



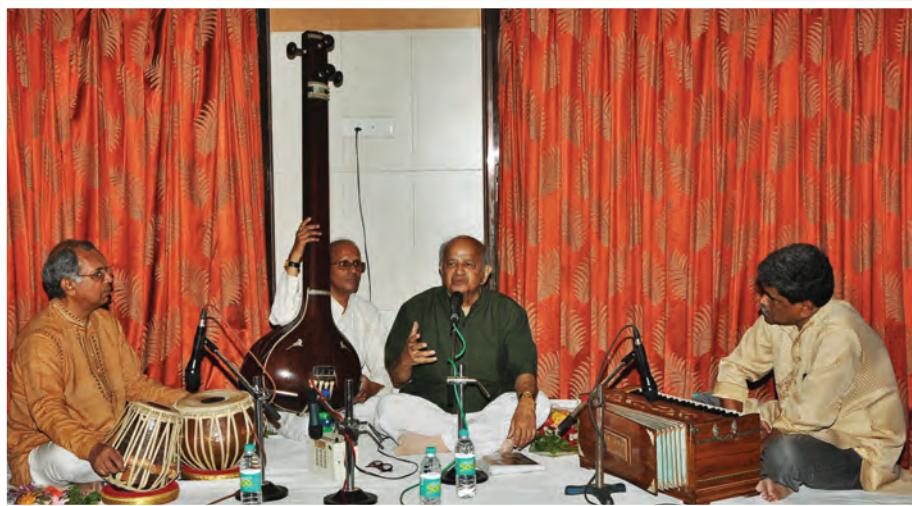
# Kanara Saraswat

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION

## Chidanand Smriti Lecture Demonstration by Shri Ramdas Bhatkal



Pandit Shri Chidanand Nagarkar



(l to r) Shri Omkar Gulvady on Tabla, Shri Shrikant Bakre on Tanpura, Shri Ramdas Bhatkal,  
Shri Hemant Hemmady on Harmonium



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# Kanara Saraswat

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## ELECTION NOTICE

Nominations are invited for 3 vacancies on the Managing Committee for the year 2014-2015 of the Kanara Saraswat Association arising due to the following.

Vacancies caused by retirement under Rule 13

1. Shri Mavinkurve Yatin Shantmurti
2. Shri Murdeshwar Shivshankar Dattanand
3. Shri Sashital Dilip Pandurang

Nomination paper containing the candidate's name in full and his consent to contest the election and subscribed by not less than two members of at least one year's standing as proposed and seconded should reach the Hon. Secretary at the KSA Office on or before June 09, 2014 by 7.00 p.m.

By order of the Managing Committee

**April 01, 2014  
Mumbai**

**Rajaram D Pandit  
Chairman**

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Grandmother: Sheetal Chandrasekharan  
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## *From the President's Desk....*

'This is my quest, to follow that star, no matter how hopeless, no matter how far. 'The Impossible Dream' holds relevance to our actions at some point in life. At times, we nurture a particular aspiration, probably involving a volatile relationship or dynamic business success or fast track career growth. We want to see our dream become a reality, yet are painfully aware of how unstable things have become. Our quest for stability is not impossible..... maybe... only delayed.

What exactly do people mean when they say 'we're wishing our lives away?' That implies we've grown so used to wishing for something to happen, that we've resigned ourselves to the fact that it will probably never happen during our lifetime. Perhaps though, it means we've focused so much on wishing for something, that we've forgotten to invest effort needed to make it happen. We know what we are wishing for..... all that is required is to assess properly, how we can....and will....get it.

We all ponder the meaning of life. Why are we here? How did we get here? Life, as we know, is a constant series of choices. Just like we have to pass certain signposts when driving to a destination, we do the same to arrive at situations we find ourselves in. It pays to have faith and not think that you may have taken a wrong turn some time ago because of what you're dealing with now. Believing that you really are at an important and essential point that will soon be a springboard to something wonderful, makes life much easier. Before we embark upon certain plans, we seek reassurance that everything is in order and the likelihood of both surprise and disappointment has been reduced, if not eliminated. Once we believe, pros outweigh cons, of what we're considering doing, we take a brave step forward and see what happens.

People speak about 'creative solutions'. Are there any other kind? Solutions always rely on the application of imagination. They are born from visualizing clearly in our mind a desired result. I'd say that's pretty creative, wouldn't you? A solution you want to find may not require as much effort and thinking time as you might believe. All you have to do is understand what needs to happen. From there, you can expect a clever revelation that will make you smile.

It is always better to have a late revelation than to never experience one. When we're focused on here and now, we sometimes overlook something crucial staring us in the face. Then, when we see it, we're unsure how best to greet or acknowledge it. We focus on how much more helpful it would have been to have had that information when we needed it before. Whatever it is that dawns on us might be a bit late arriving but that does not mean it isn't extremely helpful.

No matter how serious the situation and life-defining event you think you are in or how much you believe that the implications could have serious ramifications, always take time and try to decipher, what is actually lighthearted contained within..... rather make time to see a funny side to it. Maybe....things won't seem so bleak then.

Whatever your quest..... have fun in it!!!

**Suresh S. Hemmady**

## **Senior Citizens' Retreat**

The world over, longevity has generally improved and our community is no exception. In the western countries, they have thought of taking care of Senior Citizens appropriately by way of building condominiums or resorts where only Senior Citizens are allowed to stay.

In India, though it has started in a small way, our community has only been talking about it for quite some time. KSA being a social institution, I personally feel, it is high time and apt for KSA to undertake such a venture for Senior Citizens.

I have been thinking and talking about in KSA for a long time. Buoyed with the confidence of Nashik Holiday Home re-development having gone through at the last SGM, and Dr. Prakash Mavinkurve having put the bee in my bonnet, we have finally decided to go ahead with the plans to build this retreat for the Senior Citizen and take steps to move forward.

We have unanimously decided to explore the possibility of having a Home/Retreat for Senior Citizens located at an appropriate place having social, cultural, medical and other facilities available close by as a most desired criteria. It was also unanimously decided to seek His Holiness Shrimat Sadyojaat Shankarashram Swamiji's blessings first on this project before we even take the next step. I met Him personally in Shirali on April 23 and briefed Him and sought His blessings. I am very happy to inform you all that Swamiji has given His blessings without any hesitation.

In this connection, I then met Mr. Amembal Kishore Rao and Mr. Naipally Jayavanth Rao in Bangalore, who have done a lot of work on such projects and have tremendous experience. I have requested them to help KSA by joining on the Committee specifically for this project and they have gladly agreed to do so. I have also met Dr. Ashish Deshpande who has set up similar projects and is in the thick of such live projects already. He too has agreed to join and help. We have already started working and have done some homework.

We are fully aware that there are tremendous challenges in starting and implementing such a project. We are also aware that, probably, there are bigger challenges in maintaining the Retreat and ensuring smooth running of the same without any hassles. But we are very confident that with the blessings from His Holiness, we have nothing to fear about and have decided to go ahead and undertake this project.

The details, the location, the financials and other matters connected with the project are being worked out for which both Kishore and Jayavanth have kindly agreed to visit Mumbai as many times as required to see it through. Dr. Ashish is always available in Mumbai at all times.

It is felt within the KSA that all bhanaps will be welcomed irrespective of whether they are members of KSA or not, to avail of this facility, details of which will be informed to you all as and when we are ready. This is just an announcement that we are actively going ahead with this project and hope that, with all your support, in the next couple of years we will have the Retreat in place.

**Suresh S. Hemmady**

**KSA is looking for approx. 0.5 to 2 acres Non-Agricultural Land to build The Senior Citizens' Retreat (Assisted Living). Please contact any of the following office bearers -**

**Shri Raja Pandit  
9821049688**

**Shri Shivshankar Murdeshwar  
9820388940**

**Dr. Prakash Mavinkurve  
9820144145**

## **KSA KALA VIBHAG – 16th SARASWAT SANGEET SAMMELAN – CDs**

Those who would like to have audio CDs or DVDs or Video (DVDs) of their favorite artists who performed in the recently held in the Saraswat Sangeet Sammelan may contact KSA office on Tel 022-23802263 and book the orders.

The price per CD or DVD is still being worked out and will be announced in the next issue.

**Gurunath Gokarn, Hon. Secretary, Kala Vibhag**

## Letters to the Editor

**Dear Editor,** I should like to congratulate Jitendra Divgi for his scholarly and erudite article “The Modern Relevance of India’s Intellectual Heritage” in the April issue and I look forward to many more such articles from him in KS. Here, I would like to share some of my thoughts on this subject with your readers.

Dara Shikoh, the Mughal prince, who was himself a great Sanskrit and Persian scholar, got not just the Gita but also the ten principal Upanishads translated from the original Sanskrit into Persian. It was these works which travelled westwards via Persia and Arabia into Europe and caught the attention of Europe’s intellectuals. The impact was wide-spread, deep and lasting. Several European universities, which had departments of ancient Hebrew, closed them and replaced them with departments of Sanskrit and Indology. Max Mueller, German by birth but British by nationality, was one of the earliest Indologist who devoted a lifetime to spread the knowledge of these great philosophical works from India to the West. Emmanuel Kant, the great German philosopher remarked “....mankind together with all science must have originated from the roof of the world-the Himalayas” Schopenhauer, another German philosopher, in another context once said “... the Upanishads have been the solace of my life and will be the solace of my death”. Goethe, the great German litterateur was very deeply moved by the lyrical beauty of Kalidasa’s “Abhignana Sakuntalam”. Even Voltaire, the French satirist and self-proclaimed atheist remarked “.... The dynasty of the brahmins taught the rest of the world...I am convinced that everything has come down to us from the banks of the Ganges”.

What was it that propelled our ancestors to produce such great Knowledge Systems in the secular (mathematics, astronomy etc.) and the philosophical (the Vedas, Upanishads etc.) realms? The foundational principle in both was the same: the scientific temper. A curious mind forever asking searching questions and seeking answers for them, a skeptical and argumentative tradition informed by debate and discussion where **what** is said was important and not **who** said it. That is why we have a young 12 year old boy Nachiketa engaging the redoubtable Lord of Death, Yama in a famous

debate (Kathopanishad). The same argumentative and skeptical approach is seen in the “oldest human document”, the Rig Veda where in the Hymn of Creation, the rishis say at the end “...Whence this creation has arisen-perhaps it formed itself or perhaps it did not-the one who looks down on it, in the highest heaven, only he knows-or perhaps he knows not”.

There is a great deal to be proud of the vast treasures of knowledge systems that our ancestors assiduously created over the millenia. But we can call ourselves the true inheritors of this vast knowledge treasure only when we cultivate, each one of us, the scientific temper.

**Dr. L. Madhav Rao, Mumbai**

**Dear Editor,** The article (Apr. 2014, p.60) by Dr. Uday Nadkarni about Dr. Sunder Balse is so true. He was my father’s (late Prof. Mohan Balse) younger brother, and I can truly say that my father would not have lived as long as he did (to 93 yrs.) if it were not for “Sunder-kaka”. His name was ‘magic’ to my father who was prone to ‘panic attacks’ and severe palpitations. All we had to do was telephone Sunder-kaka and tell my father that he was coming - and come he did, no matter how busy his schedule, and the distance he had to travel (from Grant Road to Mahim). Indeed, he never disappointed any of his patients or others in need of his help. He never wavered in his enthusiasm for life even after he lost his sight to glaucoma, and suffered a stroke. In his 90’s, he had taken up writing story-books for children! He was an unforgettable personality. May his soul rest in peace in the Divine Abode.

**Lina Hattangadi (nee Balse), U.S.A.**

**Dear Editor,** I once again thank the Kanara Saraswat Association for having bestowed on me the honour on the International Women’s Day amongst such distinguished personalities.

I had in my address to the gathering, mentioned very briefly regarding the website Navjyot Foundation has launched recently. I request readers of KSA Magazine to please visit [www.navjyotfoundation.org](http://www.navjyotfoundation.org) to know more about our endeavor and join us in our effort as Sponsors and Volunteers. Once you see it, I am sure you will be motivated in some way or the other.

**Jyoti Kalle, Founder Trustee, Mumbai**

**Dear Editor,** Raghunath Gokarn wonders (Letters to The Editor - April 2014) whether I am worried at the phenomenon of our youngsters marrying outside the community. I only asked whether there was a message we were missing and he has confirmed that his own study shows that such marriages are increasing and he gives several possible causes. Any, or all, of these causes might be correct and only a sociological study will tell us the reasons. A parallel is the Parsi community which had about 1,20,000 members some years ago and now having come down to about 80,000 they are doing such a study for which they have put aside Rs.10.00 crores. Raghunath mentions that our girls marrying outside the community are treated differently from boys who have non-Amchi brides. While Sudhir Kodkani has also expressed some views on the subject maybe somebody should pay attention to such phenomena, commission a proper study and see whether some of the causes can be addressed.

**Kishore Sunder Rao, Bangalore**

**Dear Editor,** The recent vocal musical concert 'Colours of Rhythm' convened by the enterprising social crusader and music-'Guru' Kanchan Honavar, of which the informative review-report by Ms. Geeta Karnad appeared in the K S magazine (March 2014 issue on page No.63) seems to have set an impressive record. For the first time perhaps, an audience comprising 90 percent 'music-loving' Bhaanap senior citizens, sat patiently thru the entire non-stop three-hour 'live' concert— minus any interval! It is indeed commendable that the passionate interest for rhythm-based chartbuster yesteryear (retro) Bollywood evergreen songs reigned supreme, with hardly anyone sneaking out to the rest-rooms or for a quick tea-snacks break, during the concert. Also noteworthy, was the initiative taken by Kanchan Honavar's 'Lalitaangan' in providing a wonderful platform, not only to musically talented Bhaanaps, but also to three "adopted" visually-impaired female singers, whose brilliant vocal performance, had left almost everyone in tears. Here's wishing Mrs. Honavar, the very best for her next proposed ambitious 'live concert' on Sunday 21st September, dedicated to the iconic Bollywood musical maestro R D Burman (Pancham-da) as announced on that memorable occasion.

**Chaitanya D. Padukone, Mumbai**

Vasant Hattangadi's delightful walk down memory lane (The Password - April 2014) touched off a similar chord in my mind. The story goes back almost sixty years, when as a callow youth of seventeen, I too was to stand guard one night from 2.00 a.m. to 4.00 a.m. at our annual NCC camp. At 4.30 a.m. I woke up and to my horror found no body on guard. Mild panic, a waking up of the NCO who was supervising us and general mayhem followed when he and all the members of my platoon, squarely blamed me for going to sleep while on guard duty. A well deserved punishment followed the next day after being reprimanded by the CO for being so irresponsible and undependable. What would have happened if there was an intruder and the camp weapons and valuables were stolen was a question I could not answer. Throughout my punishment something told me that I was not to blame but then had I not woken up to see there was nobody on guard? It was only many years later when the cadet who was to do duty before me admitted that it was he who had slept through his watch and had failed to wake me up!

**Kishore Sunder Rao, Bangalore**

### संपादिकेस,

सध्या “कॅनेरा सारस्वत” च्या अंकाला मराठी साहित्याने चांगलेच समृद्ध केले आहे. बन्याच गृहिणीना आपल्या स्वयंपाक घरातल्या कोषातून बाहेर काढून लिहिते केले आहे. हे परिवर्तन घडवून आणल्याबद्दल कॅनेरा सारस्वत मासिकाच्या संपूर्ण टीमिला धन्यवाद.

गेल्या बन्याच अंकामधून ज्यांचे सतत लेख येतात त्या शामलबद्यीचे खूप अभिनंदन. एक शामल (कुलकर्णी) जीवनाकडे अध्यात्मटूटीने बघून आपली दृष्टी त्याकडे वळविण्यासाठी त्यांच्या 'मन', 'कर्म', 'पापपुण्य', 'प्रेम', 'वृद्धाश्रम', 'अपंगत्वावर मात' लेखांतून प्रयत्न करतात. दुसरी शामला (भट) जीवनाकडे आनंदाने बघण्याचा आशावाद कायम ठेवण्याचा मंत्रच सांगतात. आपल्या रोजच्या जीवनात नेहमी घडणाऱ्या साध्याच गोष्टी पण त्यातूनच त्या वेगळ्या दृष्टीने बघून एक निखळ आनंदाचा ठेवा आपल्या समोर ठेवतात. त्यांच्या काही उत्कृष्ट लेखांची मांदियाळी पाहिल्यास उदा. “वृक्षवळी आम्हा सोयरी” (निसर्गाचे अनोखे रूप), “अशी ही मैत्री” (शाळेतल्या वर्गातल्या मुलामुलींची अनेक वर्षांनंतर घडलेली भेट), “स.न.वि.वि. ते OMG (उतरणीला लागलेला संवाद व पत्रप्रपञ्च), “आजि रांदप कल्ले” (आमची पाककलेची खाद्यात्रा) आणि “निर्बल की लडाई बलवानसे” (बिचाऱ्या पारव्यांची जोडी) हे सर्वच लेख अप्रतीम. जीवनाकडे बघण्याची एक वेगळीच दृष्टी देणारे. सुरुवातीला थोड्याशा हसत खेळत नेऊन शेवटी अंतर्मुख करायला लावणारे.

दोन्ही शामलचे लेख असलेला अंक एका वेगळ्या उंचीवर नेतो. त्यांनी असंच लिहावं, आपण ते आम्हाला देत रहावं आणि शक्य झाल्यास पुस्तक रूपाने पुढच्या पिढीला द्यावं ही सदिच्छा!

अनिल बिजूर, पुणे

## Pandit Chidanand Nagarkar Revisited

PRAKASH BURDE

A LEC/DEM on Nagarkar's vintage music by Ramdas Bhatkal, Omkar Gulwadi and Hemant Hemmady was held at Shrimat Anandashram hall on March 23, 2014. We present a report ....

Flashback to 2006. Ramdas Bhatkal presents "Chidanand Smriti", a program in the memory of Pandit Chidanand Nagarkar, organized by the Kanara Saraswat Association, in the presence of all-time greats like Pandit Dinkar Kaikini and Acharya S.C.R. Bhat (Nandmaam). After a fairly large gap of 8 years, Ramdas Bhatkal admirably took off from where he had left, to successfully recreate musically the phenomenon that was Pandit Chidanand Nagarkar.

All this and much more was evident in Ramdas Bhatkal's lecture/demonstration on Sunday, March 23, when he took up the subject of Panditji as a Musician, Guru and a Performer. It was indeed to the credit of Ramdas that he did full justice to the Man and his Music through his 180 minutes presentation in chaste Marathi without a single dull moment. One could perceive Ramdas' commitment to vocal music and his detailed understanding of Chidmam's music in particular with a single minded devotion after his so called retirement from chores associated with publishing. I vividly remember what he had presented almost 8 years ago and I have no hesitation to write boldly that Ramdas was greatly successful in recreating Chidmam's personality through his articulate talk, handling questions/answers and presenting his music live through some of his bandishes.

The proceedings began on a somber note with a tribute to Vasanti Kodikal, one of Chidmam's prominent disciples, to Sadanand Bhatkal, who was an extremely close admirer of Chidmam and due to whose efforts one can lay hands on "Chit Anand" a book published by him.

At the outset, Ramdas made it very clear that the focus of the event was Chidmam and that he was simply a medium trying to connect the links of his previous presentation of 2006 and the present one to recreate the personality of a person with an incredible source of energy that was Chidmam. It was obvious that he had collected a lot of material back then but was unable to present then because of the paucity of

time, which he could do now.

Fittingly, he began with the recordings of the prayers in Chidmam's voice which lasted for more than 5 minutes. Then came his commentary of his own musical journey interlinked with Chidmam's musical personality. He was frank enough to admit that he was unable to cope up with the spontaneous exuberance of Chidmam's personality which reflected in his musical presentations. He rather preferred planned, premeditated approach of Acharya S.C.R.Bhat (Nandmaam) from whom he was destined to learn because of his young age! Quoting many sources from the Nagarkars of Bangalore, Pandit Dinkar Kaikini and also from some of his colleagues, Ramdas, etched out the persona of Pandit Chidanand Nagarkar who was truly a multifaceted personality. He was a born performer, a trained Kathak dancer, a poet, a creator of new forms of Raga music, a spiritual Guru for some and also one of the most admired Jyotishis who predicted his own death exactly a week before his demise! Those who stayed till the end on Sunday could feel the heartfelt feelings pouring out from Ramdas just before we all listened to Chidmam's Bhairavi in his own voice with moist eyes.

Earlier, we heard Poorvi, an edited version of Chidmam's recording in which there were two bandishes one in Jhaptal of 10 maatras and a Thumri. Then came Basant, yet again his own composition. Between the two, Ramdas narrated many personal anecdotes making the proceedings quite lively. He never forgot to enlighten the audience about Chidmam's role as student in Bangalore and then in Lucknow under Acharya Ratanjankar, then as a Guru and a Performer. Chidmam was a hard task master and did not hesitate to use the proverbial rod to drive home few facts! He went down memory lane, recalling Chidmam's dance performance and Pandit Ravi Shankar's sitar in Taarmam's residence in Sonawala building flat. "His adakari while singing Thumris was a visual delight" Ramdas had added.

Chidmam's recording of Basant was yet another example of his inimitable style in which one could discern his spontaneous, living and constantly

evolving khayal. The khayal in Koushiki ranjani, a raga created by Chidmam himself depicted this even better, possibly due to the better quality of the recording. One could truly appreciate the high standard of music making of almost 60 years ago. Listening to Chidmam's music was to a great extent an emotional experience. I truly feel that all those people who did not make it to this wonderful event really missed savoring the richness of Pandit Chidanand Nagarkar's music.

Through his presentations of two bandishes in Ambika Sarang, it was very evident that Ramdas Bhatkal has developed himself as a formidable performer in Khayal singing, as it was obvious that he continues his regular riyaz with the same dedication that he spends on his Yoga. Both bandishes were Chidmam's creations.

Pandit Omkar Gulwadi on Tabla and Hemant Hemmady on the harmonium gave able support to Ramdas Bhatkal. Mention must be made of Shrikant Bakre on Tanpura who at times gave vocal support to Ramdas. Deepa Savkur's introduction of the theme was splendid!

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## KALABHIVRIDDHI AND BRAHMA KALASHA AT SHREE JANARDAN TEMPLE, MANKI CORDIAL INVITATION

The Trustees of Shree Janardan Temple, Manki, cordially invite all devotees to participate in, and witness, the Kalabhiriddhi and Brahma Kalasha ceremonies on 21 and 22 May, 2014.

Param Pujya Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji has kindly consented to grace the Brahma Kalasha ceremonies on 22nd May.

While the detailed programme will be displayed in the temple, the broad outline of the programme for the benefit of devotees is as follows:

Wednesday, 21st May, 2014

- 7.30 am to 8.15 am : Breakfast for all the devotees.
- 8.30 am to 11 am : Prarthana and Sankalp before Shree Janardan Dev, followed by pujas concluding with Prayaschitta Homa by Yajmaana.
- 1 pm : Lunch for all the devotees. 4 pm : Evening Tea for all the devotees.
- 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm : Mantapa Sanskara, Pradhana Kalasha and Brahma Kalasha Sthapana rituals.
- 8 pm : Dinner.

Thursday, 22nd May, 2014

- 7 am to 7.45 am : Breakfast for all the devotees.
- 8 am to 2 pm : Nitya puja of Shree Janardan Dev. Navagraha Homa followed by other homas.
- Arrival of Param Pujya Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji in the Temple, and His Holiness will bless the Pradhana Brahma Kalasha Abhisheka ceremonies.
- Mahanaivedya, Mahamangalarati to Shree Janardan Dev.
- Dharmasabha which includes Paduka pujana and Teerth Vitaran at the August Hands of Param Pujya Swamiji.
- Aashirvachan by Param Pujya Swamiji. Kshama Yachana by Trustees.

Programme ends with Santarpana and Prasad Bhojana. Param Pujya Swamiji and retinue depart for Shirali Math. 2.30 pm: Function officially concludes.

To facilitate catering and arrangements for stay, devotees are requested to email their attendance latest by 14th May, 2014 to : [rammankekar@in.com](mailto:rammankekar@in.com)

Thanking you, on behalf of the Trustees of Shree Janardan Temple, Manki,  
Dr. Mohan S. Mankekar : +91 9326474761 ; Mr. Krishnanand D. Mankikar: +91 9320730601

**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR 70<sup>th</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**  
**Shri Dattatraya (Gaju) Upponi and Smt. Lalita Upponi (nee Basrur)**  
**Married on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1944**



**26<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

We pray to our Kuladevata Shree Shanta Durga, Lord Bhavanishankar and our Guru Parampara to bless them with many more years of Togetherness & Happiness and continue to bestow their Blessings on us.

Deepak & Kanchan

Prakash & Sadhana

Anuprita & Vikram Abhijeet & Karishma

Ajay & Anila

Prithvika, Yashika, Ishaan, Aryan

Arjun

**HAPPY RUBY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**  
**HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS**



**5<sup>th</sup> May 1974**



**5<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

**Shri Shivshankar D. Murdeshwar & Smt Aparna Murdeshwar (nee Asha Vinekar)**

We pray to our Kuladevta Laxminarayan Mahamaya, Lord Bhavanishankar, Our Holy Guruparampara and Parampujya Shrimat Shankarashram Swamiji to bless them with good health, peace and happiness.

**"MAY RUBY TURN INTO GOLD"**

With lots of love, Regards and Best Wishes from

**Pallavi and Mahesh Kalambi**  
**Siona and Tvisha**

**Pradnya and Ashutosh Trasy**  
**Kshiti**

**Pankaj Murdeshwar**  
**All Relatives and Friends**

**Hearty Congratulations**  
**Golden Wedding Anniversary**

We pray our Kuladevata Shree Shantadurga, our Guru Parampara and H H Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji to bless them with good health, happiness and long peaceful life.

**Mrs. Vidya Dinesh Kagal (nee Mankikar) and Dr. Dinesh Pandurang Kagal**



**13th May 1964**



**13th May 2014**

**With love and best wishes from:**

Son: Nikhil Daughter-in-law: Aparna

Grandchildren: Kiran, Soumya

Brother: Anil

Kagals, Mankikars, Kumtas, Bagades, Karnads, Gangollies, Chandawarkars, Hosangadies, Dhareshwars, Koppikars, Kumtas, Bijurs

All relatives and friends

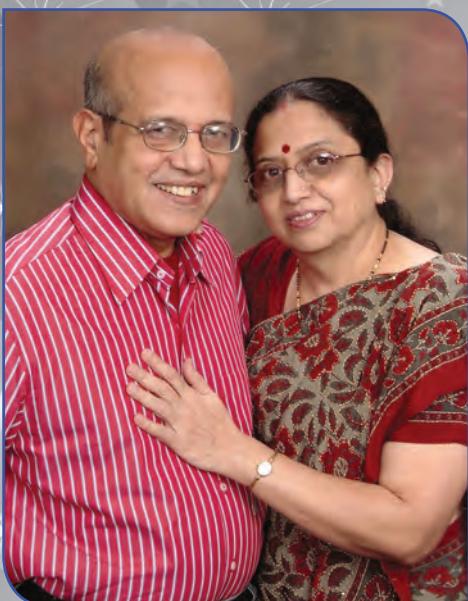
Daughter: Alpana, Son-in-law: Pavin

Savani, Jude, Sienna

**RUBY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY ON 28TH APRIL 2014.**

**TO**

**SMT. JANAKI (NEE SHEELA HATTANGADI) AND SRI RAMACHANDRA HARIDAS**



WE PRAY TO OUR KULADEVATA SHANTADURGA  
ISHTA DEVATA GURUNATHESHWAR  
GOPALAKRISHNA,  
LORD BHAVANISHANKAR  
AND  
OUR HOLY GURUPARAMPARA  
TO BLESS THEM WITH  
GOOD HEALTH, LONG LIFE AND HAPPINESS.

**FROM**

Paresh, Piya, Rishabh and Aanya, Seattle.  
Priya, Betson Zachariah and Aria, Dallas.



## Tips to keep you cool this summer :

Summer brings it with a host of symptoms like excessive body heat, dehydration, sweating, skin rashes, sunburns, acne, diarrhoea, and of course irritation, lethargy and short fuses. We provide below a few easy tips to maintain optimum balance of mind and body in summer and enjoy its positive aspects.

A cooling bath is the best way to start a 'cool' day. This is the first thing that you do in the morning, so make the best of it. Bathe with cold water. Take fresh or dried leaves of mint and boil for half an hour. Strain the liquid and let it cool down. After taking your bath, apply this liquid on your entire body, especially those parts where you experience more perspiration. Mint has cooling, refreshing and astringent effects on the skin and is also helpful in relaxing your mind. Alternately, you can use rose petals or rose essence oil in your bath. Rose has refreshing and cooling effects on the body and the mind. It also helps to exfoliate your skin, leaving it soft, supple and radiant, while protecting your skin from sunburns.

**Cooling beverages;** Don't reach for that chilled bottled juice or carbonated beverage to cool down in summer. It will not only impair your digestion but will also harm your immunity system. Also chilled or ice-cold drinks are harmful because they disrupt digestion. Fresh fruit juices and nectars, blended and stored at room temperature, are recommended. Coconut water, grape juice, water melon juice, shakes, *lassi*, *bel sharbat* and *aam panna* are refreshing and healthy choices in summer. You should also drink a lot of cool pure water to replenish body moisture lost to heat during summer. Keeping your body hydrated is vital during this season.

**Cooling diet;** A cooling diet in summer includes a lot of fruits and vegetables that are sweet, juicy, bitter and astringent in nature. Among fruits melons, mangoes, peaches, plums, pears, avocados, grapes and berries are beneficial. Use vegetables like – Asparagus, cucumber, cabbage, sweet potato, celery, green leafy vegetables. Avoid spicy and sour foods in summer. Use cooling spices such as mint, fennel, anise and cardamom in your preparations.

**Cooling exercises** Swimming is a healthy and wonderful exercise for summer – it's not only cooling and soothing for the body but also helps in toning and strengthening body muscles. Morning walks in the park and evening strolls are both relaxing for the body and mind during this season.

**Cooling lifestyle** Learn to balance work with leisure. Enjoy fun and leisurely activities on weekends and take some time to enjoy and appreciate life. Plan a vacation to a cool and serene hill station. Devote some time to meditation to relax your mind and keep stress at bay and overwork aggravates the symptoms and overheating effects of summer.

**Protect you from the sun** Lastly, you should protect yourself from the sun and refrain from outdoor activities during the hottest part of the day. To protect yourself from sunburns use a good sunscreen. Eat juicy fruits such as melons and pear or drink a glass of lemon water to keep your body cool from within. Remember to drink lots of water to keep your body adequately rehydrated. Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes from the harsh rays of the sun. Following Ayurvedic principles based on pitta pacification measures to balance what is predominant in the environment during summer will help you to enjoy this season in the best of health and spirit.

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*With Best Compliments From:*

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Gurudutt & Sheela Nagarkar  
Devdutt & Vasudha Nagarkar  
Shyamal & Ramesh Bajekal

**Children**

Prashant & Savita Gulvadi  
Aparna & Shrinivasan

**Nephew & Niece**

Aarti & Sameer | Aditya & Meera  
Chinmay & Anita | Pooja & Gautam  
Poonam & Sagar

**Grandchildren**

Pragati, Vaishnavi ,Kirti,  
Anika, Vidyut, Anisha,

# Chitrapur Saraswat Women's Day - 2014

We give here the thoughts expressed during the function held on Chitrapur Saraswat Women's Day by the ladies honoured and on behalf of those honoured posthumously by their representatives.

**Address by the Chief Guest – Dr. Smt. Vrinda Trikannad** – “I would like to thank Gokarn Gurunathmam and KSA for inviting me today.

The theme for this year is Inspiring Changes with respect to Gender equality. Scholars believe that in ancient India, women enjoyed equal status with men in many aspects of life and that they were educated in the early Vedic period. The position of Indian women deteriorated around the medieval period. Child marriages, sati, jauhar, and purdah were prevalent in some communities.

In India we worship Goddesses Mahalakshmi Mahakali and Mahasaraswati.

Refer the nation as Matrubhumi, the first language spoken as a child as Matrubhasha. The saying goes that “God could not be every where so he created mothers.”

Unfortunately the same mothers who are venerated, sisters and other female relatives are conveniently forgotten when heinous atrocities are committed by offenders who fail to realise that the woman who is the victim is perhaps some one else's mother, or sister. Women of our country have faced discrimination and such a denial of equality is termed as Gender inequality.

Nature does not discriminate anyone based on gender. Man and woman are two aspects of the one supreme power. Shiva Shakti and Purusha and Prakriti are the two sides of the one divine presence eg. Ardhanareeswara. Women often fail to understand their own rights and freedom in a Patriarchal or male dominated society of India.

Discrimination starts at birth when instead of joy, there is sadness and apprehension of the future of a girl child. Girls are neglected in developing countries in poverty stricken families. They are often denied good nutrition, are prone to diseases and are denied health care and given fewer vaccines. The threat of physical abuse follows from infancy to adulthood of the girl. Dowry demands and dowry deaths still happen. Literacy among females still lags behind according to the 2011 census of 65.41% female literacy against 82.14% male literacy.

Education of girls and women irrespective of age is the most important tool to break the pattern of gender discrimination and empower them. Women are not even aware of the Equal rights granted to women and men by the constitution of India. The enumeration of all the articles pertaining to equal rights for women should be included as part of the school curriculum to make both the girls as well as boys aware of the laws. The government slogan, in an effort to eradicate illiteracy was “Teach a woman and the whole family is educated”. A good family based education, and inculcating good values in children who are the future is extremely important. In the united family not only the husband but also other members especially women should be supportive when the wife wishes to seek employment, or further her education.

We have seen the life of Ramabai Ranade in the television serial “Uncha maza zhoka”. Ramabai received education due to the strong support and constant encouragement by her illustrious husband, Justice Mahadev Govind Ranade. Ramabai completed her education and also learnt English in spite of all the hurdles. She constantly encouraged other women to be literate. She founded the Seva Sadan Society and also incorporated a nursing course at a time when the nursing profession was not favourably looked upon for women.

Savitri bai Phule was a great social reformer and with her husband Mahatma Jyotirao Phule's support she fought for women's rights and education.

Coming to us Chitrapur Saraswats, we are Goddess Saraswati's upasakas and have always given priority to education.

We are ever grateful to be constantly protected by the Sacred Guruparampara.

Creating avenues for education and economic stability was always the concern of our beloved Gurus.

H H Shrimat Anandashram Swamiji established a primary school in Srivali.

H H Shrimat Parijnanashram Swamiji encouraged the Samaj to establish a school for the physically and mentally challenged children near Virar.

H H Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji is establishing several initiatives to focus on specific causes. Rural health and economic self reliance under the Parijnan foundation. Samvit Sudha you all are well aware of, is a small scale training unit helping under privileged to become self reliant. Girls are also taught hygiene family planning and important financial planning. Over 50 women have their own tailoring unit. Women empowerment indeed!

Srivali Trust promotes education in addition to health and self employment. A large number of students have also joined junior colleges for pursuing higher education! You are already aware about Parimochan project. Some 50 women's Self Help Groups SHGs called Sanghas help out in the Spirit of Women's empowerment.

Chitrapur Saraswat women have been singularly fortunate in having so many elders who have quietly yet firmly implemented and inspired changes towards Gender equality and have made a permanent place in our History and minds!! Through their legacy of music art sports establishing educational institutions like the Balak Vrinda school, Saraswat Mahila Samajs, Shraddhanand Mahila Ashram, help in running the Seva Sadan, Ashrams to house and teach physically and mentally challenged children from poorer sections and adivasis, they have been constantly inspiring changes toward women's empowerment and gender equality.

We are so happy to read KSA magazines which publish very beautifully and emotionally penned informative articles on our elders encouraging us to follow their footsteps!! Some names already so well known like the late Padbidri Sitapachi, Kamladevi Chattopadhyay, Kamla Dongerkery, Bijur Tarabai, Tallur Rukmabai, Kalyanibai Samsi, Sulochana Padbidri, Sumati Madiman and so many others have already appeared in the KSA magazines.

So many empowered women, in their own right are leaders now in various fields of education, art, sport, entrepreneurs and even bank directors!! And so self reliant too, and we all know them so well and move with those gentle and unassuming women. So many of them here in this auditorium too. It is difficult to enumerate their names now due to limitation of time, although they are all there on the tip of my tongue.

Empowered Chitrapur Saraswat women are avidly promoting education, health, hygiene and self reliance not only to their children but to the less privileged children and women in near by slums and roads and also Adivasis, independently or in association with several NGO groups.

KSA has been honouring posthumously, several empowered women and today we have the family of late Sulochana pachi Padbidri and Sumati pachi Madiman here to accept the honour. Today's empowered, Smt Jyoti Kalle and our dear jolly gentle Savitri akka Babulkar are also being honoured for their social services specially for promoting educating to the less privileged.

Thank you KSA for having given us all these years and now a platform to express our thoughts via your beautiful magazine.

All you empowered women in the audience will leave here today at least a couple of inches taller and return next year to celebrate yet another day like this, surely happier with satisfaction of adding towards the improvement of so many social issues.

\* \* \*

**Smt. Kanchan Sujir** accepted the award on behalf of Smt. Sulochana Padbidri. She said " Respected President Shri Suresh Hemmady, Vice President Smt. Geeta Yennemadi, all the office bearers of KSA and my dear friends; Namaskar. A lamp which was lit by her mother-in-law, Smt. Sitabai Padbidri, was nurtured with love and care by Smt. Sulochana Padbidri. Today it has become a wonderful beacon of light. Ladies and Gentlemen, indeed I am talking about our Balak Vrinda School.

Sulochana Akka was a silent worker, carrying out her task without fanfare. No wonder, much is not found written in the public domain about her. She was tall, slim, always peaceful and calm. Always focussed on her work, she fulfilled multiple roles and was an epitome of humility. Sulochana Akka and her husband Shri Raghunandan Padbidri (Nandan Bhayya) would shelter as many as five to six young students at a time in their house to educate them and support them until they stood on their own feet. Doors were always kept open to guests. She would cook a lot of food and keep it on the table for everybody to partake. She was indeed *saakshaat Annapurna*. It is a pleasure to encounter many an eminent person who reminds us that they too had grown up under her care.

Something more about her life: Sulochana Akka was much ahead of her time and had a modern outlook. She went on to study under Madame Maria Montessori, the pioneer of children's' education, to make herself a worthy educationist. She was also very artistic, did beautiful embroidery and loved to play the violin among other things. She was always encouraged by her husband Nandan Bhayya.

I am deeply humbled and grateful to be related to these dazzling women: Smt. Sitabai and Sulochana Padbidri.

I accept this award with due respect to dear "Sulocahana Tai" as she was known to all and offer my thanks to KSA for honouring such a wonderful lady.

Happy Women's Day."

\*\*\*

**Shri Subhash Madiman** – "I felt honoured when Shri Gurunath Gokarn rang me up and asked me whether I would like to come over to Mumbai for the Posthumous felicitation of my late mother Smt. Sumati Bhalchandra Madiman, on International Womens Day, and I immediately accepted his invitation. I am grateful to Gurumaam and Geetakka, the Kanara Saraswat Association, and the Saraswat Mahila Samaj.

Sumati Bhalchandra Madiman, was the second of the Amchigele women who were elected twice to the Karnataka Legislative Assembly in 1972 and again in 1977. She is the first amchigeli woman to have served as the Deputy Speaker and the Speaker of the assembly. The first Amchigeli woman to be elected as MLA was Vasantlata Mirjankar from Kumta long back.

My mother was the third progeny of Shri Vithalrao Sirur from Dharwad, a leading Advocate of those times. When she was only 15 years of age she lost her father who expired suddenly leaving behind six daughters. Sumati (nee Shanti) was then married to Shri Bhalchandra Ganpatrao Madiman.

She took to serving the downtrodden women in the early 50s, with the total support of her husband. She commenced helping poor women in taking orders for Kasuti embroidery on saris, and then after a lot of efforts she developed this art on chiffons, Nylons etc. She was then nominated as member of the Projects Implementation Committee of the Social Welfare Department.

As a member she worked alongside Dr Raghavendra Bajekal, a retired Doctor from the Army and Smt. Sarojini Mahishi who later became a politician. During one of her visits to a nearby village called Channapur, along with her team, the jeep in which they were traveling got stuck as there were no roads from the village to the main highway. It started raining very heavily. Suddenly a woman approached them asking for medical help for her young married daughter who was about to deliver. There were absolutely no medical facilities available there. Sumati and Dr. Bajekal with the others in the team literally pushed the jeep out of the wet earth, put this young girl in the jeep and took her to Hubli to the late Dr. Sudha Kallianpurkar. With timely help both mother and child survived. But Sumati was admonished by her elder sister for taking such a fool hardy decision.

For her services rendered to women and the work done in the field of Kasuti she was nominated on the Karnataka Handicraft Development Corporation as a Director which she served for nearly nine years. She was personally chosen by the then Prime Minister the late Smt. Indira Gandhi as a candidate for the election to the Assembly and was elected in 1972 first and then again in 1977.

During her first term she got a dam in her constituency built irrigating nearly 6000 acres of land. She was responsible for improving the drinking water supply by repairing and building nearly 19 water tanks.

During her second term she got the help of the Rural Electrification Project and was responsible for the electrification of her entire constituency being the first MLA to achieve this in India. It was a fantastic achievement. She also established two centres for training poor women in Kasuti and production units, one was at MK Hubli near Belgaum, and one at Mundargi near Gadag. The women in MK Hubli were Devadasis who had been rescued from Prostitution and trained so that they could make a living by doing Kasuti. She was responsible for renaming the Social Welfare Department to Woman and Child Welfare Department and even the line of action for project implementation was woman and child oriented.

Having put in her heart and soul for the improvement of the lot for women she unfortunately died of cancer in 1980 in the third year of her second term.

With these few words I once again thank the KSA and Saraswat Mahila Samaj for this honour accorded to my mother on the International Women's Day."

\* \* \*

**Savitri Babulkar** – "The President of the Kanara Saraswat Association, the President of the Saraswat Mahila Samaj, the Chief Guest, Mrs. Vrinda Trikannad, Mrs. Kalindi Muzumdar, and everyone of you assembled here this evening.

It is a great honour to stand here facing you. It is an even greater honour to know that my name is among those you have chosen to honour today, on the International Women's day. I am truly very grateful that you think me worthy of the award. And I sincerely thank you for it.

We have heard in detail of the achievements of Sumatipachi and Sulochanpachi from Mr. Madiman and from Kanchan respectively. And I know how much Jyoti has been doing for the less privileged children in the last few years. This makes me look back and think of other women who had also done similar service in the past. The first Saraswats from the Kanaras who came to Bombay in search of higher education and employment made food and accommodation available to those who could not afford it. The houses of these pioneers were open to all who needed meals and a roof. They gave without hesitation, without asking questions. It was indeed admirable. I keep wondering whether I deserve the honour as much as all these people do. ....

Then I thought of what I had learnt at the Convent as a student. There are three aspects to a personality - John's John, God's John and People's John. John's John is what he thinks of himself. God's John is what he *actually* is... and People's John is what *people* think of him. So I decided that, in my case, it is People's John who has been given the honour. And for what people generously think of me, I am truly touched and grateful. I sincerely thank you....

Incidentally, I also remembered something I had learnt in the Public Speaking Class. The first thing the Instructor says is "If you want to be seen, stand up; if you want to be heard, speak up; if you want to be appreciated, shut up!" And that is *precisely* what I am planning to do now. Thank you!"

\* \* \*

**Smt. Jyoti Kalle** – "Honourable Chief Guest & distinguished members of KSA, thank you very much for the honour bestowed on me amongst such distinguished personalities.

Navjyot Foundation Charitable Trust is an organization working for the underprivileged children specifically towards their education. Most of the children study in vernacular language, so we focus more on English, Math & Science. We actively do networking with other NGO's so that workshops are conducted at which Vocational Training, Interactive sessions & Guidance is given to them. Our aim is to make learning fun for these children & not a burden.

Our earlier batch of students who have passed out are doing well, working at outlets like Malls, Dominoes & Subway etc. These children need motivation so that they realize the importance of education and later on get jobs and earn a decent living. We have young students from different colleges who volunteer to help the children with their school work. The students quickly develop rapport and just love and enjoy being with our children. After completing 6 months with us teaching these children, we give them a Certificate of recognition, as offering social work is also a part of their curriculum.

I once again would like to thank everybody for this honour".

\* \* \*

**Savitri Babulkar spoke at the close of the function** – "I speak for Mr. Madiman and Kanchan Sujir who received the awards presented posthumously to Madiman Sumatipachi and Padbidri Sulochanpachi; and also for Jyoti and me. Once again, I thank the KSA and the Mahila Samaj for organizing this wonderful felicitation programme and honouring each of us with a beautiful shawl and a *Maana-patra* that we shall always cherish. And I thank all of you, ladies and gentlemen, for being here with us, for making this programme a grand success and this evening so pleasant and enjoyable.

It will not be out of place today to thank Gokarn Gurunathmam for having allowed me to be part of the Editorial Board of the Kanara Saraswat magazine for a few years in the past. And also for helping me launch my early articles in the KS. Thank you all, once again!"

# Mothers' Day

NALINI NADKARNI, BANDRA (E), MUMBAI

Mother's Day is celebrated internationally to honour mothers everywhere. The concept of Mother's Day began in the US in 1908, when a lady called Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother in Virginia. At present, it is celebrated in the US in the second week of May, so also in India. However it is celebrated in different parts of the world on different dates according to their choice.

People's mode of honouring their mother differs: some visit her; some others send their greetings by telephone or computer. Some send greeting cards, flowers or presents.

One may ask whether a mother is such an important personality that a special day should be celebrated internationally in her honour. The answer to that is simple: from time immemorial it is considered that the hand that rocks the cradle, rules the world.

A mother's sacrifices for her family are innumerable. She bears the discomfort of pregnancy and child birth. In times of need, she remains hungry in order that her family may be fed. She looks after them during their sickness and comforts them in their distress. In fact, a home without a mother would be a ship without a rudder!

There are several examples of mothers' sacrifices but the narration would be endless, and incredible.

It is said that two women, Ruth and Rachael – entered King Solomon's court with a child David, each claiming parentage of David. They requested the king to settle the matter. King Solomon gave his verdict – he would chop David into two, and give one half to each woman. Rachael kept silent but Ruth – who was indeed David's mother - beseeched the king not to do so, but to give the child to Rachael so that even if she could not have her child, David would remain safe and well-cared-for. She was more than willing to sacrifice her happiness for the child's life. That is how the wise king unerringly identified the true mother.

The story goes that Sharada, a poor widow, had raised her son Mohan under great difficulties. But when Mohan grew up and married Kamala, he was

under his wife's thumb and forgot his obligations to the mother. Once, Kamla threatened to leave him, unless he killed his mother and brought her heart as proof. The besotted Mohan killed his mother, and was carrying her heart to Kamla on a plate, when he stumbled and was about to fall. Suddenly he heard his mother's voice coming from the heart, asking him in concern whether he had hurt himself. Such is a mother's love for her children.

There are instances in Indian mythology too. In *The Ramayan*, we hear how painstakingly Seeta had to bring up her two sons Luv and Kush without the help of Lord Rama. Likewise, Shakuntala raised her son Bharat, without the help of King Dushyant. Closer to the present times, we know only too well how effectively Jijabai trained and inspired young Shivaji to set up the Maratha Kingdom..

All these instances show the importance of a mother, justifying why a special day is reserved for her.

I had once read in a book entitled "Mother", that the first sound (other than crying) uttered by an infant is 'm'. The words Maaya and Mamta seem to be aptly coined.

Incidentally, the word for 'mother' in most languages begins with the letter 'M', for example – Maataa in Sanskrit, Hindi and few other Indian languages. Mother in English. La mere in French, Madre in Spanish, Mudore in Persian, Mutter in German, Mae in Portugues, Moeder in Dutch, Madro in Italian, and so on.

My salutations to all mothers on this special Day.! Three Cheers for Mother's Day!

<<>>>

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## Passion is the Keyword

KUNDA KAGAL, WADALA

My mother Vatsala (Kulkarni) was a versatile and talented person. It was those days when I was in school and she, a wife, mother and a housewife who never had much formal education to boast of. She had just made it up to 6th or 7<sup>th</sup> grade of school and had to discontinue due to the prevailing circumstances and financial reasons. For one thing, those days a girl child was not supposed to be doing much of school, it was the prerogative of the male child in the family. Anyway, as was customary those days she was also married off early at the age of 15-16, which was quite late according to many elders. What followed later was the usual story of producing and bringing up children — six of us. So much for her background!

So, where did her versatility come from? She played almost all the Indian musical instruments known in those days. Harmonium, Sitar and flute, she had learnt on her own and was quite proficient at it. For Tabla, she had the guts to hire a Tabalji who came and taught her Tabla beats 3 times a week, and she mastered that too. She knew all the Ragas of classical music. She did beautiful paintings in water colour and oil. She wrote short stories, and suitable-for-the-event, meaningful poems every time there was a function or occasion in our family or for relatives and friends. She was an excellent cook dishing out delicious and quite complicated varieties of culinary items too. Expert in sewing and craft work, she used to make fancy craft pieces to gift people. Above all, she was a total extrovert and loved to socialise. Also, she was always there when someone needed some help.

I have wondered a thousand times — where did she have the time and the energy to manage all those things? She used to force me and my sister to sit, with her at the harmonium, and learn songs and Ragas. Reluctantly we did concede, but half-heartedly, just to please her. Realising our disinterest in any activity at all, one day she opened her heart to us and pleaded with us,

"It's a beautiful world and you are wasting your time not noticing the lovely things you can do to

enrich your own life. Just school and mechanically doing your homework is not everything. Let go of this "it's ok" attitude and strive for something more meaningful. Develop passion, enthusiasm, even obsession if it comes to that, for something that will give you inner satisfaction and a sense of fulfilment. For which you don't have to pursue a whole lot of things, like I have done, and become a jack of many trades. Just focus on what you think is nearest to your heart and try to excel in it. Start today, start now".

It really hit hard and there and then I decided to really give it a try. Was I interested in Music? Yes, but not that much. Because of mother's insistence, I could and did play harmonium a bit and sing some songs. Cooking I did take seriously and started making something or the other off and on. But, finally, there really was a flash of realisation that, what I really enjoyed most was reading and writing. And since then I have had no regrets about it.

I used to read a lot and wrote essays that were read in class in school and college; wrote short stories and articles for magazines after I got married and settled down in Mumbai. Became a Copywriter and worked in Advertising Agencies for nearly 15 years, using my utmost creative skills in producing good, effective ads for all media. Then in 1980, I started my own Ad Agency "Shree Advertising Services" and ran it successfully for 15-16 years till retirement. And all this I managed after I was married and had 3 kids just as my mother did during her multi-tasking days of marriage, housework, bringing up 6 kids and keeping up with her hobbies and interests. And yet, my achievement just can't be compared to what heights she had reached, her versatility and zest for life!

I give all the credit of my success in creative writing to my mother who had helped to clear the confusion and muddle of thoughts in my mind about the myriad options available, and to finally select the road less-travelled as my goal. She is no more, but wherever she is, she would be happy for me and proud of me, and that is my ultimate reward!!

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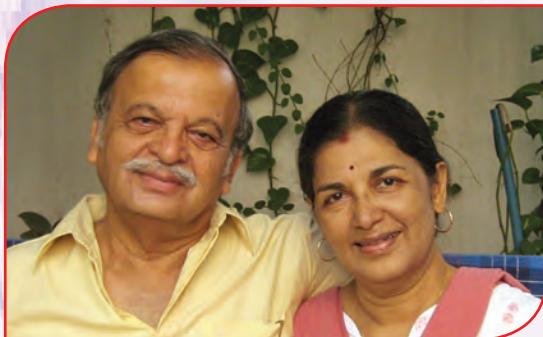
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**27<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

**ON THE OCCASION OF OUR 45<sup>th</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**



Smt MEERA KERON (nee MUNDKUR) & Major General (Retd) BELTHANGDY SRIRANG KERON VSM

**Pay Homage**

*to our dear late parents who gave us life, love, core human values, and selflessly spared no sacrifices or efforts for our well being, happiness and all our needs and inculcated in us the spirituality, traditions and reverence for the Almighty and our Swamiji. We love you and miss youamma papa. May your Blessings always be with us, our children and their families, our relatives, friends and well wishers.*



Late Shri SRIRANG. N. & Smt RATNA S. BELTHANGDY

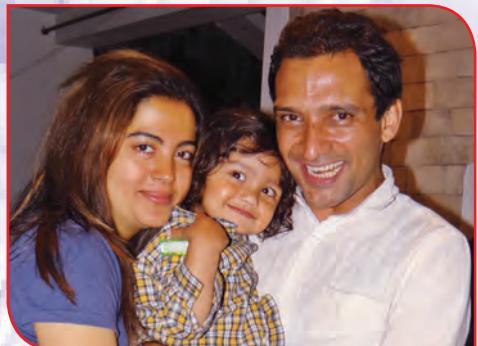


Late Shri RAMESH. S & Smt SITA R. MUNDKUR

*And we seek the Blessings of The Almighty and our respected Swamiji on our children, son Col Ranjan & Smt Smita Keron & our daughter Smt Renuka & Shri Vikrant Singh and our grandchildren Rajat, Rohan and Aveer*



Son Col RANJAN - Smt Smita KERON, RAJAT & ROHAN



Daughter Smt RENUKA - Shri VIKRANT SINGH & AVEER

**Contact details: Maj Gen (Retd) Belthangdy S Keron VSM, Pune +919823255424, keronbs@yahoo.com**

## HAPPY RUBY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

*Forty years of togetherness,  
in the eternal life-drama of the Lord /  
Holding on to righteousness, faith and love,  
firmly as the sacred chord /*

**Shri Chaitanya Subray Ubhayakar and Sow. Shraddha  
(nee Jyoti Anant Mallapur)**

**Marriage Date: - 12<sup>th</sup> May 1974**



We pray to our Kuldevata Shri Mangesh Mahalaxmi,  
our Guru Parampara  
and His Holiness Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji  
to bless them for good health and happiness.

*With lots of love and hearty pranams at your feet,  
Chandrika & Preetam, Chakori & Subodh, Pooja & Chinmay*

*With warm hug and sweet pappis,  
Shivani, Rishi & Bhaavish (Grand-children)*

*With best wishes from: All Relatives and Friends*

## Diamond Wedding Anniversary

Shri Balkrishna S Gangolli and Smt. Radha B Gangolli  
(Nee Manjeshwar)



5<sup>th</sup> MAY 1954



5<sup>th</sup> MAY 2014

We pray to Shantadurga, Lord Bhavanishankar, our Guru Parampara, Param Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji to Bless them with Good Health and Happiness.

Gangollis  
Balsekars  
Kilpadys

Nadkarnis  
Gulvadys  
Kasarkod

Manjeshwars  
Vasudevans

## Tavanandi Durgadas Rao and Lata Rao (nee Labhadaya)

Congratulations!!!

We applaud and celebrate the two of you for completing five decades of blissful togetherness.  
You have shown us the true meaning of love.

24<sup>th</sup> May 1964



24<sup>th</sup> May 2014



We pray to our Kuladevta, Shree Mangesh, Mahalaxmi, our Guru Parampara and HH Param Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji for their grace and blessings.

With lots of love and best wishes from:

Archana – Anil Mavinkurve  
Niyati and Sachi

Amit – Lakshmi Rinu Rao

Tavanandis, Surkunds, Labhadayas, Nalkurs, Bellares, Vaknallis, Mavinkurves, Kaikinis, Sinhas,  
extended family and friends.

## Shree Maha Ganapati Temple

### Belke, Tal.Bhatkal, Karnataka-581320



Shree Maha Ganapati is the Almighty God of wisdom, prudence and learning whom Hindus worship and pray for good omen. Known as Vighnaharta - remover of obstacles and as Mangalmoorti He creates safe and auspicious surroundings. Mythologically the son of Devi Parvati and Shankar, Gajanan is His 12<sup>th</sup> name, being crowned with elephant head. His existence and greatness elaborated through Ganapati Atharvashirsha and other stotras etc. is chanted during His worship and festivals. Of the seven invisible major energising 'Chakras' (Plexus or whirling centres) in our physical body (as per Sage Patanjali), the first is the 'Mooladhar' or root chakra located at the base of spine and is linked with God Ganesh. "Twam Mooladhar Sthitosi Nityam", "Twam Shaktitrayatmakah", are notings in the Atharvashirsha which symbolize the concept. The Vaknalli family is blessed with such an Almighty God.

**History of the Temple** - Late Shri Anantayya Mangesh Vaknalli of village near Kumta had a dream in which he visualized that an idol of god Ganapati is lying uncared for and that he should install it for regular worship. The dream was like a divine guidance through which Shri Anantayya discovered a black marble idol of God Ganesh in Belke forest. Fortunately he could get enough land through the generosity of Shri Ramrao Nagarkatti, who had a landed property at Belke village. Soon with the help from all relatives and well wishers a temple and a house to reside were built. On the auspicious day of Makarsankranti, with the blessings from H.H.Srimad Pandurangashram Swamiji, Shri Anantayya consecrated the idol of god Ganapati in January, 1889 with great religious fervour. He then resided at Belke and conducted daily puja, viniyogas of God Ganapati.

After Shri Anantayya, his descendants looked after the management of the temple and the property. But unfortunately after the sad demise of Shri Umesh in 1959 and Shri Bhavanishankar in 1971, both grandsons of Shri Anantayya, daily viniyogas were somewhat disturbed. They were the popular Patels of Belke. Shri Manohar (son of Shri Umesh Vaknalli), in the service of Shri Chitrapur Math, Shirali, inspired by P.P.Srimad Parijananashram Swamiji, started looking after the Temple. A Havik Brahmin was appointed as Archak to carry out daily puja and also to look after the temple, being given a small house to settle-down close to the Temple.

With financial help from family members, the eroded Temple building was fully repaired and Kala-Abhivridhi Homa religiously performed in the year 1976. 15 years later the garbha-graha which was in a bad shape was completely repaired and the temple was also given a new look. The important religious ceremony of "Ashtabandha, Punarpratistha" was performed for the first time. On this auspicious occasion large number of Vaknalli and allied family members participated in the various religious activities. The function concluded with Dashavatara play and Gram Santarpan in December, 1991.

Festivals like Ganesh Chaturthi, Kartika-Poornima, Makar-Sankranti, Angarika-Sankasthi are observed now. In addition to daily viniyogas, special puja, Gana-homa, Abhisheka etc. are undertaken on specific days as desired by the devotees.

With the main object of improving the living conditions of the Archak, a new house was built with more space in the year 2000. The Archak resides in it with his family. The age old unoccupied ancestral house which had collapsed was also rebuilt in the year 2004.

With active support from enthusiastic youths a trust was formed in the name of "Vaknalli Family's Shree Maha Ganapati Dev Trust," Belke in January 2009, to enable smooth and better management. After the completion of total Jirnoddhar of the Temple in February, 2014 entire celebrations on the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> March 2014, covering Punar-Pratistha of God Maha Ganapati, SthanaShudhi, Pratistha Purvang Homa, Ganeshpuja, Grahayajna Ratnanyas Purvaka Peetha Pratistha, Pratistha of God Shri Maha Ganapati, Prana-Pratistha Homas, Disha-Homa Mahashanti, Prayashchitadi Homas, Maha-Ganapati Homa, Poornahuti, Brahmakalash-abhisheka, Atharva-Shirsha Homa, Maha-Pooja, Tirtha Prasad Vitaran, Sarvajanik Maha Anna Santarpan Ashirvads and various sevas offered by the devotees concerned etc. were performed with deep religious fervour.

The entire programme covering 3 days was organized successfully due to the spontaneous, wholehearted co-operation and co-ordination offered by the youth of Vaknalli and allied family members. The entire celebrations evoked tremendous response from the devotees who numbered more than about 1000 on the final day and who came to seek blessings from God Maha Ganapati. The programme concluded with a sense of deep imprint of everlasting peace and satisfaction of the devotees.

Late Smt. Nalini and Shri Vasant U. Vaknalli, the Founder Trustee were instrumental for the present developments and are remembered by all.. . .

Mohan G. Vaknalli, Vishwanath P. Dhareshwar, Manohar U. Vaknalli, Ramanand N Rao (Trustees)

## **Down Memory Lane**

### **The Sulochana Puthli Sheti Who Took Me Down Memory Lane**

**BY JAYAVANTHI HIREBET – PUNE**

My Annu, Padukone Ramamand Rao was Chemistry Professor at Government College, Mangalore. He was very popular for organising cultural programmes in the college where Sulochana Puthli was a student. Being a great friend of my aunt Vardepachi she was like a family member in our house.

It was Annual Day at the college. Annu had left early to check up on the evening's cultural programme and my siblings, Chandam, Shankru and Shanthi went with him to help decorate the hall and stage. In the evening my Amma, Sushila, dressed me up in a colourful skirt and blouse, dabbed "Cuticura" talc on my cheeks and arms and combed my bobbed hair. She also changed into a nice saree and with little Yashodhara in her arms we went to the college to enjoy the programme.

When we reached the college Annu whisked me away and took me inside where Sulochana Pachi was sitting. I was sad when I saw her in a torn discoloured saree. She promptly took off my skirt and blouse and put me into a torn dark coloured gown. Not only

that she applied black colour on my face, and made my hair look dishevelled and uncombed. She then handed me a small battered bowl and taught me how to beg! In a shrill voice I had to say "Ammaaaa..., Duddu kodi, Aiyyaaaa..., Duddu kodi" in Kannada. She then took my hand and we went round the hall begging – "Ammaaaa..." G. K. Chettar the Principal gave us a Rs. 10 note – a huge amount in those days!

After we finished our round we returned to the dressing room. Sulochanapachi hugged me with a smile, washed off the black colour, put my skirt and blouse back on and combed my hair. She too changed into a beautiful saree and then we went to join Amma and Vardepachi to enjoy the rest of the evening's programmes.

When the time came for the prize distribution it was no surprise – we won the First Prize in the Fancy Dress Competition as Beggar Woman and Child and Sulochanapachi bought me a toy from our "earnings"!

Friendly, affectionate and ever smiling – THAT is the Sulochanapachi I remember.

## **News from Canara Union, Bangalore**

### **“Life in the Defence Services” - Interactive discussion in the Members’ Lounge - Saturday,**

**8<sup>th</sup> March** – it was a nice, informal meeting of retired defence service Officers and their wives, and other civilian members. The retired officers took everybody down memory lane talking about their experience on the fronts of the three wars they had served in – the bombs, the boom of the guns, air attacks as also time spent at peace time and the discipline they had to maintain. Some of the experiences narrated were hair-raising. The audience listened to the narration in stunned silence and one felt as if a war was being staged at the Lounge. While the retired officers spoke about the serious portion of defence life, their wives shared some hilarious stories like living in primitive conditions in tents and using baskets as washroom, the Orderlies, the Mess and life in general in the forces. The members had so much to share that the evening could have gone on like all the Defence Service parties, but then all good things need to come to an end with a hope to have many more such evenings. Our special thanks for organizing this great evening goes to Wg. Cdr. Padbidri and his wife Geeta. The evening ended with snacks hosted by Ansuya and her mother Someshwar Radha.

**Holi Celebrations - Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March** – Like every year, over 100 people gathered at the Canara Union at 8.00 pm to celebrate Holi. The traditional Holika or lighting of the bonfire took place. Holika is a very popular tradition and is celebrated with fervour all across the country and is symbolic of triumph of good over evil. There are numerous legends associated with this ancient tradition and it is difficult to pin-point as to when actually the tradition started. The evening ended with Prasad and Panak.

### **Ugadi Celebrations & Panchaang Vaachan - Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 6.00 pm –**

This year, the Ugadi celebrations were held outdoors at the Canara Union under a shamiana. There were over 400 people who attended this auspicious evening and enjoyed it immensely, especially being outdoors in the fresh air, considering the very hot summer this year. The ceremonial Panchaang Vaachan was officiated by Kalyanpur Gopalakrishna Bhat. The evening ended with distribution of Prasad. It was a wonderful occasion for everybody to meet and greet each other and spend some valuable time.

### **Programmes planned for April 2014**

**5<sup>th</sup> April – Saturday – “Just Fun” programme – 5.00 pm at the Member’s Lounge.**

**13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> April – Sunday, Monday – Health Awareness Programme at Canara Union between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm conducted by Vikram Hospital.**

**14<sup>th</sup> April to 16<sup>th</sup> May – Table Tennis Summer Coaching Camp. Days – Monday to Friday between 4.00 pm to 5.30 pm at Canara Union.**

**Fees Rs.1000/- for Children and Adults. Please contact Udayashankar Chandragiri at Canara Union for more information.**

## Durga Tai

MAITHILY PADUKONE, AHMEDABAD

Durga Tai was my first teacher.... She used to teach at the Balak Vrinda school, Tardeo - also known as the "WADI School". Durga tai was Durga Upponi nee Nagarkatti. Not many would know because she was known to all her students simply as Durga Tai. Maybe for those small kids, just fresh into the bad world of school the second name did not really matter, as long as you had someone to clutch on, to wail and cry when you were so rudely separated from your mother, by this thing called school.

Durga tai was just what the pediatrician prescribed for schoolitis (*a chronic ailment which shows an increase in early June and mid-November, usually coinciding with the time when schools re-open after lovely vacation, characterized by redness of the eyes which might end up in screechy to well-defined wails with occasional tears, it is only visually contagious*), with her calm and warm demeanor she was a Kindergarten teacher personified.

Teaching as a profession - was an advice given by her father who considered it more respectable and lucrative than a bank job (which she had also got at the same time), for women in those days. It came naturally to her. Armed with a Montessori diploma she came with a very fresh and creative approach towards teaching. She was more than happy to be with toddlers, but took it as a challenge to do her B.A. at the age of 52 and M.A after that.

Scholarship exams are given by a lot of children every year, some children give it as primer before the board exams, but for some children it is the promised waiver of fees, which is their only hope for future education, especially girls. Such children would gather at her home before their school to get special coaching for these tough exams.

She was a great tabla player (one of the few female players in those days!!), also wrote plays for small kids. Her play "Surya la zalay Padse" (When the SUN GOD caught a cold!!) written in Marathi was also translated to English and Hindi and did very well. Her ideas for the fancy dress competitions always got her awards.

Of all her students, I think I can claim to be the luckiest, because..... I got also got a warm hug and could even cuddle up to her every night... because she was my mother, my Aai....

Over the years I have met many of her students and every time I know someone is her student, I always meet and tell that I am Durga Tai's daughter... I love the gleam when each one of them claims that he or she was her favorite student...I met one student who said that she was my mother's as well as father's favorite student, a unique feat which even I or my siblings could not accomplish. Yes, my father was a teacher too, a Mathematics teacher and my liking towards the subject made this task a little too difficult, there was no way I could be his favorite.

Every year the children came to our home, when their scholarship exams got near. Some children were obviously not serious, but their parents would send them nevertheless, only in hope that the scholarship would lessen their financial burden. One such child in exasperation found a scissor and decided to experiment it on our new sofa cover. Yes, later in the evening, it was discovered by my father who thought that it was the work of art of me and my friends, much to the relief of Aai... or that would have been end of her scholarship classes. The result of this was that Baba banned me and my friends from playing at home. I was massively hurt... she later of course compensated this by making my favourite Surnollis (yes, she was also a great cook!!!)

Maharashtra government in those days gave free education to the children of all Primary teachers. We could only benefit from this scheme when she completed her B.A. and D.Ed (equivalent to B.Ed) and started teaching at the primary school also. She would attend her classes at the S.N.D.T, over the weekend and teach at the school during the week!!! studying very hard for her exams too!!! My friends still joke about this, that my degrees have come for free and hence not valid.

Sometime after she passed away, I met our local butta wali (corn seller), I knew her son was my Aai's student. I asked her in Marathi whether she knew Durga tai. "Yes", she replied after some silence... "She used to stay in your building isn't it?" "Yes", I said "She was my Aai"... That day my corn came for free... this lady had done her bit in her own way, towards the coaching her son had received for the scholarship exam....

I really have to thank all her students for the feeling of warmth that they have shown towards her, every time, and the gleam they have... You have made all her efforts worth it and made my Aai all the more special to me and my brothers!!!

### DONATIONS RECEIVED

**Kanara Saraswat is grateful to the following donors:**

#### MEDICAL RELIEF FUND

Ramcharan Gopal Hattiangdi	Rs. 10,000
(In memory of wife Vidya Ramcharan Hattiangdi)	
Savita Bhaskar Sashital (nee Shrikala Ramchandra Bijur)	Rs. 20,0000
(In memory of late Ramchandra Narayan Bijur and late Suman Ramchandra Bijur)	

#### DISTRESS RELIEF FUND

Ramcharan Gopal Hattiangdi	Rs. 10,000
(In memory of father Dr Gopal S Hattiangdi)	

#### SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Ramcharan Gopal Hattiangdi	Rs. 10,000
(In memory of daughter Priya Hattiangdi Mundkur)	

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# Soap and Water

SAVITRI BABULKAR

Growing up in a large joint family in a little-known coastal town can be a learning experience. We were ruled by our seemingly stern grandmother ('Avva') who decided in the mid-forties that it was time for us – girls - to be 'independent'. I thought only National leaders struggled for independence. But Avva knew better. The first step in our private struggle was to 'learn to do things on our own.' *Groan.....*

To begin with, we learnt to collect our garments from the clothesline, crisp from the sun, bring them in, fold them 'just so', and place them neatly on the wooden stands in the dressing room. Careless and sloppy work was not acceptable. *Everything* had an allotted place. And everything *had* to be in its assigned place. This, apparently, was the best way to ensure that we found our things the moment we reached out for them.

Next, we learnt to make our beds, each one carefully folding the bed-sheet and placing it under the pillow. Then, we spread the counterpanes on the beds, ironing out the creases with our palms while Avva stood by, beaming with pride. We also learnt to carry 'used' plates and tumblers to the end of the long dining hall, and pile them 'as noiselessly as possible' in the tub placed there for the purpose.

Finally, we were ready to wash our own undergarments, supervised by Paramesri, our smiling maid. Carefully cutting a brand new yellow bar soap along the indented marks, she handed each one a piece, which we eagerly grabbed. Sprinkling drops of water on the inert garments, we started rubbing the soap fiercely into them on the flat rough cement washing-stone till they began to fray.

"No-no-no-no that's not the way," screamed Paramesri, her eyes wide with horror. She turned round and ran in despair to call Avva who quickly arrived on the scene, tucking her pleats in at the waist, as if she meant business "Hrrrrmp, I should have known," she said, without indicating precisely *what* she should have known'. Then, fetching water in a copper pot, she poured it into the copper tub,

making us soak the garments in it 'to rinse them thoroughly'.

"It is not *soap* that washes the garment." she said, "It is *water*. Soap merely helps remove the dirt, and should be used judiciously."

"*Judiciously?*" we chorused, and she grimaced. Though she pretended to be irritated, she always encouraged questions, saying that questions opened doors to knowledge,

"Oh *that*? It means wisely, sensibly....in this case, just as-and-when needed"

Then she proceeded to show us *precisely* how much soap to apply. Later, with a happy swoosh, she poured water and rinsed the garments, bunching them in her fist and beating them gently against the roughness of the washing stone: "It's the water that does the trick," she smiled.

Soon, the garments were washed to perfection. We then picked up each garment and wrung the wetness out of it, twisting it as we twist toffee wrappers, using fists instead of fingers.

That night, she explained that 'soap' was like 'advice' - and effective only in the right doses. What really helped was 'water' – the reasoning power of a child's mind to absorb the piece of advice and act upon it.

"Children don't need to be nagged. They are brighter than we imagine – and given time, they figure things out. Trust them; and give the 'advice' some time to sink in. ...."

I suddenly understood why Avva never nagged us; why she allowed us time to 'think' at our own pace; why she never pushed or hurried us into immediate compliance, patiently giving us 'waiting-time' to grasp things. She trusted in our capacity to figure out what to do in a given situation.

We learnt *all* that years ago.....I hope, as mothers and grand-mothers, we have not let Grandma down... and never will.



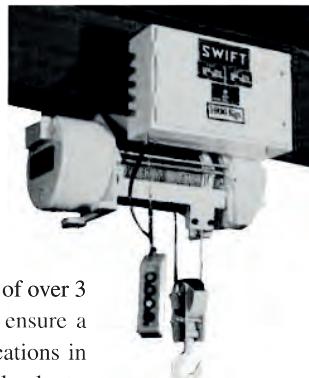
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# The Modern Relevance of India's Intellectual Heritage - Part 2

By JITENDRA DIVGI, PUNE

(Continued from April 2014 issue)

## Mathematicians to the World

Consider this fact: the Appendix-portion, *Parishishta*, of the Atharva Veda, contains mathematical aphorisms, *Sutras*, that cover a vast portion of today's modern mathematics including arithmetical computations, geometry, conics, and calculus. None of this is taught at any center of higher learning in India. In the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Jagadguru of Puri, Bharati Krishna Tirth Maharaj did seminal work on decoding these Sutras and other related theories. The work gives extraordinary algorithms for arithmetical and algebraic computations. Imagine what power these could have when combined with the availability of modern computational technology now available in laptops and palmtops. This is a pertinent example of synthesis of our ancient knowledge system with modernity at a level of instrumentality.

The work is conspicuous by its complete absence from even a passing reference in India's educational curriculum and seats of advanced education and training.

Consider further this fascinating example: Indian number theorists formulated a coding system that enabled them to represent the numbers of the decimal system with phonetic sounds. Using this unique encryption system, rather simple when once learned, complex numbers running to 20 or more digits could be encoded into sounds strung together in verse form. The code to remember this encryption system runs as follows: Kaadi nava, taadi nava, paadi panchak, yaadya - ashtak, ksha shunyam. Elaborated, this means: the nine consecutive consonants from the first ka represent the numbers 1 through 9 (hence the term nava), as do the nine consecutive consonants from ta. The 5 consecutive consonants from pa represent 1 through 5 (hence panchak); the final string ya, ra, la, va ... represent 1 through 8 (hence the term ashtak). The letter ksha of Akshaya represents zero. Vowels and conjunct consonants are disregarded and only full consonants are taken into account. This system enabled mathematicians to encode numbers as shlokas. For example, the following shloka is a dedication to both Krishna and Shiva and represents the fundamental law of the universe that the relation of the circumference of a circle to its diameter is always a constant, which we know by the Greek term pi!!!:

Gopi bhaagya madhuvraatashrungisho dhadhi sandhiga

Khala jivita khaataava galahaala arasandhara

By applying the encryption code of Kaadi nava, taadi nava, this shloka represents pi divided by 10 to 32 places, impossible in any modern day technique !!!!! (Refer to <http://www.vedicsciences.net/articles/vedic-mathematics.html> for a detailed explanation of this)

This example shows how deeply the ancient Indian mathematicians penetrated in the subtlety of their thinking, even when the Greeks had no numerals above 1000. The globalization, to use the term in vogue nowadays, of these powerful techniques, which today we call mathematics, started in the 8<sup>th</sup> century AD. It was first carried to Arabia by a scholar named Kanaka who was invited from the court of Ujjain to the court of Baghdad by the Abbasid Caliph Al-Mansur. Kanaka taught astronomy and mathematics to Arabian scholars and with his help they translated into Arabic Brahma Sphuta Siddhanta of Brahma Gupta. The Arabs called the decimal system Al Arqan Al Hind and the powerful computational methods of the Hindus as Hindi Saat-Art of the Hindus. Long before Islam came to Arabia, the Syrian astronomer-monk Severus Sebokht, writing in mid 7<sup>th</sup> century AD wrote, "I shall not now speak of the knowledge of the Hindus, ... of their subtle discoveries in the science of astronomy –discoveries even more ingenious than those of Greeks and Babylonians – of their rational system of mathematics, or of their method of calculation which no words can praise strongly enough – I mean the system of using the nine symbols..."

From Arabia, the numerals slowly marched towards the West through Egypt and Northern Arabia; and they finally entered Europe in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. The debt of the Western world to India in respect of mathematics cannot be overestimated. Most of the great discoveries and inventions of which Europe is so proud would have been impossible without a developed system of mathematics, and this in turn would have been impossible if Europe had been shackled by the unwieldy system of Roman numerals. The success of Indian mathematics was mainly due to the fact that the Indians had a clear conception of abstract number, as distinct from numerical quantity of objects or spatial extension. While Greek mathematical science was

largely based on measurement and geometry, India transcended these conceptions quite early, and, with the aid of simple numeral notation, devised a rudimentary algebra which allowed more complicated calculations than were possible to the Greeks, and led to the study of number for its own sake.

The historian Niall Ferguson in his seminal book, *The Ascent of Money*, explains how the Italian, Leonardo of Pisa, also known as Fibonacci, carefully compiled his learning of "Indian Mathematics" in his book *Liber Abaci* published in 1202. What the world knows today as Fibonacci Series was known to the ancient Indians as 'MatraMeru' or Mountain of Rhythm or Cadence thanks to the work of the Sanskrit scholar Pingala.

Niall Ferguson explains how ill suited the Roman numerals were to arithmetic manipulation let alone complex interest computations of the world of finance. Through Fibonacci's work, arithmetic using the Indian decimal system found its way into the world of Italian mercatilism and proto banking of the early medieval period and finally flowered during the Renaissance. The Italian banqueri of Genoa and Venice like the famous Medici family invented modern day book-keeping using the techniques disseminated by Fibonacci's book. To this day double-entry book-keeping remains the lifeblood of modern commerce and financial accounting. Medieval Indian mathematicians, such as Brahmagupta (7<sup>th</sup> century AD), Mahavira (9<sup>th</sup> century AD), and Bhaskara (12<sup>TH</sup> century AD) made several discoveries which in Europe were not known until the Renaissance or later, an interval of 500 or more years. The mathematical implications of zero (shunya) and infinity, never more than vaguely realized by classical authorities of Europe, were fully understood in medieval India. Bhaskara proved that any entity divided by zero tends to infinity. He established mathematically what had been recognized in Indian Upanishadic theology at least a millennium earlier, that infinity, however divided, remains infinite, (... Poornasya poorna madaya, poornameva avashishyathe... Ishavasya Upanishad).

### **The Joy of Language**

To rediscover the modern relevance of our intellectual heritage, we have to first have a recovered sense of appreciation of Sanskrit. Sanskrit evolved in India over millenia as the instrument of communication of thought and experience. As a language it holds a most unique place among the languages of the world for several reasons. First, it is the only language which has come down to us from pre-historic times with an uninterrupted history. Second, it is the only language which has mothered a large family of languages, both national and international. Third, it is the only language

which developed a scientifically phonetic alphabet and initiated the science of philology very early in its career. Fourth, and most important, it specialized in being the communication medium of an immense field of experience and knowledge as developed in the Vedas and Upanishads and re-verified by an unbroken tradition of experimenters through the centuries down to our own time.

In the vital field of enrichment of human life, Sanskrit offers an educational opportunity to all modern humanity which few languages of the world are equipped or historically conditioned to contribute. This is not to suggest that we discard English as the medium of higher education; it is not a question of English or Sanskrit or a regional language; it could be a case of English and Sanskrit and perhaps Hindi or Marathi or a regional language. But more important than just the skill and aptitude in the language is the development of the sensibility that the language brings that can then develop into a lifelong curiosity for all that the knowledge of a language can bring.

The earliest surviving form of Sanskrit is that of the Rig Veda. After the composition of the Rig Veda, Sanskrit developed considerably in the early centuries of the first millennium BC. Through this evolution the need was perhaps felt to preserve the purity of the Vedas. It was out of this need that India developed the science of phonetics and grammar more than 2500 years ago. It was in this classical period that the world's first prodigious grammarian, Panini, composed the Ashtadhyayi ("Eight Chapters"). The historian Basham says that Panini's linguistic study was not matched by the world for almost 2000 years till the science of phonetics arose in Europe on the discovery of Sanskrit in the 18th/19<sup>th</sup> centuries. He further states that among India's greatest achievements is her remarkable alphabet, commencing with vowels and followed by the consonants, all classified very scientifically according to their mode of production, (in sharp contrast to the haphazard and inadequate Roman alphabet), which has developed organically for over three millenia. Panini's work stabilized the Sanskrit language.

From this time onwards, the language came to be called Samskruta, "perfected" or "refined" as opposed to Prakruta ("natural"), the popular dialects which had developed naturally. Panini's grammar is considered one of the greatest intellectual achievements of any civilization, and the most detailed and scientific grammar composed before modern times in the last 150 years. It laid the foundation for a great volume of intellectual activity to flow out from India over the next 1000 years or more in subjects as diverse as

Cosmology, Astronomy, the development of a Calendar, Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry, Physiology and Medicine, Logic, Philosophy, Poetic Literature, analytical commentaries on Music and Dance, Political Science and Economics; indeed no aspect of human thought and action has been left untouched by literature in the Sanskrit language.

From a purely literary standpoint, Sanskrit literature could be divided into the following main categories:

1. Vedic literature, that of the Vedas and Upanishads
2. Epic literature, as in Ramayana and Mahabharata
3. Classical Sanskrit Poetry, as in the poetry of Kalidasa (4<sup>th</sup> century), Bhartruhari (7<sup>th</sup> century), Bana (7<sup>th</sup> century), Bilhana (11<sup>th</sup> century), and Jayadeva (12<sup>th</sup> century)
4. Narrative Poetry, as in that of Somadeva, Kalhana, Bana, Bilhana, and Nayanchandra
5. Spiritual and religious poetry, as in the compositions of Adi Shankaracharya
6. Drama, as in that of Kalidasa, Shudraka, Vishakhadatta, and Bhavabhuti
7. Prose, as in the Panchatantra and Hitopadesha.

What needs to be appreciated that this vast literature developed in the course of at least 3 millenia. In terms of following and appreciation, it reached its zenith between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 11th centuries, a period of over 700 years. Like in the English language, its greatest classical poet was also its greatest playwright – Kalidasa, who lived more than 1200 years before Shakespeare. Modern English literature has developed only in the last 500 years. In a very cruel twist of irony, what the infamous Macaulay said about Sanskrit in the 1830's was actually true of English relative to Sanskrit before Shakespeare's time – all of the literature available in English at that time could not have matched a shelf of classical Sanskrit literature! There should be no doubt about the expressive power of the Sanskrit language, including its phonetic capability to evolve to changing usage patterns in the world. The learning and inspiration that needs to be drawn is that just as the ancient Indians used the powerful tools of expression, computation and reasoning to model the world around them and develop original solutions to challenges they faced, so too can the modern Indian draw from this inheritance to make a contribution to the modern world.

Today, the world demands a renewed originality to the problems it confronts for the present and coming generations. India's knowledge and wisdom system

can play a significant contributory role in providing inspiration to solve the tough and intransigent problems of the world. For that to happen in a more significant way, we have to rediscover the joys of the Sanskrit language and its regional, Prakrit, offshoots.

Let me give a simple example of the power of Sanskrit phonetics. In the course of my business with China, I had to necessarily learn Pinyin which is the Chinese phonetic code developed in the Roman alphabet to transcribe Chinese in say the English or European alphabet. I realized that by transcribing Chinese in Devnagari, I was able to reproduce Chinese pronunciations much better to the amazement of my Chinese friends. This technique could be a unique tool available to Indians to quickly learn the foundational phonetic elements of the Chinese language. My Chinese friends developed a whole new sense of respect for India when I explained the Indian pentatonic phonetic system which is the scientific base for our alphabet system. Sanskrit phonetics and its metrical rhythm combine to create a cadence rich with alliteration and rhyme that facilitate retention in memory like a mnemonic aid. Over time, Sanskrit poetic literature developed over 100 different metres. Of these the principal Vedic metres were the Tristubh, Jagati, Anustubh, and Gayatri. Shloka was the metre employed in later times for the epic poems. Adi Shankaracharya's Bhaja Govindam is an outstanding example of this point. The following 2 verses from Bhaja Govindam underscore this point:

कस्त्वं कोऽहं कृत आयातः  
का मे जननि को मे तातः ।  
इति परिभावय सर्वमसारम्  
विश्वं त्यक्त्वा स्वज्ञ विचारम् ॥२३॥  
Who am I? And who are you?  
Whence do I come?  
Who is my mother? Who my father?  
Pondering thus, perceive them all, as fancies only,  
without substance;  
Give up the world as an idle dream  
पुनरपि जननं पुनरपि मरणं  
पुनरपि जननी जठरे शयनम् ।  
इह संसारे बहुदुस्तारे  
कृपयाऽपारे पाहि मुरारे ॥२१॥  
Birth unceasing! Death unceasing!  
Ever to pass through a mother's womb  
Hard to cross is the world's wide ocean;  
Lord, redeem me through thy mercy.

(To be Continued..)

## Report

### The Gulwadi Quartet's Performance at Pashupatinath Mandir on MahaShivratri

Reported by Pradeep Ullal

The Gulwadi Quartet comprising of siblings Nirmala (Bondal), Shobhana Rao (Ullal), Shaila Hattangadi &



Arun Gulwadi got together once again to regale a sizeable audience thronging Pashupatinath Mandir in Kathmandu on 26th February for MahaShivratri.

Performing in the forecourt of the imposing shrine to Lord Shiva, where Shivji is supposed to confer special blessings on 'pashu' or animals, they began their concert with a vandana followed by a Shiv-stuti. They then sang a bhajan 'Shiv ka Naam Japo Sansaari...' and 'Jaya Gangadhar, Jaya Girijadheesh....'. As the festival of Holi was not far away, the group sang a Shiv-Holi in Hori form titled 'Hori Shiv Khele, Lath ke Virajat Gang....'

The concert concluded with their iconic bhajan on

the holy river Ganga titled 'Har har Gange....' As their harmony rose to a crescendo some in audience confessed that they could almost visualise the golden streams of the Ganges coursing down the locks of Shiv ji. The group was ably supported by Mihir Basu on Synthesiser, Ashish Mishra on Tabla and Anurag Rastogi on Flute.

The group was blessed with a holy darshan of Lord Shiva on Shivratri day. They followed this up with another variety concert, featuring other genres, at the famous Patan museum under the auspices of the Nepal India Cultural Coordination Council.

The Gulwadi Quartet has been truly blessed in that they have been permitted to perform as a sibling group on Shivratri at such holy sites as the Ganga Talab in Mauritius (revered by many as equivalent in importance to a Jyotirlinga), also, now at Pashupatinath; last year they performed bhajans at the Kumbh Mela on the banks of the Sangam at Prayag, Allahabad, apart from performing before the Lotus feet of Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji at Shirali during our Tri-Centennial celebrations some years ago. The group has also abundantly performed at various concerts in Europe, North America & Canada, Africa, Middle East and Asia.

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## The Tea Shop

SADHANA KAIKINI SENT US THIS BEAUTIFUL WRITE UP FORWARDED TO HER BY SIDDHARTH BALDOTA.

A group of fifteen soldiers led by their Major Sahib were on their way to the post in Himalayas where they would be deployed for next three months. They would relieve another batch waiting anxiously for their arrival so that they could fall back to safer confines of their parent unit.

It was a treacherous climb and the journey was to last till the next evening. Cold winter with intermittent snowfall added to the torture. If only someone could offer a cup of tea, the Major thought, knowing completely well that it was a futile wish.

They continued for another hour before they came across a dilapidated structure which looked like a small shop. It was locked. It was 2 a.m. and no one in sight. It was not advisable to knock any doors in the night for security reasons. "No tea boys, bad luck" said the Major. The Major told the men to take some rest since they had been walking for more than three hours now. "Sir, this is a tea shop indeed and we can make tea. We will have to break the lock though." The officer was in doubt about the proposed action but a steaming cup of tea was not a bad idea. He thought for a while and permitted for the lock to be broken. The lock was broken.

They were in luck. The place was indeed a tea shop with a few packets of biscuits stocked as well. The tea was prepared and drunk. Refreshed they were now ready for the long and treacherous walk ahead of them. The officer was in thought. They had entered the shop and enjoyed tea and biscuits without the permission of the owner. Payment was due but there was no one in sight. The Major didn't move out without doing what needed to be done. He took out a Rs. 1000/- note from his wallet and kept it on the counter, pressed under the sugar container, so that the owner sees it first thing in the morning. He then ordered them to move.

Days, weeks and months passed. The group did their duty gallantly. And then one day, it was time to be replaced by another brave lot. Soon they were on their way back and stopped at the same shop, which was today open with the owner in place. He was a poor old man happy to see fifteen men with

the prospect of selling at least fifteen cups of tea that day. As they had tea they spoke to the old man about his life and experiences in general, selling tea at such remote a location. The poor, old man had many stories to tell all of them, replete with his faith in God.

"Kya Baba, yadi Allah hota to kyaa aap ke jaisa 'Allah kaa bandaa' is haal main hota," said one of them, moved by his poverty and faith in God. "Nahin Sahib, aise mat kaho, God actually exists. I got the proof a few months ago. I was going through very tough times because my only son had been severely beaten by the terrorists. I had closed the shop early that day to take him to the hospital. I had no money to buy medicines. No one would give me a loan from fear of the terrorists. There was no hope, Sahib. And that day Sahib, Allah walked into my shop. When I returned to my shop my lock had been broken! I thought I had lost whatever little I had. But then I saw that 'Allah' had left Rs. 1000/- under the sugar pot. Sahib, I can't tell you what that money was worth that day. Allah exists Sahib, He does. You are all going home and you must thank your God Sahib, he is watching all of us. He does exist. He walked in to my shop that day and broke open the lock to give me the money I desperately needed. I know He did it."

The faith in his eyes was unflinching. Fifteen sets of eyes looked at their officer and read the order in his eyes clear and unambiguous, 'Keep quiet.' The officer got up and paid the bill and hugged the old man. "Yes Baba, I know, God does exist - and yes the tea was wonderful." And the real truth is that any one of us can be a God to somebody!

<<>>

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## Birth Centenary of Shantaram Nagesh Shiroor 1914–2014 (Ramnavami)



गेल्या महिन्यातला रामनवमीचा दिवस (०८/०४/२०१४) आम्हा शिरूर परिवारांसाठी विशेष महत्त्वाचा होता. कारण तो माझ्या सासन्यांच्या (पप्पा – शांताराम नागेश शिरूर) जन्म शताब्दिपूर्तीचा दिवस होता. पप्पांचे वडील नागेश आणि आई अंबा ह्यांना सात अपत्ये (तीन मुले आणि चार मुली). ह्या परिवारातील सुमारे ३० ते ३५ नातेवाईकांनी स्नेहभोजनाच्या कार्यक्रमाला ग्रॅंट रोडच्या दहा तपांच्या वास्तूत अगत्याचे येणे केले होते. एका माहितीपटाद्वारे पप्पांचे शिरूर आणि बैंदूर येथील बालपण व १९४५च्या सुमारास मुंबईत ग्रॅंट रोड येथे वास्तव्यास आल्यानंतर साधे परंतु परोपकारासाठी झाटलेले जीवन दाखवले गेले. पप्पांचे निवृत्तीपर्यंतचे जीवन पॉप्युलर बुक डेपोत पुस्तकांच्या सहवासात गेले. शिरूर वंशवेलीचे मोठे पोस्टर देखील या निमित्ताने लावले होते. ज्या योगे दूरच्या आसेणांची सुद्धा सर्वांना माहिती व्हावी. पप्पांना गाणे ऐकण्याची भारी आवड. त्यांनी सर्वात प्रथम घेतलेला ग्रामोफोन व शंभरच्यावर जमवलेल्या ७८ आरपीमच्या रेकॉर्ड्स, रेडिओ कॉमेंट्री ऐकण्यासाठी घरी येणाऱ्या वाडीतील लोकांची गर्दी वगैरे आम्हा सर्वांना गतकाळात घेऊन गेली. त्यांना बैठ्या खेळाची फारच आवड विशेष करून ३०४ हा पत्त्यांचा खेळ, दाडफीड, फगडे, कॅरम इत्यादी. तीच आवड आम्हा मध्येही कायम असल्यामुळे ३०४ चा आठ जणांचा खेळ खेळला गेला. तो इतका रंगला की ‘वकई, तुरुफ, कोट, दिवाळी’ वगैरे आरडा ओरड खाली रस्त्यापर्यंत पोचत होती. खेळातील रंगतदार लकबी, पान जोरात टाकून आपल्याकडील हुकूम सुचविणे, आरोप, प्रत्यारोप वगैरेंनी घर गजबजून गेले होते.

एकंदरीत जन्मशताब्दीपूर्तीचा सोहळा फारच रंगतदार झाला आणि कार्यक्रमाची सांगता थंडगार पानक पनवाराने झाली.

- रेवती वंदन शिरूर

९३२२८८०७३७

# Bheem and Balaram

TANUJA NADKARNI

After having lived in the bustling city of Mumbai all our lives, we finally got a chance to realise our long cherished dream of living a rural life. We were lucky enough to get a farm in Chitrapur itself. The transition was easier than we thought, probably because we had yearned for it so much. When we moved to the farm, our extended family of 2 dogs and a cat got further extended by yet another dog and a whole lot of bovine members.

Strangely the previous owner never felt the need to name his bovine clan. There were 4 cows, 1 yearling bull calf and a really feisty buffalo. One of the cows calved shortly after we came to live here. So naming them was a must – I couldn't possibly keep referring to them as "Mother of the bull calf" and "Mother of the new calf" for long. So the new calf was "Gomati", her mother "Godavari". The beautiful black cow with a white star on her forehead was "Shabari", her son "Bheem", "Kaveri" the cow who had apparently had some health issues after her previous delivery 3 years back and hadn't conceived and "Nandini" the old matriarch of the clan. All this took a lot of brain-wracking, some names sounded nice but I invariably knew close friends/relatives with the same name and I wasn't too sure if people would take it as a compliment to find a large doe eyed gentle beast sharing the same name. I barely finished naming them when Shabari delivered a female calf – surprise as none knew that she was pregnant. So "Shravani" it was. And I had not yet thought of a name for the beautiful buffalo. So when the kids were on a visit to the farm, I posed the question to them. Their answer was spontaneous and unanimous "Madhubala" they said. And yes it did suit her and always drew laughter whenever she was introduced to all our visitors.

Never having really looked after dairy animals, it took us some time to learn, adapt and also change some things that we felt needed changing. For instance, the age-old practice of layering the floor of the cowshed each day with heaps of green leaves so that it is crushed underfoot and mixed with all the dung and urine, until at the end of the week the massive pile of rotting leaves mixed with the dung would then be cleaned out and piled into the compost

pit. It was the time –tested method of getting good quality farm-yard manure for the plantation. But it was far from hygienic and attracted armies of flies which also found their way into our kitchen. So this had to be changed. And we started washing the cow shed daily. The animals looked cleaner and the fly menace reduced.

As we familiarised ourselves with the different varieties of cattle-feed and the benefits of each, I realised that commercial feed had its share of chemical supplements added to it. So started the quest for some home-made feed recipe. Cooking huge quantities of rice gruel was cumbersome and I was just about to going back to readymade feed when our local vet came to our rescue. A mix of wheat bran, maize powder, gram-husks and oil-cakes was recommended and so began our sojourns to the huge rice-mill where sacks of these could be procured. The attendant at the mill looked askance as I read out the strange sounding names 'Godi Bhoosa, Kadle sippe...', I guess he expected this city-dweller to pick up some dainty packets of Basmati rice. After a long pause he said "These are available only in sacks of 50kgs". When I replied that I wanted one sack of each he asked "Where are you from" followed by a barrage of the usual questions....." Farm? .. from the city?.... Cows?.... Actually living here?.....

Well back to our bovine family – they loved the new feed and slurped from their buckets with delight.

The other routine was letting the cows out in the mornings. They would be let out through a narrow gate leading directly from the shed, free to roam around in the grassy hillside adjoining our farm and they would all return late in the afternoon and wait patiently for the gate to be opened. One day Kaveri and Madhubala did not return at the normal time. We waited till late but there was no sign of them. Hoping they would return the next day, we waited, but several days passed. Manjunath was quite sure that Madhubala would be soaking herself in one of the numerous ponds atop the hill and Kaveri too would be roaming around. Sure enough Manjunath's wife spotted Kaveri close to the quaint Chitrapur railway

station. Not sure whether she had any intentions of travelling really far from home, but we did not take any chances and she was brought back home. We stopped letting her free from then on as she was due to calve within a couple of months. So after the birth of Kalindi, Kaveri got her freedom again and would return home promptly to be with her little calf.

Madhubala was still enjoying her romp on the hillside when we decided to go in search of her. Manjunath led the way like a mountain goat – sure-footed and light of step, while we had to make quite an effort to keep up. Pond after pond we scanned, each one with its own group of buffaloes wallowing with blissful expressions on their faces. Finally we came to the road that leads from Chitrapur past Kembre farm having covered almost 4 kms. As we walked back along the road, we spotted yet another pond teeming with buffaloes on the other side of the road. We went near and stood trying to spot her amongst the numerous nostrils and eyes that were the only visible things above the surface of the water. Every now and then one of them would raise their head above water and soon enough we spotted her. She glared at us balefully. Manjunath waded into the water and shepherded her out. She walked morosely down the road while we were lagging behind calling out to the dogs when she suddenly took off in a gallop in the opposite direction. Thundering hooves and grunts – it took a lot of courage to stand with outstretched arms in her path flailing my dupatta. But she did slow down when she neared and Manjunath could catch up with her and together 5 of us including Misty and Phoenix forming a semi-circle behind her, managed to get her back onto the farm.

After this episode we did not leave her free for several weeks, but she looked so forlorn when the others left each morning that we decided to let her out too. For the first few days she would return promptly and then the temptation would be too strong and she would wander off again to be brought back after a few days of freedom.

Now as I write this, Madhubala is still on the mountain, this time she is in a pond which has a superstitious legend to it – no man who enters it has ever survived – even if he is a good swimmer. So Manjunath will not wade into it to get her and

Madhubala – the minute she sees us approaching, runs into the water. We are now planning to go there late evening after sunset as the buffaloes normally come out after the heat of the sun reduces.

The other cows are content to return home at sundown. Shabari has had yet another calf – the first male calf after we came here – he is Balaram – rich brown coat with a white head and perfectly placed brown spots over both eyes like a pair of sunglasses. He is the cutest. The cows all recognise us now and allow us to milk them too.

As for Madhubala, she is still enjoying the sunshine on her back and the cool water rippling around her.



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## Inside an atom- A different world

MOHAN V. PANDIT

Roughly a hundred years ago, scientists were able to discover the structure of an atom. This discovery shook the foundation of the contemporary physics which is now termed as Classical Physics. The post discovery physics is termed as Modern Physics. It did not happen in a single experiment but was a result of discoveries in this field by many scientists. Roentgen discovered very low amplitude electromagnetic waves which he called as X-rays. Marie Curie isolated a new element called Radium which emitted spontaneous radiation. This element slowly transformed into other elements. Such a behavior was unknown to classical chemistry. It maintained the view that 92 elements and their compounds and mixtures are responsible for the wide variety of things in this world.

Modern physics has demonstrated that atoms of all elements are similar. Atoms consist of a small core called the nucleus which contains protons (positively charged particles) and neutrons (Particles with no charge). Electrons which are negatively charged particles, spin and race around the nucleus with a speed of about 1000 km per second. Atoms of different elements differ only by the number of protons in the nucleus. The number of electrons are always equal to the number of protons. The lightest element hydrogen has one proton in the nucleus and one electron racing around it. Helium has two protons in the nucleus and two electrons racing around it. Carbon has six protons and six electrons and so on. Electrons race around the nucleus in definite orbits. The orbit closest to the nucleus can accommodate two electrons. Next orbit can accommodate up to 8 electrons and so on. Protons and neutrons race inside the nucleus with a velocity of about 64000km per second.

Proton and neutron each have a mass of about 2000 times the mass of an electron. Thus the mass of an atom is concentrated in the nucleus.

Atom has a lot of empty space inside. If you were to blow the atom which is not visible to the naked

eye, to a sphere equal to a height of a 4 storeyed building, the nucleus would be the size of a marble. The electron will be like a speck of dust. The electron, on account of its motion appears like a cloud.

Inside the atom lies a totally different world. Neutrons, protons and electrons are the stable subatomic particles. These particles behave like mass in some of the experiments. In some other experiments they behave like energy. Such things do not exist outside the atoms. In fact, the classical physics has concluded two laws; Law of conservation of mass and law of conservation of energy. The mass cannot be created nor can it be destroyed. Similarly energy cannot be created or destroyed. But inside an atom mass can be converted into energy (as in radio-active elements) and energy into mass. Albert Einstein has established the famous equation  $e=mc^2$  where e is energy, m is mass and c is speed of light.

Inside an atom every particle is in motion. But the atom is in perfect dynamic balance. One cannot get a clue of any activity inside. In classical physics Newton's first law of motion states that a body continues to be in the state of rest or uniform motion in a straight line unless acted upon by an external force. The subatomic particles move around with a force within. Classical physics cannot explain this behavior. Theory of relativity proposed by Einstein has to be used to explain the motion inside the atom.

At about the same time another theory of classical physics came under pressure. This is Maxwell's theory of electro-magnetic radiation. Maxwell had proposed that radio waves, heat and light are all forms of electro-magnetic radiation in ascending order of frequencies. As a corollary the radiation is proportional to the square of frequency. Scientists were puzzled by the behavior of the black body radiation that this was true only up to the highest frequency of violet component of light. At frequencies higher than this known as ultra-violet frequencies the radiation dropped. This phenomenon was dubbed as "ultra-violet catastrophe". Many scientists including

Einstein worked to find a possible cause for this behavior. A German scientist Max Planck proposed that the radiation is not continuous as assumed by Maxwell but discontinuous in the form of packets of energy. This theory is known as Quantum ( In Latin packet is Quantum) theory. Quantum theory threw a big spanner in classical physics which prided itself as highly deterministic. With this theory, the position of a particle could not be predicted accurately. Mathematics had to use probability function in the calculations. The uncertainty introduced by this theory met with stiff opposition. Einstein's famous remark on this theory was "God doesn't play dice." In order to resolve the issue, many scientists led by Neil Bohr and Heisenberg met in Copenhagen. This resulted in Copenhagen interpretation of quantum theory which is the widely accepted version.

The classical physics had induced a mind-set among scientists. They thought there could be further basic building blocks. If they could collide two stable subatomic particles at a great speed they might be able to detect smaller 'elementary particles'. If a laddoo collides with another laddoo, one can expect some powder. Highly sophisticated particle accelerators were built. Protons were accelerated to a speed close to the speed of light. They were made to collide with the target protons in a bubble chamber and the collision recorded on a photo graphic plate. What they found was new short lived particles different from the stable articles. The laddoos turned not as powder but as 'rosogulla' for a short while and back to laddoos. The principal method used for investigate subatomic particles is the high energy collisions. This branch of physics is known as high energy physics.

These experiments prove that matter is mutable. They can form other particles. 'Elementary particle', 'isolated object' have lost the meaning. New particles are only rearrangement of energy and mass. The whole universe appears as dynamic web of energy patterns. Thus there is a unity of all things in the universe.

Based on the characteristics of these subatomic particles, they are named as baryons, mesons, leptons, muons, kaons, pions, bosons, photons, positrons etc. More than 200 particles have been identified so far.

Dr. Fritjof Capra is a scientist who specializes in high energy physics, has suggested a metaphor for the activity inside an atom. The following lines are taken from his book "Tao of Physics". "For all modern physicists, then Shiva's dance is the dance of subatomic particles. As in Hindu mythology, it is a continual dance of creation and destruction involving the whole cosmos; the basis of all existence and all natural phenomena... The metaphor of the comic dance thus unifies ancient mythology and modern physics..."

It is interesting to note that modern physics with its brilliant scientists such as Einstein, Rutherford, Bohr, Heisenberg, Planck and others with sophisticated equipments, such as particle accelerators, bubble chambers, photographic equipment, real-time computers, mind-boggling mathematical expressions etc., have validated the ancient philosophical statement. "Tat Twam Asi" (That is you) a Mahavakya of the Upanishad indicating the unity of all things in the universe. This thought was expressed thousands of years ago while the modern science came to this conclusion only less than a hundred yeas ago.

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## Hampi - Badami - Belur - Halebid

PRAKASH BASRUR

After our return from a vacation with our daughter in USA, my wife Vijaya and I had an opportunity of going on a week's Indian vacation at Club Mahindra in Coorg (Karnatak) ! Being in a road-travel mood from USA we decided to make it a longer round trip of Karnatak in and around Coorg(Madikeri). It eventually became a 24 days' whirlwind tour of Hassan-Belur-Halebidu and Hospet-Hampi-Badami with stop overs at Bangalore and Mysore !

We were stunned by the magnificent sculpture and the architecture there in spite of the fact that it is today in a ruined state after undergoing human as well as nature's ransacking over the last 500 or odd years !

**BELUR :-** Just 34 km by road from the town of Hassan (which is 143 road-km from Mangalore and 187 road-km from Bengaluru) Belur, on the banks of river Yagachi was earlier known as Velapuri. It was chosen as the capital of the great Hoysala kings between 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries A.D. after the ransacking and destruction of their previous capital city at Dwarsamudra (now Halebeedu) by the Mughal Sultans of Delhi.

The Hoysalas were great patrons of art and architecture and built a number of magnificent shrines during their 300 years reign. The Hoysala temples are characterised by their typical star shaped ground plan and are usually set on large high stone platforms. The temple architecture and carvings at Belur are more human in scale and intricate in nature perhaps because of the soft soap stone (steatite) quarried from Tumkur about 200 kms away. On the contrary the art and architecture at Hampi and Badami (of Vijaynagar era) being in monolithic hard rocks (schists and granite) is gigantic in nature.

**HALEBEEDU :-** This ancient capital of Hoysala's was founded in the early 11<sup>th</sup> century A.D. and was known as Dwarsamudra, after a huge artificial lake of the same name, dating back to the 9<sup>th</sup> century. The Hoysala empire extended from river Kaveri in the west to river Krishna in the east and was enriched by the fertile deltas of those rivers. Its prosperity attracted the forces of Delhi Sultanate, who invaded and annexed the town in 1311. In 1326 it was again attacked and ravaged by the forces of Mohammed bin Tughlak! After the repeated attacks and killing of king Ballala III in the battle against the Sultan



of Madura in 1342, the Hoysalas relinquished their beautiful capital. The town was then nostalgically referred to as "Halebid", i.e. "Old Capital"

**HAMPI :-** The City of Victory better known today as Hampi, on the banks of Tungabhdra river in Karnatak, constitutes one of the most extensive and spectacular historical sites to be found anywhere in the world. Surrounded by huge boulders and rocks from which Hampi's art and architecture evolved, the city was a showpiece of imperial majesty and glory. Envoys from Persia, Italy and Portugal who visited Hampi in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries have left detailed accounts of its grandeur.



**BADAMI :-** The one-time capital of Chalukyas it is an outstanding centre of early Chalukyan art and architecture. King PulakeshinI made it his capital in 540 AD. Situated at the mouth of a ravine, between two rocky red sandstone hills, the town of Badami has both, rock-cut caves, temples and sculptures.

**In Fond Memory of  
Kishan Shankar Kodikal**



08/03/1943 – 31/05/2001

*Kindly and gently you drove away my fears,  
In the remaining years,  
Sorrowfully I need to remember with tears.  
Having to fight alone in this cruel world,  
Almighty my destiny unfurled,  
Now I lay at His feet totally curled.*

**Lovingly Remembered by**

Shrikala

Nitin, Rohini, Namita, Tika.  
Roshni, Anannya.

**SAD DEMISE**



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(25/10/1939 - 20/3/2014)

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Shamal Dhareshwar	Jeevan L. Dhareshwar	Drs.Uma(Jyotsna)-Dinesh Maskeri Drs Jayesh-Gouri Dhareshwar	Ashish Arjun
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Premila Nair	Udayan Nair	Sonia-Padmakumar Sandhya-Vineet	Sriganga,Gouri AdityaKrishna,Anand Krishna
Geetha Ubhayakar	Narendra N.Ubhayakar	Sumitra-Ashok Meghana-Bosco Deniz Vishaal Ubhayakar	Vasumita Ruan
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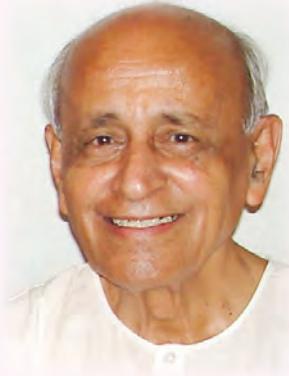
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## Remembrance

### Kundaje Bhasker Rao

(24<sup>th</sup> September 1919 – 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2009)



Like the sun you have shone  
And spread your warmth,  
Rays of your humour,  
confidence,  
Enthusiasm and support,  
Have illuminated each day of our  
lives.  
You will always be the voice in  
our hearts  
And wind beneath our wings.  
“We love you Dearest Annu”

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महळे माका—  
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थोडी मर्नातु दवरली  
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मर्नातुली अजुनी आसती—  
“ताजा-परमवी”  
“पारिज्ञातका फुल्हूं”



Fondly remembered by

Aruna, Vrinda-Dilip, Girish- Purnima, Kavita-Dinkar, Tejal,  
Relatives and Friends.

## Kiddies' Corner

### Wading in the Water



Shreeya Sachin Mudur

### Ugadi Celebrations at Andheri!



Participants of "Ganesh Vandana" skit and Bengali dance  
- children of the Prarthana varg & Yuvadhar  
(Report in Here & There on page 67)



Kartik Shukla

Yakshagaan artiste from  
Mallapur

(Report in Here & There on  
page 66)

### Ruby Wedding Anniversary

8-5-1974 to 8-5-2014



### Balwalli Gurudutt R and Jayashree (nee Pandit)

We pray to Lord Bhavanishankar, Kuladevatas and our Sacred Guruparampara  
to bless you both and grant Good Health, Happiness and Peace.

Hearty Congratulations!!! for completing 40 years of Blissful Wedded Life

May Ruby turn into Gold and much more...

Bharat (son), Pradnya (daughter-in-law) and Anika (grand-daughter)

## The Incredible Journey

By Anya Bailur, 6 years - London, UK

It was a bright summer's day. Emma was playing 'tag' with her friends in her back garden. Suddenly, the sun got bigger and brighter! Emma and her friends could not see anything.

When they opened their eyes, they saw that they were in a beautiful garden. They heard the sound of water. They looked around and saw a 'lemonade fall!' Chocolates were growing on trees and sweeties were spread on grass like wild flowers. They could not believe their eyes! They ate a lot.

Just then, Emma saw a magnificent castle on a hill. They decided to hike towards it. As they walked, they saw a unicorn galloping and a golden winged kingfisher. They reached the bottom of the hill. There was no way up. Suddenly, the same unicorn appeared again and offered to take Emma and her friends to the top. Emma was a little scared. "Are you sure?" she asked. Abbey replied, "Of course! This will be fun!" They hopped onto the unicorn and up they flew. When they reached the top, they could smell something sweet. The castle was made of cake, biscuit, gingerbread and liquorice. Candy floss flew out of the chimney and fell to the ground. They ate some more! They ate until their tummies started to hurt. They wanted to go home, but the trouble was they did not know how. Then, they heard a strange voice from the top of the castle. It was a fairy!! "Look around and you will find a way" she said and vanished in a puff of candy floss. Hannah had an idea! "Why not make a balloon with the

bubble gum hanging from the trees and a basket with twigs and leaves?" They all sat in this 'hot air balloon' and took off towards home. Unfortunately, it took so long, they all fell asleep.

"Wake up, wake up!" Emma heard. She thought she had reached home. She opened her eyes and stretched. It was her mum waking her up for school. It was all a dream!!

**THE END**



### HOOTING

The owls in the night are hooting  
Past the trees the birds are shooting

Monkeys take shade in the canopy  
Among wilderness i feel free

From tigers the deer run  
This is home to everyone

Between the leopards there is a bond  
The peacocks i recall with memories fond

Don't overlook natural beauty so  
Rivers of ice and flakes of snow

Why don't you see what is at stake  
Why does man pollute rivers and lakes

Why should we pollute her who lives only  
for us  
Let us clean up the mess without a fuss



**By Aabha Hattangadi  
Age 12 years**

## **CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE OF THE INSTITUTIONS GRANTING EDUCATIONAL, DISTRESS AMD MEDICAL AID**

F-1(a) Saraswat Colony, Santa Cruz (West) Mumbai – 400 054

Applications are invited in the prescribed forms from economically backward and deserving Chitrapur Saraswats for the following aid

- A. EDUCATIONAL AID:** From students studying in schools, colleges or pursuing other courses. The Last Date for the receipt of application is 31<sup>st</sup> August, for school and college students and 30th September for students of Engineering and Medical and other professional courses
- B. DISTRESS RELIEF AID:** From the aged, invalid, infirm, uncared for and other needy persons. The last date for receipt of application is 31<sup>st</sup> August.
- C. MEDICAL RELIEF AID:** From those who have incurred expenditure on treatment of major illness, hospitalization, surgery and need financial assistance. Last date for receipt of application is 31<sup>st</sup> August.

Application forms for the above can be obtained from:

1. **The Manager, Shri Chitrapur Math, Shirali – 581354, Dist Uttar Kannada- for applications other than Scholarships from Shirali, Murdeshwar, Kaikini, Bailur and Bhatkal**
2. **The Secretary, Shri Shivgopalkrishna Mandir, Chamrajpet, J.C. Road, Sagar 577401 Dist. Shimoga- for all applications from Sagar, Sorab, Shimoga, Bhadravati, Tavanandi, Talguppa, Siddapur, Hosanagar, Tarikere, Harihar, Shiralkoppa and Tirthalli.**
3. **The Managing Trustee, Shri Shivkrishna Mandir, Opp. Tehsildar's Office, Lamington Road, Hubli – 580020 – for all applications from Hubli, Dharwad, Gadag, Belgaum and Davangere**
4. **The Hon. Secretary, Canara Union, 8<sup>th</sup> Main, 15<sup>th</sup> Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003. – for all applications from Bangalore**
5. **The Secretary, Saraswat Poor Student's Fund. c/o Ganapati High School, G.H.S. Road, Mangalore – 575 003. For all applications applying for Scholarships from Dakshin Kannada, Uttar Kannada and Kasargod District.**
6. **The Secretary, Saraswat Sewa Samiti, Saraswat, Someshwar, Kotekar -574 152. District Dakshin Kannada- for all applications for Distress & Medical Relief from Dakshin Kannada, Udupi and Kasargod districts**
7. **The Secretary, Saraswat Association, Dr. Dinkar Memorial Hall, Ormes Road, Kilpauk, Chennai – 600 010 – for all applications from Chennai.**
8. **The Hon. Secretary, Chitrapur Saraswat Education & Relief Society, F-1(a), Saraswat Colony, Santacruz(West), Mumbai – 400 054 and the Hon. Secretary Kanara Saraswat Association, 13/1-2, Talmakiwadi, J.D. Marg, Tardeo, Mumbai – 400 007. – for all applicants from areas other than those stated above.**

Properly filled application forms for Educational Aid should be accompanied with the photocopy (duly attested) of the mark sheet, proof of admission and salary certificates and cancelled cheque.

All completed application forms should be handed over/ posted to the same authorities from where the forms have been collected.

Hon. Secretary  
Naresh Gangolli  
022-26142551  
Mobile: 9819654949

Chairman  
Shri Gurunath Gokarn  
022-26483949  
Mobile: 9867902515

Hon. Secretary  
Gurudas Gulvady  
022-26600485  
Mobile: 09833997646

# “लागेना थांग” प्रकाशन-सोहळा

उदय मंकिकर

मॅजेस्टिक पब्लिशिंग हाऊस, कॅनरा सारस्वत असोसिएशन  
व सारस्वत महिला समाज या संस्थांच्या वरीने रवि. दि. ६/४/२०१४



(डावीकडून उजवीकडे) सुरेश हेमाडी अध्यक्ष - केएसए, कांचन सुजीर अध्यक्ष - सारस्वत महिला समाज, रामदास भटकळ, मधु मंगेश कर्णिक मुख्य अंतिमी, साधना कामत, अशोक कोठावळे प्रकाशक.

रोजी तालमकीवाडीतील श्रीमत् आनंदश्रम सभागृहामध्ये साधना कामत यांच्या ‘लागेना थांग’ या कथासंग्रहाचा प्रकाशन समारंभ संपन्न झाला. याप्रसंगी अध्यक्ष ज्येष्ठ साहित्यिक श्री. मधु मंगेश कर्णिक, प्रमुख पाहुणे व वर्के विख्यात प्रकाशक पॉप्युलर प्रकाशनचे श्री. रामदास भटकळ, पुस्तकाचे प्रकाशक ‘मॅजेस्टिक’चे श्री. अशोक कोठावळे, कॅनरा सारस्वत असोसिएशनचे अध्यक्ष श्री. सुरेश हेमाडी, सारस्वत महिला समाजाच्या अध्यक्षा श्रीमती कांचन सुजीर व अनेक साहित्य रसिक उपस्थित होते. सभागृह ‘हाऊसफुल्ल’ झाले होते.

अनेक वर्षे विविध दिवाळी अंकांमध्ये प्रसिद्ध झालेल्या साधना कामत यांच्या कथांपैकी तेरा कथा ‘मॅजेस्टिक’ने या कथासंग्रहात प्रकाशित केल्या आहेत.

सर्वप्रथम साधनाताईच्या कन्या शुभा, विभा, अनुजा व नातवंडे-साहिर आणि सुरभि यांनी मान्यवरांचे पुष्पगुच्छ देऊन स्वागत केले. त्यानंतर साधनाताई श्री. अशोक कोठावळे यांचा परिचय करून दिला. त्यांच्या कार्याविषयी गौरवोद्गार काढले व प्रास्ताविक करण्याविषयी त्यांना विनंती केली.

श्री. कोठावळे यांनी सांगितले की १९६० च्या दशकात स्त्री-लेखिकांनी विपुल कथालेखन केले. साधनाताई मानस-शास्त्राच्या अभ्यासक असल्यामुळे त्यांच्या कथेत स्त्री-पुरुष नातेसंबंध, दोन पिढ्यांमधील अंतर इत्यादी मनोविश्लेषणात्मक विषय असतात. त्यांनी लेखिकेच्या एकूण साहित्याचा परिचय करून दिला. त्यांचा ‘लागेना थांग’ हा कथासंग्रह आपण प्रकाशित केला याचा आनंद व्यक्त करून श्री. कोठावळे यांनी साधनाताईच्या पुढील लेखनासाठी शुभेच्छा दिल्या.

त्यानंतर साधनाताई श्री. मधु मंगेश कर्णिक यांचा परिचय करून दिला. ते जाहीर कार्यक्रमातून निवृत्त झाले असले तरी

त्यांनी या समारंभाचे अध्यक्षपद स्वीकारले याबद्दल त्यांनी श्री. कर्णिक यांचे खास आभार मानले. त्यांची उपस्थितीच किती प्रेरणादायी असते हे सांगताना साधनाताई नी सॉक्रेटिसशी त्यांची तुलना केली. अंथन्समध्ये कुठल्याही सभेला सॉक्रेटिस केवळ हजर असला तरी तिथले वातावरण चैतन्यमय होत असे, असे म्हणत. श्री. कर्णिक यांच्या विपुल व दर्जेदार लेखनाची साधनाताई नी तपशीलवार माहिती दिली. तसेच त्यांनी कोकण मराठी साहित्य परिषदेची केलेली स्थापना, त्यासाठी व इतर अनेक संस्थांसाठी केलेले कार्य, त्यांना प्राप्त झालेले साहित्य संमेलनाचे अध्यक्षपद व मिळालेले अनेक पुरस्कार यांचा आदराने उद्घेख केला. त्यानंतर साधनाताई श्री. कर्णिक यांना ‘लागेना थांग’ या पुस्तकाचे विमोचन करण्याची विनंती केली. श्री. कर्णिक यांनी कथासंग्रहाचे वेष्टन सोडून प्रकाशन झाल्याचे जाहीर केले.

त्यानंतर साधनाताई श्री. रामदास भटकळ यांचा परिचय करून दिला व असे सांगितले की यंदा पॉप्युलरचा हीरकमहोत्सव साजरा होतो आहे आणि त्यानिमित रामदासची चौफेर फटकेबाजी सुरु आहे. उत्तमोत्तम ग्रंथांचे प्रकाशन, ‘जिंगसॉ’ या पुस्तकाचे लेखन व त्याला मिळालेले पुरस्कार, ‘कस्तुरबा’ या नाटकाचे लेखन व सादरीकरण, ‘गांधीजी व त्यांचे टीकाकार’ या विषयावर मिळवलेली डॉक्टरेट, शास्त्रीय संगीतात प्राविण्य मिळवून गाजवलेल्या मैफिली, हल्लीच प. चिदानंद नगरकरांविषयी सादर केलेले प्रात्यक्षिकासह व्याख्यान याविषयी सविस्तर माहिती दिली. एवढे कार्यरत असूनही या समारंभास उपस्थित राहिल्याबद्दल त्यांना धन्यवाद देऊन साधनाताई श्री. भटकळ यांना ‘मराठी कथा’ या विषयावर आपले विचार मांडण्याची विनंती केली.

श्री. भटकळांचे भाषण म्हणजे साहित्यप्रेर्मीसाठी एक मेजवानीच होती. अत्यंत उट्टोधक व माहितीपूर्ण. सुरुवातीसच त्यांनी सांगितले की श्री. कर्णिक यांचे भाषण ऐकण्याचा दुर्मिळ योग, श्री. कोठावळे यांना भेटण्याची संधी आणि बालपणापासून परिचित असलेल्या साधनाचे कौतुक करण्याची इच्छा या कारणांमुळे मी आज इथे आलो आहे. भटकळ यांचा मराठी साहित्याशी संबंध आला तो कथा-कवितांचा उज्ज्वल काळ होता. त्यांच्या निर्दर्शनास आले की कॅप्टन गो. गं. लिमये हे आद्य कथाकार होते. त्या माहितीवरून रामदासजींनी “गो. गं. लिमये उत्तम कथा पुरस्कार” देण्यास सुरुवात केली. गाडीगळ, गोखले, जी. ए. कुळकणी यांच्या लेखनाचा तो सुर्वर्णकाळ होता. श्री. भटकळ यांच्या मते त्यानंतरच्या काळात तसेच कसदार लेखन करणारे त्या उंचीचे कथाकार दिसत नाहीत. कदाचित तो काळाचा महिमा असेल. सामाजिक बांधिलकी हा महत्वाचा विषय. स्निया, दलित किंवा ग्रामीण जनता यांच्यावर होणाऱ्या अन्यायाला वाचा फोडणे योग्यच आहे. परंतु तेच तेवढे साहित्य असा ग्रह करून घेणे हे साहित्याच्या प्रगतीला मारक आहे. सध्या माहितीपर लेखनाला अधिक मागणी असून लिरिकल (लालित्यपूर्ण) काव्याची पिछेहाट होते आहे. स्त्रीलेखिका किंवा पुरुषलेखक या विषयांपेक्षा त्यांना कथेचा कस अधिक महत्वाचा वाटतो. समारोप करताना त्यांनी सांगितले की आपण आत्मचरित्र लिहिले तर त्यात ‘मराठी कथा’ या विषयाला महत्वाचे स्थान राहील.

श्री. मधु मंगेश कर्णिक यांनी आपल्या अध्यक्षीय भाषणात सांगितले की, “प्रकृति अस्वास्थ्यामुळे आपण जाहीर समारंभांना

जायचे थांबवले असले तरी कधी कधी अपवाद करावे लागतात. साधनाताई, त्यांचे पती अऱ्ड. नरेंद्र कामत, रामदास भटकळ, अशोक कोठावळे हे आमेष आहेत. तसेच चांगले लिहिणाऱ्यांचे कौतुक करणे, त्यांना शुभाशिर्वाद देणे हा आपल्या संस्कृतीचा भाग आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे अतिशय सुसंस्कृत, सुबुद्ध अशा या प्रेक्षकवर्गास भेटणे हे देखील मी माझे कर्तव्य समजतो. म्हणून आज इथे येण्याचा निर्णय घेतला.

रामदास भटकळ हे अष्टपैलू व्यक्तिमत्त्व. उत्तम प्रकाशकाला देण्यात येणारा पहिला पुरस्कार आम्ही त्यांनाच दिला होता. कोठावळे हे माझेही प्रकाशक आहेत. मध्यंतरी कथा किंवा विनोद हे साहित्यप्रकारच नव्हेत असा एक मतप्रवाह होता. त्याच्याशी मी मुळीच सहमत नाही. ‘मॅजेस्टिक’ सारखे प्रतिष्ठित प्रकाशक कथासंग्रह काढतात आणि ते हातोहात खपतात, वाचकप्रिय होतात यातच कथाप्रकाराचे महत्त्व सामावलेले आहे. जुन्या चोर्खंदळ वाचकांनी कथाकारांना खूप उंचीच्या स्तरावर नेले. साधना कामत यांच्या कथा मी आधीही वाचलेल्या आहेत. त्यांच्या लेखनात नवता आणि परंपरा

यांची सुरेख सांगड दिसून येते. पुस्तकाच्या प्रस्तावनेत मी माझे कथेविषयीचे विचार मांडलेले आहेत. ते आपण अवश्य वाचावेत. साधनाताईंनी सुगम, सोप्या, सुंदर मराठीत लिहिले आहे. त्यांची मातृभाषा कोंकणी असूनही त्या भाषेचा प्रभाव त्यांच्या लेखनावर नाही. या प्रकाशनाचा सुयोग मला मिळाला याबद्दल धन्यवाद आणि शुभर्चितन.”

या विचारप्रवर्तक भाषणाबद्दल साधनाताईंनी श्री. कर्णिक यांचे आभार मानले. त्यानंतर समारोप करताना त्यांनी आपल्या कथालेखनाविषयीच्या दोन गंमती सांगितल्या. “लागेना थांग” हे एका कथेचे शीर्षक असून ते एका सुरेख गाण्याचे सुरुवातीचे शब्द आहेत. गीत व संगीत यशवंत देव याचे. साधना कामत यांच्या या अत्यंत आवडत्या गीताचे ध्रुपद श्रीमती कालिंदी कोड्याळ यांनी आपल्या मधुर आवाजात गाऊन श्रोत्यांची वाहवा मिळवली. त्यानंतर हा समारंभ यशस्वी होण्यासाठी सहकार्य केलेल्या सर्व संबंधितांचे साधनाताईंनी आभार मानले आणि एका हृद्य सोहळ्याची सांगता झाली.

किचकट अशी दत्तक प्रक्रिया पूर्ण करून आम्ही संध्याला आमची मुळगी म्हणून घरी आणण्यात यशस्वी झालो.’ असे वीणा कडले यांनी सांगितले.

‘दत्तक विधानाच्या लांबलचक आणि कंटाळवाण्या प्रक्रियेमुळे आम्ही अनेकदा निराश व्हायचो. पण माझे सासू-सासरे या काळात आमच्या पाठीशी खंबीरपणे उभे राहिल्याने आम्हाला धीर मिळाला,’ अशा शब्दात वीणाताईंनी त्यांच्याविषयी कृतज्ञता व्यक्त केली. दुर्घटनेनंतर शारीरिक जखमांबरोबरच मानसिक धक्क्यातून संध्याला बाहेर काढण्याचे मोठे बिकट काम वीणाताईना करावे लागले. या काळात कोणत्याही अपरिचित व्यक्तीच्या स्पर्शने संध्या दचकून जाई. या वेळी ती केवळ पोलिसांबरोबरच काय ती संवाद साधे. पण वीणाताईंनी अल्पावधीतच संध्याला आपलेसे केले. तिला दत्तक घेण्याचा विचार पक्का झाल्यानंतर त्यांनी सायन रुणालयाच्या अधिष्ठात्यांशी संपर्क साधला. त्यांच्या मदतीने वीणाताईंनी मग दत्तकविधानाची प्रक्रिया सुरू केली.

दत्तक विधानाची प्रक्रिया पूर्ण झाल्यानंतर कडले दाम्पत्य संध्याला सायन रुणालयात भेटायला गेले आणि सोबतच्या परिचारिकेने त्यांची ओळख तुझे आईबाबा, अशी करून दिली. तेव्हा संध्याची पहिली प्रतिक्रिया आजही त्यांच्या लक्षात आहे. ‘म्हणजे देवाने माझ्याकडून एक आईबाबा घेतले आणि दुसरे पाठविले’, असे तेव्हा चार वर्षांची संध्या त्यांना म्हणाली होती.

एका बाजूला दत्तकविधानाची किचकट प्रक्रिया सुरू असताना दुसरीकडे कडले दाम्पत्य आपल्या दहिसरच्या घरी संध्याच्या स्वागताची तयार करीत होते. संध्यासाठी घराला रंगकाम करण्याबरोबरच वातानुकूलन यंत्रणा बसविण्यात आली. नवीन कपडे, खेळणी असा जामानिमा आणण्यात आला. अखेर संध्या आठ दिवसांपूर्वी संध्या कडले कुटुंबाचा एक भाग बनली. आता कडले यांचे दहिसरमधील घर आई, बाबा, आऊ, आजू अशा हाकानी भरून गेलेले असते. घराला घरपण आणणारी याहून मोठी गोष्ट ती कोणती?

(एक महान कार्य केल्याबद्दल कडले कुटुंबाचं मनःपूर्वक अभिनंदन!)

## अखेर संध्याला आई-बाबा मिळाले!

लोकसत्ता, ४ एप्रिल २०१४

संध्या भाग्येश कडले... पाच वर्षांची, गुबगुबीत गालांची संध्या. तिचे नाव विचारले की अभिमानाने आपले संपूर्ण नाव उच्चारते. तेव्हा संध्याच्या गोल गालांवर फुलणाऱ्या कल्यांबरोबरच तिची आई वीणा आणि बाबा भाग्येश यांच्या चेहन्यावरही हास्याची किनार उमटते. कारण, संध्याची ही ओळख जन्मापासूनची नसून अवघ्या आठ दिवसांची आहे. इतक्या कमी दिवसात संध्याला आपलेसे करण्यात आपल्याला यश आले आहे, यात कडले दाम्पत्य भरून पावले आहे. म्हणूनच त्यांच्या हास्याच्या लक्तीत आनंदाबरोबरच समाधानाची भावनाही भरून उरते.

४ एप्रिल, २०१३ च्या मुंब्यातील ‘लक्की कम्पाऊंड इमारत दुर्घटने’त सापडलेली चार वर्षांची ही मुळगी आता ‘कडलेज प्राईड’ बनली आहे. या दुर्घटनेत बळी पडलेल्या ७४ जणांमध्ये संध्याचे आई-बाबाही होते. छोट्या संध्याच्या डोळ्यात दगडाचे तुकडे जाऊन त्याला बरीच जखम झाली होती. तिला ठाण्याच्या रुणालयात उपचारांकरिता आणले गेले. तेथून तिला सायनच्या पालिका रुणालयात हलविण्यात आले. तो दिवस होता ६ एप्रिल २०१३ चा. पण, या दिवशी अनाथ संध्याच्या आयुष्यात आशेचा एक किरण लुकलुकला. कारण, याच रुणालयात परिचारिकेचे काम करणाऱ्या वीणा यांची नजर संध्यावर पडली. संध्याच्या उपचाराकरिता वीणा यांनी दिवसरात्र एक केला.

नेमक्या याच सुमारास कडले दाम्पत्याने एक मूळ दत्तक घेण्याचा निर्णय पक्का केला होता. संध्याच्या रुपाने या निर्णयावर शिक्कामोर्तीब केले. आईवडिलांचे छत्र हरपलेल्या संध्यालाच आपण दत्तक का घेऊ नये, असा विचार वीणा आणि भाग्येश यांच्या मनात चमकून गेला. त्यांनी भाग्येश यांचे आईवडील मंगेश आणि सुधा यांच्यासोबत या विषयावर चर्चा केली. ‘क्षणाचाही विलंब न लावता या दोघांनी आमच्या विचाराला पाठिंबा दर्शविला. त्यांच्या होकाराने आमच्या प्रयत्नांना बळ मिळाले आणि वर्षभरात अत्यंत

# पुस्तक परिचय : ‘नित्यपाठ’

उदय मंकिकर

संकलक आनि प्रकाशक: प्रा. अरुण शंकर मुडबिंद्री

रचना आनि मुद्रक: व्हेक्टर ग्राफिक्स, बैंगळूरु

प्रथमावृत्ती: चैत्र पुनर्व २०१४ पृष्ठसंख्या: १०४,

मूल्य: रु. १००/-

मुडबिंद्री अरुणमामु म्हळ्यारी गोंयच्या म्हापसास्थित सेंट झेवियर्स महाविद्यालयांथानु सेवानिवृत्त जाळेले गणित विषयाचो प्राध्यापकु. तांने अध्यापनाचें कार्य व्यवसायु म्होणू न्हंयी तरी एक ब्रत म्होणू केलें. तागेले विद्यार्थी आजि विविध क्षेत्रांतुं उच्चपदस्थ अधिकारी म्होणू कार्यरत आस्सती. शिक्षणक्षेत्रानंता, सामाजिक, सांस्कृतिक आनि धार्मिक क्षेत्रांतुंयी अरुणमामागेले मस्त योगदान आस्स. ह्याची खात्री कॅनरा सारस्वत असोसिएशनाने ताक्का सन्मानितई केल्यां. खंचोयी विषयु शिकतना एकई शिकैतना तांतुले सखोल ज्ञान प्राप्त कोर्नु घेवचें हें अरुणमामागेले वैशिष्ट्य. हाज्जे प्रत्यंतर तांने संकलन कोर्नु प्रकाशित केलेले ‘नित्यपाठ’ हें पुस्तक वाचतनाई येता.

आमगेलो चित्रापुर सारस्वत समाजु म्हळ्यारी, भवानीशंकरदेवागेल्या, देवी सरस्वतीगेल्या आनि आमगेल्या पवित्र, उज्ज्वल गुरुपरंपरेच्या कृपाप्रसादाने आशिर्वाचित जाळेलो समाजु. आमगेल्या एकादश गुरुंनी, म्हळ्यारी परमपूज्य श्रीमत् सद्योजात शंकराश्रम स्वामीर्जींनी मठाधिपती जायनाफुडे धोर्नु, गुरु-शिष्य परंपरेनुसार, आमगेल्या समाजाक विशेष रूप दिंच्वे तस्ले कार्य तांगेल्या मार्गदर्शनांतु जाल्यां. हें कार्य मुख्यत्वे आध्यात्मिक साधनेच्या क्षेत्रांतुं, समाजाच्या बहुतांश साधकांनी दाकैल्या उमेदीमिर्तींची साध्य जाल्यां. अरुणमामाने प्रस्तावनेनेतुं नमूद केल्यां की, ह्या साधनेचोची एक भाग म्होणू, श्रीगुरुपरंपरेच्या शक्तींथानुची ह्या पुस्तकाचें संपादन कोर्ची प्रेरणा ताका प्राप्त जाली.

आमगेल्या श्री चित्रापुर मठ, श्रीवल्ली, ह्या पवित्र क्षेत्रांतुं प्रतिदिसु सकाळीं धोर्नु राती थायी, विविध मंत्र, सुक्तं आनि इतर प्रासादिक रचनांचे वैदिकांद्वारा क्रमवार पठण जाता. ताने ह्या सर्वाचे विशिष्ट क्रमारी संपादन कोर्नु एकची पुस्तकांतु (नित्यपाठ) तें साधकांखात्री उपलब्ध कोर्नु दिल्यां. अनेक पुस्तकं, सीडीज इत्यादिंचो आधार घेव्नु दोनी वर्स अथक

प्रयत्न कोर्नु अरुणमामाने हें पुस्तक प्रकाशित केल्यां. हें कोरुक स्फूर्ति आनि प्रेरणा दिलेले खात्री तांने परमपूज्य श्रीमत सद्योजात शंकराश्रम स्वामीर्जींगेल्या प्रति कृतज्ञता व्यक्त केल्या. तशीची ह्या पुस्तकाच्या संकलनांतुं सहायु केलेले खात्री, वेदमूर्ति उल्मण गुरुनाथभटमामु, वेदमूर्ति उपोणि गुरुप्रसादभटमामु, सर्वश्री सोराब राजाराममामु, अनंतराम कुमार आनि मडिमण मालिनीपाच्ची हांगेल्या प्रति ऋण व्यक्त केल्यां.

ह्या पुस्तकाची थोर्डीं वैशिष्ट्य आस्सती:

- \* मुख्यपृष्ठाचेरी परमपूज्य श्रीमत् पांडुरंगाश्रम स्वामीर्जींगेले उत्कृष्ट छायाचित्र आस्स आनि तांतुची श्री भवानीशंकर देवागेली सुंदर छबी आस्स. मुख्यपृष्ठाच्या भित्तवैल्या दिक्काक परमपूज्य श्रीमत् सद्योजात शंकराश्रम स्वामीर्जींगेले सुंदर छायाचित्र आस्स. मलपृष्ठाच्या भित्तवैल्या दिक्काक श्रीभवानीशंकरदेवागेले छायाचित्र आस्स.
- \* अनुक्रमणिकेतुं प्रत्येक मंत्र, सुक्तं, प्रासादिक रचना दिल्ना तें पठण कोर्ची समयु (प्रातः, मध्यान्ह, रात्री, वासर) ताज्जो स्त्रोतु (तें खंईथानु घेतल्यां) हेंवई दिल्यां.
- \* धर्मसभा प्रारंभ प्रार्थना, श्री चित्रापुर मठ समूह गीत, धर्मसभा समाप्ति प्रार्थना, स्थानीय सभा सत्संग आरती श्री सदगुरुंची, हाज्जोयी ह्या पुस्तकांतु अंतर्भाव आस्स.
- \* अवश्य आशिलेकडे ‘संधिविग्रह’ कोर्नु दिल्ला. ताज्जेमिती साधकांक उच्चारणेक आनि शब्दार्थ कोळुक सुलभ जाता.
- \* वैदीक मंत्रांतु उच्चार आनि स्वर हांका अनन्यसाधारण महत्त्व आस्स. हें साधकांक कोळकाज म्होणू अरुणमामाने सर्व मंत्रांतुं ‘स्वरचिन्ह’ (Accent marking) दिल्यांती.

दिनांक ०८ मार्च, २०१४ ह्या दिसु अरुणमामाने ह्या पुस्तकाची प्रथम प्रत परमपूज्य श्रीमत् सद्योजात शंकराश्रम स्वामीर्जींक अर्पण कोर्नु तांगेलो आशीर्वादु घेतलो.

# कोंकणि सुंदर भास

रचनाकारु : रामचंद्र कोडंगे, बेंगलूरू

पात्र : नातु आनि आज्जो - १

शंकू आनि शिवा - २

मधुकरु आनि बाळमामु - ३

नातु आनि आज्जो - ४

चेर्डवानी नाटिका रुपपारि रंगभूमिरि प्रस्तुत कोरचेसारखे

गंमतीदार संवाद. अवधि : १५ मिनिट.

१

नातु : आज्जा "Do you know Konkani?"

आज्जो : (केप्पो) आं? कस्लें? कोणी, कोणी?

नातु : कोणी कोणी न्हंय-कोंकणी-भास कोंकणी.

आज्जो : कळतवे. म्हळ्यारी? आमचिगेली भास॒चि कोंकणी! इत्या अशि निमगिता?

नातु : BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, I DON'T KNOW KONKANI. सम॒चि कळ्णा.

आज्जो : म्हळ्यारि कस्लेरे? उल्लैत॒ आस्मरे सम॒चि.

नातु : आम्का PURE KONKANI LANGUAGE आने ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION आस्स.

आज्जो : PURE KONKANI? तुव्वे उल्लेखिले वाक्यांतु आट शब्द आस्सति. तांतु दोन्नीचि अच्च कोंकणी बाकीचे पूरा आंगंल शब्द.

नातु : तें अच्च कोंकणीने कश्शि सांगकाज आज्जा?

आज्जो : आयक. अशि सांगकाज. "आमका अच्च कोंकणींतु प्रबंध बोरोंचि स्पर्धा आस्स."

नातु : कोंकणीक ग्रामर आस्सवे आज्जू?

आज्जो : आस्सबा बरें व्याकरण आस्स. लिंग भेद आस्सति. स्त्रीलिंग, पुलिंग, नपुंसकलिंग वगैरे.

नातु : "ती सांगली" "तो म्हळ्ळो" हे समवे आज्जा?

आज्जो : तें सम न्हय. "तिन्ने सांगले" "तान्ने म्हळ्ळे" अशि जांवका. हें सम.

नातु : आज्जा, लिंगाचे विवर सांगनु दाकै!

आज्जा : "लिंगाचे विवर सांग" इलेंचि पूरो. "दाकै" हो अनावश्यक शब्दु. दायि -ती दायि-स्त्रीलिंग. कायलातो-तो कायलातो-पुलिंग दांते-तें दांते-नपुंसकलिंग.

नातु : दांते म्हळ्यारि कस्लें? हांवे ते पळैनि.

आज्जो : आतं दीसांतु "उडदा मुहूर्त" आशिशले तावळि मात्र दांते पोळोंचा मेळता. तुगेल्या मुंजी वेळारि दाकैतां. माङ्का आतं वेळु ना. सांजे सम॒चि शिकैतां. इते!

बोरोंचाक सहायु कर्ता. आतं हांवे चमकूनु वच्का.

(नातु बङ्गि हाणु दिता.)

नातु : आज्जा MORNING WALK आक वत्ना HANDA तुं STICK आस्ल्यारि DOG आले FEAR आस्सना.

आज्जो : हे ENGLISH न्हंय. कोंकणि भासय न्हंय. नवी भास KONGLISH म्होण्येद. सम॒ वाक्य अशि. सकाळी भोवंडीक वत्ना हातांतु बङ्गी आस्ल्यारी सुण्या भय्य आस्सना.

नातु : अबबबभा! कोंकणी कष्ट ENGLISH EASY. BYE आज्जू.

आज्जो : बरें, पोरा येता. (भायर वत्ता)

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(एका दिक्का थावुनु शंकर आज्जो आनेक दिक्का थावुनु शिवाज्जो येत्ताति. दोगांगेलेय मात्यारी पेटा आस्सति) (दोग्या केप्पे)

शिवा : शंकू, शंकू आस्सवे तू?

शंकू : व्हयरे शिवा, इत्याक वेळु?

शिवा : कस्ले की कोरुक बशीलो. अंवसरारि आयलो. कान्नाक घालचे विसर्ले.

शंकू : कांदल कांडिवे? ओ कान्ना कुटुक? आतां दीसांतु दार्ले खैं घालताति कान्नाचे. तें फैशन गेल्या.

शिवा : वंट्यो न्हयरे देवा. मशीन. खान बहुत दूर जाल्हारे!

शंकू : हांवय खान साहेबूचि. जाल्यारि माङ्का वट्टोचि ना. वंट्यो घाल्यां म्हळ्यारि.

शिवा : माळ्यारि? माळ्यारि घालनी. फळ्यारीय घालनी. नात्वा लाग्मि उल्लैत॒ बस्लो. येत्ना थंयीचि सोळळें. तान्ने हें हाणु दिल्लें. (बङ्गि दाकैता) कस्ले की विसर्ला अशि दिस्ताले. हें हातांतु आयले आनि तें विसर्ले.

शंकू : हांव केदनाय विसर्ना. हे हातां ना जाल्यारि आंग लचकता.

शिवा : कस्ल्याक अनिष्ट उल्लैता? लचकुंची प्राय जायनि तुक्का. मिळांतु DYING MASTER व्हय तू. जाल्यारि तूं इत्ले वग्गि मर्ना.

शंकू : उमङ्का इत्या येनिरे शिवा? रेडी नाशिलिवे?

शिवा : RADIO? लायताबा. लायनात्तिले इत्तें? रेडियो

चिके वायट जाळा. मद् मदेंतुं शिंकचे खांकचे गोर गोर कर्ता.

शंकृ : आस्तमा आस्वे तिक्का? दाकतारा लाग्गि दाकैरे. उसमेटि भो वायटि.

शिवा : मगेलो मेवणोचि रेडियो DOCTORU. एक वालव उडल्या खैं.

शंकृ : जाग्रता घेरे शिवा. प्राय जाल्लेल्यानि जाग्रता घेंवका.

शिवा : प्राय जायनिरे रेडियोक. सेकेंडहांड म्होणु लेकले वे? घेतना नवोचि आय्यिले गेल्लेले धोर्नु धोर्नु तिरपीताति नॉब!

शंकृ : कस्ले नमुने खुशाल तुगेलि? जाल्यारी कस्ले सांगूक जायना. ती रगडे राधा धड्हने पळिं आनि गेल्लीचि.

शिवा : RADIO रागड्यारि पळ्यारि लिगाडि वच्चीचि. सोडि ती खब्बरि. तुगेले सरकार कस्ले म्हणता?

शंकृ : मस्त उल्लैताले. आतं नुक्तै आस्स. आनिकय गैरेजांतू आस्स. समस्स जायनि तें कार.

शिवा : ल्यांड घेंवचो विशयु रे. सरकाराचे OBJECTION आशिशले नवे?

शंकृ : LANDMASTER न्हय बा! AUSTIN कार तें!!

शिवा : पूरा लेंडा कुडकांचि विलेवारि जाळि. पंडित गंपूने चारि कुडके घेतले. “तिनीचिरे तुक्का” म्हळळे! आयकनाचि म्हणता त्या चौते कुडक्याकय धोर्नु लांबता.

शंकृ : सोडिरे. मोरो पोळोयां. LAND आ अयडिया तागेलीचि LET HIM ENJOY. तुगेले मनावारी जाल्ले माक्का आज्ञाने सोळळले आस्स जमीन.

शिवा : उल्लैतास आयलिमरे. इत्ले दूर आय्यिलेंचि कळनि. परतुनु वचां जायनावे?

शंकृ : न्हाता बा! घारा वचना फूडे न्हातांचि.

शिवा : नांच नांच. नांचे म्हळ्यारि SKIPPING दिस्ता! वेस्टि निसूनु SKIPPING हागेले! माक्का इत्लो व्यायामु पुरो जाता

(दोग्य वत्ताति)

३

बाळमामु : मधुकरा, तूं मुंबैचो. तुगेलि कोंकणी माक्का कळ्ना म्हाराया.

मधुकरु : तुगेलि मंगळूरचि कोंकणी माक्का भालना. हांवे उल्लैयिले कस्ले कळिन तुक्का?

बाळमामु : खैं चम्कलेला म्हळळे हांवे. तूं कसले म्हणालो?

मधुकरु : दाणेवाला लाग्गि. ताल्याग्गि सकड मेळता. दाळि तांदुळू, मिरसांग, शेवू, घाट्या, फरसाण, परसबी थाय म्हळळे.

बाळमामु : तेंचि कळनि माक्का. शेव करचे आंगडि दाळि तांदुळू मिरसांग मेळता वे?

मधुकरु : भास कोंकणीचि. कित्ले शब्द कळनि पळे. शेव म्हळ्यारि शेवों फरसाण म्हळ्यारि तळळले खाण. परसभी म्हळ्यारि BEANS.

बाळमामु : मेगेले भाषेंतु कस्सले कळनि?

मधुकरु : तू “मंगळुर तुक्कनु आयलो” म्हणालो मंगळूर खंचारि तुकले तुव्वे? मंगळूरांतु भैणी थंय चम्कलो म्हणालो. इत्ले दूर चम्कलो तूं? ग्रेट आस्स तूं.

बाळमामु : चम्कलो म्हळ्यारि वचुगेलो म्होणु. बस्सारि चम्कलो, फलायटारि चम्कलो, म्हळ्यारि बस्साने वचुगेलो, विमानाने वचुगेलो म्होणु.

मधुकरु : मंगळूरचि भास आयक्कनु सवय ना माक्का. हांवे वाडींतु आसचे तीनि पांचांतु तळमजल्यारि. कळनि नवे? सवय ना म्हळ्यारि अभ्यासु ना. तीनि पांच म्हळ्यारि BUILDING आ नंबर. तळमजलो म्हळ्यारि GROUND FLOOR म्होणु.

बाळमामु : एक नमुनेने चंदि आस्स मुंबईचि कोंकणी.

मधुकरु : गोमटी आस्स नवे?

बाळमामु : गोमटालि भैणि गोमटी चंदि आस्स.

मधुकरु : हांगा CHASTE कोंकणि उल्लैतलो एक मामु आस्स.

बाळमामु : चेष्टा कर्तवे कोंकणि उल्लैतना?

मधुकरु : CHASTE कोंकणि म्हळ्यारि शुद्ध कोंकणि म्होणु.

बाळमामु : एक SAMPLE दित्वे?

मधुकरु : आयक. “शैक्षणिक कारकिर्दींतु अनेक नमुने नेमसूनु दिल्लेलिं काम ह्या पाच्चेने पूर्ण केलें. उच्च न्यायालयाने ह्या पाच्चेलि नियुक्ती केल्लेलि. दोन्ही वाक्य. अर्थु कळळोवे?

बाळमामु : ना. ना. शुद्ध कोंकणि भारी कष्ट.

(हास्ता) ह ह ह

मधुकरु : बद्द व्हय.

४

(आज्जो आणि नातु)

नातु : आज्जू आम्का एक PARAGRAPH दिल्ला. तो आम्मि शुद्ध कोंकणिक TRANSLATE कोर्का.

आज्जू : TRANSLATE कोर्चे म्हळ्यारि “भाषांतर” कोर्चे. जायद खंडित कोर्या.

नातु : हांव ते वात्तां :-

"THE TEMPLE WAS ORIGINALLY AT KELOSHI WHERE THE GODDESS WAS WORSHIPPED AS SANTERI DEVI. TO SAVE THE IDOLS FROM PORTUGUESE, THE VILLAGERS CROSSED THE ZUARI RIVER AND SETTLED DOWN IN AN AREA UNDER THE RULE OF THE MUSLIM KING ADIL SHAH. THERE IN KAVALEM THEY FOUND A SUITABLE LOCATION TO BUILD A SHRINE FOR THE GODDESS."

आज्जू : भाषांतर आयक :-

सुर्वेक हे देवल केळोशी म्हळळेकडे आशिशले. थंयि ती देवि सांतेरी देवि नावाने पूजा घेत्तालि. पोर्टुगीसांले हात्तां थावुनु ह्यो मूर्तियो राक्खूक, गावचे जानं, जुआरी

नंह्य दांटुनु मुसलमान रायु अदिलशाले आळवीक आशिशले प्रदेशांतु स्थित जाल्ले. थंयि कवळे म्हळळेले जाग्यारि तांका ह्या देवीक योग्य देवल बांदूक उपयुक्त जागो मेळळो."

नातु : गोमटे भाषांतर जाल्ले आज्जू. THANKS.

आज्जू : आतं तुक्का कोंकणि भास कष्ट म्होणु दिस्त वे ?

नातु : ना आज्जू. हें कथानक आमगेलि कुलदेवि शांतादुर्गेले देवळाबद्दल आस्स न्हवे? आम्मि थंय वोचुनु पूजा कोरनु आयल्यांति न्हवे? आज्जू तू माक्का कोंकणि शिकै. हांव शिक्तां. मगेलि मूंजिय ह्याचि देवळांतु करेयि. कित्तिल गोमटी भास. कित्तिल गोमटी संस्कृति. जै कोंकणि माता.

॥मुक्ताय ॥

## आडकाठी

कालिंदी सु. मुझ्मदार

एक हृदयस्पर्शी सत्यकथा! काही महिलांना आपली कोणतीही चूक नसतांना यमयातना भोगाव्या लागतात! त्याच हे एक प्रतिक...

चंपावती आपल्या आई वडिलांची सर्वात मोठी मुलगी. तिला दोन बहिणी होत्या. आपल्याला मुलगा नाही. आपला वंश वाढणार नाही, ह्याची खंत तिच्या पालकांना सतत छेडत होती.

चंपा मुंबईतील एका कॉलेजात बी.ए. च्या वर्गात होती. मराठी माध्यमातून शालेय शिक्षण झालं होतं तिचं. म्हणून तिला प्राध्यापकांनी इंग्रजी भाषेतून शिकवितांना त्रास व्हायचा. त्यासाठी ती नेहमी आपल्या मैत्रिणींना विचारून समजावून घेत असे. गोरी, पाच फूट ३ इंचेची, नाकीडोळी सुंदर, पण... तिच्या चेहऱ्यावर देवीचे ब्रण होते. आता तिचं वय २१ वर्ष. पण लम्न जुळेना ब्रणामुळे!

कॉलेजमध्ये प्रत्येक खेळात भाग घेऊन बक्षिसं मिळवायची. नाटकातही तिनं यश मिळविलं होतं. कॅम्पला गेल्यावेळी सर्वाना मदत करायची. स्वतः एखादी चविष्ट भाजी करून वाढायची. सर्वांची आवडती. पण... घरी तिला बिलकुल सुख नसे. बहिणी तिला त्यांच्याबरोबर फिरायला, सिनेमाला नेत नसत. त्या म्हणत. "तू तुझ्या मैत्रिणीबरोबर जा. आम्हाला तुझी लाज वाटते." आई वडिलसुद्धा तिला म्हणत 'तुझं लग्न कसं होईल? कोण करील तुझ्याशी लग्न? हं, हुंडा भरपूर दिला तर करील कोणीतरी तुझ्याशी लग्न. पण आमची एवढी ऐपत नाही.' तिचे वडील एका छोट्याशा कंपनीत सुपरव्हाईजर होते. आईचं शिक्षण झालं नव्हतं. राजस्थानहून हे कुटुंब मुंबईत स्थायिक झालं होतं.

कॉलेजमधील मुलांशी चंपा सहसा बोलत नसे. कामापुरताच संबंध ठेवायची. एक मुलगा तिच्या प्रेमल स्वभावाला भाळला होता. त्याने साहस करून तिला आपलं मनोगत सांगितलं आणि लग्नाचा विचार मांडला. चंपाला रदू कोसळलं. ती म्हणाली की आमच्यात जाती, जमातीचा प्रश्न खूपच मोठा आहे. शिवाय तू जर माझी कीव येऊन लग्न करणार असशील तर तू हे सारं विसरून जा. ह्यापुढे माझ्याशी बोलूच नकोस. माझ्या पालकांना हे समजलं तर माझं कॉलेजला जाणंच बंद करतील.

अशीच काही वर्षे लोटली. आता चंपा एम.ए च्या दुसऱ्या वर्गात होती. वडिल म्हणायचे की तुझं लग्न झाल्याशिवाय तुझ्या बहिणीची लग्न होणं अशक्य! आमचं नशिबच फुटकं! बहिणी तिला म्हणायच्या "जा, तू आजीकडे राजस्थानमध्ये आणि तिथंच राहा. तू मेलीस असं आम्ही सर्वांना सांगू! मग आमची लग्न होतील." चंपा निमूटपणे सगळं ऐकून घ्यायची. पण रात्री मात्र बिछान्यात रडत रडत झोपायची. तिला समजेना की तिची चूक कोणती? तिच्या मैत्रिणी तिला मानसिक आधार देत असत. प्राध्यापकांशीसुद्धा तिचे संबंध चांगले होते. पण घरच्या मंडळीकडून प्रेम मिळवायची तिची आस अधुरीच राहिली होतील.

आणि शेवटी एके दिवशी एक भयंकर बातमी! चंपाने स्वतःला जाळून घेतलं! आई वडिलांनी पोलिसांना पटवून दिलं की ती एक आत्महत्या नसून दुर्घटना होती. चंपा धांदली होती. स्टोव पेटवून स्वयंपाक करताना आपला दुपड्हा सांभाळीत नसे, वगैरे वगैरे आणि शेवटी एका सुंदर व्यक्तिमत्त्वाचा दुःखद अंत झाला! निधन व्हायच्या आधी चंपाचं शेवटचं वाक्य - "आता माझ्या बहिणीची लग्न लवकरच होतील!"



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# ~~~~~ Parisevanam ~~~~

## Where Learning Is Fun!

**ARCHANA SAVNAL** gives us a few glimpses of the variety of ways in which the caring guides at Prarthana centres from different cities are helping to shape young minds of the Chitrapur Saraswat samaja

One of our Yuvaldhara members who was once a Prarthana teacher recounted this incident:

Several Prarthana children from Talmakiwadi, Mumbai had joined swimming lessons for the summer. Faced with a large deep blue pool, strict instructions to jump and a muscular coach who blocked the way out, the children had no other option but to plunge in.



A boy depicts 'bibhatsa' at the Bengaluru theatre workshop

But they had a solution to combat their fear. They held hands and in one voice chanted '*Sarvashwaroopa Sarveshe, Sarvashaktisamanvite, bhayebhyastrahi no Devi, Durge Devi namostute.*' Then, still holding hands, they all jumped in like a single body!

I am told that the end of summer vacation saw a bunch of kids happily slicing through the pool waters like dolphins.

Prarthana is a child's extended family. The teachers find several ways to bring in exciting new experiences. What better way to learn about organic farming than to actually be at a farm and sow vegetables in freshly made beds? Hyderabad Prarthana ended that wonderful day with a tractor ride around the farm.



A child reads out from his favourite book with friendly guidance from Gauripachi

Pune Prarthana spent a cold winter Sunday morning amongst trees and a toy maker. Arvind Gupta makes toys out of waste like plastic bottles, soles of chappals, tetra packets and other such throw-aways and teaches children the fundamentals of science and physics

through them. To be taken on a Tree-Walk by Shri Gupta, whereby the children were introduced to the various trees in the Pune University grounds, made for an interesting fun-filled morning indeed!

Bengaluru Prarthana went to Bimba Art House to watch Indian fables come alive through puppets. They had another stint with dramatization a few months later when a theatre workshop conducted by Shri Anand Nagarkar was organized for them. Much later, the children had Pujya Swamiji in peals of laughter when they depicted the *Navarasa* through 'Twinkle twinkle little star'!



Nagarkarmam introducing the mirror image technique

brilliant. Through a series of poems introducing punctuation, tips on the use of a microphone, voice -throw and other 'stage-related' elements – the elocution-cum-reading workshop broke inhibitions and brought out smiles, giggles and bright loud voices eager to please an endearing Gauri pachi!



A scene from 'Samudra Manthan', Bengaluru



"Is this the way to do it?" the two girls want to know (Mumbai workshop)

# ~~~~~ Parisevanam ~~~~

## Calling All Parents!

*"Distractions will always exist all around. But you will not fall prey to them if you learn to harness your mind and focus with total concentration on your goal alone."*

-Parama Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji

This invaluable message from Pujya Swamiji



appears in the children's book 'March First' – the maiden publication of the heartwarming Parijna series created under the multi-faceted umbrella of

the Parijnan Foundation. This enjoyable book was released at the Holy Hands of Pujya Swamiji on *Shishya Sweekar Jayanti* - March 1<sup>st</sup> - at Karla Math along with another title—'Manga's Task', which has equally absorbing content . Perfect to enjoy 'quality-time' with your child, the Parijna series of 'have-fun-as-you-learn' books have been compiled with a lot of love, variety and information.

The Parijnan Foundation has been established under the impeccable Guidance of Pujya Swamiji to enshrine the memory and carry forward all the projects close to the loving heart of His Beloved Guru - the gentle Sage and extraordinary Visionary – Parama Pujya Parijananshram Swamiji III. Pujya Swamiji's keenness to launch the Parijna series reflects Guru Swami's deep concern about the proper development of every child's body, mind and spirit.

Dear Parents, while you ensure that your children get and grow with every book that is published under the Parijna series, do make 'space' for having a meaningful interaction with your little ones on the above Message which appears in the concluding , 'For Your Diary' segment of the book 'March First'. We would love to hear what you learnt from your child!

\*\*\*

## Where Learning Is Fun!...

Even while these activities are introduced, the teachers in every centre, through their regular weekly classes, continue to focus on initiating the children in our *samskara-s*. *Punyatithi-s* and other such auspicious days give the children an opportunity to perform *Guru-pujan*. Festivals are celebrated, the stories surrounding them told and other information about them made interesting through power-point presentations, animation and other such media. *Stotra-s*, *bhajana-s* and *shloka-s* are taught and the children learn to connect these with their daily lives. Deriving strength from our traditions, the children face today's challenges with greater courage and with the faith that they are protected.

Pujya Swamiji has said – 'Yah paathayati, sah pathati' – he who teaches, learns. The Prarthana teachers and volunteers have actually experienced the truth of Swamiji's words. Our deepest gratitude to Pujya Swamiji for this unique opportunity to teach and learn and for the added joy of seeing our children grow into caring, responsible and devoted young people.

## JEST IN TIME!

**SANGITA PAWAR returns with a joke in Sanskrit. Read the translation only if you have not yet enrolled in our *Girvana Pratishtha* class**

गच्छन् पथिकः आवासगृहस्य सेवकं पृच्छति, ' तात, शीघ्रं उपरि गच्छतु| यस्मिन् कोष्ठे अहं रात्रौ स्थितवान्, तत्र कोणे मम छत्रं अस्ति वा पश्यतु'|

सेवकः त्वया गच्छति, सवेगं पुनरागच्छति | वदति, 'आम् !! सत्यं वदति भवान् | भवतः छत्रं एव अस्ति' |

While leaving, the tourist tells the servant of the lodge, "Boy, run upstairs quickly and see if there is an umbrella in a corner of the room I stayed in last night!"

The boy rushes up and then returns equally fast to say, "Yes Sir, you are absolutely right! There is an umbrella in a corner of that room!"



*(For more details about our Sanskrit classes, please go to [www.chitrapurmath.net](http://www.chitrapurmath.net))*

*Photo credits:Smita Baljekar, Manju Jamalabad (Bengaluru); Sandeep Trasi (Mumbai)*

## Remembrance on 75<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Ramanand and Anasuya Nayampally

21<sup>st</sup> May, 2014 is the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of our parents, both of whom are no more. They were one of a kind. Our Pappa made a mark in his career. He rose from the post of a humble clerk in the then Imperial Bank of India to become Managing Director of the State Bank of India (as it was renamed in 1955). He was also one of the Founder Members of the Banking Commission. On retirement from the State Bank, he became for a couple of years the Chairman and Managing Director (or Custodian as the post was called in the early years of bank nationalisation) of the Central Bank of India.

In a banking career spanning more than 35 years, Pappa would often supercede his seniors, but was so humble and grateful to them for their earlier leadership, that few could feel anything but goodwill towards him.

At a time when there were no counting machines, Pappa could accurately count large bundles of banknotes in minutes. Just by its feel, he could tell a counterfeit note from a good one. His copper-plate calligraphy became legendary. Long after his retirement, officers in the Ooty branch of the State Bank would queue up to view his beautiful handwriting in the old ledgers.

Banking used to be an aloof and reserved establishment. It was Pappa who introduced the concepts of Customer Friendly Services and the traveller's boon: 'Travellers Cheques', whose

leaves for many years carried his distinctive signature. He was among the first to actively encourage sport in the banking institution. He would try not to miss a single match in which State.

Bank's youngsters were playing. Players in the field are said to have looked out for his presence in the stands to inspire their game. He was responsible for recruiting future cricket greats like Ajit Wadekar, Bishen Singh Bedi and G.R. Vishwanath. To encourage the saving habit, and to lift the State

Bank of India to the topmost position, he put the cricketers in charge of Fund Mobilisation Programmes. Thousands came to open accounts, so they could get to shake hands with the cricketers. The Bank's coffers filled quickly.

Pappa stood out for his humane nature and his affection and concern for his staff. Though only 51 years of age, he had already put in well over the required 30 years of service and was eligible for full pension. At this juncture, he was offered a 5-year extension as Managing Director. He thought over it and then took a momentous decision. He opted for premature retirement since four senior staff members working directly under him but senior to him in age and eligible for the MD's post, would retire and miss the opportunity of holding the coveted post. He accordingly wrote to the Finance Ministry. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi saw the letter and was



taken aback. She requested a personal meeting with Pappa. When they met, and he gave her his reason for opting to retire, she expressed to Pappa how impressed she was by his decision.

After retirement, Pappa received a flood of directorships from companies large and small. He lavished his financial expertise on all of them equally, however small the company may have been. Pappa could be called a “peacemaker”. During meetings of the Board of Directors, there would sometimes be disagreements and raised voices. In the midst of the tension, Pappa, who had a fund of humour, would narrate a joke appropriate to the occasion. In the ensuing laughter, the strained climate would ease, and a sense of harmony would be restored.

Even today, he is spoken of in financial circles as among the most honest and dedicated of officers, and his senior term in the bank is described as “the prestigious years” and as “Ramarajya”.

Our Amma was a Sita to her Rama. She had a fine knowledge of music, and could play the piano, flute and harmonium by ear. Her bhajans were a pleasure to hear. She could create tasteful and delicate embroidery. Fond of reading, she too possessed a fund - of delightful English songs, and stories from both European folklore and Indian mythology. She inherited the gift of story-telling from her father, Udyaver Maruti who was also widely read, and a wonderful grandfather to us. Just as he did, Amma too would hold us spell-bound with narrations from novels by writers such as Sir Walter Scott, and stir us to tears with the tragic story of Karna from the Mahabharata. She spoke chaste Konkani and English, and wrote a beautiful hand in English, Kannada and Devanagari.

*Jayavanth Saras*

Deeply God-loving and large-hearted, her respect for the smallest life was moving to see.

The ants who came to feast on the rice-powder of her artistic rangolis; the unfortunate night-soil carrier who used to work in her old home in Mangalore; the wealthy, important friends of Pappa whom she met: all received from her the same kindness and courtesy. She was a gracious hostess to all our large family who would come for summer vacations to the spacious, comfortable quarters which the bank provided.

As a schoolgirl, she would win most of the prizes: for best handwriting, best conduct and best application. Her essays would be read out in class. But she never told us all this. More than eighty years later, long after we had lost her, two of her old schoolmates revealed to us these achievements of her early years.

She could not speak ill of anyone, nor hear anyone spoken against, truly living up to her name, Anasuya: ‘one without envy or malice’. She too was a “peacemaker”. If we were upset about something, she could soothe us in minutes by “speaking words of wisdom : Let It Be” (in the words of the popular song). She saw only the good in everyone, and made us see it too. She was a model for us of a fair, unbiased, non-judgemental and deeply rational human being. Her calm and gentle nature is best shown by the fact that the nuns at her school, St. Agnes’s Convent in Mangalore, called her ‘Madonna’. And she was only twelve years old.

We are blessed to be the children of such parents. We remember them with the deepest reverence and love.

*Gayatri*

(Sponsored article)

## Personalia

**Akshat Bhat**, son of Vittal Shyamsunder Bhat and Sheetal Bhat (nee Vombatkere), a student of Class VIII of CNM School, Mumbai, has been awarded a scholarship of Rs. 50,000 for the year 2013-14 by the Hindustan Times. He was one of the 50 students (Std V to Std IX) who received these scholarships from among 58,000+ applications across 250 schools from Mumbai. The selection criteria was a combination of academic and allround achievements, assessment in an essay (topic: If you were allowed one wish that would come true, what would it be and why?) and an interview session for the shortlisted students.

The picture shows Akshat receiving the award from Ms Aditi Rao Hydari, one of the panelists at the award ceremony at Shanmukhananda Hall, Mumbai.

**Sanat Amladi**, has been recognized by the Los Angeles Business Journal in California as one of LA region's "Most Influential Lenders in 2013", along with 23 other bankers.



Having completed his education at George Washington University he is currently the Managing Director and Regional Underwriting Manager at Wells Fargo Capital Finance. He has been instrumental in helping Wells Fargo become a leader in the asset-based lending space. With his in-depth understanding of both business and legal lending issues he has devised sophisticated and innovative financial solutions and is a highly valued leader within his organization. He is frequently involved in high profile transaction and has done extensive work with Intercreditor Agreements, Agreement among Lenders and other Loan documents to help successfully close transactions. Working in the forefront of Asset Based Lending internationally, he has successfully closed transactions in Germany, the Netherlands, the UK and Canada among other jurisdictions. Sanat, whose interests include Jazz music and golf, is married to Priyamvada, a homeopathy consultant. They have two children, Anika and Arjun. His parents are Kalyani and Shyam Amladi, also from California.



**Sunil Gangadhar Savur** was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy for his thesis in Business Ethics, entitled Globalisation and Ethical decision making in Small and Medium Enterprises – an Australian study. He received his degree from Dr. Ian Gould, Chancellor of University of South Australia in Adelaide, Australia on 21 March 2014. Sunil holds a Mechanical Engineering degree from NITK, Surathkal, Karnataka. With great enthusiasm and a quest for learning he pursued further studies and completed Masters in Manufacturing Management and followed it up with the PhD, while employed as a Manufacturing Manager. He is now engaged in research and teaching at the University of South Australia at undergraduate and post graduate levels.



## Here and There

**Chennai** : Sadhana Panchakam was performed with usual fervour. Jaya Nama Samvatsara was welcomed by Chennai laity with Panchanga vaachana by Ved. Manikere Prakash Bhat, followed by Panakpanvaar.

*Reported by Kavita Savoor*

**Hyderabad**: The first satsang of 2014 was held at the residence of Shri Anil Kundaji. On January 12<sup>th</sup>, Sadhakas sang bhajans, followed by Mangala-aarati and Mangal pada. Prasad bhojan followed thereafter.

On 24<sup>th</sup> of February, sadhakas gathered at the residence of Shri Mohandas Kumta to perform Samuhik Shiv Poojan. The devout sadhakas chanted the shlokas as Smt. Vinati Udiyavar and Smt. Seema Hattiangdi performed the Poojan. This was followed by Deepanamaskar and Prasad Bhojan.

Shri Uday Gangolli's residence was the venue for the satsang held on March 9<sup>th</sup>. The sadhakas chanted Stotras and sang bhajans with full devotion and fervor. The evening concluded with Mangala-aarati, Mangal pada and Prasad bhojan.

*Reported by Sameer Hattiangdi*

**Mallapur**: Master Kartik Shukla, a ten year school going boy has blossomed into an Yakshagana Artist. The credit goes to his parents, Ved. Guruprasad and Soumya Shukla who have left no stone unturned to shape their son's future. Kartik is being trained since

two years under the Veteran Yakshagana Bhagwat, Shri Umesh Bhat of Baad [Kumta Taluk] who conducts regular classes for the school going children and trains them in dancing, acting and extempore dialogue delivery in typical Yakshgana style. In a recently held show at Shri Shantika Parameshwari Sabhagriha, Kumta Kartik received much applause for his Bal Gopal dance from the audience.

Kartik is also getting training in Hindustani Classical music under Vidushi Smt.Laxmi Hegde, Kumta and Tabla under Vidwan Sheshadri Ayangar at Nadashri Kala Kendra run by Rotary Service Society, Kumta. It is believed that Kartik has inherited these talents from his great grand father, Ved.Krishna Bhat Shukla. His grand father Ved. Bhavanishankar Bhat, Shukla also had acted in Konkani and Kannada dramas and earned fame as an excellent comedian .

It is worth mentioning that another boy, Omkar son of Gajanan and Kavita Bhat has turned out to be an excellent Bharat Natyam dancer and has participated in many Utsavs and public programmes. Both Omkar and Kartik with some local boys and girls have formed Gurukripa Bhajan Mandali and are conducting Bhajan Sessions in the temples on special occasions. This has been much appreciated by H. H. Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji during his last Diwali visit.

**Reported by Arun S. Ubhayakar**

**Mumbai- Andheri Sabha:** 'Yugadi' was celebrated with great enthusiasm. At the outset Mr Samir Adur (Hon Treasurer) and his wife Vandita performed Satyanarayana Pooja which was followed by *Panchang vachana* and serving of the traditional *Panak* and *Pachadi* prasad.

Lord Ganesh was invoked through a music & dance rendition of "Ganesh Vandana" and a skit by children of the Prarthana varg & Yuvadhara which enlightened the audience by informing how Yugadi is celebrated in various Indian states. An elegant flowing Bengali dance by Prarthana varg captivated the audience, it was based on a song written by Rabindranath Tagore, "Ore Griha Bashi"; choreographed by Mrs Geeta Murdeshwar and assisted by Mrs Ranjana Hosangadi & Mrs Beena Savkur. Dharmaprachrak Sarvasree Rajgopal Bhat explained the significance of the forthcoming "Jayanam Samvatsara". Thereafter, Andheri Sabha President, Mr. Santosh Nadkarni read out the proceedings of the Standing Committee Meetings.

The programme culminated with screening of a CD on Poojya Swamiji's visit to Andheri Sabha at Jogeshwari during December 2013.

**Reported by Prakash Rao**

**Mumbai – Bandra-Khar :** The following activities are regularly held at Shree Anandashram Math, popularly known as Khar Math :

- Sundays from 8.30 to 9.30 am Sankshipth Sandhyavandanam, and 9.30 – 10.30am Lectures by Ved.Rajgopal Bhat.
- Tuesdays 6.00 to 7.30 pm Bhajans by Anand Bhajan Mandal
- Thursdays 4.30 to 5.30 pm Gurupoojan
- Saturdays 5.00 tp 6.00 pm – Prarthana Class
- First Tuesday of every month – 6.00 pm onwards – Sadhana Panchakam

In addition - All Punyathithis are observed regularly with Guru poojan offered at the lotus feet of our Guru Parampara, Sanskrit Classes are also taken regularly by Prashikshika – Sujata Haldipur, Bhajan programmes are also conducted every Thursday at Shri Chitrapur society, Bandra, Sadhakas attend the Sannikarsh and Seva Saptah at Karla math regularly.

The month of March 2014 was also witness to the Vardhanti Programme of Shree Anandashram Math. On 22<sup>nd</sup> March, the Chandika Homa and Kumarika Puja were performed while on 23<sup>rd</sup> March ,lecture by Ved.Rajgopal Bhat and melodious bhajans by Smt. Uma Bolangady and team were held to commemorate the event.

Yugadi celebrations were held on 31<sup>st</sup> March which commenced with Panchang Vachan by Ved. Anand Ulman Bhat. This was followed by bhajans sung by Prarthana students and Anand Bhajan mandal. The auspicious day concluded with Yugadi yummies – panak – panvar.

**Reported by Shantala Trasikar**

**Mumbai – Borivali :** Gudi padva function was held on 31st Mar 2014 at Vamanashram Hall. The programme began with Panchang vachan by Ved. Girish Chandavarkar Bhat. Mrs. Nivedita Karnad and Mr. Amit Karnad representing the Yuvadhara along with Shri Ashok Hattangadi, Trustee, Visawa Charitable Trust and Shri Gourang Katre, President Borivali Sabha hoisted the Gudi at the gates of the Vamanashram hall. The members of the sabha recited the Parijanan trayodashi and Guru stotra followed by

Deep Namaskar. The synopsis of the minutes of the Standing committee meeting held on 23rd Dec 2013 was read out to the sabha members by Shri Anand Dhareshwar, Hon Secretary, Borivali Sabha. The AGM date for the Mumbai Borivali Local Sabha was announced as to be held on 27th Apr 2014 at the Vamanashram hall. The function ended with Sabha samapti prayers and panak panvar.

*Reported by Anand Dhareshwar*

**Mumbai – (Grant Road) Anandashram CHS:** An interesting interactive four-days Yoga Camp was held for the residents by Smt. Madhavi Nadkarni and Smt. Janaki, teachers of the Bihar School of Yoga. It was well attended and many of the participants got maximum benefits for problems like joint pain and insomnia. The Camp was sponsored by The Shamrao Vithal Co-op Bank Ltd.

Sanskrit Conversation Classes (Sambhashan Varga) are being held twice a week by Smt. Shailaja Murdeshwar and are regularly attended by the enthusiastic adult residents.

*Reported by our correspondent*

**Mumbai – Santacruz:** On Ugadi 31st March, “Panchang Vaachan” by Ved. Shri. Ulman Anand Bhat maam. was held in Shrimat Anandashram Hall, Saraswat colony, from 8:30 pm onwards. The evening began with Deepanamaskar and our Sabha commencing prayers and was concluded after the programme with Mangalaarti and our Sabha concluding prayers. The traditional ‘paanak and pachadi’ ‘prasad was served thereafter to all the devotees present.

On 8th April, 2014 to celebrate the auspicious occasion of Ramnavami, a Satsang on “Shrimat Bhagwatam” by Smt. Chandrama Bijur and group and Sangeet by Smt. Uma Bolangady was arranged. After Deepanamaskar and our Sabha commencing prayers, Uma pacchi enchanted the devotees who had gathered in large numbers that evening, with her sweet melodious voice with an amazing collection of her Bhajans and Smarans on Lord Rama, coupled with Chandrama pacchis beautiful narration of the Lord. Omkar Betrabet of Santacruz was flawless on the tabla.! The evening turned out to be a wonderful one, and was concluded with our Sabha prayers, Mangalarati and prasad.

*Reported by Kavita Karnad*

**Mumbai – Vakola-Vile Parle :** All the residents and memebrs enjoyed the Holi celebrations with full enthusiasm and joined the youngsters in singing dancing, Antakshari, jokes and even burning of Kamanna(Bon fire) in the vicinity of Guruprasad Society followed by smearing of colours and enjoying sweets thereafter. The program was organsied meticulously by “Guruprasad Yuva Josh”.

Yugadi was celebrated in quadrangle of Guruprasad Society. Bringing Joy and victory in all aspects Jaya naam Samvatsar was welcomed, commencing with traditional “Panchang Vachan” by Ved. Yogesh Honnavar, followed by a short brief in chaste Konkani of the life and noble activities of saints and sages in our Chitrapur Saraswat Samaj such as Sahajanand and Shivaramashrama Swamiji of Bankikodla (Gokarn) narrated by Smt. Shyamal Bhat. Smt. Maya Kulkarni sang two bahjans one based on their writings viz. “Uttam Manushya” in Konkani and “Narayana Ramaramana” in Marathi to the accompaniment of Veteran Pt.Gurudutt Heblkar on harmonium. The programme ended with Paanak Panvar and sugar with neem leaves.

*Reported by Shrikar Talgeri*

**New Delhi :** A chilly evening of 1st March saw some dedicated sadhaka-s making their way to Shri Kavle Math to commemorate the ordination day of our beloved Parama Pujya Parijananashram Swamiji. Samuhika Guru pujana was performed by the five participants. When the nirajanam was being performed the lights went out twice for a couple of seconds making it an ethereal experience. A special mention of Yuvati Vidya Rao Nippani who had come in spite of her hectic schedule all the way from Gurgaon and someone who had driven down with a swollen heel for the event. Deepanamaskara was followed by Mangal arati and Sabha samapti prarthana. After partaking of Prasad bhojana the evening came to an end.

A grand get together was organized at the residence of Shri Prashant Hoskote in Gurgaon on 8<sup>th</sup> March to bid farewell to Priya and Yatin Nadkarni who are relocating to Shillong. The evening was extremely lively with Bollywood songs, music and theme of 1970. Some members were even dressed to the occasion. It was a fabulous evening with fun and frolic and of course sumptuous food, 25 members participated.

*Reported by Mamta Savkoor*

## Our Institutions

**Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi : Lekhan and Sugam Sangeet Puraskar Samarambha** - On March 26<sup>th</sup> 2014, a programme was held in the Shrimat Anandashram Hall to present 'Lekhan and Sangeet Puraskars'. After the welcome address by President Smt. Kanchan Sujir, Smt. Prashanti Bhat sang a beautiful prayer. The 'Lekhan Puraskar' is an award instituted by Shri Sadanand and Smt. Nirmala Bhatkal of Popular Prakashan with the objective of encouraging Bhanap women to write in either Marathi or Konkani. This year's recipients - Smt Nalini Nadkarni and Dr Smt. Meera Savkur were welcomed with floral bouquets by Smt. Kanchan Sujir.

Smt. Geeta Bijur introduced Smt. Nalini Nadkarni, a contributor of articles, short stores, skits, poems etc. in the Kanara Saraswat, Women's Era magazine etc. She has been honoured by KSA for her writings in 2009. Smt. Sujir then presented her with the Lekhan Puraskar and requested to read out excerpts from her writings. Smt. Nadkarni recited her humorous poems, one on the plight of a priest "भटा गेले कच्च." and the other one being the pompous confidence of a diplomatic olden day cook "सुगारण रांदपीनी." She kept everyone in splits of laughter.

Smt. Sharayu Kowshik, then introduced the second recipient of the Lekhan Puraskar Dr Meera Savkur, an M.Sc., PhD. who joined Haffkine Institute and was subsequently promoted as General Manager in Production Vaccine and retired after a successful tenure of 37 years. She also won the WHO Fellowship to visit and study at the International Vaccine Production Institutes all over the world. After retirement she devotes her time to spiritual pursuits and has written many poems in Marathi and English in the Kanara Saraswat Magazine and also published a book of Marathi poems "या सरीतेची धाव ब्रह्मसागराकडे." She read out excerpts from her book – analyzing life in different circumstances, but with the ultimate belief in the Supreme Being.

Thereafter Smt. Smita Mavinkurve and Smt. Smriti Gulvady were felicitated for coming on the SVC Directorial Board as lady Directors by sheer dint of meritorious record and excellence in their respective chosen field. Smt Padmini Bhatkal introduced Smt. Smita Mavinkurve. Smita spoke at length about the recent associations with SVC Bank and was proud to be a part of this esteemed organization. She is confident of constructive contribution in her assigned field and is happy with the excellent growth of the Bank.

Smt. Suman Kodial then introduced Smt. Smriti Gulvady, who has a degree in Advertising and Public Relations. Presently working for a Pharma Contract Research Co. as a Marketing and Communication Director she started her social service activities through the Thane Suburban Rotary Club. Her project for a mentally handicapped institution received the prize for the Best Community Project. She was subsequently made the President of the Suburban Rotary Club and has received the Rotarian of the year Award 4 times so far. Smt. Smriti gave an inspiring talk on the importance of education, women empowerment and their active participation in activities for society's welfare. Both these ladies were honoured by Smt. Kanchan Sujir.

The Sugam Sangeet Puraskar has been instituted by Smt. Geeta and Shri Vivek Yennemadi and their family and friends to encourage upcoming singers. This was presented to Smt. Prashanti Bhat. Smt. Neeta Yadery introduced Prashanti who started learning music at a very young age, took part in TV programmes, and with her golden voice has received many silver and gold medals in various competitions. Prashanti gave the credit for this to her masters, Guru Pandit Vidyadhar Vyas, Shri Chandrakant Sutar, Smt. Manik Bhide. Presently she has joined "Music and Soul" run by Shri Milind Ingle. She devotes her time at "Dilasa" a helpline for Sr. Citizen at Vile Parle. Kanchan then honoured her and requested her to sing a song. Thereafter Prashanti thanked the sponsors and SMS and rendered a melodious "भावगीत."

Smt. Usha Surkund proposed the Vote of thanks and the programme concluded with a delicious contributory lunch.

**Reported by Smt. Geeta Balse**

### DONATIONS RECEIVED

The Saraswat Mahila Samaj is grateful to the following donors:

For Distress Relief Fund (for Destitute Women)	
All donations are in memory of Smt. Shakuntala Anand Kowshik	
Shri Anand Ganesh Kowshik	Rs. 75,000/-
Shri Vivekanand Anand Kowshik	Rs. 35,000/-
Smt. Roopa Vivekanand Kowshik	Rs. 15,000/-
Shri Dinesh Anand Kowshik	Rs. 35,000/-
Smt. Anupa Dinesh Kowshik	Rs. 40,000/-
Shri Mahesh Anand Kowshik	Rs. 35,000/-
Smt. Nayantara Mahesh Kowshik	Rs. 40,000/-
Smt. Shamala Arun Masurkar	Rs. 51,000/-

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### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Sujay (Son of Smt. Shyamal and Shri Sunil Yennemadi) and Varsha (Daughter of Shri Shripad Jejari and Late Prafulla Jejari) along with their parents thank all relatives, friends, and well wishers for their gracious presence, blessings, gifts and best wishes on the occasion of their wedding and reception on 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014 in Mumbai.

### OBITUARY ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Smt. Tara Savkur (Taram), Shriyuths Rajaram and Jayanth Savkoor and their families thank all the relations, well wishers and friends who offered solace and condolences on passing away of Shri Ramadas Bhavanishankar Savkur on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2014. We also convey our Special thanks and gratitude to Shri Kishore Bijur and Shri Pramod Bijur and their families, who, setting aside their personal preoccupation, offered their unstinted solace and assistance to Smt. Tara Savkoor and Late Ramdas Savkur, for months, during the latter's last stages.

### PHOTOGRAPHY

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## DOMESTIC TIDINGS

### BIRTHS

We welcome the following new arrivals:

Jan 16 : A son (Karthikay) to Gayatri (nee Sekharan) and Arvind Taranathan at Mumbai.

**ERRATA** – On page 29 of our April issue, in the introduction of Kailash Kulkarni and Bharati Pratap, we have missed stating that they have been trained by Vidushi Lalith J.Rao. The mistake is inadvertent and is deeply regretted.

### OBITUARIES

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

- Feb 26 : Leela Ramchandra Bhat (Vittal) (73) at Vileparle, Mumbai.  
Mar 8 : Dattatreya (Dattu) N Basrur (73) at Kandivali (East), Mumbai.  
Mar 14 : Rohini Chickermane (72) at Virar.  
Mar 15 : Dr. Krishna Shankar Rakh (nee Krishna Anant Madyar) (79) at Jalana, Maharashtra  
Mar 16 : Gita (Vatsala) Ganesh Pombatmajal (nee Kuber) (80) at Bangalore.  
Mar 20 : Durgadas Pandurang Karnad at Mumbai.  
Mar 27 : Ramesh Shripad Savoor (83) at Dahisar, Mumbai.  
Mar 29 : Aditi Shripad Savoor (27) at Dahisar, Mumbai.  
Apr 03 : Radhika Mohan Nadkarni (76) at Goregaon, Mumbai.  
Apr 14 : Umesh L. Bhatkal (78) at Belgaum.  
Apr 16 : Padmini Dinkar Benegal (nee Krishnaprabha Nagarmath) (69) at Bangalore.

We regret to announce the demise of Shri Dattatreya K. Balse (known as Duttmaam) on 16th April 2014 at the age of 102 in Anandashram, Mumbai. Dattamam who was earlier a resident of Talmaki Wadi had served as Chairman of the Talmaki Wadi Co-op Housing Society.

### ENGAGEMENT

### MAVINKURVE - DUGGAL

**Shreyas** (Toronto-Canada), son of Soumitra (Gurudatt) and Sadhana Mavinkurve (ex-Talmaki Wadi/Kuwait) grandson of Sumati and Late Suryakant Ganpatrao Mavinkurve and Late Mitra and Krishna Nagarkatti (ex-Talmaki Wadi)

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on 15th March, 2014 in Toronto-Canada

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