash Saraf** and General Secretary **Sri Rajendra Pai** addressed the gathering.

“**Manel Srinivas Nayak Besant P.G studies Centre**” was inaugurated at Bondel Mangaluru on 20-10-2015 by **Mr. P.Y.Reddy** Former Governor of Reserve Bank of India, **Kudpi Jagadish Shenoy**, President Besant College and **Manel Annappa Nayak** Vice President College Institutions were on the dais

Navaratri Festival and Deepavali Festival were celebrated throughout India in October & November months

Renowned Scholar and Research expert **Dr. Suryanath Kamath** expired on 27th October 2015 at his residence at Bangaluru. He was editor of Karnataka Gazetteer Govt Of Karnataka for a very long time. He was Editor of History of Konkani Language book.

Two days ‘Vishwa Konkani Sahitya Samaroh’ was held at Vishwa Konkani Kendra on 5th and 6th November 2015 at World Konkani Centre in association with Department of Kannada and Culture, Government of Karnataka and Department of English, Goa University.

Eminent linguist and literary personality **Dr. Udaya Narayana Singh**, Chair, Centre for Endangered Languages, Vishwa Bharathi, Santi Niketan, West Bengal inaugurated the **Vishwa Konkani Sahitya Samaroh** on 5th November 2015. **Dr. K. Byrappa**, Vice Chancellor, Mangalore University presided over the inaugural ceremony and **Shri Chandrahas Rai**, Assistant Director, Department of Kannada and Culture, Government of Karnataka was the Chief Guest.

“Creation and Transcreation – A National Seminar on Contemporary Konkani Women Writers” A panel discussion was held on the theme focussing on the Translation aspects and the contribution of the Translation studies in Indian Literature featuring eminent writers and translators such as **Vidya Pai, Dr. Geeta Shenoy, Dr. Judy Pinto, Sheela Kolambkar, Tara Bhat, Jaimala Danait, Meena Kakodkar, P. Ramesh Pai, Pundalik Naik, Ramesh Lad** as panellists and discussants. **Dr. Kiran Budkuley**, Dean, Faculty of Languages, Goa University and Co-Convener of the Vishwa Konkani Sahitya Samaroh Chaired the research paper presentation sessions.

As a special attraction a unique Campfire Poetry session was also held. Chaired by Poet **Melvyn Rodrigues** and eminent poets such as **H.M. Pernal, Andrew L. D'cunha, and Shakuntala Kini** took part in this session as poets and discussants.

On 6th November 2015 A talk on "Translating the World – Strategies and Innovation" was delivered by **Dr. Udaya Narayana Singh**. Another session on "From Creative mind to a Translator's Pen: Shifts and Adaptations of the Craft" was attended by eminent critic and writer **S.R.Vijay Shankar Vivek Shanbhag, Dr. Uday Narayana Singh, Jerry Pinto and T.N. Vishwambaran**.

Dr. Kiran Budkuley, Co-convener of the Samaroh delivered the valedictory address presided by **Dr. B. A. Vivek Rai**, Former Vice Chancellor of KSOU and Hampi Kannada Universities. **Shri T.V.Mohandas Pai** addressed the scholarly audience on the occasion **Shri Basti Vaman Shenoy**, Founder and President of World Konkani Centre welcomed the gathering.

The Vishwa Konkani Sahitya Samaroh 2015 culminated with a public function at 4.00 p.m. at T.V.Raman Pai Convention Hall, Kodial Bail, Mangaluru for bestowing the awardees with **Vimala V. Pai Vishwa Konkani Sahitya Puraskar – 2015** and **Basti Vaman Shenoy Vishwa Konkani Seva Puraskar 2015**. Eminent Konkani writer **Meena Kakodkar** was honoured with this year's Vimala V. Pai Vishwa Konkani Sahitya Puraskar for her Konkani Novel "Vastu", Eminent Poet **Andrew D'Cunha** was honoured with Vimala V. Pai Vishwa Konkani Kavita Kruti Puraskar for an anthology of Konkani Poems, "Anjurachem Paan", and doyen of Konkani movement and Veteran writer Scholar **Shri Suresh Gundu Amonkar** was honoured for his life time contribution to the Konkani movement with Vimala V. Pai Vishwa Konkani Jeevan Siddhi Samman. **Madam Grace Pinto**, founder of Ryan Group of Institutions and **Dr.H. Shantaram, Bhandarkar's Institutions Kundapur** were honoured with Basti Vaman Shenoy Vishwa Konkani Seva Puraskar 2015 for their exemplary service in the field of education.

Dr. Udaya Narayana Singh, Chair, Centre for Endangered Languages, Vishwa Bharathi, Santiniketan presented the awards in the august presence of **Shri T.V. Mohandas Pai**. Founder and President of World Konkani Centre **Shri Basti Vaman Shenoy** welcomed the gathering; **Shri T.V. Mohandas Pai** delivered the Felicitation Address.

Elections to Bihar State Assembly were held Grand Alliance of Janata Dal, RJD Congress party, won the election by thumping majority BJP was routed in the elections.

"Children's Day" was held at Vishwa Konkani Kendra for students of Konkani Classes in Schools from Karwar, Udupi and Mangluru districts Participated under the leadership of **Dr. Kasturi Mohan Pai**, Chairman 'Konkani in Schools Committee', **Shri Basti Vaman Shenoy President, W.K.C, Smt. Usha Mohan Pai** were present. Competitions in Konkani Folk Tales, Konkani Skits and Traditional Bala Geetha were held and Prizes were distributed to the winners.

Nagaland & Assam Governor **H.E. P. B. Acharya** visited Manipal and Mangaluru on 25th November 2015.

All India Radio (Akashawani) Regional conference of Station Directors and officers was held at World Konkani Centre on 4-12-2015.

Memorial for Konkani Trio Inaugurated at Kochi

By: - Anugraha Charitable Trust

Laxmikant Parsekar, Chief Minister of Goa, inaugurated the memorial to **Ranga Bhat, Vinayak Pandit & Aappu Bhat**, the 17th century Konkani Vaidyas who co-authored Hortus Indicus Malabaricus, a 12 volume treatise on medicinal plants, on 29th November 2015 at Cherlai, Kochi. The memorial is erected by Aappu Bhat, Ranga Bhat and Vinayak Pandit Smaraka Samiti on a place given by Cochin Thirumala Devaswom.

Prof. K V Thomas, MP, Dominic Presentation, MLA, **Shyamala Prabhu**, Councillor, **Dr Bhushan Bhave** spoke on the occasion. "Hortus Malabaricus - Ek Vollek" - a book in Konkani by **Payyannur Ramesh Pai** was released by **N Purushothama Mallaya. N Purushothama Mallaya**, Padma Awardee, **Balakrishna Mallaya** and **Saratchandra**

Shenoy were honoured during the function. **R Bhaskar Shenoi**, Chairman, ARV Smaraka Samiti presided over the function. **R Gopinatha Naick**, Secretary, Anugraha Charitable Trust welcomed the gathering and **N Muralidhara Pai**, Secretary, ARV Smaraka Samiti proposed vote of thanks.

The bust was taken through various GSB localities viz Tripunithura, Karnakodam, Ernakulam and Kochi and grand reception was accorded on 26th Nov. A function was presided by **N Venugopal**, GCDA Chairman at Odatha near Fort Kochi where still a 17th century pillar of the entrance to a Botanical garden still exist.

We thank you each and every one for making this a grand success and request all those who missed the function to visit the memorial in your next trip.

Devu Bharoon Karo

Good Corporate Citizen Award for Mr. V. K. Nayak

(as appeared in Mangalorean.com Oct 23, 2015)

Mangaluru, Oct 23, 2015:

Mr. V.K.Nayak eminent industrialist and Managing Director of city based CNC Ball Screws & Bearing Co. Pvt Ltd has been felicitated for being a “Good Corporate Citizen” and the award was presented by the chairman Mr. Karl Neff of NEFF GEWINDERIEBE GmbH Stuttgart Germany on 6.10.15 at NEFF exhibition stall during the MOTEK – 2015, a automation trade fair held at Stuttgart Germany.



The award was symbolically presented to Mr. Nayak in the form of a “Miniature TATA Nano Car” in recognition of exemplary achievements in the field of industry and invaluable contribution to the welfare of his workmen engaged in his industry at Mangaluru. It may be recalled that Mr. Nayak gifted Nano Cars to his Factory employees in the month of March 2015.

Managing Director of NEFF Company Mr. Hartmut Wandell, Sales & marketing executive Mrs. Esther Leib were present on this occasion. NEFF Company is world leader in automation which is established in 125 years ago and company is a technology provider to the CNC Ball Screws for the past 28 years.

In appreciation of his 3 decades of his significant contribution to the industrial growth of the country and in recognition of his world class products, Mr.Nayak has been already conferred with prestigious NEFF Germany Automation award, Govt of India Central Excise Award, Award from Canara Bank for 25 years of health code – A1, Lifetime achievement award by Mahatech Pune -2013.

HOUSTON We Have Liftoff!

Submitted by: Sachi Shenoy <ssheno@upayasv.org>

Dear Houston friends,

In February of 2014 we came together and raised nearly \$50,000 to support a young company called Tamul Plates and create jobs for the ultra-poor in India. Tamul Plates produces biodegradable plates and bowls from fallen arecanut (palm) tree leaves, and has made tremendous progress since Upaya began supporting them last year. I want to share with you the impact that YOU have made possible!

Over the past 18 months Tamul Plates has grown from employing 450 people to create over 750 jobs, most of which are filled by people previously living under the ultra-poverty line of \$1.25/day. The Upaya team recently visited the company's Assam, India headquarters and learned about the impact these jobs have had on the families who fill them. Their stories are included below.

Along with creating new jobs, the company has reached financial stability, invested in innovative new products, and been recognized on the global stage for its social and business achievements. This tremendous progress would not have been possible if it weren't for your generous support Upaya and Tamul Plates. Thank you!

Upaya has been working closely with Arindam Dasgupta, the CEO of Tamul Plates, to formalize the company's financial projections with a focus on the long-term financial health of the company. Upaya will work with the company to help it reach its goal of increasing revenues by taking plate sales up to Rs. 25 lakh units per year for the 2015/16 financial year. Tamul is diversifying its product portfolio by manufacturing new products. Recently, Upaya also connected Tamul Plates with Amazon.com, who it is working with to supply plates to both the Amazon India platform and the global Amazon.com platform. This will help the company reach its goal of expanding its presence in North and West Indian cities, as well as selling plates overseas in the US and European markets. We will be sure to let you know when they are available for purchase!

I cannot tell you how honored and humbled I am by the outpouring of support the Houston Indian community showed for Tamul Plates. Please know that you are an integral part of Tamul Plates's success, and I am confident your investment in Tamul Plates will continue to create more jobs well into the future!

This Diwali, please consider making a gift to Upaya to allow us to continue supporting Arindam and the other nine dynamic, fearless entrepreneurs in our portfolio that are working hard to uplift the poorest of the poor through dignified employment. Thank you, Houston, for your faithful support!

Wishing you all a wonderful Diwali!

Sachi

Upaya Social Ventures is a registered 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 9603, Seattle, WA 98109



Aspiring Entrepreneurs, Inspiring Outcomes

Upaya Social Ventures builds businesses that create dignified jobs for the poorest of the poor in India. Upaya is a non-profit organization that believes in providing a "hand up" and not a "hand-out" in order to alleviate extreme poverty. To date, the organization has supported the development of five businesses that have created over 1,100 jobs. Please visit www.upayasv.org to learn more, or please feel free to contact Executive Director and Co-Founder Sachi Shenoy at sshenoy@upayasv.org

Konkani Calendar

January 2016	February 2016	March 2016
9 th New Year Party (OKA)	8 th Amavasya (Dark Moon)	6 th Maha Shivaratri
9 th Amavasya (Dark Moon)	12 th Kumbha Sankranti	8 th Amavasya (Dark Moon)
14 th Makara – Sankranti	14 th Ratha Saptami	13 th Meena Sankranti
19 th Yekadashi	18 th Yekadashi	18 th Yekadashi
23 rd Poornami	22 nd Poornami	22 nd Holi – Poornami
27 th Sankashta Chaturthi	25 th Sankashta Chaturthi	26 th Sankashta Chaturthi

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, \$
Anil & Mridula Rao, Friendswood, TX	50.00
Pankaj & Asha Dhume, Sugar Land, TX	51.00
Sunil & Sandhya Shenoy, Spring, TX	51.00
Pandurang & Jayanthi Nayak, Katy, TX	101.00
Vasanth & Maya Bhat, Sugar Land, TX	66.00

Statement of Accounts

Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
Balance Carried over since Khabbar Vol. XXXVIII No. 3	3,201.00	
Money Received:		
Subscriptions (27) and donations	638.00	
Interest	1.00	
Sub Total:	639.00	
Money Spent (Khabbar Vol. XXXVIII No. 3):		
Printing- Khabbar (325) - 20 pages		451.81
Mailing - First Class Mail-Khabbar (276)		195.96
Mailing Canada Khabbar (7)		8.40
Overseas (20)		60.00
Mail Fines, computer paper& labels, envelopes, service fees, etc.		383.83
Sub Total:		1,100.00
Final Balance:	2,740.00	

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

Kwiz

The last quarter's quiz:

A Konkani woman walked very slowly down the down-moving escalator at the Houston airport and reached the bottom after taking 50 steps. As an experiment she ran up the same escalator one step at a time reaching the top after taking 125 steps. Assuming she went up 5 times as fast as she went down, how many steps would be visible if the escalator stopped running?

Answer: 100

The following gave the right answers:

Govind Kamath, Austin, TX

Naren Bhat, Orange, CT

Mukund Kamath, San Ramon, CA

Sridharan Raman, Long Island City, NY

Vindya Bhat, Long Island City, NY

This Kwarter's Kwiz

By "Ashokmaam"

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.

This Konkani woman had a habit of spending money according to dates (must be a Math Professor!?!). i. e. if date is 19 she was spending \$19 and if date is 15, she was spending \$15. One day of the year she calculated total spending of 5 consecutive days - Monday to Friday and she found that she spent \$61 in those 5 days. Can you identify dates (date/month/year)?

HOME

Submitted by: A Sai Devotee

A home where the members of the family are leading their lives in keeping with noble ideas, where they together sing the glory of the Lord's name and spend their time in performing good deeds, where the values of truth, peace and love reign supreme, where regular study of holy books are undertaken, where the senses are under control, and where there is equal love and respect for all creation prompted by the knowledge of the basic unity of all creation – such a home is verily heaven on earth

- Sri Sathya Sai Baba

SEVA

Submitted by: A Sai Devotee

Seva is the manifestation of your willingness to work, without expectation of reward; for work is dedicated as worship. That attitude robs egoism of its sting and instills in the mind the Divinity inherent in all creation.

-Baba

Book for sale

Journey of a Konkani Family, a book published by Ajjalkani Books, explores the roots of the Konkani community: its legends and history, customs and traditions and the story of its exile and dispersion from 16th century Goa. For details please access:

<http://www.ehabbar.com/two-pageAdAprilJuneKhabbarJune27,14.pdf>

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NAKA, the North American Konkani Association Update



Dear Fellow Konkanis,

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

Interim NAKA is working closely with the Executive Committee of Konkani Sannelan – 2016 to make this the best sannelan ever. The Konkani Association of Georgia (KAOG) will be the hosts. See more details about KS-2016 in this issue of Khabbar.

The Interim NAKA team meets regularly to discuss how to make NAKA a viable organization in North America. The team now consists of:

President: **Sheila Shenoy Reddy**,
Vice President: **Sadanand Mankikar**,
Secretary: **Vasanth Bhat**,
Treasurer: **Suresh Shenoy**
Executive Board Member: **Ranjit Shiralkar**.

The much anticipated NAKA website (www.myNAKA.org) is up and running. Please visit the website and send your constructive comments about the website or any other activity about NAKA. Again, thanks for all your support!

Path forward:

The interim NAKA Board is striving hard to make NAKA a viable organization in North America and has set following goals:

1. Hold the Konkani Sannelan in 2016 (KS-2016) with KAOG as hosts. The progress made so far is great.
2. Hold fund raising events across North America to benefit the KS-2016. In this regard the first fund raising event held in Sugar Land, TX at Udupi Café on October 3rd was a great success. Under the able leadership of Suresh Shenoy, NAKA was able to raise over \$30k! This amount is less than 10% of the goal but still a good start. If you have any suggestions, please, contact NAKA.
3. Hold an election for NAKA so that NAKA truly represents the North American Konkani community. In this regard, NAKA selected three volunteers to help organize the elections. They are:
 - a. Dr. Gopal Bhandarkar gabhandarkar@gmail.com
 - b. Dr. Rajarama Shenoy rajarama.shenoy@gmail.com and
 - c. Vivek Kulkarni kulkarni77@rogers.com

The trio will come up with a plan and will get in touch with all the Konkanis in North America. Please contact them if you have any concrete suggestions

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

NAKA - Statement Of Accounts

Date	Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
8/31/2015	Balance from last report	86,333.69	
	Ad for KS-2016 Souvenir		1,000.00
	Interest for the quarter		11.01
11/30/2015	Final Balance:	85,344.70	

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

Dev Baren Karo.

Sheila Shenoy Reddy
President, North American Konkani Association northamericakonkaniassociation@gmail.com

Editor's Note:

Congrats to Sheila. She had worked very hard to make the Konkani Sannelan – 2016 a reality! The Team KAOG consists of great people. The blue print that NAKA and KAOG jointly developed can be used for future sannelans. Please, extend your cooperation to make KS-2016 a success. Also, help make NAKA a viable organization in North America.



Konkani Charitable Fund, Inc.

43 Spray Court Bayport, NY 11705

(631) 472-1418

www.KonkaniCF.org

contact@konkaniCF.org

Registered Charity under 501 (3)(c)

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December 8, 2015

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Konkani Charitable Fund's mission is to support and assist orphanages, old age homes in India, provide educational scholarships, for impoverished and deserving Konkani students to complete their higher education. To fulfill this endeavor, we need continued support and donations by generous patrons like you. We hope that you will be able to contribute to one or more of the many charitable causes and experience firsthand the pride and pleasure derived from supporting these noble causes.

As the year is coming to an end, we would like to Thank our Top Donors for their generosity.

An Anonymous donor who has given over \$ 100,000 dollars, each year for last 4 years. Ravi & Asha Baliga, Danville, CA Drs Vasanth & Sudha Pai, St. Louis, MO, Dr Gopal & Pratibha Bhandarkar, Bayport, N.Y. Sundar & Shobha Kamath, San Jose CA, Ramesh & Pratibha Kamath, San Carlos CA Ramesh & Abhirami Kamath, Cupertino CA, Ram & Aruna Acharya, Fremont CA Pandurang & Veena Kamath, Los Altos CA, Dr Ganesh & Seema Bhat, Maiba NY, Mohan & Vasumathi Pai Fresh Meadows N.Y., Janardan & Padma Acharya Langley Canada Narasinha & Shantha Kamath, Edison NJ, Dr Vijay Kumar & Prema Rao, Oak Brook IL, Dr Surendra & Shalini Shenoy, Olivette MO Ananth & Sulatha Prabhu, San Ramon CA Pundalik Kini, San Francisco CA Aravind Nayak & Dr Ashwini Kamath PA, Venkatesh & Mridula Kamath, FL Vasanth & Poornima Bhat, Lake Jackson, TX Prabhakar Nirmala Kamath, Morrisville, NC, Drs Sachin & Sangeeta Kamath, Plainview, NY Bob & Vijay Rau, Sunnyvale CA, Bharat & Suman Shiralkar, San Jose, CA Deepak & Protima Bhandarkar, Sunnyvale, CA, DR Sunil Bhandarkar Santa Monica CA Vinodh & Kalpana Bhat Bhandarkar, Port Washington, N.Y., Dr Malathi Bhat, Lowell MA, Ramesh & Asha Kamath Carmel IN, Dr Ramesh & Roopa Nayak, Las Vegas NE Gopi & Sheila Pai Memphis TN, Bhalachandra & Vijaya Pai, Cherry Hill NJ Vikram & Madhumita Rao, Bridgewater NJ, Gautam Pai CA, Special Thanks to KAOCA & Presidents Drs Ramanand & Lata Kini for donating \$ 3000, Sujata & Srikant Prabhu of Oslo, Norway for their donation.

A very special Thanks to my friends Dr Marion & Stanley Bergman for giving \$ 6000

Some Great reasons to contribute to Konkani Charitable Fund:

1. KCF is dedicated to do humanitarian work to benefit needy Konkanis and organizations.
2. KCF is an approved 501 (3) (C) charitable organization and all donations to KCF qualify for tax deduction as per IRS rules.
3. KCF allows you to direct your donation to a specific charitable organization of your choice within the KCF approved list.
4. KCF is managed solely by volunteers; hence 100% of your donation goes to charity

And above all, Charity improves your sense of wellbeing and strengthens your spiritual life.

The most important thing in life is not how much you have but how much you gave!

Contact KCF at gabhandarkar@gmail.com to become a part of KCF and a beacon of hope. P.S. Please send in your checks to KONKANI CHARITABLE FUND 43 Spray Court, Bayport, NY 11705. or Donate via Pay Pal on our Website. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call (631) 472-1418.

Devu Baren Koro
KCF Board of Directors.

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Any HoonKhabbar, 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, TX77566-0222. email: khabbar@hotmail.com

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The American Konkani Association (A. K. A.) is helping eligible Konkani youth by granting College Loan Scholarships. Send your generous contributions to: American Konkani Association, 1153 Tamarack Pl., Munster, IN46321

KONKANI CHARITIES

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MATRIMONIAL DIRECTORY

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

Mr. Basti Ganapathi Shenoy

8017 Celebreeze Crt., LAS VEGAS, NV89145

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

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

A 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, HariShanker Joshi Road, Dahisar East, Mumbai-400068

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