

Hoon Khabbar

Congratulations:

Late **Dr. M. P. PAI** was honored by his students and staff at Kasturba Medical College (KMC) to celebrate his 100th birthday which falls on April 10th, 2019. There will be yearlong lectures by his former students and a special postal cover was released on April 10th 2018 at the Mangaluru head post office.

Congratulations to his sons, **Dr. Ganesh Pai** & family of Lexington, SC, **Mohan Pai** & family of Randolph, NJ, **Dr. Narendra Pai** & family of Lewistown, PA, and daughter **Dr. Sudha Pai** & family of Redlands, CA. A write up highlighting his contributions is published in this issue of *Khabbar*.

Konkani Students:

ROHIT, s/o Ramesh & Aparna Kamath, of Katy, TX graduated from Tompkins High School in Katy, TX. He was the Salutatorian of his class. He has been a regular emcee and performer in HAAS functions and Konkani Sammelans. Rohit will be attending Vanderbilt University as a Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholar and studying Neuroscience.

New Arrival:

MIRA, a baby girl to Siddharth & Suma Prabhu of New York City, NY on Thursday Mar 8, 2018 in NYC. The proud paternal grandparents are Praveen & Prema Prabhu of Greensboro, NC and the proud maternal grandparents are Ram & Shammi Prasad of Manchester, CT.

DHRUV, a baby boy to Sandesh & Ramya Mallya of Rancho Cucamonga, CA on Mar. 3rd, 2018. The proud paternal grandparents are Gurudatha & Radha Mallya of Bangalore and the proud maternal

grandparents are Ramanath & Nirmala Nayak of Muscat, Oman.

Brahmopadesham:

Ganesh & Urmila Kamath of NY celebrated the *Brahmopadesham* of their son, **Chi VINAY**, (grandson of Mohan & Vasumathi Pai of Fresh Meadows, NY and Suresh & Shobha Kamath of Mangaluru, India) on Sunday May 6th, 2018 at 11:36 am *Lagnam* at Sri Maha Vallabha Ganapathi Devasthanam Community Center Parvathi Hall in Flushing, NY.

Relocation:

The **PAI's**, Amar Kochikar & Teresa have relocated from Falls Church, VA to 1063 Hillsboro Mile, Unit 510, Hillsboro, FL 33062. Their telephone remains the same at (571)-428-5553 and email: amarpai@aol.com

The **MALLYA** family, Sandesh & Ramya togetherwith baby Dhruv relocated from Cucamonga, CA to 401, Ame Dr., #4101, Denton, TX

Phone Number Change:

The landline of the **NAYAK's**, Ravi & Vidya of Flanders, NJ changed to (973)-970-9862.

Obituary:

HEMALATHA HEMMAD (96), passed away on June 14, 2017 after prolonged illness. A devoted mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She is survived by one son, Bharath Hemmad of Bay area and daughters, Prema Savur of Mangalore, Kusum Karnad of Bay area, Jothi Gangolly of Claremont, California and Shankuntala Dutt of Virginia and sons-in-law,

grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was a graduate of the Queen Mary's College at the University of Madras. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to family members.

Dr. JOTHI HEMMAD GANGOLLY of Claremont, CA, passed away on December 27, 2017 at St. Jude Hospital in Fullerton after prolonged illness. A devoted mother, grandmother, daughter, and wife. She is survived by her husband Jagdish, daughters Malavika and Priya, sons-in-law Ashwin Ramakrishnan and Ajay Nayak, and grandchildren Ariya, Arjun, and Aanya. Jothi was a graduate of the Mysore Medical College, did her Anesthesiology residency at Albany Medical College, and clinical as well as research fellowships in OB Anesthesia at USC. She retired from the V.A. Hospital at Loma Linda. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to family members.

Mr. SUBHASH ACHARYA (75) passed away peacefully on Friday morning, April 20, 2018, at his daughter Deepa's home in Cambridge, MA. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his wife, Neeta (Asha) and family, sister Chitra Baliga & family of Fremont, CA and brother Raj Acharya & family of San Ramon, CA. A final service (*Antyeshhti*) was performed on Monday, April 23, 2018 at the Newton Crematory in Newton Center, MA.

CHOLPADY VITTALDAS KAMATH (86) expired on May 23, 2018 at his daughter's residence in Karkala. *Khabbar* sends heartfelt condolences to his brother Narasimha Kamath & family of Wesley Chappel, FL.

KONKANI HAPPENINGS

HAAS (Houston Area Amchigale Samaj):

HAAS celebrated the auspicious event of Sri Satya Narayana Puja on Saturday, February 3rd at the Sugarland Community Center in Sugar Land, TX. It not only marked the commencement of HAAS 2018 events, but also celebrated the successes of our graduating high school seniors.

Greeted by the beautiful décor of the majestic elephants and the Diya's by Lord Satynarayana's side and the lights in the background it was a sight to behold and everyone walking in was appropriately mesmerized.

The event was started promptly at 10am with light refreshments accompanied by Tea and Coffee. HAAS members came in beautifully dressed in colorful and traditional outfits adding to the color and vibrancy of the event.

Dr. Ramakrishna Prabhu once again graciously obliged us and performed the puja at the event. As always, he did a wonderful job explaining the meaning behind each mantra and provided the students with the deeper understanding of the importance and history of this auspicious puja.

Our graduating seniors, **Samhitha Bhat, Divya Shasithal, Rohit Kamath and Nikhil Baliga**, participated in the puja this year seeking the blessings of Lord Satya Narayana. **Asha and Sudhir Kamath** also performed the puja. At the end of the puja, each of the graduates stood before the audience and introduced themselves. It was amazing to hear about their amazing accomplishments at this very young age. We are very proud to have them represent our community as they head out to college this summer and represent themselves and this community.

Thanks

HAAS Management Committee

www.ourhaas.com

KASC (Konkani Association of Southern California) Yugadi - 2018:

Konkani Association of Southern California (KASC) *Yugadi* 2018 was celebrated joyfully by its members on Saturday, April 28, 2018 at Bhimas Restaurant in Artesia from 3:30 PM to 10:00 PM. This event was well attended by almost 85 members.

The event started with committee members starting the preparation work for the event celebration by putting bhajans and light music on the audio, yugadi presentation on the multi display TV screens and projector screens, arranging Deva Pooja place, podium, coordinating the snacks and tea, and greeting and chatting with the members. Thereafter, all members collectively sang the pooja songs and performed *arti* to our gods. We all wished each other "Happy *Yugadi*" and prayed collectively for all family members' well-being and happiness.

The host of event was the **Deepa and Rajesh Prabhu**. The cultural entrainment event was well received as it was participated by members from all age groups. The following child performers presented their individual and group performances much to the joy of the member audience. The opening prayer by **Maya Kamath-Namandi**, piano performance by **Arna Mahale and Indra Mahale**, Meaning of *Yugadi* and purpose of celebration speech by **Chi. Om Shanbhag**, female-power dance performance by **Veda Baliga, Varsha Baliga, Tanusha Shanbhag**, male-power dance performance by **Mayank Shenoy and Daksh Prabhu**, piano performance by **Aadhya Shenoy**. The Association is proud our KASC kids for taking time to practice, participate and at the same time enjoy the event with a great smile. This attitude will help the young kids in their future endeavors. Kudos KASC Kids!

KASC adult performers were also not far behind to show their enthusiasm. **Maya** and her daughter **Nivedita Pai** performed dance on classical and folk Bollywood song followed by scintillating solo dance performance by **Sangeeta Shenoy**. KASC deeply appreciate the adult participation. **Mr. Divakar Shenoy** presented us various tabla beats and how those were adopted in famous bhajans and Indian movie songs.

All the audience participated in various game shows. There was "Identify the Konkani Member" game hosted by **Atul Prabhu and Om Shanbhag** who presented 11 questions about eight different Konkani members and audience must identify the Konkani member. There was "Konkani Dubbing" entertainment item which was a couple-participation requirement. The video of a Bollywood/Hollywood movie was shown on mute and the couples have to overlay their audio in Konkani. It was hilarious and each participant did a great job of synching the video clip to their audio-in-person. The couples were **Bharat and Lata Prabhu, Srinivas and Gayatri Pai, Venu and Vaani Baliga**. A family game time by **Karthik Gadhiyar** was very interesting to all audience members especially kids.

The last entertainment item was a hilarious "KonGlish" dialogues and presentation by **Deepa Pai and Gayatri Pai** which had audiences cry with laughter. This item presented showed how a Konkani words with similar English diction can change the meaning easily.

The event culminated with delicious dinner and open dance floor by all members.

We thank all the members from making this KASC Yugadi 2018 a grand success.
Dev Bare Karo!

Vivek Ullal
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Ontario Konkani Association (OKA):

Ontario Konkani Association (OKA) held their annual Yugadi function on Saturday April 7th at Sringeri Vidya Bharati Foundation, Etobicoke, ONT.

American Midwest Konkani Association (AMKA):

American Midwest Konkani Association (AMKA) held their annual Yugadi function on Saturday April 21st at Bartlett Community Center in Bartlett, IL.

Konkani Association of California(KAOCA) Update:

Konkani Association of California (KAOCA) celebrated their Sports day and Karaoke at Dougherty Station Community center in San Ramon on May 13th. This annual event included indoor sports like, Carrom, Chess, Card games, Ping Pong and Wii. Several people sang old and new Hindi, Marati and Kannada songs. Over 100 people attended the event. This year will arrange a 3 day in August. Over 150 people have already registered. This will be followed by KAOCA Picnic on September 23rd.

Vasanth Shenoy
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KHABBAR FROM KULAR

By: - Vishwa Konkani Sardar BASTI VAMAN SHENOY

Konkani Yakshagana (Khelu) Play:

On 11th March 2018 Konkani Sanskritika Sangha, Mangaluru celebrated Annual day at Town Hall. There was 'Konkani Yakshagana (*Khelu*) Play' Sri Krishna Parandhama by the Members.

Ugadi (Sansar Padvo) was celebrated on 18th Sunday March 2018 and people visited Temples at their places.

"Konkani Thesaurus" compiled by **Fr. Prashanth Madta** was released at St Aloysius College Mangaluru on 18th March evening.

Konkani Drama "Khandi Khuris" sponsored by World Konkani Centre was staged by RANGA TARANG Mysuru at Don Bosco Hall, Mangaluru on 18th March evening. The play was directed by **Mr. Vally Vogga Mysuru**.

80th Year Celebration of Mangaluru C.V.Nayak Hall was held on 25th March 2018 "Rama Navami day" by GSB Seva Sangha. "Konkani Jnana Yjna" was held as part of the celebrations. World Konkani Centre Founder President, **Mr. Basti Vaman Shenoy** Inaugurated the Jnana Yajna. President G.S.B Seva Sangha committee **Dr. K. Mohan Pai** presided. **Mr. M. Madhav Pai**, Shivmogga was the Chief Guest. **Mr. Venkatesh Baliga**, Editor Kodial Khabbar, **Mr. Guruduth Bantwalkar**, **Mrs. Shakuntala R. Kini** participated in the deliberations. There was Mimicry Show by **Mr. Sathish Nayak** (Ganesh bazaar).

Inauguration of Maker of Modern Mangaluru, Late Sri Ullal Srinivas Mallya Circle:

World Konkani Centre installed Statue of "Maker of Modern Mangaluru" 'Late Ullal Srinivasa Mallya' at Padil, Mangaluru Junction held on 29-03-2018. **Dr. N. Vinay Hegde**, Chancellor, Nitte University, Mangaluru was the Chief Guest.

Basava Vachana:

Basava Samiti Bengaluru has collected about 2500 Kannada Vachanas created by 12th century King and Philosopher **Basaveshwara** and other Sharanas were compiled in book form 10 years back. In 2017 Basava Samiti translated these Kannada Vachanas to 23 Indian languages recognized in the Indian constitution (with Konkani included). And on December 2017 the 23 translations were released by **Hon'ble Sri Narendra Modi**, Prime Minister of India in the

Parliament House New Delhi. **Dr. Geetha Shenoy** Chief Editor of Konkani Translation book was honoured during the occasion. And thereafter Konkani translation of 'Vachana' Book was specially released by Basava Samithi at World Konkani Centre Mangaluru. World Konkani Centre took initiative to popularize the Vachanas in Konkani in Mangaluru and other places in Udupi and Dakshina Kannada appreciated by Konkani people in large numbers. The 3 days 'Konkani Vachana Gayana Training programmes were held at World Konkani Centre Mangaluru (on 16th to 18th April 2018), at Sri Bhuvanendra Vidya Shala Karkala, (on 26th to 28th April 2018), at Sharada Residential School Udupi (on 2nd to May 4th 2018), at Sri Srinivasa Padmavathi Kalyana Mantap, Sullia (on 8th to 10th May 2018), at Sri Bhuvanendra Kala Mandir Putturu (on 16th to 18th May 2018), at Yashavanth Yvayama Shala, Bantwal (on 19th to 21st May 2018). **Mrs. Malathi Kamath** senior social leader compiled music and **Mrs. Shakuntala R. Kini**, Secretary World Konkani Centre gave details of the Vachanas.

MOU on "THE KONKANI PEOPLE OF KARNATAKA; A STUDY OF THEIR ORIGIN, MIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT PATTERNS" project has been signed by **Prof. K. Byrappa**, Vice Chancellor Mangaluru University, Mudipu and **Mr. Basti Vaman Shenoy** President World Konkani Centre on 27-04-2018. The Project will have two research Fellows. The total cost will be Rs. 25.00 lakhs and spread over 3 years. The Project is a research document the course of migration from the 5000 years old Saraswathi River to Kochi Kerala.

Elections for Karnataka Assembly:

The Election for Karnataka Assembly was held on 12-09-2018 and the results were announced on 15-05-2018. No party got full majority to form a Govt. Now a coalition Govt of Congress party and Janata Dal (Secular) has been formed under **Mr. H. D. Kumaraswamy**. And Konkani speaking **Mr. R. V. Deshpande** (Congress) is a Minister in the cabinet.

Vishwa Konkani Bala Sahitya Mala:

World Konkani Centre has brought out 12 age old Konkani Tales (*Odemalyo Kanyo*) books. These pictorial books were released by **H.E. Dr. Mridulaji Sinha** Governor of Goa State at Panaji on 25rd May 2018. **Mr. Basti Vaman Shenoy**, Founder President World Konkani Centre, **Dr. Kiran Budkuley**, Professor Goa University, **Sri Gurudath Bantwalkar**, Asst. Director World Institute of Konkani Language were present.

Send-off programme to Vice Chancellor of Mangaluru University:

On the eve of retirement **Prof. K. Byrappa** Vice Chancellor of Mangaluru University, was honoured by Karnataka State Konkani Academy on 01-06-2018 at Managloru University, Mudipu. **Mr. Basti Vaman Shenoy** Founder President World Konkani Centre was the Chief Guest. **Dr. B. Devdas Pai**, Registrar of the Konkani Academy and **Dr. Jayavanth Nayak**, Co Ordinator Konkani Adhyayana Pitha (Konkani Chair), **Sri Gokulnath Prabhu**, Dubai were present.

Vidyakalapaka "KSHITIJ" Training Camp:

3 days Vidyakalapaka "KSHITIJ" Group Training camp for GSB Degree Students held at World Konkani Centre on 4-06-2018 -6-06-2018. **Mr. C. D. Kamath** former Managing Director TATA Refractories was the Chief Guest and gave the Keynote address. **Mr. Basti Vaman Shenoy** Founder President World Konkani Centre presided. President Vidyakalpaka Scholarship Fund **C.A. Mr. Nandagopal Shenoy** welcomed the gathering.

Konkani Youth Convention - 2018

We are pleased to announce that the 2018 Konkani Youth Convention will be held on June 29-July 1, 2018 in New York City. In addition to being able to form new connections and establish life-long relationships with Konkanis in their 20s and 30s from around North America, the itinerary for the convention features a carefully planned set of activities including: fun and exciting dinners at great restaurants near the Pier, visiting Chelsea Market, walking the New York High Line, exploring New York City, and visiting Central Park amongst other great attractions. There is no registration fee to attend the convention. Attendees will be responsible for their own travel, lodging, and food costs. Please email Naina Kamath at Nainagkamath@gmail.com as soon as possible if you and/or someone you know, are interested and want more information in regards to activities, attendees, or costs associated with attending. We look forward to seeing you there!"

A Special Cover on late Professor M. P. Pai



As appeared on Deccan Herald link : <http://www.deccanherald.com/content/669093/spl-postal-cover-prof-m.html>

April 10 would be a memorable day for many doctors, especially the alumni of KMC, Mangaluru. The Postal Department will release a special cover on Late Prof. Mangalore Pandurang Pai for his birth centenary, at the head post office.

According to the birth centennial special cover proponent, Dr. G. G. Laxman Prabhu, professor and head of Urology Department at KMC, Prof. M. P. Pai, a surgeon, scholar, philosopher, nationalist and a legendary teacher, was God's gift to Mangaluru. Without his efforts, the Kasturba Medical College, the institution he served the longest, could not have prided itself of the first-ever PG course in the state, in General Surgery. Over 500 surgeons have successfully completed the course started in 1963.

About Prof. Pai

Born on April 10, 1919. Professor Pai had his early education at the Canara High School and the Government College (now University College). He received his medical education in Madras Stanley Medical College and Madras Medical College. He went to England in 1952 for FRCS. On return, he set himself up in private practice at Coimbatore, which he gave up for love of teaching. This took him to Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh, and then to Victoria College in Bengaluru for a while.

In 1959, he arrived in Mangaluru to join the Kasturba Medical College, which was six years old and the first private medical college in the country. He worked for 18 years in the institution and established the first-ever PG medical department in the erstwhile Mysore state and retired in 1977 as its principal.

He was the prime mover in the construction and commissioning of the iconic Light House Hill KMC building, until which, the college functioned from rental premises. Those who have followed the evolution of this college opine that, but for this building, KMC, Mangaluru, would not have become independent from its earlier status of "Mangalore Section".

Research laboratory

He established a research laboratory on the top floor of the college for animal experiments. Dr. S. R. Ullal, one of the professors hand-picked by him to work here, went on to deliver the Hunterian Oration in Royal College of Surgeons, UK, on cardiac lymphatics.

Professor Pai also worked at Manipal, driving till there week after week, sometimes with his patients to train students at Manipal. He was also instrumental in starting the first Burn's Care Unit in the region at Manipal. After retirement, he moved to the Sultanate of Oman to serve as consultant surgeon and MOIC of Qaboos Hospital Salalah. He spent his sunset years in Mangaluru, when he the last opinion on surgical problems.

Awards

Among many awards that came his way, the Dr. B. C. Roy Award merits mention because it was conferred for his services in teaching which was his love.

Professor Pai was also responsible for starting of Mangaluru Kendras of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Aurobindo Society, Maharshi Institute of Creative Intelligence. He recited every day the line of Taitriya Upanishad, Shikshavalli, Anuwak IV – “Pramayanthu Bhramacharina Swaha” – “May students come to me from all sides,” which summarizes the mind and heart of a great teacher.

Professor Pai left for his heavenly abode on August 27, 1992.

Veteran Civil Engineer C. V. KAMATH No More

Mangalore, May 23, 2018: Veteran civil engineer **Cholpady Vittaldas Kamath** expired early this morning (23 May) at the age of 86 years. He passed away at his daughter's residence in Karkala at 6:30am. He is survived by his wife Sunanda and four children. His only son Devadas Kamath is a leading structural engineer practicing in Mangaluru. His three daughters are Asha Hegde, Dr. Padma Baliga and Veena Bhat.



He was a resident of Lalbagh locality of Mangaluru and lived in a flat near Hindi Prachar Samithi on Nehru Avenue Road, behind Mangaluru City Corporation.

One of the early practicing civil engineers of the city, C. V. Kamath was a popular member of his profession and considered to be a pioneer of his times. He was the son of C. Vasudev Kamath, (C. V. Kamath, Sr.), who too was a civil engineer and he had followed in his father's footsteps.

Hailing from Gaud Saraswat Brahman (GSB) community, he was actively involved in the construction of many of the community's notable landmarks. He was a great devotee of Shree Kashi Math Samsthan and most of the projects of the Samsthan during the last few decades were executed under his technical supervision. This includes Shree Kashi Math branch at Surathkal. He also played a key advisory role in renovation of Shri Venkatramana Temple, Karkala.

“During the 1990s, when Swami Sudhindra Tirtha, the then Matadhipathi of Kashi Math commissioned the construction of the iconic Vyasashram temple complex at Haridwar, C. V. Kamath was instrumental in employing his professional talents to materialize the vision of the swami. His services are commemorated on a marble slab on the wall at the entrance to Vyasashram,” recalled a GSB community member.

C. V. Kamath was a past president of Rotary Club of Mangalore and one of the oldest members of the GSB Seva Sangh, Mangaluru.

In recognition of his lifelong service to the profession, Association of Consulting Civil Engineers (India) had honoured C. V. Kamath with Eminent Engineer Award and Lifetime Achievement Award, according to Vijaya Vishnu Mayya, Vice President South of ACCEI.

Veteran Journalist Sri. T. V. R. SHENOY No More



Veteran journalist T V R Shenoy (77) died at a Manipal hospital in Manipal. His body was flown to Delhi, where the last rites were performed. He is survived by his wife Sarojam and daughter Sujatha and son Ajith.

Shenoy who was conferred the Padma Bhushan in 2003, had been working as a journalist in Delhi for a long time. Hailing from Cherai in Kerala's Ernakulam district, Shenoy began his career with the Indian Express and in 1965, joined the Delhi bureau of Malayala Manorama and served with them for over a quarter of a century. He was a former editor of The Week magazine and Sunday Mail and wrote on diverse issues as a columnist. Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan described Shenoy as the foremost Malayali journalist in the country. "On account of his five-decade professional career happening in Delhi, he was often the 'ambassador' of Kerala in Delhi," Vijayan said, adding that while people differed with him on political aspects of his writings, he was always highly-respected by all.

Congress leader Ramesh Chennithala said he has lost an "elder brother" as he, while being an MP, always used to discuss various issues with Shenoy, who was a friend, philosopher and guide to him. "Shenoy was a towering journalist and his loss is going to be a loss for journalism," he added.

Pratham (Houston) Raises \$2.8 million

On May 12, 2018, more than 900 people attended the annual Pratham Gala at the Hilton Americas in downtown Houston. This year's sold-out event celebrated the year's achievements and secured a record \$2.8 million in commitments for our programs in India.

Serving as the evening's co-emcees were Bollywood actress and former Miss India Neha Dhupia along with LA-based comedian Rajiv Satyal, whose unique brand of clean comedy was a hit with the multi-generational crowd.

Chapter President **Asha Dhume** discussed the reasons for her and her family's strong support of Pratham, citing the organization's positive impact on "50 million underprivileged children in its 23-year history," but reminded guests that in a country where nearly 100 million children cannot read or write, "there are many more mountains to climb."

In an informative speech, Dr. Anupam Ray, Consul General of India, explained that "Education will determine the speed at which India becomes a rich and powerful nation. I have myself seen the work Pratham does in India. Its activities have a huge positive impact. I am glad to be associated with it."

The final speaker, Pratham vocational training program graduate Ganpat Luche, left the audience visibly moved. At the age of 23, he earned 1300 rupees—the equivalent of \$35—a month doing odd jobs. After completing a course in hospitality with Pratham, Ganpat, now 29, takes home \$800 a month as a waiter in Dubai and is saving to buy a piece of land in his village, where he plans to start his own restaurant. His closing words echoed the sentiment of the entire evening: "I ask you all to continue supporting Pratham and we, the youth of India, will not disappoint you."

Pratham Ambassador and iconic Bollywood actress Waheeda Rehman was celebrated as the guest of honor. The night closed with a fashion show featuring one-of-a-kind pieces from renowned designer Tarun Tahiliani. A dance performance, live and silent auctions, a cocktail hour and an Indian dinner rounded out the event. Gala co-chairs Swatantra and Bimla Jain were pleased with the success of the gala, calling it "an unforgettable night."

Shri Venkataramana Temple, Mulky

{Source: Received from many whatsapp groups}

There is place called Mulky in Dakshina Kannada district, halfway in between the Mangaluru-Udupi Highway. Mulky has several historical temples. Apart from the Durga Parameshwari Temple build by a stranded Muslim some 800-years who, Mulky is also famous for the 500+ years old Shri Venkataramana Temple, where Shri Ugra Narasimha is the main deity.

HISTORY:

Mulki happened to be the capital of a small kingdom of Jain rulers called "Savanths". Standing on the banks of river Shambhavi, close to the Arabian sea, the Mulky town boasts of one of the most prominent temples of GSB community. On the eastern part of Mulki facing East is our Shri Venkataramana Temple located in an area called "Vola-Lanke" which if literally translated into English, means the "Inner Lanka". The presiding Lord of this Temple Lord Ugra Narasimha is popularly known as Volalanke Ugra Narasimha or Volalankadisha.

Why is this place called as Volalanke? The Sthala Purana says that Lord Hanuman on his way back carrying the mountain of herbs mistook this beautiful locality for Lanka and started descending. But soon he realised that this is not Lanka and therefore at once ascended and resumed his journey calling this as Volalanke.

The word Mulki is actually derived from "Moolikapura". Moolika – means medicinal herbs. This place was quite famous for the Ayurvedic herbs and roots of medicinal properties prompting people to name it Moolikapura. People say that a few herbs had fallen here in Mulki from the mountain of herbs that Hanuman was carrying and hence the herbs and medicinal plants grew here naturally.

The temple was originally consecrated as "Vittala Gudi". On invitation from the Jain rulers around 13th century. Only 5 GSB (Gaud Saraswat Brahman) families from Bhatkal (much before Islamization, where majority of locals speak GSB Konkani even today) came and settled down in Mulki. The Vittala idol belonging to the "Vatsa Gotra" family was installed in a small temple and called as the Vittala Gudi. This is believed to be sometime in the 13th century. Later more families came and settled in Mulki and made it their home.

Lord Venkataramana from "Padu Tirupathi" (ಪಡು ತಿರುಪತಿ):

Sometime in early 16th century (about 500+ years back) because of some political upheavals in Karkala, there was threat to the Shri Venkataramana Temple of Karkala. Karkala is famously known as "Padu Tirupati". In order to protect their beloved Lord Venkataramana's Idol the people of Karkala secretly carried the idols and hid them in a well in Mulki Vittala Gudi. After sometime when normalcy had returned at Karkala they came to Mulki to retrieve the idols from the well after a few years. But however much they tried they could not find the idols in the well. Disappointed, they returned to Karkala.

Much to the delight of Mulki people they could find the idols when they searched for it. Mulki people claimed that since Karkala people had not found the idols and they had found it – it shows that the Lord wants to stay back in Mulki. People from Karkala were very much disappointed and worried and did not know what to do. The Lord appeared in a dream to them and said that they should go back and one Sanyasi will give them an Idol of Lord in Karkala itself in a few days. People of Mulki happily consecrated the idol of Lord Venkataramana in the Vittala Gudi and the Vittala Gudi became – Shri Venkataramana Temple Mulki.

TODAY:

After 500+ years, the local Mulky GSBs were pleasantly surprised through the 'Darshana Patri' that the well is still there in the temple premises and he showed the exact spot. People prayed to the God almighty Ugra Narasimha, after seeking his approval started digging the 1-2 feet thick concrete ground at the exact spot directed by the 'Darshana Patri' when he was on Avesha (invoking God in his body) and people started digging. Voila, a beautiful small well was found, in which the original Venkataramana Murthy of Karkala was hidden in this well and later found by the Mulky GSB some 500+ years ago!! The presence of this well was completely forgotten all these years, till God revealed the spot thru the Deva-Darshana.

These facts are beyond any science or reasoning and only a true Bhakta can feel and resonate with this marvel. No sonar was used.

Ugra Narasimha in Mulki is indeed unique in many respects:

Lord is astha bhuja – 8 armed

Lord is Trinetra – 3 eyed

Lord is standing on one leg

Lord is Ugra – he is depicted slaying the demon Hiranyakashipu with his nails (Nakhashtra). Usually Lord will be accompanied by either Goddess Lakshmi or Prahlad. Here they are not there.

Lord is holding the intestines of Hiranyakashipu and wearing it as a garland.

Lord has Brighu Lanchana on his chest

Lord has a very beautiful Kamala – Nabhi Kamala

Lord is holding Chakra in one of his right arms and Shankha in one of his left arms. The impression on sandalwood paste of the Chakra is given as Abhaya Hasta Prasadam in the Temple. This is usually worn by people in silver lockets for protection.

Amazing history this!!

Doctor from Puttur has a “Heart of Gold”

By Deepthi Sanjiv, Bangalore Mirror Bureau | Jun 13, 2018, 04:00 IST#2018-06-13T04:00:00+05:30



New Yorkers honour Dr. Annapoorna Kini, a cardiac specialist, with top honour.

Dr. Annapoorna Kini, the director of Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at Mount Sinai, has been awarded the ‘Heart of Gold Award’ for her contribution to improve the health of New Yorkers. Kini hails from Puttur in Dakshina Kannada district.

Valentin Fuster, the director of Mount Sinai Heart and Physician-In-Chief of Mount Sinai Hospital handed over the award to her.

On June 6, the American Heart Association in New York City celebrated its annual Heart and Stroke Ball. The event brought together hundreds of volunteers, survivors and other supporters who work round the year to bring the American Heart Association’s mission to life. This year’s event was

unique because its theme of ‘Access and Health Inequity’ highlighted growing health disparities in New York City.

Dr. Annapoorna said, “It is such a big honour to receive the Heart of Gold Award from the American Heart Association. My advice to all women out there is to pursue your passion in whichever field it is. Remain focused, remain humble and maintain balance between family and work. There is no substitute for hard work and family is equally important.”

Brother in Puttur ‘happy’

Dr. Annapoorna is married to U Subhash Kini. Last year, she received the Ellis Island Medal of Honour and was one among six Indian-Americans to win this medal which is considered as one of the most prestigious awards award in the US. Kini is an international leader in the field of percutaneous coronary intervention and heart valve therapy. After receiving her medical degree from India, she completed her training in England, followed by a fellowship in general cardiology and interventional cardiology at The Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York. Her brother Radesha Vittappa Prabhu, her brother who stays at Bolwar in Puttur taluk, said, “The family feels proud of her achievements. She has always worked hard. She comes home every year. Her work hours in the US begin as early as 6am and go on till 10pm.”

Dr. Kini performs over 1,000 coronary interventions annually, the highest number by a female interventionist in the US.

Dr. Kini completed her PU from Vivekananda College in 1984. She received her MBBS from Kasturba Medical College, Mangaluru, Manipal University in 1991 with three honors and gold medals.

(She was also honoured recently with Vidhyadhiraj Puraskar by Gokarn Mutt Swamiji)