

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication unless the writer requests otherwise. Letters may be edited for publication. Editor reserves the right not to publish anonymous letters. Initials only on request if the writer includes his or her name.

Dear Mr. Vasanth Bhatji,

Herewith I am sending the following for publishing in the "KHABBAR" issue according to availability of space in the issues.

1. A report on Vishwa Konkani Sahitya Samaroha held at last week

2. A brief on the life of Acharya Dharmananda Damodar Kosambi, a Konkani Saraswath born in Goa but later became Buddhist Monk (Bhikshu) and professor of Pali and Sanskrit Languages in Harvard University in USA and also in Russian University .

I will mail my *Khabbar* from Kular tomorrow. Please convey my regards to your dear wife and children and our NAKA friends.

Devu Baren Koro

Basti Vaman Shenoy

Editor's Reply:

Thanks for your untiring efforts to bring awareness of our great Konkani heritage and culture to all. Your timely submissions - "Khabbar from Kular" is appreciated by one and all. Keep up the great work. I have published the above two articles in this issue.

Dear Vasanth Bhat,

After a good gap of time, I am again contacting you. I forward an article on GAUD BANGAL. You are at liberty to cut to size for the convenience of printing. I used to get hard copy. I opted for soft copy and could not keep track. I will do it now.

Some time back I had sent an article on BHUVANENDRA SWAMIJI. Did you receive it? His Holiness offered Tarpan to our elder MANJAYYA PRABHU.

PROF. K. R. PRABHU
CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGIST

Editor's Reply:

Thanks for your interesting articles. I am sure the *Khabbar* readers enjoy them. I have published the above article in this issue and the other one on H. H. Bhuvanendra Swamiji was published in the last issue.

Dear Vasanth Bhat,

I do not know whether this will qualify as *Hoon Khabbar*. You may include in proper category of news or appeal for charity.

I noticed that tuition charged by my Alma mater VJTI or IIT Powai is nearly Rs 60,000 a year compared to Rs. 500 I had paid while studying! The scholarships offered by several organizations in India ranges between Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 10,000. Since such scholarship may not help any needy deserving student to full extent, the **Pai family** has initiated a process to set up one free full scholarship to cover fee, books and hostel charges (Rs. 90,000 per year) of one student of VJTI or IIT Powai or any other institution through HAAS/ GSB Scholarship League Wadala. The money will pass through HAAS to GSB Scholarship League soon so that the league could award the scholarship in MAY/June of 2017.

As one can find from <http://www.gsbscholarshipleague.org> the league awards every year nearly 52 lakhs spread over 4,051 students (2,268 girls) averaging Rs 1,300 per student. This league awards loan scholarship of nearly Rs. 100,000 to students pursuing higher education in USA. The league is prompt in responding to any communication, which is a good reason to deal with them.

Though this is a small step, it should encourage others who could afford to set up similar free full scholarship in their alma mater. There is no point in charitable organizations collecting huge amounts and keeping in their reserve. Money spent on deserving students will bring uplift of the community. I had noticed that LOHANA community had a hostel in Matunga to provide cheap hostel accommodation to students of their community.

Sadananda Pai
snpai@yahoo.com

Editor's Reply:

Congratulations and am really proud of your family's effort to help the needy. I hope other Konkani families will follow your lead.

Dear Vasanth,

Here is this year's analysis of the 2017 *Khabbar* Mailing List dated 12-17-2016:

Of the 2,464 families in the list (it was 2,385 last year!); we still have Konkanis living in 43 states & DC (same as last year!). We still do not have any Konkanis living in Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming!!

Also, we have:

267 Kamat(h)

243 Shenoy, Shenai, Shenvi, Shanbh (o) ag (ue)

230 Pai

167 Nayak (Naik)

114 Prabhu

106 Rao (u)

99 Bhat (t)

51 Baliga

46 Kini

41 Mal (l) ya, Mallia, Mahale

32 Nadkarni (y)

27 Bhandarkar, Bhandari (y)

22 Hegde

17 Kudva

16 Hatt (i) angadi(y)

15 Kop (p) ikar

13 Acharya.

The Kamat (h) families have still maintained their lead. California still leads with 644 families (it was 631 last year!) and San Jose, CA has the highest number of Konkani families living - 98 Same as last year! Houston, TX ties with Fremont, CA as closest second with 45!! Mississauga, Ont. and Sunnyvale tie for third place with 38!!!

Keep up the great work.

Ravindra Nayak,
Flanders, NJ

Editor's Reply:

Thank you for your timely reporting!

Dear Editor,

I have received the quarterly newsletter. Thank you very much. I have attended such sammelans in the previous years and find that our people are strongly united to maintain /celebrate the culture of the Konkani community for the last 20years. Hearty congratulations.

Prof M M KINI
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