Platinum Jubilee Celebration of Balak Vrinda Education Society

Managing Committee members with the Chief Guests -
(l to r) Smt. Nirmala Chikramane (Hon. Treasurer), Shri Shivshankar Murdeshwar (Hon. Secretary), Dr. Suresh Mathure (Vice Chairman), Shri Milind Nerurkar (Guest of Honour), Shri Suresh Hemmady (Chief Guest), Shri Anand Nadkarni (Chairman)

Shri Suresh Hemmady honouring Mrs. Vartak, Principal

Mrs. Mira Hattangdy, ex-president Saraswat Mahila Samaj speaking on the occasion

Shri Suresh Hemmady honouring Mrs. Kate, Head-mistress, Sundatta High School (English Section)
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IN THIS ISSUE....

We wish our readers a very Happy, Peaceful and Prosperous New year!!

Special thanks to Shri Guru Dutt Kadle for the beautiful photos of the Saraswat Co-operative Society, Gamdevi printed in our December 2014 issue. We apologize for not acknowledging his efforts.

-Kanara Saraswat

KANARA SARASWAT

January 2015
CHITRAPUR SARASWAT NETWORK
An initiative supported by THE KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION
Cordially invites Bhanap Professionals and Entrepreneurs
For a Networking Meet

Date: Saturday January 31, 2015
Venue: Anandashram Hall, KSA, Talmakiwadi.
Time: 6.00 pm

Schedule:
- Introduction – CSN & its objectives
- Interactive Ideas Exchange with attendees
- Self Introduction (Attendees can give brief self-introduction – Approximate Time – 45 to 60 seconds per person)
- Open Networking and Fellowship with High Tea / Working Dinner

No Fees but Pre-Registration is essential.

For registration on first come first served basis (limited to 100 participants)

Please send an email to:
Uday Gurkar uday.gurkar@gmail.com
Rajiv Kallianpur rajivkallianpur@gmail.com
Gautam Amladi gautam.amladi@gmail.com

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Sahitya Akademi,
Saraswat Mahila Samaj (Gamdevi) & Kanara Saraswat Association
Present
Konkani Abhivachan

Play-reading of the following (Scenes translated into Konkani)
1. Shakuntalam (from Sanskrit)
2. Saubhadra (from Marathi)
3. Sundar Mee Honar (from English “Barretts of Wimpole Street”)
4. Bhaubandki (from Marathi)
5. Yayati (from Kannada)
6. Lekure Udanda Zali (from Marathi)
7. Vallabhpurchi Dantakatha (from Bengali)

Participants: Uday Mankikar, Bipin Nadkarni, Chandrama Bijoor, Kanchan Honavar, Krishna Chandavar, Dr. Chandrashekhar Shenoy, Kedar Mavinkurve, Deepa Savkur, and Smita Mavinkurve
Sutradhar: Sadhana Kamat
Venue: Shrimat Anandashram Hall, Talmakiwadi, Javji Dadaji Marg, (Tardeo Rd), Mumbai-7
Date: Sunday 15th February 2015
Time: 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

All are cordially invited
From the President's Desk ....

Another year, another chance... given to us, to accomplish good things that are unfinished, undo wrongs that are inadvertently done, manifest unfulfilled dreams into reality and achieve set goals... personal or professional.

A new year in your life is not just a change over to a new calendar but an entire set of fresh twelve months offered on a platter to use them the way you want. I would therefore urge each one of you to make the most of these months and fill all the days in 2015 with accomplishments, cheer and goodwill so that the memories of the whole year would fill your heart with warmth.

In Greek mythology, the Phoenix is a majestic and long-lived bird that is cyclically reborn. It is often depicted as rising from the ashes. Let the phoenix be your symbolic totem this year.

Whatever may have been your experience in the year gone by... you may have been through a lot of challenges and difficult experiences, you may be feeling that you just don't want to deal with any more or you may be feeling that you might as well give up on something that has not panned out so far. Yet, I always believe that each one of us has the capacity to reinvent ourselves. As such, I would strongly encourage you to work on thoughts of that this year and you can begin again with a goal that is close to your heart. Think of all you've invested and know that you have to keep going if you are to realize your vision. Don't give up. Just keep going. Rewards may be closer than you realize.

Everything in life has an ebb and flow. Just because your life isn't coming up all hearts and flowers, does not mean that it can't be meaningful and deeply rewarding. The present is an excellent time to get closer to your individuality on a more cerebral level. Look within and you will get all the answers. It will help you to build a stronger foundation for the future to come. Decide your own pace and don't be bothered with what people thing or say about it. There is nothing wrong with moving slowly towards a goal. Not everyone in life is carved out to be fast-paced and high-strung at all times. There can be many advantages to taking your time. You can make sure you get everything right. You can leave the door open longer for new possibilities, and of course, you can savour every second of your progress. Move at your own speed and you will be successful. Be sure to walk on the sunny side of the street and if you make the effort that's where you will stay for the entire year. Always believe that the force is with you, so make the most of your power.

In this new year, may you have a deep understanding of your true value and worth, an absolute faith in your unlimited potential, the strength to meet your challenges, the conviction to make your dreams come true and the courage to learn to be... what you were meant to be.

Let us all ring in this New Year with a smile on our lips and hope in our hearts for a beautiful and successful future. My personal wish for each one of you is a wonderful year of memorable events, dreams fulfilled and goals achieved.

Happy New Year 2015

Suresh S. Hemmady
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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor, This refers to the letters to the Editor (KS Nov & Dec) issues by Shrikar Talgeri & Suresh Gokarn re: Co-Op Hsg Soc Promoted by Bhanaps. There are some factual errors made by Suresh Gokarn. Two societies namely ‘Kalapi’ around ’67-’68 & at the same time ‘Sanjeevani’ were promoted by Mr Dinkar & Mr Krishna Burdes in Borivil (East). A third society ‘Parijana’ was promoted by these brothers. However due to technical reason, the promoter was Late Devidas Aldangady. The bldg was completed when Mr G.D. Padukone & Late Devidas Aldangady were Chairman & Secretary respectively. Late Radhakrishna P Talgeri was our Architect. The construction started in in April ’69 & the bldg was ready for occupation in first week of June 1970. Wamanashram CHS was constructed in 80-81

I also wish to give suggestions Re: Election to committee of KSA.

(1) On each ballot paper the Membership No along with the name be printed & this information piece be perforated & ballot paper be detached from the magazine issue but sent along with the issue.

(2) Regarding poor voting, some prominent centres like Bangalore, Chennai & in Mumbai centres where Bhanap community is more eg: Matunga, Borivli, Virar be taken & members be requested to vote on a Sunday at a hsg soc. A member of KSA be requested to make arrangements to send/collect the sealed box.

G. D. Padukone, Parijana CHS, Borivili.

Dear Editor, Sub: Variety Fair in Nov issue - Your November issue really has good variety. The “Train Robbery” on Matsyagandha is an eye opener for all those who travel by upcountry trains, particularly covering night journey. They (who steal) make friendship with Sr. citizens, help them in getting cool drinks etc (laced with medicine for a sound sleep) and then in the nigh decamp with whatever possible.

Once I was travelling by Udyaan Express in II tier A.C. The compartment was not full. The person (elderly) kept his new shoes below the seat and started dozing. At Dadar, a young boy came with a broom, started cleaning the floor and begging. No one paid much attention to him. At the next stop (Kalyan) the dozing man wanted to go to the toilet and could not find his new shoes!!

Ms. Suman Shirali’s “Aayi’s Papad Factory” reminded me of my Udupi days as a school boy. There too, apart from Udidi/Mirchi, papads of sweet potato were also made. My job was to see that they are properly laid on a “Mandri” or “Jamkhan” as there no plastic sheets were available. The reward for the job was couple of papads as they were tasty to eat raw.

In Karkala, there is a place where Jack fruit papads are very famous. It is like “Appinamidi” tender mango for pickle.

How many of our local youngsters know what is “Paspanus”? It is a miniature jack fruit, quite tasty. Raw ones are, after skinning preserved in salt water, so that during non availability of fresh vegetable, they are used to make different curries. So also “Undlakaal” were very common for Naivedya during Tulsi puja or for “Chudio” during Shravan.

S.N. Surkund, Mumbai

Dear Editor, Please note that there is a printing error in my article, “मूर्कक्षय आलाकंडिया” printed in December 2014 issue. मूर्कक्षय आलाकंडिया अति अति अति अति अति | किन्तु मूर्कक्षय कुंते पेस्ट शब्द अति अति। This is printed as pets again. The meaning is lost due to this printing error.

Suman Durgesh Nagarkatti

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Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of The Balak Vrinda Education Society

REPORTED BY UDAY MANKIKAR

At the outset, I salute the visionary ladies of The Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi, who in the year 1939 started a ‘Balvadi’ with 12 children, with the main objective of bringing discipline and education through story telling, games, etc. and worked towards their goal with total dedication and commitment. The fruitful outcome is—in the year 2014 they have five schools (Marathi and English medium put together) under one umbrella of Balak Vrinda Education Society (BVES) with around 1400 students. 1939 to 2014 i.e. 75 years and from 12 students in the year 1939 to 1400 students in 2014. What a significant growth! What an achievement! The Balvadi was started in the Saraswat Mahila Samaj Hall, Gamdevi. Then in the year 1941 they shifted to the Kanara Saraswat Association's Shrimat Anandashram Hall, at Talmakiwadi and then in the year 1969 to their own building adjacent to the Kanara Saraswat Association building.

The Platinum Jubilee was celebrated on a grand scale on 22nd November 2014 at Bharatiya Vidyabhashan's Auditorium, near Chowpatty, Mumbai, in the presence of past and present students, their parents, and a large number of well wishers. As the audience entered the auditorium, they were greeted with smiles by the members of the Managing Committee of BVES, the teachers of the five schools of BVES and the students.

The programme started at 5.00 p.m. Smt Geeta Balse, a versatile personality and Hon. Secretary, Public Relation and publicity—the Master of Ceremony. She welcomed all present and requested the Chief Guest Shri Suresh Hemmady (Chairman, SVC Bank Ltd., and President, Kanara Saraswat Association) and the Guest of Honour Prof. Milind Nerurkar (Head of Mathematics Dept., Wilson College) to come on stage for Deep Prajwalan. Members of the Managing Committee of BVES also joined them.

The students then presented four dances. The first based on a Goan song “उँडीरामाय आलवो” was presented by the students of Nursery/Pre-Primary School and choreographed by the teachers—Smt Flossy D'souza and Smt Vaishali Patankar. The children's expressions, body language, synchronized dance steps showed the efforts put in by the children and their choreographers.

Next was a dance based on the patriotic song “मेरे देश की धरति सीमा उगले” presented by the students of English and Marathi medium Primary Schools, nicely choreographed by their teacher Mrs Shanta Hoskote. The selection of dress and props was appropriate. Smt Hoskote commands special appreciation for remarkably handling the large number of students and also bringing out their talent to the fore. Then came the dance number “Krishna Leela (Dashavatar) presented by the students of Marathi High School and masterly choreographed by a past student Akshay Pednekar, presently studying Medical Science. The costumes, lighting and the presentation were superb. The fourth dance a colourful one - Bongora Adivasi Dance / Orissa Tribal dance with sticks, presented by The English High School. It was choreographed by S/ Shri Vishal Jadhav and Sunil Kasara—parents of the students. The rhythm, beats and presentation were all in perfect harmony. Kudos to the choreographers of this dance for their active participation in the school activities. The audience witnessed and enjoyed the plethora of talent in these well performed dances.

After this Shri Suresh Hemmady (Chief Guest) Prof Milind Nerurkar (Guest of Honour), Smt Mira Gopal Hattiangdi (Senior most living past President of the Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi), members of the Managing Committee of BVES - S/Shri Anand Nadkarni (Chairman) Shiv Shankar D Murdeshwar (Hon. Secretary), Dr. Suresh Mathure (Vice-Chairman) and Smt Nirmala G Chikramane (Hon. Treasurer) were invited on the dais. It was a good
gesture on the part of BVES Management to invite Mrs Meera G Hattiangdi on the Dais, as she is the senior most former President of the Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi and has done outstanding work not only for the Samaj but also for other institutions. Smt Nirmala Chikramane introduced the Chief Guest Shri Suresh Hemmady, Shri Shivshankar Murde in the Guest Position. Prof. Milind Nerurkar and Smt Geeta Balse introduced Smt Mira G Hattiangdi. They were all present a bouquet of flowers and a beautiful devi Saraswati Vigraha.

Shri Anand R. Nadkarni (Chairman-BVES) welcomed the guests and the audience and briefly narrated the history of BVES. He expressed gratitude towards the Saraswat Mahila Samaj and the Kanara Saraswat Association for their sustained help and cooperation in the growth of BVES. He also thanked the Donors and well wishers of BVES for their continued patronage, and support and expressed his dream of having a spacious building for the school with an attached playground and a modern computer lab, library etc. and also expansion of their activities to start a college.

Chief Guest Shri Suresh Hemmady addressed the gathering in his inimitable style. His speech was full of respect to the teaching fraternity. He narrated two incidents substantiating his respect for the teachers.

Ø At a programme organized by the past students of Robert Money High School (Shri Hemmady was on one of them) after 25 years of their passing out from the school, to express their gratitude and respect towards their teachers he was amazed that the teachers recognized all these students by their first name.

Ø The second incident was about a teacher who motivated a mentally retarded child, which made the audience emotional.

Guest of Honour Prof Milind Nerurkar saluted the Chitrapur Saraswat ladies for their vision and dynamism. He cited the example of Prof Meera Rao Jamalabad, who was his senior colleague at the Wilson College (A rank holder at Matric in those days) who used to treat him as her son. He appreciated the Management and the teachers of BVES schools for their commendable work of successfully running the schools for 75 years, especially because the students attending these schools are from low income group. He offered his services to BVES either in administrative matters or teaching field, in an honorary capacity after his retiring from Wilson College in Dec’ 2014.

Smt Mira G Hattiangdi narrated her memories about the ‘Balwadi’ which she attended as a child in 1939 and activities of Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi, from where she retired as its President. Dr Suresh Mathure, Vice Chairman of BVES proposed the vote of thanks to all concerned and endorsed the views expressed by Shri Anand R. Nadkarni.

On this occasion, Shri Suresh Hemmady honoured the heads of all five schools of BVES for their dedicated work (The entire teaching staff was represented by these heads). Prof Milind Nerurkar honoured the choreographers for their excellent work.

On the occasion of the Platinum Jubilee of BVES, a souvenir was released at the hands of Shri Suresh Hemmady, copies of the same were handed over to Shri Vinod G Yennemadi, (President-Standing Committee of Shri Chitrapur Math), for offering the same at the lotus feet of Lord Bhavanishankar and H.H. Shrimat Sadyojat Shanakarashram Swami. The hard work put in by the School Committee members was evident in the beautiful souvenir. A ten minute interval ensued.

The post interval session - a musical programme ‘पील भावनाओं’ organized by Smt Shobha Nakhre under the banner ‘आश्रय गंध’ was a treat to the ears. Smt Shobha Nakhre is the recipient of the President’s Award for best teacher at the Deaf and Dumb School. True to its name ‘आश्रय गंध’, presented meaningful Marathi and Hindi songs of Master Musicians like Sudhir Phadke, Yeshwant Deo, Madan Mohan and Shankar Jaikishan, songs having a lingering musical fragrance. It was a small group of seven talented participants (3 singers, 3 musicians and Smt Nakhre) and the theme was “Love”. The group presented songs narrating love of all types – of a devotee, Mother-Child, Brother-Sister, Teacher- Student, Country- Countrymen, lovers etc. The audience was treated to a perfect teamwork with excellent compering by Smt Shobha Nakhre. All in all, a memorable experience for the audience.

Master of Ceremony Smt Geeta Balse deserves special appreciation for her “Excellent Sutrasanchalan” with a pleasing smile, great presence of mind and well written script.

The programme concluded at 8.15 p.m. and the contented audience left the Auditorium with memories to be cherished and wishing the best to BVES for all their future endeavours.
Pre-primary students performing a Goan Dance - Undirmama Aaylo

“Krishna Leela (Dashavatar)” - a dance by the Marathi High School students was the third item to be performed

Marathi and English Primary students presented a dance based on the patriotic song “Mere Deshki Dharati Sona Ugale”

Bongora Adivasi dance - a tribal dance from Orissa was performed superbly by children of the English High School
Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary
&
Hearty Congratulation
Shri Atmanand Bhavanishanker Heble
And
Smt Supriya Atmanand Heble (Vaknalli’s Ammu)

MAY GOLD TURN INTO DIAMOND
We pray to our Kuladevata Mangeshi to bless them with Good Health, Happiness and Long peaceful life.

With lots of Love, Regards & Best Wishes
Neelambari Manjeshwar
Arun Manjeshwar
Sharayu & Sharang

Namita Talgeri
Narendra Talgeri
Bhumika
Families, Relative and Friends

Dnyanesh Heble
Deepa Heble
Sachi

HAPPY GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
Shri Mohan Dattoba Savkur and Smt Meera Mohan Savkur

27th Nov 1964
27th Nov 2014

Our humble prayers to Kuladevata Shree Mangesh, Lord Bhavanishankar and our Holy Guruparampara to bless them with Good Health, Serenity and Happiness.

May Gold turn into Diamond

With lots of Love from:
Gaurang, Mangala, Shital & Prakash
Grand Children: Pratik & Simran
And all Relatives
Blessed by Parama Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji, Project Parishreya has received tremendous response since its launch. Pujya Swamiji performed the Bhoomi Pujan at the site in Devale on 9th November, 2014, that saw the coming together of the Amchis to revive the tradition of creating hubs of community building through housing projects. Such housing schemes have upheld our culture and traditions and nurtured generations of Amchis, giving us a sense of belonging to a unique and rich social construct.

Project Parishreya, Karla- a gated housing project for our Bhanap community is a maiden collaboration of Shivakrtih Realtors LLP, specially designed for the convenience of devotees to strengthen their connection with our beloved Karla Math. Devotees can now purchase homes close to the Math to get more involved with the daily activities in the Karla Durga Parameshwari temple and perform regular seva.

Parishreya is the joint collaboration of Shivakrtih Realtors LLP, partnered by Shri. Vinod Yennemadi and Shri. Praveen Kadle; and the New Front Group- a reputed development company which has been in this business for last 20 years. The project site is located at Devale, Malavli - a convenient location close to the Math, with breath-taking views of the surrounding Sahyadri Mountains. This setting is tailor-made for generating a love for Seva with the luxuries of concept-living.

Different types of apartment units, equipped with a number of modern amenities and necessary utilities to ensure a reviving lifestyle, are available for purchase. A special initial price of Rs.4,800/- per square feet, for Bhanaps, for each of the options will be available till 31st January, 2015 & for subsequent bookings the purchase price will be increased. Innovative financing options are available for low interest rate, long term financing through Tata Capital Housing Finance, spread over 7 to 30 years, to suit individual's financial requirements. Tata Capital Home Loans and Shivakrtih Realtors LLP had organized information and registration kiosks during Pujya Swamiji's camps in Mumbai through December’ 2014. Interested individuals may contact us for presentations- our representatives can meet you at a time and place convenient to you to tell you more about Parishreya.

| Type of Apartment Unit | Price
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<tr>
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<td>2 BHK Apartment of about 1000 sq.ft. area (80 nos.)</td>
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<td>win Bungalow unit of above 2000 sq.ft. area (22 nos.)</td>
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*All prices are exclusive of stamp duty, registration costs, VAT and so on.

For presentations contact—Maithili Padukone, Cell: 9819912102; Email: maithilip@live.com

Shri Vinod Yennemadi, 303, Hasmukh Mansion, 16th Road, Khar (W), Mumbai-400052
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[For Mumbai]
Shri Arun Trikannad
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Email- aruntrikannad@yahoo.co.in
103rd Foundation Day of the Kanara Saraswat Association

Dignitaries on the dias - (L to r) Lt. Gen (Retd.) Prakash Gokarn (ex- President, KSA), Shri Suresh Hemmady, President KSA, Shri Gurunath Gokarn Managing Editor KS and Hon. Secretary - Kala Vibhag, Shri Dilip Sashital, Col (Retd.) Shri Manohar Karpe (ex-Vice President, KSA)

Shri Chandrashekar (Krishnamam) Kallianpur is seen on the left meeting the KSA committee members

Smt. Rekha Rao receiving the award for her Konkani articles

Smt. Nirmala Bellare who also received an award for her poem in Konkani sharing her thoughts

Shri Chaitanya Ubhayakar recited his award winning Konkani poem ‘Kayalyagele Charitra’

Aditi Avanish Rao delighted to receive her prize

Shreeya Sachin Mudur happily receiving her prize

Shri Mahesh Kumble received the felicitations on behalf of his father late Shri B. U. Kumble

Photo credits: Naganand Shirali
103rd Foundation Day of the Kanara Saraswat Association

The 103rd Foundation Day of the Kanara Saraswat Association was celebrated on 26th November 2014 in the Shrimat Anandashram Hall, Talmaki Wadi. The function was well attended and went off smoothly. We present here a brief report of the event.

Smt. Deepa Savkur, the Master of Ceremonies, welcomed all the guests, the awardees and the audience. She requested Shri Suresh Hemmady, President KSA, Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Prakash Gokarn the Chief Guest and our ex-president, Shri Gurunath Gokarn and Shri Dilip Sashital, ex-vice-presidents to take their seats on the stage. She invited Shri Suresh Hemmady to address the audience.

Shri Suresh Hemmady started by welcoming all to this wonderful occasion and commented on how 103 years in the life of an institution is really commendable. He paid a rich tribute to our forefathers who had laid the foundations of institutions such as the Kanara Saraswat Association, the Shamrao Vithal Co-op Bank, the Saraswat Mahila Samaj and many of our co-operative housing societies viz at Gandra, at Talmakiwadi, Anandashram, Santacruz etc. He said, “Most of these institutions are completing a century or are close to completing one. We must appreciate that they are not 100 years old but 100 years young as they are all looking ahead and will prosper further. In particular as far as the KSA is concerned, all the people who have worked on the Managing Committees and in other spheres have put in their best efforts treating it as a labour of love. It is thanks to all of them as well as those who are working at present that the institution is looked upon as ‘Amgele KSA’. I wish the KSA all the best in the years to come. Thank you”.

This was followed by the Award Distribution Programme.

1. Awards for contributions in Konkani to the KS Magazine (Awards in memory of Smt Ganga M Nadkarni) were given to Smt rekha Rao for articles वाक्य तीय आनि शीतल आनि द्रुतक जाना (Smt) Nirmala Bellare for article मार्ग बोके Shri Chaitanya Ubhayakar for the article कायमांगाचे चरित्र Smt. rekha Rao said “I had written for the first time in the KS a tribute to my mother late Smt. Hira Karnad. Since then I have been writing regularly. I thank the KS and in particular Shri Gurunath Gokarnmam for his encouragement and support. I am happy to announce that I have also published 2 books”.

Smt. Nirmala Bellare said “I have been normally writing in English but it was in 2007 that I wrote a Konkani article in the KS ‘सासवानीक भाषण’ . I feel sad that there are not many readers for Konkani articles as many readers are not very comfortable with the Devnagari script. I feel it would be of great benefit if programs for Reading Konkani article / poems could be arranged in places where many of our people can hear and appreciate this.

Shri Chaitanya Udbhayakar said “Konkani poems which appear in the KS should be written with a proper metre – chhandas. This will enable one to put a tune and sing it in rhythm giving more pleasure.” He read his poem aloud which was appreciated by all. He also said that he has written some books in ‘Ovi-form’ in Konkani for which Shri Rajagopal Bhat has written the foreword.

2. The children who bagged the awards for contributions to the ‘Kiddies Corner’ – Smt Chandra Ramesh Nadkarni Memorial Prizes were

**Essays and Poems**

**Group I** – (below 8 years)
1st prize shared by Anya Bailur (The Incredible Journey) and Sharanya Manoj Rao (Wiggly Teeth)
2nd Prize Rhea Manoj Bandur (My Little Sister)

**Group II** – (Bet 9 years -11 years)
1st prize – Eshan Bhat (Value of Life in India)
2nd prize – shared by Shivani Girish Bhat (The Lion) and Disha Sirur (A Strange Dream)

**Group III** (Bet 12 years and 15 years)
1st prize – Kedar Vaze (Exam)
2nd prize – Akshat Bhat (My Fantastic Robot)
Drawings and paintings

Group I (between 5 years and 7 years)
1st prize – Aditi Avanish Rao (A village scene)
2nd prize – Isha Atul Kalyanpur (Snow man)
3rd prize – Shloka Manoj Rao (A Crocodile)

Group II (bet 8 years and 12 years)
1st prize – Anagha Jaydev Shukla – (Flying Colours)
2nd prize – Shreya Sachin Mudur (A Garden Scene)
3rd prize – Ayush Atul Kalyanpur (Shadow Painting)

3. The award for the best sportsperson of the year was given to Shri Sachin Belvadi from Bangalore. This award is instituted in memory of Shri Suresh (Bab) Nadkarni by his family. Speaking on the occasion well-known Cricketer Shri Bharat Nadkarni (who is also his nephew) said, “Sureshnam was a very fine person, warm, witty and above all a great Sportsman. He played an excellent and stylish game of Table tennis. Whenever he was playing in any matches in the Anandashram Hall, the hall would be packed with viewers enjoying his shots and appreciating the game. He won quite a few awards in the Maharashtra State level Table Tennis matches representing KSA. He was equally good at Cricket – a left arm spinner – he played for the Mumbai University against Punjab University where he took all 10 wickets! His record has not broken to date! He had the good fortune to play with the best talent in the Cricketing world then – Polly Umrigar, Babu Nadkarni and such. He was my role model. When we decided to institute an award in his name, Suresh Chandavar and Sunil Ullal helped us.” Shri Bharat Nadkarni rued that today children play cricket on their mobiles instead of the field and requested parents to encourage their children to play outdoors as this gives them health not only as far as physical development is concerned but also develops team spirit and – a healthy mind in a healthy body.

Smt. Deepa Savkur introduces Shri Sachin Belvadi: Sachin.S.Belvadi, M.Sc. is the son of Smt. Sudha Rao (nee Nadkarni) and Dr. B. S. Subba Rao. He is a Kempegowda Awardee, a Three Time National Medalist Karnataka State Basketball Coach. He is working as Sr. Public Relations Asst., Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, (Deemed University) Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India.

A former Senior Karnataka State player, and Karnataka State Coach, Sachin has worked relentlessly over the years in his spare time, mentoring the young players from grass root level and in building various teams. Till date he has trained more than 2500 players in his spare time to actively promote the game of basketball in all circles. Many players trained under him from the state team are in the Indian Camp today and his students have already represented the Karnataka State, University teams etc.

He has given coaching assistance for the U-16 Yrs Women Indian National Basketball Team for the year 2012 and was one of the youngest coaches of the Karnataka State Basketball team since 2006. He reinstated Karnataka on the National Basketball map by fetching three consecutive National Medals in 2010, 2011 and 2012 at the Sub Juniors National Championship conducted by the BFI, as a coach of the Karnataka State Team.

Sachin along with his father Dr. B.S. Subba Rao, started to coach basketball in 2002, in Basaveshwara Nagar Area and was instrumental in getting Karnataka’s first ever six layer synthetic basketball court at the BBMP owned Dr. Ambedkar Sports Stadium, Agrahara Dasarahalli in 2009 and now continues to coach and give back to the game of basketball at Bharath Sports Union, Malleswaram, Bangalore.

The list of awards he has won is long. To mention a few - 'Bangalore Youth Icon 2014 Award', Karnataka Bhushan Award, Kempegowda Award (Chief Minister B. S. Yeddyurappa presented this prestigious award to him on April 18, 2011 in recognition for Exemplary Contribution and service to society in the field of Basketball), Indian Young Achievers Award 2012 in the Unsung Hero’s category and so on.

Sacin has written a book on basketball – “more than a championship” elaborating on his experience in coaching the Karnataka team.

As Shri Belvadi could not attend the ceremony, his uncle Shri Prabhakar Rao received the award on his behalf.

Shri Raja Pandit, Chairman KSA then addressed the gathering. He said “We owe a great deal to our 13 Founder Members who laid the foundation of KSA in a small room in a Chawl in Chunam Lane. Our first President was Late Rao Bahadur S.S. Talmaki who later promoted many Cooperative Housing Societies including Talmakiwadi Cooperative Housing Society.
Late Talmaki was instrumental in the KSA having its own building, in Talmakiwadi with Marriage Halls which gives us regular income. He was also a founder of the Shamrao Vithal Cooperative Bank which is now a premier Cooperative Bank in our country. Apart from conducting the first Census of Kanara Saraswat Community, now called as Chitrapur Saraswat or Bhanap, he identified 504 Families in our Community with Gotras. He wrote these out in alphabetical order in his beautiful handwriting. We have this paper which we have preserved lovingly. Thus he laid foundation of Census & Family Tree of our Community and KSA has continued his legacy. Our subsequent Presidents & Committee Members started many initiatives like

- Building Corpus Fund to help Community Members financially in Education & Medical exigencies,
- Building Nashik Holiday Home,
- Purchasing Land in Bhandardara,
- Starting Health Centre & Marriage Bureau.
- We have also started Reference Library for preserving our Books & Konkani Dramas.

In the Centenary Year, under the leadership of our President Shri Suresh Hemmady, we started a Centenary Fund for giving substantial aid to Students & Patients suffering from major illnesses. We also decided to establish a Pension Fund to render financial help to at least 300 families every month. We have also undertaken Nashik Holiday Home Redevelopment Project. Another Project Anand Chhaya, Retreat for Senior Citizens, will take off soon.

We have incurred heavy expenditure on Renovation of Halls. However we are coming out of these difficulties as your Managing Committee is taking various steps like increasing Revenue & curtailing expenditure in our 4 Revenue Verticals i.e. Hall, NHH, Magazine & Health Centre. We have also decided to name Rooms in the Hall in memory of dear ones of donors who are willing to donate certain minimum amount. I appeal to the members of our Community to come forward as this is a good opportunity to perpetuate memory of dear ones and also help your premier institution called KSA. Thank you.”

The programme for felicitating 2 invitees then ensued.

The first was Shri Chandrashekhar Gopalrao Kalyanpur, also known as Krishnamam. Smt. Deepa Savkur briefly introduced Krishnamam and invited Shri Raisheesh Nagarkatti, his son-in-law to introduce him. Shri Nagarkatti said “Chandrashekar (Krishna) Kallianpur was born to Gopalrao & Ratnabai Kallianpur at Bangalore on 5-1-1933. He’s the 3rd of 4 brothers. He lost his mother when just 10 years old. In 1946, heeding Gandhiji’s call for securing economic independence, Gopalrao sold his house in Bangalore and shifted to Mumbai to start a business. His eldest son Raghuvir and Krishna had already moved to Bombay some months earlier. Raghuvir had already ventured into trading at a very young age and was a huge inspiration and support to the entire family.

Krishna completed his schooling at Fellowship High School (Gowalia Tank) and did a Diploma in Automobile Engineering thereafter.

In 1947 his eldest brother Raghuvir and father Gopalrao established Acme Soap Works and started manufacturing soaps. Krishna, even as he was studying, started helping in the family business. On completing his Diploma he established an automobile garage at Shivaji Park which quickly became quite popular.

Later, in 1958, the family bought land in Goregaon in an area which was then totally uninhabited. Krishna and his younger brother Ramesh worked their trucks round the clock for more than a year to fill up the pond on the plot. A new factory was established here.

Krishna soon ventured into fabrication of plant equipment to meet the needs of family businesses. Over the years this became his passion and focus area.

In the late sixties the family started a specialty chemicals manufacturing entity – Acme Synthetic Chemicals. Krishna devoted most of his time to supporting the development of products and processes for this business. This entity now exports many niche chemicals all over the globe. The major part of its turnover comes from exports.

Krishna has many achievements to his credit but the most admirable is this:-

He developed through the years of hard work and repeated trials, a continuous manufacturing technology for the pyrolysis of Castor Oil. The process and also the specialized equipment that this requires
were all developed/fabricated in-house by Krishna. In this he received guidance from knowledgeable experts, prominent among whom were Dr. Mohan Kalyanpur, Late Charudatta Chaudhari and Dr. Samant.

There is only one another company in the world based in France, which has this technology.

Today, NR Oils, for whom Krishna set up a plant deploying this technology, is the world’s largest seller of Undecylenic acid and Zinc Undecylenate, derived from the pyrolysis of Castor Oil.

Krishna is a true karmayogi with a never say die, can do spirit. The vision of his elder brother, late Raghuvir, backed by Krishna’s hard work and indomitable spirit, laid the strong foundations of the family business. The family now has manufacturing units at Mumbai, Tarapur, Bangalore, Dadra and Kharadpada.

Even today, at 82, Krishna works 10 hours a day and travels to Tarapur (120 km north of Mumbai) on an average 3 days a week and more as required. That epitomises his admirable character and spirit.

Krishna constantly, and even today, acknowledges the family’s debt to his eldest brother Raghuvir and is deeply thankful to Raghuvir for having encouraged and provided a platform to the entire family.

Shri Rajiv Kalyanpur thanked the KSA on behalf of his uncle. He acknowledged that KSA had felicitated Shri Raghuvir Kalyanpur, the eldest of the brothers, Shri Ramesh Kalyanpur, the youngest and was now felicitating Chandrashekhar Kalyanpur. He said that people have worked for the KSA over so many years and we all owe a debt of gratitude to them. He wished the KSA all the best.

The second person to be felicitated was Late Shri Bhaskar U. Kumble. Smt. Deepa Savkur introduced him thus: Bhaskar U Kumble was an epitome of service, He was connected with KSA in various capacities and helped many during marriages, thread ceremonies and social functions. He was an active member of the Managing Committee and held several portfolios. He was on the Editorial Committee of Kanara Saraswat and its Editor since 1976. He worked as such till the end of his life. Today KSA is felicitating him posthumously. Gurunath Gokarn, our Managing Editor will speak about him. I hand over the mike to Gurunathmam.

Shri Gurunath Gokarn reminisced about Shri B. U. Kumble, popularly known as Babudi. He said “My association with Babudi started when he was the Editor of the Kanara Saraswat Magazine and I was the publication secretary. He was a member of the Managing Committee from 1953 to 1974 and we used to interact frequently.

During his tenure he served the Kanara Saraswat Association in an honorary capacity, holding various portfolios such as librarian, Secretary for socials, sports, treasurer and general secretary. He helped the Association in all its activities.

Babudi was a much sought after person for every function of KSA, may it be social, cultural, sports, music etc., No task was too low for him. If servants were not available, he himself would arrange chairs for the gathering.

With the natural journalistic instinct in him, he was alive to the happenings around him. He was on the Editorial Committee of Kanara Saraswat and Editor of this magazine since 1976 and worked as such till the end of his life. He was known for his witty style of writing, an avid reader of literature he practically edited the entire contents of the KS since the time of his being on the editorial committee. He contributed witty articles full of fun and his refreshing humour was yet another of his numerous credentials befitting him for the editorship of the popular magazine. The lady of the house (LOH) frequently came from his jocular interludes. He used to cover articles on various subjects, personalities, and sports round up. Over and above, he used to cover the Konkani Sahitya Samiti drama festival.

He was a connoisseur of Hindustani Classical Music and actively helped me during the Sangeet Sammelans. Babudi shunned publicity and loved to work anonymously. Popular with all his friends for his jolly and genial disposition he could easily establish rapport with young and old alike.

On hearing about the sad demise of Babudi, Shri Amembal Sundar Rao, the then President of KSA offered his tributes which I quote: “ Bhaskar U Kumble (Babudi to all his pals and well-wishers), functioning as Editor of “Kanara Saraswat”, brought to bear on the Magazine, The Experience of a Professional Journalist. He approached the right persons for the right articles, and the sum total constituted a monthly of high literacy excellence. Kumble’s sad and untimely demise is particularly poignant to me because of his help and cordiality shown to me during my tenure as President of the association”. The programme ended with a vote of thanks and a sumptuous dinner.
Sumeeta was a diplomat in the Foreign Service at the Department of Foreign Affairs, Government of Canada. True to her sense of commitment, she worked till her last day and passed on in her sleep. She was Deputy Director in the Human Rights Policy Division. Sumeeta had a short life yet made the most of it, much more than one could conceivably imagine. She was physically challenged in its most acute sense. Yet, she wanted and, indeed, lived a normal life; in fact, vibrant and incredibly eventful.

Her life epitomized a profile in courage. Sumeeta’s tryst with physical challenge began when she was a little less than three months of age and unfortunately a couple of weeks from receiving immunization shots, as was the protocol in those days. When at three she swam in the South China Sea on the east coast of Malaysia, we had the first glimpse of her valour. That grew enormously when, as a little school going girl, she insisted on playing and competing in sports as a physically normal girl. Right to her last day, her physical challenges never deterred her from pursuing her academic, professional and social life with dexterity.

Sumeeta had a remarkably successful career in Canada’s Foreign Service. She was, what the Department of Foreign Affairs described her in its obituary bulletin as, “one of the department’s most seasoned China hands”. She touched many hearts among her colleagues at the Department and was equally fortunate to receive unremitting love and adoration. She was highly respected and popular among the diplomatic and social circles in Taipei, Shanghai and Guangzhou where she was posted. She was a voracious reader of English literature and was fluent in French and Mandarin. Sumeeta was a wonderful host entertaining her friends and colleagues to ‘amchi’ food and her fusion cooking. Her knowledgeable interest in classical music endeared her to her guests. She was proud of her ‘amchi’ lineage.

The Department of Foreign Affairs with the cooperation of City of Ottawa has decided to plant a tree and install a plaque and a bench in her memory at the Brentwood Public Park.

Sumeeta exuded genuine love, charm, generosity and compassion in her demeanour. She enjoyed lasting friendships in vast numbers. She was a loving family person and was particularly close to her niece Anika and nephew Sachin. She is deeply mourned by her husband David Moodie, brother Sumant and sister-in-law Sandhya. She left without bidding goodbye. But we won’t let her go. She has an unimpeachable place in our hearts.

Sujata and Shyamsunder Chandavarkar, her parents.
16th October 1931 – 18th November 2014

Our deep sorrow at the sad demise of Bhasker Mukund Rao who passed away in Mumbai at the age of 83 years.

Daddy, we miss your smile every day!

Deeply mourned by:
Meera Bhasker Rao
Mudbidri Arun, Deepa, Divya & Aditya Rao
Sapna, Amogh & Dhruv Nadkarni
Kiron, Arundathi & Pranav Kaikini
Jeppu Krishna & Radhika Rao
Mudbidris, Jeppus, Nadkarnis, Koppikars, Kaikinis, relatives and friends.

SUSHMA GOPALAKRISHNA KOMBRA BAIL
[nee Sushma Krishnanand Garatikar]
(25.02.1977 – 03.11.2014)
Aged 37 years, left for heavenly abode on 03rd November, 2014 at Mangalore. We pray to the Almighty and our Guru Parampara to rest her soul in eternal peace.

Deeply Mourned by
Gopalakrishna Kombrabail (Husband), Ishaan Kombrabail (Son), Kumudini Garatikar (Mother), K Veena Kombrabail (Mother-in-law), Satish Betrabet (Brother-in-law), Jyothi Betrabet (Sister-in-law), Chaman Betrabet (nephew), Amith Kombrabail (Brother-in-law), Divya Kombrabail (Sister-in-law), Aarav & Aadit Kombrabail (nephews).
Sharing the grief : Cherkals, Nileshwars, Basrurs, Bellary, Manjeshwars, Bilgis, Hernjals, Sajips, Ulpes, Baidoors, Garatikars, Kundapurs, Ubbaykars, Shibads, all relatives and friends.

MUDBIDRI BHASKER MUKUND RAO

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Kiron, Arundathi & Pranav Kaikini
Jeppu Krishna & Radhika Rao
Mudbidris, Jeppus, Nadkarnis, Koppikars, Kaikinis, relatives and friends.
Varshantika on 04th January 2015
(1st death anniversary)

SHRI DEEPAK SUBRAO TALMAKI

(21.10.1949 – 14.01.2014)

If tears could build a stairway, and memories a lane.
I would walk right up to Heaven and bring you back again.
No farewell words were spoken, no time to say "Goodbye".
You were gone before I knew it, and only God knows why.
My heart still aches with sadness, and secret tears still flow.
What it meant to love you -No one can ever know.
Since you'll never be forgotten, I pledge to you today
An hollowed place within my heart is, where you'll always stay.

Fondly remembered and cherished:
Jyoti Deepak Talmaki

Vijeta and Pramath Kodial Rao
Vaania and Pranay

Vrudhi and Viraj Talmaki
Ananya
Mother Nature, since time immemorial,
Has precious things to tell
Very few who travel on this earth
Pick these lessons well…
You did so beautifully, Gaursharan,
You were just one of a kind
Truly a wondrous inspiration
To those you left behind…
Like the ocean so vast
So deep and profound too
Was your love and reverence
For our beloved Guru!
Like the lofty mountains
Your ideals were high above
Rugged, strong and tough
Yet so filled with love
Like the river that gently flows
Offering to all in need
You gave yourself completely
Through each of your action and deed
Like a tree – forever giving
Yet, rooted in the ground
Offering shade – and your love
To everyone around…
Like a flower that blossoms
And fragrance does spread
Short lived yet so meaningful
A beautiful life you led
Like the eternal sun
You spread your warmth around
Always there – solid assurance
With your love you bound
Like the sky - infinite
Immeasurable and so pure
You were Mother Nature’s child
The Lord’s favourite for sure!
So many lessons, Gaursharan,
But the most precious was that day
When at the Divine Feet of our Guru
You silently dissolved away…
Harshal is a 19 year old boy fighting a losing battle against brain tumor. He needed a wheelchair. Son of a poor maid, Harshal had very few avenues to rent out such equipment. A nd just on reading the appeal on a WhatsApp message - the first to respond was Gaursharan. Despite his busy schedules, he located an organization which could rent a wheelchair and promptly offered to pay the heavy deposit. The truth is Gaursharan had neither seen the boy nor knew his family. A friend’s message was all that was needed for Gaursharan to extend his help to a complete stranger. When he saw that his driver needed a house in a better and safe environment to bring up his girl child, Gaursharan at once gave a huge amount.

A nd these instances are just a few of the many... T hat was Gaursharan. H umane to the core.

Guru-Nishtha:

Gaursharan’s love and reverence for our Guru, Parama Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji was infinite. Words seem so inadequate to measure the ‘nishtha’ he had for our sacred Math and the Guru Parampara. W hether it was using a broom to clean the restroom or sitting up all night to update the Math Website ... he was into ‘SEVA’ for his beloved Guru. W hether at Karla or in Shirali – whether for the Tercentenary or for the Kanakanjali Utsav - he was always there for the Math.

Shri Yennemadi Vinodmam sums up beautifully, “Gaursharan, who was snatched away from our midst, has been a personal loss for me. M y right hand was abruptly chopped off. H e was a great source of help to me in sending my regular mass communication to M ath’s Local Sabha officials, our N RI families settled abroad by punching one key on his laptop. A part from being a good administrator, he was technology savvy and was managing our M ath’s website extremely well. Ensuring that all important events are uploaded on the website for the benefit of our samaj promptly, even if it meant uploading at the middle of the night at the cost of sacrificing his peaceful sleeping hours. H e was as much committed to his employers as he was to our Chitrapur M ath activities.

H e was one of the main pillars of strength for me at the recently concluded awesome Kanakanjali Utsav in Mumbai, where he personally monitored flawless relay of programmes, live, on our website for the benefit of our laity within and outside India- for which he received laurels from many many amchis for the zero-defect transmission of all programmes. H e was always ready to extend his hand for help to one and all.

A s a Chitrapur Saraswat and a President -Standing Committee of Shri Chitrapur M ath, I am going to miss him very much for years to come.”

Work is W orship:

Popularly known as “GM” – Gaursharan was the Assistant Vice-President and Head of A dministration in the IT giant, Cognizant. H e was also the first President of HIA (H injewadi Industries A ssociation) the umbrella body of IT companies based in Pune. Gaursharan played an important role in the growth of the organization. W ith his proactive approach and deep insight into people management - it was his ability to nurture relationships, not just within the company but across the industry, that won him esteem and admiration. J ust two days earlier, Gaursharan had a meeting with Shri Phadnavis, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra regarding many issues pertaining to the IT Industry.

Debashis Chatterjee, President, Cognizant, writes, “O ur relationship quickly transitioned from colleagues to great friends. Gaursharan was one whom we could trust blindly and he was so dependable. In the last 12 years whenever there was an issue, be it personal or professional, I would first discuss with G M . H e was my “G o to M an”. T hat is what G M meant to me. O ver time G M became the G otoM an for many in the organization. I also realized he had a very big and kind heart. H e meant a lot to the support staff. N obody else in the office cared so much for them. A very close personal friend, it is still a disbelief for me and my family and my colleagues, that he is no more. ..”

During the prayer meet, A shwin Bhandarkar, Vice President and Head of Pune Centre, Cognizant, elucidated how Gaursharan was ‘liked and respected by all across the hierarchy of the organization - from drivers to the top.’

Extremely hardworking, Gaursharan’s day would
end in the wee hours... When asked by a colleague the previous night, whether he sleeps at all, Gaursharan had quipped, “I'll sleep when the sun rises.” Gaursharan, good friend, you did just that on that fateful morning. Was that statement a premonition?

A Few Nuggets:

Very few people know that Gaursharan played the flute well and the keyboard too. So many of us have heard him chant stotras and sing bhajans in the Math... the last was during Kanakanjali Utsav. Though work prevented him from spending more time in the world of music, he relished attending music festivals. He had a deep passion for abhangs, instrumental and pure classical music. A gift he imbibed from his father Marutimam, who was a music critic.

Though Gaursharan did his schooling in Marathi medium - his English was par excellence. He was my ‘Editor Supreme’ - whether it was a simple circular or books - I knew I would get valuable editorial inputs from him. While kids sought his help for their Marathi ‘nibandhs’, teenagers and adults went to him for presentations. A voracious reader, his vast collection ranged from Asterix comics to spiritual books.

A close friend recalls ‘how he had a fantastic memory and could recall flawlessly and with ease, events of yester years. He had immense patience and not once have I seen him flare up on any issue.”

Dogs loved Gaursharan as much as he loved them. Reebok, a Pomeranian, preferred to stay in his house – much to the chagrin of his real master. He carried with pride the scratches and ‘puppy-bites’ of Toby, our Labrador, who adored him immensely.

A born perfectionist, this trait reflected in his personal and professional life. He is sister, Vinati fondly recalls how as a child, he polished his shoes till they mirrored his face, during his NCC days. It was this very trait that gave him success in his endeavours.

The BEST Friend Ever:

Nivedita says, “Gaursharan-mam was the first I would reach out to whenever I needed help... “ And this very thought is echoed by so many youngsters - Rohan Shukla, Janak and Jaidatt Udiyavar, Siya Koppikar, Devyani and Harsh Divgi, Devanshi Gokarn, Gayatri Vartak, A halya Bhandarkar - I may not be able to enumerate the entire list of youngsters who looked up to him as a valuable friend and a judicious mentor. What he gave was not only solutions to their problems, but - he could empathize with them at their level. Whether it was to face an examination or guide them on career options - he had this uncanny way of injecting hope and making them feel ‘good about themselves’. He just won their hearts over. Yes, so many of our youngsters loved him.

When Devyani asks me, “Why did God snatch away Gaursharan-mam - he was so pure and good…” i have no answer.

Forever T here:

Friends and amchis in Pune contacted Gaursharan when in distress. He was a solid figure of reassurance, always the first to reach out to requests for blood donation or rush to the crematorium to help the relatives of the deceased with the last rites. Seemingly small things - but to the ones who received help - they will forever remember his compassion.

To all of Gaursharan’s neighbours – both at New Ajanta and the Karnataka buildings- he was always a good friend - jovial and affectionate. His ability to reach out to people won him their love. To his cousins (who lovingly called him ‘Gattu’), he was a big support – a pillar of strength.

Gaursharan adored his cousin Sudhir Nadkarni and wife, Nirmala. Sudhir writes, “Gaursharan was more like a son to us. With my only son settled in the USA, I was banking on him to perform my last rites, but the Almighty did not let that happen. All I can say “Jo aavdto sarvaana tochi aavade Devaala”.

Radhika Desai speaks from her heart, “Gaursharan and Leenata saved me. It’s no exaggeration; I will always embrace the insight, wisdom and the courage he gave me to find God and love life. He will always be with us and we will never forget.”

Gautam Koppikar, his brother- in-law writes, “Gaursharan bhayya was a lovable and a gentle human being. He stood by everyone through thick and thin. His demise is an irreparable loss to our family.”

When Gaursharan left the earth at the young age of 51, he left behind scores of people, heart broken and completely devastated. Suniti, his 90-year-old mother, who brought him up on such good, sound and noble principles. His in-laws, Sulabha and Mohan Koppikar, to whom he was an adorable son. Leenata - his doting life partner - very devout, kind, compassionate and completely dedicated to the Guru Parampara and Vinati Udiyavar, his sister, also working selflessly for the Math.
Vinati says, “Annu named him after a saint, who was Chaitanya Mahaprabhu’s disciple. His name also represented the one, who has surrendered to Gaur; i.e., Lord Shiva. Gaursharan is not with us physically but I am sure he is in the lap of Lord Shiva and looking after Amma, guiding us and showering his unconditional and unspoken love on all of us. During the short time that he lived, he led an exemplary life that all of us ought to emulate.”

Vinati’s husband, Kedar, adds, “That Gaursharan made time to touch the lives of so many people despite his mind-numbing official schedule just goes to show that caring for people was just an integral part of him so much so that he never mentioned it, even in passing. And when there is so much more for people like him to do in this world, I wonder why the Almighty chose to take him away so early?”

His nephews, Janak and Jaidatt Udiyavar, and Rohan Shukla adored Gaursharan and looked up to him immensely. A grieving Janak is overwhelmed by this terrible trauma. Jaidatt writes, “If the true value of a person is to be measured, one only needs to look at the number of lives which that person has impacted. And going by that, Gaursharan-mam is a giant amongst men. The number of people whose lives he’d touched and bettered in some way, is staggering. On a more personal level, he was the glue that held our family together. He was the shoulder that all of us, young or old, leaned on in times of need. He was also a constant source of mischief, for the child within him was still around. For me, he was an elder brother, a father, and a friend all rolled into one. He will remain an inspiration to me not just for having made his way to the top from such humble beginnings, but also for having helped so many others like him, to make the same climb. I feel immensely lucky to have him as an integral part of my life. He is, and always will remain, a shining example of the sort of person I’d want to be someday.”

Rohan grieves - “I never told him that I love him. But I always did and will continue to do so…”

Leenata is inconsolable. “It was an honour to be his life partner and I was extremely fortunate to be with such a devout, good human being.”

So many of us are trying to come to terms with this devastating loss.

If there were hundreds of people at his funeral on the 23rd of November - each heart that wept had a story to tell. Of his warmth, his generosity, his humility and his compassion. And of the simply beautiful life he had led...

Gaursharan, you shall remain in our hearts forever.

---

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Maithili Kotnis
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It could be as old as the times when our planet was being formed, but it's going places! It forms a significant part of the oceans, which again cover significant part of earth itself. It is the basic ingredient of the foods we consume, whichever cuisine you may think of, chances are it would be one of the ingredients. Even so, the measure of this ingredient would be left to the one cooking the dish! “Add _____ to taste”. You guessed it - Salt! The fact that the measure is left to the cook, attributes a certain degree of freedom to it.

Again, it took part in our freedom struggle, when Mahatma Gandhi plucked it out of the seaside at Dandi to protest against the British law criminalizing the making of salt by the natives of our land and imposing government taxes on the production of the commodity. The Salt Satyagraha notwithstanding, the British continued to tax the production of the salt based on the British Salt Act 1882, and thanks to their insistence it even entered our Legislation in the “Central Excises and Salt Act...” The ‘Salt’ was removed from the nomenclature of the Act, and so was the tax imposed on it.

The word “Salary” has its roots in Latin - Sal dare, to give salt, based on the ancient practice of giving salt to workers in return for labour began in 550-450 BCE in a Roman Monarchy, which tightly controlled the production of salt. Even to this day, one has to prove you are worth your salt in any job! “Maine aap ka namak khaya hai, Sardar” kind of dialogues are rather common in our movies, as the character sheds plenty of tears, containing oodles of that very salt he has so dutifully consumed!

The sterile form of Sodium Chloride has been saving lives in hospitals for several centuries by administering ‘saline drips’. In the ‘90s there was a World-wide effort to tackle the rampant iodine deficiency in billions of people across the globe. No wonder they turned to the humble common salt - by adding iodine in table salt. Iodized salt became the mandate in many countries.

On the other hand, there are several modern researchers and nutrition specialists trying to get the salt out of our diets! They attribute high blood pressure and cardiovascular diseases to this ingredient that rocked the world for centuries! It just takes your mercury level in the sphygmomanometer (that measures our BP) to shoot above an acceptable level - and out goes the salt from our diets! “N amak Khaya? A b G oli K ha”, the good doc would say a-la-Gabbar of Sholay, handing out some tablets. But would our tongues accept a diet devoid of salt? So we witness the introduction of salt-substitutes, products that promise to appease our palate, while not really containing sodium chloride!

Quite natural, one would reason. If sugar substitutes can deceive the palate for those who are watching their calories, salt substitutes would do the same for high BP patients. So let us accept, the days of deception of consumers are here to stay. But let us not fool ourselves into believing that salt is losing out in this modern world - let us not take common salt with a pinch of... er.. salt! It is appearing in newer, rather unexpected substances. Have you not seen the toothpaste ads asking us “Kya aapke Toothpaste mein namak hai?” A nd you would be wondering, why on earth would anyone want their toothpaste to contain SALT?!

If you were to believe the findings of a research study conducted by a good friend of mine, salt is making inroads into infrastructure! “Salt is the major ingredient of all roads being constructed in the city of Mumbai! No tar - only salt” Would you believe it?! And what does he have to prove his hypothesis? Just this argument: “How on earth can newly-constructed Mumbai roads melt away in the scant rainwater after a light shower, if they weren't made of salt?”

Kya aapke sadak mein..... namak hai?

The author can be contacted at g_mavinkurve@hotmail.com
Understanding “Leadership”  
Satish Bilgi

This article briefly explains what is Leadership, what is the role of Leaders in the Organization, the difference between a Manager and a Leader, what are the critical parameters to judge a highly successful Leader and how can one become a great Leader.

We have seen in the earlier article “Understanding Business Organization”, what is RTB (Run the Business) and what is CTB (Change the Business). The Senior Management team of the Organization oversees both RTB & CTB, whereas the next levels of the Management teams are responsible for RTB. In this article, we will focus on the Leadership team with more focus on CTB.

What is Leadership?

Leadership team in a Business Organization refers to the Management team that is at the helm of affairs of the Organization and typically consists of Managing Director and his direct reportees. This team:

1. defines the Business Directions in terms of Vision, Mission and Values.
2. creates the Strategic Business Plan.
3. defines the Structure, Systems, Culture aligned to the Strategic Business Plan.
4. empowers the reportees to carry out the plans to completion.
5. reviews the actual progress vis-à-vis plans with the reportees for any mid-course correction of plans / goals.
6. seeks guidance and approval of the Board of Directors at significant stages of Planning, Organizing, Action and Reviewing, so as to ensure the long term sustainability of the Organization.

What is the role of Leaders in the Organization?
The Leadership team has the following roles:

1. Ensure that RTB (Run the Business) is working as per expectations, with their reportees shouldering the full responsibility. This is thus an oversight role, comprising:
   a. Develop the Strategic Business Plan involving the reportees.
   b. Facilitate the definition of Structure, Systems, Culture aligned to the Strategic Business Plan with the reportees.
   c. Facilitate conversion of the Strategic Business Plan to Annual Operating Plans (AOP) across the years.
   d. Facilitate the start of the Execution aspect of the AOP’s.
   e. Review the actual progress vis-à-vis AOP, analyse deviations, discuss and agree on mid-course correction of plans / goals.
   f. Thus, ensure that the actual progress is equal or better than the AOP goals.

2. Ensure that CTB (Change the Business) is initiated, piloted and converted to RTB as per plan. The Leadership team has a significant role in terms of:
   a. Planning CTB from concept stage to test stage
   b. Organizing CTB fully.
   c. Executing CTB till test stage success.
   d. Planning for transitioning to RTB team.
   e. Actual Transitioning to RTB team.
   f. Operationalization of CTB as RTB.

To recap RTB & CTB from the earlier article on “Understanding Business Organization”:
   a. RTB is Business As Usual, which is the Revenue generating engine of the Organization running relentlessly.
   b. CTB is Business Un Usual, which creates a new Revenue generating engine for the Organization, so that the Organization has more lines of Business, which strengthens the Organization from a sustainability perspective in long term.

Ideally, the Leadership team should devote more time to CTB than RTB. If the reverse is true i.e. RTB takes more time than CTB, this means the Organization is continuously in fire-fighting mode than in a cruise mode. The reasons for this can be any one or more of the following:

1. The Business environment is too dynamic, very high on VUCA (Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, Ambiguity) factor, making the AOP completely out of sync with reality.
2. The quality of AOP has not been good: perhaps the Strategic Business Planning process followed is not good or inputs to the process (Analysis of Strength / Weaknesses, Scanning the future
scenarios in terms of Opportunities / Threats) have not been good.

3. The Organization environment (Structure, People quality, Systems, Culture specifically team work) is not supporting AOP.

There is evidence to show that nearly 90% of Organizations find their Strategies do not work as planned and are in varying degrees of fire-fighting mode most of the time.

When the Leadership team is engaged in CTB, it is charting out new Business lines for the Organization, which in turn creates opportunities for new Leaders to be groomed, an extremely important building block for future of the Organization.

The difference between a Manager and a Leader:

The most critical difference between a Manager and a Leader is the role that is expected out of them. A Manager is expected to work within a defined framework and is expected to deliver results. He is expected to maintain status quo, so that the Revenue generating Engine of the Organization does not fail ever. It would be interesting to note the origin of the words “to manage” from French, which means “to control the horse”.

A Leader on the other hand, is expected to challenge the status quo, chart out new goals and a new path altogether different from the current, thus stretching the boundaries and deliver results. A great Leader achieves extra-ordinary results from ordinary followers in the toughest environment. Further:

1. While a Manager does things the right way (efficiency), a Leader does the right things (effectiveness).

2. Anyone who wishes to be a Leader has to have a no. of characteristics, in addition to Managerial characteristics. Some of these Leadership characteristics are: ability to take risks, anticipate the future i.e. ability to: see the invisible, hear the silence, connect the dots, being real (“No denial of reality” syndrome), clarity to see the goal & path in the midst of chaos / pressure (get to the core), ability to get followers (informal authority / non-hierarchical), define and institutionalize High Performance Culture (Culture, Policies, Systems), managing the change smoothly: ability to deal with conflicts / diversity, perseverance & balance under pressure, leading from the front and mentoring / coaching ability.

3. A good Manager need not be a good Leader, but a good Leader has to be a good Manager.

4. One can acquire Managerial characteristics and Leadership characteristics by studying and practicing, although myths abound that one is born a Manager or a Leader.

The above does not mean that there is a hard wall between Management & Leadership characteristics which is difficult to cross over and it has to be done in one attempt. Both these characteristics have to be seen as a continuum with porous border, where anyone can dream big and practice to be a Manager and Leader over a period of time.

What are the critical parameters to judge a highly successful Leader?

The single most critical parameter to judge the success of a Leader is the quality of sustainability of the Organization, long after the Leader has moved out of the Organization. The reasons for this line of thinking are:

1. Both short term & long term results are there for a fair evaluation.

2. The temporary effect of current Leadership team is discounted (including the cyclical variations).

3. The true test of building blocks like Leadership quality, Strategy, Structure, People, Culture etc. are there for a fair evaluation.

It may be noted that, the definition & nature of results and the approach to evaluation are Industry specific.

How can one become a great Leader?

Anyone can aspire to be a Manager and a Leader by noting that these are practices that need to be studied and put into actual usage. The way forward is:

a. Be a role model in one’s job, by delivering performance consistently.

b. Show glimpses of Potential i.e. evidence of qualities for the next higher level role.

c. Be aware of self (Vision for self, own Strengths / Weaknesses, Opportunities / Threats)

d. Learn new Knowledge, Skills and Attitude – both Managerial & Leadership characteristics.

e. Have a credible Leader as a mentor to steer your career.

f. Be dissatisfied with status quo in a positive sense – be always on the lookout for new Opportunities to learn, take risks & struggle.

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“I am sorry about your father!” I overheard my wife sigh and I jumped out of deep slumber! “It’s Sultanbhai, our carpenter.” she moaned. “He passed away last month. I had called up his home as there were plenty of things to be fixed!” she said.

The “Sutar” family were indeed past masters at wood craft! In fact, all the furniture in our house was made by them... for generations! “What about Sultanbhai’s son?” I enquired? “Why didn’t you ask him to come?” “Don’t ask!” she grumbled. “He is a software engineer with Patni Computers. Guess his hard working family wanted him to do some soft work.... for a change!” she chuckled.

Just then, our son walked in with the Sunday Times. “Poor Mommy, hear the head lines: Chocolates may be as expensive as GOLD by 2020!” he exclaimed. “The farmers in West Africa, where most of the cocoa is grown have found it to be a bitter harvest. The minimal earnings that they make is not a sweet enough incentive for the time consuming work of replanting trees which involves moving to a new area of canopied forest and waiting for three to five years for a new crop to arrive,” he read out.

“Not enough incentive, did you say?” my wife interrupted ... “In the past twenty days of dieting, I have given up on my chocolate bars, mousse, cakes, thick shakes and topping.... and in the bargain.... lost.... twenty days!!” she cried. “The children of these farmers, whose life expectancy is only 56, are heading to the cities. They rather work in better working conditions and earn more than undertake back breaking agriculture for a small reward” my son narrated.

“What if I live only till 56 too? I better forget my dieting and stick to enjoying Mr. chocolate before it’s The Late Mr. Choco or The Late M.rs. Me!” my spouse whined!

“It’s much like the SUTAR family”, I said “Thanks to education and exposure, the youth is drifting away from their traditional occupations. All over the world, names like Baker and Cook to Sonar and Zaveri, remain only names sakes!!

“With demand for chocolates and cocoa based products increasing everyday and due to scarcity of crops and people, Chocolates will be as dear as gold by 2020!” my lad concluded.

“My Dear as Gold Hubby”, my wife started off ... “Since artisans are expensive and there will be no sutar anymore why don’t you be the S_T_AR and fix the small bits of furniture while I go and gobble up some chocolate” she smiled.

“But darling, didn’t you know that one had to..... earn a bournville?” I questioned.

“Mom, you should save the bars for me!” replied my child. “I don’t know if I will be like daddy as far as my profession goes, but I will surely develop a weakness for chocolates... ... ... ... ... just like you!” he insisted. “That’s a great idea, I remarked!

Sure he may not be a “Chip off the old block”, but if you save the slabs he could really enjoy a chip... off the old block... of chocolate... ... ... in 2020” I laughed.

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Jan 2015

KANARA SARASWAT

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“The Law Commission of India” is one of the highly respectable Commissions of our country. Its prime function is to carefully examine the Central Acts of general application, with a view to give its valid suggestions for revising, consolidating and making up to date amendments. The Commission is composed of a Chairman (a retired supreme court Judge) and four other full time members, having a sound legal background.

The thoughtfully prepared reports of the Law Commission, to improve our democracy and its established institutions, are regularly submitted to the Government. Since the Commission is the Nation's Statutory Watchdog on legislation, it is interesting to know some of its worthy recommendations. The Govt. is expected to give these, due consideration, in the Parliament and convert them into laws as it deems fit. But I am sorry to say that many reports gather dust since the Government fails to do so.

It is worth noting that Law Commissions are also set up, in all the states and each commission is headed by a retired Chief Justice of the High Court, besides having other members to ably assist him.

No Statutory Powers :- The “NHRC” and the “EC of India” have been given, statutory status. But the Law Commission of India does not enjoy such a status though it plays a highly significant role. Many times the Apex court and High Courts, depend on the Commission, for its valuable opinions on tricky policy formulations( Ref: Ex-Chief Justice of India, Venkatachallia, in one of his finest lectures, at National Law School University of India, Bengaluru).

The Commission has sought statutory powers so that its recommendations may have a concrete shape in the form of statutes. There are cases, in which the Apex court has asked the Commission’s opinion, seeking suitable directions, to expedite a trial e.g. involving Public functionaries or those occupying high positions, how much cost should be imposed for frivolous litigations etc. But, ultimately, the directions of the Supreme Court, will be final, says Justice Jeevan Reddy, former chairman of the Law Commission of India.

The Law Commission, has also submitted, its report to the Government, in which, it examined the section 498 (A) of I.P.C. Since, this offence is non-bailable, the police harass the complainant and victims. This commission, has also worked on the problems created by the honour killings, as per advice sought by the Law Ministry.

The Law Commission, has also given apt suggestions, for sentencing (award and punishment) and whether the death sentence should be imposed or not depending on the facts and circumstances as per advice sought by the Law Ministry. But, the Government, is yet to bring the legislations for such suggestions.

Some of the suggestions of the Law Commission:
So far, more than 300 reports, covering a wide range of topics, were submitted to the Government by the Law Commission of India. After all, the Parliament has to act, by means of passing Bills, to enact these laws.

In its 98th report, the Law Commission of India, has suggested a Central Law, that gives women, the right to equal share, in ancestral property along with males of the Joint family. Further, the Commission, desired to delete section 23, of the Hindu Succession Act, that denies a daughter to seek partition of the property.

In the 167th report, the Commission, was strongly concerned over the rising number of acquittals of those charged with rape. It has suggested stringent provisions, in the Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure code and the Evidence Act, besides enlarging the scope of provision, relating to rape (Section 375, IPC) to strengthen the case of the victims.

In the 177th report, the Commission, has wisely given its thought, in the recommendations, asking the Government, to bring certain changes, in the criminal Procedure Code, to arrest a person, by a police officer only on the basis of a warrant, issued by a Magistrate. Moreover, the Commission, in one of its reports, pressurized the Government, to frame the Laws, for Right to Information.
Further, the Law Commission, in the 88th report suggested, to bring proper amendments, in electoral reforms, to disclose the assets of the Legislators, (M.Ps, M LA’s, and MLD’s) and also to keep out law breakers, from law making bodies,

In the 192nd report, the commission, has recommended to make radical changes, in the “law of arrest” to avoid innocent people suffering in jails, without having any lawful grounds.

In the 200th report, the Law Commission, was very anxious to suggest, to the Government, to bring amendments, to the Army, Navy and Air force Acts in setting up Appellate Tribunal, against the decisions of the Court Martial, to give a fair Justice to the accused.

Good opportunity to remember your dear ones
Please sponsor a page in the Kanara Saraswat by paying only Rs. 500/-. The occasion may be birth, or marriage or remembering the departed ones. It will be inscribed in your name as a foot note. Please send your cheque in favour of Kanara Saraswat Association with the matter. Please restrict to one line only.
- Editorial Committee

Amidst the finery of our firmament, do I dare to place, a gemray culled from the springwell of my Guru’s grace.

! , the primordial sound – vibrating through, where all constellations and worlds abound. Planets, satellites, and stars and more universes than ours – All moving in perfect unison, with no mistake in their individual paths in the Divine drama of their Lord.

! , the pranava conspired to create, one beautiful verse – Our Universe
May we be blessed to utter the pranava When things go beyond control When God aspires to call us May we chant “! ” with All our heart and soul.

Arundhati Savkoor, Bangalore

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ATLAST WINTER!!!.....The most awaited season...dewy sky, no clouds, soft sunlight, colourful winter wares, hot coffee.... and perfect time for winter vacations and of course enjoyment. We were bugged of the same boring places, typical hotel rooms, cuisines etc. As we were planning for a different kind of an outing, we heard the TV set blaring Amitabh Bacchan's voice.

Kutch din toh gujariye Gujurat me...

and our mind said lets run away to Gujurat.. Run away?? Run??? Yes!!! RANN... that's the place... The Rann of Kutch and the RANN UTSAV of course... the Utsav or the celebrations depicting the cultural extravaganza of Gujurat..

As our flight took off to Bhuj- the administrative city of Gujurat, we were aware that this is going to be a different experience all together, something way beyond imagination..We were on our way to celebrate LIFE at the tent city.

Kutch is a district in Gujurat, with the Rann of Kutch- a salt marsh reputed to be the largest salt desert in the world. The name Rann derives from Hindi word (Rann) which means desert. It's one of the hottest areas of India, where the temperature rises to an average 50 degree C in summers and drops down to as low as 0 degree C in winters. The area has this desert on one side and sea on the other, which provides a fabulous dwelling place for different forms of wild life and vegetation forming a kind of wild life sanctuary with a wide array of flora and fauna.

The Rann Utsav is like colours sprinkled on this white salt desert. It's amazing to see this entire piece of land, covered under the water few months prior to the festival, come to life and mirror the tradition, culture, art forms, diversities and uniqueness of Gujurat. It showcases the ethnicity of Kutch. One understands the meaning of the word “pampered” as one enters the “tent city”. A part of the land is covered with colourful tents set up for the tourists, plush with all the latest amenities and central warming, offering the tourists “Welcome Home” feeling. A perfect way to say “Padhryo Asaanje Des”

The cornucopia of the culture can be seen as soon as we enter the market place where there is an array of beautiful kutchi embroidery, handcrafted work, leather work, block printed fabrics, silver ware, uniquely crafted ornaments, pottery, the block prints, rogan art, bandhani, patch works, metal works and shell work. This are is a perfect cradle for the craftsmanship. There are two dining halls in the city preparing mouth watering delicacies of Kutch, which is a festival for the taste buds. The “daavat” of Kadhi, khichdi, rotlas, chaas and jalebis/ dudhpaak and a range of mithais is a definite welcome for food lovers. For a change there are no pastas, no burgers and pizzas and no continental cuisines.. only Kutchi Bhojan.

There is a dedicated zone for the dancers and artists, a perfect platform for exhibiting dance, music, art and culture in the heart of Desert. The colourful attires, silver ornaments, tinkling of the bangles, the kutchi music and the graceful twirls..everything about this platform is mesmerising. A part from this we also have an adventure zone for adults as well as kids. The games and adventures are thrilling as well as entertaining.

Rann Utsav hoards a lot of entertainment like camel safari, hot air ballooning, a visit to Indo-Pak Border, bird watching at Narayan Sarovar, Chari Dand, visit to the places like Ludia, Hodko, Khavda which are famous for handicrafts, visit the beach town of Mandavi or experience the mesmerising view from Kala Dungar.

After experiencing the perfect blend of enthusiasm, uniqueness, hospitality, culture, tradition, history, its time to experience the Incredible... The Beauty of the White Desert... In the shades of Full Moon and the cool wraps of winter, the experience of a walk on the white deserts of Rann is something which words can never elucidate...the word ‘enchantment’ personified... so divine.. so surreal... so Beautiful.... something out of the world all together. A complete spiritual experience where you can hear nothing except sound of divine silence...

Rann Utsav offers a complete access to the Kutchi culture and hence rightly said... “Kutch nahi dekha toh kuutch nahi deka”... if you haven't seen The Kutch, you haven't seen anything... and there is no better
way to experience it by visiting Rann Utsav organized by Gujurat Tourism, from 01st December 2014 to 7th March 2015 this year.

**Note:**
1. Carry enough warm clothes, torch, an extra pair of shoes and mosquito repellent
2. Carry your photo id as one requires the same at the Bhirandiya village check post for the government pass.
3. Return back to the camping area prior to 5.30pm from the Haji peer mosque (Indo-Pak border), as the vast deserts have tendency to drive people crazy in late evenings.
4. Avoid taking alcohol, it not only spoils the environment and health but is also banned in Gujurat.

**Chitrapur Station**

**TANUJA NADKARNI**

We live in a ‘one-horse town’ sorry, ‘a one-train town’. Our really quaint Chitrapur station boasts of one train halting here twice a day. It is the “Mangalore - M agdaon Passenger train”. Shaking off its sleep at 6 am at Mangalore station, it chugs its way slowly stopping at each and every station en route. By the time it reaches Chitrapur, it is well past its scheduled time.

The very first time that we went to the station was when Vivek had to travel to Goa to catch a flight. It is a very convenient connection for us when we need to travel at short notice. I had to drop him to the station and we reached well ahead of its scheduled time. The ticket counter was closed and the small waiting room was locked as well. And the single platform was completely deserted. A long wait and then almost half an hour after its scheduled time, the ticket-booking clerk, the waiting room attendant, the ticket collector and the cleaner, all rolled in one, walked up, opened the booking office, dusted the entire place, swept the floor, opened the waiting room, put fresh flowers and lit incense and then finally turned his attention to us and asked us our destination. By then a slow trickle of people had started walking in. A couple of rickshaws drove in to wait and soon the loudspeaker crackled to life announcing the arrival of the train at Bhatkal station. There is no separate announcement for Chitrapur. 10 minutes later, the train chugged into sight. A liesurely 5 minute halt, passengers alighting and embarking without any pushing/shoving, no coolies yelling into your ears, no vendors shoving their wares into your face.....just a gentle breeze and a quiet murmur of people and then the train makes its way onward to Murudeshwar station. The booking clerk walks out and locks the office and the waiting room, puts the key into his pocket and walks home whistling a tune. A nd the station goes back into its somnambulistic state until 6 pm when the same train halts here on its return journey. I walk out to the ‘car-park’ where our car is the sole occupant, showered with a generous layer of golden yellow blossoms, and drive back home.

January 2015
"I -------------- WE"
"Haanv - Aammi"

By Parama Pujya Swami Parijnanashram III

(Part 3)

Here is the third excerpt of the ongoing serialization of our Parama Guru - Parijnanashram Swamiji’s insightful, multi-layered spiritual narrative. We present Guru Swami’s original, hand-written manuscript in Konkani along with Dr. Sudha TINAikar’s in-depth commentary.
"I -------------- WE"
"Haanv - Aammi"

By Parama Pujya Swami Parijnanashram III
(Original in Konkani)

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND EXPLANATORY NOTES BY DR SUDHA TINAIKAR

I am not incapable of bringing forth this manifest world from the unmanifest. By My mere wish I am able to create-sustain-resolve anything in this world. Anyone who wants to get to the roots of the cause-effect aspect of this Universe needs Me to transform Myself into a manifest form and I am fully capable of this.

Notes:
In the Sânkhya system of philosophy, Brahman is considered to be incapable of doing anything. This system gives all credit of creation to the M ahat principle which is nothing but the Prakriti our scriptures talk about. Here, Swâmiji also is talking about Brahman being the cause and the manifest world being the effect. Brahma Sutra 1-1-2 explains in detail, the jagat kâranatwam of Brahman and chapter 2 of the same treatise negates the Sânkhya philosophy of Brahman being a useless and impotent appendage to M ahat or Prakriti.

Thus, by my own wish, as a play or leela I accepted the creatorship of this Universe which started from the five elements. (Taittiriya Upanishad 2-2, Chândogya Upanishad, Bruhadâranyakâ Upanishad 1-4-7) and I expressed Myself as this whole world of objects and Jîva-s.
As Mâyâ was always My constant companion in my inner world, She remained loyal to Me in the world We manifested together. Just like there, here too she followed My every instruction and wish. She followed Me like a shadow, inseparable and yet distinct from Me. Thus, there was not much difference between my inner world and the outer world.

Notes:

As per the scriptures, there is no difference in the cause - Brahman and the effect - this world. Scriptures say, “Sarvam khalvidam Brahma”— all this is verily Brahman. The only difference is the addition of name and form. Upanishad- s say that whatever is, is nothing but that Brahman (Kathopanishad 3-2-2, Taittiriya Upanishad 2-2). All scriptures talking about the Srishi Prakarana (topic of the creation of the manifest Unive) are unanimous in their viewpoint about this fact.

Now, Swâmiji gives a first-person narration of Himself born as an exalted Jîva- as Bhagawân Â di Shankarâcharyâ. From now till the available end of this work, the life of Â di Shankara is sketched in a story woven with scriptural teachings, each beautifully blending with the other. The beauty of the language used and the depth of the scriptural tenets expressed are a treat for the readers.

She was called Visishtâ— also known as A râyambâ. A râyambâ was a pious woman and she lived with her husband Shivaguru in Kâladi (now in the state of Kerala). They lived in a thatched hut surrounded by a large courtyard full of trees and creepers. Very close to their home flowed the river Pûrna with its crystal clear waters bathed in sunlight. The waves appeared to be dancing and creating soft music which was soothing to the ears. The elderly couple Visishtâ and Shivaguru bathed thrice in this river every day. They spent all their time in worship and meditation on Lord Shivâ. Trikâla-Sandhyâ (sandhyâ -vandanâ performed early morning at sunrise, in the afternoon when the sun at its zenith - that is, literally on top of one’s head and at the time of sunset), Rudra-âvartana (repeated chanting of Rudra Prassna), regular Shodasha- upachâra pûja to Lord Shivâ, certain forms of tapas like religious fasting were all regularly followed by the couple. They lived happily and had no wants. Years passed and the couple did not realize when they grew old. But there was one want which was nagging them both.

Notes:

Shivaguru was a great scholar. He belonged to Atri Gotra, Krishna Yajurveda, Taittiriya Shakha. (ref: Madhaveeya Shankara Digvijaya by Swami Vidyâranyâ, Yuga Purusha Shankarâ by Vidvan Ranganatha Sharma)

“I have been a dutiful and faithful wife to you and never ever slipped in my duty towards our regular religious way of life as prescribed by tradition…. Even then, why has that Lord not blessed us with a child?” This was a valid question expressed by Visishtâ.

“I can understand my dear, maybe that is the will of the Lord. Do you think I have not hankered for a child? Our tradition says that if there is no one to do the last rites upon the death of a person, he may not get any benefit of all the good deeds and spiritual practices that he has followed. Do you think I am not aware of this?”

“When I see the shrubs and trees, planted by these very hands flowering and giving fruit, I feel sad. Sometimes, I blame myself for causing this problem to you! I do not know which bad deed of which life is denying us progeny.”

“Let us not talk of pâpa (negative results accrued from past deeds). Trusting in God’s will is the only way to face this. If it is meant to be this way, we have to accept it gracefully.”

“Is there any way in which we can intensify our tapas and sâdhana and pray for progeny? Will not that All-Merciful Lord grant us this one single wish? We have never prayed for anything in all these years. I am sure Lord Shiva will not deny us this one intense wish.”

“Yes, I see your point. From today itself, let us start doing more intense upâsana-s (meditation practices) and karmâ-s (performing certain types of pûja-s and yajna-s) which are prescribed. Lord Shivâ is called A shutosh... one who grants a devotee’s wishes instantly. He will not disappoint us.”

(To be continued.....)
It would be late in the evening everyday when we children would be waiting in our two roomed tenement up a hill in Mumbai. Every evening, she would climb up the hill, carrying bags in both her hands. Small items from the Vaani at the bend of the Hill, vegetables smelling fragrant of fresh corriander from Nana Chowk Bhaaji Galli and Bananas from Gowalia Tank Fruitwallas. Each evening as the sun set, we could see dear Ayi’s silhouette climbing Forjett Hill with bags loaded for the evening and the next day’s meal needs. Since there was no refrigerator in those days fresh shopping was a Must in our humid Bombay weather.

A little later the Vani and the Grocer, Gajanan became customer friendly. We would visit their shop. While Ayi ordered the list I would wait outside and watch the patients at Dr Divgi Mam’s clinic or the sugarcane machine which churned out fresh juice with the lemon fresh fragrance. That was bonus for that visit to the smelly grocer’s shop.

Next day, the items would arrive at our place. All small packets. No storing place, everything in one Jaali cupboard.

My Mom-in-law who lived in Bangalore in those years did her shopping in a more amusing way. She would tie a ten rupee note on her Kirwantee. That note was big, with the King’s picture proud on it. She would head for Russel Market and return home in a horse driven cart (Jatka) loaded with coconuts, vegetables and fruits. Another day with the Kings Note and it was groceries in loads.

The shopping Lanes at 8th Cross came on much later. We moved from Air Force Camps to Cantonments and finally to Big Time Place Delhi in 70s. During the mid years in various stations we carried home fresh shopping on our two wheeler. The local vendor sent the groceries. The drive to those Bazaars was great fun.

Allahabad, the display of Amroods, Ambala, the silence in the market (only one shop) to the cackle of Chidiya M ore in Barrackpore. And we would drive back home our two wheeler loaded with bags to our waiting kids.

The shopping took a Fashion turn in Delhi when we moved in to a Residential Colony. Every Morning at 8 A.M sharp the Subji T helawalla would call out ‘Subjeeeeeee’. “A loo,Tinda,Bhindi...” in summer. “A loo,Tomater,Gobi...” in winter.

Call out the list from the window above and Chotu, his 5 year old son would bring in the basket in the next 4 minutes. In Delhi, Service is very fast but only in the Markets!!

We moved back to Base Bangalore a decade ago. The shopping style has changed radically. No one goes to Russel Market with the Kings Ten Rupee Note on the Kirwantee. Instead, it is Malls, Reliance and Super Food Markets. Cash is out. Credit Cards are IN. 8th Cross is crowded. The Flower sellers and their Baskets are fragrant with M allige. The By lane has the Fruit Sellers. Fruit piled up from Papaya, Pineapple to Musk and Water Melons. Yet, it is safe Safal for us. No need to bargain. The Groceries need not be carried home like my Ayi did from the Vaani or my Mom-in-law did in the horse cart. Just call Manju-Grocer and hit out A B C D Options.

“ Haan,Helee (tell in Kannada) M adam” He shouts from the other end of the line.

All his orders are in A lphabetical order. A : A tta,A rhar D al,A loo G adee, B : Biscuits,Bread.

...... ...... R : Recharge. “H elee(Tell) N umber H elee: 9900804....”

He fills in the Recharge for my Mobile too along with the Monthly Groceries!!!

Now that is the most fashionable E Shopping. The Queen’s Shopping without the King’s Ten Rupee Note!!

CLARIFICATION

In the column “Personalia” reg. Aadnya Shanbhag on page 69 of November issue of KS, All India MaRRS Preschool Bee National Championship is the Logical Reasoning Test just like Intelligent Quotient (I.Q.) Test for Adults and NOT spelling competition... as received from Shweta Shanbhag.
Mother India is riddled with many social divides and consequent conflicts, imbibed over 2000 years and now encountered by 1250 million people. Extremists and Traditionalists are slowing down reforms and conflicts are hampering economic growth of India.

There are seven Types of Divisive Forces:-
1. Built on Diverse Religions: Hindus 75%, Muslims 12%, Christians 3%, Buddhists, Sikhs, Jains etc. 10%.
2. Distinct Castes and Communities in each Religion and each Region.
3. Diverse Languages coupled with 20 Linguistic States, affecting Education of children. English continues as Link Language and for Higher Education.
4. Weak Nationalism and Strong Regionalism, having 4 National Parties and 20 hawkish Regional Parties.
5. Urban-Rural Divide: 1000 Developed Cities with tap water, drainage, electricity and roads. 5 lakh villages with well water, low electrification and bad roads.
6. Rich-Poor Steep Divide: Rich Family Income Rs 50,000/- per month. Poor Family Income Rs. 5,000/- per month. 100 million children have stunted growth due to under nourishment.
7. Gender Divide: Central Parliament Houses and State Assemblies are dominated by men and very few women hold high positions. Even in Industry and Commerce, men are in majority and women in minority.

Why are we continuing to live in watertight compartments of Religions, Castes, Communities and regions? Inter-religion, inter-caste, inter-language, international mixed marriages have just begun in a small way. National Integration is far away and International Integration as U.S.A. just cannot happen in India or Pakistan.

Can we Indians join together and tackle basic needs of 1250 million human beings: - Adequate Food, Clothing, Housing, Education, Health Care, Employment and Recreation, without trumping up the Seven Types of Divisive Social Forces?

There are only 1.2 million schools as against 2.4 million Temples, Mosques, Churches. Are we over playing religion in India?

There is 1 hospital bed for 1000 Indians. In U.S.A. 5 beds for 1000 Americans. India is spending only 4% of GDP. USA is spending 10% of GDP on Health Care.

Treasures of my World

I have a caring mother
Whose love makes me stronger
With dad’s loving hug
I look like a bug
And I feel like these are the treasures of my world.

Look at my brother now
He has grown up how!
Can’t compare myself with him
As he is like a piece of gold

My parents are my best friends
I love the way they are
Have lots of fun with nik
This is my small family

Sincere friends around me
Help and support me
They are a part of my treasure

I’m in my teens now
No more I say wow
Looking at new things around
Have lots to share now

I love the world I live in
With everyone around
I pray for everyone
Let love and peace spread
This is all i wish
To fill my box of treasures

Ankita Ugrankar, Hubli
2nd Death Anniversary
8th January 2015

Mrs. Eakta Nandan Trasikar
(13th January 1955 to 8th January 2013)

Each day of the Second year that has passed, has made us realize all the more that you are always with us to support and guide us throughout our life.

We are missing you Mom

Fondly remembered:
Son: Nachiket
Daughter: Manasi, Son-in-law: Ajit
Grandson: Shaurya
We the children of Saraswat Cooperative Housing Society love our society very much. It is now 100 Years old but still going strong and after the painting they look like new buildings. My younger brother Prasham and myself (Pratham) are the Fifth Generation of our society since my Aajja’s Grandfather had bought this Flat (E-1). We are all very lucky that we have been staying here since birth.

Actually now there are very few boys and girls in our society but still we enjoy playing cricket, badmington, hide and seek, sometimes football. When we are tired we sit on the Katta and play Dum-Sharaads, Kaun Banega Crorepati etc.. My friends are Tanmay, Atmaj, Zihaan, Gautam and Siddhant. All of us come out to play after School at 5 p.m. and as soon as the Gamdevi Temple Bell Rings at 7 p.m, we go home, have our bath and sit for studies.

We also used to go to Prarthana Classes on Fridays where we have learnt many Slokas and Bhajans. Nowadays we are very busy practising for programmes, for Swagat Geet, Drama and Bhangra Dance etc. I wish my cousins Aryan and Anya were here for the function. We are all waiting for Swamiji’s Visit in our Society to Bless all of us.

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The Children of Saraswat Cooperative Housing Society, Gamdevi

Pratham Kodial

January 2015
KANARA SARASWAT
We have received good feedback and quite a few queries on the article “I see...” of November 2014 issue. As requested by some, here is the sequel to it, explaining the differences and salient points of various organ donations.

Yes, it is important to be clear on some basic points -

The donations can be grouped into 3 categories -

1. Eyes & skin donation
2. Organs donation in brain dead cases
3. Whole body donation

Some relevant points on each -

1. Only eyes and skin can be donated after death (latest within 5 hours for eyes & 24 hours for skin- for both earlier the better).
   - The eye donations are used for corneal transplant which provide or restore vision, but if unsuitable for transplant then it is used for research.
   - The skin is used for the patients with burns as part of treatment.
   - Prior pledging or intimation to the family by the donor/ departed NOT essential.

It is sufficient for the family to fill in the form of their consent at the time of actual donation. Prior pledging of course helps to clearly indicate to the family the specific wish of the person. So merely telling the family about one's wish is also sufficient. But, what use of either if the family does not remember to call in the doctors within the necessary time frame?

In fact even without any prior pledging or registering or informing the family or friends by the departed- the eyes and skin can still be donated. A ll that is necessary is the family calling in the doctors from the respective hospitals / banks at the earliest.

- Soon after receiving the call from the family for eye donation, the team of doctor & assistant will come to collect the eyes.
- The family needs to keep the Xerox copies of the death certificate ready to give them and fill the form handed over by the doctor.
- The formalities & subsequent procedures are all streamlined and centralized to the extent necessary, so as to be easy for donor’s family, and to avoid any misuse or waste of the donation received.

- The collection of eyes or skin (from the back) takes just about 15-20 minutes. Now in Mumbai only Sion hospital does the skin collection. They do both eye & skin collection, but it is important to tell specifically both departments as the teams are different. The Sion hospital contact numbers are 2404 9023, 2404 9024 & 2406 3000. Please note that the numbers are now changed, so please save these numbers for ready reference, as some of the numbers given in the previous article are no longer available.

- And neither any mess nor any tell-tale signs, so any one looking at the body after organ donation, cannot make out unless they are told.

2. All other organs like heart, liver, pancreas, kidneys, bone marrow etc CANNOT be used for transplant when removed from a dead body. Only a living person’s organs are usable.
   - These organs can be donated when the patient is brain-dead and is kept alive only through a life support machine. In other words, the person has not been declared dead, but shows no hope of survival. In such a case, the family of the brain-dead can decide and make such a donation.
   - Prior pledging or intimation to the family by the donor/ departed is not necessary, as it is sufficient for the family to fill in the form of consent at the time of actual donation.

- The body minus the organs is then handed over to the family for funeral, unless the departed person had pledged the whole body for donation.
- One needs to be aware of unscrupulous people including such doctors who stoop to make a fast buck.

3. Whole body donation means the body is handed over to the hospital. Therefore, the body is not available to the family for the funeral.

- Pledging (in writing) for donating the whole body after death, done earlier by the departed is preferred, though in some hospitals not compulsory.

- The formalities & procedures are not streamlined, so it could be time-consuming for the family and some mishandling by the departments involved is possible.

But we have also read in couple of articles published earlier in the KS that some did not have any problems.
The arrangement to deliver the body has to be done by the family and the hospital does not take the responsibility of transporting even if the pledge form had been duly submitted and earlier registered at the hospital by the departed.

The pledge forms have to be collected from the Anatomy department of medical colleges/hospitals like Sion, H K, JJ etc between 10.30 to 3.30 on weekdays, & up to 12.00 pm on Saturdays. I know one NGO which couriers the forms in Mumbai. People interested can contact them at 2567 3587-, Maanav Jyot, M ulund west, behind syndicate bank, Nityanand aps.

But the body delivery arrangement is to be done by the family/friends only.

- 2 photos have to be affixed & 2 relatives/friends have to sign on the pledge form.
- Within 12 hours the body has to be handed over to the hospital’s anatomy department. Most of the hospitals prefer that eye donation is done by the family earlier or the body is sent within couple of hours to the hospital, and the eye team is also specially informed by the family. In many cases of whole body donation, due to delays, even eyes donation for transplant or research was not possible. The body is used only for teaching & workshops.
- There is no big need of or dearth of dead bodies for academic purpose.
- Regarding our customs & traditions- as the body is handed over to the hospital, the funeral is not possible, but most of the other rites can be performed.
- But we need to give thought to the psychological aspect of a funeral which might be that a funeral allows the grief and shock to sink in and help the family to handle the grief & loss better.
- The funeral rites when explained while they are being performed (like I have heard some of our priests do) do help soothe the gathered family, relatives and friends to face the sudden loss. Prayers and the last rites are a structure of meaningful actions prescribed and applicable/appropriate at current times, also as part of our tradition. So it would make better sense to retain and carry on at least some useful, meaningful, therapeutic and beautiful tradition which is appropriate even today.

To summarise, within 4-5 hours of death the eyes and skin donation be done to use for transplant/research. Age, cataract, diabetes etc are not a hindrance, the quality of the tissues is the deciding criteria which is ascertained before actual transplant.

But other organs cannot be transplanted unless it is a brain-dead case; the organs can be donated from the patient who is kept alive only by life-supporting machines.

And in body donation- the body is primarily used for academic purpose of dissection by the medical students, except when specific steps are taken to do other possible donations earlier.

Therefore, the best line of actions is to -
1. Remind the family of the departed to donate eyes and skin for transplant- when a death takes place amongst our relatives, friends, neighbours, colleagues.
2. Only in brain-dead cases, the family be reminded to donate all other organs too for transplant.
3. We have to be clear that usually whole body donation means using it only for dissection purposes by students and not for transplanting any organs- however young, healthy the person was at the time of death. Before pledging the body, do talk it over with the family that one leaves behind. Better to know all facts & possible problems that could be faced by the relatives & friends as the procedures are not as streamlined.
4. Of course donating a kidney from relatives and suitable donors is already fairly common. But it is not from a dead body, unless it is from brain dead cases.

So it all means that we simply need to care to live healthy, joyously, usefully so that we die old yet usefuly & happily. A nd let us remember that-independent of any financial, educational, physical situation,
- Social, traditional, or cultural equation
- Option we have none but to bury the dead body or burn...
- But we do have the option of arranging for the eye donation;
- We do have the option
- To enable two blind people get sight. A nd in addition,
- We do have the option
- Of offering the grieving family some consolation
- That they could provide an opportunity...
- To their dear departed one to make a final noble contribution.

The author can be contacted at m.madiman@gmail.com
Life is full of events and experiences and some experiences remain evergreen in our memory, never to be forgotten...like the one that I had some years ago.

My younger sister, Sharde, and I had been to Pune to attend the wedding of a relative. After enjoying the hospitality of our host for two days we thought of visiting another relative in nearby Talegaon. After a day's stay at Talegaon, we left for the Talegaon station to return to Mumbra the same evening. On reaching Talegaon station however we had a brainwave...as we had no prior booking, wouldn't it be better if we took the train from Pune instead? There could be many vacant seats and we could travel comfortably.

So, Sharde and I headed for Pune. On reaching Pune station, we found that the train for Mumbra was already on the platform. Since we had still to purchase the tickets for Mumbra we ran towards the booking counter. As we ran towards the counter we heard the train whistle...we panicked. Just then, seeing us in tension, a gentleman (a well-wisher?) told us that we need not buy the tickets there. He added further that in that particular train the Ticket Checker would come to the compartment and would issue the tickets there. Relieved, we thanked him profusely. By then, the train had started moving slowly. We ran towards the train (we were relatively younger then), rushing through the crowd, our hearts beating fast and managed to board the train...without tickets. Phew...What a relief! , we thought. As expected, there were many vacant seats which we occupied quickly and sat comfortably, waiting for the T.C. to come.

The train soon gathered speed and sped along leaving behind many stations. At each station that the train stopped, we expected the T.C. to arrive but he never came. Finally, our train slowed down and halted at Dadar, Mumbra. We alighted, expecting to find the T.C. on the platform at least. But, we did not find him anywhere. Both of us were in a dilemma - What could we do? How will we get out of the station without tickets? Will the T.C. at the gate believe our story and let us through? Though our intention was not to travel without tickets or dupe the Railways, we in fact had done that. Now, listening to that stranger at Pune would prove very costly to us. Not only would we be fined, we would be charged double fare from where the train had started and not just from Pune. Suddenly, an idea flashed through my sister, Sharde's mind. She said “I have a regular local Railway pass (She was working for Hindustan Lever then); I shall go out and buy a platform ticket for you. So saying she went out showing her Railway pass and bought a platform ticket for me. Thus, armed with a Railway pass and a platform ticket, we came out of Dadar station with respect, feeling victorious.

On reaching home I narrated the whole story to my family and they all roared with laughter. The next day we performed “Satyanarayan Puja” at our home (as fixed earlier) . As I was going through the preparations for the Pooja, my son asked me in jest: “Is this a thanksgiving for the ‘Great Escape’ you had yesterday?!?
‘आम्ही सारस्वत भाष्यंत’

श्री. लक्षिता येंदूरी, अंग्रेजी

१ नोव्हेंबर २०१५ रोजी आपले मठाधिपती परमपूर्व महामहोपाध्याय श्री. मंडलपाल महामहोपाध्याय स्वामीजी वर्मण जन्मतात सोहळा पाहण लहान बालकापासून ते वयोवृद्ध मंडलपाल सर्वांचे देखील आढळतात. हा सोहळा २६ ऑक्टोबरपासून २ नोव्हेंबरपर्यंत आठ दिवस मुंबईपूर्वीतल सांताकृष्णच्या भाष्य पठाणांत मोठा आनंद आहे व जोडीवर नाजुक झाला.

हा उत्सव पाहून मला परमपूर्व प्रियजनाप्रिय स्वामीजीचा शिष्य स्वीकार सोहळा जो १ मार्च १९५६ रोजी मुंबईपूर्वीतल दादाच्या शिवाजीपार्काच्या भव्य पठाणांत झाला होता, त्याची फार आठवडांना झाली.

श्रीकुशले धर्मजगती कर्मभारसाठी जसे अजुनाना निवडते होते त्यामात्रेचे आपल्या सारस्वत समजत अनेक हजार, सुदर बालकापासून, पताका पाहून, परमपूर्व आंदोलनस्थल स्वामीजींनी ‘रविधारकांनी’ निवड केली होती. हा एक दिवसाचा सोहळा जी शिवाजीपार्काच्या झाला तरी १ मार्च २०१५ दिवस २०१५ जुन्यरपासून २ मार्च २०१५ नंबर २-३ दिवसांनी तालमकिवाहीचे उत्सव चालू होता. तेव्हा मी तालमकिवाहीचे रहात असताना हा उत्सवात भाग घेऊनची संघर्षला मिळाली होती.

कनकाजलीचा कार्यक्रम ‘स्वयंसेवक’ महानून अनेक लोकांनी भाग घेतला. कोणाला जसं जसं जसं तसं तसं लोक आपल्यासाठी मदत करते होते. संचालकाची फारच छाल व्यक्तिच्या श्रेणीमध्ये कोंबोल्या हस्ताक्षराचा आयोजन झाला नाही.

दररोज साकाळपासून राजीवपैक्षिक खप कार्यक्रम आयोजित केले होते. पुरातत्त्वीय संस्थांच्या, बायकांतिसाठी साधनापूर्तकम, देवी अनुदान, तसेच एक दिवस संपूर्ण गीतावाचन हा सर्वांना आपल्याच्या आध्यात्मिक बल वाढाच्यामध्ये मदत होती. दोन दिवस पूर्वे स्वामीजिंचे स्वामित्व, धर्मप्राप्तकर्तेचे राजनीतिक सांविधानिक स्वामित्व, कृषिमानंद मंकींकर मानांचे स्वामित्व, तसेच संस्कृतभाषांचे, संस्कृत सांगकर व्हायुजुब्द लोकांमधून जोडीशी भर पडली.

पवनाच्या होम, अभ्यंगरी होम, सोसुकत होन, नवग्रह होम, लुमेल, दुग्दा होम, महामुखिंदूजी शांती, आयुष्मान होन यांचे बातायणात प्रस्तावना निर्माण केले.

१ नोव्हेंबर रोजी सकाळी भावनाशंकर देवाची महापूर्णा
“कल्पवृक्ष” कवितांचो
अरणा खुंडाने
“जीवन हूँ एक दीर्घ कवन” अशी कोणकी महवृ. “कवन” तुम्हाले आमोळे सागवाण्येया मांतू गुप्त-सुपुर रूपाने निम्नु आसान. ख्रें महवृ. मुळे पले मलू मई आसान. कणांवरून मांतू अनेक विवाह, भावना आसानली. ते शब्द रूपाने प्राप्त जाणवानी इतरसऱ्ये. कविता बुद्धिरी भाल पणानिर्मूल आलेल्याची कोणकी बाळूक आसानली. अर्धु मात्र भोरु आशीर्वता आसानली. माधवी गोपाल भाव वेंचवा. काव्य रचना आर्थिक आसान का पटान. सादा शब्दांची, जातीची साहित्यीर्ष्ट्र विचारांची आसान. शब्द वेंचवा मांतू आसानली. “कविता” महवृ. शब्दांचा एक उत्सव! ख्रें यांचा बाबू मुळू भस्मू आहारीचे अनेक प्रकर आसानली. कथा, कांतकर, आत्मवृत वायर. त्या सर्वांचून हस्ताक्षर लागू आहेला प्रकर महवृ. “कविता.” कवितेल्या मांतूल्या भावनेक शब्दांची दिरी. मालामालें भपूः संकार, आसानली, मना भिवणी मान्यात हूँ उर्वरक मानानीला, वत्सऱ्याचा आसानले उर्वरक मानानीला, अनेक समाधान मेठात-कविता केलेल्याची आतील वचनाकर.

एकादे प्रकाश उबाळो जाणवानी वरेक्षेत राभुशंक पालीचा बाळू वेंचवा पटान. तशीरी कविता कोसरा जाणवानी शब्दांचा बाळू वेंचवा पटान. वायकरण जाणवाना मोगणा ना. कपला चिरास फुलका. दोन शब्दांमध्ये सट्टवा (Silence) आसान. तातु अर्धु महवृ. आसानले आसानली. गुलांब जाळहरी गुलांब सहास फुलता तरी मातृभाषेचे शब्द मुळूसं सहज फुलता, एकजीव जाणवानी.

कर्नटकांतुल्या ‘बेनरघट्टा’ राणांतु जनावरांगेलो नव्हा वरसाचो निश्चय
सर्व जनावरांनी राणांतु “नव्हा-वरसाचो” केले निश्चयजु जंगलांतुलच तवार कोनांतून जेवण!!
त्या दीव धोरू प्रत्येकाने जेवणचे फक्त ‘जेन्जिनिर्माण’
औळ सची! यांचं हे जनावरांनी टाकल्यांचं मालू दक्षिण खुलान्य मारी!
आहूण सुरी केली जंगलांतु रांगपाची तवार!
हसलेने दिझो लिगेल कातऱ्याने तांडुळ आस्पद प्युले नारायण दिल्ले सोडणेने पटाक पाहू.
गोडला तेंदूच्या पप घोडवाने हाक्क राणां तापु.
चमचमी मसाले बोकडणे तंदुळ राणा!
बाजारत धावनु चिनत्त चेवनु आधर्णे भाजी.
सोराने हाक्क टोपीली भरी गांजरं तापु.
गाडुव आधर्णे घोणी भाजू बुटावे चेवनु.
असफल आधर्णे धोलाचा कांड विचारणी धोरूतु.
काळी शिळूत दितिना कोचणांना पोडी तांडुळ घालां.
नारायण दितिना बैलाने सोडी धोडी बंधू.
आहूण जीव नांकाळिया घायळी शेवळी!
गाई आधर्णे, कळशांतु दूळ चेवनु - गोंवया खिरोक.
चाळी आधर्णे वाळाची पिँठी कोसु - फिरीतु चालूक.
मांकाणे ताँडू-माणांनाच धारली वापरूणी वापरू.
काळांचे रांगप माळ इत्यादे हुर - हुर - हुर.
वाच सेंहरित घोंगांत सुरु घूऱ - घूऱ - घूऱ घूऱ
चेंडवानां, माहिती कसले जाणे आसका राणा?
- अरणा खुंडाने

कोंलिश काव्य
माहिती जालेज उजवावू जाणे
आमगोले टामी बारंब करु लागलो
जाण आधिली गडवडीने उदयलो
माहिती बोकाकर ऑलरेडी लें जाणे
सचारी काम कोणं रेडी जाणे
बाचलेने केळ्ळी कोणी पिळ्ळे
टामीने रिमायवर केळ्ळे पुंकचाच लागलो
वाक्य विळित हातांतू, पेवनु भाव शरो
टामीगल्या गडवडू चेंबरलं तो धांवचाच लागलो

थूळक्षण मुखारी हांव मास्क सननकतरवी मैदानांतू आयलो
फ्रॉडसक मूळे गुड माहिती सरधी लेट जाणे
टामी मूळे नेकरमाइड लेट जाडूल तरी आयलो
हेपी वर्थ डे दू रूळ मोले कोरेज फ्रॉड महागोले
केंद्रांतू पारी दिली तू अनेकोले मुळोले
प्रोमिस केळ्ळे नेकरस इंडर वर्थ डे दिसाक
कष्मा कोरका वाताढ्राणी मगल्या कोंलिशाचा भाशेक
- रघुनाथ गोकर्ण


Honnavar (ಹೋನ್ನಿನ ಆವರು)

ಪ್ರಾಂತ್ಯದ ಪಾತ್ರದ್ರ ಪಾರ್ಂಖಗಳನ್ನು
ಹಲವಾರು ಸರಕಾರು ಇಮಾದೆಯುದ್ದು
ಅನ್ನಿದ್ರ ಶಾಸನಗಳು ಪಂಡ್ಯಾ ವೈದಿಕ ಆಧಿಕ
ತಿ ಆಭಾದಿಗೆ ಮಾನು ಸೂಚಿ ಜಿಂತೆ ।\[1\]

ತುಂಬ ಮಾನು ಭೂಮಿ ಒಂದು ಗಾಂಧು
ಭಾಗವನ್ನು ಅಭಾದಿಗೆ ಗಾಂಧು
ಪ್ರಭಾವಿತ ತಾಕೆ ಹೋನ್ನಿನ ಆವರು
ತಾತ್ತು ಆದಿ ಆಭಾದಿಗೆ ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ಹೋಮು ಗಂಡು ।\[1\]

ಪ್ರೂಂಕೆ ಸಾಂಘಾನ್ಯ ಸಿರುತರಾಯ ಸುಂದರೆಯಾಗುತೊಯ
ಪ್ರಭಾವಿತ ಸಾಂಘಾನ್ಯ ಪ್ರೂಂಕೆ ಹೂತೊಯ
ಅಭಾದಿಗೆ ಸಂವೇದ್ಯ ತೆಲುಲ ಪ್ರಭವಿತ
ತನ್ನ ಭಾನು ಸಂವೇದ್ಯ ಹೂತೊಯ ಪ್ರಭಾದಿಕ

-ಅಭಾಕು ಬಲಬಾಳಿ
পুত্তক পরিচয়

উদ্য মঞ্চকর

পনবেলে যেহিনি বোর সাক্ষাত্কারী সাঙ্গে 
শ্রী লালিতা মাঙ্গলী 

লেখিকা : শি. লীলা তাই 

মহাপ্রায়াণ নারী সমাপত্তি লাভমাত্র আছে তাহার আপত্তি চিন্তা পুরস্কার মাহাত্ম্যতার মায়ামধ্যে, পরিত্র উন্নয়ন হয়ে পরিসংখ্যাত সমাপত্তি দেখিতে লাভমাত্র আছে। আপত্তি সমাপত্তি অন্যত সংখ্যা হইলে প্রেম গৃহে, সংখ্যা সহজাত, সংখ্যা নাটক নাটক, কঠিনাদিগুণের সমাপত্তি দেহে রূপান্তর করিলেও জীবন অভিনন্দন করি। 

শ্রী মন্ত্রকায়ন্ত্রীর নামকরণ হয় পরিত্র আপত্তি যে কোনো প্রার্থনার চেষ্টা সম্ভব বুঝি হারিয়ে যায়। যাহা তাহা রূপান্তর করিলে অবকাশ পাই এবং যে কোনো প্রার্থনা করিয়া যায়। এই প্রার্থনা হইলে তাহার নামকরণ হয়। 

শ্রী মন্ত্রকায়ন্ত্রীর নামকরণ হইতে পরিপালন করিবার সাধারণ বিভিন্ন সাধারণ সম্পর্কে জানতে হইলে মন্ত্রকায়ন্ত্রীর নামকরণ হইতে পরিপালন করিবে। 

শ্রী মন্ত্রকায়ন্ত্রীর নামকরণ হইতে পরিপালন করিবার সাধারণ বিভিন্ন সাধারণ সম্পর্কে জানতে হইলে মন্ত্রকায়ন্ত্রীর নামকরণ হইতে পরিপালন করিবে। 

শ্রী মন্ত্রকায়ন্ত্রীর নামকরণ হইতে পরিপালন করিবার সাধারণ বিভিন্ন সাধারণ সম্পর্কে জানতে হইলে মন্ত্রকায়ন্ত্রীর নামকরণ হইতে পরিপালন করিবে।
Let There Be

Let there be friendship and peace,
With all the treasures and all types of keys.

Let there be peace all around you,
And do things you have to do.

Let there be lots of happiness,
And drive away all bad-ness.

Let there be friendship and peace,
With all the treasures and all types of keys.

---

Chuha Mama

Aaddya Sunil Katre (4 years)

Arithmetic

Arithmetic, Arithmetic
I think it must be magnetic!
It runs through your veins
Into your brains
And this happens very quick!
It stores there for your next class
So you can do sums very fast.
It’s got multiplication...
And worse! Division!
This is a little poem for you
But the words are very few.

Atmaj Koppikar (7 years)
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DIN EN499 : E 42 5  B 42 H 5

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CVN impact values upto 150 joules at minus 50°C.
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DIN 1736 EL-NiCr15FeMn

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CRYOMATE – 5
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SILVERSHINE – ZFU(PH)
AWS A 5.4 E 385-16
DIN 8556 E 20.25.5L CuR26

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‘Dindee’ - Procession of varkaris in ‘Sant Dnyaneshwar’

Geeta with Chief Guest Mangala Khadilkar. (2nd day)

Vithoba and Sant Namdeo.

‘Paach gaulani’ in ‘Sant Eknath’

Geeta with Chief Guest Anuradha Paudwal. (last day)
Panchasantamala Contd.

Sant Ramdas with Shivaji.

Sant Tukaram and devotees.

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translated to English


correction to the translation
वरसती रिसिडिम श्रावणधारा – निरोप माऊलीचा देव घराघरा!
(निर्माणकङ्कूट आत्मच्छिन्नाचे जाणारी कविता)

आषाहीचा पाऊस आस लावून निम्नुन गेला
श्रावणातला मात्र पूर्ण प्रेमाने मनस्वी बरसला
वातस्वव प्रेमाचा करित वर्षांचे तर भूवरी
रिमिरमिमित्या उन पावसाच्या सरीवसती!

निरोप प्रेमाचा धेंडन आला हा माहेशचा पालुणा–
‘माय आतुरतेने भाग पाहे हे सांगत मम लेकरोना’
सरासुरीचा महिना ‘शिवामूर्त’ अभिषेक शिवालयी
संसारी सुखी लेख पहाया ‘मंगळागौरी’ बसली!

ही माय जीवंती जगतजननी विश्वाची स्वामिनी
तरी व्यापतून राही प्रत्येकांना हडळी ‘साथी’ बनूनी
शिवाशकीय विश्वांगणी लेकरूं सार काही मिळे
मानवा देहासे मनुष्यींचे वाण प्रभांचासाही दिले

वेंड्या खुल्ल्या लेकरांसाठी सदा जागृत जननी
लेकरूं समती मानाळीं स्निमिन्त विश्वांगणी
एक आस मातेस जीवा गुहुकुली ज्ञानदीप मिळाचा
जन्ममरण चक्र भेंडुनी पुनः तो भ्रामस्वरूपी प्रकाशावा!!

श्रावण सरीचा आसंग घेताना ममतेची हाक घेंडे कानी
जीव काव्याबारावर होई भेला माहेश्वरामुळ आठवणी
मातेचा निरोप मिळाला लेकराच्या मनी उठेवादऱ
विचारांचे काहू माजले पुष्पांक्यात केले स्वच्छ आमाहात!

गहिरवरून मन ‘सांगे मातेस’ तू भ्रामस्वरूप ती एक बिंदू
पी पापर मूळं – तू पुष्प माय मय कृपालू दस्यासिंधु
तुप्पाच्या प्रकाशात अस्तित्व मय तू साकरिलें–
हे साथे सरग्रह सत्य कसे बांग मज न उमगले?!

मायाच तंद्रित मी रमता सतत तुला गृहीत धरिले
खूप काही दिलेस तू मी हक्कणे स्वीकारीत गेले
यः कठिन जलबिन्दू मी मृू गावळाचा विसर पडला
तुप्पाच माया करत चढवून मी संसारगाड जिकिला!

तरी मूर्खांनी मूर्खी मी नाही मज समजले–
मायाच हडली बनून तू माझे रक्षण केले
अनेकदा कुकर करी मी– तू मज त्यातवले
संकटी कोसळतां तुलच दोषी ठरविले

सारा मायाच करमाचा भोग तुस्वया माथी लाहाला
तुप्पा निवथतीच्या नीतीवंत उगा संशोध घेतला
संसारी प्रियजनांच्या अभावी मनी उद्वेग वाढला
‘एकलाची येणे एकलाची जाणे’ याचा विसर पडला

स्वार्थी मानच्या नावद दिव्य स्वरूपास विसरले
परी माते तू न विसरता वातस्वरूपांमध्ये आलिंगिले
त्या दिव्य स्वरूपम यं आनंद सागरां तरगाळे
अजनाता पडतर उठता तू मी तलं अंतर मिळले!

आता नाही भाव संकट वा दु:ख न गरज काव्याची मला
विशाळ भ्रामस्वरूप लाल मी जीव सागरी विसाबला
माऊलीची साद घेऊन रिसिडिम श्रावण वरसला
लेकराचा हृदयस्पर्शी प्रतिसाद आमाचा भंगिला!!

– मीरा वरलक्ष्मी
(डॉ. मीरा वरलक्ष्मी सु. सौकु)
फुकट जेवाती

परगाव्यो रामप्रसादूँ मुंबईतूँ भोव्हाचाक आक्वीले
भूक जाल्या मृणू हॉटेल सोदतालो
अचानक तत्ते एक हॉटेलदर्शक साधन पडतली
एक गोमरंट्याची चढी सागस्यांक आप्यताली
‘फुकट जेवाती, फुकट जेवाती’ सगळ्यांक सांगताली
‘नातू तूम्मलो विल̄ भरतलो’ महाणाली
फुकट जेवण मृणू रामप्रसादूँ लार्हीनीतूँ उबरलो
लमच्छे जावीला नातू करशी आसत्रोलो
सागस्यांक संगतालो.

पनीपालक, बटूनान- मदरपूलेवाच आणि बटाचकिंकू
पॉटमधी जेवूँ खुशा जाल्या सागते जण
डोलाई- धोलबु पान्याची चेतून ती गोमरंटी पत्र आवली
नांव निमगुऱ सगळ्यांगोले नांत-नांत वचालाली.
भापर वच्च्या बागलातू हॉटेल मालकू उबरलोलो
नांव निमगुऱ तंगतांगेंग विल दिलालो
विल पनीवूऱ सगळ्यांक हेम सुटली
महाणाली ‘फुकट जेवाती ती चढी करशी महाणाली? ’
मालकू महाणालो उपाग्यातू काराली ती कडूऱ महाणाली
‘फुकट जेवाती-फुकट जेवाती नातू तूम्मलो
विल भरतलो’ महाणाली
‘भिवनााचाक-भिवनााचाक हूऱ आसस तूम्मलया
आजागाळो विल
होडू जावप्पडे नातू तूम्मलो भरतलो आवे चे विल’

- मुरलीधर बेहाबेट
1897444003

कामचूकार मृत्यू

शालिनी अनु नलिनी
जीवाभावाचा मैत्रीणी
पण दोरांच्या जवळकीची पुत्रे काशाळा
जीवनाच्या मध्यांत जरी दोषी भेटलया
शालिला आवडे कीचन
दुनीला खेलन वाचन
पण ह्या मेदद्या अडसर मैत्री नच आला
एकपणाचा रंग वाहूऱ लागाळा
मी पडले आजारी
ती ब्राह्मणारे

तिला काही झाले
तर मी सेवा पतकारी
पण देवाळा आमची मैत्री आवडली नच
माड्या नकमत तिला आपल्याकडे नेलेंसच

- नलिनी संगताली

टीप : देवाळे मृत्यूशी जीवनाचा बऱ्यातील विकलेली पाने,
पालपाळोला आणण्यास सांगतीते. तीर्थी मृत्यू कधीकधी आपल्या
काम चुकावून कंठ्या व नुक्तीच उमलेल्या फुर्लेच खूपहूऱ नेतो.
- वि. स. खैंडकर
I can’t believe Ajja has gone...the picture of him sitting on the sofa and recounting one of his past experiences of ‘good old days’ over a cup of tea during his recent stay with us, is so clearly etched in my mind.

It is customary for grandparents to tell their grandkids stories of chandamama, Ramayana, Mahabharata, fairies and kings and princes, etc. But as kids, we grew up listening to Ajja’s rich and diverse experiences of his childhood, our Bankikodla home and mane-Mangeshi, Aanekamma, Anna and Baabanna, his Podar school days, his ST employment days, occasions where he performed with Annamma, his chance meetings with eminent freedom fighters, etc. This allowed us to understand how his experiences shaped him and made him who he was and gave us an insight into an era we urbanized kids didn’t know much of.

I am yet to meet a man who so loved life as Ajja did. He was so enthusiastic about everything he did be it writing letters and notes, creating a thing of joy and beauty, meeting relatives and celebrating festivals. I remember Ganesh Chaturthi during my 2-year stay at Maya Akka’s house when Ajja would make a palki and we would place Lord Ganesh in it and joyfully carry him over to the backyard to immerse him in a big bucket of water. He was very good with wood working and so many of his creations find a place of pride in our house – the small wooden temple in our showcase, the wooden corner table in our bedroom, his writing table with the ‘kapat’ below…

Whenever he would pen letters or notes, he would begin with drawing neat margins and lines and end with some or the other form of decoration. He had tremendous patience and would make multiple iterations of his letters till he had it exactly the way he wanted it to be. He researched and wrote a book on the Saraswats and had it published...how many of us can boast of doing something like that? He stuck greeting cards (which one of us would get on birthdays or similar occasions) to electric switchboards throughout the house so that our constant touching of the switchboard does not dirty the surrounding wall paint. He infused warmth and beauty in everything he did and ensured there was always his personal touch – 3 cheers to his enthusiasm, ideation, creativity, neatness, discipline and patience.

He knew home remedies like the back of his palm – few drops of warm pure coconut oil for aching ears, bitter gourd juice for krumis, turmeric in warm milk for sore throat, application of Vaseline to fade scars, kashayas for common cold… I remember Ajja making a simple yet delicious lonche using ginger, green chillies and lemon… we still make it at home and I still call it ‘Ajja’s lonche’.

Through his actions he constantly taught us that hard work, dedication, discipline and patience always pays and empowers one to achieve great feats. Although Ajja is physically not with us now, he will always reside in our heart and be in our thoughts - watching over us and guiding us through the ups and downs in our life. I have attached a few pics of Ajja in his different moods at different occasions.

Wherever you are Ajja, hope you are happy - you will always be an inspiration for us & we are blessed to have known you. R.I.P.

Oh yes Ajja, you donated your eyes, so by now some lucky person may have got your vision and through him you must be watching us/ guiding us without our knowledge

……….by granddaughter Kasturi Nadkarni

Dinkar, born on ugadi 27/03/1922 at Karwar to Radha & Venkatrao Ganesh Nadkarny, studied in Bombay/Dharwar, engineering from VJTI, worked in state transport (ST) retired as Chief Traffic Manager & died on 5/11/2014 at Bengaluru. He was excellent in sports – running, high jump, long jump, cricket, tennis etc and was excellent in table playing. He helped practically every one, siblings, relatives, friends and even strangers. He recruited hundreds of persons in ST. He had a knack of converting strangers in to friends. He was well known practically to everyone in Padmanabh Nager where he lived for 31 years. He met/ interacted/ shook hands/ travelled/ accompanied on table with several dignitaries like Mahatma Gandhi, Netaji Subhashchandra Bose, Jawahar Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel, Indira Gandhi, BD Jatti, Morarji Desai, Jayachamaraj Wodeyar, Devraj Urs, several Karnataka chief ministers, Bharat ratna Bhimsen Joshi/Ravishankar, several Padmashree decorated musicians such as Gangubai Hangal Mallikarjun Mansoor, General Kariappa, Shahoo Modak, with several academicians …it is almost endless.

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Carrying forward the vision of Guru Swami, Pujya Swamiji has been inspiring all Chitrapur Saraswats to learn Samskrita by enrolling for Geervana Pratishtha’s meticulously planned courses. To upgrade conversational skills of the teachers of Devabhasha an intensive, three-day shivir was organised in July. Here is ASHA AWASTHI’s detailed report on this

**Samskrita Shiviram at Shirali**

Initiated and Blessed by our Beloved Guru, Gervana Pratishtha - the Samskrita wing of our Math has evolved courses at three levels - Aradhana, Sadhana and Dharana for the learning of Samskrita. With commendable zeal a number of students have completed all three because our teachers have been able to teach the Devabhasha through simple lessons at many locations, as well as through the Math website. Although happy with this, Parama Pujya Swamiji has been concerned about further progress and upgrading of our teachers, especially at the Samskrita-Sambhashana level. He therefore had an ongoing dialogue with the teachers to brainstorm on ideas to meet this challenge. Pujya Swamiji has also constantly emphasized upon shravanam as a tool to augment spoken language skills. The first positive step in this direction was a three-day Samskrita Shivir, held from 15th to 17th July, 2014 at Shri Chitrapur Math, Shirali. Since it was decided that the shivir would be conducted by an experienced and proficient Samskrita teacher to expose our teachers to higher levels of fluency in sambhashana, Dr H R Vishwasa, M.A., Ph.D., Director -Training from Samskrita Bharati was invited to conduct it. Although this shivir was primarily meant for our teachers, a number of enthusiastic Samskrita students were also allowed to enroll.

The dawn of 15th July saw hectic activity at the Math. By 9 am sharp, all shivirarthi-s, that is 25 teachers from Gervana Pratishtha Centres in India and 35 students, assembled at the Dhyana Mandira along with Sarvashri Vinod Yennemadimam and Narayan Mallapuram on behalf of the Math. Dr Vishwasa arrived and the shivir was inaugurated with the auspicious deepa prajwalan followed by a melodious rendering of Sabha Prarambha Prarthana and Geervana Prarthana. The mood was one of heightened awareness and expectancy. As the speaker was introduced, most participants felt a bit nervous upon being informed that the whole shivir would be conducted in Samskrita alone and no other language would be used! However, once Dr Vishwasa took over, this nervousness gradually diminished to ultimately disappear altogether by the end of the first session itself! Dr Vishwasa introduced Champuramayanam written by Maharaja Bhoj and informed everybody that he would be taking up the Balakanda portion with 28 verses as the text for our study. He began by explaining that “champu” means a text with a mix of poetry and prose and as the teaching started, the audience was soon transported to a whole new world... a prelude to the holy birth of Shri Ramachandra. There was never a moment of boredom as the story was unfolded slowly with the immense rasa invested in it by Dr Vishwasa in chaste Samskrita. The combination of his passion for the Devabasha and his methodology of teaching a difficult grantha to a mixed audience was so perfect that even our students at the elementary level were able to understand and grasp the beautiful poetic nuances. He made us chant it all – the verses and the prose, and we did not realize exactly when we lost our inhibitions and started enjoying this divine experience thoroughly! He took us through all elements of learning with sandhi-viccheda, anvaya, shabdaartha and bhaavartha and we became one cohesive group of ardent students losing our individual identities as sanchalika-s, teachers, students or just visitors! The question-answer session at the end was one of lively participation, much to
the surprise and great joy of Dr Vishwasa himself! His immense patience born of years of experience was evident as he explained many a word over and over again!

It was heartwarming to witness the alertness and discipline exhibited by the class as they thoroughly enjoyed Dr Vishwasa’s teaching interspersed with anecdotes, stories and a liberal dose of humour! His ready wit, flow of apt words and humility in spite of a high level of expertise, commanded respect from one and all. The sanchalika-s on their part, had thought of everything and before we realized, a short tea break was announced. But the animated discussions amongst participants scored over those hot cups of tea! The class re-assembled with rejuvenated fervor and as everyone was completely engrossed in listening, learning and absorbing, the morning session which was to end at 11 am got extended by unspoken agreement to 11.30 am!

Post- lunch, every single participant turned up for the Manthana session from 4 to 5 pm conducted with aplomb by our own sanchalika-s and teachers. These in-house sessions really helped to bring clarity and erase doubts about both content and grammatical concepts. These sessions also validated the inclusion of students in this ‘Teachers’ Shivir’ for the teachers could try out their newly-acquired skills immediately on them!

It was a compliment to our spirit of learning that Dr Vishwasa requested the evening session to be started a half-hour earlier than the scheduled 5 pm! This was once again an exhilarating session and this pattern was maintained for all three days of the shivir.

However, over the next two days, the morning sessions were concluded promptly by 11 am to enable everyone to participate in the Maha Puja / Padapuja and tirth vitarana by Parama Puja Swamiji at the Math. The excitement lasted throughout these three days and this vibrant spandanam was palpable everywhere in the Math premises, where the 60 shivirarthi-s continued their sincere attempts to speak only in Samskrita, come what may!

The participants had a wonderful surprise when Parama Puja Swamiji attended the evening session on the second day! Puja Swamiji’s Presence was so inspiring that Dr Vishwasa completed the chosen text in that session itself leaving nothing for the morning session of the last day! Everybody was left wondering what he would take up the next morning. But our teachers were quite ready with their plans and requested him to clarify some grammatical concepts identified during the Manthana sessions. Although Dr Vishwasa had earlier mentioned that he does not like teaching grammar, he readily accepted this request.

Most students went in for that last session with some trepidation, mentally prepared to go through a couple of hours of dry grammar, but they were in for a surprise! Dr Vishwasa began from the very roots of grammar and in a jiffy had the whole class hanging on to every word!

A short valedictory function was organized on 17th evening to express our gratitude and felicitate Dr Vishwasa. A few participants spoke about their experiences, some of them borrowing liberally from Dr Vishwasa’s repertoire of choicest Samskrita phrases and words and even his tone! It must have conveyed our total involvement in his teaching because his was the loudest laugh at each such attempt! A joyous surprise at the inaugural as well as the valedictory function was our President – Standing Committee, Vinod Yennemadimam’s speech in pure Samskrita! The shivir ended with the customary vote of thanks. Behind all the formal speeches and the informal fun and laughs, a thread of deep nostalgia was evident throughout the gathering declaring the complete success of the shivir. All of us had actually listened to, spoken in, asked, answered, learnt, taught – ALL IN SAMSKRITA and we left feeling uplifted and hankering for more! Thank you Sanchalika-s, we appreciate all your hard work towards making this a truly memorable experience!

The objective of the shivir was more than realized as feedback poured in from the teachers and students recounting the inspiring experience and the joy of learning Samskrita in a controlled elevating environment. More importantly, it completely validated and reinforced the blueprint suggested by Puja Swamiji for future upgrading of our teachers through regular listening, interacting and learning from a more fluent resource person with more knowledge and experience. Koti koti pranam-s at the Lotus Feet of our Ever-Alert Guru – who is constantly lifting us out of our complacency, never allowing us to stagnate!

(Note: The proceedings of this Shiviram have been recorded and the video uploaded on www.chitrapurmath.net for the benefit of interested sadhaka-s)
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Saraswat Samaj UK and Gaud Saraswath Sabha, jointly celebrated an evening of family fun at the Annual Diwali Celebrations on 18th October 2014. Venue was the Richard Challoner School, New Malden.

The event was meticulously planned and immensely successful with a good turnout of almost 260 members. Committee members and volunteers arrived early for the evening's allocated duties; the venue well set in time to greet and receive guests and all raring to go!

Registration commenced at 3.30pm. Amidst hearty greetings and happy chit chatting guests were soon treated to an afternoon tea feast of delectable snacks. Fed and quenched by 5pm, the happy guests were seated in the main hall all eager for the evening's events to unfold.

Our programme commenced at 5:15pm sharp with a Prayer & obeisance to Lord Ganesha and a melodious recitation of Atharvashirsha by the children, under the direction of Sheetal Bailoor. Chandrakant Bailoor welcomed the guests followed by the lighting of the Deepa by Mr. & Mrs. Mohan Sajip and Mr. & Mrs. Nagappa Shanbhag.

This year's theme was based on events 'Past, Present and Future'...a nonstop 2 hours of entertainment and a fun quiz for the audience to participate in.

The Past - Theme was a retro fashion show by adults portraying traditional Indian clothes and western fashions of the past decades ably compered by Arjun Karnad. Models, 18 to 60 plus walked the ramp; dazzled and danced merrily to the music of Abba's Dancing Queen. Later, Tina Adur with her friend performed Aishwarya Rai's period dance numbers followed by advertisements by a group.

The Present......Enacted by our very own young and talented future stars. Children aged 5 to 14 years displayed acting skills of their personal favourite superheroes and characters from Disney movies, children's books and comics. It was a treat to see them perform and act their roles with such confidence! Hollywood.....watchout!! After their performance the children were presented with chocolate gifts which they merrily accepted. Following on, our very own gorgeous belles performed the dance ‘Ghaagra’ much to everyone's delight. Gautham Kamath entertained the audience thereafter with a boisterous Quiz competition later followed by more Bollywood dances.

The Future... Theme was hilarious to say the least! A hearty skit was presented by Ravi Karnad and Group. They had the audience split their sides with laughter! Conceived and presented jointly with the GS Sabha, the skit portrayed how news becomes a commodity in the future. “Kandi TV...your window to the world” showed a heated debate on the mishap of “Jack and Jill!” when they went up the hill to fetch a pail of water!! The show was interspersed with catchy commercial TV adverts from programme sponsors of “Nakkashile teleshopping network” played by our talented youngsters.

Clockwork precision, superb display of boundless talents from our enthusiastic performers from 5 years to the 60 plus and an overwhelming number of participants this year made our Diwali event truly a grand success! Credit must also be given to the parents for encouraging their children to participate. Heartfelt congratulations and a big thank you to all our eager actors!

The evening's entertainment was not over yet. The Raffle draw followed after the entertainment. There were 10 lucky winners and the amount collected will be donated to The Raindrop Campaign, a UK charity founded by Mrs. Rohini Rathour (London) focusing on raising funds for Igatpuri School in India. The Vote of Thanks was given by our Secretary, Shanta Ginimav.

Dinner followed at 8.30pm. The meals went down a treat with everyone...a change from the usual North Indian/ Gujarati catering. We thank Shri Krishna Caterers for their excellent catering and service.

Finally, the beautiful evening ended on a very high note with the ever popular disco. Two hours of dancing and merriment to Bollywood popular songs was well enjoyed by the young and the very jolly young at heart hilariously trying to outdo the youngsters! The DJ for the music was Tina Adur.

Heartfelt thanks to all who attended; all Participants and Committee Members for making our Diwali evening fun and a huge success.

We look forward to seeing our members again in the next fun filled event of the Samaj.

Season's Greetings and Best Wishes to All.

January 2015

KANARA SARASWAT

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Suraj Gulvady - A Rising “Bhanap Rock Star”

Bhanaps do not have any dearth of artists and talent in all areas and have excelled and made a name in spite of our miniscule population.

But here is an area not seriously explored or treaded by Bhanaps so far, namely, Western Rock Music. Suraj Gulvady (23 years) from Bangalore has already achieved marvels as a Guitarist in a well acclaimed Heavy Metal Band called “Inner Sanctum” from Bangalore. He is on the verge of becoming a “Budding Rock Star”, not only at Local and National level but even at International level.

Even as a tiny tot, Suraj had an ear for rhythm and used to tap his fingers in tune with any music that he could hear. At the age of three, he started showing interest in playing instruments like Harmonium, Key Board, Violin, Guitar, Flute and a few more. Seeing his potential in music, he was introduced to formal training in tabla by none other than our own Pandit Prabhakar Betrabet, the well-known tabla artiste from Bangalore. The training in tabla continued for around 4-5 years, but the urge, somewhere deep in his heart, to play different instruments on a larger scale, finally drew his focus towards playing Electric Guitars.

As he grew and started going to college, his interest shifted more to Western Music. His total devotion to learning the instrument and hours of practice has made him an extremely skilled guitarist, without a single day of formal training!

During his college days Suraj participated in many College events and concerts. By this time, he had already reached such good standard in playing Guitar in Western Music, that he started playing professionally for locally established bands such as Dementia, The Ferris Wheel Project, Nythn, The Low Ryzer, etc. He was picked up sometime in 2007, by the leading band Inner Sanctum, considered to be one of the top bands in the region. Inner Sanctum is a five member heavy metal band, comprising of artistes - Chintan, Micheal, Abhinav, Gaurav and Suraj.

This band basically explores the style of what is technically described as “Death/Thrash Metal” and the characteristics of music of this Group is by “Riffing and Drumming”. Inner Sanctum earned critical and commercial acclaim in the early part of its formation and have won many awards, including Band of the Year 2007 and Best Emerging Band of the Year (Jack Daniel’s Rock Awards). The band is busy all through the year, performing at various cities in the country. Today it has evolved as India’s leading heavy metal band and is now hailed as one of the best in Asia.

In June last year, Suraj along with Inner Sanctum performed at music festivals in Austria, Germany, Czech Republic and Poland. A nother trip to Norway for a performance there is on the cards.

Inner Sanctum released a 4 track EP called “Provenance” in 2009 and is now releasing a new album expected sometime early 2015.

One of the biggest opportunities Suraj got, as a part of Inner Sanctum, was when they were invited to open for the world famous heavy metal musical band, ‘Metallica’. This opening performance was at the Palace Grounds in Bangalore in the year 2012, in front of a huge and roaring crowd of more than 25000 people. This was one of the happiest moments of his life. A nother top moment of his life which Suraj considers is when he had an opportunity to personally meet his idol, Alex Skolnick, a metal and jazz guitar guru to world music.
Suraj considers his journey from Key Board at the age of three, to Inner Sanctum at the age of 23 so far, as highly satisfying and would like to earn more recognition at International Level in this area. Though he has concentrated more on music, he gives equal importance to formal education and has completed his BBM (Bachelors Degree in Business Management) and is now preparing to do a MBA course shortly.

As a hobby, he loves to teach Guitar to youngsters at home as well as in various other fora. He has an ambition to start a formal Institute for teaching Guitar to those who are seriously interested in it. Suraj believes in “Doing What You Love and Loving What You Do”. Probably this Mantra will take him to even bigger heights in the near future.

With Best Wishes to Suraj for achieving what he wants and we will find one more area called “Guitarist as a Rock Star” which can be added to the above mentioned list amongst Bhanap achievers!

Contributed by Jairam Khambadkone, Mumbai (jk.khambadkone@yahoo.com)

**Here and There**

**Chennai** : Our monthly Sadhana Panchakam was observed as usual. The Mahila Samaj planned an interesting evening on 15th November. The first half of the programme was a powerpoint presentation by Dr. Purnima Rao on her recent visit to Japan. She regaled the audience with anecdotes of this visit, apart from throwing light on the culture, tea-ceremony and other interesting info which are unique to Japan. In the second half, there was a needle work demo by Shobana Karnad, one of the many things in which she is good at. This was followed by subscription tea. After this we observed the Punyathithi of Shrimath Vamanashram Swamiji with puja and bhajans.

Reported by Kavita Savoor

**Mumbai - Dadar** : Guru Poojan was performed by Yuvas at MMM Hall whilst Bhajan seva was performed on 13th Nov’14.

Bhagwad Geeta Competition in Talmakiwadi - Mitali Puthli won the 1st prize in the 15-50 age group, Mrunmayi Palande the 1st prize, Mitesh Rajnani 3rd prize and Vaidehi Koppikar youngest contestant prize, in the below 8 yrs age group whilst Mrs. Savita Nadkarni got the 3rd prize in the above 50 age group. These prize winners along with the other 9 participants had trained under the guidance of Smt. Shobha Puthli. 14 sadhakas participated in the “Abhivyakti” programme & spoke at length on the Bhagwad Geeta shlokas. All the participants were felicitated at Talmakiwadi by H.H. Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji on 2nd Dec’14.

Reported by Shobha Puthli

**Mumbai - Vile Parle** : A novel concept of Equal Streets Day a movement mainly organised by Times of India provides great enjoyment and fun for the kids, youths and senior citizens. The timings of event are on Sundays 6.30 to 10.30 a.m. covering a stretch of approx. 6.5 km on Linking road from Santa Cruz to Bandra one way. This idea is mainly to advocate sustainable environment for higher quality of life.

Residents and members of our Guruprasad society participated in this and enjoyed cycling, singing, painting, skating and all the games for children etc. We watched even martial art, marathon training, traffic rules, yoga sessions and what not.

Reported by Shrikar Talgeri, Vile parle

**Philadelphia, USA** : On Thursday, November 13th, 2014, a special Pooja was held at the residence of Jayawant & Gita Bantwal, at Jamison, Suburb of Philadelphia, USA, in honor of H.H. Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji’s 50th Birthday. It lasted for nearly 5 hours and was attended by about 25 Devotees.

First part of the Pooja comprised about 50 minutes each of Rudrabhishek to the chants of Rudra Prashna, Guru Poojanam and Lord Bhavanishankar Poojanam. During A bhishek, M other Nature acted as a partner by showering what is referred to in U.S.A as “snow showers”. Naivedyam as well as special items such as Pineapple, Shira, Jhunka and Kallya Unde were offered to H.H’s Sadyojat Shankarashram, Parijanshram and A nandashram Swamijis respectively.

Second part of the Pooja comprised ‘Deep Namaskar’, Shakaranarayan Geet, 45 minutes of melodious Bhajans including a few Bhajans, generally sung by Swamiji, Mantra Pushpa and the Final Aarti with Mangal Padam. Prayers were offered for Swamiji to Lord Bhavanishankar for a long and healthy life filled with abundance of continued success and bliss. As usual, Pooja Ceremony was followed by ‘Prasad Bhojan’.

Reported by Jayawant & Gita Bantwal
Princeton, USA: On Nov. 1st 2014 a group of almost 100 devotees of all ages gathered at Bina and Gurudutt Trasy’s residence to celebrate Paramapujya Swamiji’s Birthday. The stage was beautifully decorated with life-sized photographs of Paramapujya Swamiji. Shevanti flowers adorned the stage, with a colorful rangoli, a samai, kandeels and tea lights. There was a tray of pretty cupcakes and another with tealights, in the shape of the numeral “50”. A creative fabric patchwork back drop of our Math, handmade by Shanta Bijur, was hung against the wall. Swamiji’s holy Padukas were placed with great respect on the stage.

We started with Sabha Prarambh Prarthana. US Sabha President, Arun Heble gave a brief introduction on Paramapujya Swamiji, and how the birthday is being celebrated across the world. He distributed the Parijna Series story books, “Raju and the Bee Dance” and “Chintu’s Nose” to the children on this joyous occasion. The children were very happy to receive the “return gift” on Swamiji’s Birthday Celebration!

Five children (Advaith and Niyati Bantval, Pranav Olety, Divya Mudur and Atharv Trasi) performed Guru Pujan. Shashank Udyaver has trained them over the past months. Other children and adults chanted the Dhyan Shloka.

The next program was Bhajan and Stotra Seva by all generations present! All the bhajans were accompanied by Prabhakar mam Betrabet on the harmonium, and he guided his tabla disciples, Pranav Olety, A dvaith Bantval, A tharv Trasi, A tharva Kalyanpur, A rnav Bitta and Hrishikesh Karnad to accompany all the singers.

The bhajan seva started with the song “Anandacho Divasa hochi, Guru Janama Divasa - Happy Birthday song” in Konkani. It had beautiful lyrics and was a melodious rendition. Everybody participated with different bhajans. The last song was “Guru Hamare ..” and it was a fitting finale to the evening.

Suresh Kaikini spoke about how HH has inspired the young and old Bhanaps to progress in spiritual Sadhana, after He became our “Mathadipathi”.

The much awaited Cake Ceremony was next. The children sang “Happy Birthday Song” in unison, as the lights were lit. 6 year old A nanya Bijur recited “Shubham Karoti “, after which Deep N amaskar was recited by all. The aarati was done, along with the singing of Mangalarathi song.

Sandeep Dhareshwar spoke about Vantiga, how it is used to perform viniyogas at the Math, and how the funds are used for social and community projects for the upliftment of the underprivileged. He urged all present to do their duty as a Bhanap to contribute to the annual Vantiga collection by the Sabha. The programme ended with the Sabha Samapti Prarthana and Prasad bhojan, which was a sumptuous spread of home-cooked Amchi food, lovingly made by the volunteers.

Reported by A run H eble

Sagar: In reverence of 50th birthday of our beloved Param Pujya Swamiji, Bhanaps of Sagar Sabha performed various religious activities on 15th Nov 2014 at Shri Shiva Gopalakrishna Temple, Sagar. The event was basically organized for those who were not able to attend the Kanakanjali Utsav at Mumbai, to pray at the lotus feet of Lord Bhavani Shankar to bless ‘Deerghayu’ to our beloved Swamiji.

A fter the Samuhik Prarthana and sankalpa, Gruhasthas did Gayathri Japa and little kids participated in Bhajan & Namasmaran. Sri Sudheer bengre from Siddapur conducted this Bhajan event. Simultaneously Guruupujan was performed by V ed. Charan Bhat Basrur, who came all the way from Sri Chitrapur math, Shirali. After the puja, Joint Secretary of the Sabha spoke about our Guru Parampara, its greatness and importance of Guru Seva. He urged all the volunteers to actively involve in the activities of the Sabha & thus get the blessings of our Guru Parampara. Nearly 120 Bhanaps from Siddapur, Talaguppa, Sagar, Sorab, Tavanandi, & Shimoga joyously participated in all the rituals. Karthika Deepotsav was also performed at the temple.

Praveen Kumar Basur

Our Institutions

Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi: Convocation and Children’s Day was celebrated on 15th November 2014. The hall was packed with chirpy children, some of them decked up in different costumes – all set to present an evening full of variety entertainment.

Mrs Kanchan Sujir, President of SMS, Gamdevi welcomed everybody. Mrs Neeta Yaderi conducted the programme handing over the compering for the
children’s programme to young Ms Yashasma Savkur. Then followed a spate of foot tapping dances, songs and bhajans by children, including tiny tots.

This was followed by the felicitation of the successful students who were congratulated for their superb results. Everybody enjoyed the tasty bhel and cold drink sponsored by Smt Sadhana Kamat. Mrs Sharayu Kowshik, Hon. Secretary proposed the vote of thanks.

**Panch Sant Mala** – Five great Saints of Maharashtra (on 20,21 and 23rd November 2014)

This programme was held in Kanara Saraswat Association’s Shrimat A nandashram Hall which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. A separate write up and pictures are given on Page 53 in this issue.

Forthcoming Programmes:

**Wednesday 7th Jan 2015** at 11.00 a.m. in Shrimat A nandashram Hall, Talmakiwadi.

**Puraskar Sammelan:** Lekhan Puraskar to Smt Samyukta Kaikini and Late Smt Vasudha Bijoor.

Sugam Sangeet Puraskar to Smt A mritha Savoor followed by contributory lunch. Contribution Rs 200/- per person (by 2.01.2014). Spot Registration Rs 250/- per person.

**Friday 16th Jan 2014** at 3.30 p.m.: Sankranti Sammelan - Varkari Sampradayis Bhajans.

Music Programme by Omkar Bhajan Mandal, Vakola.

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Reported by Gita Balse

**Saraswathi Mahila Samaj (Bangalore) Day and children’s day celebration:** The Samaj Day and Children’s day was celebrated in the Canara Union on 15th November 2014. The ladies got ready with their usual aplomb for the various items that were to be performed that evening.

The evening started with an invocation sung by the committee members led by Smt M eeru Balsaver. There was a fancy dress item where the kids dressed up and came up on stage to be cheered by the audience. The surprise item was a fashion show by kids who came and posed on the stage with the confidence of professional models. There was a bharatnatyam dance by a tiny tot, who danced with such confidence and grace that took everyone’s breath away, followed by equally enchanting dance moves by girls of different age groups which were a treat for the eyes. Not to be outdone, the mothers of the participants performed a dance to some Bollywood songs.

The evening ended with a surprise item of a song quiz. The audience had to guess the advert hidden in the song and was enjoyed by all present.

On the whole a totally enjoyable and entertaining evening with a lot of surprise elements.

Kalpana Kumble (Jt. Secretary)

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Komal (nee Sharma) and Manoj Mangalore along with parents (Shubhada and Sushil Mangalore) thank all relatives and friends for their gracious presence and blessings on the occasion of their wedding on 28th November 2014 in Mumbai.

OBI TUARY

Mr Kishore Ramesh Kallianpur (74) of Shivaji Park, Mumbai, h/o Aruna, father of Kanchan and Ashvin passed away peacefully on 14th December 2014. Missed by loved ones.

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DOMESTIC TIDINGS

BIRTHS

We welcome the following new arrivals:

Sept 29: A son (Shivaunsh) to Shruti (nee Vaknalli) and Vijay Venkat Shirur at Westborough MA, USA.

Nov 26: A daughter (Anagha) to Sonal and Amit Krishnanand Mankekar at Canada.

Nov 27: A son to Pradnya (nee Murdeshwar) and Ashutosh Ramesh Trasy at Mumbai.

MARRIAGE

We congratulate the young couple

Nov 28: Shivani Jagadish Kalbag with Chinmay Mohan Wagle at Mumbai.

Nov 28: Madhura Suhas Mangalwedhekar with Aditya Prakash Lajmi (of Bagalkot) at Kolhapur.

Dec 7: Pratiksha Ashok Taggarse with Heramb Shekhar Balvalli at Bangalore.

Dec 7: Sonia Sudhakar Shanbhag with Rahul : Mahesh Ullal at Mumbai.

Dec 14: Samhita (Capt.) Manohar Trikannad with Prathamesh Pradeep Bandekar at Mumbai.

Dec 14: Seema Vasudev Pai with Kunal Suresh Kalyanpur at Mumbai.

Dec 17: Sheetal Vasant Talgeri with Nitin Sudhakar Sharma at Mumbai.

OBI TUARIES

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

Oct 8: Sulochana Krishna Mirjankar (80) at Pune.

Oct 12: Suresh Gopal Kundaji at Pune.

Nov 5: Dinkar Venkatrao Nadkarny (92) at Bangalore.

Nov 23: Ramdas Dattatreya Shirali (88) at Pune.

Nov 23: Gaursharan Rao (51) at Pune.

Nov 25: Mridula Shivshankar Kulkarni at Mumbai.

Dec 3: Shalini Kalyanpur (89) at Vile Parle Mumbai.

Dec 3: Prabhakar Sundarrao Bagde (88) of Andheri(W) at Bijapur.

Dec 4: Vidyadhar S Katre (79) at Malleswaram, Bangalore.

Dec 11: Arun Bhavanishankar Koppikar at Borivali, Mumbai.

Dec 13: Chidanand Narayan Basrur (88) at Bangalore.

Dec 16: Ganesh Bhavanishankar Chandavarkar (76) of Mumbai at Nashik.

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