Manali Bijur, a topper in B.Sc. and poised to join the Air Force sharing her thoughts and experiences with the audience

Karan Muzumdar, a State Level Swimmer and a high scorer in ICSE receiving a prize from the Chief Guest
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We pray to our revered Guru Parampara & Lord Bhavanishankar for a Long, Healthy and Happy life for our dearest Pappa on his 75th Birthday.

Your enthusiasm and helping nature has always been an inspiration to us.

- : From : -
Chitra Konaje, Chetan, Archana, Ashish, Chaitali, Krishna & Kanaka, Konajes, Relatives, Cousins, Friends & well wishers.

Hearty Congratulations on the occasion of Golden Wedding Anniversary to Smt. Vatsala (nee Cherkal) and Shri. Raghuvir Dhareshwar.

We pray to our Kuladevata Shri Mangesh Mahalakshmi, Lord Bhavanishankar, our Holy Guruparampara and Param Pujya Shri Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji to bless them with all Happiness, Peace and Good Health.

* With lots of Love, best wishes and compliments *
ANNOUNCEMENT

As per the Resolution passed in 101st Annual General Meeting held on 29th September 2013, Life Membership, Patron Membership and Spouse Membership fees has been increased as under w.e.f. 1st January 2014

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Existing Rate</th>
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We appeal to members of our community including Female Members married outside our community and their children to become members before 31st December 2013 to take advantage of the lower membership rates prevailing till then.
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Fax: +91 -20-24273172 e-mail: chpl@vsnl.com www.ConsolidatedHoists.com
Some people adhere to life’s saying about stopping to smell roses. Others adhere to the saying about waking up and smelling coffee. It’s the balance between appreciating our present and recognizing the reality behind some situations that we sometimes struggle with. Part of you wants to pursue a particular dream, yet you know how you’re seeing it in an unrealistic light. You want to know whether you are kidding yourself. You want to be assured that it will come all right in the end. Trust me when I say, you can pursue a dream. Just give it a reality check first. Facts are the foundation upon which we build things. Faith is the wings with which we fly.

You need to base your dreams on solid facts and reality and then pursue them with plenty of trust in your own competency and capability and loads of faith in luck and miracles. Don’t give up an opportunity or discard an idea because you don’t think it’s presented to you the way you want. Believe the fact, that some of the world’s most inventive and innovative ideas started out as scribbles on the back of serviettes, matchboxes or in sand. Brilliant ideas don’t always require glorious settings to manifest. They’ll come when it suits them. Don’t dismiss a particular idea because of how it might be presenting itself. It doesn’t require the trumpet-blowing entrance you always believed it would.

Remember when you were at school and had to recite a poem or speech from memory? You probably spent hours trying to cram words into your brain unsuccessfully yet, when you awoke the next morning, you could recite whatever-it-was effortlessly. When you invest considerable effort and thought with no apparent success, you are bound to discover, sooner or later, how easily something is possible by distancing yourself from it briefly.

Sometimes, we focus so intently on what caused a situation to happen that we overlook or ignore the best way to deal with it. We convince ourselves that, until we are reassured we’ve identified a cause; we cannot begin to implement a solution. You could spend considerable time looking at and assessing what happened in some way and why. Alternatively, you could identify a real and reassuring solution or way forward. All that’s required is a simple change in focus and attitude.

There’s something pictorial about us being described as…. captains of our own destinies. We steer personal crafts through both choppy and still waters. We learn how to identify rocky shorelines from a distance. We also learn how to set sails to maximize help, strong winds blowing in the right direction can provide. That’s why it is always important to recognize how much control you do have in areas where you feel rudderless within. And also predict confidently when it is time to set sail in a very new direction.

Happy December……..enjoy the last month of 2013 to the fullest!!!

Suresh S. Hemmady
INVITATION

Shri Datta Jayanti Utsava commenced in the year 1986 with the prarāṇa and blessings from our most revered Guru Parama Pūjya Shrimat Parijñānāshram Swāmiji III. The aim of Parama Pūjya Shrimat Parijñānāshram Swāmiji to start this Utsava was to encourage the youth to develop devotion towards God, a feeling of belonging and commitment to the Math and Holy Guruparamparā and keep tradition alive. Since then Shri Datta Jayanti Utsava has been celebrated every year.

We have immense pleasure in informing you that Parama Pūjya Shrimat Sadyojāt Shaṅkarāśram Swāmiji has graciously consented to visit Tālmatkiwādī from 12th to 18th December 2013 to grace the Annual Datta Jayanti celebrations. We invite you to participate in the celebration, with your presence and utilize the opportunity to perform Gurusevā and receive blessings of Lord Bhavānishaṅkar, Lord Dattātreya and our Holy Guruparamparā.

Register for special sevās

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<th>Mahāpōshākā</th>
<th>₹ 20,000/-</th>
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Yours sincerely

Praveen Kaḍle
Convener
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The Saraswat Students’ Convocation titled “At Home” was held on 12th October 2013 at the Kanara Saraswat Association’s Shrimat Anandashram Hall at 5.00 p.m. The Chief Guest was eminent educationist - Dr. Smt. Nirmala G Bellare, Vice-Principal (Retired) of Sir Vithaldas Thackersey College of Home Science, SNDT University.

Smt. Geeta Balse compered the programme. Shri Suresh Hemmady welcomed all especially the students. He said that it was a pleasure to see so many young and smiling faces and the proud and happy faces of their parents! Smt. Balse then gave a brief overview of the various activities of the KSA. She informed that this is the 90th year as the first such convocation was held in 1924! She said that in 1957 the students had been lucky to receive blessings of H. H. Shrimat Anandashram Swamiji at the Convocation ceremony!

Smt. Geeta Yennemadi then introduced the Chief Guest. We give a brief outline here as Dr. Bellare’s achievements are many. Smt. Bellare completed her BA in 1961 from Delhi University with a first class, setting a record of the highest marks in 30 years and bagging the Maharshi Karve Memorial prize. She went on to do her MA in English and PGCTE with Grade A. She did an M. Litt with English Literature from CIE (Hyderabad) and then another MA from University of Essex U.K. and acquired a Ph.D. from Mumbai University in 2007. She has been teaching since 1963 starting as a Lecturer and culminating as Vice Principal and Officiating Principal. She is also working as an external faculty for MA courses in the University of Mumbai and SNDT Women’s University. She has conducted elocution and dramatic activities at College. She was appointed as Controller of Examinations in June 1996 for SVT College of Home Science (Autonomous College), Bombay. She has conducted a Workshop for teachers of Mumbai Municipal schools and delivered a lecture on ‘Reading Comprehension and Communication’ at a Workshop for guidance of students appearing for the SET examination in 2005. She has worked as a course writer for IGNOU in their programme of Revision of the Foundation Course in English in 2005. She has authored many Workbooks, textbooks and books for students. Smt. Yennemadi then honoured Smt. Bellare with a bouquet. Then followed the programme of felicitating the students. After this Smt Bellare addressed the students. We give here a brief extract of her speech.

Dr. Smt. Bellare started by thanking the KSA for inviting her for this prestigious function. She said “Prestigious, it is for me because I have a great love and loyalty for academics having been in that field all my life not only as a teacher but also as a student doing my 2nd and 3rd Masters in the 70s and 80s and then my doctorate just before retirement.”

She remarked “I remember, how, when I first came to Bombay after completing my M.A and a stint at teaching in Delhi, I had also successfully cleared the State Bank of India Officers Entrance Examination. I now had the additional choice of interviewing for a more remunerative bank job, where the salary was more than double. When I happened to enter a bank with my father for some routine work I looked at it from an aspirant’s perspective. I was rather overwhelmed by the sight of those little cubicles and people surrounded by piles of ledgers and files (this was before the computer days). I thought to myself that I’d rather be in an open airy classroom with young cheerful faces before me and teaching them something new every day. So that’s how I entered the teaching profession and I have enjoyed every bit of it.”

She reminded the students that in spite of their ‘liberation’ from school uniforms, the changing teachers and class rooms at college, the freedom to bunk an occasional lecture and go for a movie or to hang out with friends they need to be aware of the greater goal of entering college: to study and do well at examinations so as to earn that important graduation certificate that is your passport to further studies or may be a career.
She said “So, friends, though your focus has to be on studies you should also enjoy the extra-curricular world. Your participation in other activities and the team work and practical problems that come with them, also teach you a lot. However, it is good for you to remember that education does not stop when you leave the portals of a college or university. Your reading must continue as a habit. You have a lot to learn from vast amounts of reading, be it newspapers, magazines, histories, biographies, literature, science, technology or whatever it is that you enjoy. All this reading adds a sense of imagination and innovation to your intellectual armoury.”

“Again, true education also lies in learning from what you see and hear (whether on radio, TV, cinema or in real life). You also learn from your experiences: Always think about everything you see, hear or experience. Have an open mind about it and learn to form your own opinion about almost everything. We are all blessed with a conscience and there’s tons of information around us. You can learn along life’s way to discriminate between true and untrue, right and wrong, good and bad, just and unjust, fair and unfair. So, do not blindly accept what someone says but decide for yourself how to take it. This is what gives you individuality and builds up your character. It is through our words and actions that we show our true education and upbringing. And it is through such behavior that we can spread the light of our knowledge and our sense of culture. I have heard with admiration how well you students have done and it makes me specially proud that these are all Saraswat students”

She then recited a poem that she had written for her college magazine titled “College Days – Yours and Mine”. The poem contrasted her times in college with the times of the current students. (We will print the poem in a future issue). Smt. Bellare ended by wishing good luck and success to all the students present.

Smt. Balse then invited two students Manali Milind Bijur and Karan Muzumdar to speak on behalf of the students.

Manali, who after completing her B.Sc. in Zoology from Mumbai University is joining the Air Force gave a message to her peers to be focused, work hard toward the goal and not be disheartened if things do not seem to go as they wish. She said that we must have faith that what happens is for the best and God always has something better in store for us. She thanked her grandmother Smt. Lalitha Kerakatte for her support. She said that her family never pulled her back from her goal of joining the Air Force saying how she would cope with a family of her own and her career!

Karan Muzumdar who has completed his Xth with flying colours shared with everybody how he has continued with his hobby of swimming even in his Xth class. He gave a message to his juniors not to spend time on Facebook, WhatApp and other social networking sites as they take you away from your goal by eating up your time. He especially thanked his grandfather Shri Arvind Haldipur and his parents for their continued support and guidance.

The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Smt. Balse and sumptuous refreshments.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor, Just when I was entering home after office hours, I was welcomed by your Deepavali November 2013 issue of Kanara Saraswat. I was thrilled to see the artistic design on the cover so beautifully drawn by Rupa Haridas.

I thank the Editorial Committee for bringing out this excellent issue.

Savita Chandavarkar, Thane

Dear Editor, I just received the November issue of the Kanara Saraswat. The articles are interesting to go through and many of them are instructive and informative. I appreciate the efforts taken by the Editor to maintain the good qualitative standard. The cover with Lord Nataraj is really fantastic. The artist Rupa Haridas deserves accolades. The article titled ‘Amchi Bhaas’ by Smita Balwally brings out the state of our children vis-à-vis speaking our language. We as parents need to take up this issue seriously otherwise we will be speaking English with a few Konkani words rather than the other way round!

Ramkishore Nadkarni, Bangalore
Many eminent scribes have written on Sir B. N Rau for the KS earlier. But recalling his achievements once again in his 60th Death Anniversary year seems worthwhile.

The end came in the early hours of the morning on 30th November, 1953 at a Swiss Nursing Home in Zurich. He had come to Zurich from the Hague where he was then serving as a Judge at the International Court of Justice. The news of his demise was received with shock and sorrow through the length and breadth of India. The President, Prime Minister and Parliament were all stunned by the sudden tragedy. India, nay the world, lost one of the ablest members of its Brain Trust - one who was looked upon universally to offer solutions in many baffling situations.

When the news reached India, the Lok Sabha at New Delhi, departing from tradition, paid homage to a non-member, a privilege extended only to two world-famous personalities - Mahatma Gandhi and Stalin.

After referring to Sir B.N. Rau as one of the principal architects of the Constitution and Chairman of the Hindu Law Commission, the then Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Members in both houses maintained a two-minute silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed soul.

His academic record was unbeatable. B.N. Rau topped the list in the B.A. examination with a triple first in all three subjects - English, Sanskrit and Physics. The following year he appeared for B.A. with Mathematics and was disappointed at having stood second in the University.

His appointment as Constitutional Advisor earned him tributes for being one of the principal architects of the Indian Constitution. The second phase of his career is connected with the emergence of India as a free, democratic country playing an important part in the Council of United Nations. It culminated in the crowning achievement of his life, namely his appointment as a Judge of the International Court at the Hague where he made his mark as one of its ablest Judges.

He had the uncanny knack of penetrating into the heart of problems and presenting straight and clear-cut solutions in as few words as possible.

Sir B.N Rau made a tremendous impression on anyone with whom he came into contact. His ten-minute withering reply to the two-and-half day marathon speech of Sir Zaffrulla Khan over the Hyderabad issue at UN constitutes not only a masterpiece in the art of advocacy but a perfect example of poise, dignity, fortitude and self restraint under the most adverse circumstances: a quality attributed to a “Sthitha Prajna”. No wonder then that Vyshinsky, the Russian delegate at the U.N. described him as a “Saint” among UN delegates.

In recognition of his accomplishment Sir B.N. Rau was knighted in 1937. Between 1944 and 1945 Sir B.N. Rau was Prime Minister of Jammu & Kashmir. In 1946 he was appointed constitutional advisor to the constitution assembly of India. In February 1949 he toured the United States of America and Ireland to gain first hand knowledge of the Constitutions of those countries in Feb 1949. He was one the principal architects of our present Constitution.
He was appointed India's permanent representative with the United Nations at Lake Success. In Jan 1950 he was nominated as the Indian representative on the Security Council. It was Sir B.N. Rau's work at the United Nations that acquired for him worldwide reputation especially his tackling of the Hyderabad issue, Kashmir dispute, Control of Atomic Energy etc., was brilliant and dignified. Sir B.N. Rau was appointed as a Judge of the International Court at Hague. A stamp on his Birth Centenary was released in 1988 by President R. Venkatraman.

Sir Narsing Rau was as expressed by Shri Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, a perfect civil servant and an ideal servant of India. Shri C. Rajagopalachari said that Sir B. N. Rau was in a class by himself, a brilliant scholar, an earnest, sincere, selfless and conscientious worker, who approached any problem with a dispassionate mind and worked at it zealously and diligently throughout his official career.

We request all our contributors to scan photographs at a minimum resolution of 300 dpi, and send them in .jpeg or .tif format.

<><><>
It was pleasing to read that a BHANAP was selected for the ‘HONOURABLE TEACHER’ Award from The Indian Institute of Architects, Tamilnadu Chapter.

A sanskrit subhashita says:

\[ \text{नाभिषेकः न संस्कारः सिंहस्य क्रियते मृगः} \]

\[ \text{विक्रमाधित्यराज्यस्य स्वयमेव मृगेन्द्रता} \]

This is indeed true in his case as dint of hard work, dedication and passion for teaching has brought him laurels from one & all in the fraternity of architects in Southern India.

Prof. Vittal Ramprasad received the “Honourable Teacher Award” of the Indian Institutes of Architects Tamilnadu Chapter in the 10th TRIUNE Celebrations (Architects Day, Teachers Day & IIA Day) on September 28, 2013 at Hotel Savera in Chennai, Tamilnadu. This award is in recognition of his contribution to Teaching. A Citation & the Award along with a Shawl was given by the Chief Guest Prof. A. Mohammed Haris. Prof. Vittal Ramprasad, Professor in the Department of Architecture and former Dean Students Welfare is serving in the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirapalli, Tamilnadu, for almost thirty years. He is the son of Late Shri. Vittal Devaraya Bhat & Late Smt. Sushila Bhat (nee Manjeshwar).

Born in Madras in 1954, he obtained his B. Arch degree from Visveswaraya College of Engineering (UVCE), Bangalore in 1977 getting ‘First Rank’ in the University. To pursue higher studies, V. Ramprasad joined the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, in 1978 and obtained M.Arch. degree in 1980. His mentor, Dr. R.L. Muni Chakravarti, the then Professor & Head of the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning at IIT Kharagpur encouraged and motivated Ramprasad to pursue his career as a Teacher of Architecture.

In July 1980, V. Ramprasad joined the Department of Architecture at the Manipal Institute of Technology, Manipal as a Lecturer & in 1982 was promoted as a Reader in the same department. He was selected as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Architecture, in 1984, in the then Regional Engineering College, Tiruchirapalli (RECT). In July 1996, he was selected as a Professor, in the same Department at RECT.

In 1995, as a British Council Study Fellow, Ramprasad underwent six months International Training in Energy Efficient Buildings at the Building Science Laboratory in the University of Leeds and in the School of Architectural Studies at the University of Sheffield, United Kingdom, under the UK-India RECs Project on Energy Theme. He attended Energy Design Advice Scheme (EDAS) Programme on the Standard Assessment Procedure for the Energy Rating of Dwellings at Nottingham, U.K. in March 1995. He also attended two-weeks training on Staff Development Programme in Instructional Techniques at the University of Huddersfield, U.K. in April 1995.

From July 1996 to January 2004, V. Ramprasad served as a Professor and Head of the Department of Architecture at the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirapalli (NITT). He served as a Nodal Officer (Procurement) of the World Bank funded Government of India Technical Education Quality Improvement Profile

**Prof. Vittal Ramprasad**

**Winner of the Honourable Teacher Award from the Indian Institute of Architects**

**By Narayan Shirali**

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**Profile**

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Programme (TEQIP) at the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirapalli, from 2004 to 2007. In June-July 2005, V. Ramprasad underwent three-week Integrated Multi-Disciplinary Management Training at “SETYM International”, a leading professional training and consulting company in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, under the Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP).

During May 2006 to April 2007, V. Ramprasad has served as a member of the Finance Committee and a Member of the Board of Governors of the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirapalli.

In 2007, V. Ramprasad received the “Best Teacher Award” at the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirapalli. He is also the ‘Life Member’ of The Indian Society for Technical Education (ISTE), New Delhi.

Over the span of 33 years, V. Ramprasad has taught several courses including Building Climatology, Energy Efficient Buildings, Architectural Acoustics, Building Services (Water Supply & Drainage, Electrical Services, Air-conditioning and Mechanical Services) apart from Studio subjects such as Architectural Design and Building Construction and Materials.

In 1986-87, V. Ramprasad designed the Trichy Regional Engineering College Science & Technology Entrepreneurs Park (TREC-STEP) and the scope of work included the complete development of site, architectural design and detailing of Central Workshop, Electro-Mechanical Nursery Sheds and Nursery sheds for Light Industry. Buildings designed within the campus of the then Regional Engineering College (currently the National Institute of Technology Tiruchirapalli) include the Department of Production Engineering, Snacktaria and Silver Jubilee Building. He was a member of the Design Team of Centre for Energy & Environmental Science and Technology (CEESAT). In addition he carried out architectural acoustic design and detailing of a few seminar halls and auditorium within the Institute campus.

V. Ramprasad has published research papers in journals including a few in the Journal of IIA (JIJA) and presented papers in National and International Conferences. He has been invited to deliver lectures on various topics and has been a resource person in the area of Energy Efficient Buildings. His current area of research is in the thermal environment & comfort in naturally ventilated indoor environment.

Vittal Ramprasad has served as an Expert Member on several Selection Committees for faculty & staff recruitment and has served as a Member of many Boards of Studies in Architecture. He was a Member of the Architecture Accreditation Evaluation Committee of the National Board of Accreditation (NBA), New Delhi, from August 2011 to July 2013.

On 1st September 2011, V. Ramprasad was appointed as Dean of Faculty Welfare and from September 2012 to September 2013 he served as the Dean of Students Welfare.

He is happily married with Gayathri (nee Hattangadi) and has a daughter, Divya & son, Shashank who are both engineers working in reputed software technology companies in Bangalore.

His rising career graph is astounding. But his simple nature, humble disposition & spiritual inclinations should be a source of inspiration to all present day youth.

SAD DEMISE

Smt. Meera Nileshwar
W/o Late Manohar Nileshwar
Left for her heavenly abode on 25th October 2013
Deeply mourned by:
Sunil and Shweta Nileshwar
Vimal (Nandita) and Nitin Mangalore
Akshaya and Pranav Nileshwars, Kombrabails, Mangalores
KSA Health Lecture Series - 9


The occasion was honouring of veteran senior Pathologist Dr. Kishor Nayampalli who has rendered yeoman service to the community. Dr Mavinkurve, Hon Secretary, Health Centre, in his introduction, highlighted the scintillating achievements of Dr Nayampalli – academic as well as in the social sphere and community service. In Medical pathology practice for more than 40 years, Dr. Nayampalli has been a source of inspiration to a whole lot of young doctors and has set an example of dedication, integrity, humility and service. In a short address that followed the audience got a glimpse of his rich experiences as a doctor and a humane side of his which has been his hallmark over the years. At the end he announced that he now intends to retire from active work and pursue things which he has always wanted to do. Dr. Mavinkurve, on behalf of the KSA and the audience, wished him all the luck and a very healthy future.

Dr. Kishore Nayampalli started his address by thanking the KSA for felicitating him.

He said “On this day about 47 years back, I remember an incident in my life, which turned out to be a guiding star throughout my professional life of 42 years. I am now retiring with a sense of satisfaction.

At the end of every medical college term I used to return home to be received by my parents at the main entrance of our house with a radiant smile of joy and an affectionate hug (my father had a paralytic stroke earlier). At the end of my final M.B.B.S. exams I returned home, but this time I was received only by my mother. I felt something was wrong. I went straight to my father’s bedroom and what I had anticipated turned out to be true- He was totally paralyzed (all the four extremities) with a slurring speech. After a brief emotional outburst, my father was in a hurry to tell me something important. Due to

slurring speech it took him nearly 20 minutes to tell me three sentences.

1) Do not discontinue your medical education for my sake
2) Be true to your profession
3) Follow ethical practice.

This turned out to be my guidelines for the 42 years of practice. I have tried my best to follow those ideals.

Apart from the professional knowledge I gained during our college days and in practice learnt a lot from the actions and preaching of great people. Two incidents which I wish to present before you are the ones which have really impressed me. In particular our attitude towards our patients

1) The first incident was when our Guru P.P. Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji was on visit to a seriously ill devotee’s house. I was accompanying Swamiji as a volunteer.

Arrangements were made in the living room of the house for a pooja. The devotee who was on a wheel chair in the bedroom, burst out in tears and was weeping for nearly 15 minutes - Swamiji was by his side consoling him and giving him all the courage to come out and perform the pooja. Swamiji totally succeeded in convincing him and He personally brought the wheel chair out in the living room for the pooja with a smile on the devotees face.

2) The second incident was during my association with the Home for Destitutes run by the great humanitarian Mother Teresa. Individuals who have
faced severe tragedies in personal life, spending days and nights without any shelter and food and water on the pavements, are picked up by the sisters of Mission of Charities and brought to the Home at Santacruz, where they are given shelter, food, medicines. I have had occasions to investigate them for our pathological tests. When first they are brought to the home they are emaciated, dehydrated in extreme depression. But later after treatment for about a month with more than 50% recovery we are received with a broad smile, words of gratitude and a Namaste.

This is how fortunate human beings help out unfortunate human beings – The Mission of Charities, Baba Amte and many others like him are doing a yeomen service to humanity.

It is said man behind the machines is important but a lady (a life partner of course) behind the man is still more important. My wife Geeta worked day and night with me during the initial stages of establishing my Path-lab.

1) Being an interior decorator she was responsible for the interiors of the lab with 4-5 landscape paintings. 2) Learnt typing to be my typist 3) Was In-charge of the Lab reception 4) Billing and accounts 5) and a devoted housewife. Initially she was my typist and I was her technician-within months she was my general manager and today we retire with Geeta as CEO and I still remain her technician.

Back to the profession I am still of the opinion that Clinical acumen should always dominate over the Investigative procedures including Pathology. My generation has been fortunate to be taught under the British system where clinical acumen is given importance.

Pathological investigations are important to help 1) Differential Diagnosis of ailments 2) Mandatory Investigations eg. Pre-operative to surgery or Antenatal (Like HIV, HbsAg, VDRL etc) 3) Precautionary after a particular age eg. PSA and Pap Smear, Cancer Markers etc.

I will end my talk here as Dr. Nerurkar will make his audio-visual presentation.”

Dr. Shekhar Nerurkar in his talk explained what we need to know about pathological investigations from a patient’s perspective, specially explaining which tests need to be done on an empty stomach, what ought to be the duration of the fast etc. He cautioned against the pitfalls of patients making their own – often incorrect – interpretations from Pathological tests which actually is the job of the Physician treating the patient. He kept the talk very informal and interactive, answering queries patiently and often with tinges of humour.
Shri Manohar Bagade's article on requirement for an assisted living home for amchis was brought to my attention by Ms Kusum Gokarn who asked me to share my experience of having been an administrator of such a facility.

According to our Shatras, life is divided into four stages;

- Childhood and youth (Brahmachari)
- Adulthood and marriage. (Grahatashram)
- Retreat into the forest (Van Prashtashram)
- Total renunciation. (Sanyasashram)

Old age homes cater for the third and fourth phases of life after one has turned 60 and retired from working at one's profession. An old age home is an institutionalised necessity of life but was alien to Indian culture till a few decades ago. Undoubtedly India had ‘dharamshalas’ and ‘vridhashrams’ but these were not institutions that one would voluntarily enter if one could help it. Retirement homes and senior citizens' homes are a western concept. But there, apart from it being a social necessity, these are commercially run and very well managed. Old age homes in India, on the other hand, are mostly state run and even the few that are commercially run, leave much to be desired.

It is only now, towards the commencement of the 21st century that we see a smattering of world class institutions for the elderly. But they are phenomenally costly and mostly unaffordable by anybody but the creamy layer. Since the poor can seldom afford a commercial old age home and the rich can do without it anyway, it is the upper middle-class that is mostly found to inhabit such facilities.

Old age homes open their doors for admission to people on turning 60, it is seen that the number of takers at that age are few and far between. Most people start seeking old age homes when they end up with their backs to the wall. In ancient India where undivided families were the norm, the necessity for old age homes was not acutely felt. The elders would stay at home all their life and be cared for by the family members themselves. But in the latter half of the twentieth century, nuclear families became the norm, with young couples moving out and setting up their own homes. Older people started getting isolated and had to seek shelter elsewhere.

Among the most common reasons why the elderly seek out convenient facilities to spend their twilight years comfortably are:-

- Due to advanced age, the old couples are unable to cope with daily running of household, shopping and cooking, lack of servants or tradesmen like plumbers, carpenters, electricians or drivers; rising cost of living, increased feeling of insecurity, etc,
- No family members available to look after them. This translates into mostly grown-up children. A phenomenon greatly compounded in the modern day with millions of children migrating to USA and other Western countries for work or study. Even if the children are in India but located in a different city or even if in the same city but staying very far away, it doesn't help.
- The death of a spouse. Left alone, emotionally bereft, and physically helpless, many people look at other options; a home for the elderly being one of them.
- Lack of space. As children grow, get married and in turn have children, the house starts getting crowded and inadequate space results in the elders getting elbowed out; especially in cities.
- Elders being rendered homeless. Fights for property are vicious. Even single children / daughters-in-law are known to have snatched away ancestral homes and heartlessly thrown out the old parents.
- One or both parents requiring the facility of assisted living which the families are themselves unable to provide.
- Aging parents searching for secure surroundings for their handicapped children (helpless adults really) who are already in the age group of forty to fifty years. Parents with spastic children, mongoloid offspring, blind unmarried daughters, or suffering from other serious disabilities requiring special care desire to make secure arrangements for them before it becomes too late.
- Also some stubborn old people who have been used to living alone and take pride in the fact that they will never impose themselves upon their offspring, find retirement homes suiting their purpose.
But despite the compulsions, finding a suitable home is not easy. Firstly it must be in the city that one desires to live in. It should offer all modern amenities. It should be affordable. It should be elegant and look attractive. It should have a garden or open spaces with trees and flowers where the residents can enjoy closeness to nature. It should have facilities for prayer, meditation and yoga. Facilities for walks and indoor games are very desirable.

Many homes are community oriented. Only for Parsees or Marwari’s or Jains or Catholics etc. Such homes are more cohesive and easier to manage because of common food, praying and cultural habits.

The move towards old age homes has not seen as rapid an increase as the increasing number of elderly might warrant. There are some identifiable reasons for this. Changes in central and state rules which make it mandatory for children to look after their parents. Creation of government homes in districts. And the scheme of reverse mortgage which banks are now permitting. Also there is social aversion amongst the younger generations who get upset to hear that their parents want to move to a home in their last days. What will people think of them?

Old age homes are basically of three types. A hostel type facility providing rooms with common dining facilities or a conglomeration of small independent cottages or flats in one compound or basically a medical facility providing rooms/wards for bed ridden or severely disabled people. Some government facilities have wards and private rooms but leave much to be desired.

Punya Dham Ashram where I had the privilege of being its resident administrator was an elegant senior citizens home very attractively constructed, with a rose garden, an orchard, a gaushala, landscaped spaces and a beautiful Shiva Mandir. It had a modern well equipped library and state-of-art multipurpose auditorium. I found it convenient to move in there after my wife, Mira, passed away and I found it extremely difficult to manage the house on my own. So I rented out my flat, packed my bags and shifted to the Ashram. The word Ashram is a misnomer. It provides individual fully furnished rooms for couples/individuals which are extremely comfortable. There is a common dining hall and a spanking clean, modern designer kitchen. The cooks and staff are hired by the Ashram and the residents have to just live and enjoy. They are welcome in any of the Ashram’s activities/social work as per their talents and inclination: but there is no compulsion. Mahashivratri is the major festival celebrated in Punya Dham but there are regular religious or cultural programs. One can keep one’s car if one so desires and residents are encouraged to remain active and meet relatives, participate in think tanks or take part in cultural activities.

The superb Siddeshwar Mahadeo Mandir has been constructed by none other than the award winning temple architect Mr Sompura, the creator of Akshardham. It is serene, and the feeling of sanctity and reverence inside the temple is very real. The entire temple was carved in Jaipur but was assembled by the workers in Pune. The ‘shikhar’ of the Shiv Parivar is unique and a must-see for anyone visiting Pune.

I commend Shri Manohar Bagde for thinking of creating a facility for assisted living for elderly amchis. But it has many requirements. Adequate finance, meticulous planning, a devoted couple who will stay in it and run the institution, trained staff, excellent kitchen and good cooks (meals are major events for the elderly) separate nutrition requirements for the toothless, diabetics and hypertensive residents, cleaning and washing staff, an office with computerized facilities.

Old age homes have special requirements; stairs having risers not more than 6 inches high, non slippery surfaces, continuous railings, intercom facilities, ability to unlock doors from the outside, providing male/female, part-time or full-time helpers as required, nurse and resident doctor and an ambulance for evacuating emergency cases, physiotherapy facilities etc.

The institution should be located in or close to a large city, well connected by road and rail and air. It should have year-round equitable climate, large gardens, open spaces and water bodies. It must be an architectural delight.

Rules for old age homes are extremely sketchy. But if one could get from one of the western countries what their inspectors look for in their institutions, it would provide many insights on staffing, funding, procedures, and constructional requirements.

Traditionally, Indians want to leave something for their children so they prefer to live poor and die rich. I’ve known people who have sold property worth crores but were loathe to donate Rs. seven lakhs to
He’s started asking again
At 15 as he had when 5
Mamma, can we plant
Sunflowers?

He cranes his neck
When we pass gardens
Or see a few lone, strong stems
Wild and glorious
Beside highway 7
Where few admire or even notice
Their brilliance

We must plant earlier, chelda
I explain
Dig deep, set the distance between,
Prep a rich soil

Next year, okay baba? I say
Next year after the last frost
Let’s do this together

Sunflowers, life: same lessons
Yet he sighs
My son
When he sees sunflowers
And that sigh tugs at my heartstrings

And embeds its claws deep inside
The list of
things left undone
this summer

He doesn’t ask for much,
you know
My son

He endures,
rises above the new normal
He wipes down counters
Fills ice trays, takes out the trash
 Watches me for signs of sadness
Pats my back like my grandfather did
Teaches me about popular culture
Computers and Broadway
Steers me away from pain
So I walked directly to a tub
And bought a bouquet

Had it wrapped in fancy paper
And gave it to him

For me! His face lit up
To see fat, golden sunflowers
From someone else’s garden this year
Store bought
Sunflowers
A promise of shared sunshine
With his mother- me

Someday I hope
Two hands stronger than mine
Will dig deeper in rich soil
And plant sunflowers

Sunflower Tuesday
RASHMI KARNAD JANI

KANARA SARASWAT Vol. 94, No.12, December 2013 23
Laxminarayan Mukund Hattangadi, popularly known as Suneel, passed away after a brief illness on Sunday, 20th October, 2013. The last rites were performed the same evening at Vasai.

A devoted husband to Shobhan, a loving father to Vidhita, a gregarious and multifaceted family person, he did stints in the Indian Army and later at Indian Airlines, acted in films, TV serials and TVCs, scripted and directed many stage plays, was a teacher in Dubai, an avid blogger (www.hattangadisuneel.blogspot.in) and was also very active on Facebook-(www.facebook.com/pages/Laxminarayan-Suneel-Hattangadi). His determination and strong will helped him overcome the dreaded cancer of the esophagus.


Mrs. Shobhan Hattangadi sincerely thank all friends and family members who helped and provided assistance in their hour of grief.
Christopher Columbus

Do you know that on every 12th of October Americans celebrate one of the most important events in their History, the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus? But here is a funny thing. Columbus did not discover America on the 12th October. He discovered it on 23rd October. The calendar we are using now was originated by Pope Gregory; it did not exist even until 100 years after he was dead. The American colonies adopted that calendar in 1752; and when it was adopted they jumped time ahead exactly 11 days. Why? Because the calendar of that time was eleven days behind the Sun. So according to the present calendar Columbus discovered America not on October 12th but on October 23rd.

As a boy in school, Columbus had studied a book by Pythagoras who taught that the world was round. So Columbus got an idea. He figured that if it was round, he could find a shortcut to India; and that would make him a fortune. Others told him that the earth was not round but flat, that his ship would sail to the edge of the world and then tumble off in to unending space.

For 17 years Columbus tried and failed to get some one to finance his adventure. In despair he retired to a monastery in Spain at the age of 50. Finally the Pope in Rome urged Queen Isabella of Spain to help Columbus. Columbus was so poor that he had to beg for food on his way to see the Queen. The Queen gave him the ships he needed; but it was almost impossible to get a crew. Every one was afraid to go. Half an hour before sun-rise he set out on Friday 3rd August 1492, with 3 ships and 88 men.

Unfortunately the colonies he founded met with disaster and disappointment. All the people in the first colony were murdered by the Indians. The Governor of the second colony was so jealous of Columbus that he accused him of all sorts of crimes, had him arrested and sent back to Spain in chains. He was turned loose as soon as he reached Spain. But the chagrin and disappointment of it all broke his heart.

Columbus died at the age of 60, un-noticed, unhonoured and unsung. He died in a shabby, poorly ventilated room, and on the walls of the room hung the chains that he had worn as a prisoner. He kept them hanging there as a grim reminder of the vanity of this world and its ingratitude.

After accomplishing one of the most amazing and courageous feats in history, he expected to make a fortune; he died a pauper. The continent he discovered was not even named after him. It was named after a maker of maps, Amerigo Vespucci. In fact the only thing he ever got out of discovering a new world was heart break and disgrace!
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Travelogue

Camino de Santiago, Spain
A Journey of Body, Mind and Spirit
MAMATA KALLE, CAMARILLO, CA. USA

Each year with the approach of Ashaad Ekadashi, the sounds of “Gyanba Tukaram” always reverberate in my mind. While growing up in Dadar, Mumbai, I watched with awe and admiration as hundreds of varkarees danced their way to Pandharpur through the heavy rains. It was a dream to do something similar and it came true this year.

The famous Camino de Santiago de Compostela (The Way of St. James) walk is 805kms. long, starting in the south of France, going over the Pyrenees Mountains and crossing the northern part of Spain. One hundred and twenty-five thousand pilgrims do it every year, carrying their backpacks, sleeping in local travelers’ hostels and free dormitories, known as “alburgues” an equivalent of “Dharmashalas”. Many of them use bicycles or horses to cover the distance. If one covers the last 100kms. on foot or 200kms. on bicycle or riding horses, one gets the official certificate called Compostela.

St. James, one of the apostles of Jesus Christ went to Spain to spread His message. Later he returned to Jerusalem in 40 A.D. where he was beheaded by the Romans. His disciples brought his body back to Spain by boat and buried it. After about 600 years a shepherd was led by a bright star to the field where he uncovered the coffin. Hence the name Compostela (It means the field – Compo, and Stars – Stela). It was brought to Santiago and over the years the pilgrims built a huge cathedral. Since 1150A.D. people have been walking to this place. Pope John Paul personally went there and consecrated it. Thousands of people from all over the world visit it. It is believed that next to Jerusalem and The Vatican, this Cathedral is most revered and is designated as UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Given our advanced age, I had never dreamt that we could make this happen. However a small article in Los Angeles Times got us excited and my husband Hemu and I, immediately booked our trip through a walking tour company. Our group of four Australians, two Canadians and six Americans (including us – we were the oldest) met in Madrid one Sunday. We were driven 350kms. north to a place called O'Cerbreiro, where they have las pallozas, original 15th century houses, round stone buildings with straw covered roofs. We passed through the mountains at an altitude of 1300 meters above sea level. There was heavy snow on the ground. No one was prepared for it. The scenery from here was breath taking and it set all of us in the mood for the walk next morning.

We covered a distance 107kms in eight days. Each morning we started our walk around 9:00 clock. Every day we walked a minimum of 12kms. There were two days when we walked 15 – 17kms. We had prepared for this by increasing the distance and the duration of our daily walks at our home over a period of three months. The walk in Spain was very challenging....through thick mud, running spring water, dirt roads, slippery rocky roads with sharp piercing little stones, fields, gentle hills and steep hills that never seemed to end. Fortunately we were well prepared for it with ankle high water-proof hiking shoes.

The first day, walking through the thick mud was a challenge. Praying as we stepped on the slippery stones, one at a time, we covered more than a kilometer. The second time we chose the high road, which was equally scary. They say the Camino teaches you life’s lessons - Challenges, Uncertainty, Surrender and Gratitude. The steep hills look daunting but when one reaches the top, it is very humbling. Fortunately by God’s Grace we did not get any blisters or sprained ankles.
The Camino goes through forests of eucalyptus and oak trees. It winds through sleepy villages, past “horreos” (grain silos). We passed many farms with cows and sheep grazing in the fields. The Camino at times runs parallel to the highway going to Santiago. There are pilgrims in thousands, some people who have walked all the five hundred miles in about 45 days, not once but repeatedly, carrying their huge backpacks. The Camino beckons them. The cyclists pedal fast through rough terrain. We saw two pilgrims using unicycles and an old lady using a walker. There is a feeling of camaraderie amongst all.

We had lovely weather and most of the time it was sunny and temperatures were around 15 – 21 C. Fellow travelers, reflections, introspection and prayers keep you moving. There are sign posts with the official Camino insignia “sea-shell” or the “arrow” indicating the way. We saw one sign post with symbol of “OM” and another with “Krishna” written on it. Just when you feel that you cannot take one more step there is a cool breeze to invigorate you, butterflies flying and the birds chirping to raise your spirits. Fellow peregrinos (pilgrims) greeting each other with a smile and wishing Buen Camino (a good journey) or just saying “little by little, one step at a time” all in Spanish or their own languages, but one understands the meaning and feelings behind it.

There are small hotels where one can get fresh squeezed orange juice, beer or drinks. One can use their restrooms which are spotlessly clean. The lights here are on motion detectors, so there is no wastage of electricity. The roads were also very clean. The places we stayed were rectories, monasteries changed into boarding houses. The owners went out of their way to make us comfortable and prepare vegetarian food. As in most of the European countries, it is difficult to get vegetarian food. But we enjoyed the fresh crusty bread, salads, cheese and fruits. One lady from our group sang soul stirring, melodious Spanish devotional songs.

Our walk for the day normally ended around 2:00pm and then we would have lunch. There were two days when we walked 15-17 kilometers. I had my fears but we MADE it. The vans were always waiting to give us a ride, if needed, but we kept on walking. The two guides were sweet and cheered us when it looked difficult. There were two stops on these days when we could stop and grab some snack or drink. If we were hurt, they would come running to administer first aid. One of them always walked behind the entire group to help, in case of need. In the middle of the forests we could see enticing signs for taxi service. The peregrinos call it the sign of the devil!

The seventh day when the 12- 13 kilometer was mostly uphill, the sight of the cathedral towers brought tears to everyone’s eyes. There is a monument at the top. There are statues of two pilgrims pointing to the cathedrals and this place is called Monte de Goza, “mountain of joy.” The last day, we all walked together and entered the city as a group. We went directly to the Church Office where we got the official final stamp on the passport and the certificate. We then entered the crowded Cathedral. Luckily all fourteen of us got a place to sit together.

The beautiful heavenly music sung by the nuns and the choir heralded the beginning of the Mass. The priests conducted the Mass in Spanish and at times it was translated by younger priests into English and German. They also announced the number of pilgrims traveling from different countries and invoked the Lord’s Blessings on them. The culmination of the Mass is the raising of the botafumero (incense burner). Six to seven priests pull on ropes to raise the heavy silver botafumero and it is swung from one end of the cathedral to the other, high over the pilgrims’ heads. After the Mass we waited in a line to hug the statue of the Apostle and to get a glimpse of the crypt containing the remains. The marble steps here are all worn out. It was very difficult to say adieus to our fellow pilgrims. Some of them returned home, while a group of us went to Finisterre.(end of the land). In olden days the Romans considered this western most point in Spain, as the end of the world. Many of the peregrinos continue their pilgrimage to this place, which is another 92 kilometers away. It is said that there is a ritual here where they wash the feet of these pilgrims. We had taken a van due to distance, time constraint and inclement weather. The ocean here was rough. The custom here is to throw in the ocean something of your own (similar to giving up some of your possessions at Benares)

The Camino de Santiago de Compostela was uplifting and beautiful. It brings back all the good memories. Yes, it was tiring but extremely satisfying. We were like a one big family. We shall never forget it. It is a trip we would recommend to one and all.
In the school where I studied, the Nuns in Byculla believed in two principles. First give education to girls. Two: alongside, include education to poor girls. The process was simple.

We from the Middle class families paid a very small amount as fees. That small amount was utilised by the nuns to educate poor girls whose parents worked in these same middle class families.

Thus on my two seater bench, I had Nigar sitting next to me. Nigar's father was the cook at Muneera's who sat on the bench next. We all played together in the lunch recess and shared our lunch too. Our parents never had to go to Orphanages to donate funds and sweets on our birthdays. It all happened so easily in our school in a very simple manner. Our old books and uniforms were not sold to the Kabadi. They were handed down straight in school from class to class. Munira's first hand to Nigar's second hand. Easy way for hand-me-downs. That was the simple NGO the Nuns had long ago.

The nuns however believed that we need not learn Physics or Chemistry. Instead they taught us Needlework and Knitting. Perhaps, they thought we girls, will later become housewives or nurses or teachers.

Our school therefore was a Model School for Girls where rich and poor all sat together, listened to teachers, copying down lessons from the blackboard, learning to thread the needle and tie the tourniquets.

70 years later, when I look around, I am happy to see, the nuns didn't waste their time in my Byculla school. Their two principles still go along but on a much higher scale. I wish those Nuns were with me now to see all those beautiful lady drivers take off to the caves, monuments and relics of Hampi/Badami.

A perfect Take Off for the Millenium with 2 as the opening Digit!!

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Urinary Infection In Women

By Dr KUMUDINI MANGAONKAR

Urinary infection occurs much more frequently in women at all ages, than in men. It goes undiagnosed because more often it is asymptomatic or has only fever as a symptom which is promptly treated by antibiotics without testing the urine.

Urine infection per se may pass as harmless but for its chronicity, its ascent upwards causing Pyelitis and in the long run, leading to Chronic Renal failure (CRF) – a grave situation caused by sheer neglect.

The anatomy of female urethra and improper washing techniques are the main factors leading to infection. The female urethra is very short, and besides, its opening outside is next to the vagina and the anus, from where E coli and other germs easily enter the urethra aperture. It is also traumatized during the sexual act if the penis is not directed properly into the vagina, resulting in a condition commonly known as Honeymoon Pyelitis.

Now about the “Washing Techniques”: Every time after passing urine water must be splashed over the vulva and after every sexual intercourse the lady should pass urine, clean her genitals and drink a glass of water. Washing after defecation should always be directed upwards and backwards from anus and never from behind forwards.

During pregnancy, the vagina is more vascular; the secretion is more alkaline in nature, which favours growth of organisms. Hence urine should be tested every month. If infection is detected, it should be promptly treated as chronic urinary infection can lead to Pyelitis and premature delivery.

All married women need an annual urine routine and microscopic check-up as infection goes unnoticed. Women tide over it by drinking more water, coconut water or the popular remedy ‘Cital’, ignoring to get the urine tested. If the infection is frequent in spite of antibiotic treatment, urine culture and sensitivity of the organism to specific antibiotic is recommended.

In diabetic women, silent urinary infection is common. Therefore, after every three months urine should be tested for it and not for sugar alone. A monthly urine culture and sensitivity test may be necessary in some cases.

As the woman gets older and menopausal she can have senile vaginitis with severe itching, leading to scratching and infection. She can be treated with local estrogen cream and vaginal tablets. Urge and stress incontinence is common as age advances. Vajroli and Ashwini Mudra should be practiced as often as possible to strengthen the pelvic floor.

There is slackening of supporting tissues surrounding the pelvic organs with age and slowly they descend and prolapse of uterus and vaginal walls can occur. This can prevent emptying of the bladder leading to infection. For this condition again, doing Vajroli, Ashwini Mudra and Mula Bandhas, in addition to Sarvangasana and Viparitakarani help.

Women often neglect drinking water immersed in their work and avoid emptying their bladder due to shyness, unavailability of clean toilets. They should remember that stored urine leads to infection.
My Fantastic Robot

I have a tiny robot,
His name is ‘Mighty Sobot’.
He has a pair of purple eyes,
Who act as a couple of spies.
He has a short rounded nose,
And no proper head, I suppose.
He has a wide open mouth,
He knows two directions, north and south.
His hands stretch wide and long,
They act as glowing silver tongs.
“Crocodile Strong” is his bite,
Well equipped and knows to fight.
From head to toe his body HUGE,
A bodyguard nobody can refuse.
Well, I think I’ll tell you the TRUTH,
The secret I found hidden in his foot.
He really doesn’t exist,
Whenever I anger him, He throws a fit.
Often, he comes in my dreams,
He scares me and I give out SCREAMS!!!

Akshat Bhat (13 Years)
Guruprasad Soc.

The Lion

The Lion is the King of the jungle,
Who wears a beautiful golden crown,
With a beautiful yellow mane,
And hairs all brown.
He has a hunting group of lion friends
Who help him all day
Who leave him alone in danger
And go home on the way.
He has a thunderous roar
Which keeps all animals frightened
And make them run all day
Which help him to hunt
His very delicious prey!
The Lion is the King of the jungle
Who wears a beautiful golden crown
So we all respect and like him
And his hair so brown

Shivani Girish Bhat (9 years)
The day was Guruvaasaram, 15th August, 2013.

The place: Our Math premises at Malleswaram.

Shyamala Heblepacchi was at the mike and the event started with Sabha Prarambha Prarthana, Vande Mataram and then, a short welcome address by Udaya Mavinkurvepacchi. This was followed by an ice-breaker game of numbers (Sankhyaa Shrunkhala), for which everybody was on their feet, thanks to Sudha Karnad and Sudha Ullal pacchis. Suman Hirebetpacchi then tested the participants’ skill and knowledge of Samskrut grammar and our ability to form short sentences with the help of a picture of the Shringeri Sharadamba Temple with its beautiful surroundings of a river, deepastambha, trees and so on. She kept giving us helpful hints.

Vimala Honnavarpacchi turned out to be a vibrant conductor of chorus music, leading everybody into two full-throated Samskrut songs, full of bhava and meaning. Shyamala Heblepacchi encouraged everybody to try recalling Samskrut words and making simple sentences with the help of pictorial charts on wild animals, common vegetables and fruits in Devopaayanam (an activity to identify environmental resources which are all God’s gift).

Sudha Karnad and Sudha Ullal pacchis came up with an innovative game of Natakiyaa Potalikaa (passing the parcel), which tested the participants’ knowledge of Samskrut words and brought forth some hilarious translations. The morning session was rounded off with a comical, yet meaningful, story in Samskrut – Mantra Shakti by Malini Madimanpacchi. This session was interspersed with hilarious Hasya Kanikaa in Samskrut by Rashmi Chandragiri and Rashmi Hemmadypacchis.

After a simple satvik lunch, Udaya Mavinkurvepacchi promptly started off with a quiz testing the participants’ knowledge of Samskrut, some major Shastras, Itihasas and well known places of pilgrimage. Some of the senior citizens blissfully forgot their regular siesta on that day! Sambhashanam by Kusum Amladi, Rashmi Chandragiri, Sreejaya Mallapur, Sunanda Sagar pacchis, Umesh Honnavar and Baddukuli Radhakrishna Bhat mams, made us all sit back and enjoy the comical conversation and ask for more.

Vastu Pradarshanam by Shyamala Heblepacchi once again tested our memory power and construction of sentences by her unique method of showing specimens of everyday items like household articles and ensuring all the participants happily contributed to the conversation. Rashmi Hemmadipacchi then took up the mike to conduct an entertaining ‘dumb charade’ (Mookaabhinayah) on Samskrut shloka-s, subhashita-s and titles of Bollywood movies, all of which kept the participants in splits.
Srivali High School is the proud recipient of the ‘Best School’ Award at the Taluka level. The award was presented by the Lions’ Club of Murdeshwar.

Everyone agreed to have a feedback session for 10 minutes. The overwhelming and emphatic opinion was that such shibir-s are wonderful and joyful programmes which need to be conducted more often. Apart from improving our knowledge, they instill in us a lot of love and pride for the language. Such shibir-s will enthrise more people to learn Samskrut and sambhashanam which is so sulabham. This will also enable us to follow the meaning and significance of mantra-s and enhance our shraddha and bhakti. They will make it easier to understand the Ashirvachan-s and Swadhyaya-s of Pujya Swamiji. The efforts of the teachers and coordinator in organizing the shibir at such a short notice were highly appreciated. A short and sweet vote of thanks in Samskrut was given by Suman Hirebetpacchi.

A total of 56 people, 16 men and 40 women, participated in this joyful event from 10 am to 4 pm. The programme was well-structured and well-conducted by Suman Hirebet, Vimala Honnavar, Udaya Mavinkurve, Shyamala Heble, Sudha Karnad, Sudha Ullal, Rashmi Chandragiri, Rashmi Hemmady, Malini Madiman, Kusum Amladi, Sreejaya Mallapur pacchis... ably supported by Umesh Honnavar, Baddukuli Radhakrishna Bhat, and Nagesh Heble mams. Silent and efficient coordination was done by Archana Kumtapacchi.

The shibir concluded with the Sabha Samapti Prarthana.

Camera credits: Nagesh Heble

JEST A MINUTE!

If you can read the Devnagari script, see if you can understand the jokes given below in Samskrut before you read the translation. Your ability may persuade you to improve your skill by enrolling for the popular courses offered by our Girvana Pratishtha, feels SANGITA PAWAR.

रमा शिल्पा सह सार्धक देखा गृहात बहने: वार्ता लापर बुद्धविद्रोह असित। रामा: माता, ताभ्यां अन्ते आहून्मोत।
रमा वदति ‘शिल्पा अतीते वस्त्रे अस्थि वार्ता लापर करुं तया: समीरे समये नासित अते बहने: एव स्थित्ता सा नया सह वदति।’

Rama is chatting with Sheela outside her house for almost half an hour or more. Rama’s mother calls them inside (to continue the chat).

Rama says “Sheela is very busy. She has no time to chitchat. Therefore she is standing outside and talking to me”!!!

पिता - पुत्री। मया वचने दत्ते आसीतं यते दुधि तं परीक्षांमया 80% गुणानुप्राणयति तस्य अहं तुर्ये द्विचिक्रिकाः दास्यामि। परर्सु तं आत्यत्तमः गुणाः प्राप्तवती। परीक्षाकाळे तं किं कृप्यति?

Father - Child, I had promised you that if you get 80% marks in the examination, then I will buy a bicycle for you. But you got very few marks. What were you doing during exam-time? (Were you not studying?)

Daughter - “Dad, at that time I was learning to ride a bicycle.
A Beautiful dream

Some people will call it “Amchi’s”(Konkani Saraswat’s) most desirable second address . . .
A privileged few will call it home. . . .

GATED COMMUNITY FOR “AMCHI’S” (KS) : A THOUGHT

Many of us Konkani Saraswat’s dream to have a home in nature. However developing and maintaining it individually on our own becomes difficult at times. Further the project may lack an entertainment & recreational facility like a club house etc. These and many more facilities are possible only when likeminded people come together.

WHY NOT?

Our community is well known for coming together and living in cooperative environment. We have created more than 15 cooperative housing societies in and an around Mumbai. HENCE a thought - Why not an economic gated community in the midst of nature a little away but not faraway- Which can be Second Address today and a FIRST home tomorrow . . . .

WHY WADA?

Wada- because it is in close proximity to Mumbai, because of its indefinite source of water, because of its clean, green and eco friendly environment. Close to “RIVER WALK” there are many rivers, dams & reservoirs which not only provide water to Mumbai but also to the corporations of Vasai-Virar, Thane, Mira Bhayander, Kalyan Dombivali etc. These dams have been instrumental in increasing the underground water reserves in this area. The entire area around these water bodies has many reserve forests to maintain the ecological balance. The site “RIVER WALK” is on the banks of the river Vaipertia. Wada which is presently the largest Taluka of Dist. Thane is soon to get the status of Nagar Parishad. The town already has good infrastructural facilities like hospitals, market, government offices, police station, educational institutes (including international schools & polytechnic College with more than 500 resident students), banks Nirmala Devi music academy, Internet Connectivity etc. Due to its strategic position, Wada is connected by 4 lane State Highways which connects to Eastern & Western Express National Highways.

Team APAR:

Dr. Aseem Gokarn Harwansh who is an established Landscape & Environment Consultant empanelled with Mumbai, Pune, Thane and Rajasthan Govt. With 17 years of experience behind her along with International training, she has
published several research papers and is an invited speaker at various forums regarding establishment of ecofriendly and sustainable environments.

Mr. Pankaj Harwansh, equipped with a degree of MBA, has been in the business of Land development for the past 19 years and has experience with Corporate like Mahindra & Mahindra, General Motors, HPCL, Reliance etc.

Mr. Ashok Gokarn who has a rich experience of marketing with the Life Insurance Corporation for past 46 years and is the Chairman cum Founder of Institute of Insurance & Financial Sciences Education, Research & Training (IFSERT), Pune.

Nearby places of interest:
Kahoj Fort, Jawahar, the seat of the Warli Tribe, Dadar-Kopra Falls, Palusa Falls, Dabhosa falls, Mahalakshmi Temple, ruins of Bhupatghad, Hot springs at Vajreshwari, The Bhagwan Nityanand ashram at Ganeshpuri, The Peshwa temple at Vikramagad, cluster of Jain Temples, Manas Mandir, HareKrishna Centre managed by ISCON,

Please book your seat for an interactive session organised for people who have booked or intend to book.
Date : Saturday December 21, 2013
Time : 4.00 pm to 10.00 pm.
Venue : Shrimat Anandashram Hall, Talmakiwadi, Tardeo Road, Mumbai 400 007.

Psst. Please do not forget your cheque books. . . . as BOOKINGS filling in fast.

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Please call: 9820175988 | 9320120408 | 9167020408
Email: sales@aparinfra.in | aseemgokarn@gmail.com

During the Datta Jayanti celebrations (13th to 17th December) at Talmaki wadi, special arrangements made for information/registration at our Fulora Nursery, Dun Apts, next to Talmakiwadi, Tardeo between 10.00 am to 6.00 pm.
We pray to our Kuladevata and Revered Guruparampara to grant eternal bliss

Anand Ramakrishna Adur
23-12-1935 to 27-10-2013

Live your life such that the fear of death can never enter your heart. Trouble no one about their religion; respect others in their view, and demand that they respect yours. Love your life, perfect your life, beautify all things in your life. Seek to make your life long and its purpose in the service of your people. Prepare a noble death song for the day when you go over the great divide.

Always give a word or a sign of salute when meeting or passing a friend, even a stranger, when in a lonely place. Show respect to all people and grovel to none.

When you arise in the morning give thanks for the food and for the joy of living. If you see no reason for giving thanks, the fault lies only in yourself. Abuse no one and no thing, for abuse turns the wise ones to fools and robs the spirit of its vision.

When it comes your time to die, be not like those whose hearts are filled with the fear of death, so that when their time comes they weep and pray for a little more time to live their lives over again in a different way. Sing your death song and die like a hero going home.

......Chief Tecumseh, a native American warrior

A noble soul who lived by the above philosophy shall continue to inspire us Forever.

Samir, Vandita, Svaraa Adur

Shaila

Sujata, Sunil, Sukanya Bhat

Vol. 94, No.12, December 2013
The Diwali programmes presented by the Kanara Saraswat Association are well-known. They have been presented for many decades now and are an event not only looked forward to but also fondly remembered by many a generation of Bhanaps who have attended these programmes in the past.

In the past dramas in Konkani and Marathi were staged by stalwarts such as Sundergopal Golikeri, Venktattrao Talgeri, Gopal (Dada) Mavinkurve, Shridhar Benegal, Vasant Nadkarni, Krishna Kurwar, Laxminarayan (Suneel) Hattangadi, Avinash Trasi, Seeta Karnad, Suman Nadkarni (nee Talgeri), Savitri Sthalekar, to name a few. Athletic events, Carrom, Table-tennis and Volleyball tournaments were contested by sportsmen like Vithal Nadkarni, Manohar Halady, Suresh Chandavarkar, Ramdas Golikeri, Ramchandra Karnad, Vijayanand Shirur, Ramesh L Kowshik, Nagesh Kalbag, Vasant Kalawar, Premanand Sirur, Suresh Maskeri, Nandu Haldipur, Suresh V Nadkarni, Murli V Nadkarni, Ashok Amladi, Raghuunandan Halady, Raja Bajekal, Dwarkanath Hattangadi, Chandar Honavar, Suresh V Honavar (China), Naresh Ubbayakar, Dr Leela Ubbayakar and others. Participation used to be tremendous.

In recent times, with Television commanding greater interest of the people, school and college life becoming more competitive and office work more demanding these programmes have become a pale shadow of their past.

However this year the Talmaki Wadi Co-op Housing Society is celebrating its 75th year and hence joined hands with the KSA in celebrating Diwali. Both the institutions decided to make it an event to remember. The “Healthy Baby Contest” saw more babies coming in than the recent past. Two Senior Paediatricians Dr Anjali Phatak and Dr. Mandar Bapaye judged the Healthy Baby Contest and as per their request prizes were given to all healthy babies who participated in the contest. Devotional music competition and Light music competition too saw more participation. Two Konkani one-act plays (titled “Stree Malyaal” – written by Shri Madhu Bhat and Directed by Shri Sudhir Balwally and “Sukrundo” – Written and Directed by Maithili Padukone) and several dances were staged. The Fancy Dress competition on the last day and the prize distribution programme too were well attended.

The prize winners are too numerous to print here. But we congratulate all of them and look forward to more events and participation in the future.

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**Report**

**Saraswati Vrind Gaan’s Visit To Kanpur**

**BY SUMAN S. KODIAL**

“Wow! Going to Kanpur IIT for your program! So you all will be IIT returned!” exclaimed my brother when I told him about our group’s plans.

Shubha And Dr.Harish Karnick had invited us for a performance in Kanpur. After the successful maiden presentation of ‘Uttar Bharat Ke Sant Kavi’ on Aashadi Ekadashi in the Samaj Hall this year, it was decided to perform at IIT, Kanpur on Sunday, 20th October at 5.30 p.m.

Our Sanchalika Geeta Yennemadi, Nivedika Kalindi Kodial, Tabalji Arun Hattangadi and seven of us from the Vrind Gaan found the dates suitable.

Due to some miscalculations in the advance booking period, we couldn’t get AC sleepers on Pushpak Express. No problem! Managed to get II class sleepers with a catch- seven of us were on the waiting list! Our positive attitude kept our spirits high. Kalindi was keeping track of our reservation status on line and we were slowly inching ahead! By the 16th, all of us had confirmed sleepers! Dev pavlo ba! But the biggest surprise was yet
to come!! When the final reservation chart came on line, two hours before the actual journey, we were bunched in two groups, one in S2 and the other in S9. Nine of us were allotted lower or middle berths! We blessed the unknown kind-hearted babu or was it the Magic of the Computer for this bonanza!

We were carrying our Harmonium, Dholak and Tabla so decided to hire a coolie. Very courteously he assured us, “Aiyano, Tumhi bhajan karayla chalalat. Kai bi kalji naka karu. Me tumhala barobar basvin.” Once more Stree Shakti came to the fore!

Like our Gujju friends, we too were carrying our meals and lots of Ubgani khaan. Once the train picked up speed after Kalyan, the adventurous spirit in us took over. Some of us decided to visit our friends in S9. Passing through seven bogies with rattling vestibules, short distance travellers sprawled in the corridors was not a deterrent. So what if it took 20 minutes one way! Was it “the mice will play when the cat is away” syndrome with us grannies in the absence of our family members?

(Contd on page 39)
After a late lunch and long siesta, the other group decided to ‘return the visit’. Over tea and snacks, going down memory lane was but natural. Geeta and Shaila, the senior members of the group, recalled the good old days when the big group travelled to different cities of Maharashtra and Karnataka to perform. Kanpur was the first city in North India we were visiting. We reminisced how during one of the Aashadi Ekadashi celebration, a musical on Sant Dnaneshwar with commentary in Konkani by Sadhana Kamat was presented. Since then, it has been a practice to script a program related to a saint and have the inaugural performance on Aashadi Ekadashi. We have more than three hundred performances to our credit, based on the Saints of Maharashtra, Sant Kabir, Meera Bai in Konkani and Marathi and Sant Tulsiidas and Uttar Bharat Ke Sant Kavi in Hindi.

We were enjoying the train journey which was much more comfortable than we had anticipated. The weather was favourable. The compartments were swept and swabbed frequently with fragrant disinfectant. The toilets, even on such a long distance train, were clean and dry with running water throughout. Kudos to the Indian Railways!

We reached Kanpur early in the morning on the 20th. Sadhana and Harish received us and we got in an IIT bus to reach our destination. Railway crossing at Kalyanpur (a suburb of Kanpur) marked the entrance to the IIT campus. The change was phenomenal! Just like any Cantonment area, clean, well maintained roads lined with shady trees and peace all around! We reached the guest house where our stay was arranged. Shubha and Harish had looked into the minutest details to make us comfortable.

The program was held the same evening. After a brief introduction by Shubha, we started our presentation. Kalindi’s concise but well researched commentary in Hindi on Sant Kabir, Nanak, Ravidas, Surdas, Rahim and Tulsiidas interspersed with their compositions was very well received. In all we sang 16 bhajans, 13 set to tune by Geeta and 3 popular numbers. Shobha performed a semi classical dance with one of the bhajans. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the performance. We were requested to sing Abhangs also. The appreciative response from them was truly encouraging and satisfying. Anirudh’s vote of thanks with choice Hindi words was an apt finale for the function. A sumptuous dinner at Shubha and Harish’s marked the end of the day.

The next day was IIT and Kanpur Darshan for us. Harish gave us a tour of the campus in the minibus.

What an impressive institution! No high rise buildings, no cacophony of vehicles, no sighting of luxury cars, students and also highly qualified faculty members all using bicycles and plenty of security personnel ensuring safety all around! Fresh air, grass sparkling with dew drops, bird calls from tree tops and pea-cocks merrily crossing our paths- for us Mumbaikars it was a sight to cherish. Later on, we visited Ganga Ghat, Bithur fort where Rani Lakshmirai had spent her childhood, Valmiki Ashram and JK Temple. Can a trip be complete without a shopping spree and eating out? We shopped for Kanpur leather handbags and Lucknow chikan work and enjoyed lunch at a ritzy restaurant.

After a siesta, it was time to pack up, have an early dinner specially arranged for us and bid farewell to the Karnick family and Sadhana. Words were not enough to thank them for their hospitality. What could be a better souvenir than an IIT Kanpur embossed key chain they gifted to each of us?

Our return journey was spent mostly in chitchat and reminiscing about our Kanpur stay. 22nd being Angarika Chaturthi, we recited Atharvshirsh 21 times. Geeta, Shyamal, Deepa and Shobha got down at Dadar and rest of us alighted at CST. A memorable trip indeed!

---

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SHIVĀNANDOTSAVA

PARAMA PŪJYA SWĀMĪJĪ’S VISIT FROM 18th TO 26th DECEMBER 2013

INVITATION

We have immense pleasure in informing you that Parama Pūjya Shrīmat Sadyojāt Shāṅkarāshram Swāmījī has graciously consented to visit Sāntācrūz Sabhā from the 18th to 26th December 2013.

We cordially invite you with your family and friends to participate in all the programmes, perform Gurusevā and receive the blessings of Lord Bhavānīśaṅkar and our Sacred Guruparamparā.

Your generous contributions towards various sevā-s as well as donations can be made through any of the Committee members.

Yours in the Service of the Math, the Gurū and the Guruparamparā,
Niraṅjan Nāgarkaṭṭe
(President)

SEVĀ RATES

(A)REGULAR SEVĀ-S :
(i) Kuṅkumārchana Rs. 25 (ii) Rudrābhisheka Rs. 25 (iii) Noon Pūjā Rs. 300
(iv) Shrī Pāḍukā Pūjana Rs. 50 (v) Shrī Bhikṣā Sevā Rs. 350

(B) SPECIAL SEVĀ-S :
(i) ANNADĀNA SEVĀ : Rs. 3,000/- The amount will be treated as contribution towards BREAKFAST expenses on that day.

(ii) SEVĀ KARTĀ : Rs. 5,000/- The amount will be treated as contribution towards SWEETS during Prasāda Bhojana on that day.

(iii) YAJAMĀNA SEVĀ : Rs. 10,000/- The amount will be treated as contribution towards one Prasāda Bhojana on that day, i.e. in the afternoon or night.

(iv) VISHISṬA SEVĀ : Rs. 15,000/- The amount will be treated as contribution towards both Prasāda Bhojana-s on that day, i.e. in the afternoon and night.

Devotees who donate for any of these Special Sevā-s will be entitled to perform all the above 5 Regular Sevā-s on a day of their choice.

Cheques to be issued in favour of SANTACRÚZ SABHĀ-SWAMIJI’S RECEPTION FUND’’

SHRĪ CHITRĀPUR MATH - MUMBAĪ (SĀNTĀCRЎZ) LOCAL SABHĀ
Sāraswat Colony, Sāntācrūz (West), Mumbai 400 054.

Vol. 94, No.12, December 2013 KANARA SARASWAT
PROGRAMME ON ARRIVAL DAY

WEDNESDAY 18th DECEMBER 2013: 6:00 PM  ● Arrival of Parama Pújya Swámmíjí at Linking Road Junction  ● Escorting Parama Pújya Swámmíjí in a Ceremonial Procession to the Pañḍála  ● Púrṇa Kumbha Svágata and Veda Ghosha  ● Páda Prakṣhālana by the Vice President, Sántácrúz Sábhá  ● Dharmá Sahábha, Math Prayers  ● Swágata Gíta  ● Púdúká Pújana by - President, Sántácrúz Sábhá - Representatives of all Local Sister Institutions - Welcome Speech by President, Sántácrúz Sábhá  ● Presentation of 'Mánapatra' to Parama Pújya Swámmíjí by Vice President, Sántácrúz Sábhá  ● Upadesha by Parama Pújya Swámmíjí  ● Dípa Namaskára  ● Sámudáyyika Dhúla Bheṭa

DAILY PROGRAMMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 am</td>
<td>Suprabhátam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am to 7:30 am</td>
<td>Yogáśana/Práṇāyáma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 am</td>
<td>Sánkṣipta Sandhyávandanam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am to 10:30 am</td>
<td>Navarátri Nityápáṭha/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shrí Deví Anuśhthána/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bhágavát Gíta Paṭhaṇá/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shrí Lalítí Sahasranáma/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shiva Sotra Paṭhaṇá/</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shiva Má纳斯a Puja Sotra Sámmána/atharvasthíśhá</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am to 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Bhajana-s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Mahá Puja, Shrí Pádúká Puja,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tirtha Vítaraṇa, Shrí Bhíkshá Sevá, Prásáda Bhojana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 pm to 7:30 pm</td>
<td>Cultural Programe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Dípa Namaskára, Ráṭrí Pújá,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Áśtávádhána Sevá, Prásáda Bhojana</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

DAY 2 : THURSDAY, 19th DECEMBER 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am to 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Bhajana-s by Dádar Sábhá</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 pm to 6:30 pm</td>
<td>Discourse by Dharmaprácháráka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shrí V. Rájagopál Bhaṭ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.30 pm to 7.30 p.m</td>
<td>Screening Of 2 Short Films by Chitrárup Yuvadhára</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Guru Puja by Parama Pújya Swámmíjí</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DAY 3 : FRIDAY, 20th DECEMBER 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00am to 9.00am</td>
<td>Swádhyáya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30am to 10.30am</td>
<td>Sámúhika Kunikumáṛchána</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00am to 1:00pm</td>
<td>Bhajana-s by 'Swara Sádhana',</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sántácrúz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30pm to 6:15 pm</td>
<td>Saṁśkrta 'Melá'/Skit/Games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.15 pm to 7.30 pm</td>
<td>'Navarátri Mahimá' by 'Swara Sádhana', Sántácrúz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Deví Puja by Parama Pújya Swámmíjí</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N.B. These programmes are subject to changes, which will be displayed on the Notice Board(s) in the Pañḍála.
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Email: standardgroup@standardgreases.co.in
Web: www.standardgreases.co.in
## Programme on the day of(1,4),(998,987) Program on the day of Parama Pújya Swámijíś arrival at Shri Ánandáshram, Khár on 24th December 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.00 am</td>
<td>Pilot car to reach Sántácrúz to escort Parama Pújya Swámijí to Shri Ánandáshram, Khár</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.30 am to 10.30 am</td>
<td>Reception of Parama Pújya Swámijí at Shri Ánandáshram, Khár with a garland, páda-prakśhálana and pūrṇa-kumbha-swágata followed by Deva-darshana and swágata-gíta</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 11.00 am to 12.00 pm | Morning Dharma Sabha  
Shábhá-prárambha-práprtháná  
Shri-pádúká-pújána by President of Local Shábhá  
Phála-samarpánaSwágata-bhášána by the President of Local Shábhá  
Áshírváchána by Parama Pújya Swámijí  
Shábhá-samápti-práprtháná |
| 12.30 pm to 02.30 pm | Shri-pádúká-pújánaTírtha-vítaraña by Parama Pújya Swámijí  
Bhikśá-prásáda-vítaraña  
Sántarpaṇá to vaidíka-s and retinue, Prásáda-bhojána |
| 04.00 pm to 04.30 pm | Presentation of Audio/Video film of Shrimat Parijñánáshram Swámijí (III) |
| 04.30 pm to 05.30 pm | Sámskṛta skit by Práṛtháná Children Musical programme by Yuvadhárá |
| 06.00 pm to 07.00 pm | Evening Dharma Sabha  
Shábhá-prárambha-práprtháná  
Vaidíka-sámbhávanáKshamá-yáčhána by the President of Local Shábhá,  
Áshírváchána by Parama Pújya Swámijí  
Shábhá-samápti-práprtháná  
Dípa-namáskára  
Phála-mantráksháta |
Dear Sádhaka-s,

It is with great joy we inform you that His Holiness Parama Pújya Shrimat Sadyojáat Shaṅkaráshram Swámiji has graciously consented to bless us with His presence by camping at Andherí Sahábhá from 26th December to 31st December 2013.

We invite you to take this rare opportunity to be in His Holiness’s presence and actively participate in the various sevá-s and numerous delightful programmes planned to be conducted during His stay.

The venue for Pújya Swámiji’s camp will be at Pushtikar Kalyán Kendra, Pushtikar Co.op. Hsg. Society, Patel Estate Road, Near Railway Station, Jogeshwari (West). The route map showing the location of the venue and the programs planned is given on the reverse side. All are Welcome!

The list of special Sevá-s offered are given below and we request you to book them immediately.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sevá</th>
<th>Cost (Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mahápóshaka</td>
<td>15,000/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Póshaka</td>
<td>12,500/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sevá Kartá</td>
<td>10,000/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yajamána Sevá</td>
<td>7500/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annadána Sevá</td>
<td>5000/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upáhára Sevá</td>
<td>2500/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nandádipá Sevá</td>
<td>500/-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cheques payable in Mumbai may be drawn in favour of Shri Chitrapur Math, Mumbai (Andherí) Local Sabha.

With regards to you and your family members,

Kuldeep Kálávar
Convener

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 26th DECEMBER 2013

11.00 am : Parama Pújya Shrimat Sadyojáat Shaṅkaráshram Swámiji’s arrival, Púrna Kumbha Swágata, Páda Prakshálána, Shri Páduká Pújana by the President of Andherí Sahábhá, Welcome song, Welcome address by the President of Andherí Sahábhá

12 noon : Mahápújá by Vaidika-s, Prasáda Bhojana

4.00 pm : Vimarsha

5.30 pm : Vocal recital by Shri Santosh Gulvády

7.00 pm : Dipanamaskára, Pújana by Parama Pújya Swámiji, Ashtávadhána Sevá

FRIDAY 27th DECEMBER 2013

6.00 am : Suprabhátam

7.00 am : Swádhyaá by Parama Pújya Swámiji

9.00 am : Saṅkshipta Sandhyávandana, Gáyatri Anushtána, Navarátri Nityapátha, Deví Anushtána, Lalítá Sahasranáma

11.00 am : Discourse by Dharmaprabhára Shri V. Rájagopáál Bhat

12 noon : Mahá Pújá, Shri Guru Páduká Pújana, Tirtha Vitarana, Shri Bhikshá Sevá, Prasáda Bhojana

5.00 pm : Puppet Show by Andherí Sabha Yuva-s

5.30 pm : Vocal recital by Vidushi Tulika Ghosh

7.00 pm : Dipanamaskára, Pújana by Parama Pújya Swámiji, Ashtávadhána Sevá

SATURDAY 28th DECEMBER 2013

6.00 am : Suprabhátam
7.00 am: **Swādhyāya by Parama Pūjya Swāmījī**

9.00 am: Saṅkṣipta Sandhyāvandana, Gāyatrī Anuṣṭhāna, Navarātri Nityapāṭha, Devī Anuṣṭhāna, Lalitā Sahasranāma

11.00 am: Vocal recital by Shri Shailesh Māvinkurve

12 noon: Mahā Pūjā, Shri Guru Pādukā Pūjana, Tirtha Vitarana, Shri Bhikṣā Sevā, Prasāda Bhojana

4.30 pm: **Parāmarsha** (Question-Answer session conducted by HH Swamijī)

6.00 pm: Vocal recital by Shri Krishnā Chandāvar

7.00 pm: Dīpanamaskāra, Pūjana by Parama Pūjya Swāmījī, Aṣṭāvadhāna Sevā

**SUNDAY 29th DECEMBER 2013**

6.00 am: Suprabhātām

7.00 am: **Swādhyāya by Parama Pūjya Swāmījī**

9.00 am: Saṅkṣipta Sandhyāvandana, Gāyatrī Anuṣṭhāna, Navarātri Nityapāṭha, Devī Anuṣṭhāna, Lalitā Sahasranāma

11.00 am: Tablā Solo by Pt. Omkārnāth Gulvādy and Vocal recital by reputed artistes

12 noon: Mahā Pūjā, Shri Guru Pādukā Pūjana, Tirtha Vitarana, Prasāda Bhojana

4.30 pm: Cultural programme by children and yuvā-s, Saṁskrta Skit

7.00 pm: Dīpanamaskāra - Aṣṭāvadhāna Sevā

9.00 pm: Garbā

**MONDAY 30th DECEMBER 2013**

6.00 am: Suprabhātām

9.00 am: Saṅkṣipta Sandhyāvandana, Gāyatrī Anuṣṭhāna, Navarātri Nityapāṭha, Devī Anuṣṭhāna

10.30 am: Kirtana by Smt. Shivāṅgi R. Nāik

12 noon: Bhajana-s by Goregāon Sabhā,

- Mahā Pūjā, Shri Guru Pādukā Pūjana, Tirtha Vitarana, Shri Bhikṣā Sevā, Prasāda Bhojana.

5.30 pm: Vocal recital by Shri Ajit Kalle

7.00 pm: **Dharma Sabhā** followed by Phala-Mantrākṣhata

**TUESDAY 31st DECEMBER 2013**

6.00 am: Suprabhātām

9.00 am: Departure of Parama Pūjya Swāmījī

Santosh Nādkarni, President
(8108322766)
santosh.nadkarni@pcil.in

Satish Nāgarkatti, Secretary
(9820862402)

Samir A. Adūr, Treasurer
(9223373250)
Of all the languages spoken in South India, I consider Konkani to be the easiest to learn. This may be because there is some common reference point. As far as I have observed, whenever we learn a new language, we may compare it with some language that we already know. For example, a person who has knowledge of Hindi can follow Urdu or Gujarati to a fair extent. I believe that Konkani in that sense is quite similar to Marathi. India is the land of languages. We have (according to Wikipedia), 1,652 languages and goodness knows how many dialects. (A million may be reasonable) Despite having only 2.5 million speakers of Konkani, there are as far as I have counted 6 dialects of Konkani which differ from each other in varying degrees.

I have observed a tendency in people to misunderstand the Konkani which I am referring to as the dialect of Marathi spoken in the Konkan Division in Maharashtra. The Konkani that I am referring to is spoken in Goa, Karnataka and now parts of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, because of migration of Konkani speaking populace. Based on my observation and study of the language, I have seen that there can be 7 main dialects of Konkani, each with it’s own flavour and uniqueness. They are as follows:-

1) **Malvani** – This is spoken in Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra which is just north of Goa. Malvani is Konkani with significant Marathi influence in it.

2) **Goan Konkani** – Goan Konkani is distinct from the other dialects of Konkani because of heavy Portuguese influence, especially when spoken by the Christians.

3) **Karwari Konkani** – Karwari Konkani is quite similar to GSB Konkani is many ways, because most of the inhabitants of Karwar are GSB’s (Goud Saraswat Brahmin).

4) **GSB Konkani** – This dialect of Konkani is peculiar to the GSB (Goud Saraswat Brahmin) community, a prominent business community in Southern Karnataka, Goa and Maharashtra.

5) **Navayathi** – The Navayathi are a small Muslim community living predominantly in Uttara Kannada District of Karnataka. There language Navayathi is an amalgamation of Persian, Arabic, Marathi and Hindi with Konkani as the base.

6) **Mangorean Christian Konkani** – The Christians of Mangalore, a city in South Karnataka speak this dialect. This dialect and the one spoken in Goa are quite distinct. Christian Konkani is more related to Chitrapur Saraswat Konkani and GSB Konkani to a lesser extent.

7) **Chitrapur Saraswat Brahmin (CSB) Konkani** – Chitrapur Saraswats or Bhanaps as they are called, are a small community residing mainly in Mumbai, Bangalore and Chennai. The Konkani spoken by them is called “Amchigale”. Even though GSB’s and Bhanaps are two castes which are very closely related, the Konkani spoken by them is distinct.

As we have seen, despite being a language which is used by only 2.5 million people, there is a sizable differentiation in the dialect with the tone, grammar and vocabulary varying accordingly. Konkani has been influenced by many languages, like Kannada (in Karnataka), Portuguese (in Goa), Arabic and Persian (in Karnataka) and even English. To understand the reason for this influence, we must go back to the origins of the language and how each community has developed it’s own dialect.

There is a theory that Konkani was born in Goa (earlier called Gomantak). It is said the people who developed Konkani were Brahmins who migrated to Goa due to the drying up of the Saraswati River, which flowed through what is now Punjab and Kashmir. Their language called Shauraseni Prakrit, evolved over time to become Konkani. With the Portuguese invasion of Goa and the subsequent religious persecution of the residents, many people left Goa and went southwards, in Karwar, Dakshin...
Kannada and Udupi District in Karnataka. It was from here that Konkani started getting Kannada influence. Because of Trade Relations with the Arabs, and the subsequent spread of Islam in coastal Karnataka, Persian and Arabic words also found it's way into the Konkani speaker's vocabulary.

In the last decade of the 19th Century, many Konkani speaking people, especially Chitrapur Saraswats left their ancestral homes in Karnataka and migrated to the metros, mainly Mumbai, Pune and Bangalore. A significant of Chitrapur Saraswats live in Mumbai and Pune today. Because of living in Maharashtra for nearly 100 years, the Konkani spoken by them has a good dose of Marathi words. For example, money which is "Duddu" in Kannada becomes "Paishe" in Marathi. The Konkani spoken also changes from family to family.

English has a big influence on our lives these days. It has left an indelible mark on Konkani as well. In all likelihood, when a youngster speaks Konkani there may be 2 words of English in each sentence on an average, not to mention the odd sentence of English to fill in the gaps. As many Konkani speakers are generally well educated people and study in English, there is a disturbing tendency amongst some pockets of people to speak English instead of Konkani. This tendency is unfortunately seems to be picking up. Parents also seem to encourage this.

To conclude, I would say that my Konkani is also not that great, but I am trying to improve it. I think the first step to improving one’s language is to be proud of it. Know that it is distinct, great in its own right. Talk to your elders, parents and colleagues and re-learn or polish your native tongue a little more. I may be exaggerating it, but to me speaking one’s native tongue is a matter of pride. I would like to remind the ardent English speakers that English will not go out of use if a couple of thousand people don't use it at home, but their native language may surely become extinct in about a century (maybe even quicker in the case of Konkani).
कोंकणी साहित्य-कोंकणी साहित्य समितीचे योगदान

“कोंकणी साहित्य - कॅनसा सारस्वत असोसिएशनच्या योगदान” हो श्री. सुधीर कोंकणी लिहिलेले लेख २०१३च्या अंकातून प्रकाशिल जालला. अलंतर माहितीपूर्ण लेख, हा लेखातून श्री. कोंकणीने कोंकणी साहित्य समितिच्या उल्लेख केल्याने तानात बरेल्या- “कोंकणी साहित्य समितिच्या उल्लेख केल्यास, तर एरे, त्यासरी ह्या मात्रातून अहित म्हणून हा लेखक वेळने हा लेख करत नाही. ह्यांनी, वीर वागले की, ह्या कोंकणी नाटक करतात. त्यामुळे इतिहास खूप मोठा आहे. माहीमाही ह्यांनी गोलुनाच, प्रेणम्या कॅनसा सारस्वत अंकातून तंत्रज्ञान काळेकडून आलेले अहसूसकारी.” कोंकणी साहित्य समिती कॅनसा सारस्वत असोसिएशनवर विलिन जाळलेल्याने समिती विषयातून सुमारास माहीती उपलब्ध आहे, महोगू हा लेखक प्रोफेसर.

कोंकणी साहित्य समितीने १९५७ धोऱ्यातून कोंकणी नाटकमहोस्तु आयोजित कॉर्स खुलवलेले. ह्या प्रथम नाटकमहोस्तु, कोंकणी नाटकलेखनाऱ्यांचा २५० दिवसाने लेखने, पद्यांची प्रयोगात्मक दिंदिंदी श्री. पाहुण्याचे संशोधक दिग्दर्शक तलावे, सुदरमचन्द्र गोलीकर, देवाय पूर्ण आपण प्रभाकर मुदूर हागली. तात्सिंग, डॉ. वि. बाल्यमय गोल्पास अध्यक्षांतून प्रथम नाटकमहोस्तु आयोजित केलेले. के. (कार्त्तिक) माहिराव हानी झा महोस्तवाच्या उद्योगात दिल्याने आपल्या १९५८ धोऱ्यातून १९७० तासेन, कोंकणी साहित्य समितीच्या अध्यक्ष म्हणून कार्य केलेले. कोंकणी भाषाविदांनाच्या माध्यमातून, सर्वांनी नाटकाची जिथे राव, अ. आ. श्री. भा. बाळकांत तत्त्वातील अध्यक्ष आहाने. १९४० धोऱ्यातून कोंकणी साहित्य समितीच्या विलिनीकरणावेळी, कोंकणीलोक झा गोलीस्याळेवर लेखक श्री. नागी संसार ह्यांची अध्यक्ष म्हणून कार्य केलेला आपल्या त्या अधिध्यक्ष 'गोल्पास झा', 'कोंकणी बायकोट', 'स्वामी सहाजांनत महाराजांनी आभाळ' ह्या पुस्तक प्रकाशिल्याचे केलेले.

कोंकणी साहित्य समितिच्या उद्धेट म्हणजेच -
- कोंकणी भाषा, प्रचार, प्रसाराचे विकसित करणे लोकप्रिय करते.
- कोंकणी नाटक बोरेचवाचे प्रतिसाहन दिनून ती सादर करते.
- कोंकणी भाषेतून बांदवलेल्या साहित्य प्रकाशित करते /प्रकाशित कोंकणी साहित्य करते.
- समाज उद्धेट आजिला ह्या संस्थेच्या साहित्य करते.
- ह्या उद्धेट साधना ह्या संस्थेच्या साहित्य करते.

हा उद्धेटप्रकाश १९५७ धोऱ्यातून १९७२ आपल्या १९५८ धोऱ्यातून १९८६ तासी गौरवी कोंकणी नाटकमहोस्तु जाळले. ताजेजऱ्याला प्रेणम्या पालिकेच्या उद्धेटातून उचो जाळला आपल्या साहित्याच्या वृत्तीच्या जोडीत अनेक नोवेल्यांचा लेखन दिसून आले. ह्यांनी हाल त्यांच्या योगदानाप्रमाणे बोरेचवाचे प्रतिसाहन तसेच नाटका साराचे सादर करणारे. आपल्या माहितीपूर्ण आहे. ह्यांनी हाल त्यांच्या योगदानाच्या संयोजनामुळे बोरेचवाचे प्रतिसाहन तसेच नाटका साराचे सादर करणारे.
कॉकणी सौरभ

श्रीमती नलिनी नाडकरणी

आमोल्या सानारण्यांतून आयकलेल्या, आमिचिले भाषें ओडी शासक आतातून कॉण्या वापरलेल्यास; त्या शाब्दिकी विस्तार पोडक नजळ म्हणुणे त्य शासक तसव दिसल्यात.
1) परगृहाती - अती काळजी चेंबरी
तित्व मस्त उपास, दास, आंधवया कोणु जाळेलां तां चलं, त्यानिमित्त कित्तन ताळीं चरणात चालबळी केलेली तित्याल्या योगे.
2) विज्ञापन - गराजकेली चांद विस्तार किरणी
ताक्रया पाप पेपा अडचणी अशिर्लिमिती तारं माहत्या चरणात पराची कंडली; हाळे पेसू मस्त लोकांक आपोलून विज्ञापन करेल.
3) दंडनं कॉर्झं - काम भो कठीण आस्थ म्हणून दाळोक्ये.
ती परिकट कर्षण कठोण नाला; जात्याचं तक्तक प्रत्ये म्हणे हे भो फूडन किरणी अधारणे.
4) वारण - नाटी
पाप गां हिजा; भाषातीनं विघ्नमुक्त, मस्त कट कौण्य, हांगा धई झंदा काम कोणु, तित्व हिजले त्याल्या होइ केंद्रली, शिक्षण दिलं. जात्याचं तारं माहत्या काम मेलेल तर्शीं, आपणगोला सावलगोला चलकेले लाण कोणु चेलुं; घर जावल जालं. आपणगोला आलेलं जीवंत आस्त की ना म्हणुं सुधां पठें; तित्यालर वारण म्होरचं!
5) तंतरं केंद्रली - किंतकांद जास जाळेलं तरी हे काम कर्षणेली म्हणुं ठोरे. कि
सुदूरीला बापालों आपणगोला भावक फसोलुं ताळेली जमीन आपणगोला नोंदवां कोणु चेलुं; म्हंगु सदूरं पंतसुं पंतरं की एक दिसू ती जमीनी आपण परत मेलेलेलेली म्होरचुं.
6) कुत्रून कुत्रून - माहिती काणु अंबाचया परत परत विवाचय.
ताकरा आपण जाणून कसत्याची खबरचं सांगतीचं अभास ना. आमी कुत्रून कुत्रून विचारकरा पडता.

7) भितरहून गांडींची - अपणगोलं मनातून काँफ्यां कर्टूक दोषाशीलता. ती भो भितरहून गांडींची; दुसर्यांलांगी धाणु खेळने काणुचा पंतता; जात्याचं आपणगोला मनातून कसलं आस्थ म्हणून काँफ्यां कर्टूक पत्ता लागू दीना.
8) मुडी प्राती/बाळतु बुजूं - महातपाणंतू मेंदूंचेरी परिपाणु जाळेलेली सातेचं चेंदावाय बांसलंपणू अर्थ नाटिले अ tíchूचं अटका.
9) हिकमती - गुंटींचं काम कोरं
चारी दीसर राहत म्हणूंमुक्त, डोन म्हणूं जाळेलं तरी वन्नचा; कुंडींचं कालक, हिकमतीपणी, हांग घर बंद कोणुं गावं ज्ञात म्हणुं संगुं ताकरा भायर वाळका पडवं.

आम्मा

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- असरवंद भट, बंगलोर
‘სამთხვევათა შევსებითი ხომა’

დ. ჯუნდა კანადი, ძარაჭად

‘სამთხვევათა შევსებითი ხომა, აუღი მფარველ ნაცვათ, ლამაზ განვაგრძო, დაღუპვის მხრივ გამოვაცხოთ, ჩვენი ჯილდო ჰაფილი მართა ზამთარზე, ჯილდომა მიყვანეთ, უფრო მართა ამფის მართა უცხო წყალში. მიუხედავად იმისა, რომ უნდა აგრეთვე ჰომილი გაატანოთ. ამ შემთხვევაში დაფინალი მომართა, უფრო ამოღობდეს ჯილდოთა გამოჩენა. მათთვის, უფრო კრებული იყო, რათა ჯამში მიმართა.

შემდეგ საღამო ჩართულ იყო ხელთამაში, რომლის შემდეგ ზამთარში უნდა გადავარდნენ. მათთვის, უფრო გამოჩენა უნდა ჰქონდეს. ამ შემთხვევაში შესაძლო იყო, რომ ყველა შესაძლო გახდეს.

მახატვარობა აღარ იყო, რომ არც რამე ბიჭი ამართა. თუმცა, სადაც იყო, ერთმანეთთან არც რამე შეიძლო. ამ შემთხვევაში ზამთარში უფრო მართა ჰქონდა.

მურუმური ჩახუმ ლანაჰაშუჩ ალპუღა მავართ–ისტერიული ბიჭიკლას ჩალა ეჭვო მუღიუზ კარან ფარ აუღვლეთ არაი, ნახებ ანაჰაშუჩამო, გაუდაფრე სხვა ხელში უფრო ადრინდელ, დაფარულ心跳 ჯაჭვაც. მირათი მაგრამ ჰარე გამოჩენა.

‘მუღიუზ’ გადამართა, თუმცა იქნება, შეიძლო იყო უფრო. ამ შემთხვევაში უფრო გამოჩენა ჰქონდა.

‘სამთხვევათა შევსებითი ხომა’ გამოჩენა. დაფარულ心跳 ჯაჭვაც. მისი მთელი ქცევა. გამოჩენა, შეიძლო იყო უფრო. ამ შემთხვევაში უფრო გამოჩენა ჰქონდა.

ამ შემთხვევაში მისი ქცევა ჰქონდა, უფრო უფრო უფრო.
पुस्तक परिचय - ‘युवराजी’
उदय मंकिर

पुस्तक का नाम ‘युवराजी’ है जिसका लेखक उदय मंकिर है। यह भारतीय भाषा में लिखी गई एक कहानी है। यह कहानी एक बालक की इतिहासी और मनोरंजक आदर्शों की रूप में दी जाती है।

पुस्तक का निर्माण संस्थान नेशनल किंग्डम में स्थित है। यह पुस्तक संस्थान की महत्वपूर्ण कार्य का एक हिस्सा है।

यह भारतीय भाषा में प्रकाशित की गई है और इसमें लघु कहानियों का समावेश है। यह पुस्तक बच्चों का लिखना और पढ़ना के लिए उपयोगी है।

यह पुस्तक में प्रेम, प्रेम, अनुभव और आदर्शों के बारे में कहानियाँ हैं। यह पुस्तक बच्चों के सामने एक नई दुनिया खोलती है और उन्हें उसके लिए तैयार करती है।

यह पुस्तक के पीछे स्वाधीनता, सुधार, प्रगति और आत्मनिर्भरता के महत्व का साक्षरता है।
दाळीताय आनि शीत
रेखा राव (काव्य)
person sending a human messenger to his lovelorn beloved – and he is also beset by nagging fear that the messenger may get closer to her than desirable!

Now comes another aphorism of Kaalidaasa, he says, most often, it is the thread of hope that holds up the loving heart of women from falling apart-from wilting! the heart that is delicate like a flower, and is prone to fall apart at the slightest provocation!

Comments and feedback to chitrapur.
girvanapratishtha@gmail.com or kdmankikar@gmail.com

बस्सान्तु जाल्लेलित मलामाति

जावन कोने जाललें; चिक्के आड सोळुक मेंठे,
आणि पाचाच बर्जालै यैण्येक मेंठुक.
मद्रास गावांच धरु; बस्सान्त मर्ता घिरु; जगार्ग ना एक साथम घालुक.

पाच्येली चेंडूच मसार आशीर्लिती.
ती माकिशा सोळार बर्जाललिती.
तिसे पाच्येक चाट्य तात्यानु आपराते.
मार्यं-ए-ए-ए...
मनालिती अशी.
लिगमत तात्यची, पाप, तशी.

cकडिकरानेबेल्मार्नु, बस्तू धरी रावबले.
यार पा अद, आड वेच्यारक बसाले?
(कोणाने रं तं, बोककट्ठ दयांच तेल्यां बसारानं?)
येंगं पा, येंगं, आडंडे येंगं बेलेंगी.
(दैव रं, दैव. बोककट्ठे बोठे दैव मागारं.)

जाने एक दुस्यांयं; हंगां, धूंर, पठेलातात.
बोककड खंडी निनपुना वसत्या, मलामति.
आ-आ-आच यार? ना-आ-आ-नान्न पेसणे, चेडू महणालात.
(बोककड कोणाक मजान, तं, हांच उत्तलित.)

सफऱस मसाले पेडऱे, हसिव्ये विळाती.
चेंडूची, वांडे लेंजाळलें, गांडे कोणे हसिल.
बसामल याचा गोंडांवने जालंकली.
चेंडालां नांगवी गांडे: नवनित.

- रघुनीरव राव, सरस राव आणि गावण्य मदन दत्त
IN MEMORIUM

“POOCH”

(9-4-1997 to 13-12-2006)

Dearest you are not gone you live in our hearts which you left behind

from Kodials
Ocimum sanctum or Ocimum tenuiflorum....Does this name ring a bell?

This is the name... the botanical name of the plant that all of us, in India worship...we all have it in any form... small.. big.. branched.. unbranched... black.. green.. with flowers or without flowers! There, it sits in our balconies, our window sills or our verandahs... always within our reach. Yes I am talking about the Tulsi plant...the same Tulsi which is considered so pious..so medicinal and yet how many of us are successful in growing it well?

In my nursery many customers come again & again for this little plant...they seem to be an expert now at killing it or should I say losing it due to sheer lack of knowledge of how to take its care? A question that always perplexes me is why can’t we take care of this plant? why do we need to buy it every now and then?

I am going to share my little secrets with you.. which will definitely help you to take good care of the Tulsi plant.

Tulsi is a soft stemmed plant. That itself indicates that its stem has more water content. So we must always water it sparsely. Most of us manage to kill the plant by overwatering rather than under watering! Also its got a very hairy stem..Please avoid water droplets from stagnating on its branches or leaf axils. These would rest on the hairy surface and provide optimum conditions for air borne bacterial or fungal spores to germinate, eventually affecting its growth.

Also the plant has a superficial root system. Hence never allow the water to stagnate in the pot. Never douse the water very near the stem and soil junction. This would injure the soft stem, giving vent to fungal pores to attack the plant.

Also the plant needs to branch out so that it develops a well balanced structure and how do we achieve this?? Always nip off or pinch the apical bud or upper new leaves after the plant grows to about 6 to 8 inches. This will lead to the plant to branch at this node. It is very important to establish a good plant structure. For this, continuous pinching of leaves at 6 to 8 inches from the nearest branch joint is important. Eventually you will be able to grow a plant with branches all over having a good appearance.

Most of us have Tulsi plants which have staggered growth or they at least look very lanky. This could also be due to less sun exposure. The plant loves the sun. In fact if you place it in a sunny window, you would see that its growth habit becomes compact. Also the colour of the stem darkens. The same plant if kept in a shaded place may put forth light green stem color.

Plants always have tendency to grow towards the sun. Hence the lopsided growth of Tulsi, especially when it is placed in our balcony or window sill. It is therefore important to rotate the pot from time to time to ensure that sunlight reaches all parts of the plant. Naturally, with more sun exposure, the plant would have increased capabilities to produce food and so the more healthier growth.

The plant gradually matures and gives flowers in terminal racemes. We refer to these as “manjiris” The small flowers rest on a common stalk and if allowed to mature they slowly produce dark blackish brownish seeds. Soon the plant loses its vigour and its appearance looks woody. It is advisable not to allow the plant to set seeds if you want a younger looking plant for a longer time. Nip of the flowers as soon as they are visible. You can either place them in the same pot and slowly rake them into the soil or simply discard them.

If at all the plant has set seeds, these may drop off and grow into new plantlets in the same pot. The Tulsi plant can also be propagated vegetatively by cuttings. These are essentially softwood cuttings. Propagation itself is a very exhaustive topic and I wish to cover it during the course of my series. For the time being, I would want all of you who have Tulsi’s growing at their homes to take note of all the aforementioned tips and learn to nurture this plant well.
NEWS FROM THE CANARA UNION, BANGALORE

The all-colour Canara Union Newsletter has been well received and appreciated by one and all. We plan to improve it further and make it a lot more interesting for our readers over the coming months. Contributions by way of articles from those interested are welcome and please email them to canaraunion@gmail.com addressed to The Editor, Canara Union Newsletter, Bangalore. We also take this opportunity to request all Members of Canara Union, Bangalore, based in Bangalore and outside Bangalore, who have not paid their annual membership fees to please do so as early as possible.

Activities in Bangalore:

Sports: 19th Ramaiah Rajan Memorial 3-Star State Ranking Badminton Tournament – Between 10th to 13th August, 2013 brought around 430 entries were received and 418 matches conducted for boys and girls between the age group of 13 and 15 in Singles and Doubles. The tournament was sponsored by Dr. Jairam Rajan.

Culturual: Interactive and Informal chat with some of our Women Achievers – Saturday 31st August, marked a memorable evening with five of our Women Achievers, Smt. Lalan Sanade, Anuradha Gokarn, Sonali (Usha) Savkur, Nandini Karanje and Rekha Mavinkurve. The achievements and mission of each of their projects were highlighted in a write-up and impressive power-point presentation and videos. This was followed by an informal interactive question-answer session with the Women Achievers. The saga of service, grit, indomitable courage, strong determination, a will to succeed, a sense of social responsibility and helping the underprivileged were the underlying factors. The programme was very well received by discerning audience who are hoping to see many such interesting programmes in the future.

Launch of Music Lounge – Thursday, 19th September, Canara Union launched a well-equipped Music Lounge which was sanctified by a Pooja and prayer to Goddess Saraswathi. The Music Lounge has a Karaoke System which provides the original background music and lyrics for over 4,000 songs. The Arts Section’s existing array of musical instruments will also be put to good use. The objective is to discover, nurture and showcase musical talent in our Samaj.

Music Delight – Saturday, 21st September, Smt Padmini Rao gave a stupendous performance of Hindustani Raag Sangeet to a packed audience at the Canara Union. She was ably accompanied by Shri Mihir Kalyanpur on the Tabla and Shri Umakant Puranik on the Harmonium.

On Sunday, 22nd September, Sapthak and International Childrens’ Peace Council and cosponsored by Canara Union Arts Section organized a Hindustani Classical Vocal Music Recital by two Artistes, Ms. Ameeta Sinha Mohapatra (Dhrupad style) and Shri Shrinivas Joshi (Kirana Gharana) son and disciple of Bharatratna late Pt. Bhimsen Joshi. The auditorium was packed and the audience enjoyed a wonderful evening of great music.

Diwali Mela – a 2-day Diwali Mela was held on 26th and 27th October, at the Canara Union. There were over 25 stalls selling wonderful items like Jewelery, Saris, Clothes, Linen, Gift items, colourful Diyas, Rangoli designs and the five stalls selling sumptuous food items attracted a lot of visitors over these two days. It was a great way to bring in the festivity of lights Diwali.

Operation Parivartan – on November 1st, there was a soft launch of the “New Look” Canara Union. There have been improvements in the office block – Cleaner & Greener. The front of the Canara Union sports a neatly laid out stone and grass front yard, with lots of colourful flowers. A new Gazebo has come up over the old sump. It will serve as a stage for outdoor performances and a place to sit down for a cuppa and snacks. Step inside the office block and you will be greeted with cheerful and warm drapes and indoor plants and comfortable chairs placed in the reading room. Peek into the Mini Hall (renamed the Lounge) and you will find plush sofa sets to seat 30 members at any time, warm drapes, 2 racks full of books, novels and we propose to have a large format TV to catch up on the Breaking News/Cricket Match/Movies. With the idea to entertain our esteemed members, to ensure more footfalls on a regular basis, as well as to nurture and encourage latent talent in our community, the same Lounge will transform into a Mini Auditorium (to seat 30 to 50 people) for music performances, lectures, inter-active discussions and other entertaining events in the evening on a regular basis.

After our esteemed members were taken around the “New Look” premises, they were given an overview of all the plans that we have in store to make the Canara Union a great place to visit and also sought their views and suggestions for improvement. This was followed by a great Gujarati Lunch.

Programme that were held in November are:

Sunday, 3rd November – Samaj Day and Children’s programme by Saraswathi Mahila Samaj.
Saturday, 16th November – Variety Entertainment of Music and Dance
Sunday, 17th November – Annual General Meeting of the Canara Union

Look forward to our report on these next month
I first set eyes on Asha in the spring of 1961 when she was all of sixteen, when I went on “out pass” from the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun. I visited her home in the adjacent FRI campus frequently thereafter, at first to enjoy her mother’s most excellent ‘amchi’ cooking. But I was the young man who went for dinner and stayed on for the daughter, for we were promised to each other even before I left IMA at the end of 1962 as a Second Lieutenant. But what has that to do with Joseph-anna, you may well ask. Patience, dear reader, for there is a connection!

The first unit to which I was posted in 1963 was deep inside the Kumaon Himalayas, housed in tents in Dharchula which was, in those days, three to four days by treacherous roads from the railhead at Tanakpur. Predictably, most of the year we ate canned vegetables, fruits and meats, powdered eggs, and ancient atta and rice. “Fresh” which survived the long journey from the plains was rare and highly valued. Thus, the mess cook was always hard put to produce taste and variety even for everyday meals.

Coming to the title of this piece, Joseph was the mess cook when I joined the unit, fresh-faced and with a hearty appetite. Joseph was respectfully referred to and addressed as Joseph-anna, or more phonetically Jojepanna, in our Madras Sapper field unit. And Jojepanna always produced wonderful meals out of cans from his tented kitchen for breakfast, lunch and dinner every day, whether at the unit’s “permanent” location or when on the move or in camps. He always out-did himself on special occasions like Deepavali or Christmas or when the brigade commander Brigadier Barua was invited to dinner, using the same ingredients. Indeed, Joseph had such a high reputation as a culinary artist that my OC Major Kakar had to strongly resist the Brigadier’s ploys to hijack Joseph to the brigade officers mess! All this will surely indicate that I was a fan of this marvel who rejoiced in the name of Joseph.

To get on with the tale, in the summer of 1964, I was granted annual leave – fifty-four days at home after travelling in the trains of those days and, you guessed it, mother’s cooking! And, braving all outraged whispers among the more orthodox of our tribe and the blazing heat, my fiancee Asha came from Dehra Dun to spend some days with us in Madras (Chennai, in present times). My older brother also came on leave, and we all had a grand time together.

As any mother would do, Amma asked what sort of food I got to eat in my unit and I extolled Joseph’s talents, frequently repeating them especially at mealtimes. Asha was strangely silent on these occasions because, as I learned much later, she hadn’t at that time the vaguest idea of cooking even though her mother was a marvelous cook. (To her credit and my everlasting appreciation, Asha trained herself to become a marvellous cook, surpassing both her mother and mother-in-law in the range, finesse and taste of her routine and special preparations).

My brother was apparently fed up hearing about Joseph and I suspect my mother did too, but she was too sweet to tell me to shut up. To finally “make the connection” between Asha and Joseph, I must quote to the best of my recollection, what my brother said to me as we all sat for dinner and I brought up Joseph’s name yet again. He boomed in his candid style, “Look, Sudhir, why don’t you just ditch Asha and marry Joseph?”, and characteristically roared with laughter, happily joined by Asha and my parents. Was it that remark which made Asha into the absolutely super cook that she is? Forty nine years later, I still don’t know.

Major S.G. Vombatkere retired as Addl DG in charge of Discipline and Vigilance from Army HQ AG’s Branch in 1996. The President of India awarded him the Visishta Seva Medal (VSM) for distinguished services rendered in Ladakh. He is settled in Mysore where he is engaged in voluntary social work and also lecturing undergraduate students from USA and Canada who come to Mysore for a semester. With a PhD from I.I.T Madras (1987), he is Adjunct Associate Professor of the University of Iowa, USA, in International Studies, lecturing mainly on sustainable development. He is a member of NAPM and PUCL, and writes on development and strategic issues. He can be contacted at Tel: 0821-2515187.
Here and There

Bangalore: Navaratra Utsav was observed from 5th to 14th October 2013. On October 6th Yuvadhara arranged a “Garbha”. On Wednesday the 9th, on the occasion of Lalita panchami, samoohika kumkumarchan was performed. On Thursday the 10th, Punyathithi of PP Shrimath Shankarashram Swamiji I [Shirali] was observed with Ashtavadhan seva. On Sunday the 13th, on account of Navami, Kumarika poojan was performed. There were twelve gracefully dressed and bejewelled petite kumarikas. The Math was overflowing with parents of the kumarikas who took snapshots of the kumarikas being worshipped and being presented with the “offerings”. On Friday the 18th Lakshmi Poojan was performed followed by Ksheer vitaran. On Sunday the 3rd November children of Prarthana varg visited the famous “Bimba Art House” in Basavanagudi. The children enjoyed two special shows at the Art House, one on Gajendra Moksha, and another on Adi Shankaracharya. For Diwali, the children painted “Panthis” [Diyas], an activity taught by Suman Samsi pachchi.

Reported by Nihar Rao Ammembal.

Goa: The Local Sabha celebrated the auspicious occasion of Janma Diwas of Parama Pujya Swamiji with a Satsang on Novemer 10 at the residence of Chandrakant Kalyanpur in Panaji. Four Yuvas performed Guru Pujan and Devi Anushthan to mark the occasion. The Satsang continued with cake-cutting by the Yuvas, one on Gajendra Moksha, and another on Adi Shankaracharya. For Diwali, the children painted “Panthis” [Diyas], an activity taught by Suman Samsi pachchi.

Personalia

Gauri Prashant Heble has been awarded the PhD degree (Banking and Finance) under the faculty of Commerce and Management by the University of Pune. Her doctoral thesis is titled “A Study of Corporate Governance Practices in the Indian Banking Sector with special reference to selected Public Sector Banks, Private Sector Banks and Foreign Banks”. Gauri also had the opportunity to visit the London School of Economics and Political Science, University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge as part of her doctoral research.

She has earlier been awarded the M.Phil degree in Finance, securing the “O” Grade for “Outstanding Performance” by the University of Pune. She also has several research papers published to her credit and has presented these at various national conferences. She is a faculty member for post graduate students of Management under the University of Pune.

Gauri is the daughter of Smt Aruna and Shri Prakash Balwally of Pune and sister of Chaitra Balwally. She is happily married to Prashant Anil Heble and has a baby son Vihaan.

Kumari Yashasvi Milind Yadavri (age 12 yrs) was selected by her school Lilavatibai Podar Senior Secondary School, Mumbai to represent the school in the following interschool dancing competitions/workshops:

- Cascade 20 – 20th Annual Interschool cultural festival held on 25th & 26th August 2012. “Let’s put on a show –Dance”. In fact she has been selected 3 times in a row for this particular competition.
- “Reach for the Stars” a show by Raell padamsee – performed at Bandra.
- She performed and entertained Cancer Patients at Shanti Avedna at Bandra– representing Podar school for a Nobel cause.

She has also participated in shaimak Davar’s Summer Funk Show and many more dance competitions representing her school.

Results

Isha Vinay Rao has passed her 10th Std CBSE Board with 95.4% marks and a CGPA of 10.

Nishikanth Ubhayakar passed B.A. from Mumbai University with 46%
Margao in which Prarthana Varga’s Nivedita Gokarn performed Guru Pujan. Navaratri was celebrated with a full-day Satsang on October 6 at the residence of Ramdas Divgi in Margao during which Devi Poojan & Sadhana Panchakam were performed.

Reported by Sabita Harite

Hyderabad: On September 29th, Satsang was held at the residence of Shri Sanjai Hattiangdi. Hyderabad sabha members performed Shri Devi Anushtaan and recited Navaratra Nityapath for nine days, from October 5th to 13th, at the residences of 9 sadhakas for the eleventh consecutive year. Every day after the recitation, sadhakas chanted Mahishasur Mardini stotra and other Devi Strotas from Stuti Manjiri and sang bhajans. On Vijay Dashmi day, Saumuhik Devi poojan was led by Smt Seema Hattiangdi and Smt Vinati Udyavar as the sadhakas present chanted mantras. This was followed by Sangeetmaya katha Kathan - Shri Devi Mahima based on Saptashati by Smt. Bijur Chandramapachchi. She explained the Mahima of three avatars of Devi, Maha-Kali, Maha-Lakshmi and Maha-Saraswati in a beautiful way and kept the audience charged with her lively commentary. Smt Sudha Gangolli, Padmini Kumta, Seema Hattiangdi, Vinati Udyavar and Rohit Hattiangdi from the sabha supported Chandrama-pachchi by singing bhajans from Samvit Keertan Saar. Yuva Rohit Hattiangdi ably and enthusiastically supported all by playing tabla. The members then expressed heartfelt gratitude to Chandrama-pachchi for coming to Hyderabad and conducting such an engaging programme.

Reported by Sameer Hattiangdi

Mumbai - Dadar: On 19th July’13 Ashadhi Ekadashi was observed with Lord Vithala’s bhajans along with commentary on it by Mrs. Chandrama Bijur. 22nd July’13 saw Guru Purnima being observed by Guru Pujan by Prarthana kids at MMM Hall, Karnataka Society. On 20th August’13 – Rg Upakarma was observed in MMM Hall, Karnataka Society. Quite a few sadhakas attended the same. 24th Aug’13 – Punyatithi of HH Shrimad Parijnanashram Swamiji III & Punyatithi of HH Shrimad Parijnanashram Swamiji II on 30th Sept’13 were observed with bhajans. Krishna Janmashtami celebrations were conducted with bhajans from 21st to 28th Aug at Mrs. Shobha Puthli’s residence. Sanntikarsh was observed with all 5 aspects of the Sadhana Srunkhala at Karla on 29th Aug’13. Around 30 sadhakas attended the same. Guru pujan was performed by 4 devotees. Palki Utsav was held in the precincts of Karnataka Society and everybody joined in the bhajans on 8th Sept’13 during the punyatithi of HH Shrimad Anandashram Swamiji.

Reported by Shobha Puthli

Mumbai - Santacruz: Punyatithi of HH Srimat Shankarashram Swamiji I was observed on October 10th, 2013, from 9:00pm onwards in the Shrimat Anandashram Hall, Saraswat Colony, Santacruz. Devotees who had gathered there in large numbers offered their Bhajan Seva after Deepamaskar.

Reported by Kavita Karnad

Mumbai – Vile parle: Let Diwali come, all the roads lead to Lokamany Tilak Mandir at Vile parle east to buy various articles and items especially for Diwali festival, under one roof i.e Bhavya Grahak Peth. The very name indicates, that it is a small Mela for sales promotion of various products/household articles/items mainly of hand made for day to day use.

It was Smt Vandana Joshi (ex-staff of Canara Bank now retired) who motivated us to have stall for “Samvit Sudha”(a Division of Parijnana Foundation) in this Mela on a trial basis, for the sale of various types of hand made articles, hand bags, purses and pouches and so on. Most of the volunteers working here were from Vile Parle-Vakola sabha, under the able leadership of Smt.Nandini Hattiangdy. This Mela is generally held every Diwali for ten days and is closed just 2-3 days before commencement of Diwali. Samvit Sudha Put tp a stall here for the first time and by the time the report came in on the last day of the Mela the sales turnover has already crossed Rs.3 lakhs, mainly because of excellent team work of the volunteers. We hope Samvit Sudha continues to have such sales outlets whenever an opportunity comes.

Reported by Shrikar Talgeri

New Delhi: Janmashtami was celebrated by Delhi Sabha members on 31st Aug at Shri Kavle Math. Melodious “mhantis” were led by Vidya Kumar and Shobhna Ullal followed by a short bhajan by Sangamitra Prasad. Aryaman and Anandita performed a Radha-Krishna dance “Jhulat Radhe Sang Giridhar”. After which ladies performed a garba to the tunes of “Aaj Gokulat Rang Khelato Hari”, charging the atmosphere. Kids were happily swinging the cradle of Bal Krishna while the Mangalartis were being performed. Children managed to break the “Handi” filled with
chocolates after several attempts. It was a treat for the eyes to see all children suddenly disappear to grab the chocolates from the broken handi. A sumptuous prasad bhojana followed. The function was attended by 35 members.

Punyatithi of Shrimat Anandashram Swamiji was observed on 8th Aug at the residence of Smt Vidya Kumar, Delhi. 16 members from the Sabha participated.

Ganesh Chaturthi get-together was organised at the residence of Shri Prashant Hoskote in Gurgaon on 9th Aug. Their house was electrified with the enthusiasm with which the devotees chanted all the stotras. 35 members participated. The Ganesh Chaturthi celebration at GSB Samaj, New Rajinder Nagar was attended by 9 families, 18 members from our sabha.

On 6th October, we participated in Navachandika Homa performed at Shri Kavle Math organised by Shri V N Kabadi. V ed Harish Bhat and a few vaidiks performed poojas, wherein Udyavar Arvind Rao, representing our Sabha took sankalp on behalf of all Sabha members and performed the rituals. 17 families, 32 members participated in this Navaratrotsavas.

Reported by Mamta Savkur

Our Institutions

Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi: On October 11th 2013 Navratri Utsav was celebrated with Sugam Sangeet by Smt. Prashanti Bhat, a proficient & versatile singer. She started with a Ganpati “stavana” and then went on to sing variety of bhaaveet from old Marathi movies as well as a medley of Hindi songs, gazals, classical songs, bhajans, etc. Smt. Geeta Yennemadi accompanied her on the Harmonium & Shri. Arun Hattangadi on the Tabla. Smt. Neeta Yadery introduced Smt. Prashanti and also compered the programme. Smt. Vijayalaxmi Kapnadak proposed the vote of thanks. Refreshments were sponsored by Smt. Suman Kodial.

“Kojagiri Get Together” was held on 18th October 2013 in the Samaj Hall. It was an evening full of fun & frolic. President Smt. Kanchan Sujir welcomed all in her inimitable style with a small lyrical couplet in Hindi. Smt. Geeta Balse then took over and anchored the show. The evening had various games such as “Starters” a quiz on “Joint Amchi Words”, “What’s The Good Word” (Amchi) followed by a written quiz on “Amchi Surnames”, a brain teasing game. Then came the best part of the evening wherein a game “Panchyat Punishment” was played group-wise with funny punishments of dance, yoga, mimicry, jokes, songs etc. At the end the seniormost lady in the audience Smt. Nalinpachi Sanzgiri (only 87 years young) was asked a volley of questions on her life’s journey which she promptly and confidently answered! She was crowned ‘Mrs. Kojagiri Sr. - Samaj’ with a tiara on her head, a sash & was presented with a token gift on behalf of Saraswat Mahila Samaj. Her contribution to the Samaj as a member on the Managing Committee and also a member of the Saraswati Vrindagaan/Bhajan Group for almost 25–30 years was appreciated. On request, Nalinipachi sportingly sang a few lines & narrated a funny story. Vote of thanks was proposed by Smt. Suman Kodial. The event was enjoyed by all & ended with tasty snacks & chilled milk.

Forthcoming Programme – December 2013

Wednesday 4th December – Samaj Hall – 3.30 p.m. : Cookery Competition with Oats (Sweet / Salty) preparation as the main ingredient. Multiple entries from participants are welcome. Kindly bring your items to the Samaj Hall by 3.00 p.m. along with a neat hand written recipe.

Saturday 21st December – Samaj Hall - 5 p.m. : Convocation & Children’s Day / Children’s Variety Programme. Refreshments sponsored by Smt. Sadhana Kamat

Reported by Smt. Geeta Balse

Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Chennai: On 9th October 2013 Annual Haldi-Kumkum was organized. The Samaj Day was celebrated with a host of programmes on 27th Oct., 2013, commencing with a Prayer sung by Smt. Surabhi Koppikar. This was followed by the Welcome Address by the Hon. President of the Mahila Samaj, Smt. Jyoti P. Gulvadi. Smt. Geeta Gulwadi was honoured for her long-standing contribution to the Samaj. She has been in all the three Managing Committees, of the Saraswat Association, Chennai Local Sabha & Saraswat Mahila Samaj for over 50 years. There was enthusiastic participation by children, youth and the mahilas alike. The show began with Ganapathy dance by the tiny tots. This was followed by a traditional ‘Kerala dance’ by the ladies. The same group enthusiastically performed the Gangnam-style dance, with aplomb later on. Smt. Chitra Kumta sang two Hindi film songs. There were two solo performances, beautifully rendered - Kathak by Smt. Kashmira Soni and another by Smt. Deepali Kambadkone of Mangalore for the song “Kaahe Ched” from the movie Devdas. The youngsters’ contribution was a dance from the new movie Ram-Lila, as well as a Garba dance by the girls, Break-dance by Rahul Soni. A skit ‘Oh My God’ written by Smt. Rekha Kumta was enacted by little...
children and a miming-skit by older children followed. The evening concluded with a “vote of thanks” by Smt. Lata Ullal, Hon. Secretary of the Mahila Samaj and singing of the National Anthem. The programme was compered by Preetham Chandavarkar.

The Samaj performed Sadhana Panchakam on Oct. 13 and observed Punyathiti of HH Srimad Shankarashram Swamiji (I) with puja and bhajans.

Reported by Kavita Savoor

Balak Vrinda Education Society, Mumbai: Independence Day was celebrated with Flag hoisting & the National Anthem. A small programme was held wherein some patriotic songs were sung. As per our practice for the past few years this year too our 1st rank holder in SSC, from our Marathi High School, Ms. Shruti Kadam, was invited as the Chief Guest, who gave an inspiring talk and stressed on the importance of regular studies & hard work.

Teachers’ Day was celebrated with great fanfare in the School Hall on 5th September 2013. The Hall was decorated with torans & dainty floral rangolis. The teachers were free for the day with the higher standard students taking up the teaching work. Mrs. Aruna Joglekar a multi faceted eminent personality, journalist, writer, director, producer & script writer of various Marathi popular & successful serials (one of which is “Unch Maza Zoka”) was invited as the Chief Guest. She is also a Maharashtra State Award winner for her short stories.

The programme started with Deep Prajwalan by the Chief Guest, to the lyrical music of Saraswati vandana followed by a swagat geet. After the Chairman’s address to the gathering and welcome with a bouquet to the Chief Guest, Mrs. Joglekar was introduced by Mrs. Geeta Balse. Thereafter Mrs. Joglekar gave an interesting talk & emphasized on the importance of changing our perspectives of the modern teacher for the better. This was followed by a question – answer session, in which many participated.

Some of the teachers whose students had secured 100% results in the subjects they taught were felicitated with certificates of appreciation & all staff & teachers were given mementoes as a gesture of appreciation. This was followed by a delicious lunch spread.

The 53rd AGM of the Society was held on 14th September 2013 in the school. The following members were elected on the Managing Committee for the year 2013 – 14. Mr. Anand Nadkarni- Chairman, Dr. Suresh Mathure-Vice – Chairman, Mr. Shivshankar Murdeshwar- Hon. Secretary, Mr. Kishor Basrur- Jr. Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Nirmala Chikramane- Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Dilip Shashital- Jr. Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Geeta Balse- Hon. Secretary, PR & Publicity, Mrs. Vijayalaxmi Kapnadak, Dr. Suneela Mavinkurve, Mr. Deepak Mistry, Mr. Suryakant Nagwekar, Mrs. Usha Kagal and Mrs. Shubhada Burde.

Reported by Geeta Balse

The Saraswati Mahila Samaj, Bengaluru: The Saraswati Mahila Samaj has been conducting regular programs during the year. The first Haldi Kumkum was held on January 14th celebrating Sankranthi with distribution of tilgul. In March Smt. Meera Balsaver held a demonstration on flower weaving which was very well attended and went on for more than the expected time. June saw the annual subscription lunch held in Canara Union hall when the senior couples were felicitated with either family members or close friends recalling some moments about the couples. Gowri puja day in September and Dussehra (Mhanmi Tae) in October were celebrated with Haldi kumkum on these days. Finally on Diwali November 3rd the Samaj celebrated Samaj Day and Children’s Day jointly as usual. The surprising element was the full attendance and participation of more than 40 children on short notice. Even though it was Lakshmi Puja day there was a full hall which was a pleasant surprise as it was put up on short notice due to unavailability of the hall on 16th November due to prior booking for an entertainment programme. The programme commenced with a Saraswati Vandana by Smt. Meera Balsaver after which the President, Smt. Geetha Padbidri welcomed the audience followed by the Secretary, Rashmi Chandragiri giving the details of the programmes held during the year. The children and adults who participated were given mementoes. The children performed some good items which were enjoyed the audience. Three senior members who served in the Committee were felicitated and presented with a fruit basket donated by Smt. Suryakanti Madiman (Vice President of Saraswati Mahila Samaj) and a shawl donated by Smt. Geetha Padbidri (President of Saraswati Mahila Samaj). The evening ended with a vote of thanks and a request to all to help make the programmes in the coming year a success.

Reported by Kalpana Kumble (Jt. Secretary)

Corrigendum: In para 7 of the article ‘Gopalbappa, A Legend in his Lifetime’ - page 33, Nov 2013 issue - the General Manager of the DBK Rly Project was Y. P. Kulkarni, NOT S. M. Kulkarni.
CLASSIFIEDS

MATRIMONIAL

Alliance invited for handsome boy, 5’7”, 30-year Software Engineer, H1B Visa holder. Done MS from University of Maryland, working with Global Foundries near New York. Girl should be CSB/GBS, well educated, at least 5’3”, should be willing to move to the US (preferably studying/working in the US). Contact 080-23528332, 9880357142. email: sauk2009@yahoo.com

Alliance invited for Chitrapur SB girl, 81 born, 5’8”. post graduate, working in Mumbai from educated, well employed and settled CSB/GBS/ Maratha boys. Contact : srisailam1611@gmail.com

ENGAGEMENTS

BAINDUR-KODIAL: Gautam, Son of Mrs.Anita (nee Sheela Karnad) and Mr.Vinayak Prabhakar Baindur with Aarti, Daughter of Mrs. Geetha (nee Dumblekar) and Mr.Anup Raghuvir Kodial on 12th October 2013 at Malleshwaram, Bangalore.


MARRIAGE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Abhijeet (son of Smt. Sapna and Shri Arunkumar Raghuvir Bijoor of Matunga (West) and Aditi (daughter of Smt. Amitha and Shri P. K. Raghavan of Mulund (East) alongwith their parents thank all relatives, friends and well wishers, for their gracious presence, blessings and best wishes on the occasion of their marriage on 10th November, 2013 at Emperor & Empress Banquet Hall, Prabhadevi, Mumbai.

BIRTHS

A son (REYAANSH) to Dnyanesh and Shibani Nagarkatty on 18th October 2013. Grandson to Shrikant and Vrinda Nagarkatty of Talmakiwadi and Gurunandan and Shobha Ullal of Thane.

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DOMESTIC TIDINGS

We welcome the following new arrivals:

Oct 18 : A son (Reyaansh) to Shibani (nee Ullal) and Dnyanesh Shrikant Nagarkatty at Goregaon, Mumbai.
Oct 22 : A daughter (Ankita) to Priti (nee Savoor) and Chinmay R. Kallianpur at Mumbai.
Nov 14 : A son to Sapna (nee Nadkarni) and Sanil Yati at Bangalore.

MARRIAGE - We congratulate

Oct 13 : Sharmila Girish Nileshwar with Tushar Ramanand Rao (Vaknalli) at Mumbai.

OBITUARIES

We convey our deepest sympathy to the relatives of the following:

Aug 22 : Shrimati U Dhareshwar (69) at Kundapur.
Sept 25 : Karnad Raghuveer Rao (ex–Saraswat colony, Gemdevi) at Dadar, Mumbai.
Oct 19 : Gokan Ganesh Suner (of Talmakiwadi) (94) at Mumbai.
Oct 22 : Vatsala Patil (Wagle) (95) at Pune.
Oct 27 : Adur Anand Ramakrishna (78) at Andheri, Mumbai.
Nov 5 : Karopady Udaykumar Umanath (63) (ex-Borivali) at Pune.
Nov 1 : Taggarse Mathadgadi Mangesh Rao (84).
Nov 11 : Vrinda Prabhashankar Padukone (89) at Bangalore.

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‘WHAT WE HAVE DONE FOR OURSELVES ALONE DIES WITH US; WHAT WE HAVE DONE FOR OTHERS AND THE WORLD REMAINS AND IS IMMORTAL’

Mrs. Vatsala G. Patil left for heavenly abode on 22 October 2013 at her Pune residence.

But she will always remain immortal for she lit the path that we walk on...

In grief and gratitude

Wagles, Basrurs, Masurkars, Upbonis, Naiks, Vaidyas
And All Other Friends And Family.

SAD DEMISE

Shri TAGGARSE MATHADGADI MANGESH RAO
(21st February 1929 - 01st November 2013)

(His body has been donated to a hospital for medical research as per his will)

Deeply mourned by

Daughters
Kavitha, (late) Surekha (Vindhya), Trupti

Sons in Law
Suresh Kelkar, Dattanand Bangalorekar, Jagadish Sorab

Grand children
Divya Prathamesh Kumta, Deepak Kelkar, Tanmay Bangalorekar, Priya & Suraj Sorab

Brother
T.M. Bhavanishankar Rao
Relatives & Friends
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