

Khabbar

North American Konkani Newsletter

Volume XXXVI No. 1

January, February, March - 2013

From:

The Honorary Editor,

"Khabbar"

P. O. Box 222

Lake Jackson, TX 77566 - 0222

XXXVI-1

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



FIRST CLASS

TO:

Khabbar Follies

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

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

Khabbar takes extra efforts to make sure that its quarterly publication is always on time, every time. But, to accomplish that for the last quarter (Vol. XXXV-4) publication was nothing but a challenge.

The Editorial staff of *Khabbar* was out of town for almost 6 weeks. They were busy welcoming their grandkids in NYC and Atlanta!

Not only the newsletter were to be published but also the annual *Khabbar* Mailing List! Even then, they managed to accomplish that feat, thanks to today's technology. However, there were few errors in the newsletter and I really don't think readers noticed them! Or did they!?!

That reminds me, do the readers really read *Khabbar*!?!

SUBSCRIPTION FORM:

Dear Konkani family,

It is time to renew your subscription for 2013. 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
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Honorary Editor: Mr. Vasanth Bhat

Mailing Address:
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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 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 2013. The *Khabbar* Mailing List is a prized possession of our community and helps 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 youth are planning **Konkani Youth Convention** in LA area in 2013. Please,

help our youngsters who are trying hard to maintain our culture here in North America.

The newly re-organized **North American Konkani Association (NAKA)** is already busy in making **NAKA** a viable organization in North America. *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.

With this issue, will end the series of articles on "History of Saraswat Migrations". I thank **Ms. Shalini Bhat** of Arroyo Grande, CA in her help in getting this published.

The unofficial *Khabbar* correspondents in your area who send in the *hoon Khabbars* on a regular basis are doing an outstanding job. **Remember, if it did not appear in *Khabbar*, then it did not happen in North America!** If your area is not represented wholly, let me know and I'll recruit more volunteers. You can send the news items via email (khabbar@hotmail.com).

On the Quiz front, *Khabbar* has still remained as a champ. What a pity, only five people were able to solve last quarter's 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 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 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 Konkanis to visit the Kendra to see what way they can benefit from this. Also, see in what way we can help our brethren who are doing an outstanding job in preserving our culture.

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 *Yugadi* to you all.

Devu Boren Karo.

Vasanthi
Honorary Editor

Letters to the Editor

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

Dear Sri Bhat,
GSB Scholarship League celebrated its centenary event in December. It was well attended and well appreciated event. Sri T.V.Mohandas Pai, and Sri Ekanath Thakur were the guests for the program. I am enclosing a brief report of the event. Can you kindly publish it in your prestigious magazine? It will be a special honour for us.

Thanking you and with best regards
Gita R.Pai
gitarpai@hotmail.com

Dear Editor,
Yesterday, a great stalwart of Hindustani Classical music, musicologist and concert organiser, Pandit Hattangadi Harihar Rao passed

away in Los Angeles area, which was his home for over four decades. I am humbly submitting a eulogy on him. Kindly publish it in the *Khabbar* magazine. His photograph is also attached.

Thanking you,

Vivek R. Ullal
vivekullal@sbcglobal.net

KS-2012 Special Notice

Dear Friends,

We are excited to inform you that the Konkani Sammelan DVDs are now available for purchase.

A set of 9 DVDs can be ordered from our website (www.konkani2012.org) at a very competitive price of \$40. 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 Sammelan 2012. These DVDs will bring back fond memories of the Sammelan for everyone who attended. For those who could not attend the Sammelan, this is your chance to get a glimpse into what happened at the 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 www.konkani2012.org to pay and order your DVD copy today...

Devu Baren Karo,
Thank you for your patience.

Gopal Bhandarkar M.D.
President, KS-2012
<http://www.konkani2012.org>
bhandarkar11705@gmail.com

FREE (For North American patrons only)

First come first served

Novels in English & Kannada by renowned Konkani author.

If interested, email: khabbar@hotmail.com

KAO Calendar celebrating 25th anniversary

Konkani Association of Ontario (KAO), Canada is extremely proud to celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2013. To commemorate this event we in the Executive Committee have decided to bring out the first KAO Calendar 2013. This calendar will show case our four Maths, our Swamiji's and our Math Ishta Devs.

The KAO Executive Committee urges you to not only take a copy for yourself but also for your loved ones back home and here.

In addition to reach out to your relations/friends in US and encourage them to buy our first KAO Calendar. Actually you can ask them if they want to give this away to the local Konkani families living in the area.

Please find attached a few glimpses (draft) of what is featured in this. The months in the calendar will have a mention of all Hindu Festivals and more. This unique KAO Calendar is yours for a contribution of only \$7 per calendar (that includes S & H)

You can go on to our web site and pay online under the box that states US Customers at

<http://www.ontario-konkanis.com/events.shtml>

We sincerely believe that with your help we can spread the word about this unique calendar and our 25th Anniversary

Sincerely

Geetha - Niranjan Kamath on behalf of EC Committee 2012-13
President, KAO

kamath_niranjan@hotmail.com

Hoon Khabbar

Congratulations:

APARNA, d/o Pramod & Maithili Udiaver has won the GOLD MEDAL award in Ontario for her piano exams conducted by the Royal Conservatory of Music at the Royal Conservatory of Music Auditorium a historic 125 year old building in Toronto.

A new building for Vatsalya Seva Trust was inaugurated on January 27, 2013 in Karkala, India. This old age home was funded by generous contributions by two prominent Konkanis: **Suresh Shenoy** of Sugar Land, TX and **G. Dattananda Bhat**, of Mumbai (formerly of Jamaica, NY).

MULKI R. BHAT of Miller Place, NY published a book "*Journey of a Konkani Family*". The book is an inspirational story of several generations of his family.

SANJAY BHATT of Seattle, WA and his team published an investigative report on insider lending that was published in The Seattle Times (online on Jan 19, 2013 and in print on Jan 20, 2013). There's also an interactive that lets users explore the deals and original documents on DocumentCloud.

Here's the link: <http://bit.ly/10brOyM> (Original link: http://seattletimes.com/html/business/technology/2020173350_westsoundone.xml.html)

Brahmapodesham:

Narendra & Gayathri Rao of Sugar Land, TX celebrated the *Upanayanam* (sacred thread ceremony) of their son **Chi. PRANAV** (Grandson of Late Shri. Srinivas Rao and Smt. Rukmini Rao and Late Shri. L. Jayaram Pai and Smt. Shanta Pai) on Sunday January 27th 2013 at Shri Meenakshi Temple Kalyanamandapam in Pearland, TX

Needless to say, the *vatu* is busy doing Sandhyavanadams.

Newly Weds:

Chi. SANJAY of Seattle, WA, s/o Drs Ashwin & Kasturi Bhatt of Houston,

TX married **Sow. POOJA**, d/o Drs. Saroop Singh Bansil & the late Devi Bansil of Nairobi, Kenya on Feb. 17th, 2013 at the Edgewater hotel, Seattle, WA; it was followed by a reception at the same hotel.

Chi. KUNAL, s/o Bharat & Kalpana Kundaje of Buena Park, CA, got married to **Sow. DIVYA**, d/o Ramesh & Geeta Kamath of Mumbai, on Feb. 15th, 2013 in Mumbai, India.

Vasudev & Sumana Pai of Arlington, TX celebrated the wedding of their daughter, **Sow. ANUSKA with Chi. MADHAVAN** on March 2, 2013 by hosting a reception at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas, TX. The couple got married in Goa in December 2012.

Chi. VIJAY of Redwood City, CA, s/o Ramesh & Pratibha Kamath of San Carlos, CA married to **Sow. SONAL**, d/o Dinesh & Kalpana Shah of Houston, TX on Saturday March 9, 2013 at the Omni Houston Hotel Westside in Katy, TX at 3:32 PM followed by reception in the evening at the same venue.

New Arrival:

SHEFALI LAXMI, a 5.8 lb. baby girl born to Vikram & Shanti Acharya on November 10, 2012. The paternal grandparents are Vasant & Kirti Acharya of River Forest, IL and the maternal grandparents are Surendra & Nandini Shenoy of Pleasant Hill, CA.

ANIKA, 6 lbs. 4 ozs baby girl to Sandeep & Christina Lee Kamath of Dallas, TX on Jan. 11, 2013 in Dallas, TX. A sister to big sister Anjali. Proud paternal grandparents are Arvind & Neela Kamath of Sugar Land, TX and uncle Sunil Kamath of Sugar Land, TX.

Relocation:

The **KAMAT** family, Rajeev & Meera, with their son Kunal has moved from Murrysville, PA to 3357 Keenland Rd., Marietta, GA 30062. Their phone number is (724)-733-8843 and email ID: rgk2000@yahoo.com

The **KAMAT** family, Prakash & Madhuri, with their daughters, Aditi & Neha, have moved from Princeton Junction, NJ 5040 Arcanum Place, Cumming, GA 30040. The new telephone is (609)-799-1162.

The **NAYAK** family, Nagar & Jayashri, have moved from Lee's Summit, MO to 7807 11th Street NE, Lake Stevens, WA 98258.

Telephone & Email Change:

LAXMAN & USHA PAI of Edison, NJ have changed their home phone number to (848)-200-7626 and their e-mail address is lpdaff@gmail.com

50th Wedding Anniversary:

Mrs. MITRA & Dr. MANOHAR KINI of Medford, NJ celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, December 8, 2012 at The Mansion in Voorhees, NJ. Many family members and friends attended the function. Their grandchildren played the piano for the occasion. Food, drinks and desserts were great. On the whole it was grand party and everyone enjoyed the function. The anniversary was followed by Satyanarayana Pooja and luncheon on Sunday at The Mansion also.

Obituary:

Mrs. Sheela (Satyavati) Rao Karnad, wife of late Raghuvveer Rao Karnad, passed away on Nov. 10th, 2012 in Bengaluru.. She is survived by her daughter, Anita Rajan of Camarillo, CA and a son, Dilip Karnad of London, England and her other family in England and India. *Khabbar* conveys heartfelt condolences to the grieving family members.

KONKANI HAPPENINGS

Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC) Shivaratri Bhajan 2013

Konkani Association of Southern California's (KASC) annual Shivratri Bhajan was held on Saturday, February 16th at Shadow park community hall in Cerritos. KASC President Rajesh and Deepa Prabhu along with Nandini Rao set up the table for the Pooja. The guests were welcomed by evening refreshments such as rulav, churmundo, homemade chivda and coffee.

The evening program began with Bhajan in praise of Lord Shiva. Mrs. Nandini Rao and Shridar Rao took the lead in singing some of the melodious and popular Bhajans such as "Om Namoh Shivaya", "Brahama Murari Surarchita Lingam, "Om Jai Shiva Omkara". Bhajan participants took turns in singing the devotional songs. This program was concluded by 7:00 pm. The KASC members then began the Pooja and offered Aarathi to Lord Shiva, Ganapathi and Laxmi and sang an aarati Jai Jagadisha Hare while taking turns to offer Arathi to God.

After the Pooja, women set up the potluck dishes for the dinner. Dinner included a delicious spread of Konkani delicacies such as Chane Ghashi, Dalitoy, Beans/Batate Upkari, Curd Rice and fabulous Madgane. Thanks to all the cooks for such a delicious festival dinner. Special thanks to Mrs. Mohini Kamath for arranging the Bhajan venue.

American Midwest Konkani Association (AMKA)

American Midwest Konkani Association (AMKA) has formed a new Committee for the year 2013. This new team has vigorously started work towards organizing innovative and entertaining events for the members to get together in a socio-cultural environment. The new team is a motivated group of people, and is an energetic combination of members who have led AMKA in the past, and new, younger members. This rich blend of experience and new ideas will give a new shape to AMKA for future generations to take it forward.

The following events have been planned at a bare minimum level for this year:

- Bowling in March
- Yugadi in April
- Volunteering in June
- Picnic in August
- Cruise in September
- Diwali in November
- Sports Day in December

In addition to organizing events, the Committee is also working on making the AMKA website more "member-friendly".

The new Committee members are:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| President | Sanjay and Sucheta Savkur |
| Treasurer | Aarti Wagle |
| Committee Members | Vishwanath and Vasundhara Baliga Surendra and Shobha Basti Poornima Kasargod Krishnamohan and Vinaya Nayak Krishnanand and Tripti Nayak Madhav and Sheetal Rao Manoj and Jyoti Rao Sanjay and Sucheta Savkur Sanjay and Aarti Wagle |

Houston Area Amchigale Samaj (HAAS) Satyanarayan Pooja -Feb. 10, 2013

The 10th annual HAAS Satyanarayan Puja was held on February 10th, 2013 at Austin Park Community Center, Sugar Land Texas. It was an auspicious first event of the new year.

The priest, Mr. Raghvendra Bhat of Puthige Mutt, Udipi officiated. Mrs. Deepa and Mr. Rajesh Sashithal of Clear Lake, Texas and Mr. Gaurav Dhume of Sugarland Texas were the participants. Children read the kathas. A total of about 140 attendees made the occasion memorable but it was the youth that stole the show. Under the active leadership of youth coordinators Mr. Sreesh Shenoy and Mr. Gaurav Dhume, they helped with registrations, set up, serving of meals and cleanup. In addition, the youth conducted a successful canned food drive for the Houston Food Bank.

In lieu of catering the food, lady volunteers drummed up a scrumptious meal consisting of Rice, Dhalitoy, Chana Gashi, Beans Batata upkari, Val Val, Ambe Avnas Sasam, Mung- cucumber salad, Papad, mixed pickles and Lime pickles and Phanna thaak followed by Gulab Jamun.

KHABBAR FROM KULAR

By: - Vishwa Konkani Sardar BASTI VAMAN SHENOY

T. Vimala V. Pai Amrithotsava Celebrations:

A day long programmes were held under the auspices of World Konkani Centre at Mangalore with Seminar on Konkani Education in Schools, Konkani Teachers from Coastal Karnataka and hundreds of Konkani Students participated. **Dr. Kasturi Mohan Pai** was the Convenor. In the evening **Smt. T. Vimala V. Pai** was honoured and felicitated on her 80th year.

Smt. T. Vimala V. Pai Best Konkani Books Award: Veteran Konkani writer **Mr. Pundalik N. Naik** of Goa was honoured and felicitated with Rs.1.00 lakh for his book `Ranga Kavya` adjudged as Best Konkani Book of the year for the Award.

Adv. Uday L. Bhembre was also felicitated with `Smt. Vimala V. Pai Life time Achievement Award 2012` during the function. **Prof. Malleshpuram Venkatesh**, Vice Chancellor, Karnataka Sanskrit Academy was the Chief Guest. **Shri T.V. Mohandas Pai, Shri Ramdas Kamath U** were present. **Shri Basti Vaman Shenoy**, President, World Konkani Centre Welcomed the Guests and **Mr. Pradeep G. Pai** proposed Vote of Thanks. The programme was followed by reciting of Konkani Bhava Geetha by **Miss. Mahalaxmi Shenoy**.

`Raknno` renowned Konkani Weekly celebrated Platinum Jubilee at Bishop's House, Mangalore on 22.12.2012 under the Presidentship of **Most Rev. Dr. Aloysius D'Souza**, Bishop of Mangalore. **Shri Kasargod Chinna**, President, Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Academy and **Fr. Mark Waldar**, former Editor were present. **Fr. Francis Rodrigues**, Editor, Raknno welcomed the Guests. Seminars on Konkani Journalism and Literature were also held as part of Platinum Jubilee.

An appeal has been made to Vice **Chancellor Prof. T.C. Shivashanker Murthy** of Mangalore University to establish a Chair in the name of late **Shri Ullal Srinivas Mallya**, Maker of Modern Mangalore. The delegation was led by **Shri Basti Vaman Shenoy**, President, Konkani Language & Cultural Foundation, World Konkani Centre, **Shri Tejomaya**, Social Worker, **Dr. Kasturi Mohan Pai**, President, Srinivas Pathashala Institutions, **Shri Ranganath Bhat**, Shri M. Annappa Pai, Canara High School Association were the members in the delegation.

`Konkani Kavitha Fest` was organized by Kavitha Trust Chairman **Mr. Melwyn Rodrigues** at Basti Gardens, Thumbe, Bantwal. National level Konkani Poetry Competitions were held for the younger Konkani Poets. Multi language Poetry session was also held participated by Konkani poets coming from Mumbai, Goa, Karnataka and Kerala States and Gulf Countries and also poets from Hindi, Kannada, Tulu and Beary languages. Well known Konkani poet, writer, movement leader **Adv. Uday L. Bhembre** inaugurated the Kavitha Fest and addressed on `Writers and social responsibility under the Constitution of the Nation`.

Fr. Prashanth Madtha (Former Principal, ST. Aloysius College), **Mr. James Mendonca**, Dubai, **Mr. Rohan Monteiro**, Mangalore felicitated host **Mr. Basti Vaman Shenoy**. **Mr. Melwyn Rodrigues**, Chairman, Kavitha Trust, Mr. Kishoo Barkur, Secretary, **Mr. William Pais** successfully organized the Kavitha Fest.

Beneficiary Orientation Training Programme(BOTP) Camps were held at World Konkani Centre to train Vishwa Konkani Scholarship Beneficiaries from 28th December 2012 to 31. 01. 2013. These training camps are being organized by Vishwa Konkani Student Scholarship Fund to train Konkani Students in Soft Skills, Social leadership and to face Interview sessions and create self confidence among these Scholars.

Digital documentation of Konkani language and Geography is been made by **Mr. Veerappa Maralawadi** with the assistance of **Shri Gokuldas Prabhu**, well known writer and working President, All India Konkani Parishad, Goa.

National Nagari Lipi Parishad, New Delhi organized two days' Seminar on Nagari Lipi (Devanagari Script) at Goa University auditorium on 19th and 20th January 2013 in collaboration with All India Konkani Parishad. **Mr. Manohar Parrikar**, Hon. Chief Minister, Goa inaugurated the two days' Seminar. **Dr. K. Mohan Pai, Dr. Geetha Shenoy, Mr. Guru Baliga, Mr. K. Gokuldas Prabhu, Mr. Payyanur Ramesh Pai** participated. Vishwa Konkani Sardar **Mr. Basti Vaman Shenoy** was honoured during Valedictory function.

Sahasra Kumbhabhisheka was performed to **Lord Sri Veera Venkatesha Swamy** by **H.H.Srimad Sudheendra Thirtha Swamiji and Patta Shishya H.H.Sri Samyameendra Swamiji** at SVS Temple, Car Street, Mangalore. The week long festivities were witnessed by devotees coming from Kerala Karnataka and Goa and Mumbai also.

Scholars from Konkani Speaking Kharvi Samaj were given training in a 3 days' camp to equip them with knowledge at the Konkani Language Lab at World Konkani Centre on 2nd, 3rd and 4th February 2013.

Shri Ramdas Kamath U., Chairman, Vishwa Konkani Student Scholarship Fund inaugurated the Konkani Kharvi Samaj Development Project at World Konkani Centre attended by large number of Konkani Speaking Kharvis on 4th February 2013. The students will be given Scholarships to get College and higher education, Life and health Insurance will be given to the parents of School and College going Students, besides Training in Soft Skills, leadership and Communication Skills. And an Action plan for Kharvi Development programme was inaugurated by **Mr. T.V. Mohandas Pai** (Manipal Global Education).

21st All India Konkani Sahitya Sammelan (Literary Conference) was held at Madgaon, Goa from 15th, 16th and 17th February 2013. Jnanapith Awardee **Dr. Girish Karnad** inaugurated the Sammelan and said children educated in mother tongue always have creative and capable of having free thinking minds. **Mr. Manohar Parrikar**, Hon. Chief Minister Goa was present. **Mr. R.S. Bhaskeran**, Kochi presided over Sahitya Sammelan. Large number of Konkani writers from all parts of India attended.

Mangalore Car Festival was held from 13th February to 18th February 2013. **H.H. Srimad Sudheendra Thirtha Swamiji and Patta Shishya H.H. Sri Samyameendra Swamiji** were present and blessed devotees who thronged in large numbers.

Hortus Indicus Malabaricus : A 2 days Seminar on H I M was held at Goa under the auspices of Goa Konkani Akademi, World Konkani Centre, Mangalore and Anugraha Charitable Trust, Kochi. Scholars, Research fellows, Academicians, Botanical Scientists and Ayurveda Teachers, presented their papers.

A multi Crore new Building at Bantwal S.V.S. High School premises was inaugurated by **H.H. Srimad Sudheendra Thirtha Swamiji** at Bantwal on 14.02.2013. The School was started in 1932.

Late Shri K.K.Pai bust unveiled : Bust of late **Shri K.K.Pai**, Founder Chairman of Konkani Language & Cultural Foundation and Former Chairman, Syndicate Bank, was unveiled by Dr. P. Dayananda Pai, Chairman at World Konkani Centre, Mangalore, **Shri T. Sathish U.Pai** (Managing Trustee, K.K.Pai Trust, Manipal), **Smt. Sandhya S. Pai** (Editor, Taranga Weekly), Vishwa Konkani Sardar **Basti Vaman Shenoy** welcomed the Guests and **Shri Pradeep G. Pai**, Secretary, Vishwa Konkani Student Scholarship Fund presented Vote of Thanks.

Smt. Sandhya S. Pai, Manipal was felicitated during the occasion for achieving Hon. Ph.d from Karnataka Women's' University, Gulbarga for her meritorious work in Kannada Journalism. Also **Mr. Kishan Gangolli** was presented with a Rs.75,000/= Cheque to participate in the World Chess Championship tournament to be held at Spain in May 2013.

Report of the Centenary Celebration of GSB Scholarship League

GSB Scholarship League, established in 1912 in Mumbai, organized a befitting event to celebrated its centenary occasion on Sunday the 16th December at Pracharya B.N.Vaidya Sabhagriha at Dadar. **Sri T.V.Mohandas Pai** Chairman, Global Education services was the Chief Guest and **Sri Ekanath Thakur**, Chairman, Saraswat Bank was the Guest of honour. Sri Mohandas Pai in his speech, motivated the youth to participate in more activities. He said, India will be a major centre of intellectual activities and Saraswats, the intelligent community can contribute a lot in its economic growth.

Sri Ekanath M.Thakur, the guest of honour released the souvenir, and said an educated youth can progress himself and contribute a lot to the society. From a very difficult childhood he had risen to big positions. He is also looking forward to do contribute more towards the education of many more needy students.

President of the League, **Sri S.S.Bhat** welcomed the gathering, Chairman **Sri R.R.Kamat** gave a report of the league. **Smt. Gita R.Pai**, Trustee, compered the program.

On cultural part of the event, the limelight was the performance of the "Birth and Centenary of GSB Scholarship League" a ramp walk show. About 40 participants in one show and the age group was between 5 and 85 was an added attraction.

The entire part of the centenary program was sponsored and all the sponsors honoured for their big support. **Smt. Ajita Nayak**, secretary, proposed a vote of thanks.

A typical GSB dinner was served for all, which was hosted by **Smt.Radha Kini and Sri Gopal Kini**.

A drama, directed by **A.G.Kamath**, 'Harimamali Phajeeti' was enacted and was well appreciated.

Mangalore Lad chips in Hollywood Films

As appeared in Times News Network

Mangalore: When the evil spirit Pitch launches an assault on Earth, the immortal Guardians team up to protect children all over the world. That's the world. That's the tagline of "Rise of the Guardians", a 2012 American 3D computer animated fantasy adventure film.

And **Aditya Prabhu, 26**, a resident of Maroli here and alumnus of NMAMIT, Nitte, did his bit for it as a lighting technical assistant. Aditya who works for DreamWorks Animation at its Redwood City studio off San Francisco, owes his dream career to Jurassic Park, the 1993 film directed by Steven Spielberg. Having watched the film as an 11-year old, the visual effects so intrigued him that he decided to make animation his career. A mechanical engineer degree from Nitte served as a launch pad.

In Mangalore on vacation, Aditya told STOI his parents-Prakash & Keerthi-were very supportive. "Initially, it was hard to convince them because the animation industry then didn't hold much promise," he said. The Savannah College of Arts and Design in the US drew Aditya for a two-year course in Masters in visual effects.

Aditya Prabhu, who has been part of the visual effects team for a Hollywood movie, has done Masters in the subject from the Savannah College of Arts and Design in the US.

Things got better for him in the first year of the course. DreamWorks Animation, which spotted his work, interviewed him and offered him a job. The studio also allowed him to complete the rest of the course before asking him to join them.

Aditya is already working on the next project Mr. Peabody and Sherman scheduled for a November 2013 release. "Rise of the Guardians", which is doing well globally in theatres, is based on William Joyce's The Guardians of Childhood book series and "The Man in the Moon" short film by Joyce and Reel FX.

Late Pandit H. HARIHAR RAO (Jan 21, 1927 – Jan 13, 2013)

By: - Vivek Ullal, Simi Valley, CA (Written on January 13, 2013)

We just got the sad news that Pandit Harihar Rao, well known sitarist, and tabla player, music teacher, musicologist and music concert organizer passed away peacefully a few hours ago in his own home in Pasadena, California. I had heard about Hariharmam from liner notes and photographs on Pandit Ravi Shankar's and some fusion jazz music LP's. I first met him, when a friend took us to his beautiful home in Pasadena on New Year's Day 1981, where he and Paula warmly welcomed us. After parking our car in his driveway, we walked to the nearby Colorado Boulevard to watch the fabulous Rose Parade. After the parade, we were treated to a delicious breakfast at the Rao residence, while chit-chatting about our common interest – Indian Classical Music. Since that day, we met him several times each year at Music Circle Concerts of Indian classical music and dance. Occasionally, we would see him on New Year's Days, when we re-visited him to watch the Rose Parade. Being a senior to me, I attempted to address him as Hariharmam. However, he discouraged me. So I used to refer him as Hariharji, until recently when he finally allowed me to call him Hariharmam! In 2006, we were proud that Pandit Hattangady Harihar Rao, was awarded the prestigious Distinguished Award of Excellence in Arts, at the Sixth North American Konkani Convention (KonCANi Sammelan 2006) in Toronto, Canada.

He was born in a music and arts oriented family, in the town of Mangalore in the South Kanara District of Karnataka. His father, Hattangady Rama Rao was a Yakshagana performer and mridangam player. His elder brother, Hattangady Taranath Rao was an eminent tabla and pakhawaj player, teacher and composer. His eldest brother, H. Sundar Rao was an excellent harmonium and violin player. His uncle, A. K. Rao was a Carnatic violinist. His twin nephews (almost as old as him) Ravi and Shashi Bellare were renowned tabla players, teachers and composers (Ravi Bellare passed away on April 16, 2005, and Shashi Bellare passed away in 2012). Hariharmam came to Bombay in early 1940's to live with brother Pandit Taranath Rao, and learnt tabla from him. At Taramaam's place, he met many famous musicians who used to visit their home, and made it their Bombay headquarters. One of those many musicians was Pandit Ravi Shankar. Hariharji became a sitar student of Pandit Ravi Shankar in 1946, and studied with the sitar Maestro first in Bombay, and then in New Delhi, where Panditji was appointed the Conductor of the first All India Radio Indian Orchestra, "Aakaashvaani Vaadyavrind". He became the organizer of Panditji's concerts in Bombay, and New Delhi. Hariharmam was appointed the Director of Triveni Kala Sangam, in New Delhi, in 1950's. He still considered himself, Panditji's student, until Panditji's death in December 2012, a little more than a month before his own end. Hariharmam has been prominently featured in the Konkani Sammelan 2006 souvenir. In a very informative article, Ashok Chandavarkar, has given some interesting personal insights about him.

Hariharmam came to University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in 1961, as a Fulbright scholar, and taught in the Department of Ethno-Musicology, specializing in comparative rhythms, and developed a unique system to teach complex Indian rhythmic cycles (talas) to many Jazz musicians, including Don Ellis and Emil Richards. These two eminent musicians have used Hariharmam's system in their books on rhythm and percussion. Hariharmam also published a book on the technique of sitar playing, in 1966. It was in UCLA, that Hariharmam first met Paula. After marrying, the couple settled in a very picturesque and historic section of Pasadena in a gorgeous old home, which they tastefully decorated with many traditional Indian and international artifacts. It is here that he had archived his precious collection of books and music. He also taught sitar and tabla to many students at his home, and hosted many famous musicians. And there was a silent worker behind Hariharji: his wife, Paula. Paula is a former special education school teacher, and also volunteers full-time with Music Circle activities. She has been instrumental for the Music Circle to obtain many prestigious and generous grants from National Endowment for Arts and other organizations, and has published and illustrated many Music Circle books, pamphlets, CD and cassette covers, etc. She is also an amateur musician.

Hariharmam had participated in many traditional Indian classical, jazz and fusion recording on long playing records (LP's) and CD's, along with stalwarts such as Pandit Ravi Shankar, Don Ellis, George Harrison and Yehudi Menuhin. Hariharmam taught music at many of the renowned Southern California academic institutions, including UCLA, California Institute of Arts (Cal Arts), California State Universities (Los Angeles and Long Beach), California Institute of Technology (Caltech), California Polytechnic, Pomona and Immaculate Heart College. He regularly broadcasted a program on Hindustani classical music on a Los Angeles public radio, KPFK (90.7FM) for many years.

Hariharmam co-founded with Ravi Shankar, the Music Circle, in 1973. This is a premier and the first music club that arranges several concerts of eminent and new and upcoming Indian classical musicians and dancers in the greater Los Angeles area. Music Circle has an active outreach program for inner-city kids in greater Los Angeles area.

Hariharmam was in great demand as a master of ceremonies at Indian classical music concerts, arranged by Music Circle and other organizations. He had the knack of explaining the intricacies of classical Indian melody and rhythmic structure in very simple terms to novices, especially the American audience. In 1998, it was Hariharmam's idea to have Music Circle sponsor a concert based on the epic "Ramayana" in form of a dance ballet, performed by traditional dance groups from North India (Kathak), South India (Bharatnatyam), Thailand, Kampuchea (Cambodia), Indonesia, and Bali. The series got excellent accolades and reviews by eminent arts and dance critics, in many local Southern California publications.

He was well known for his immense knowledge about Indian Classical music, dance, musical instruments, and history. He was also well known for a very dry sense of humor, and delivering quick witty remarks with a straight face, that sometimes threw listeners off guard! Recently when he was attending a tabla solo recital of Pandit Sadanand Naimpalli, he was given an extra pillow to rest his arm. He immediately quipped "Well then, you can call me Cushion Maharaj!" (After Pt. Kishan Maharaj, the famous tabla wizard)

On the auspicious thirteenth day after his departure, The Music Circle will honor him along with Late Pandit Ravi Shankar with a memorial service in Occidental College. We will miss his towering presence immensely, especially at Music Circle events. May his soul rest in eternal and blissful peace, and may God bestow strength to Paula, his family and friends to overcome this colossal loss.

HISTORY OF SARASWAT MIGRATIONS

To the editor of *Khabbar*,

Below is an article sent to me by a non-Konkani friend, I had sent it to many of my friends everyone liked it, it has generated lot of interest in many Konkani in India and also here in US. I do not know the author or anything about the article, except it looked very interesting, looks authentic, looks like lot of research has gone in, I thought if you can publish lot of other Konkani can read about our history. I am sending it to you exactly like I received it. I only wish I knew the author was . Thank you.

Shalini Bhat

sbhat@charter.net

Editor's Reply:

Thanks. This unedited version will be published in parts and this is the **LAST** part of the series

History of Saraswat Migrations (7 of 7)

Sakthan Thampuran & Persecution

In 1791, shortly after ascending throne the new Raja of Cochin, known in Cochin history as *Sakthan Thampuran*, demanded a contribution of jaggery from the Konkani and made an injunction not to allow gathering of crops on Devaswom Kanam fields. On refusal, the Raja arrested a number of Konkani merchants and ordered them to pay customs to the king thereby violating the agreement which the Dutch had made in the year 1772. Letters were exchanged between the Raja of Cochin and the Dutch Governor, and the Dutch have determined to station a military detachment at Cherie to protect them, and insisted on recall of Raja's guard stationed there. The relation of Konkani with the Raja continued non-cordial. The also demanded 30,000 *variants* from Cochin Tirumala Devaswom and that on refusal the trustees of the Devaswom were imprisoned. In order to get them released the Konkani closed down all business establishments in Viper and Mattancherry as a protest against his high handedness.

On 12th October 1791 the leading merchants of the Konkani community were massacred including Devaresa Kini, Krishen, Goga Kamath, Manuku Sheno and Nagendra. Again, the Raja caused three overseers of Temple Tirumala Devasom to be put to death because they won't surrender to him any part of the treasure belonging to it, and also plundered the shops and carried away the merchant's property. The Dutch on seeing the Raja's atrocities sent an army and attacked the King's Palace at Mattancherry, but were repulsed. The Raja plundered the temple of Tirumala belonging to the community and looted the wealth estimated at over Rs. 1,60,000 from the temple alone.



The exodus and the Tirumala deity:

The persecuted Konkani then fled in country boats to Thuravoor and Alleppey in Travancore state in 1792 A.D and presented their grievances to the Raja of Travancore thru Dewan Kesavadas who assured them that he would bring about their return to and stay at Cochin as before and in the interim allowed them to stay at Alleppey. They have also carried the Tirumala devar idol from Cochin with them. At Alleppey, they installed the Tirumala Devar, in the *Agrasala* of the Venkatachalapathy Temple and worshiped. In 1853, as desired by the Travancore Maharaja, a separate temple was constructed at Ananthanarayana Puram (near the previous temple) and the deity was installed there.

The king was exceedingly angry to hear about the massacre. Both Devaresa and Nagendra , the son of Ranga Pai , were his agents and between them took care of a great deal of his money. He intervened and urged the Dutch to take vengeance and to pay him a proper compensation. But the English (Mr. Powney, the English company's agent) in Travancore intervened, and the King of Travancore had to withdraw from the dispute.

The Tirumala deity was considered a good fortune for the area where it is located. Sakthan Thampuran made vain attempts to bring back Tirumala Deity from Alleppey to Cochin. He also made attempts to get back the Tirumala Deity through the Dutch Government functioning at Cochin. After the death of Sakthan Thampuran, Raja Kerala Varma who succeeded him took keen interest in the deity and wished to get it back to Cochin. He even addressed a letter to Col. Munro (1816 A.D) wherein he stated that "*as the rheumatic and hermeim disease which We have been suffering from, has*

grown more serious now and since no visible cure has been affected notwithstanding that several physicians have treated the disease and, on consulting astrologers, it turns out that We have incurred the severest displeasure of the Cochin Tirumala Deity and that the disease will be cured if the Tirumala Deity is returned to Cochin, consecration effected and the poojas commenced....". The Raja therefore requested Col. Munro to use his good offices for restoration of the image in question to Cochin; But the request was turned down by the then resident as a result of urgent representation of Travancore officers that the **presence of the image was considered to be intimately connected with the prosperity of the Port of Alleppey**. With the settlement of Cochin Konkanyes at Alleppey, the place began to develop into a center of commerce. The konkanyes built 'Pandikasala' and started doing extensive business. It was during the prime ministership of the Diwan Kesavadas who recommended the case of Konkanyes to the Raja of Travancore for their stay at Alleppey, that the new port of Alleppey came into being with better harbour facilities.

The desperate Konkanyes who returned to Cochin planned the recovery of the deity by hook or crook. Ultimately the idol was clandestinely brought back to Cochin on the midnight of 7th Feb 1853 (just 10 months after it was installed in the new temple). It was taken out of the Alleppey Ananthanarayana puram Temple at night in a basket covered by Naivedyam and carried to Cochin by country boat via Aroor, beyond which was the Cochin State. The people of Alleppey came to know about this only in the next morning by the time the idol was beyond the Travancore State boundary and could not do anything.

Since it was found that the Raja of Cochin had his hand in the Robbery, the Maharaja of Travancore put in a lengthy complaint with the governor of Fort, St. George through the resident, Trivandrum for the restitution of the idol in question, and the whole matter was referred to the Hon. Court of Madras, and a long drawn out suit ensued between the two states, Cochin and Travancore. The Konkanyes of Cochin got through all ordeals and finally the Idol was duly reinstated in the Cochin Temple itself.

The 20th century and Rise of middle class

In the early 20th century, the rich temple Devaswoms started schools near the temples at places like Cochin, Thuravoor, Alleppey etc. During and after the first world war, many GSBs doing petty business utilised the business opportunities and made quick bucks. They realised the benefits of literacy and educated their children. Basically good in Mathematics and Commerce many of these children managed to get jobs as teachers, clerks and accountants. The founding of Canara Bank (in 1910) and the Syndicate Bank (in 1925) by GSBs of Mangalore and Udupi, gave employment to most of the educated GSB youths of Kerala until the nationalisation of banks. This resulted in a steady improvement in the economic conditions and social status of the poor class. Majority of them became middle class by the sixties. From the concentrated pockets, they migrated to other towns and villages and became dispersed.

The introduction of Kerala Land Reforms Act in 1963 relating to the fixation of ceiling on land holdings, the vesting of lands in excess of the ceiling in Government, abolition of tenancy system and assignment of proprietary right on land to the cultivating tenants changed the fate of the temples and many GSBs. The landlords lost much of their land and the vast lands attached to the temples were taken over by the government. With deteriorating income most of the temples (except a few) now struggle for existence.

THE END

Konkani Calendar

| April 2013 | May 2013 | June 2013 |
|---|---|---|
| 9 th Amavasya | 9 th Amavasya | 8 th Amavasya |
| 6th AMKA Yugadi | 12 th Akshaya Thrithiye | 14 th Mithun Sankranthi |
| 10 th Ugadi | 14 th Vrisbh Sankranthi | 15th Konkani Sabha Picnic |
| 13 th Mesh Sankranthi | 21 st Yekadashi | 19 th Yekadashi |
| 14 th Saura Ugadi | 23 rd Sri Narasimha Jayanthi | 23 rd Poornami |
| 19 th Sri Ram Navami | 24 th Vaishakhi Poornami | 25 th Angaraka Chaturthi |
| 20th KASC Ugadi | 27 th Sankashta Chaturthi | |
| 20th KAO Ugadi | | |
| 21 st Yekadashi | | |
| 25 th Sri Hanuman Jayanthi | | |
| 27th Spring Picnic-HAAS | | |
| 28 th Sankashta Chaturthi | | |

Khabbar thanks Sri P. V. Kamath of Mumbai for furnishing the Panchang, 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, \$ |
|---|------------|
| Mohan & Mohini Kamath, Cerritos, CA | 50.00 |
| Anil & Mridula Rao, Friendswood, TX | 150.00 |
| Ramesh & Pratibha Kamath, San Carlos, CA | 51.00 |
| Damodar & Shobha Baliga, Brooklyn, NY | 200.00 |
| Ganesh & Nanda Baliga, East Brunswick, NJ | 60.00 |
| Vinod & Renu Kallianpur, Schenectady, NY | 51.00 |
| Vosudesh & Susmita Pai, Duluth, GA | 66.00 |
| Kochikar Ramnath & Rajashree Pai, Tampa, FL | 100.00 |
| Vivek & Jyoti Ullal, Simi Valley, CA | 50.00 |
| Gopi & Sheila Pai, Germantown, TN | 50.00 |
| Shanthi Pai, Oviedo, FL | 50.00 |
| Muralidhar & Sudha Shenoy, Durham, NC | 50.00 |
| Surendra & Shalini Shenoy, Olivette, MO | 75.00 |
| Gopal K. Bhat, Mooresville, NC | 55.00 |
| Vasant & Kirti Acharya, River Forest, IL | 51.00 |
| Padmanabh & Amrith Kamath, Rochester, NY | 75.00 |
| Balakrishna & Indumathi Pai, Bloomfield Hills, MI | 116.00 |
| Uma & Yadunath Madakasira, Freehold, NJ | 66.00 |
| Krishna & Vasanthi Mallia, Rockford, IL | 51.00 |
| Vasudev & Shaaila Nayak, Mays Landing, NJ | 60.00 |
| Sudha Kini, Katy, TX | 50.00 |
| Anonymous from NJ | 50.00 |
| Krishna & Padmini Nayak, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI | 50.00 |
| Panduranga & Shobha Kini, Swansea, IL | 50.00 |

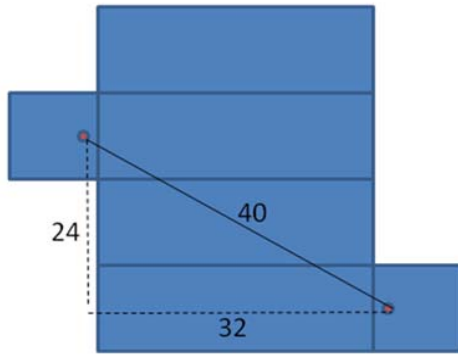
Statement of Accounts

| Description | Credit, \$ | Debit, \$ |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Balance Carried over since <i>Khabbar</i> Vol. XXXV No. 4 | 1,210.00 | |
| Money Received: | | |
| Subscriptions (114) and donations | 3,077.00 | |
| Advertisements (2) | 185.00 | |
| Interest | 3.00 | |
| Sub Total: | 3,625.00 | |
| Money Spent (<i>Khabbar</i> Vol. XXXV No. 4): | | |
| Printing- <i>Khabbar</i> (375) - 20 pages | | 437.50 |
| Printing- Mailing List (350) – 31 pages | | 415.00 |
| Mailing - First Class Mail- <i>Khabbar</i> (340) | | 221.00 |
| Mailing Canada <i>Khabbar</i> (12) | | 14.04 |
| Mailing First Class Mail- Mailing List (220) | | 187.00 |
| Mailing – Mailing List Canada (8) | | 11.92 |
| Overseas (20) | | 60.00 |
| Ad to Kodial Khabar | | 120.00 |
| Donation to Youth Convention – 2013 | | 175.00 |
| Mail Fines, computer paper & labels, envelopes, service fees, etc. | | 458.54 |
| Sub Total: | | 2,100.00 |
| Final Balance: | 2,375.00 | |

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

Kwiz

The last quarter's quiz: A rectangular room (12' wide x 30' long x 12' high) has a spider at the middle of the 12'w wall one foot from the ceiling and a fly at the middle of the opposite wall one foot above the floor. What is the shortest distance the spider must crawl in order to catch the fly? **The Answer: 40'**



The following gave the right answers:

Shivdev Ubhaykar, Rancho Pales Verdes, CA
 Sachin Kamath, Plainview, NY
 Govind Kamath, Austin, TX

Vindya Bhat, Atlanta, GA
 Sridharan Raman, Atlanta, GA

This Quarter'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.

Try writing the numbers (0 to 10) using EXACTLY four 4's for each number, together with operation signs.

As an example, $(4 \times 4) - (4 \times 4) = 0$

NAKA, the North American Konkani Association Update



Dear Fellow Konkanis,

Happy New Year! The entire NAKA Executive Board would like to wish you and your family a prosperous and healthy new year! With the new year, NAKA has made its own resolutions with the intent to better the Konkani community and strengthen our national programming.

First and foremost, NAKA would like to announce the winners of the NAKA Logo Competition! All the entries received were extremely creative and original, and the board wants to thank all those that participated in the competition. With this said, the selection process of choosing a logo was extremely difficult and ultimately the board decided upon a logo, as displayed above, submitted by Ms. Veena Kamath and Ms. Smita Kasargod from Design Rover. The sun in the logo signifies "Konkanis spreading their 'light' all across the world," and the movement of the sun rising in the East signifies the Konkani community's origin, and setting in the west signifies the Konkani community's settlement in North America. The triangle symbol is the 'Saraswati' yantra and "NAKA" was made a focal point to signify its presence in North America. Ms. Veena Kamath's vision along with Ms. Smita Kasargod's technical abilities were the perfect combination in creating a truly great logo and representation of NAKA. Ms. Kamath and Ms. Kasargod have decided to donate the prize to KAOCA, Konkani Association of California, their local association.

NAKA is working tirelessly to ensure national programming efforts that will prove the test of time and restructuring NAKA's by laws and constitution. Currently our projects include launching a national website, creating a natural disaster relief plan, and forming committees where Konkanis all over North America can participate in - just to name a few. One of the many agenda items is providing constant support and guidance for the Konkani Youth Convention committee. We urge everyone to learn more about the convention at <http://kyc2013la.wordpress.com/about/>. We ask those that know of youth who would benefit from the program to encourage them to register and participate in this event.

Finally, NAKA regrettably announces the resignation of Ravi Baliga as the President of NAKA due to professional and personal reasons. The entire board is very saddened by his decision as he was a great President and very effective leader, but understand his reason to vacate the position. Please join NAKA in wishing him good luck with all of his future endeavors. Due to Ravi's resignation, and NAKA in the midst of many new and exciting initiatives, the current board felt it was best to find a replacement within the existing board members. Unanimously the entire board approved Sheila Shenoy Reddy for president and Vasanth Bhat for Secretary.

In conclusion, NAKA appreciates everyone's support and encouragement. If you have any questions, or suggestions please feel free to contact the board at northamericakonkaniassociation@gmail.com

Dev Baren Karo.

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

Konkanis In Southern States (KISS) Picnic – March 29 – 31, 2013

It's time for a weekend of fun and excitement with your family and friends at the KISS (Konkanis in Southern States) 2012 picnic! This year we'll celebrate KISS Picnic's 25th anniversary!! This is an annual picnic that we have held since 1988. Let us keep this rich tradition going. The picnic will be held at Fort Parker State Park from 5 P.M. on Friday, April 6th to Noon on Sunday, April 8th. The park (<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/fortpark/>) is located 7 miles south of Mexia and 6 miles north of Groesbeck on State Highway 14. The entrance is on Park Road 28. There will be pizza on Friday evening. Meals on Saturday will include breakfast, lunch and dinner, and on Sunday there will be "BRUNCH."
Come ready to have fun!

Registration Charges:

Early Registration: Please register on or before March 15th 2013 :
Adults (12 and above)- \$55.00
Senior Citizens (62 and above) and Children (between 5 and 12) - \$40.00
Children 5 and under – FREE

Late Registration: After March 16th 2013:
Adults (12 and above)- \$65.00
Senior Citizens (62 and above) and Children (between 5 and 10) - \$45.00
Children 5 and under – FREE

The park admission fee is NOT included in the KISS registration charge, and each family has to pay at the park entrance. The admission fee is \$2 per day per person 13 years or older.

Accommodations:

Accommodations: On site- Charges are included in the price. There are heated (and A/C) barracks with 96 bunk beds. Beds have mattresses; you just have to bring sheets, blankets and pillows. Availability is on a "first-come-first-serve" basis.

Off site – We have negotiated \$65.00 per night for KISS guests at the following hotels till March 15th or until the block is filled:

1. Best Western Inn, 1314 East Milam Street Mexia, TX 76667-2533 (\$60 + Tax); Ph: 1-254-562-0200 located about 7 miles from the park. There are 25 rooms reserved here at the rate of \$65.00 per night.
2. Best Western Inn, 1012 N Ellis Street, Groesbeck, Texas, 76642-2107 (\$55 + Tax); Ph: 1-254-729-0077. The rates are \$65.00 per night. There are 17 rooms reserved here.

Please mention KISS Picnic or KONKANI Reunion when booking the rooms.
Please book motel rooms ASAP as they are on a first come – first serve basis.

Area Coordinators:

Austin: Ashlesha & Rajiv Hattangady (512-347-9681); Mr. Dinaker Rao (512-837-7159); Anu Rao (512-992-2004)
Dallas: Mr. Prakash Kagal (972-633-5605),
Mr. Arvind Betrabet (469) 688-5021
Houston: Ms. Neela Kamath (281-778-1157); Sunil Shenoy (281-320-1851); Mr. Suresh Shenoy (281-935-4653)

Registration:

Please make checks payable to Ms. Neela Kamath
Mail Registration Form with check to
Neela Kamath, 5603 Twin Rivers Ct, Sugar Land, TX 77479
Ph: 281-778-1157 Email: neela.kamath@gmail.com

Please return the Registration Form to attend KISS 3with the following information

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State & Zip: _____
Phone: _____ E Mail: _____

| | # of People | Registration Fees |
|--|-------------|-------------------|
| Adults | | |
| Senior Citizens (Above 65 Years) | | |
| Kids (Between 5 and 10) | | |
| Kids Below 5 Free..... | | |
| Grand Total..... | | |
| Arriving early on Friday | | (Y/N) |

Konkani Sabha Events for 2013

We take this opportunity to thank you all for the support and your involvement in the Konkani Sabha activities in NJ/NY area during the past year. Following are the highlights of the KONKANI SABHA activities for the year 2013.

Picnic: Rain or Shine

Date: Saturday, June 15, 2013

Time: 10 AM to sunset

Location: Mercer Park East Picnic Area, 1347 Edinburg Dutch Neck Rd Princeton Junction, NJ 08550 Click for Directions

Phone: 609-448-1947

Cost: \$5 (18 years and older) and \$3 (ages 3 to 17) payable at the registration desk at the venue - To cover the cost of rent of the park, beverages, watermelon and supplies.

Activities: Children's activities, Cricket, Badminton, and Volleyball

Note: Please bring food items (entre only) enough for 2 families. Dessert will be provided by Konkani Sabha. For details including directions, visit our website at <http://www.konkanisabha.org/> So, come on, don't miss out on the fun!!

Diwali Talent Show:

Date: Saturday, October 26th, 2013

Time: 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Location: Shri Venkateswara Temple Community Center, Bridgewater, NJ 1075 Route 202/206, Bridgewater, NJ 08807 Click for Directions

Phone: (908) 725-4477

(More information on Payment and Performance details for the Diwali event will be posted later)

Activities: Variety Entertainment, Socialization, Appetizer and Dinner

Performers: If you would be interested in performing this year, please contact one of the following people:

Name: Rajesh Nayak Email: rajesh_nayak@yahoo.com Cell: 201-931-5614

Name: Amit Kantak Email: kvamit@yahoo.com Cell: 732-986-8025

We once again thank you all for your support. We hope to have continued support and involvement from all of you in the coming years. We also ask each of you to spread the word to any Konkani you know. Also visit our website at <http://www.konkanisabha.org/> for details and updates.

Thanks and regards,

Konkani sabha Committee Members – 2013

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--|--------------|
| Santosh Kamat | President | kamats2008@gmail.com | 908-812-2253 |
| Vivek Shenoy | Vice President | vivekshenoy@gmail.com | 908-436-7473 |
| Amit Kantak | Secretary | kvamit@yahoo.com | 732-986-8025 |
| Prakash Shenoy | Treasurer | pmskenoy@gmail.com | 732-470-8967 |
| Venkatesh Kamat | Joint Secretary | kamatvs@gmail.com | 908-240-2776 |

KONKANI YOUTH CONVENTION | 2013

LOS | ANGELES

It's been a busy past couple of months planning but we've put together an exciting itinerary for the weekend. Friday night will start with the regular icebreakers and networking. We want to have a strong focus on helping the older Konkani youth helping the younger ones with career advice and professional networking. Saturday will be filled with numerous activities, including yoga and hiking in the morning and a 3 on 3 basketball tourney. The afternoon will continue with a lunch followed by seminars that will focus on topics from politics, to preserving Konkani culture and the language. The rest of the afternoon will be left open so everyone can relax, enjoy the neighborhood of West Hollywood, and then prepare for all the fun that will be had at night. Saturday night's gala event will be a red carpet / Hollywood themed event taking place in either downtown Los Angeles or Culver City. Guests will be treated to a paparazzi entrance, gourmet hors d'oeuvres and a networking / cocktail hour, followed by dinner, a comedy act, and dancing. Sunday will be a relaxed day, with a short farewell breakfast and rundown of what worked and what needs to be improved for future sammelans.

One other aspect that we want to highlight is getting a snapshot of the experiences had by those who have attended past youth conventions, and how those experiences have shaped them. Here are a few of those stories that show how these youth conventions are more than just a weekend of partying, but a chance for youth around the country to connect and form lifelong relationships.

"I was part of the organizing committee for the first 2 Konkani Youth Conventions, in 2001 and 2003. Thanks to these conventions, I have been able to form a network of friends all over the United States and Canada. The smaller group and youth-focused events provided for a greater chance to get to know other people. I have met many people with similar interests to mine, and these conventions have provided me with the ability to network for business as well. My experiences at these conventions have also propelled me to role as a committee member of NAKA, and they have encouraged me to become more active in the community.

Whenever I travel to another city, I am glad to know that there are always some members of my Konkani "family" to make me feel at home wherever I go!" - Ranjit S.

"I was part of the organizing committee for the youth programming at the Houston Sammelan as well as the Konkani Youth Convention in Austin. Both experiences have really taught me how to provide service to the Konkani community on a national level through various channels, and ultimately culminated with my presidency on the NAKA board. I have always had a passion for either attending or organizing national youth programming because it has been such a great experience, both personally and professionally. Not only have I made life-long friends despite geographical obstacles, but have also learnt more about other cities, professions and ways of life -- just to name a few. The Konkani youth conventions are a great forum for the preservation of our culture for our generation - from speaking the language to figuring out ways to connect with our roots. I'm very proud to say that I have attended every Youth Convention and each one has created more memories for me and taught me more about our community. I highly recommend people to participate in this amazing experience!" - Sheila R.

"I have attended almost every convention since 1998, which is pretty common among youth our age. Youth conventions are an opportunity to reconnect with old friends, make new friends, and learn from other youth's accomplishments or beliefs. Past youth conventions have hosted seminars on everything from cooking Konkani food, to the Konkani language, religion, career networking, community service, and promoting youth involvement in building a stronger community. Networking with other youth over the years has been instrumental in helping me with job connections. Some of my best friends are those whom I met at youth conventions, and they will also be the same people I'll build a community with to raise our children and expose them to our heritage. Years ago, I even met my spouse at a youth convention. It was an unexpected turn of events which is by no means the norm, but it ended up bringing me closer to my heritage. That year it was even my spouse's first convention ever! My spouse now looks forward to meeting the same friends every year. However, after experiencing so many great memories at conventions, many of us have seen our parent's generation begin to lose interest in attending conventions and being more involved in the Konkani community. This seems to have also put a damper on youth interest and involvement to some degree. My experience with conventions has been very different from my spouses. But the youth do not want to lose momentum. Growing up with Konkani picnics, close family friends, and conventions allowed us to get to know other Konkani youth in our community and grow up with a strong identity. Youth conventions are a welcoming place for all those from 18-30's to mingle and forge friendships that last a lifetime. These friendships cross state lines and allow us to have instant friends in almost any city we travel to. It gives us something to look forward to during the years when there is no family convention. Youth conventions continue to happen every 2 years--without fail--because the youth believe we have much to preserve. Since youth conventions first began, the attendance counts have grown exponentially--some conventions have even had waitlists. The excitement is still very much alive. The LA youth convention will be one of a kind and has been gaining momentum not only among younger Konkani youth, but also older "veteran" youth convention goers who are anxious for the opportunity to reconnect with friends they have made over the past decade. The youth have learned a lot from past conventions and this convention is set to be very different--it will be held in the bustling, exciting location of downtown Los Angeles with a diverse agenda of activities that caters to all ages and will inspire everyone to make new friends and strengthen the ties with friends we've made over the years. The only piece of the puzzle that is missing to make this a successful and continuing event is a greater network of support from the older generation. I have gained so much from youth conventions over the years. Now that I am on the other side of the age bracket for youth conventions from where I started, I have realized that the most important part of conventions--especially youth conventions--is the opportunity to build the same strong community network of friends and social support that my parents had the opportunity to do when I was growing up." - Priya G.

"The youth conventions have provided an opportunity for me to be with people who understand me better than most. Growing up and going to school with a mostly white population, I had little exposure to people my age in a similar situation: 1st generation Konkani-Americans, trying to find an identity balancing Konkani heritage with American society. KYC was a place where I finally felt like I really belonged. I met some of my closest friends through these conventions, and have seen many relationships forged as well. It may seem like one big party weekend to people on the outside, but the benefits of that one weekend could potentially last a lifetime." - Namita K.

My personal sentiment about the youth conventions echoes these as well. I have met some of my closest friends at these and have had the opportunity to connect on a professional level with people I may not have had a chance to meet otherwise.

As I've stated before, this is not just supporting a one time event, this is ensuring that future youth conventions have the chance to gain the same success and momentum that past ones have, and that this tradition does not end.

Please feel free to make a tax-free donation to help ensure the success of this convention and futures ones on our Indieogo page at - <http://igg.me/at/kyc2013la1/x/1020653>

Thank you,
Amar Bhakta
amar.bhakta@gmail.com



Konkani Charitable Fund, Inc.

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Web Address: Konkanicf.org

March 8, 2013

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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

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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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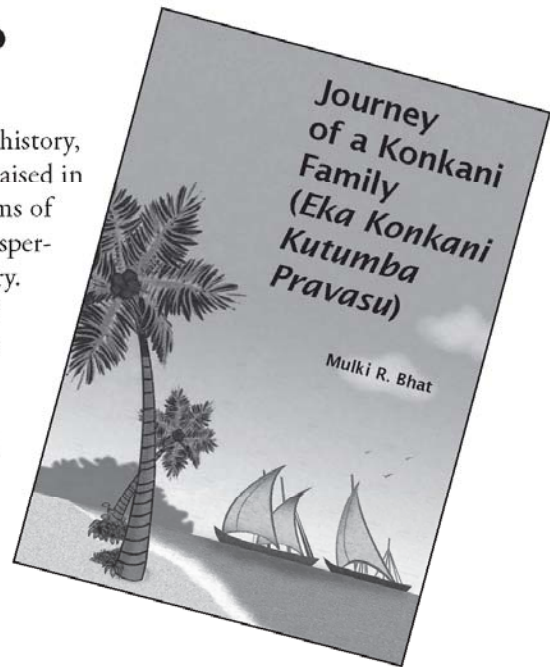
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Mulki Radhakrishna Bhat, a Konkani from Udupi on the west coast of Karnataka, grew up in India as part of a large, close family with rich cultural traditions. He immigrated to the United States as a young adult, navigated its very different cultural traditions, and had a long career as a nuclear physicist. He and his wife, Padma, who live on Long Island in New York, have one son, whose questions inspired him to tell the story of several generations of his family within the context of the India diaspora.

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