KSA Celebrates 98th Foundation Day

Vikram Sirur  Kisan Balse  Sadanand Bhatkal  Nimara Sadanand Bhatkal

Madhukar Chandavarkar  Gurunath Gokarn  Pandit Omkar Gulvady  Dr. Divakar Heranjal

Dinkar Honavar  Prakashrao Khambadkone  Ramdas Mundkur  Vithal Nadkarni

Nalkur Sripad Rao  Ramesh Taggarshe  Mandeep Rai
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An education isn’t how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It’s being able to differentiate between what you know and what you don’t.
   - Anatole France

KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY 2010

As in the previous years, the Kanara Saraswat Association will felicitate women who have done outstanding, selfless community service to mark International Women’s Day. This year, the Association was unable to observe International Women’s Day on 8th March 2010, due to certain other activities, and had to postpone the function.

The International Women’s Day function will now be held on Saturday, 17th April 2010, at 6.00 p.m. in Smt. Indirabai Kallianpurkar Hall, Off Talmakiwadi, Mumbai – 400 007.

Details of the programme will be announced in the next issue of KS.
Dear Editor: Dr. Subir Gokarn’s elevation to the post of RBI Deputy Governor is a noteworthy accomplishment, the significance of which can be appreciated even more by those in the banking industry. During the past few years, I have had the privilege to attend his Union Budget analysis and knowledge sharing sessions, which were crisp, forthright and provided a bird’s eye view of the current and future macro-economic situations along with interesting insights into various economic indicators based on indepth research and trend analysis. Also, Suman Kalyanpur receiving the prestigious Lata Mangeshkar Award gladdens my heart. However, what touched me more is her stand to participate in TV shows as a ‘guest mentor’ rather than as a ‘panel judge’.

These developments bring to my mind a thought that it would be nice if such eminent personalities of our community play a larger role in Indian society to actively guide the younger generations, even on the art of living. KSA could explore the possibility of organizing a series of programmes by inviting present day personalities like Dr. Subir, Smt. Suman and others from the intellectual, cultural and social service fields. These programmes could be aired on TV channels such as Lok Sabha or any appropriate commercial TV channel with the help of corporate sponsors. Also, conduct of periodic large-scale panel discussions, lectures, etc. combined with music and cultural shows at major halls or stadiums could be considered, to enable the guiding force and principles to reach the masses to some extent. Such initiatives are the need of the present time.

Further, so far as the KSA magazine is concerned, I would like to congratulate the Editorial Team for the recent initiatives to spruce up the magazine. Please do not hesitate to have as many advertisements as possible to maintain high quality standards of print and coverage. I understand that there are printers/publishers who take care of the delivery logistics which will reduce the burden on the magazine’s administrative volunteers. Be pragmatic and keep up the good work.

Sanjay S. Trasy, Andheri (W), Mumbai

Show me your hands. Do they have scars from giving? Show me your feet. Are they wounded in service? Show me your heart. Have you left a place for divine love?

Fulton J. Sheen

Dear Editor: Devotees visiting Shri Durga Parameshwari Temple in Karla in the recent past were shocked to see that some vandals have desecrated the holy premises by defiling the name of our revered Guru on the plaque outside the Holy Samadhi, and also by removing His Holiness’s portrait from its assigned location. These sure are acts tantamount to juvenile delinquency by, as is commonly suspected, a coterie of misguided adults who have unfortunately stooped to the level of street ruffians.

It is hoped that the KDPT Trust will take speedy and suitable action to pinpoint the perpetrators of this irreverent mischief which has deeply hurt the sentiments of the community, and also take proper steps to prevent a recurrence of such sinful acts.

Manohar V. Basrur, Pune

DR. VASANT RAMDAS KOPPIKAR
(March 1, 1910 - July 2, 1978)
Served as a Major (Ophthalmic surgeon) in the Indian Army Medical Corps during World War II.
Our Papa/Ajjo/Panjo would have had 100 candles on his cake on March 1. In this new century, we pledge to carry on the precious legacy of caring and sharing he left behind.
Manniges (Raos), Bangalores, Belthangadis (Raos), Bantwals, Kagals, Rathnas, Koppikars, Zantiyes.
Dr. Aroon Bhavanishankar Samsi
– An exceptional humanitarian doctor
RAGHUNATH N. GOKARN, MUMBAI

On 26 December, 2009, nature dealt humanity a cruel blow by suddenly snatching away from this world, a doyen of the medical fraternity, Dr Aroon Bhavanishankar Samsi. On the early morning of 22nd December, Aroon suddenly collapsed in his Bandra home due to a brain hemorrhage and was removed to Ramkrishna Mission Hospital in Khar, Mumbai. Later, for want of adequate facilities, he was moved to KEM Hospital; perhaps he was destined to breathe his last here, in the place where he had spent several years attending to and curing thousands of patients from all walks of life.

A highly reputed and respected surgeon-sportsman of exceptional qualities, Dr Samsi left this world and created a huge void, almost impossible to fill. He was the President of the Kanara Saraswat Association in 1996. The large gathering of relatives, members of the medical fraternity, cricketers and sportsmen, patients and their relatives at his funeral stood testimony to his standing in the field of medicine and sports. Prof. Ratnakar Shetty of the Maharashtra Cricket Association and BCCI placed a wreath on his body and spoke glowingly of Dr. Samsi’s contribution to sports.

Dr. Samsi was born on 17 August, 1935. He had a brilliant educational career and joined G.S. Medical College in Mumbai in 1957 for his MBBS degree. He obtained his Master of Surgery from the same institution in 1961, and chose to work in its allied KEM Hospital where he became Lecturer in Surgery in 1965, and rose to become Assistant Professor in 1967 and Professor in 1969.

He was appointed as Head of the Department of Surgery in 1986 and continued in this capacity till his retirement in 1993. He was particularly admired and respected by his peers as much for his excellent foundation of clinical practice and judgment as for his clean and neat surgical skills. He was also an examiner for many universities, in various branches of medicine.

While at KEM Hospital, Dr. Samsi and his team pioneered the introduction of dialysis which became a boon to patients with kidney disorders. He was associated with Dr. P.K. Sen who undertook the first-ever heart transplant in India. In 1983, he started a Homeopathic Clinic in KEM Hospital but since the hospital was run on the Allopathic system, he had to close the centre. However, he continued to practice Homeopathy on his own, till the last. He was also responsible for establishing a Cancer Centre. Here again, due to the lack of proper publicity, when the Centre could not draw patients, he used his time fruitfully by attending to patients of relatives, administering homeopathic medicines. His fame spread far and wide, and the Centre which was scarcely visited suddenly started getting patients in hundreds. His desire for widening remedial facilities in different ways failed for reasons unrelated to his lofty aim. His remedial concepts were ahead of his times.

Dr. Samsi was conscientious in all his activities and observed the Hippocratic Oath, which he had taken after graduating from medical college, in letter and spirit. He believed in ethical practice. His philosophy of life was to serve the patient to cure him and relieve his agony. He enjoyed this work.

Dr. Samsi was an excellent teacher, and many of his students have become highly successful doctors and gained fame in private practice. Had he decided to start private practice he would have become a popular surgeon and prospered financially; but he stuck to his alma mater and a Municipal general hospital to serve the less fortunate not out of compulsion but by preference. He was not one to be lured by the thought of making money; rich or poor he treated all with the same devotion and skill. While treating a patient, he would bring himself to the patient’s level and instill confidence in the patient that he/she would be cured.

The doctor in Dr. Samsi did not rest even after retirement in 1993. He was invited by the management of D.Y. Patil Medical College, New Bombay, as Head of the Department of Surgery and to attend to patients in the Rajawadi Municipal Hospital, Ghatkopar, Mumbai. He worked in Rajawadi Hospital till his last days.
Besides medicine, Dr. Samsi had a liking for sports, both western and indigenous. He played cricket, hockey, football, badminton and tennis. However, later, because of a shoulder injury, he had to give up stressful games but he continued to play cricket by donning wicket-keeping gloves. Representing his college, he brought laurels to it. He played cricket for the Kanga League in Mumbai and in the Mumbai Municipal Corporation Mayor’s team. In one such match, the late Vijay Merchant had spotted the genius in Aroon when he had scored a ton. His love for sports brought him in contact with leading players of Test cricket and other sportsmen. Being a doctor always ready to help, his sportsmen friends used to come to him for treatment of their injuries and even minor ailments. The sportsmen he treated are household names and included ace players like Sunil Gavaskar and Gundappa Viswanath. Gavaskar talks of Dr. Samsi in glowing terms in his book Sunny Days.

Dr. Samsi, consequently, thought of starting a clinic for sportsmen in KEM Hospital. He thus became a pioneer of sports medicine, which has now become a speciality. He was elected on the governing council of the Bombay Cricket Association. In 1984, he was appointed as Medical Officer to tour with the Indian cricket team to Pakistan for a series of matches. He was Medical Officer for almost all national and international sports events including World Cup Hockey in 1981-82. Being an amiable person, he got along well with players from both sides and one player who was very fond of Dr Samsi was none other than Javed Miandad of Pakistan.

Dr Samsi was devoted to giving relief to the ailing person. When he found that his patients were not responding to Allopathic medicine, he not only turned to Homoeopathy but even to Ayurveda with the sole objective of alleviating their suffering. In an interview given to this magazine in 1984, he had said, “My ambition in life is to reach the poorest of the poor and this can only be achieved by practicing in a Municipal hospital”— a Gandhian thought in practice. His approach was holistic even then. It is interesting to observe that nowadays this approach is slowly being favoured. His humanitarian disposition towards those in pain and grief is reflected when he, with a team of young doctors, went for two months to the North West Frontier in Pakistan, an enemy country, in 1971, to attend to refugees. His calls for relievers fell on deaf ears. He was a missionary doctor who thought and lived for his patients.

Mild in manners, soft-spoken, humble, unassuming and a man of few words, Dr Samsi disliked publicity and avoided the limelight. Yet, he was very popular with his students, colleagues, patients and sportsmen who came in contact with him. He was never ostentatious. He led a simple life. His attire was also plain — a white shirt and trousers, never a tie. He did not own a car. He used public transport to commute.

Once, while accolades were being heaped on him when he took over as President of KSA, he remarked in jest that it was as if he was attending his own obituary meeting.

Dr Samsi had a spiritual bent of mind. A staunch believer in God and Hindu philosophy, he was a devout sadhak and yagnik. He used to spend many hours in meditation which gave him peace of mind. It was his way of overcoming worldly desires and material distractions. He believed in destiny and sought solace from his Guru, Kanade Maharaj of Khopoli.

An eminent doctor and one of his students mentioned during his funeral that Dr. Aroon walked from his residence in Bandra to KEM Hospital in Parel, during strikes and disturbances when buses were off the roads, to treat poor patients, and often walked this distance at other times as well. It is pertinent to point out that this pioneer in sports medicine was not honored either by the BCCI or the Government. Of course, he did not aspire for it. A man of integrity, he stuck to his noble principles. For him, his mission was to give relief to his patients and that was his service to God. With his departure, an era of principled service to suffering humanity has come to an end.

Former KSA President, the late Amembal Sunder Rao, had said in glowing terms about Dr. Samsi, and I quote: “To many, ministering to the needs of the sick and ailing, is a profession. To some, it is more than a profession, it is a mission. To some God-chosen few, it is more than a mission – it is a religion, a spiritual quest, and Dr Samsi graces this gracious class! Dr Samsi does not just treat the sick, he serves the sick and, thereby, he serves God.”

Dr Samsi leaves behind his wife Heera, daughters Aditi and Anupama, sons-in-law Dr. Sachidanand Karnad and Harish Betrabet, US based son Anirudh and daughter-in-law Srividya, five grandchildren and a large circle of admirers. May his soul rest in peace.

(More tributes on page 47)
TEMPLE

KUMĀRA TĪRTHA

ASHWATTHA-KATTE

ARCHAKA-S QUARTERS AND DORMITORY

GUEST HOUSE
Srimath Anantheshwar Temple, Viṭṭala is revered as one of the oldest shrines of the Chitrāpur Sāraswata Community.

Over the years, the Mathādipati-s of Shri Chitrāpur Māth from Parama Pujya Keshavāshram Swāmījī onwards, have spearheaded the development of this ancient shrine.

During the past century, Parama Pujya Pānduraṅgāshram Swāmījī, Parama Pujya Ānandāshram Swāmījī and Parama Pujya Parijñānāshram Swāmījī; and now in the new millennium, our revered and beloved Parama Pujya Sadyojāt Shaṅkarāshram Swāmījī too have shown keen interest and blessed us at all times and guided our community members in the smooth management of this temple. Our present Sadguru graces the annual Shashti Mahotsava with His Divine Presence, instilling enthusiasm and devotion in the whole community and making our participation a memorable experience.

This temple has been the venue for the observance of the Chāturmāsya Vrata thrice in the past. Parama Pujya Ānandāshram Swāmījī observed it in the years 1947 and 1953 and now Parama Pujya Sadyojāt Shaṅkarāshram Swāmījī in 2004.

This temple has seen many developments during the last few years-
- in the attractive structure of the temple, in the construction of the Parijñān Atithi Graha, Annapūrnā multipurpose Hall, the silver Pālki for utsava-s and the modernized facilities for the devotees who throng in large numbers from metros and abroad- to highlight a few.

In the year 2011, the temple will complete 450 years. To suitably commemorate the occasion, we have proposed renovation / development / redevelopment of the temple and properties in three phases.

At the annual Shashti Mahotsava 2009, during the sāmūhika prārthanā in the presence of Parama Pujya Sadyojāt Shaṅkarāshram Swāmījī, devotees sought anugraha from the Lord and the Guru for the early completion of Phase I of the project.

The first phase of the work comprises
- Replacement of tāmрасhāsana of Srimath Anantheshwar gudi
- Major repairs to chandrashālā and parivāra-devatā gudi-s
- Change of roof of inner parikramā

This work will commence in January 2010 and will be completed by the end of April 2010. Punarpratisṭhā (reinstallation of the deities) is scheduled to be held between 16th & 19th of May 2010.

In subsequent phases, it is proposed to undertake -
- Repairs and renovation to Ananta Sadana and Kumāra Tirtha
- Renovation of Ashwatha-katte
- Archaka-s quarters with additional dormitory and car parking facility
- Construction of the Guest House on the plot next to Bhajana-mandiram
- Other allied repairs / renovation
The present tāmrashāsana roof and chand rashālā construction was done in 1835-36 when Parama Pājiya Vāmanāshram Swāmījī presided over the Third Punarpratīṣṭhā occasion. The opportunity to participate in such a kārya is therefore rare indeed!

The increasing number of devotees participating in the Shashti Mahotsava as also the rising number of sevā-s performed during the course of the year, gives rise to the hope that donations will pour in to ensure that projects get completed on schedule.

The Board of Trustees of the Temple appeals to all devotees of Lord Anantheshwar to contribute liberally for the speedy completion of the projects before the Shashti Mahotsava 2011.

We invoke Lord Anantheshwar and the Guru to bestow upon you their choicest blessings for your health, wealth and all round progress.

To facilitate the collection of donations / sponsorships and such, fund raising committees will be formed shortly at major centers. Donations can be remitted to The Manager of the Temple either by cheques or demand drafts favoring 'Shrimath Anantheshwar Temple - Renovation A/c ' or directly by credit to SB 3872 with Shamrao Vithal Co-op Bank, Crystal Arc, Balmattā Road, Mangalore, under intimation to the Manager of the Temple.

The total estimated cost of the projects are mentioned below:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed Renovation /Development</th>
<th>Estimated Cost (in Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phase I</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anantheshwar garbha-gudi renovation</td>
<td>3.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tāmrashāsana</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karna Muchige (granite false ceiling) to garbha-gudi</td>
<td>0.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing Aa’ne Kallu for garbha-gudi steps</td>
<td>0.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parikrama truss and new flooring</td>
<td>23.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parivāra-devatā-gudi-s renovation</td>
<td>7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandrashālā repair, painting and polishing</td>
<td>3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ananta Sadana renovation</td>
<td>21.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kumāra Tirtha renovation</td>
<td>7.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Phase I</strong></td>
<td><strong>71.39</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phase II</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashwattha-kaṭṭe renovation</td>
<td>7.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaka-s quarters and dormitory</td>
<td>97.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Phase II</strong></td>
<td><strong>104.82</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phase III</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guest House Building</td>
<td>65.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Construction of Guest House on the plot next to Bhajana-mandiram)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Rupees Two Crores Forty One Lakhs Fifty Thousand Only)</td>
<td><strong>TOTAL 241.50</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Devotees,

Invoking the blessings of Srimath Anantheshwar and Parama Pujiya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji, the Board of Trustees wishes to inform you that the renovation work of Srimath Anantheshwar Temple's sanctum sanctorum has already commenced and the PUNAR-PRATISHTA is scheduled to be performed on Wednesday, 19th May, 2010 (Vaishakha Shuddha Shashti) at 07-51AM, Mithuna Lagna, in the holy presence of Parama Pujiya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji.

You are requested to attend these ceremonials. This is sent as an advance invitation to you, to enable you to plan your visit accordingly.

The detailed programme will be notified separately in due course.

The trustees fervently appeal to you to make generous donations and contributions to the renovation programme and seek the blessings of Srimath Anantheshwar.

Yours in service of Srimath Anantheshwar and Holy Guru Parampara,

VITTAL
Kandur R.Bhat, Jayant Padbidri, Brahmanand Kandlur
25-01-2010
Managing Trustee/Trustees

(Continued on page 10)
Dear Devotees,

We, the Trustees of Shrimath Anantheshwar Temple, Vittal, take pleasure in informing you that the following Renovation Committee has been formed in Mumbai to co-ordinate and facilitate the fundraising activity for the proposed renovation of the temple.

**SHRIMATH ANANTHESHWAR TEMPLE RENOVATION COMMITTEE, MUMBAI.**
Flat No. 17, Building No. 4/6, Talmakiwadi Hsg. Society, Tardeo, Mumbai 400 007

**LIST OF OFFICE BEARERS AND MEMBERS**

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- **Jt. Secretary** Shri Arun Tirkannad (Mumbai) (09867404073)
- **Jt. Secretary** Shri Dinesh Tonsey (Mumbai) (09323749580)
- **Internal Auditor** Shri H. Premanand Bhat (Mumbai) (022-28460081)
- **Auditors** Shri Gautam Amladi (Mumbai) (09821007190)

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- Shri Ananth Manjeshwar (Mangalore) (09243322677)

Vittal
25-01-2010
Kandlur R. Bhat, Jayant Padbidri, Brahmanand Kandlur
Managing Trustee/Trustees

Please Note: Due to the Temple renovation work, the Noon Pooja will be performed at 8.30 a.m. till Punar-Pratishtha. Kindly note this timing while planning your visit to the Temple during this period.

18-02-2010
Managing Trustee
KSA celebrates 98th Foundation Day

In 2003, the then Managing Committee of KSA decided to honour one hundred eminent Chitrapur Saraswats who have rendered outstanding service in their chosen fields of work till KSA’s Centenary Year in 2011. Accordingly, every year since, on its Foundation Day, an average of 12 to 13 such personalities were felicitated. The figure touched 84 when 16 prominent men and women were honoured at the Foundation Day function held on November 21, 2009 at Smt. Indirabai Kallianpur Hall, Talmakiwadi, Mumbai.

Dr. Harish Kodial, President, KSA, in his welcome speech said: “We heartily welcome you all on the occasion of the 98th Foundation Day celebrations of KSA. I am delighted to see such a big crowd today at this memorable event. The KSA came into existence in July 1911 with an opening membership of 13 Chitrapur Saraswats who initially named it as “Friends’ Social Club”. Today, it is proud to announce a membership of 5,286 and many more seeking membership. All this was possible due to the hard work put in by various KSA committees to fulfil the dreams of our community, and their excellent management of multiple projects and social activities such as providing scholarships, financial medical aid, and distress relief to the poor and needy. I am sure all of you are aware of our Medical Diagnostic Centre and the modernized Pathology Laboratory; we provide help to people who seek expert medical advice. The Marriage Bureau of KSA is also visited by many people.

This year’s prestigious project was the launching of KSA’s website on Independence Day. The website offers a great avenue to Chitrapur Saraswats residing in India and abroad for sharing the events that they celebrate locally, with our entire community. International Women’s Day was also celebrated on April 25 and was a great success. This year, Diwali cultural programmes were held at Borivali instead of Talmakiwadi and, for the first time, the Saraswat Convocation was held in Santacruz Saraswat Colony.

“No bird soars too high if it soars with its own wings’ (William Blake). So, we decided to undertake KSA activities in cities like Pune, Nashik, Mangalore, Bengaluru and Dharwad by coordinating with local sabhas or organizations in these places. The response was overwhelming. We wish to extend this activity to other parts of India. I earnestly request you to send reports of the cultural activities conducted by your local groups for uploading on our website.

“As you know, KSA will be celebrating its Centenary Year in 2011, and we have started a Centenary Fund for the purpose. Suresh Hemmady, Ratnakar Gokarn and Dilip Sashital are ably managing this task. They have travelled extensively in India and persuaded Chitrapur Saraswats to strengthen our mother institution, KSA; kudos to them for their selfless effort. Besides, we cannot forget the help extended by local Chitrapur Saraswat institutions in achieving this goal. Soon you will be informed of our forthcoming projects and the judicial use of this fund.

“Coming to today’s important event, KSA has the greatest pleasure and utmost pride in honouring 16 prominent Chitrapur Saraswats. Their contribution to their respective fields is laudable. They have earned this honour due to their focused hard work, intense self confidence, strong determination and unmatched dedication. “Winners don’t do different things, they do things differently.” On behalf of KSA, I congratulate you all and pray to Lord Bhavanishankar, and our Param Poojya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji to bless you with good health and guide you in your future endeavours. Thank you.”
80 GLORIOUS YEARS

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Muralidhar Jagannivas Hirebet
(Born on February 12, 1930)

We request you all to join us in praying to Lord Bhavanishankar and our Guru Parampara for continued good health and happiness of our Pappa/Ajju

Aparna & Amar Bhatkal,
Archana & Vivek Hemmady,
Aarti & Atul Sashittal

Grandchildren:
Aniruddh, Aishwarya,
Varun, Anandita & Chinmay
and
All relatives & friends

Four Generations of Girls

From left: Great Grandpa D.B. Bankeshwar, Grandpa Sudhakar Kumble, with latest addition Niyaara Rege aged 5 months, Grandmom Kalpana Kumble (nee Bankeshwar), Mom Pratima Rege with Navya aged 4 years and Great Grandmom Meera Bankeshwar.

Diamond Wedding Anniversary

Smt. Meera and Shri Dattatreya Bankeshwar celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary on December 14, 2009
Uday Mankikar, Vice President, KSA, and its popular master of ceremonies (seen at the mike, in the photograph below), then announced the winners of the best Konkani articles published last year in Kanara Saraswat; these cash awards are given in honour of Smt. Ganga M. Nadkarni. The recipients were Indu A. Gersappe of Bengaluru, and Kanchan M. Honavar and Varada Savkur of Mumbai.

The award for Sportsperson of the Year in memory of late Shri Suresh Nadkarni, also presented on the occasion, went to Siddhesh Mudbhatkal. The photograph below shows Siddhesh receiving the award from KSA President Dr. Harish Kodial.

Santosh Sirur spoke next. He apprised the gathering of the KSA website. He said, "के एस ए बेबमास्ट्र आमिर ऑफ्सियल लोग्सचे ह्या वर्ग. " The website is a good channel for sharing the Association’s activities, he explained. For example, it has photographs of KSA’s Diwali programmes including those held at Borivli — story telling, devotional songs and other KSA activities. And now, the Kanara Saraswat magazine is also uploaded on the website and one can read the magazine outright.

Uday Mankikar then announced the release of the book, “Formula for Fulfillment”. He said, “I would like to say a few words about Nalkur Sripadmaam, whose biography titled “Formula for Fulfillment”, we are releasing today. This is the lucid story of a man who rose from rags to riches. What a wonderful felicitation to Sripadmaam on the occasion of his 90th birthday. Sripadmaam has been a great inspiration to budding entrepreneurs, a role model of magnanimity to many, and an ardent social worker. He always says, “या नामुं काय केलं म्हणू. ” In other words, he saw the extraordinary in the ordinary in achieving these heights. You will hear more about the book from Vidya Gunavanthe, its author. "संरक्षित एक विनती. या पुस्तकाचे विमोचन सात आताच संरक्षित उर्णाच एक टाकांचा जटरंग म्हणून स्वागत केल्या. “ In other words, he saw the extraordinary in the ordinary in achieving these heights. You will hear more about the book from Vidya Gunavanthe, its author."

Vidya Gunavanthe then spoke briefly about the book. She said, “It was very difficult to write about a multifaceted personality like Sripadmaam. How can you fit 90 years of so much effort into just 100 pages? Moreover, categorizing all the activities that he has undertaken over the years, was a huge task. Nevertheless, it was a real pleasure writing about him.” She then went on to narrate briefly how he had set out to seek his place in the world soon after his matriculation examination taking up small jobs first in Bangalore, then Bombay, on to Teheran where during the Second World War; his job of spraying DDT on Polish soldiers to prevent plague infestation, led him to start pest control as a business on his return to India. But, the concept was so new that the SVC Bank refused him a loan, which made him swear to return as its Chairman, which he is today. She said that they could read all about these incidents in the book (An article about Shripadmaam’s life story has been printed in the January 2010 issue of KS). Ms Gunavanthe ended with a famous quote which, she said, is Sripadmaam’s “Formula for Fulfillment in Life”: ‘One has fulfilled one’s life if one has done one’s duty as an individual, as a family member, and towards the community, towards one’s country and towards humanity’. “Sripadmaam has done a lot in all these spheres. Read the book and you will know what a great personality he is; we should be proud of him,” she added.

Uday Mankikar: “विद्या गुनांवते लांका सिरप्दमां विषयात यांज्यांना श्रोत्ते. ताकरा आणि आमिर “जीवन गीते” गणणाने गम्यावी कोणती आमिर.”
---|---|---|---
Kisan Ganesh Balse | Hubli Urban Co-op. Bank (Chairman) | |
Dr. D. G. Phalke | 

Uday Mankikar introducing Shri Vikram Sirur

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Sitting (l to r): Great grandparents Gurudas and Mira Masurkar, great grand-daughter Aanya, great grandmother Lila Dattatreya Nilawar
Standing (l to r): Parents Nikhil and Anjula Masurkar, grandparents Kishore and Rita Masurkar
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Receiving the award on behalf of **Shri Kisan Balse**, Ratnakar Gokarn said: "**Shri Kisan Balse** was born in 1925 in a small village near Nashik, Maharashtra. He was a farmer by profession and had a deep love for literature. His passion for writing led him to publish many books, and he was known for his contributions to Marathi literature.

Kisan Balse was a man of simple tastes and had a modest lifestyle. Despite his achievements, he remained humble and continued to work hard in the field of literature. His contributions to Marathi literature are highly regarded, and he is remembered as a great writer of his time.

I am truly honored to receive this award on behalf of Shri Kisan Balse. The journey of a writer is not easy, and it requires hard work and dedication. I would like to express my gratitude to all those who have supported me along the way.

I would also like to thank my family for their constant support and encouragement. Without their love and support, I would not have been able to achieve what I have.

I am grateful to all the readers and my fellow writers for their love and support. I am committed to continuing my journey and contributing to the world of literature through my work.

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1955 to Frankfurt Book Fair (including Leipzig Book Fair, Jerusalem Book Fair) are mentioned in connection with American Booksellers Association Annual Meeting in the same year. The text discusses the involvement of KSA in various book fairs and events such as the Frankfurt Book Fair, American Booksellers Association Annual Meeting, and the Indian Publishing Industry Hall of Fame.

Kanara Saraswat Vol. 91, No.3, March 2010 (contd. on p-25)
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Uday Mankikar introducing
Shri Gurunath Gokarn

Shri. गुरुनाथ गोकर्न : (KSA तुः प्रतीचित कार्यकारिन)

शास्त्रीय शिक्षण आर्थिक विकास संगठन बंधन जारी.
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P. 1959 आर्थिक विकास संगठन आर्थिक विकास संगठन बंधन जारी.

Shri Madhukar Chandavarkar

Uday Mankikar introducing
Shri Madhukar Chandavarkar

Shri. मधुकर चंदवारकर

(कोकिंगार्था प्रचार आर्थिक प्रगति)

 tengo, और. विद्यालय में शाक्यता भारत स्वतंत्र जारी.

जनों के सामाजिक-प्रौद्योगिकी असली एम.फी.जी.

काम- अमलगमित जीवन और ड्यूस्टिक्स निर्माता.

TV नाटक दिग्विजयी. Office - दूर, संस्कृति संस्थान, नाटक बोल्सेंसी, गौरी-संगीत इंस्टिट्यूट, नाटक बोल्सेंसी, आर्थिक लोक रहेंगे. मनोरंजन कोर्ट. नाटक बोल्सेंसी जीवन और ड्यूस्टिक्स निर्माता.

पं. बोल्सेंसी (lyricist - गौरी), ललित बसोल्सी (संगीतकार) और (संगीतकार) (music director) आर्थिक विकास (singer)

नाटक के बोल्सेंसी, (playwright), बसोल्सी (director विद्यालय) आर्थिक विकास (singer-गायक)

तो भूमिका में उभयन्तिक क्रम के नागरिक विकास (actor). तो तेज हवा-सीमांतिश कोर्ट.

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Shri Gurunath Gokarn: Thank you, Uday, for your masterly introduction in chaste Konkani. What the Shri Chitrapur Math is to the community in the realm of religion, the KSA is to us in the social sphere. I adore both these institutions. KSA is my second home. It has impressed me with its glorious history for social work. I salute the 13 founder members and other elders who built this organization with great sacrifice, dedication and devotion.

As a premier social institution, the Association is mainly responsible for the pioneering work of many institutions. It is a meeting place for social workers. It has maintained cordial relations with Shri Chitrapur Math, the Saraswat Mahila Samaj, the Local Sabhas and many other institutions. In addition to routine social activities, the Association undertakes several special activities touching various departments of life like health, education, social and cultural, economic, religious etc. The Association has played an important part in the formation of public opinion as well. We would like to acknowledge with gratitude the enormous efforts taken by Suresh Hemmady, Chairman of our Centenary Committee, and Ratnakar Gokarn for collecting huge funds for our Centenary Year and initiating the process of giving a face-lift to the KS magazine.

One of the on-going topics of KSA is that it is meant for Talmakiwadi only; there are regular debates on this subject. This is not correct. KSA has organized many programmes in the suburbs, and outside Mumbai — in Nashik, Bengaluru, Pune, Mangalore and Dharwad, for the benefit of our members there. Those who would like to work for the Association are welcome, even from the suburbs. I am not from Talmakiwadi, I am from Khar, and I have been going every day to visit the KSA. Thank you very much.

Uday Mankikar introducing Pandit Omkar Gulvady

Pandit Omkar Gulvady : (संगीतक्षेत्र)

- संगीत विविधता, उक्त्रूढ मानगणी आशिले, तबलवादक महावरी पंडित ओमकार गुलवडी.
- संगीतकार धरायातुं मुंडुरूरूतुं जमू. आजो नामाकित किताबमध्ये, गायक श्रेष्ठ कृतिविल्लाकर आयश चुरूक संगीतत. हा सावित्री ओमकार शास्त्री संगीततुं रचू निर्माण जाहीं. प्रेणा मंडकी.

Pandit Omkar Gulvady: आजिहे मनमाण माणक दिले तें के एम एक मंगल आभार. आहिचे मंगल तत्काळ्यांचे प्राचार बनला हे श्रीमत आदिवास श्वासंगत आशीर्वादांस. टाप्याच्या विहिराच्या परमाश्रयाच्या श्वासंगत तत्काळ श्रीमत महामाया स्वामिनंदी गृहीत वत्त आभार. आहि मंगल भोजन हे हांड आभार की माणक आड़ी माणक दिले. आहिचे मंगल तत्काळ श्रीमत ओमकार गुलवडी आहे. गुलवडी आध्यात्मिक मनमाण मंगले आध्यात्मिक मंगल मंगले आध्यात्मिक मंगल गुळे गुळे मंगल मंगल. मंगल प्राचार्यांच्या वां भक्ती ध्वनिः कही. Even,
Dr. Suvarna Koppikar, daughter of Dr. Divakar Heranjal, thanked KSA on behalf of Dr. Heranjal who was unable to attend the function. She read out a small speech that he had sent: “First of all, I must extend my hearty congratulations to KSA for sponsoring the praiseworthy activity of honouring Chitrapur Saraswats who have made a significant contribution in their respective fields. By doing so, other Chitrapur Saraswats, particularly youngsters, will be inspired to do great work in their respective fields.

Even among Saraswats, we, Chitrapur Saraswats, stand out as a shining example of cultural and spiritual finesses. I am proud to say that we are a class apart. I have analyzed the reasons for this, and my conclusion is that because our ancestors, for generations, advocated correct values. Equally important is the guidance and strength that we have drawn from our hallowed Guru Parampara. I urge youngsters, in particular, in this era of a changing value system, not to deviate from these two fundamental sources of strength namely, our value system and our Guru Parampara.

It is a great pleasure to express my deep gratitude to KSA for honouring my work in the field of veterinary science because it makes me feel that my beloved profession is honoured.

Dr. Suvarna Koppikar introducing Shri D. S. Honavar

Shri. D.S. Honavar: (Shri D.S. Honavar)

- 1953-1991 Oerlikon-Zurich, Director Chief Chemist, Chief Technology, Managing Director, Technical Director, Managing Director (Our COver contd.)
was over 60 years of age and aware of the big risk I was taking in investing all the savings of my working career to start this enterprise. The team of threesome was very clear about the objectives of the venture – of making the enterprise Honavar Electrodes one of the leaders in the electrode welding industry in terms of quality, a very wide range, and today's most important criterion of customer satisfaction. It has been a sustained and dedicated effort, blessed by God Almighty and with the total, unwavering support of family members.

Today, as I stand here after receiving the award, it is with a sense of immense satisfaction and gratitude that the company ranks among the top four international companies in terms of technical standards and capabilities.

Uday Mankikar introducing Shri K.S. Prakashrao

Shri. K.S. Prakashrao

Shri. K.S. Prakashrao

Shri K.S. Prakashrao: I refer to my transition from a hard-boiled technologist to an able and successful entrepreneur. It has been the team effort of a threesome – myself, my son Vikram and my nephew Uday. I have no hesitation in stating that I am accepting this award on behalf of all the three and that is perhaps the best way of acknowledging the huge contribution made by my son Vikram and my nephew Uday to the success of my family enterprise, Honavar Electrodes Pvt. Ltd.

When I embarked on the adventure of entrepreneurship in 1992, it was a big challenge. I

Kanara Saraswat

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Shri R. K. Sanjiv Rao Educational & Cultural Academy (Regd). He is the vice-chairman of the academy. He has been associated with the academy since its inception. He has been a member of the academy's executive committee for many years. He has been a member of the academy's board of governors for many years. He has been a member of the academy's finance committee for many years. He has been a member of the academy's corporate affairs committee for many years. He has been a member of the academy's education committee for many years. He has been a member of the academy's cultural committee for many years. He has been a member of the academy's social committee for many years. Shri R. K. Sanjiv Rao was born on 2nd January 1943. He was educated at Shri R. K. Sanjiv Rao Educational & Cultural Academy (Regd). He is a member of the academy's executive committee. He is a member of the academy's finance committee. He is a member of the academy's corporate affairs committee. He is a member of the academy's education committee. He is a member of the academy's cultural committee. He is a member of the academy's social committee. He is a member of the academy's board of governors. He is a member of the academy's executive committee. He is a member of the academy's finance committee. He is a member of the academy's corporate affairs committee. He is a member of the academy's education committee. He is a member of the academy's cultural committee. He is a member of the academy's social committee.
1980  Tù Canara Union, Bangalore chì odyaksh mohou tawne nishe jalu hawn yak çënvë ño ñoñjë ñolëswamamù tàni ñaangáàmëya prakàëaë wëftëtoñtë hái ñodëcë swësëà ñilî.

Eekli ña ñoëliyë àó ramadáñamamà onà vëzëkkë, shikshë, Canara Union chì Building Repairs Fund ilàyàdà xhàttë sàñpl hawl tàsàññi onìyàñi díyàñi.

Shri Ramdas Mundkur: mëll bëè jalàl nishe jalu hawn ñëka ño ñoñjë ñolëswamamù ño ñoñjë ñolëswamamù onà hawn ñoñjë ñolëswamamù. ño ñoñjë ñolëswamamù onà hawn ñoñjë ñolëswamamù.

1937 was a great year for Chitrapur Saraswats. At the age of 10, I had sufficient intelligence, and SVC to Anandashram. And, Gamdevi Colony launched two housing projects — Anandashram on Proctor Road and Talmakiwadi on Tardeo Road. Two years later, KSA shifted from Gamdevi to Talmakiwadi and SVC to Anandashram. And, Gamdevi Colony ceased to be the Chitrapur Saraswat hub 70 years ago.

There were three shining events in 1937. KSA celebrated its Silver Jubilee with many entertainment programmes of music, dance, drama, food party and so on. I remember, in particular, two Konkani dramas ‘bëè jalàl nishe jalu’ and ‘mërr bëè jalàl nishe jalu’ by K. Narasimhaiah. The Amarthaneya Committee of KSA built the KSA Chitrapur Saraswat Hub 70 years ago. 

I am grateful to KSA for honouring me today. Kindly forgive me since I have missed three more stalwarts. I call them non-residents of Gamdevi Colony: S.M. Kalbag, G.R. Bhaktal and S.L. Hemmadi. I thank you all for listening to my story. Thank you.

Uday Mankikar introducing Shri Vithal Mangesh Nadkarni

01. विधुळ मंगेश नाडकरणः (क्रियाक्रम)

- मुंबई राज्य स्कूलला स्वरूपित (ranked) टेबलटेनिसपटू.
- 1948-1960 ह्वा कलावधींतू क्लब, विभाग, विधापीठ, विश्वविद्यालय आणि राज्य सरासरी, विधुळ, स्थापत्य कोटेलोनिस खेळला. त्याविद्यारी मुंबईचा सरोच 16 खेळातून विधुळांमध्ये मानकन आहे.
- 1949-51 ह्वा वर्षातील विधुळ मास्को ‘खाल्सा विधुळांने’ संघांचे प्रतिभाशक मेलेतील आणि संपूर्ण धर्मात्मक दंडक मेलेली.
- मनोहर लळळा आणि स्वतंत्रता हंगल्या सांगाली ‘सारी’ जालू सतत तानी वात ‘पुढी दुहेरी’ (men's doubles) ह्वा ‘मिश्र दुहेरी’ (mixed doubles) ह्वा ‘विधुळांना विधेयक मेलेले. ह्वा लक्षणिया सांगाली CCI, Hindu Gymkhana, St. Xavier's College,Times of India Sports Club, Matunga Gymkhana इवदी मालिक संस्थानी आयोजित केलेल्या स्पर्धेतील विधेयक मेलेले. विधुळ नाडकरण्ये-मनोहर लळळा, विधुळ नाडकरण्ये-बीवी सततालाला ही त्या काळच्या सरोजकृत जोळी हळू त्रस्त आहेली.
- ह्वा फर्समुक्त 1952-53 ह्वा विधुळांमध्ये सरोजकृत ‘दुहेरी’ खेळातून मळून घेतला जालू.

- 1954 ह्वा Byculla YMCA आणि आयोजित केलेल्या स्पर्धेतील (open) पुढी एकतीत प्रथम स्थानात विधुळांमध्ये विजयी जालो.
Shri Vithal Nadkarni: I am very happy to be honoured by KSA especially because I started playing on KSA’s table, practised hard here and secured a top-class competitive standard to win a few medals in open tournaments. I am a KSA sportsman. I take this opportunity to speak about my student-life connected with KSA.

KSA was shifted to Talmakiwadi in 1941. We came to stay in Wadi in December 1939. I was nine years old then; now I am 79. The Gokarn brothers, Raghunath, Ramesh, Ratnakar, were already here since January 1939. Within a few years, more students like Ramesh Vokettur, Raja Bajekal, Vimla Gersappe Patil, Nadkarni brothers, Murli and Raghuvir, Suresh Kati and many others came to stay in Wadi.

We, including my brothers Ramesh and Sadu, became student members of KSA and organized many activities. We formed students’ committees, started running a library wallpaper etc., besides taking advantage of games like table tennis, volleyball, carom, chess etc, provided by KSA.

KSA has stopped enrolling student members for reasons best known to it and is concentrating only on enrolling Life Members and Benefactors. It is possible that many students here are not members of KSA because their parents would not enroll them as Life Members by paying Rs. 3000. I therefore sincerely suggest to KSA to re-think and start enrolling student members again. I thank KSA for honouring me.

Uday Mankikar introducing Shri Nalkur Shripad Rao

Shri. नालकुर श्रीपाद राव (जीवनगौरव)

| पत्र, ऐस. सीपी राव महोण सुमारीचित. आमकं श्रीपादमामू, 30 सेप्टेम्बर 09 झा हिंदु श्रीपादमामा नव्वदय्या वर्षातु पदार्पण केलेले. |
| Pest Control (India) Ltd. चो सेवामुक्त कार्यक्षेत्र आनि Indian Pest Control Association चो संस्थापक अध्यक्ष, आमकं अभिमानात जाणु आशिल्या SVC Bank चो विद्यमान अध्यक्ष. |
| World Union International (Pondicherry) चो कार्यक्षेत्र. |
| Trusteeship Foundation (Bombay) चो अध्यक्ष . |
| अनेक शैक्षणिक आनि सेवामाती व्याससांचे कार्यक्षेत्र. |
| 1985-86 तुं श्रीपादमामू All India Manufacturers’ Organisation (AIMO) आनि Friends of the Trees चो मादर सचिव आशिल्या तरीणी World Constitution and Parliament Assembly चो सह-अध्यक्ष आशिले. |
| अनेक वैज्ञानिक आनि व्यावसायिक सेमेंतांतु (देश विसंजय) श्रीपादमामा आशिले सहभागी आशिले. तांतू World Futures Society आनि World Constituent Assembly ने आमातून केलेल्या आनि विरुद्धच्या World Futures Society आनि World Constituent Assembly ने आमातून केलेल्या आनि विरुद्धच्या. |
| श्रीपादमामा वेश्यांतू आनि पारदर्शन तस्यातु अध्यक्ष. |
| Rotary Club of Mumbai West चो जीवनगौरव पुरस्कार. |
| District 3140 Rotary सेमेंतांतु “जीवनगौरव” पुरस्कार. |
| Bombay Sea Coast चो “कर्मयोगी” पुरस्कार. |
| Shri Palkar Amangalva Pest Control India Ltd. कें अनेक पुरस्कार प्राप्त आशिल्याती. |
| National Award 1995 for In-house R & D efforts in the Agro Sector. |
| 1997 तुं Jamnalal Bajaj Award for Fairtrade Practices. |

(Our Cover contd.)
Shri Nalkur Shripad Rao: I am grateful to the KSA and all concerned, all our Chitrapur Saraswat institutions, and every Chitrapur Saraswat who has encouraged me to achieve what I could achieve in this small part of my life. I would be very happy to talk about what I have achieved and how I have done so, but this is not the time. Some day, I will speak about it and I am sure you will enjoy it.

But at this moment, when everybody is hungry, if I talk about my achievements, you will say: when will this man stop? I will end this with a joke:

A person who had sinned throughout his life, went to church regularly like a true Catholic and confessed to the Father. He did this for years and when he died, he went to hell. There he saw the very Father to whom he had been confessing. So, he asked him, “Father, how is it that you are here?” And the Father replied, “Shsh... the Bishop is in the next cell.”

So, we all go in one direction, to one place. I am not talking of hell because nobody goes to hell. Every life is meant to be transformed into a heaven. If we try hard individually to do as much as possible to better things around us, we can really do what Aurobindo says, that is, “raise the spirit to its forgotten heights.” I always quote Rudyard Kipling:

If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds’ worth of distance run –
Yours is the Earth and everything that’s in it,
And - which is more - you’ll be a Man my son!

I am very glad to say that we are all very lucky to have been born in this Saraswat samaj with a great Guru Parampara. I think there is no end to our development.

I would like to present my daughter, Dr Pramila Chatterjee. She and my dear wife, are the two individuals who have been responsible for what I am today and what I can be. I thank the KSA very much for giving me this honour. Thank you very much.

Uday Mankikar introducing Dr. Aroon Samsi (since deceased)

Dr. Aroon Samsi (since deceased)

- 17 August, 1935 आरून सन्म सामसी
- 1975 तुं, Seth G.S. Medical College बारनु मीडिकल कॉलेज
- 1981 तुं, Seth G.S. Medical College बारनु मीडिकल कॉलेज
- 1986 स्तुं, Seth G.S. Medical College बारनु मीडिकल कॉलेज
- 1993 तुं, Seth G.S. Medical College बारनु मीडिकल कॉलेज
- 2000 तुं, Seth G.S. Medical College बारनु मीडिकल कॉलेज
- 2005 तुं, Seth G.S. Medical College बारनु मीडिकल कॉलेज
- 2010 तुं, Seth G.S. Medical College बारनु मीडिकल कॉलेज
- 2015 तुं, Seth G.S. Medical College बारनु मीडिकल कॉलेज
- 2020 तुं, Seth G.S. Medical College बारनु मीडिकल कॉलेज
Yederi Manjunath, on behalf of Dr. Aron Samsi:

I thank KSA for honoring him and for giving me an opportunity to receive the award.

Uday Mankikar introducing Shri Ramesh Venkatrao Taggarshe

Shri Ramesh Taggarshe: Let me take a cue from Mundkur Ramdasmaam. Let me say that though I am tall, my speech will be very short. I'll take only two to three minutes. I am indeed grateful to the KSA for honoring me today for social service and I am especially thankful to Uday Mankikar for his generous praise in mellifluous Konkani, although I doubt whether I deserve all of it. Uday has described some of my successes; I have also had a couple of failures. Life has taught me that success cannot be forever...
Uday Mankikar introducing
Shri U. Mandeep Rai

Shri U. Mandeep Rai: Sir, good afternoon. I would like to express my gratitude to you all for allowing me to share my experiences and the work that I have been doing for the last 50 years. I am here to talk about the importance of social service and how it has become an integral part of my life.

I come from a family of social workers, and my late father, Venkatrao Tagarshe, instilled in me the values of service and dedication. He was a man of principles, and his work ethic and dedication to the cause of social service have been my guiding light.

I have been engaged in social work for over 50 years, and my experiences have taught me that success is not about the absence of failure but the ability to learn from it. I have faced many challenges, but I have never given up. My inspiration for this work has always been Gandhiji, who called us to serve the poor and the oppressed.

I have been associated with the Kanara Saraswati Samaj (KSA) for over 30 years, and they have been a source of support and encouragement. The KSA has provided me with a platform to work for the upliftment of the Lambana tribals, and I have been able to do so because of their support.

I would like to thank the President and all members of the KSA for their support and encouragement. I would also like to thank my family and friends for their support and encouragement.

Thank you all.
When we first begin to lisp, it is Amchi we speak because it is Amchi we are exposed to. We automatically begin to connect everything to the limited vocabulary at our disposal.

I thought it was an Amchi who had first started dispensing Homeopathic remedies. Most stomach ailments were treated with three doses of 'Laxumakka' – to be given an hour before-or-after a meal. It was only years later that I heard of Hahnemann and of 'Nux Vomica'….

The ladies sat in the open verandah of Grandpa’s sprawling shapeless house in Manjeshwar, cheerfully rolling out papads. We girls were determined to help and refused to be dissuaded. Ultimately, each one of us was given a board, a rolling pin, and a tiny portion of the dough – Grandma’s fool-proof trick to keep us out of their hair. Our male cousins sneered at our attempts.

“Tch-tch-tch-tch… Papads should look like papads, not like badly drawn outline maps of Australia.” We glared at them and raised our rolling pins. They made a mock escape.

Dinkermaam soon came on the scene and began humming the tune of a popular film hit - “Ek kali something-me chali, rahti thee sadaa somethings-ome-something” Then, he added his own lyrics: “Eki tchalli laattu bashili…” Years later, my cousin Gurudutt called out to his maternal great-grandmother to listen to ‘her’ song on the radio. Gurudutt’s ingenious version of it was: “Indire ke pantchee re-e-e eera dard na jaane kai”. Our knowledge of Hindi being negligible, we would never have guessed it was ‘mulaquaat’ the singer was addressing!

My brothers-in-law Sunil and Sharad who grew up in Delhi speak their own brand of Amchi. Sunil never says ‘whai’- it is always ‘hoi’. Sharad, who was once visiting his ‘maavlo’ Balmaam in Dharwad, told a fellow-passenger that he was going to his “maanvaangel ghaara”!

Dimple (Shobhna), my niece raised in Jamshedpur, spoke a queer Hindi-Amchi at the age of six. When we arrived in Jamshedpur on a holiday she hugged my mother-in-law and eagerly said, “Ammama, aaji haanv tugel saatha sawtha”. If you think she was planning to search an umbrella, you’d be way off the mark. Her statement was a loose translation of “Aaj mai aap ke saath soungi”. If she saw a ‘chipkali ‘ anywhere ‘deevaaani’, she quickly moved to a safe distance from the lizard….

I once overheard Leelakka of Delhi telling Mrs. Kapur in her inimitable Amchi-Hindi that her “sirr me sannnn hota hai” because she had been walking in “rann-rani dhoop” that noon. My own cousin Chitra told me that our niece in America was engaged to a boy called Philip Kearney (pronounced ‘Carney’). For convenience, she’d given him an Amchi name – Dilip Karnik.

What revived all these memories was the latest Amchi jingle in a TV ad for a toilet soap. Playfully chasing his wife just out of her beauty bath, the husband says, of all things, “Hooni-hooni saar-upkari kelli magal Priyaan-aaji”. Try and figure that out! I give you one guess!
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On this occasion, we seek the blessings of, and express our gratitude to, the Almighty Lord Bhawanishankara, to Parama Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji and the Guru Parampara for giving us such fine parents and grandparents. We pray to the Almighty that they be blessed with a long, healthy and happy life.

With much love and respects from:

Bondal

Nirmala

&

Jaishankar

Ullal

Shobhana

&

Pradeep

Gulwadi

Arun

&

Ranjana

Hattangadi

Shaila

&

Shekhar

grand children

* Yamini and

Shantanu Sood

* Nandita (Nandu) Ullal

* Akshay Ullal

and the extended Gulwadi and Taggarshe families

children

&

Prashant and

&

Gaurav Gulwadi

&

&

&

&

&
It is with great pleasure that we announce the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Smt. Mangala Nagarkatti (nee Krishnabai Harihar Baindur) and Shri Mohan Shripad Nagarkatti, who got bonded in marital bliss on March 11, 1960. On this occasion, we seek the blessings of our kuladevata Shri Shantadurga, Lord Bhavanishankar and our holy Guru Parampara for their long, healthy and happy lives.

Sabita Harite, Nandkishore Harite, Sushant (grandson), Rajiv Nagarkatti, Anuradha Nagarkatti, Shivani & Shivam (grandchildren) Aparna Ullal, Yatin Ullal

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Dr. Aroon B. Samsi - A karmayogi par excellence

Dr. Aroon B. Samsi, MS, an eminent surgeon who truly epitomized service in the cause of humanity, breathed his last on December 26, 2009, at KEM Hospital, the hospital where he had been Head of the Department of Surgery. A fact which deserves special mention is that in addition to his OPD (out patient department) at KEM Hospital, he was the only surgeon who had the unique distinction of running a weekly OPD for Homeopathy.

A true karmayogi and very religious, Dr. Samsi was simple, down-to-earth, and ever willing to help a needy patient. A role model of selfless, dedicated service especially to the poor, he was gifted with a wonderful healing touch. Even after his retirement from KEM Hospital, he continued to serve relentlessly at Jagjivan Ram Hospital, Mumbai Central, and Rajawadi Hospital, Ghatkopar. It is these outstanding medical skills and selfless service to society that made KSA honour him.

With his sudden demise, each one of us who was associated with him, will miss his charming smile which instilled courage and confidence; the void created by his passing away will be very difficult to fill.

We pray to the Almighty to give courage to his family to withstand the irreparable loss. May his soul rest in peace.

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All for a fishy tale
MEERA S. SASHITAL, DEONAR, MUMBAI

After a lapse of many years, I visited Kolkata on the insistence of my cousin Ratna (Reethu) Sarawgi. She was organizing a school play which she had produced and was keen that I see it.

I was eager to see it too as I was aware that she had produced several much-acclaimed, mega events and annual school functions during her tenure as Head of Department for the Nursery at La Martiniere, Kolkata, the school from which she had taken premature retirement after 22 years of a highly successful career. One of these, “Jungle Story”, which had marked the school’s golden jubilee, was based on the famous Rudyard Kipling stories and had a cast of as many as 1300 children and was spread over five stages.

On D-day - November 29, 2009 - all roads seemed to lead to the Science City Main Auditorium where the play was being staged. The huge crowd of parents and children made it difficult to approach the Auditorium.

The play, titled “Under the Sea - A Fishy Tale”, organized by the teachers and students of Modern High School, was veritably, a visual feast. Conceptualized, scripted and directed by Reethu, this play had almost 800 students from Classes IV to VIII participating in it, while children from Classes IX to XII lent their voices to the various ‘fishy’ characters.

The dances and co-ordination were breathtaking - each separate group of fish appearing on the stage with its individual dance sequence covering Kathakali, Bhangra, Salsa and so on. Every bit was wonderfully choreographed and executed. While the music and dance were undoubtedly delightful, the beauty lay in the costumes that had been designed for each species of fish. Most of all, the sequence with girl students on roller skates depicting black and white costumed zebra fish, stole the show.

Reethu’s story was original and simple - a little fish called Jet Li, who lived in an Aquarium, accidentally gets flushed out and finds himself in a beautiful coral reef in the ocean. There he meets Fishy 1303, a kind and friendly fish, who introduces him to the beauties of the reef which is inhabited by innumerable fish and other underwater creatures, and also safeguards him from the evil shark, Sharkozy, and the baby whale, Booma. The story ends with the downfall of Sharkozy through the wiles of Fishy who is then elevated to the top position in the reef. The story vividly demonstrated how small things make a big difference in our lives and conveyed messages on several issues including global warming and terrorism.

At the end of the play, Reethu and the participants of the play received a a standing ovation. On the next day, The Hindustan Times and The Telegraph were full of praise for the play.

In addition to being enriched and refreshed by this magnificent play, I enjoyed the royal hospitality of my cousin and her affectionate husband, Dilip. Moreover, when I was taken round the city, I felt thrilled to see my old school, college and the house where I was brought up by my loving aunt and uncle.

No visit to Kolkata is complete without going to the Kali Temple at Kalighat. So, I had a tryst with it too and it was due to Her grace that I surfaced unscathed from the clutches of the pandals and the frenzied crowd of devotees. Needless to say, I returned home with an abundance of sweet memories of my visit which I will cherish forever.

CORRIGENDUM
We are informed by the author of the article “Suman Kalyanpur conferred prestigious Lata Mangeshkar Award”, published in the February 2010 issue, that the first five lines on Page 16 should read as: “Jogging into a flashback, Suman recalls how she sang this playback number ‘Kabhi Aaj Kabhi Kal’ in tandem with Lata Mangeshkar, under the baton of composer Hemant Kumar for the movie ‘Chhaand’ (1959).” He regrets that due to an oversight, the title of the movie was incorrectly mentioned as ‘Baat Ek Raat Ki’. 
He carried 84 years lightly on his small frame. With restless energy, like a man possessed, Shivdas Chandavarkar was totally and completely immersed in music - specifically, Hindustani classical music. Though asthma was his constant and nagging companion since his early years, Shivdas managed his vocal music creditably since childhood and was well groomed in his Kirana Parampara. He was also an accomplished tabla player and was an accredited All India Radio singer of Hindustani classical music. He continued to perform as long as it was possible to have a controlled breath, so very necessary for the delineation of the theme. The day he realised that he was unable to sing due to asthma, he called it a day and diverted his energy to building archives of the great masters. He made a name for himself as a collector of rare records and arranged many a listening session in and around Pune, Mumbai, Kolhapur, Nashik and many other places. He had already planned to donate his vast collection arranged according to the Gharanas and in chronological order. He had developed such a rapport with the Pakistan embassy that they arranged to send him a rare audio-visual CD of Roshanara Begum and many listening sessions were held in Mumbai and Pune.

While we were in the midst of planning our itinerary to visit Hubli and Kundgol for the Sawai Gandharva festival in this March, death struck like lightning. Rather, it came silently, stealthily, afraid as it were of his overcharged restless energy. During my three-month forced bed rest, it was Shivdas who unfailingly would phone every fortnight, cheer me up, and like a railway guard show me the green signal, urging me to move on. He was very happy to know that I was back on my feet and to keep me in good humour sent me recordings of the great masters of different Gharanas and to keep me busy asked me to send him a short write-up on Bhendi Bazar Gharana. This was to be featured in our forthcoming visit to Hubli. Gangubai Hangal’s grandson Manoj was in touch with him. He had already finalised a vehicle to carry us all to Hubli.

While in his seventies, Shivdas developed the idea of maintaining the archives and more importantly share his passion with others. As Abraham Lincoln put it aptly, “And it’s not the years in your life that count, its life in your years”. It is truly well said that he who learns to play his music in his eightieth year, will play at the Resurrection.

Mangala (wife), Satish (son), Vinaya (daughter-in-law), Krishna, Shyamsunder (brothers), Rekha (sister), Relatives, Admirers and Friends.
Veteran classical singer Pandit Dinkar Kaikini passes away

Music maestro Pandit Dinkar Kaikini passed away on January 23, 2010, following a cardiac arrest, leaving a great void in the world of music and in our community. He was 81.

Born in a music-loving, middle class family on December 25, 1927, Panditji was only seven when he was exposed to the mysteries of Hindustani music by his discerning father who placed him under the tutelage of Karekatte Nagesh Rao, a veteran exponent of the Patiala gharana. Later, he came under the influence, though briefly, of Omkarnath Thakur who had made his mark as a leading Hindustani vocalist, but it was from the long and fruitful tutelage of SN Ratanjankar, who started teaching him at the age of 11 in Lucknow, that he flowered into an executant with a keen sense of style and keener sense of aesthetics. Here, he also had the benefit of guidance from guru-bandhus like SCR Bhat, in the clear enunciation and exploration of ragas. Among his other co-students were KG Ginde and music composer Roshan (Hrithik Roshan's grandfather).

Pandit Kaikini's innovative ability found ample scope for expression in the course of his association with All India Radio, Delhi. Till 1971, for 17 years as producer of music, he distinguished himself as a perceptive composer, with presentations to his credit.

In 1971, in response to an invitation from the Bhavan's management, Pandit Kaikini joined the Bharatiya Sangeet-Nartan Shiksha Peeth (Bhavan's College of Music and Dance) of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bombay, succeeding Chidanand Nagarkar, his senior guru-bandhu, whose sudden death had rendered the post vacant. Panditji took it as a call of duty to work in a new field – of teaching, for which he readily quit his All India Radio job in Delhi.

As principal of the Bhavan's College of Music and Dance, from which position he retired in 1992, Pandit Kaikini devoted himself, throughout his career, to imparting scholastic education in music. Yet, the rigours of the teaching profession did little to affect the quality of his voice nor dull his initiative and formalize his music. He was a multi-faceted musician – an excellent performer, a dedicated teacher and a creative composer, all rolled into one. In the old texts, such singers were called ‘chaumukhi gavaïya’, which means a versatile singer. His versatility covered a wide compass; whatever the song-form-be it dhrupad, dhamar, khayal, tappa or thumri – each carried a charm of its own, showing in varying degrees the beautiful amalgam of the elements of purism and romanticism. It is said that he had the ability to move one to tears with his voice throw (pukar).

Pandit Kaikini was also known for his impressive array of self-composed ragas like Guna-Ranjani, Bhoopavali and Khern-Dhwani, and had penned several bandishes under the pseudonym ‘Din-Rang’ and set them to traditional and self-composed-ragas. Most of these have found acceptance in the musical community.

A little-known fact about Panditji relates to a brief change in his career – first in the singing role of the legendary Tansen in the musical ballet, “The Discovery of India”, based on Jawaharlal Nehru’s famous work, and then as a playback artiste in the choral item, ‘Mere to Giridhar Gopal’, in Gulzar’s “Meeraa”. Incidentally, the music for both was given by Pandit Ravi Shankar. As a composer, Pandit Kaikini could connect music with his life experiences. When Neil Armstrong had stepped on
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on the moon, he was so moved that he celebrated it with a sublime composition set to raga Bhairav: Aayo hai jeetke manav chandralok.

So deep was his involvement with vidya-daan that he rarely condescended to give concert performances. But whenever he did, he emerged as a vocalist par excellence. As a classical concert performer, what put him in a class by himself was not only his professional or academic achievements but his rare insight into the very spirit of the various contemporary gharana styles. He was the recipient of a gold medal as a topper at the post-graduate examination in music, and won the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Hindustani vocal music in 1997.

In his tours abroad, Pandit Kaikini's object was to present to discerning foreign audiences the different facets of Hindustani gayaki, theoretically, aesthetically and scientifically through his lecture-cum-demonstration. At the Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh, he received a prolonged standing ovation from the students and the faculty members of the music department. What fascinated his audience most was the uncanny potential of Indian classical music for extempore improvisation.

After retiring from the Bhavan's College of Music and Dance, Pandit Kaikini had structured his leisure wisely in teaching advanced students at home. His entire family is into music. His wife Shashikala, a vocalist in her own right, recently retired as the Principal of the same College. While the eldest son, Rajesh, has chosen to pursue music as ‘a hobby'; his younger son, Yogesh (adopted by his maternal grandfather, Ratnakar Samsi), is a front-ranking tabla player of the country, and his daughter Aditi Upadhay is a classical singer and teacher based in Bengaluru. The veteran singer has departed. His legacy lives on.

On Your Birth Centenary  
Mr. B. G. Kalthod  
03.03.1910 – 18.12.1984

My dear husband, Shri Bhavanishankar Ganpatrao Kalthod, was born on 3rd March, 1910. This year is his birth centenary year and I could not but help reminiscence about his life. He was born in Kundapur to a middle class family, his father’s income was mainly from the produce off his meagre piece of land. To feed a large family of seven children, Bhavanishankar’s father had to supplement his income by sculpting idols of Lord Ganesha for Ganesh Chaturthi and decorating mantvis for weddings.

As a boy, Bhavanishankar inherited love for the arts and helped his father in his crafts. A sportsman by nature, he excelled in all sports, developing into a very good badminton and bridge player. His curiosity and enthusiasm for learning made his science teacher teach him photography and the techniques of developing and printing photographic films, which helped him in his later life. Having developed this into a hobby, he would make enlargements of small photographs and then paint them as there was no technology of coloured photographs in those days. His love for drawing and painting was so great that he painted a portrait of PP Pandurangashram Swamiji when he was in his final year of school and presented it to Shirali Math. I had the good fortune of seeing this painting hanging on the Math wall several years later when we had a chance to visit it. Being an ardent devotee of the Guru Parampara, he always volunteered to help at festivals in the Math.

He had to curb his wish of joining the J.J. School of Art in Mumbai as he had to start earning. Being the eldest son of seven siblings, he had to support his family. He was really a great human being, always calm and collected with a sharp intellect. A simple man, always ready to help his brother and sisters, in whatever way he could. He loved his family dearly. The only regret he probably had was that he never had children of his own. But, perhaps, this was one of the reasons that he shared a great bond with all his nieces and nephews. His family and friends respected him immensely and held him in high esteem.

He had a good rapport with his Japanese bosses and as a result of his efficient and hard work in the company, Mitsubishi, he was the only employee who was gifted a three-week fully paid holiday in Japan, with family.

I am grateful to God for having blessed me with a wonderful twenty-four years of life with this gentle and understanding man who never had an adverse opinion about anyone. He lived for others and always tried to make everyone happy.

This noble, hardworking and dedicated man will live through his kind deeds and I am sure will never be forgotten. I am sure, most Chitrapur Saraswat families have at least one still life or nature painting (which he excelled in), photograph or portrait of either one of the Swamijis in their homes, with his trademark signature on it - ‘B.G. Kalthod’. He will always live through his works of art.

In his memory, his family is instituting a scholarship for a deserving Chitrapur Saraswat candidate studying FINE ARTS or PHOTOGRAPHY. Details may be obtained from the KSA Office.

Remembered by  
Wife and Relatives
My favourite quotable quote is: “The only thing that a man can do for eight hours a day - day after day, is work. You cannot eat eight hours a day, nor drink eight hours a day, nor make love for eight hours a day.” However, I would like to say that apart from work, I can talk for eight hours a day, or maybe more, day after day. Actually, that is what I have been doing for the last 65 years. I am sure I can enter the Guinness Book of World Records unless some politician surpasses my record.

Finally, one day, I took pity on myself and decided to take ‘maunvrat’. I prayed sincerely to the great saint Ramana Maharishi (who had mastered silence and was known for his silent dialogue) to bless me with the “Sound of Silence”. My inner voice gave me alarm signals, every now and then, not to pray for the impossible. It said, “Observe, listen, learn and stop. Not until I am able to absorb others talk.” These were the thoughts crossing my mind as I waited at the Frankfurt airport for my flight to Bengaluru.

It was a long, six-hour wait. I thought, this might be the right time for me to start my maunvrat because my husband was dozing away in the seat next to mine, and I hardly knew anybody around. I did not want to let go of this chance and decided to keep my mouth shut and silently witness the happenings around me.

Well, most of the crowd around me was bound for Bengaluru. Excitement was on the increase, moment to moment. For a minute, I almost forgot that I was in Frankfurt because most of them were conversing in Kannada, and it sounded very much like Bengaluru. Here are some of the comments that I heard:

- “What kind of a country is this, I say? One cannot see a stray dog, or a cow, not even a donkey. I seem to miss the stray dogs fighting or howling in the night.”
- “While in Bengaluru, I would send my husband to get a packet of milk, rava or vermicelli. I would know for sure that he would take an hour or so, meeting and talking to his neighbours or friends on the way. Otherwise, he would come in my way while I was doing my household work. This has started after his retirement.”
- “If you are going to put up at Malleswaram, why don’t you go to Sri Sagar? You just have to say, ‘Benne’ (Butter) and they will get you a piping hot butter masala dosa. And, do not miss their filter coffee.

You must not miss Veena Stores’ idli-vada too as it is the best in town. All this and much more comes within one dollar. Once I land, I am going to live on Bengaluru specialties and enjoy myself.”
- “For ethnic sarees and jewellery, you must go to Chikpet. You must haggle over the price, otherwise, they will fleece you.”

My husband who was dozing all this while, woke up and went to get some coffee. As I raised the cup to have the first sip, the strong aroma brought nostalgic memories of Bengaluru. However, the Frankfurt coffee seemed to tell me, “Hum bhi Bengaluru ki coffee se kam na.” So, if you happen to wait at Frankfurt airport to catch a flight, don’t forget to drink some coffee.

For a beginner like me to maintain maunvrat for such a long time is indeed a record. Of course, I learnt a lot and, most importantly, I listened a lot thus absorbing whatever the people around me were saying. All in all, it seemed to be a journey of silence with a fantastic beginning.

I only hope that my friends and relatives are not aware of my “Sound of Silence” and don’t mistake me for keeping my mouth shut. But, silently, I (eye) witness their …..
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Shrinath S. Shiralkar -
First Chitrapur Saraswat Deputy Governor of RBI

This article is a grateful response to the information received from some of our readers that the late Mr Shrinath S. Shiralkar was the second Chitrapur Saraswat to be appointed on a prestigious position at the Reserve Bank of India; Dr. Subir Gokarn is not the second (as mentioned in our Cover feature, KS, February 2010) but the third Chitrapur Saraswat to be so appointed. Our community stands prouder with this documentation. The first was Sir Benegal Rama Rau who was the fourth Governor of the Reserve Bank of India from 1 July, 1949 to 14 January, 1957. – Editor

Shrinath Shripad Shiralkar was Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India from 18 December, 1970 to 25 July, 1976. He was born at Gadag in North Kanara in May 1915. After schooling in Gadag, he was educated at Fergusson College in Pune and the Royal Institute of Science in Mumbai, gaining a double Master’s degree in Mathematics. A brilliant student, always achieving a First Class First in the University, he joined the civil service after clearing the competitive Indian Audit & Accounts Service (IA&AS) examination in 1939, as an officer in the Accountant General’s office in Mumbai. Thereafter, from 1944 to 1970, he worked in the Finance Ministry, rising to the level of Joint Secretary in 1957 and Additional Secretary in 1965. In between, in 1954, he was deputed to Pondicherry as Financial Adviser of the Government of India and also served as the Accountant General of Madhya Pradesh between 1955 and 1957 being posted at Nagpur, the then capital of Madhya Pradesh.

In December 1970, he was appointed Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India under Mr. S. Jagannathan, the then Governor of the Bank. He served as Deputy Governor until his retirement at the age of 60. While in the Finance Ministry and the Reserve Bank, he also served as a Director of several large organizations such as the Railways, ICICI, Shipping Corporation of India, SBI, Overseas Communication Service (OCS) and so on. After retirement, he settled down in Pune.

Outside of his work, Shiralkar had a number of personal interests. He was an expert photographer, and had won prizes in international competitions. He liked to develop and print his own photographs and had set up a dark room in his house for this purpose. He was a connoisseur of classical music, both Hindustani and Western and had a huge collection of LPs. Besides, as an avid reader, he possessed a huge collection of books, including old original classics and works of fiction and non-fiction by well known authors. He was also a keen gardener.

Both he and his wife, Vimal (nee Hemalatha Shedde), were ardent devotees of Divine Mothers, Sree Rama Devi and Sree Tara Devi. He spent his last few months at the Rama Sakthi Mission at Shaktinagar, in Mangalore, where he passed away in April 1981, after a prolonged illness. Vimal passed away in Mumbai in December 2006 at the age of 86. They are survived by three sons - Bharat, Sanatkumar and Gautam. Both Bharat and Gautam, are happily settled in the US where both did their doctorates in Mechanical Engineering. Sanatkumar did his Master’s in Electrical Engineering and returned to India; he retired in 2003 from Tata Infotech (now a part of TCS).
भाषा: हिंदी

**विघ्न पहचान उपयोग**

नेहरूगढ़ में अनेक नातेवाईक, मित्रमंडपीची बेटा झाली. जे मुंबईसरोवश शाहरूख शाहरूख होत नाही. उन्हीं भेटीमध्ये जुल्मा आठवणीना उपाय नहीं. नया ओळखी झाला.

हंदीवासी झुंबा मित्रमंडपी मेटल. लयाती एके डॉक्टर कुंजीबाचा आर्जी उद्धेश्य करावासा बांदू. लयां कुंजीबाची तीनही आळू व लयां दोन मुले डॉक्टरी पेशातील वेगवेगळे तबा. यांतू लयां माहूळ जाता पुत्रसरस्वती गांवात अझांतू हाप्सिटल उभारलेल्यां.

येथे सर्व सोळी आहेत. लयांमधू पुत्रसरस्वती आहू ज्यांनी येथे कोकाची खेक्कांतील लोकांची खप्प सोब झाली आहे. लयांना उपचारासाठी शहरात जावे लघुत नाही. शिवाय माणसं त्याची साधी, मिर्गीची व सजवा. लयांचा प्रेमळ स्वभावाने आणि आदराच्याने मन भरून गेले. एकूण गांवची माणसं त्याची साधी, प्रेमळ लयां अजुन शाहीपणाचा, अहंकाराचा भर्ती न झालेला पाहू फार बसावू. लया तीन विवाहांमध्ये मंगलम, पवित्र वातावरणाने मन भरून पावलं. शाहरूखले समाहू ताणणीवाचवा विसर पडला. मनाची बेटी वर्षभरातीलांचा मार्ग झाली. मनांत ठरलं कि असे उत्सव कर्तक एकदा तरी सुवर्णपुष्प मुळहाचे. आणि याची देही बाची ढोळा लयांचा आनंद लुटावू.
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A camping trip

ROHAN MAVINKURVE

When we decided to go on a camping trip,
I was so happy that I danced and moved my hip.

We went in Dad’s jeep,
When we reached, out we leaped!

On the ground we played cricket
And went to the park;
Of course, we needed a ticket.

We also dribbled the basketball,
My friend’s dog was watching us,
His tongue beginning to loll.

After playing, we had lunch,
The food was yummy – munch, munch!

Then we had a catnap,
While Dad went to buy the camping
ground map.

After our little snooze
We went fishing,
In the lake, there was many a goose.

We were very lucky
We caught a lot of fish,
Maybe ‘cos the water was crystal-clear, not murky.

By the time we came back,
It was already evening,
So we put on music and danced
Till our ears began to ring.

Then I read a lovely book,
About a snow monster named Nanook.

Next we had dinner,
And ate fish stew that had been on simmer.

Then we roasted lots of delicious marshmallow
But did not eat too many
Because now we did not feel so hollow.

At last I went to sleep,
And with me I will always
The memories of this camping trip keep.

Rohan Mavinkurve, age 7, is a student of
Std. II, Vibgyor High, Mumbai.

Fame is...

MIHAKA PAI DH U NGA T

Fame is money,
But is it worth telling everyone your life story?
Fame is success,
But don’t you get stressed?
Fame is popularity,
But do you like donating to charity?
Fame is competition,
But are you fulfilling your mission?
Fame is media,
Is it just to get your work up on Wikipedia?
Celebrities are born normal like you and me
It is not worth being famous, can’t you see!

Mihika Paidhungat, age 13, is studying in Std. VII in Bombay International School.

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Fame is popularity,
But do you like donating to charity?
Fame is competition,
But are you fulfilling your mission?
Fame is media,
Is it just to get your work up on Wikipedia?
Celebrities are born normal like you and me
It is not worth being famous, can’t you see!

Mihika Paidhungat, age 13, is studying in Std. VII in Bombay International School.

Revised Rates for Classified Advertisements in Kanara Saraswat Magazine

Quarter page (1 issue): Rs. 1500/-
Half page (1 issue): Rs. 2500/-
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The rates are inclusive of a photograph. Photographs may be sent by mail as professional quality prints or scanned at a minimum resolution of 300 dpi, and sent in .jpeg or .tif format.

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Fame is...

MIHAKA PAI DH U NGA T

Fame is money,
But is it worth telling everyone your life story?
Fame is success,
But don’t you get stressed?
Fame is popularity,
But do you like donating to charity?
Fame is competition,
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My first job
Vijaya Karnad, Chennai

It was the year 1975. I had just got my first job in a public sector insurance company, a coveted post at that time. The first thing my friendly colleagues did was to inform me how much leave I could take in a year. Can you believe it! We had 23½ days of casual leave, 15 days of earned leave and 15 days sick leave. I wondered how many days we actually worked if one were to add all the religious holidays (there were plenty), national holidays, bandhs, strikes and so on.

On working days, things were not too different. My office was next to Dalal Street. At around 12 noon, the office would suddenly look deserted and one would be made aware of how much priority personal shares had over mere office work. Then, of course, there were the numerous tea breaks.

Once, my table was ‘gheraoed’ by the office bearers of the Union. Their grouse was that my ‘Out Tray’ was always empty, and this reflected badly on my other colleagues. Of course, the Union had its uses. It was the one that strong-armed the management into giving me a quick transfer to Chennai after I got married.

The style of working in the Chennai office was no different. After nine years of working for this company, I decided to resign due to difficulties at home. That was when I was deluged with advice on how to circumvent rules so that I could go on indefinite leave without relinquishing my hold on my post. “And who will attend to my work in the meantime?” I asked. “Also, am I not holding up somebody else’s recruitment?” “Why do you bother about that? It’s the management’s headache, not yours,” was the answer.

It has been 25 years since I left this public sector company. I sincerely hope things are better now and people are more responsible in their attitude towards work. Of course, with the advent of competition from the private sector, they have had to pull up their socks.

Let me end with a humorous(?) incident. When I rejoined the office after my second delivery, a colleague came to me with a long face and said, “Madam, I am so sorry to hear…”. Bewildered, I asked, “Sorry to hear what?” “That you have got a second daughter,” he said. If he only knew how precious both our daughters are to us!

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- Feel rejuvenated in just a day and feel the tiredness and tension melt away as you bathe in Kundalika river or take a dip in the crystal clear rain-fed swimming pool.
- Watch the rains pour down onto the serene river and the surrounding green hills from the shelter of the unique cloverleaf sit-out. Or let the gurgle of the flowing water and the chirping of colorful birds soothe you. Enjoy the hospitality and delicious, wholesome food.
- Situated in the ghats of Mumbai-Goa highway-125 kms from Mumbai.

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Also visit us at www.saifarms.com
The “NRI Sanskriti Prachar Shibir”, the first ever NRI shibir for both youngsters and elders, was held from December 23-29, 2009, at Shirali. It drew more than 40 participants or shibirarthis from USA, UK, the Middle East, Australia and New Zealand. The shibir’s Chief Co-ordinator, Krishnanand Heblekarmaam, and his group of sanchalaks had planned various religious/spiritual and socio-cultural activities which enabled the shibirarthis to learn as well as enjoy. As emphasized by Swamiji, a shibir is much more than a camp and is aimed at attaining total fitness of the body, mind and spirit.

Religious/Spiritual Activities

Guided Tour of Shri Chitrapur Math: On the first day (December 12), there was a a guided tour of the Math which included visits to the Bhojanshala and the Goshala. The significance of Dhoolbhet, Guru Paramapara, Samadhis was beautifully explained and benefitted both youngsters and elders. The shibirarthis were amazed to find that the food was prepared by only two cooks, using natural gas and LPG.

Contemporary Hinduism: On the 24th, a talk on “Contemporary Hinduism” helped remove confusion between the teachings of our Math and what we learn in everyday life. It covered pertinent issues such as; what is Hinduism, what is the Hindu way, the meaning of secularism, portrayal of Hinduism by the media and so on. This was an important session as in today’s world it is extremely important to know what you stand for, and accordingly, be ready for the questions the world asks about you and your religion, or as Poojya Swamiji rightly puts it, “to know yourself.”

Swadhyay: At a Swadhyay on “Shri Parijnanashram Trayodashi”, Poojya Swamiji patiently explained each of the 13 verses in detail and answered all the shibirarthis’ innocently-asked questions. This was a very useful and relevant session as, many a time, we blindly read or recite words without actually understanding their meaning or significance. Swamiji also addressed a list of questions compiled by the yuvas attending the shibir; again, a tremendous learning experience for everyone.

Ashtamurti Upasana: On the 25th, the shibirarthis were taken to Panchavati where, under the guidance of Poojya Swamiji, they practised the Ashtamurti Upasana. Swamiji introduced the basic concepts of the Upasana, the eight elements (ashta-murti) and then touched upon the technique.

Guru Parampara: A talk on our illustrious Guru Parampara for the youth and elders, in separate sessions, on the 26th, started with our origin - from River Saraswati to our Guru Parampara where the shibirarthis found out more about each Guru and the events that had occurred during their reign as “Mathadhipati.” An interesting fact that impressed the participants was that Param Poojya Parijnanashram Swamiji had visited NASA and the scientists present there had been astounded at His knowledge.

Gayatri Anushthan, Devi Anushthan: It is not often that one gets the chance to perform the Gayatri Anushthan or the Devi Anushthan due to our daily routine. However, the shibirarthis were fortunate to savour this experience on the 27th. The menfolk recited the Gayatri Mantra continuously for an hour while the womenfolk performed Devi Poojan.

Social/Cultural Activities

Museum Trip: On December 24, the shibirarthis participated in the first anniversary celebration of “Shri Parijnanashram Vastu Sangrahalya”, the museum. Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Prakash Gokarnmaam highlighted the arduous but fruitful journey taken by those involved in establishing the museum;
Suma Kaushik, its Manager, thanked all those who had helped fulfill PP Parijnanashram Swamiji’s dream. Poojiya Sadyojat Shankashram Swamiji also addressed the gathering.

**Konkani Culture:** On the same day (24th), an enjoyable session took the *shibirarthis* on a journey, revisiting some of the intricacies of our mother tongue, which many of us were not very fluent in. We were first introduced to the “Amchi Surname Pictionary Game” in which volunteers from among the *shibirarthis* were given a Konkani surname and had to draw a picture which would represent it as a Konkani or English word. This game was thoroughly enjoyed by all. They then regaled the audience with some traditional Amchi phrases or “mhanyo”.

**Games:** Much-needed rest to our over-worked brain cells, was provided by way of two extremely insightful games (24th and 26th December) which had both the young and the old participating actively.

1. **The Bedsheet Game** – The *shibirarthis* were split into four *tolis* or groups – Audumber, Kadamb, Palash and Bilwa. Each *toli* was given a ball and a bedsheet with five holes alongside which was a coloured patch. The objective was to navigate the ball and make contact with all the coloured patches next to the holes while only holding the edge of the bedsheet. To increase the difficulty level, the game was replayed with two balls.

2. **Teamwork Game** – Each *toli* was responsible for one letter of the word “AMCHI” and the objective of was to draw this letter in each of the 5 paper sheets (stuck to the ground), using a box holding a sketch pen at the bottom attached to which were 6 ribbons, but by holding only the edge of the ribbons. Processing sessions at the end of each game helped us to understand how we could relate the game to our real life. Both young and old participated very enthusiastically; the energy displayed by the elders was a joy to behold! The level of competitiveness reached was extraordinary and, at times, the *shibirarthis* needed to be reminded that it was “only a game”.

**Sanskrit Sessions:** Sanskrit sessions (25th and 27th December) were facilitated by using a mixture of props and games. The sessions were conducted entirely in Sanskrit which, although challenged our understanding at times, was well received and some *shibirarthis* showed an interest in learning Sanskrit via the notes on our Math website.

**Karaseva:** For “Karaseva”, which literally means “service by hand”, the *shibirarthis* were taken to Kembre farms where they had the opportunity to perform some unusual seva. They were split into two groups - the first worked in an Acacia plantation where the *shibirarthis* had to rake in the fallen dried leaves which prevent the rain water to seep through the ground to the roots. The second group had the task of smashing the rice shoots against the farmer beds to separate the rice from the shoots (see photograph above). Spread over the 25th and 26th, the karaseva, although tiring, was quite a humbling experience for many and made the *shibirarthis* appreciate some of the simple things of everyday life. Refreshed by an invigorating session of stretching exercises, the *shibirarthis* performed their seva with absolute sincerity and boundless enthusiasm.

**Yuvadhara Presentations** (25th and 27th December): Yuvadhara members made presentations on some of the Math’s activities. Madhura Haldipur spoke about the Srivali High School which caters to the students from the 8th to 10th standards. Kiran Gokarn then provided an insight into how Sanskrit is slowly regaining its lost glory and how we as Chitrapur Saraswats can avail of the teaching resources via Girvana Pratishtha, the Sanskrit learning arm of our Math. Esha Hoskote then spoke about the praiseworthy work carried out by the Srivali Clinic in helping the community in and around Shirali. She also highlighted the importance of the Srivali Clinic and the exemplary work carried out by Samvit Sudha towards the upliftment and increased independence of the women around Shirali. Rahil Mundkur and Kartik Kadle gave a brief talk on the concept of the Yuvadhara which has become a huge success story in India, with a current membership of over 600 members countrywide.
The aim was to initiate a similar Yuvadhara in the overseas Sabhas to reintroduce us to our rich heritage and culture and pave the way for youngsters to contribute to our community.

In the assigned window of two days, Rahil Mundkur and Kartik Kadle agreed to make the presentation, even though none of them were familiar with the entire content. It was truly a challenging task, well accomplished.

Volunteering: The shibirarthi volunteered daily in various Math activities such as bhojan seva (helping serve food) and bhajan seva (singing bhajans) during teerth vitaran and before Ratri Pooja.

Quiz: Having spent the last four days learning about our rich heritage, customs and illustrious Guru Parampara, it was time to test our newly acquired knowledge through a thoroughly informative and enjoyable quiz on Saraswat history, Konkani culture and our sacred rituals, starting with the Round Robin, followed by an audio-visual and a rapid fire round of ten questions. Each toli represented a team and, as usual, the competition was fierce!

Cultural Programme and Jali Beach Outing: On the final night (27th December), the shibirarthi put up a wonderful cultural programme of group performances by each of the overseas Sabhas present as well as some outstanding individual performances.

The next morning, the Shibir finally concluded after five wonderful days of learning, work and fun with an informal outing to Jali Beach. Krishnanand Heblekarmaam and his team deserve our thanks for their supreme efforts in making this Shibir a huge success.

Finally, with a sense of fulfilment and a promise to return for the next NRI Shibir, the shibirarthi bade their goodbyes.

The shibirarthi were indeed very fortunate to be blessed with the presence of Poojya Swamiji during the Shibir's numerous activities and sessions as well as during the interactions, both formal and informal, when Poojya Swamiji patiently answered all the questions no matter how frivolous or complex the question seemed. Each shibirarthi would like to thank Him for His gracious presence and abundant patience.

This is an abridged version of the report; the complete report is available on the website of Shree Chitrapur Math.

‘Gulwadi Quartet’ performs in Mauritius

Nirmala Jaishankar (Bondal), Shobhana Rao (Ullal), Shaila Hattangadi and Arun Gulwadi, who perform as the sibling group ‘Gulwadi Quartet’ are being accorded international recognition for their talents. They had recently been invited to perform a concert by the Government of Mauritius on the anniversary of their respected former leader Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam.

Raghuvir Vishveshwar Burde was felicitated as the senior-most past pupil (born in 1914) of Gibb High School, Kumta, during the school’s Centenary Celebrations on December 19, 2009. He was blessed and honored by the pontiff, HH Shrimad Vidyadhiraj Teerth Shripad Swamiji of Shri Samsthan Gokarn, Partagali Math. The three-day function was attended by dignitaries in the field of education and key government officials of Karnataka and Goa.

PHOTOGRAPHS IN KS

We have been trying to improve the quality of the photographs printed in our magazine and would appreciate your help. We request our all our contributors, advertisers and well-wishers who send us photographs for printing to please -

- mail professional quality prints of the photographs to: The Editor, at the KSA Office address
- OR
- if using email, to scan the photographs at a minimum resolution of 300 dpi, and send them in .jpeg or .tif format
Aditi Gurkar, daughter of Seema and Uday Gurkar, has received her doctoral degree in Cell and Molecular Biology from Boston University Medical School, Boston, USA. Her dissertation work was done in the laboratory of Dr. Cyrus Vaziri in the Department of Genetics and Genomics / Pathology. The lab is interested in understanding how cells are protected against the carcinogenic (cancer-causing) effects of ‘polycyclic aryl-hydrocarbons’ (PAHs), a group of abundant and ubiquitous environmental pollutants that are present in tobacco smoke, car exhaust fumes and other combustion products, and represent a major threat to human health.

PAHs and other carcinogens cause cancer by damaging the DNA and altering the genetic code (by causing mutations). Normal cells are protected against carcinogens by a number of mechanisms. Aditi worked on understanding such mechanisms that sense PAH-induced DNA damage and appropriately integrate DNA repair with cell growth. Her work elucidates fundamental biological processes that are important for normal growth, development, and tumor suppression. Understanding these events could allow us to identify individuals most at risk from tobacco smoke (and related agents) and to devise appropriate protective therapies.

Aditi is currently working at Harvard Medical School/ Massachusetts General Hospital to identify novel therapeutics to treat cancer. She believes that basic research can make an impact globally and thanks her family for always inspiring her.

Design Warz’, the seven-part interior design reality TV show just concluded on ZOOM recently. Of the hundreds of professional and amateur designers who battled it out to be in the final team, only 18 made it to the final, and were grouped into nine teams comprising a professional and a non-professional each. Their designs were judged on the basis of innovation, creativity and functionality by judges including Soha Ali Khan, Emran Hashmi, Neha Dhupia, Minissha Lamba, Aditi Govitrikar, Geeta Basra and Tara* Kaushal.

Amay Gurkar, 23, son of Seema and Uday Gurkar, participated in Design Warz and made it to the grand finale, winning the trophy along with Kanchan Kukreja, 28. The programme was telecast on ZOOM on January 30, 2010. The grand finale judging was on the basis of designing a celebrity bedroom which was sponsored by ASIS. The winning team will also get to experience the prestigious interior designing fair at Milan.

Amay is a final year student of architecture at Kamla Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute of Architecture in Juhu, Mumbai. For him, “Designing is an art, for which you don’t necessarily need to be an artist. It is about taking the mundane, the forgotten and the unnoticed things we encounter everyday, and giving them a new design language.”
**Personalia**

**Pankaj Kumta**, 23, son of Padmini (nee Jejri, Kanara House) and Uday Kumta of Hyderabad has passed final MBBS examination with 69%. He has topped his college, Mamata Medical College, Khammam, in Pediatrics with 74% and has been awarded a Gold Medal by the college. He is seen receiving the Gold Medal from Dr. Kakarla Subba Rao, eminent radiologist and presently Chairman of the Indo-American Cancer Hospital in Hyderabad.

**Riya Mashelkar**, aged 9, daughter of Swati (nee Gulwadi) and Vishant Mashelkar, and granddaughter of Jyoti and Dinesh N Gulwadi of Panaji, Goa, recently received the First Prize in a drawing competition (primary section) organized by the Wild Life and Ecotourism Wing of the Forest Department of the Government of Goa, during the Wild Life Week celebrations for 2009. The prize was awarded by Digambar Kamat, Chief Minister of Goa, in the presence of Philip Rodrigues, Minister for Forests, Government of Goa.

Starting from the age of 3, Riya has won 21 prizes so far, in various drawing competitions.

**Akshat Ragade**, aged 9, son of Dr. Anjali and Dr. Anil Sudhakar Ragade, and grandson of Sudhakar and Vasanti Ragade, Pune, has been undergoing rigorous training in Karate at the Nigdi Centre in Pune which is affiliated to Cobra Martial Arts India. He successfully qualified for a Black Belt at the gradation tests held at Nigdi on September 6, 2009 after going through six rounds of individual fights with a junior, an equal and a senior Black Belt holder, and a last fight with a group. Normally, it takes four and a half to five years of training to appear for a Black Belt gradation. Last year, he participated in a district level kickboxing tournament and won a bronze medal.

Akshat is in Std. IV and is one of the top students of Vidyav Valley School in Pune. He is also keenly interested in badminton and takes part in acting and choral singing.

**Ramkishore Upponi**, son of Indumati and Raghuvir Upponi, has been awarded a fellowship by the Australian Boating and Yachting Association, Sidney, beginning January 15, 2009. He has been appointed Chief Consultant for the Mumbai Disaster Management Board. Earlier, he was a consultant for the hovercraft services operated by SKS Ltd. and Mahindra's Triton Hovercraft Ltd. between Mumbai and Navi Mumbai.

Ramkishore was interviewed by the NDTV 24/7 news channel on the emergent scenario of the boating industry during the 2009 Mumbai International Boat Show held at the Bandra-Kurla Complex in Mumbai. With the recent 26/11 attack from the sea and India's long coastline, he is on the Advisory Board of the Maharashtra Mercantile Board and the Maharashtra Coastal Police.

Ramkishore is the CEO and General Manager-Works of Viking Boats which manufactures sailing catamaran yachts, pleasure boats and high-speed interceptor boats, having inputs in Jaigad near Ratnagiri and in Navi Mumbai.

**Anirudh Bantwal**, 23, son of Krishnanand Bantwal and Vidya Bantwal of Grant Road, Mumbai has cleared the final examination of Chartered Accountancy held in November 2009, in the first attempt. The examination is conducted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. He has also completed the LLB course (2006-09) of Mumbai University and secured his LLB degree last year.

Currently, Anirudh is doing his CA articleship with M/s Yardi Prabhu Associated, Chartered Accountants, Mumbai.
HERE AND THERE

Ahmedabad: Navratri Nityapaath was recited on December 26. On January 16, Guru Poojan was performed, followed by Prarjna Trayodashi and Gurupadukastotra.

Reported by Shubhangi Kabad

Bengaluru: With great joy and reverence, PP Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji was welcomed in the traditional manner at the Math on January 27. The Dharmasabha on February 1 was followed by Swamiji’s Aashirvachan. Through February 2-7, the daily programme included poojans, teerth vitaran by Swamiji (afternoons), Deepanamaskar, Ratri Poojan by Swamiji, bhajan seva (evenings). Over 1 lakh samuhik Gayatri Japas were chanted in all, on Sundays.

Sahasra Modak Ganahoma on Angarika Sankashti received an enthusiastic response. A three-part talk on ‘Achaman’ by Dharmaprabhakar Rajagopal Bhat attracted a large audience. On the 13th Ordination Day of Swamiji, Laghu Rudra Homa and Samuhik Gayatri Japa (men) and Devi Anushthan (women) were performed. That evening’s Dharmasabha was spectacular - Prarthana children welcomed Swamiji; ‘deepamallikas’ waved diyas and offered flowers, and a beautiful Guru Vandana was dedicated to Swamiji. Sri Narayan Giri Swamiji’s presence and His simple yet profound Aashirvachan augmented the lustre of the occasion. Poojya Swamiji gave an Aashirvachan and sang the soulful “Lago Tujhe Payi”.

On February 6, 62 Prarthana children had a wonderful interaction with Swamiji. Excellent presentations by Yuvadhara on our Math’s socially-oriented activities followed.

At the concluding Dharmasabha, Swamiji presented certificates to Sanskrit students. Prior to the Aashirvachan, He felicitated Dharmaprabhakar Rajagopal Bhat and Dr. Ketan Shah, well-known accupressure specialist for his invaluable support during the Guru Jyoti Yatra. The gathering dispersed after the usual Deepanamaskar and prasad vitaran.

Reported by Uma Trasi and Amit Kilpady

Mumbai, Borivli: The 13th Ordination Day of Poojya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji was celebrated on February 3 with Prarjna Trayodashi, Gurupadukastotra and Guru Poojan. A talk, “Shri Gurave Namaha,” by the Sabha President was followed by talks by Prarthana class children on “Our Guru Parampara”, “Poojya Swamiji’s visit to Borivli Sabha” and “Swami Dayya Pampa” which received thunderous applause. Then came a quiz conducted by Yuvadhara members on our Guru Parampara and Shri Chitrapur Math which not only exercised the memory cells but proved to be an enjoyable learning experience for one and all. The gathering dispersed after the usual Deepanamaskar and prasad vitaran.

Reported by Anand Dhareshwar

We are informed that the caption of the centre photograph of Guru Saanidhyotsava 2009 at Borivli Sabha, on page 37 of our February 2010 issue should read as “Guru aaye baadal ban saavan mein…” instead of “Ghar aaye baadal ban saavan mein…” We regret the inadvertent error.

Editor

Mumbai, Dadar: Prarthana class children were treated to a variety of new nutritious snacks, prepared by members, during the dance and drama practice sessions before the visit of Poojya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji in December 2009.

(contd. on p-77)
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The Punyatithi of HH Shankarashram Swamiji II was observed on January 18 with Guru Poojan by Yuvadhara youths. Dr. Chaitanya Gulvady read out the teachings of Poojya Swamiji from verses 46 to 85 of Chapter 15 and conducted a short, lively vimarsh. A gist of the Sannikarsha held to date by all the Sabhas in Karla was also shared. After the aarti, a tempting prasad of panchakdai, groundnut usli with til ladus, fruits and jalebis was served.

Eight sadhakas attended the Sanskrit Sambhashan Shibir at Shirali in January; a wonderful experience with the shibirarthis making an earnest attempt to speak in Sanskrit. Many others participated in the successful one lakh Gayatri Anushthan at Shri Guru Math, Mallapur, and the Vardhanti celebrations of Bhuveneshwari Devi Sannidhi, Mahaganapati Sannidhi, Shree Shankaracharya Sannidhi and HH Parijnanashram Swamiji III Paduka Sannidhi at Shirali Math.

**Reported by Shobha Puthli**

**Mumbai, Goregaon:** Vardhanti of the Shri Mahaganapati and the three new shrines at Shri Chitrapur Math was celebrated on 24 January 2010, with Gayatri Anushthan by 13 male devotees, including four yuvas. The programme concluded with breakfast. The Sabha plans to continue this on the third Sunday of every month.

The ladies’ wing of the Sabha gathered at the residence of various devotees on every Sankashti Chaturthi and recited 21 avartans of Shri Ganapati Atharvashirsha. This has become a regular, well-attended monthly programme.

The Punyatithis of HH Shrimat Shankarashram Swamiji II on January 18, 2010, and of HH Shrimat Krishnashram Swamiji on December 9 and HH Shrimat Keshavashram Swamiji on December 10, 2009 were observed by performing Guru Poojan and singing bhajans and Shankarnarayan Geet.

**Reported by Pranav Nagarkatti**

**Mumbai, Santacruz:** The Punyatithi of HH Shrimat Shankarashram Swamiji II was observed on January 18 at the Colony’s Shrimat Anandashram Hall. After Deepanamaskar, melodious bhajans were sung by most of the devotees with the yuwas also participating. One bhajan led to another and from the oldest devotees to the younger yuwas, everyone joined in with great devotion. The evening concluded with Ashtak, Mangalarati, concluding prayers and prasad.

On February 3, the 13th Ordination Day of Param Poojya Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji was celebrated with great enthusiasm and reverence. Following the commencing prayers, Parijnan Trayodashi, Gurupadukastotra were recited. Some of the large number of devotees, who had gathered to offer their love and respects on this auspicious day, performed Guru Poojan. Mangalarati, Ashtak and concluding prayers ended our evening with a variety of delicious sweets offered by devotees as prasad. Till late in the evening, the devotees shared memories of the 13 years of Poojya Swamiji and how His grace and constant guidance have never failed us and always motivate us to be better!

**Reported by Shobha Puthli**

**Mumbai, Vile Parle:** The Punyatithi of HH Shrimat Shankarashram Swamiji II was observed on January 18 with Deepanamaskar, Narayanpada, Mangalpada and prasad vitaran.

Devi Anushthan as per the Sadhana Panchakam module was performed on January 22 while members had the opportunity to observe Sannikarsha at Karla Math on the January 31. On February 12, Mahashivratri was celebrated with Shiva Poojan and bhajans till midnight.

The 13th Ordination Day of PP Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji was observed on February 3 with Guru Poojan.

At a quarterly meeting held on January 24, vantiga collectors were apprised of vantiga-related matters discussed at the recent Standing Committee Meeting held at Grant Road, one of which emphasized smooth and cordial communication of information and feedback.

**Reported by Shrikar Talgeri**

**Shirali:** On January 22, Sabha members and Shirali residents participated in the 325th Vardhanti celebrations of Janardhan Temple, Manki. On the 24th, the Vardhanti celebrations of the new shrines at the Math (Shree Bhuveneswari, Mahaganapati, Shreemadadya Shankaracharya and Gurupaduka Sannidhi) saw active member participation.

The annual Bhanap Sammilan on January 25 saw members enthusiastically participating in sports and other competitions. Poojya Swami ji felicitated two
senior members of Shirali - Raghavendra Shalekar and Taramati Kalbag, distributed prizes to winners of the competitions, and blessed the gathering with an Aashivachan.

As per tradition, CYMA (Chitrapur Young Men’s Association) Day on January 26, began with flag hoisting, followed by bhajans by Parijnan Bhajan Mandali and other devotees. Later, pens and notebooks were presented to children of Anandashram Balak Mandir.

Later, at the Sabha’s special General Body Meeting, on request, President, Standing Committee, Vinod Yennemady, who was present on the occasion, informed the gathering about the happenings in Karla. He also agreed to the Sabha President’s request, supported unanimously by the audience, for participating in Sannikarsha in Karla and said that the date would be informed later.

On the 27th morning, after samuhik prarthana at the new shrines and Guru Sannidhis, 25 members participated in Gayatri Anushthan for an hour; 25,000 japas were recited. Lady members recited Navaratri Nityapath, Devi Anushthan and Lalita Sahasranam.

Reported by Subhash Koppikar

Thane: The activities carried out in January 2010 by the different centres of the Sabha follow.

At Mulund, Navratri Nityapath/Devi Poojan were performed on the 12th, Shiv Poojan and chanting of the 12th and 15th Chapters of the Gita, and Shiv Manas Pooja on the 27th. On January 18, the Punyatithi of HH Shankarashram Swamiji II was reverently observed. Classes for shlokas and Sanskrit Sambhashan continued to be held regularly.

At Dombivli, Navaratri Nityapath/Anushthan were undertaken on the 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th. Dasbodh Parayana was done from January 12-20.

At Navi Mumbai, on the 21st, Sadhana Panchakam, Guru Poojan, and recitation of Parijanan Trayodashi were conducted.

At Powai, the Punyatithi of HH.Shan karashram Swamiji II was observed with Guru Poojan, bhajans, Shankarnarayan Geet, Deepanamaskar and Mangalapad.

The Thane Sabha also participated in the Sannikarsha on January 31 at Karla

Reported by Prakash Hattangadi

OUR INSTITUTIONS

Saraswat Association, Chennai: Datta Jayanti celebrations commenced on December 2, 2009 with savjanik prarthana in the morning, Nityanema bhajans in the evening and concluded on the 6th with Nagar Bhajan, Mangal Prarthana, poojas followed by prasad bhajan. From 3rd to 6th, Dharmapracarar V. Rajgopal Bhat gave a discourse on “Achaman and 11 Names of the Lord”. On December 11th, 12th and 25th, there was Devi Anushthan, Devi Poojan and chanting of Lalita Sahasranam, the Gita and Navratri Nityapath; on 14th December and 9th January, Shiv Poojan (Sadhana Panchakam), and on 24th December and 28th January, Guru Poojan (Sadhana Panchakam). The year 2010 was begun with Satyanarayana Mahapooja.

January 8 was a red letter day for our laity as HH Shrimat Sadyajat Shankarashram Swamiji graced our premises and camped here till the 16th. During the camp, a two-day shibir was organized on 11th-12th at Samvit Ashram by the seaside and a beautiful Palki Utsav was held on 13th. On the 16th after Nirod geet, Swamiji left for Bengaluru. On the 18th, the Punyatithi of HH Shrimat Shankarashram Swamiji II was duly observed with Guru Poojan and bhajans.

Reported by Ramesh Nadkarni

Saraswat Cultural Forum, Pune: The Forum places on record its grief on the very sad and sudden demise of Shri Shivadas Chandavarkar on the January 25, 2010. Shivadasmaam had taken the initiative to organize a number of musical programmes not only for the Forum but for many other organizations as well. He had painstakingly collected a record number of live recordings of the great masters of Hindustani classical music.

Ever enthusiastic in encouraging budding artists, the latest one Shivdasmaam was instrumental – from concept to organizing – was for a Hindustani classical music programme by Anand Bhate on February 20, for which he had made all the arrangements and was trying to secure sponsorships virtually till his last breath. His passing away has caused a deep void which will not be easy to fill up. The Forum has suffered an irreparable loss.

Reported by Ramesh Nadkarni
Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi, Mumbai: At a cooking competition on parathas/stuffed parathas on January 12, Geeta Balse welcomed the judges, Sandhya Kulkarni and Savita Savnal, from the catering field, who run the restaurant, “Taste Of India”. While the 12 entries, each with its recipe given alongside, were being judged, Nirmala Nadkarni, Nalini Sanzgiri and Geeta Balse regaled the audience with anecdotes and poems. The prize winners, Geeta Balse (1st and 3rd prizes respectively, for hara-bhara alu and paneermethi parathas), and Nirmala Baindur (2nd prize for poushtik stuffed parathas) read out their prize-winning recipes. Smita Mavinkurve proposed the vote of thanks.

On the 22nd, at the Sankranti Sammelan, Parijananand Bhajan Mandal, Goregaon, presented a highly enjoyable programme of different types of devotional songs, ably guided by Chandavarika Madhukar and Anjali and Pranav’s tabla accompaniment. Haldi-kumkum was offered and snacks served in memory of Smt. Suman Yadери, Smt. Vijaya Yadéri and Smt. Ahilya Ugrankar, sponsored by Neeta Yadéri. Pedas were distributed in memory of Smt. Muktabai Mangalore by Chandrama Bijur.

Forthcoming programmes:
- Mar. 8th: 3.30 pm – Women’s Day - Renowned artists Chetana Kadle, Asha Bhatkal and Shilpa Nadkarni share their experiences.
- Mar. 21st: 12 noon - Puraskar Samarambh – Lekhan Puraskar to Smt. Indu Nagarkatti and Smt. Shaila Khambadkone, Sugam Sangeet Puraskar (name to be announced later) followed by contributory lunch at Rs. 110/- per person. Last date of registration: 10 March, 2010. Venue: Smt. Indirabai Kalyanpurkar Hall.
- April 10: 5 pm - Vasantik Sammelan - Sitar recital by Anjali Gangolli and sugam sangeet by Dr. Leena Gangolli.

Saraswat Senior Citizens’ Association, Virar, Mumbai: The monthly meetings in October and December 2009 saw lively discussions on various topics while November saw some sad events with deaths in the families of some of our members and our seniormost yet most enthusiastic member Taranath Kalbag undergoing a major surgery.

January 2010 was ushered in with the traditional Annual Day celebrations on the 24th, combining the AGM, Sankranti haldi-kumkum and lunch hosted by the Association. Chairman Mangesh Kagal welcomed the audience and gave a summary of the events during the year 2009. The main attraction was the specially arranged music programme; Kunda Kagal introduced the artistes: Chaitra Balwally of Pune gave a light music programme with Hemant Hemmady and Nilesh Gadekar accompanying her on the harmonium and tabla, respectively. Chaitra has an impressive bio-data; she has given many public performances, and is one of the 2500 artistes from all over India, including great singers, who participated in the recently held “Antarnad” festival. Her performance comprising bhakti geet, bhav geet and some Hindi songs, was spell-binding. Hon. Secretary Shobha Kalbag presented gifts to the artistes.

MATRIMONIALS

Alliance invited from CSB boys for CSB girl, 24, 5’4”, graduate, working in MNC at Bangalore. Contact – 09741725840. (email).

Alliance invited for Chitrapur Saraswat boy, age 28 Yrs, 5’8”, B.E (Telecommunications) currently working in the U.S.A. Girl should be well educated, from Chitrapur Saraswat family. Reply to Box No. CL 3286, Kanara Saraswat, Mumbai 400007.

ENGAGEMENTS

Tallur-Hattangady: Gayatri, daughter of Smt Shantha and late Shri Ananth Tallur with Sandeep, son of Smt Radhika and Shri Krishnanand Hattangady at Bangalore on 27th July, 2009.

Nagarkatty-Ullal: Dnyanesh, son of Smt. Vrinda and Shri Shrikant Nagarkatty with Shibani, daughter of Smt. Shobha and Shri Gurunandan Ullal on 24th January, 2010 at Mumbai.

Engagement on 7th February, 2010 of Sunayna (Pooja) daughter of Shashi and Aarti Balsekar with Rohan son of Niranjan and Kausalya Ullal in Mumbai.

Hattikudur- Bijoor: Ambarish, son of late Sandhya and Narendra Hattikudur of Santacruz with Neha, daughter of Deepa and Ramesh Bijoor of Saraswat Colony, Santacruz on 13th December, 2009 at Khar, Mumbai.
Arur-Mavinkurve: Siddharth, son of Smt. Sushama and Ashok Arur, with Anuja, daughter of Shri Aravind and Aparna Mavinkurve on 7th February, 2009 at Donapaula, Goa.

MARRIAGE
Shekhar, son of Shobha and Arun Honavar of Borivali with Deepali, daughter of Vandana and Girish Wag of Andheri on Friday, January 22nd, 2010 at Mumbai.

BIRTH
January 29th - A son (Shlok) to Priya (nee Kilpady) and Ravindra Hemmad, grandson to Seeta and Ramadas Hemmad and Vijayalakshmi and late Sridutt Kilpady.

PUROHIT
Hattangadi Prashant Bhat, B-17, Deepanjali CHS, BAF-Hira Nagar, Marve Road, Malad (West), Mumbai - 400095. Mobile No. 9820920671/9892614433.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
Shri Mahesh Gopal Balsekar residing at Santacruz (East), has shifted to Phase 3, Bldg. No. 2-A, Flat No. 702, N.G. Suncity, Thakur Village, Kandivali (East), Mumbai 400 101. Contact No. 93221 39013 / 97692 66645.

TEMPORARY CHANGE IN ADDRESS
N S Rao, Flat No.9, Premalaya, Near Guru Nanak Park, 16th Road, Bandra (West), Mumbai 400050 Phone: 26553224

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BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE: NARENDRA KAMAT
We wish you were with us to celebrate this special day, 27th March, and to relive the fun-times we had together, year after year. – Anu, Vibha, Shubha, Sadhana and all your loved ones.

SAD DEMISE
Malini Shirali (nee Sorab) (w/o late Ashok Shirali), mother of Gauri Sirur (husband Rajivkumar Sirur) and Jaideep (a.k.a. Ashwin) Shirali (wife Rohini), passed away at Mumbai on 7th January 2010. Deeply mourned by Sirurs and Shiralis, grandchildren Devyani Nilekani, Namrata Sirur, Rajat and Advait Shirali and close relatives.

DOMESTIC TIDINGS

BIRTHS
We welcome the following new arrivals
Nov 26 : A son (Ahan) to Trupti and Ashish Uday Mavinkurve at Bangalore.
2010
Jan 17 : A daughter (Arohi) to Sonal and Amay Arun Padbidri at Mumbai.
Feb 2 : A daughter to Swathi (nee Yellore) and Dnyanesh A. Shirali at Dallas, TX, USA.

MARRIAGES
We congratulate the following and wish them a happy married life
2009
Nov 20 : Gourita Prakash Murdeshwar with Christopher Quenten Gibbs at London, UK.
Nov 27 : Manasi Mahesh Balsekar with Ameet Kishore Kalyanpur at Mumbai.

OBITUARIES
We convey our deepest sympathy to the relatives of the following
2010
Jan 25 : Baindoor Shantaram (B.S. Rao) Shrinivasrao (83) at Dahisar, Mumbai.
Jan 30 : Sulabha Mohan Kalambi (89) (nee Kamla Kalle) at Mumbai.
Feb 1 : Kumudini Ramchandra Nadkarni (76) at Talmakiwadi, Tardeo, Mumbai.
Feb 3 : Hattikudur Raghum Ramchandra Nadkarni (87) at Goregaon East, Mumbai.
Feb 14 : Malan Sharad Pradhan (69) (nee Sudha R. Nadkarni) at Sion-Chunabhatti, Mumbai.
Feb 15 : Bellare Deepak Rangarao (64) at Mumbai.
Feb 15 : Hattangadi Vijaykumar R. (80) at Saraswat Colony, Santacruz, Mumbai.

Letters, articles and poems are welcome. Letters should be brief, and articles should be about 800-1000 words. They will be edited for clarity and space. The selection of material for publication will be at the discretion of the Editorial Committee. The opinions expressed in the letters/articles are those of the authors and not necessarily those of KSA or the Editorial Committee. All matter meant for publication should be addressed only to the Editor c/o KSA Office / e-mail id given above. The deadline for letters, articles, poems, material for “Here and There”, “Personalia”, and other original contributions is the 12th of every month; the deadline for advertisements, classifieds and other paid insertions, is the 16th of every month. Matter received after these dates will be considered for a future issue.
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