

Khabbar

North American Konkani Newsletter

Volume XXXIX No. 1

January, February, March - 2016

From:

The Honorary Editor,

"Khabbar"

P. O. Box 222

Lake Jackson, TX77566 - 0222

XXXIX-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 is probably the most read newsletter amongst Konkanis in North America. Actually few of the Konkani couples I know always fight over on who gets to read the latest issue of *Khabbar* first! In fact, this has caused a rift amongst husband and wife!?!

whenever they see each other there is always a competition as to who gets to read the *Khabbar* first. Now, having read *Khabbar*, this couple has all the time they need to get to know each other every time they meet ☺

Editor's Reply:

I never knew that this double subscription can bring harmony between married couples!

This young man solved that problem by subscribing for both himself and his wife! You see, this newly married couple are living in two different cities pursuing their education. But

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 2014. Please, note that you have the FREE access to the e*Khabbar*, the electronic version of *Khabbar*, by logging on to e*Khabbar*.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 XXXIX No. 1

January, February, March - 2016

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Make check payable to "Khabbar" & mail to P.O.Box 222, Lake Jackson, TX77566-0222
The Editorial Committee reserves the right to exclude, edit and correct all material received for publication and does not accept any responsibility for views expressed by authors of the publications.

EDITORIAL

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

This issue of *Khabbar* has been mailed to **ALL** families that have paid dues **at least once since 2014**. In other words, families who **have not** paid since 2013 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 2014 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*, which will be on the web a **quarter** after mailing the hard copies.

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 before KS-2016. Already three Volunteers (2 from US and 1 from Canada) have published their plan to conduct the election. 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!!

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 Konkanis 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>

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

Happy *Yugadi* to you all.

Devu Boren Karo.

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 Vasanth:

I am writing to you about a unique museum - Chhatrapati Shivaji Museum of Indian History being built by Mr. Francois Gautier in Pune, India. Mr. Gautier, if you do not know about him, in brief, is a Frenchman who made India his home at the age of 19, influenced by Sri Aurobindo's teachings. He lives in Auroville but being a journalist shuttles between New Delhi, Bangalore and Pune (for the museum). Early on, he realized that the history that is being taught in our schools does not tell the whole story. He is a great admirer of Shivaji, and in his view, Shivaji should be to Indians what Napoleon Bonaparte is to the French. So he decided to build a museum to honor him and bring to light the full history of India by organizing various exhibits of the forgotten people and events in our history. His latest - Vedas is funded but he is now looking for funding the Portuguese Inquisition consisting of 100 sq. meters of space with 50 paintings which will be costing approximately \$11,000. **There is a special honor for any individual, or family that would be interested in funding the entire amount (\$11,000) and the Pavilion will be named after the donor, both outside and with a special panel inside.**

My wife, Chandrakala Kamath, has been working as a volunteer Treasurer, coordinator with FACT USA, a non-profit organization with 501(c) 3 that is raising funds in USA for the museum. He is yet to start work on the permanent building that will house these exhibits. That is expected to cost between Rs.11 and 12 crores. We can send more information if you think that this would interest *Khabbar* readers.

This is the link to FACT (India).

<http://www.fact-india.com/>

Below is Mr. Gautier's information:

François Gautier

Rédacteur en Chef La Revue de l'Inde

Editions de l'Harmattan

larevuedelinde.com

41 Jorbagh, New Delhi 110003, Inde

(91) 9343538419

I will send pictures of some of the paintings of the exhibition, an architect's sketch for the permanent museum, and in short, details about Mr. Gautier to any of the Konkanis interested.

Please let me know if you would like me to send you any more information.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Yashavanth Kamath

gr8sage1@aol.com

Editor's Reply:

Dear Shri Kamath,

Thanks for your email. I hope the Konkani readership will grab this opportunity to help the worthy cause.

Thanks

Letters to the Editor (Cont.).....

Dear Vasanthmaam,

This mail comes to you on reference from Rajesh Mallya, who has mentioned the services you have been rendering to the GSB community. I have also copied Athul Kudva who is one of the key persons associated in setting up this Prathishthan & spearheading this initiative.

Sudha Seva Prathishthan is a central platform to facilitate and empower all GSB entities to coordinate align and allocate their resources in the most efficient and optimum manner so as to ensure 360 degree development of the GSB community. This is set up under the holy guidance of Shrimad Samyamindra Thirtha Swamiji Mathadipathi of Sri Kashi Math Samsthan Varanasi.

You can visit Prathishthan website- <http://sudhasevaprathishthan.org/> for more details.

Prathishthan's initiatives will start off with a grand sammelan details of which are as follows. We propose to bring all the organizations engaged in the activities of GSBs all over the world to the fore front to bring awareness about the services they have been rendering to the community in the past. In this regard we request your organization to actively participate in this sammelan. Kindly furnish us the details of your organization & also the activities & services rendered by it in the past & your proposed initiatives in the future so as to enable us to show case the same to the community. We also kindly request you to publish details of our Prathishthan & Sammelan in "Khabbar" to spread the awareness of this social initiative. Kindly revert back if you need more details or any clarifications.

Sammelan is scheduled to be held from April 22-24 in Mangalore. Main focus areas of the sammelan will be Education, Employment opportunities, Entrepreneurship, healthcare facilities, Culture & Heritage, Food. Valedictory function will be held on April 24th in the divine presence of Shrimad Samyamindra Thirtha Swamiji Mathadipathi of Sri Kashi Math Samsthan Varanasi.

Sudha Seva Sammellan ("Organized by Sudha Seva Prathishthan")
- A confluence of hearts and minds...

Every village, town and city today has multiple organizations including Temples, GSB Sabhas, Bhajana Mandirs, NGOs, Educational and Charitable trusts, that have come up with the purpose of religious, social and economic development of the community. These organisations are the back bone of our community. Each one these have been doing and continue to do great work for the community.

But there is very little awareness about the work being done by the various organizations/entities amongst the masses.

Sudha Seva Sammellan is an attempt to bring them to the forefront and let our community masses take notice and avail the maximum benefit out of these organizations' services. The Sammellan will bring together the organizations, the people behind them and the community at large under the same roof and allow for meaningful interaction between the two.

The Sammellan will also invite eminent GSB personalities from various walks of life who will share their vast experience and learnings with our youth and inspire them to succeed against all odds.

Soliciting your wholehearted support & participation in this noble initiative.

Thanks & regards

Shivaram
shivaram.kamath@gmail.com

Editor's Reply:

Dear Shri Kamath,

Thanks for your email. I will publish this in the next issue of *Khabbar* which will be published by the 2nd or 3rd week of March 2016. *Khabbar* is a North American Konkani Newsletter catering to the social and cultural aspects of all the

Konkanis in North America, published on a quarterly basis. I do not see a need for *Khabbar* to be a participant in the sammelan but, will certainly publish the outcome of the sammelan. *Khabbar* wishes the function all the best.



Namaskaru,

We have less than four months to go for the Sammelan in Atlanta. We want to congratulate the members of the Konkani Community who have registered for the Sammelan. We promise you it will be an experience that you will cherish for days and months after the Sammelan. For those of you who are still waiting or undecided, we urge to go ahead and register. So far the response from the community has been overwhelming. We expected that as this Sammelan is happening after four years. At some point the registration will be closed and we would hate to miss some of you who wanted to register but could not, because of attendance limits. Please visit our website (konkanisammelan.org) and let us know if you have any questions.

The Entertainment program for the Sammelan has been finalized and participants have been informed. What an impressive response we've had - the large number of entries is testimony to quality of talent that exists in our community! In the coming months, our Entertainment committee along with our A/V committee will bring these entertainment items to life in high quality production events. Lots of practice, music and video recording effort lie ahead. But we are confident that you will enjoy the finished product when each entertainment item is performed on the stage. We thank each participant for their commitment to time for practice in the coming months.

We are finalizing the details to provide day care for ages under six and age-based children activities for children over six. We will be sending out a questionnaire to get your inputs. Please check your email. For parents with infants or young children, these arrangements that will provide an alternative care for their youngsters will hopefully enhance their overall experience of the Sammelan.

We have lined up leaders from Konkani community as keynote speakers. They make us all proud with their achievements and contributions to the society! We are pleased to announce that **Anand Kini**, Chief Financial Officer of NBC Universal is one of our Keynote speakers. In addition to his CFO role, Mr. Kini will help shape NBC Universal's long term strategic direction.

We are also pleased to announce that **Sachita (Sachi) Shenoy** has accepted our invitation for Youth Keynote speaker. Sachita is the Chief Innovation Officer and Co-Founder of Upaya, an organization whose mission is to invest in small businesses in India's poorest communities to create high quality jobs. What an inspiration she is for our youth community! We will be announcing additional keynote speakers and panelists in the coming weeks. Stay tuned!

We are very thankful to **Sadanand Maam (OKA, Canada), Gopal Maam (Konkani Sabha NJ), Suresh maam and Ram Acharya (KAOCA, Bay Area)** for organizing fundraising events for the Sammelan, in this past quarter. An event like this cannot be done without the support of the donors who have come forward with generous donations. We thank every single donor for their contributions and appeal to others to come forward as well and help with your donations.

The Sammelan committee and volunteers are in a high gear planning for every little detail to make your visit comfortable, safe and more importantly, to ensure that you have a great and enjoyable experience! Presently, we are very much in need of volunteers. Please look out for the volunteer submissions page on the website and enroll. You can also reach out to any of us if you have any questions related to volunteer work. Our KAOG community in GA is a small but enthusiastic community. Your help and extra hands will mean a lot to us in making a big difference.

We are greatly looking forward to meeting our extended families from the US, Canada, South Korea, Norway, Middle East and from one of the greatest countries on the face of this planet, India! Please come and join us!

We need your blessing and best wishes! As mentioned before, registration has been picking up in recent weeks. The registration fee will increase by \$40 after April 30th. So, please register now and also reserve a hotel room at a discounted rate - we have now negotiated with a third hotel to provide discounted rates for rooms.

The countdown has begun, and we can't wait to see you all in Georgia this July. We're sure you are all excited as well.

Thanks, and see you in Atlanta!

Devu Bare Karo

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

Hoon Khabbar

Congratulations:

In December 2015, the Seattle WA Amchigele Samaj (SWAS) was registered as a non-profit organization with Washington State. Their mission, similar to other Konkani associations around the country, is to bring the Konkani community together.

SWAS social media presence is as follows:

Website: <http://www.swas.us/>

FB:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/440645426050478/>

New Arrival:

AYAN SHREYASH, a baby boy to Shilpa and Anil Pai of Allentown, PA on February 29, 2016. A baby brother to big sister Siddhi. Congratulations to maternal grandparents Dr. Vilas and Sneha Prabhu of Lancaster, PA and paternal grandparents Balachandra and Vijaya Pai of Cherry Hill, NJ.

Relocation:

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

Mrs. Mala Pai has relocated from Lake Wales, FL to 831 Maple Court, Building 9 Unit 104, Dunedin, FL 34698. The telephone is (863)-223-1912.

Relocated to India:

The **BETRABET** family, Ramchandra & Shaila Betrabet of Fontana, CA have moved to Udupi, Karnataka State in India.

Silver Jubilee:

The Houston Power Couple, **PANKAJ & ASHA DHUME** of Sugar Land, TX celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on Saturday January 23, 2016 from 7:30 PM to 11:30 PM at Sweetwater Country Club in Sugar Land, TX. The gala event was attended by over 200 family and friends from all over the world.

The most popular Houston Couple, **SUNIL & SANDHYA SHENOY** of Spring, TX celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on Saturday February 13, 2016 from 6:00 PM to 11:00 PM at Rangoli Fine Indian Cuisine in Houston, TX. The gala event was attended by over 100 family and friends from all over the world. On January 31, 2016 the couple celebrated their milestone event with a Sri Venkateshwara Kalyan Utsav ceremony at their home in Spring, TX.

Obituary:

Srimathi SHOBHA ARAVIND PAI of Redding, CA passed away on December 17, 2015 at her residence. She was the d/o late Sri Ramesh U Pai and Srimathi Shanthi R Pai and daughter in law of late Sri K.K.Pai and Srimathi Saguna K Pai of Manipal.

Born in Mangalore and grew up in Manipal, she was 65 years of age. She was a great wife, supporting her husband all the way in 45 years of their married life, a devoted mother to their only son Vivek, and touched many hearts with in the family and friends. She was an anchor to her family, guiding them with her Indian heritage and customs. Leadership, compassion and positive thinking were her greatest assets. She was a giver.

She leaves behind her physician husband Dr. Aravind Pai of Redding, son Vivek, daughter in law Rashmi and grandson Arin of Irvine, CA.

Mr. SATISH CHANDRA KALLIANPUR (76) of Hyderabad passed away on Dec. 23, 2015 in Mumbai due to massive cardiac arrest. He is survived by Sarita (wife), Salil (son), Nirupama (daughter-in-law), granddaughters Khyati and Keerti Kallianpur and Mahesh (son-in-law), Sheetal (daughter), granddaughters Sahana and Priya Sashital. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his daughter, Sheetal Sashital & family of Houston, TX.

KERNIR VASANTH PAI (82) passed away peacefully in Naples, FL on Tuesday Feb 23 2016. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his wife Mala Pai of Dunedin, FL and sons Suresh Pai & family and Sunil Pai & family.



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

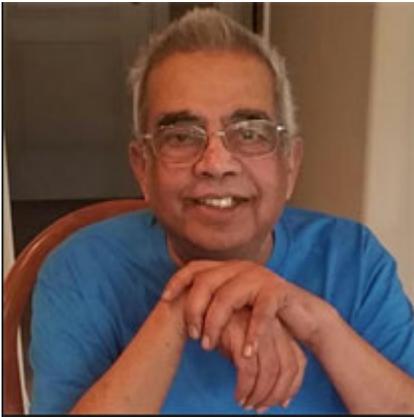
organization has supported the development of five businesses that have created over 1,100 jobs. Please visit www.upayasv.org to learn more, or please feel free to contact Executive Director and Co-Founder Sachi Shenoy at sshenoy@upayasv.org

Gurpur Dattananda Bhat (1920 – 2016)



GURPUR DATTANANDA BHAT (95) passed away in Santa Cruz, Mumbai on February 24, 2016. He was a great philanthropist & selflessly contributed towards humanity all throughout his life. For a significant part of his life, he resided in New York, before moving back to Mumbai for good. He spent the last several years of his life in India, dedicating towards social causes. His wife had passed away a few years ago. He had no children. He has set an example for all of us to dedicate one's goal of life towards selfless service of humanity. May his great soul rest in peace!

Dr. Dinesh P. Kagal (1940 – 2016)



Dr. Dinesh P. Kagal, MD, FAACP, of Denton, Texas, passed away on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at the age of 75. Dinesh was born to Pandurang and Meera Kagal on April 20, 1940 in Belgaum, India. He attended Balmohan Vidyamandir and Ruparel College in Bombay and later received his M.B.B.S. from Kasturba Medical College in Manipal. Dinesh was an avid sportsman throughout his school and college, and won many championships in carom, table tennis and badminton. In 1964, he married Vidya Mankikar and moved to England to get his M.R.C.P and practice pulmonary medicine for 10 years. They had two children while in England, Nikhil and Alpana, and immigrated to Detroit, Michigan in 1975 to complete his fellowship. Dinesh moved to Denton, Texas in 1978 to become one of the first Pulmonologists in the area where he benevolently served patients in the North Texas until his retirement in 2014.

Dinesh was not only a sought after physician in the area, but was also a great supporter of the Indian Classical Arts. He hosted numerous artists such as Pandit Ravi Shankar, Pandit Bhimsen Joshi, Ustad Zakir Hussain to name a few. He was one of the founding members of the Indian Classical Music Circle and an organization by the name of Mehfil which both spread the joy of music that Dinesh held so close to his heart.

Dinesh also was also one of the founders of the DFW Hindu temple and was a great supporter of temple. After he retired in April 2014, he and Vidya moved to Frisco, Texas to be closer to their children and grand-children. Dinesh loved his children, grandchildren, tennis and music.

Dinesh is survived by his wife, Vidya Kagal; his son and daughter-in-law, Nikhil and Arpana Kagal; his daughter and son-in-law, Alpana and Pavin Jacob; and 5 grandchildren, Saumya and Kiran Kagal and Savini, Jude and Siena Jacob; and his Brother and sister-in-law Prakash and Mangala Kagal.

KONKANI HAPPENINGS

Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC) SHIVARATRI BHAJAN 2016:

The annual Shivaratri bhajan was held at the residence of Meena and Jaidev Rao, in Los Angeles. The function was well attended by over 50 individuals. The program was preceded by snacks and drinks. The program started with recitation of Lingashtak by Meena Rao and Pradeep Gulvady. Jaidev Chandavarkar gave an enlightening description of Meditation, giving its advantages and its global acceptance, even in the present day corporate world of USA. This was followed by Jaidev conducting all members through a brief meditation session.

This was followed by individual and group bhajans. The singers were of all ages. The presence of instrumental accompaniment of harmonium and tabla and good sound system enhanced the music. There was a brief instrumental music on bansuri. The bhajan was followed by arati, and then potluck dinner. Everyone felt enlightened with the therapeutic effects of meditation and devotional music. Both adults and children had a great time.

Special thanks to Raos for letting us have their home as a venue for the bhajan, committee members for setup and arrangements, volunteers for cooking, setup and cleaning after the function, There were many talented singers, instrumentalists, and the audience that made the function well attended and worthwhile.

Konkani Association of California (KAOCA):

KAOCA celebrated its annual Diwali 2015 function at CET, San Jose. We had a lot of attendees from all over the Bay Area. The program consisted of variety of dances by adults as well as children. The baton was passed over from President(s) Nandini & Bharat Shenoy to the new Presidents of KAOCA 2016, Deepa & Arun Rao.

In February 2016, KAOCA, held a NAKA fundraiser at Sunnyvale, CA for the Konkani Sammelan 2016 Atlanta, GA. **Suresh Shenoy**, the NAKA treasurer attended the fundraiser. A grand auction was held, people from the community contributed their artwork to raise funds. Artwork included quilts, paintings and floral designs. The total money collected was about \$27, 000. Thank you to all the KAOCA community members who contributed to the fundraiser.

This year our KAOCA Ugadi function will be held at CET, San Jose, CA. A variety of entertainment programs and authentic Konkani food is being planned by the 2016 KAOCA committee for our annual Ugadi function!

We are wishing you all a very happy and prosperous Ugadi!

On behalf of the 2016 KAOCA committee

Deepa & Arun Rao, Presidents
arunbrao@yahoo.com

KHABBAR FROM KULAR

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

Sri Ullal Srinivas Mallya 50th "Smriti Diwas": 'Maker of Modern Mangaluru' Late Sri Ullal Srinivas Mallya 50th "Smriti Diwas" held on 19th Dec 2015 at World Konkani Centre Shaktinagar Mangaluru. President **Sri Basti Vaman Shenoy** spoke about the projects Late Mallya brought to coastal Karnakata as he was a Member of Parliament with his close association with Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri 1st and 2nd Prime Minister of India. **Mrs. Jecinta Vijay Alfred** Mayor of Mangaluru City Corporation was the Chief Guest.

'KSHAMATA (KONKANI STUDENTS HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT MOTIVATION AND TRAINING ACADEMY) Season at World Konkani Centre was inaugurated at 10.00 A.M on Sunday 20th December 2015. Totally 8 Camps were held in the season.

Hon'ble Minister of Railways Government of India **Mr. Suresh P. Prabhu** attended the function and gave Key Note Address. Former MLA **Shri N. Yogish Bhat**, Vishwa Konkani Students Scholarship Fund Secretary **Sri Pradeep G. Pai**, Vice President **Sri Venkatesh N. Baliga**, Secretary **Sri B. Prabhakar Prabhu** were present on the occasion.

And the Valedictory function of 8th Batch of the season held at World Konkani Centre on 15th January 2016. Lion District Governor -317-D **Smt. Kavitha Shastri** was the chief Guest and addressed the Vishwa Konkani Scholarship Students delivered the Key Note adders.

Kavita Fest at World Konkani Centre: Kavita Fest, organized by Kavita Trust (which is engaged in the promotion of Konkani poetry) at World Konkani Centre was held on Sunday January 10th. Founder President of World Konkani centre **Sri Basti Vaman Shenoy** presided. The programme began with the rendition of the theme song of Kavita Trust. The Fest was formally inaugurated by showering rose petals by **Menka Shivdasani**, renowned English poet and writer from Mumbai, along with other dignitaries on the dais.

The day-long event was an intellectual treat for poetry enthusiasts, where seasoned poets mingled with budding ones in a series of sessions.

There were poetry reciting competitions, book release, multi-lingual poetry session, interactive session with renowned poets, award ceremony were held. President of Kavita Trust **Sri Melvyn Rodrigues**, founder of Daijiworld **Sri Walter Nandalike** and Secretary of Kavita Trust **Kishore Gonsalves** and others were present.

H.H.Srimad Sudhindra Thirtha Swamiji of Kashi Math no more. **Sri Sudhindra Thirtha Swamiji** of Kashi Math, considered the supreme religious leader of Gowda Saraswat Brahmins (GSB), attained Samadhi at Haridwar on Saturday, January 16. Swamiji who was taking treatment at Seven Hills hospital in Andheri East had been taken to Haridwar by air ambulance as per His wish. Swamiji's Patta Shishya **H.H. Samyamindra Theertha Swamiji** and other prominent people and thousands of devotees of the community attended the Samadhi at Haridwar coming from all parts of India.

H.H. Sri Samyamindra Theertha takes over as Head of Kashi Math Samsthan: **H.H. Sri SamyamindraTheertha Swamiji**, who was under the tutelage of H.H. Sri Sudhindra Thirtha Swamiji since 2002, when he was adopted as disciple by the Swamiji to as the head of the Math, was enthroned as the new head of Kashi Math Samsthan at an impressive programme held at Haridwar on Thursday 2016 January 28th.

'Vishwa Konkani Students Scholarships: Konkani Language & Cultural Foundation World Konkani Centre distributed 'Vishwa Konkani Students Scholarship for Konkani Kudubi Students on 30-01-2016 at World Konkani Centre in association Dakshina Kannada Jilla Kudubi Samaja Seva Sangha.

'Swapna Saraswatha' Konkani Drama: World Konkani Centre organised in association with Govt. of Karnataka, Kannada & Cultural Department and **Smt. Nivedita & Sri Gokulnath Prabhu** staged Konkani Drama 'Swapna Saraswatha' held at T.V.Raman Pai convention hall Mangaluru on 8-02-2016.at 5.30 Pm.

“Perna” Motivational talks: Chairman of Manipal Global Education **Sri T.V.Mohandas Pai** gave Key note address at PRERNA a series of motivational talks at TV Ramana Pai hall ,on Saturday 2016 February 27th organized by the alumni association of Vishwa Konkani Students Scholarship Funds (VKSSF) instituted by World Konkani Centre. Founder President of Vishwa Konkani Kendra **Sri Basti Vaman Shenoy** was present.

Sri Sundeep Bambolkar (Jt. MD of Indoco Remedies Ltd Mumbai, **Sri Ullas Kamath** joint M.D and CFO Jyothi Laboratories Ltd Mumbai,) Chief Mentor of Perna **Sri Sundeep Shenoy** were Inaugurate “PRERNA” by lighting the lamp. **Sri Ambareesh Baliga** (Stock Market Analyst and Expert), **Sri Umesh Kamath** (Director, H.R. UST Global Software), **Miss Reema Tendulkar** (Research Analyst, CNBC TV 18,), **Sri Ajay Bhalwankar** (Chief Creative Director, SET) were deliver the motivation Speak to the Students. Vice President of World Konkani Centre **Sri Venkatesh N. Baliga**, Treasurer **Sri B.R.Bhat**, Secretary **Sri B. Prabhakara Prabhu**, VAA president **Lenita Menezes**, Secretary **Pooja Bhat** were present on the occasions.

Sri Ullas Kamath announced RS. 1.00 crore for organising ‘KSHAMATA’ -UGetin (“Undergraduate Employability Training and Placement Initiative”) for the graduate Students to motivate startups in India.

Pradeep G. Pai was honored among several others with Special Recognition award for his achievement for Konkani causes during the two-day state level utsav of Bhatkal Konkani Sahitya Academy held in Feb 2016.

In January 2016, **Sri Dinesh M Prabhu** was honored in Mangaluru by the Konkani Cinema & Drama Academy for his pioneering involvement in Konkani Cinema and dramas in the early 1980s.

“Ideal” wins 4 medals at Great Indian Ice Cream Contest!

Mangalore city's well known ice cream manufacturer Ideal Ice Cream has bagged four medals at the Great Indian Ice cream contest held in Gurgaon, Delhi.

Ideal Ice cream led by **Mukund Kamath** has won Best Chocolate Ice Cream Award, Gold Medal for Vanilla Ice cream and Chocolate Ice cream and also Bronze medal for Choco Chilli Ice cream. Master Chef Kunal Kapoor handed over the prizes and medals at a function held on February 11, 2016.

Around 94 companies participated in the event and more than 500 samples were showcased in the ice cream contest.

Vasco D'Souza, one of the most renowned ice cream experts was the Judge

Share with all Mangaloreans and let's show the world Mangalore's proud achievement...

Send your "hoon khabbars" to:
 Khabbar,
 PO Box 222
 Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0222
 Email: khabbar@hotmail.com

Konkani Calendar

April 2016	May 2016	June 2016
6 th Amavasya (Dark Moon)	4 th AMKA Volunteer Day	4 th Amavasya (Dark Moon)
7 th Ugadi (New Year Day)	6 th Amavasya (Dark Moon)	14 th Mithun Sankranthi
13 th Mesh Sankranthi	7 th HAAS Summer Picnic	15 th Yekadashi
14 th Saura Ugadi	13 th Vrisbh Sankranthi	19 th Poornami
15 th Sri Rama Navami	17 th Yekadashi	23 rd Sankashta Chathurthi
17 th Yekadashi	17th SWAS Yugadi	
21 st Sri Hanuman Jayanthi	19 th Sri Narasimha Jayanthi	
25 th Sankashta Chathurthi	21 st Vaisakhi Poornami	
30th AMKA Ugadi	24 th Angaraka Chathurthi	

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, \$
Gopi & Sheila Pai, Germantown, TN	50.00
Shanthi G Pai, Oviedo, FL	50.00
Balakrishna & Indumathi Pai, Bloomfield Hills, MI	65.00
Ramesh & Pratibha Kamath, San Carlos, CA	50.00
Muralidhar & Sudha Shenoy, Durham, NC	50.00
Deepak & Sheila Kini, Spring, TX	66.00
Arvind & Neela Kamath, Sugar Land, TX	50.00
Gopal Bhat, Mooresville, NC	55.00
Ganesh & Nanda Baliga, East Brunswick, NJ	75.00
Ravi & Asha Baliga, Danville, CA	51.00
Krishna & Vasanthi Mallia, Rockford, IL	51.00
Ramesh & Roopa Nayak, Las Vegas, NV	50.00
Kochikar Ramnath & Rajashree Pai, Tampa, FL	126.00
Gopal & Pratibha Bhandarkar, Bayport, NY	120.00
Shrikar & Nirmala Bangalore, Mequon, WI	51.00
Vinod & Renu Kallianpur, Schenectady, NY	50.00
Krishna & Padmini Nayak, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI	50.00
Laxminarayana & Urmila Kamath, New Orleans, LA	51.00
Surendra & Shalini Shenoy, Olivette, MO	101.00
Vinayak & Shantheri Pai, Albuquerque, NM	55.00
Anil & Mridula Rao, Friendswood, TX	100.00
Narayan & Vidya Baliga, Kenosha, WI	50.00

Statement of Accounts

Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
Balance Carried over since Khabbar Vol. XXXVIII No. 4	2,740.00	

Money Received:		
Subscriptions (100) and donations	2,689.00	
Advertisement	45.00	
Interest	1.00	
Sub Total:	2,735.00	
Money Spent (Khabbar Vol. XXXVIII No. 4):		
Printing- Khabbar (310) - 20 pages		435.58
Printing- Khabbar Mailing List (270) - 32 pages		803.38
Mailing - First Class Mail-Khabbar (279)		198.09
Mailing - First Class Mail-Khabbar Mailing List (230)		213.90
Mailing Canada Khabbar (8)		9.60
Mailing Canada Khabbar Mailing List (5)		9.30
Overseas (20)		60.00
Mail Fines, computer paper& labels, envelopes, service fees, etc.		390.45
Sub Total:		2120.00
Final Balance:	3,355.00	

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

Kwiz

The last quarter's quiz:

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)?

Answer: February 27, 2006 thru March 03, 2006.

The following gave the right answers:

Anil Rao, Friendswood, TX

Suresh Shenoy, Sugar Land, TX

Deepak Rao, Centreville, VA

Subhas Kamath, Las Vegas, NV

Govind Kamath, Austin, TX

Naren Bhat, Orange, CT

Krishna Kudva. Loma Linda, CA

Sneha Shenoy (13), Spring, TX

Dashram Kochikar Fisher Pai (11), Paradise Valley, AZ)

Wrenna Kochikar Fisher Pai (10), Paradise Valley, AZ

Mukund Kamath, San Ramon, CA

Sridharan Raman, Long Island City, NY

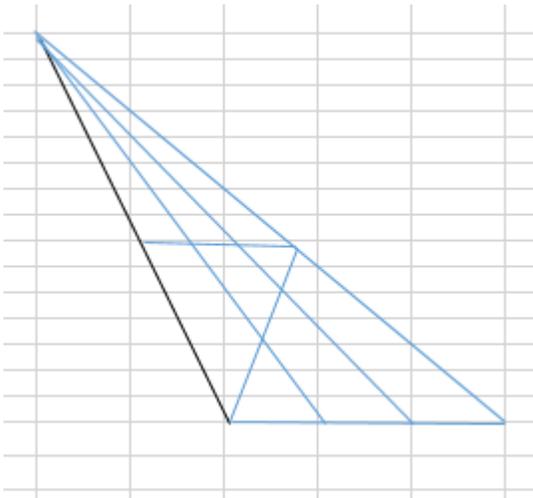
Vindya Bhat, Long Island City, NY

Shivdev Ubhayakar, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

This Quarter'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.



How many triangles are there in the picture? (Please note you are allowed only one chance to give the answer and absolutely NO second chance!)

Rejoicing One's ROOTs and Ancestry!

Congratulations to author Mulki Radhakrishna Bhat for his research and storytelling of his family's journey, "Eka Konkani Kutuma Pravasu". It is a delightful reading (if one is inclined to read), can also be a TEMPLATE for recording one's family history for the benefit of future generations.

My limited formal education and my livelihood profession does not lend itself to "review" the book. However, as I enjoyed reading it, I am sharing my enrichment.

Home town Udipi Konkani community is no different from other towns. Our forefathers from Goa, exiled here and elsewhere along the west coast, to escape conversion, inquisition and/or persecution. The appendix 8, "Goa: A paradise lost?" is well researched, very informative and is a must read. There are several other gem chapters to enrich inquisitive minds in search of his/her Roots. The coverage is comprehensive history and informative.

We Konkani are a restless lot and forever on the move to greener pastures! Those of us made the transition to western countries in the 50's to 80's have quite a story to narrate. Radhakrishna has an interesting and variation of the common 'theme' we all have had. Undoubtedly, it takes the reader to the 'memory lane' to reminiscence the past episodes and the eventual success and prosperous life.

He has included ten 'appendixes', each subject therein is well researched, extensive details of customs, festivals, rituals, etc., though some of it is rarely observed in our western living. The appendix of "Kinship Terms" and the "Glossary" comes in very handy for quick reference. All in all it is good readings and a valuable evolutionary record of our community.

As I 'downsize' my collections, this book will stay put as a reference material for me and generations that follow. It may collect dust for a while but behold, there may be a grandchild, likely to dust it and seek answers to his/her ROOTS!

I take liberty to use the expression "This is a BUY"

Janardan (Janna) Acharya
Langley, BC Canada

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.eKhabbar.com/two-pageAdAprilJuneKhabbarJune27,14.pdf>

Brain

Submitted by: Mridula Rao, Friendswood, TX

The whole day, from the time we wake up until we go to bed, we are only using the left brain – calculating, talking, logical reasoning, taking decisions. So our development is one-sided. So, for some time, we have to give rest to the left brain and swing to the right side, to be balanced! So, to be balanced, sometimes sit and listen to music and sing.

- Sri Sri Ravi Shankar

Sleep and Meditation

Submitted by: Mridula Rao, Friendswood, TX

Both sleep and meditation refresh us but meditation can free us from past impressions. With regular practice of meditation, we are able to shake off our emotional garbage stored in our mind for years and feel rejuvenated.

- Sri Sri Ravi Shankar

The Global Leadership Forum

An Art Of Living Initiative

The power of 3.5 million people meditating together at the World Culture Festival will manifest something wonderful for the world and for us individually. To be a part of this event is a blessing. 43 types of non-electric musical instruments will be played in this function which will also be participated by more than 20 blind artists. 16 boys from Sanskrit school 'Gurukulam' will also take part. It's 35,000 artists, 155 countries and 3 acres of stage! The festival aims to bring to the

forefront age-old values and traditions that are today, fast disappearing. Thousands of years of old heritage of yoga and Ayurveda will play a central role in the festival through performances, information booths and 'join-in' sessions.

A very special highlight of the festival will be a 'Peace meditation' led by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar which will be held on all three days of the festival, for the millions in attendance.

A unique opportunity to get insights from renowned global leaders on their experiences of dealing with complex leadership situations, successes and failures.

- A global platform to network and build relationships with over 1000 delegates from diverse fields like business, academia, science, media, and faith based organizations and more.
- A chance to get engaged in theme based peer to peer groups chaired by experts during and after the forum.
- Thought provoking discussions and debate to deepen and sharpen individual leadership skills for sustainable success.
- Interactive break-away and deep-dive sessions on the dilemmas and challenges of leadership.
- Celebrations of the World Culture Festival - 2016, a mesmerizing extravaganza of music, dance and culture.

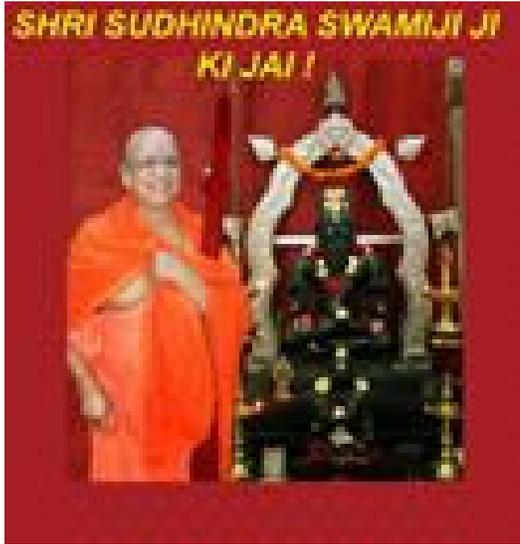
The World Culture Festival as a brilliant initiative by Sri Sri to unite world leaders on a common platform to bring about this change. We have all dreamt of a peaceful and happy world, and this is our opportunity to be that change.

For further information:

<http://www.artofliving.org/global/home>

Shri Sudhindra Tirtha Swamiji

Compiled from various sources in the internet



Shrimad Sudhindra Tirtha Swamiji was the twentieth head of the Kashi Matha Samsthan. In the Purvashrama (before being initiated into Sanyasa by the previous Swamiji), he was known as Shri Sadashiva Shenoy, son of Shri Ramadasa Shenoy, a trustee of Shri Venkataramana temple in Ernakulam. He was born at Ernakulam on March 31st, 1926. He completed his Pre-University education in Maharaja's College, Ernakulam and selected Natural Science, Physics and Chemistry as his main subjects.

From an early age he had shown inclination towards a spiritual life. The noble traits of his character, his devotion to God, his desire to serve his fellow men, his honesty, his integrity and his love for Hindu Dharma were remarkable. When Shrimad Sukriteendra Tirtha Swamiji was camping at Ernakulam, this young boy attracted his attention. The

Swamiji had the intuition to choose the right man and was divinely inspired to select this boy to be his fittest successor, later to head the Kashi Matha Samsthan. The father's consent was obtained for the transformation of the college student into a Sanyasi, eventually to lead a sizeable portion of Vaishnava Gowda Saraswath Brahmin community in the righteous path of Vaishnava Dharma. The Guru-Swami took him to Mulki and on May 24th 1944 initiated him into Sanyasa in the divine presence of Lord Venkataramana, Lord Narasimha and Lord Bindu Madhava in Mulki and renamed him as Shrimad Sudhindra Tirtha, who then severed the family connections and took to his new duties earnestly and enthusiastically and led an austere life. He felt the need of equipping himself with all the knowledge of the Dharma Shastras. He mastered Sanskrit at the Bhuvanendra Sanskrit College, Karkala. The scholarly teachers of the college were appointed to impart the necessary education in Dharma Shastras. He was camping in Shrinivasa Ashrama in the College premises. In those days he was very fond of animals. There were many pets including a deer and a tiger cub in

Shrinivasa Ashrama.

Endowed with excellent grasping power, wonderful memory and extraordinary intelligence and plenty of God's grace and Guru's blessings, he completed his study in a short time. The Brahma Sutra, The Bhagavad Gita and the Upanishads (Prasthanas Traya) and other works were studied in great detail. He became a great scholar in Dwaita philosophy, as propounded by Shri Madhvacharya. He learnt the methods of worshipping God according to Agama Shastra. He went with the Guru to various places and picked up his duties well. He sat at the feet of the Guru and learnt the traditions of the Kashi Math. After the Guru-Swami passed away in Kochi in 1949, he bore the loss with courage and took the reins of the spiritual chariot of the followers of the Kashi Matha Samsthan in his able hands and has been leading the chariot since then.

He traveled widely from Kanya Kumari to Badrinath, meeting his disciples, exhorting them to lead a life of morality and religion, conducting the pujas to Shri Vyasa-Raghupati with unbounded devotion and single-pointed concentration and praying at all times for the welfare of the community. Kindness, compassion, generosity and breadth of vision are the strong traits of his way of work. He visited many places of pilgrimage including Nasik, Ujjain, Kurukshetra, Mathura, Ayodhya, Prayag, Kashi, Haridwar, Rishikesh, Badri, Tirupati, Srirangam, Madurai, Palani, Kumbhakonam, Rameshwaram and Kanya Kumari.

Shrimad Sudhindra Tirtha Swamiji, like his predecessor Swamiji, performed many installation or reinstallation ceremonies in various temples. Thus he performed the third renovation/ reinstallation ceremony of Shri Venkataramana Temple, Kundapura on Vaishakha Shuddha Trayodashi of Vikari Samvatsara, Sh. Sh. 1881 (Wednesday, 20-5-1959). The reinstallation ceremony at Shri Lakshmi Venkatesha Temple at Hosdurg was performed by him on Chaitra Shuddha Navami, Sharvari Samvatsara, Sh. Sh. 1882 (Monday, 4th April, 1960). The installation of idol of Shri Venkataramana in Balaji Mandir, Kurla, Mumbai was performed by him on Tuesday, March 20th, 1973. Among the temples renovated and the idols reinstalled by the Swamiji are : Shri Venkataramana Temple, Kasaragod, Shri Varadaraja Venkataramana Temple, Gurupura, Shri Krishna Temple, Mangalore etc. In addition, he installed various idols at different temples, such as Shri Venkataramana Temple at Konchadi, Shri Muralidhara Krishna at Kota, Shri Narasimha at Shri Ramanjaneya Temple, Vile Parle (Mumbai), Shri Narasimha at Shri Venkataramana Temple, Uppinangadi and Shri Lakshmi Venkatesha Temple at Mudabidri.

In order to mark the Golden Jubilee of the annual Bhajana Saptaha at Shri Lakshmi Venkatesha Temple, Kasaragod, it was decided to conduct a Yajna by writing Shri Rama Jai Rama Jai Jai Rama, 52 crore times. Special books were prepared for the purpose and members of the community residing in different parts of the country contributed their share by writing the divine name as many times as they could. The Yajna was conducted in a grand manner under the able direction of the Swamiji.

On another memorable occasion the Swamiji was responsible for conducting a Utsava in which the Lord of Tirupati was seated on golden Garuda. The Swamiji also participated in the divine procession, with the accompaniment of recitation of Vedas, instrumental music, singing of Bhajans etc. The year 1963 was a red letter day not only in the history of Karkala but also in the history of Goud Sarasvata Brahmana community. It was in that year that the heads of the three Mathas Shrimad Dwarakanatha Tirtha Swamiji (Gokarna Partagali Jeevottam Matha), Shrimad Sudhindra Tirtha Swamiji (Kashi Matha) and Shrimad Sachhidananda Sarasvati Swamiji (Kailvalya Matha) observed their annual Chaturmasya Vrita in Shri Venkataramana Temple, Karkala. Perhaps such an event had never occurred in the history of these Mathas earlier.

Shrimad Sudhindra Tirtha Swamiji performed the Sahasra Kumbhabhisheka in Shri Venkataramana

Temple, Karkala, in March 1969 and in Shri Lakshmi Venkatesh Temple, Udipi in May 1971. Swamiji founded two Matha Bhavans, one at Bhagamandala on the banks of the river Kaveri (in 1960) and another at Bandora in Goa (in 1972). Shri Bhuvanendra Balakashrama, Basrur will long be remembered as a worthy monument. Founded in 1965 under the auspices of the Kashi Math, this institution is a bold venture, where some of our boys are trained to lead an ideal life. It started functioning by admitting fifteen students to whom Dharmic education is being imparted. Though the Math had decided to bear all the expenses in connection with the running of the institution many donors from the community have come forward to defray part of the expenses. An executive committee has been formed under the overall guidance of the Swamiji to look after the affairs of the institution.

One of the major achievements of the Swamiji is the founding of Shri Kashi Math Welfare Fund in Udipi. This concept was thought of in 1956, when the Swamiji was camping in Shri Lakshmi Venkatesha Temple, Udipi, for observing the Chaturmasya Vrita. With the noble idea of founding an organization, which would try to banish the social and economic ills afflicting the community, a meeting of the leaders of the community residing in South Kanara was convened in the temple on 26th August 1956. Three years later a draft constitution was approved by the community members, blessed by the Swamiji and the institution was registered on 6th June, 1959. This provided for a Direction Committee, consisting of twenty members (all nominated by the Swamiji) to implement the various activities outlined in the constitution. A few of the sixteen objectives listed in the constitution are given below:

- . To build up spiritual, religious, moral, educational, physical, cultural, social and economic life of the members of the Samaj.
- . To help deserving students in prosecuting their studies in Vedic religion or Shastras or in Arts, Commerce, Science and professional courses in school and colleges by giving them loans or scholarships, refundable with or without interest.
- . To provide homes for the poor and deserving children of the community, giving them free boarding at suitable centers.
- . To start, establish, construct, maintain or take over maternity homes, orphanages, relief centers etc. for helping and rehabilitating the sick for the eradication of beggary.
- . To publish and print booklets, books, pamphlets, magazines and other works on religious, social, economic or other subjects useful to the community members.
- . To renovate old temples of the community and to build or construct and manage new temples.
- . To give monetary help for the expenses of the marriages of the girls and the Upanayanas of the boys of the absolutely poor members of the community and for cremation of the dead bodies and obsequies of the absolutely poor members of the community.

Among the various objectives adopted in the constitution, educational benefits to the youths of the community was chosen as the first field for implementing as advised by the Swamiji. The others would be taken up when the organization is able to have large resources at its disposal. Under this scheme, each member of a household is expected to pay Rs.50 towards the membership fee either in a lump sum or in installments and execute a Nirdhara Patra (a sort of an oath). The Swamiji felt that a spiritually healthy, economically sound and educationally advanced community could be surest guarantee for the entire community.

The mode of contribution to the fund has been slightly modified since April 1967. According to the modified scheme, annual subscription would be collected from the members (classified as A, Band C classes or ordinary members) besides donors, life members and patrons.

Swamiji was responsible for the setting up of a publishing house, Bharatiya Samskritika Prakatnalaya, Mumbai in 1971 with a suitable constitution with the aims and objects of publishing books and leaflets on the Vedic and Bharatiya culture and other allied activities. The management of

the Prakashanalaya is being looked after by a committee of eleven members (all nominated by the Swamiji). The capital required for the publication of books is raised by donations. One book Shri Hanumad Ramayana in Kannada has been published in 1972.

SwamiJi merged with GOD around 1:10 AM today on Sunday, January 17th 2016. His physical health had been steadily deteriorating over the past several months. Maybe he was waiting for Uttarayan to start, to merge with GOD. He will always be remembered by us & he will guide us through his spiritual powers in our future as well.

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 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. After the first successful fund raising event in Sugar Land, TX, few more were held. In tri state area of NY/NJ (by Dr. Gopal Bhandarkar), in bay area (by Ram Acharya & Suresh Shenoy) and in Canada (by Sadanand Mankikar & OKA). Amount of money raised were less than 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 asn1558@gmail.com

The trio have come up with a plan to hold the election. Already the request for nominations have gone to all the valid emails of Konkanis in North America. If you have not received that email, please, contact the Election Commission. Also, contact them if you have any other 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, \$
11/30/2015	Balance from last report	85,344.70	

	Interest for the quarter	7.28	
2/29/2016	Final Balance:	85,351.98	

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 Sammelan – 2016 a reality! The Team KAOG consists of great people. The blue print that NAKA and KAOG jointly developed can be used for future sammelans. 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)

APPEAL FOR DONATION

March 8, 2016

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Secretary/Treasurer:

Mrs. Veena Kamath

Directors:

Prof. Vinayak Kudva

Dr. Surendra Shenoy

Dr. Ganesh Bhat

Mr. Ananth Prabhu

Dr. Vijaykumar Rao

Mrs. Aruna Acharya

Founder/Ex-President:

Mr. Ramesh Kamath

Emeritus Directors:

Ravi Baliga

Ashok Bhatt

Now in existence for over seven years, Konkani Charitable Fund (KCF) continues to strive to expand its programs and offerings to the Konkanis with limited access to the means and resources, in India. It is our mission to fund and assist orphanages, old age homes in India, provide educational scholarships, for needy and deserving Konkani brethren. To fulfill this endeavor we need continued support and backing 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.

During 2013, donations to KCF amounted to \$151,000. During 2014 donations to KCF amounted to \$192,000. We are very happy to report that during 2015 donations to KCF amounted to more than \$ 250,000

Here are two innovative ways KCF supporters used for fund raising.

. Aruna & Ram Acharya's daughter Medha arranged a Dance Performance to raise funds for Konkani charitable fund in the San Francisco Bay area. With help from Veena Kamath & several volunteers, they staged Arpana - Indian Classical & Contemporary Dance Extravaganza in Palo Alto on Sat ,29th August 2015. It was a sold out performance. They raised an incredible amount of \$ 23,000 for Konkani Charitable fund. Our special thanks to the star of the show Medha Acharya. Hope we can have similar fund raising events in other part of the country on behalf of KCF.

. Last summer, Dr & Mrs. Gopal Bhandarkar had a party at his house. Approximately 30 families attended. The guests were requested not to bring any gifts. Instead they were requested to write a check for KCF of the amount equivalent of cost of a gift the guest intended to give. Konkanis showed their generosity when it came to helping poor & needy Konkanis in India. A total of \$ 4,400 were collected that day.

We request you to use such ideas for fund raising for KCF.

Some Great reasons to contribute to Konkani Charitable Fund:

1. KCF is dedicated to perform humanitarian work to benefit needy Konkanis and organizations.
2. KCF is an approved 501 (3) (C) charitable organization by the IRS, and all donations to KCF qualify for tax deduction .
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.

Many corporations offer matching gift programs. Please inquire with your employer's human resources department to find out if your company has a matching gift program so as to double your donation.

You can help us by buying online at Smile.Amazon.com. You register only once. Every time you buy merchandize on Smile.Amazon.com worth \$ 100, Amazon will donate 50 cents to KCF.

The most important thing in life is not how much you have but how much you gave! Remember you cannot take it with you!

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Devu Baren Koro

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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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