

# HoonKhabbar

## Congratulations:

The Indian Cultural Society of East Brunswick, NJ celebrated its 20th anniversary on December 8, 2019 with a dinner & entertainment program. The audiences were thrilled by the children's dance performers who included **Alia Pai and Ayla Pai**, daughters of Dr. Ajit & Amie Pai.

## New Arrival:

**SONIA CAROLYN**, a baby girl to Sandeep & Karina Kini of Seattle, WA. on April 30<sup>th</sup> 2019. The proud paternal grandparents are Dr. Panduranga & Shobha Kini of Swansea, IL. and the maternal grandparents are Steve & Kristine Walker of Spokane, WA.

**KYRA**, a baby girl to Vishwas and Kavya Bhat, Fremont, CA on September 4th, 2019. A little sister to big brother, Vihaan.

**NAMAN**, a baby boy to Naresh Kamath & Ranjitha Pai of Fremont, CA on October 3rd, 2019.

## Relocation:

The **DHRUVAKUMARS**, Dhruva & Ramani, have relocated from Sudbury, MA to 8 Durkin Place, Riverside, CT 06878. The new home phone number is (203) 302-3792 and email ID: [banurd@hotmail.com](mailto:banurd@hotmail.com)

## Newlyweds:

Dr. & Mrs. Panduranga & Shobha Kini of Swansea, IL. celebrated the marriage of their daughter **Sow. SMITA with Chi. RAJSHEKAR**, s/o K. Lakshminarayana & Shanta Kamath of Colorado Springs, CO on Saturday Sep.7th 2019 at the Crystal Ballroom of Marriott St. Louis Grand in downtown St. Louis, MO. The newlyweds reside in Chicago, IL.

Sri Ganesh & Smt. Prathima Shenoy of Mysuru celebrated the wedding of their son, **Chi. ARJUN** of Austin, TX with **Sow. VIJETHA**, d/o Dr. Vivekananda & Dr. Jyothi Shenoy of Gonikoppal on Sunday November 10<sup>th</sup> 2019 at 11:44 am (Makara Lagnam) at Govind Rao Memorial Hall in Mysuru.

## Obituary:

**Mr. VISHWANATH BHAT (81)** of Chino Hills, CA passed away peacefully after a long illness on September 23rd, 2019. He was preceded in death by his wife Shalini. He is survived by his children Sheela (Manju) Prabhu and Shailesh (Aarti) Bhat, as well as his four grandchildren. He will also be missed by his many friends in California and his sister in law Padmini (Krishna) Nayak and family from Michigan.

**RAMANATH PAI (84)** passed away on November 24, 2019 at Dombivili, a suburb of Mumbai after brief illness, *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his brothers Mudlagiri Pai of Plano, TX and Sadananda Pai of Cypress, TX. His nephews include Prakash Pai of Plano, TX, Nagesh Pai of L.A, Vinay Pai of Palo Alto, CA, Vivek Pai of Princeton, NJ, Vijay Pai of San Ramon, CA. His nieces in U. S include Geeta Shanbhag, Lewisville, TX and Sandhya Shenoy of Spring TX.

## Konkani Happenings

**Houston Area Amchigale Samaj (HAAS)** held the annual Diwali celebrations at Paris banquet Hall in Stafford, TX on Saturday October 26, 2019 from 5:30 pm to 11:00 pm.

**Konkani Sabha** held their annual Diwali program on Saturday October 19, 2019 at Sri Venkateshwara Temple/New Auditorium and Banquet Hall in Bridgewater, NJ

**Konkani Association Of California (KAOCA)** held their annual Diwali function on Saturday October 26, 2019 at Evergreen Valley High School in San Jose, CA. The event included Tannik, Entertainment, dinner and DJ dancing.

**American Midwest Konkani Association (AMKA)** held their annual Diwali on picnic on Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Bartlett Community Center.

**Seattle Washington Amchigale Samaj (SWAS)** celebrated their annual Diwali on Saturday November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 at Highland Community Center in Bellevue, WA.

**Dallas Fort Worth Konkani Samaj (DFWKS)** held their Holiday party on Saturday December 7, 2019 at Aurora Event Center in Plano, TX. The event theme was “Masquerade”.

### **KAOCA raises over \$150,000 for the Konkani S sammelan 2020**

With the help of the local S sammelan host **KAOCA**, the “Konkani S sammelan 2020 Kickoff dinner” was held on September 22nd, 2019, in Milpitas Community Center. More than 300 people attended this event and enjoyed the awesome entertainment from KAOCAnS, followed by delicious food catered from Jalsa Catering. Fundraising committee presented special donation packages for the S sammelan that received generous support from the attendees raising over \$150,000!

### **Arpana – 2019 raises over \$56,000 for the Konkani Charitable Fund**

Arpana-2019 was a fundraiser Indian classical dance show held in Silver Creek High School, San Jose, on Sunday, December 8th, 2019. Arpana, which literally means “an offering”, was started by Medha Acharya in 2015 with the help of her parents as well as their friends and Bay Area volunteers.

This year’s event, the fifth Arpana show, showcased four outstanding young Konkani dancers from the Bay Area. Rajnita Kamath, Chaya Manjeshwar, Tanvi Kamath, and Niya Shenoy dazzled while performing both individual and group Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi dances. Generous donations raised over \$56,000 this year, contributing to the grand total of over \$210,000 that has been raised by the Arpana fundraiser over the past five years. 100% of this collection will be distributed to the following charities in India:

1. Chetana Child Development Centre, Mangalore
2. Anandashrama Seva Trust, Puttur
3. Srivali Trust, Shirali
4. Ramakrishna Mutt and Mission, Mangalore
5. World Konkani Center, Mangalore
6. ASRP Memorial Fund, Mangalore

Aruna & Ram Acharya, the organizers, thanked everyone for their support and generosity, and shared their plan to continue Arpana over the years as a fundraising opportunity and a platform for young Konkani talent in the Bay Area

### **Konkani Association of Georgia celebrates Diwali 2019**



The Konkani Association of Georgia (KAOG) had their annual Diwali celebration on November 9th at the Gurukul in Duluth from 5-11 PM. For the second year in a row, a new venue was chosen, and it fit the bill from the viewpoint of both audience and performers. It is the finale of the year, and as always, it started with pooja and arti. This year set up near the arti was art by kids. The art added to the decor, besides creating interest among people readying for the spectacle that is entertainment.

Following the arti was the most awaited program of the evening - the entertainment. It started with a spell-binding and beautiful Ganesha dance by Tanvi Shanbhag, who performed the dance gracefully. Tanvi then got into ‘mufti’ for her other main task of the evening - emceeing the program along with Diya Kamath and Shriya Nayak. The association always strives to put together an eclectic offering of songs and high-energy dances across genders, genres and ages, built around a couple of

skits. This time, the adult dances had a storyline - the journey of a couple of falling in love through to marriage and beyond. Each stage in the journey was portrayed by a dance. There were Bollywood dances by not only children, but several medleys by ladies and gents set to choreography that was top-notch by Savita Shanbhag, who worked with all the groups spread across the northern suburbs.



One of the high points of the evening was a skit involving kids, and a couple of adults, entirely in Konkani, with flawless delivery of lines by the young actors none older than twelve years. Written by resident playwright Banur Nageshrao, who conducted the practice almost entirely by phone, it involved a hilarious situation on an airline in flight. Not many in the audience quite knew how it ended, but it didn't matter! A unique and endearing aspect of Konkani - repeat words such as chiri-chiri - was woven into the names of various characters and other things (such as Piri, Pat, etc.). The language seemed to be in good hands as it gets passed down to the next generation!



The association welcomed Ram Acharya visiting from California, who is co-president of the 2020 Konkani Sannmelan in San Jose, CA in July. It is the first Sannmelan after the hugely successful one in Atlanta in 2016, and there appears a lot of enthusiasm from the Georgia Konkani to show up in greater numbers (while dispensing advice!) as the immediate past host. KAOG's teen aged photographer Soham Honnavar enthusiastically clicked all the pictures.

Post dinner, it was time to take to the dance floor. Before dinner, the committee for the next year was selected, with several first-timers stepping up. The president Murali Shenoy expressed his gratitude to the present committee for pulling off fine programs this year so well.



The KAOG was formed in 2000, when a few families who have been meeting informally decided to form an association. Member events typically occur three times a year - Yugadi celebrations in March/April, a summer picnic in an outdoor setting, and Diwali celebrations in October/November. There are about 60 active families in the Atlanta metro area, and the few families strewn across Georgia who enthusiastically make the trip for each of the events. The Diwali program is the grand finale, capping off the

years' events, and occasion to showcase the talents of the community, and encourage participation. This year's celebration capped off a year of successful events with tremendous participation at all levels, setting off a positive vibe for 2020. In the 20th year next year, plans are afoot for a robust celebration of the evolution of a small, yet vibrant and close-knit community

## KHABBAR FROM KULAR

By: - Vishwa Konkani Sardar BASTI VAMAN SHENOY



### Padmashree Suresh Gundu Amonkar, Goa Passes Away.

Great Konkani Educationist, writer and translator Padmashree Awardee **Suresh Gundu Amonkar (86)** passed away on 8-12-2019 at his house in Goa. Mr. Suresh Gundu Amonkar had deeply studied Buddhist, Jain Literatures. He translated Jataka Kathas, Dhammapada, Crishta Purana, Jain Purana, Sri Bhagavantan Gayeele Geetha (Srimad Bhagavad Geetha) Tamil Poet Tiruvalluvaras "Tirukkural" and 'Jnaneshwari' from Marathi to Konkani language. His 'Dhammapada' (Konkani) Translation got him Central Sahitya Akademi Award in 1999. He was a professor in Kenya (Africa) University for a long time and then returned to India. Govt of Goa honoured him and then Govt of India honoured him with Padma Shree Award in 2009 also Dr. Amonkar was also honoured with Smt. Vimala V. Pai Vishwa Konkani Jeevan Sidhi Award in 2015 for his great works in Konkani Translation. He was appointed as President of Goa Konkani Academy in 2018.

Late B.V.Baliga (Founder Editor Konkani) had translated and published Bhagavad Gita to Konkani Language in the year 1959. Now the 2nd edition of the book is released at Udyavar (Udupi Dist) on 8th Sept 2019 by **Mr. Basti Vaman Shenoy**, Founder and President World Konkani Centre, **Mr. Jagannath Kamath** C.A presided. Dr. T.M.A. Foundation Manipal, World Konkani Centre and Veera Venkatesh Charitable Trust Mangaluru, have sponsored the addition published by **Mr. A.M.Hegde**, Udyavara.

**Mr. K. Surendra Rao**, Calicut(Kozhikod, Kerala)Editor Saraswath Vani died on 24-09-2019. He was a great supporter of Konkani activities in Kerala and had organized All India Konkani Parishad Adhiveshan in Calicut in 2005.

Dassera and Sri Mahanavami were celebrated throughout India from 29th Sept to 8th October 2019 with colour and gaiety.

Govt of India has announced the merger of Corporation Bank (Estd 1905 in Udupi) with Union Bank and Andhra Banks and also Syndicate Bank (Estd in 1924 in Udupi) with Canara Bank (Estd in 1906).

Vidyakalpaka Vidyarthi Vetana Nidhi for G.S.B students, established by great Konkani donor, Philanthropist of Mangaluru **Mr. C.A. Nandagopal Shenoy** and his team distributed Rs. 28 lakhs to P.U.C and Degree class Students at a Gala function held at Muniyal (Karkala) on 13th Oct 2019. **Mr. Pradeep G. Pai** (Managing Director Hangyo Ice Creams Pvt. Ltd) **Mr. Basti Vaman Shenoy** (Founder President World Konkani Centre) presided.

**Dr. Karkal Jagadish Pai** appointed as President of Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Akademy with 11 other members by Govt of Karnataka. Dr. Pai is an Ayurveda Medical practitioner in Karkala and a write. His articles have appeared on various magazines in Karnataka and he has published 2 valuable books on health subjects.

Deepavali -Festival of Lights - was celebrated throughout India from 26th to 30th with great funfare and festivities.

Vishwa Konkani Stree Shakti Mission arranged an Exhibition cum sales of Articles and Garments produced by members of the Stree Shakti Mission during Sri Vitoba Temple Bhajana Mandir Saptaha from 2nd Nov to 8th Nov 2019 at Mangaluru.

## Vishwa Konkani Awards Ceremony-2019

Prestigious Vishwa Konkani Awards were sponsored by **Mr. T V Mohandas Pai** Philanthropist and Chairman of Manipal global education, Bengaluru, conferred on seven eminent achievers in various fields in a grand ceremony held on Nov 23rd, 2019 at T.V.Raman Pai Convention Hall, Mangaluru. **Dr Ramakant Krishnaji Deshpande**, director, Asian Institute of Oncology, Mumbai and **Dr Austin D Souza Prabhu**, Chicago Editor and publisher of “Veez Konkani Magazine” weekly were the Chief Guest.

Founder President of Vishwa Konkani Kendra **Mr. Basti Vaman Shenoy** welcomed the gathering. Chairman of Manipal global education, Bengaluru **Mr. T V Mohandas Pai** gave the Keynote address. **Mrs. P Sabitha Sathish Pai**, Bengaluru, **Mr. C.D. Kamath**, Chairman of Award Selection Committee, Vishwa Konkani Kendra Vice Presidents **Sri Kudpi Jagadish Shenoy**, **Mr. Gilbert D’Souza**, **Mr. Venkatesh N.Baliga**, Treasurer **Mr. B.R.Bhat**, Vishwa Konkani Students Scholarship Fund (VKSSF) President **Mr.Ramdas Kamath U**, Secretary **Mr. Pradeep G. Pai**, and other dignitaries were present.

1)Smt. Vimala V.Pai Vishwa Konkani Sahitya Puraskar for Best Konkani Novel ‘JAANVAY’ Author **Sri Devidas Kadam**, Goa

2)Best Konkani Kavita Kruti Puraskar for “THODE EKANT” A Collections of Konkani Poems, Author **Smt. Shakuntala R.Kini**, Mangaluru.

3) Smt. Vimala V.Pai Vishwa Konkani Jeevan Sidhi Puraskar for **Sri. Rocky V.Miranda**, Mysuru. (Assistant, Associate) Professor, Department of Linguistics, Univ of Minnesota, USA, 1970-1995.

“Basti Vaman Shenoy Vishwa Konkani Life time Service Awards” for 1) Male category: **Sri K. Raghavendra Pai**, Mysuru, Internationally acclaimed Yoga exponent.

2) Woman category: **Smt. Meera Srinivas Shanbhag, Kumta** Founder President of Shrinivas Charitable Trust Kumta for her services to mankind, through scholarships to students, building classrooms, open air theatre, Gold age homes for senior citizens etc.

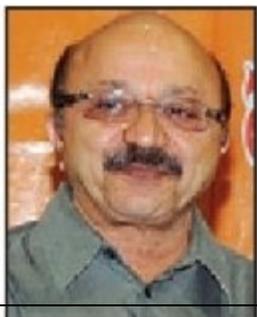
### “Smt. Vimala V.Pai Vishwa Konkani Special Awards”

1.**Smt Vasanthi R.Nayak**, Mangaluru famous Musician and Founder of Swarashree Kalavedike Trust (R) , Mangaluru

2.**Sri Suhas Yashawanth Dalal**, Goa who has written articles in Konkani and English from Goa Freedom Movement days.

Each award carries a purse of Rs 1.00 lakh in Cash, Citation, Memento, Shawl and Sriphal.

## **Philanthropist Dr. Jagannath Shenoi conferred “Valuable Citizen of Mysuru” Award**



**Jagannath Shenoi**

Mysore Literary Forum Charitable Trust conferred the “Valuable Citizen of Mysuru” award to industrialist and philanthropist **Dr. M. Jagannath Shenoi** as a part of the second edition of the Mysore Literature Festival on Saturday November 17, 2018 at Hotel Southern Star in the city at 7:00 pm.

Star of Mysore Editor-in-Chief K. B. Ganapathy conferred the award. On that occasion, there was a piano concert by musicians Natalia and Liudmila.

### **Dr. Jagannath Shenoi: Profile**

Soft spoken, kind and humble to a fault, Dr. Jagannath Shenoi, 64, is a person molded differently. Unaffected either by the riches he supervises or the challenges he has to face as the person at the helm of Mysuru's iconic Mangalore Ganesh Beedi Works, Jagannath Shenoi's philanthropy is legendary and his contribution to Mysuru invaluable.

A person who is averse to his large hearted charitable activities being made public, many only know of Dr. Shenoi's acumen as a shrewd businessman after emerging at the helm of affairs of Mangalore Ganesh Beedi Works on Jan. 7, 1995, and his handling of a business vulnerable to government policies., regulations and growing health awareness.

His contribution to Mysuru and Karnataka in general is immense. As the Government began exert controls on the beedi industry, he diversified his business interests, keeping pace with the changing times, and creating more employment opportunities. DMS Technologies Pvt. Ltd. At Belavadi of which he is a Director, is today one of the top PCB manufacturers, and gives employment to many. A socially conscious entrepreneur, Dr. Shenoi operates a solar electricity plant in Tumakuru. In the area of education, he is the chairman of GSSS Institute of Engineering and Technology for Women. He also manages the Govinda Rao Memorial School at Lakshmipuram in Mysuru offering education from Nursery to SSLC.