

Kanara Saraswat

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION

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104TH FOUNDATION DAY- 26th November 2015



Shri Shekhar Hattangadi, Journalist, Legal Expert and Filmmaker being felicitated by Smt. Geeta Yennemadi, Vice President, KSA.



Shri Vinanyanand Kallianpur, Principal Shrimat Parijnanashram Educational and Vocational Center for the Handicapped, was honoured by Col (Retd) Manohar Karpe, Ex-Vice President, KSA.



Prof. Dr. Ramchandra Gokarn, World renowned authority on Naval Architecture and Propeller Design expressing his thoughts after receiving felicitations.



Shri. Murlidhar Betrabet received a prize for his Konkani poem “कानमंत्रु ज्येष्ठ नागरिकांक”



Vedmurthy Shri Bhavanishankar Bhat received a prize for his humorous Konkani poem - “बिक्कुण आमि बिक्कुण”



Navami Sharma, Squash Player receiving the Rolling trophy as ‘Outstanding Upcoming Sports Personality Award’ from Prof. Kalindi Muzumdar, Ex-President, KSA



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Kanara Saraswat

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Website: <http://www.kanarasaraswat.in>

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e-mail: editor@kanarasaraswat.in
kanara_saraswat@hotmail.com
(For Publication in the Magazine)

e-mail: admin@kanarasaraswat.in
(For administrative matters)

President: **Praveen P. Kadle**
Vice President: **Geeta V. Yennemadi**
Chairman: **Rajaram D. Pandit**

MEMBERS OF THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Managing Editor: **Gurunath Gokarn**
Editor: **Smita Mavinkurve**

Associate Editor: **Uday A. Mankikar**
Editorial Committee:

Usha K. Surkund

Computer Composing:

VISION DTP – **Sujata V. Masurkar**

KSA Telephone: (022) 2380 2263

TELEFAX: (022) 23805655

KSA Holiday Home, Nashik:

Tel: 0253-2580575 / 0253-2315881

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*We wish our Readers a Very Happy,
Healthy, Peaceful and
Prosperous New Year
and Happy Republic Day too!*

KSA's Green Initiative

For good number of years, Governments all over the World are emphasising on Green Initiatives to save the environment. Government of India is also not lagging behind much, though a lot is required to be done in our Country, in comparison with our counterparts in other parts of World.

Most of the leading News Papers, Publishing Companies and E Commerce Companies in India have "E News Papers", "E Books" and "E Magazines" today, whilst they continue with printed copies as well, till the new concept catches on. Why go that far - Even our own Community has started with "Chitrapur E Books" and a number of old publications have been converted into E Books in the recent past and the concept is catching on. Many of our members may have seen people reading either the Books or Magazines on Kindle or Tablets while travelling. This concept is catching on more with younger generation, but at the same time older generation also is not lagging behind, which is really heart-warming.

KSA also would not like to lag behind in this area of importance any more. We already have a practice of posting the Soft Copies of KS Magazine on our Web Site every month for many years and we would be too happy, if our members make use of the Soft Copies for reading the Magazine as much as possible. Our objective will be to help saving the environment and reduce the effect of Global Warming.

We are fully aware that the existing practice of uploading PDF Files on the Web Site, is causing concern in time for downloading the same at the user's end. We are trying to take every step to improve this and use modern technology, soonest possible so that the time for downloading is reduced. However, we do not intend to lose any time in this area and we would encourage members to read Soft Copies as much as possible, with the existing status to start with.

In implementing any new practice, the cooperation of all members will be of highest importance and we will be too glad to hear from members about their willingness to read Soft Copies, so that KSA can stop sending the hard copies to such members. In this connection, we would prefer if our members send a mail to both the following e mail IDs of Kanara Saraswat Association, indicating their willingness to read the Soft Copies and to stop sending the hard copies of the magazine:

Administration: admin@kanarasaraswat.in Editor: editor@kanarasaraswat.in

While sending this mail to KSA, please mention :

In the Subject line : **"Do not mail the hardcopy of the magazine to me"**

In the Body of the mail : **Your Name & Membership Number**

Your latest contact details : **Address, email id, phone no, Mobile No.**

This will help us in updating our records. We will make a list of all such members who show their willingness to forgo hard copies of the Magazine. In recognition of being a part of this new initiative, we will print and publish their names every month in KS Magazine on a separate page under the banner of:

"Champions of KSA's Green Initiative"

At present all overseas members of KSA are expected to pay fixed Air Mail Charges every year to compensate the extra cost to KSA and if this practice of reading Soft Copies is followed by all Overseas Members, then there will not be any need for payment of Air Mail Charges and members will not have any trouble of making this payment any more. At the same time, a lot of administrative work in KSA will come down. This will be a "win-win" situation for both KSA and Overseas Members. Very soon, we will propose to issue "Log in ID and Password" to all our members, as was the practice prevailing in earlier years.

We are looking forward to positive response from all our members, in order to achieve this important objective.



From the President's Desk....

Dear Friends,

At the outset, I would like to wish all of you a Happy & Prosperous New Year. I hope all of you will have your wishes fulfilled in this leap year.

Recently, I was reading a newly released report by Price Waterhouse Coopers, one of the leading Auditing & Management Consulting Firms, titled "The World in 2050— Will the shift in global economic power continue?"

The report says that India, with its "demographic dividend" of having a continuously growing young population, will emerge to be the second largest economy after China with US \$ 42 trillion economy, even surpassing the United States.

The economists also predict that by around year 2075, almost 50% of the world economic power will be controlled by China & India, just as these two oriental countries were controlling the global economic power until some 250 years ago.

When one reads such reports, naturally as a true Indian, one feels proud. But this so called demographic dividend can become a nightmare or a liability if we don't address the basic issues of providing affordable healthcare & affordable education to the young growing population below the age group of 20 years; and when they grow, provide them with employment & employability.

For this we need to have continuous economic growth, or what economists call GDP growth of around 7% till the year 2050. We also need stability, social progress, cohesion & unity. We need to have technological growth & innovation. An aspiring economic power like India will need to have strong political, legal, regulatory & social institutions and finally a clean environmental sustainability.

In my view, all these are imperatives on which we Indians will have to work, if we have to make our country a superpower in coming years. We all, from our community will have to contribute in our own way to these imperatives. We at KSA, in our small way have been working on many of these imperatives for the last so many years. We, of course, will continue to strengthen our efforts in these areas, as we move forward.

I am happy to inform you that the Editorial Board of KSA has taken an initiative to bring in our monthly magazine in E- Magazine format to contribute in our own small way to building the clean environmental sustainability. I am making a special appeal to the members of the younger generation & members living abroad to support this initiative in a big way.

Once again wishing you all the best for the New Year,

Praveen P Kadle.

**THE KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION
HEALTH CENTRE
DOCTORS ON THE PANEL OF HEALTH CENTRE**

GENERAL PHYSICIAN

DR. VASANTI BALVALLI (M.B.B.S.)
DR. SUNIL VINEKAR (M.B.B.S.)

MON, TUE & THURS 4.30 P.M. TO 6.00 P.M.
TUE & THURS. 6.00 P.M. TO 8.00 P.M.

DERMATOLOGIST

DR. GAURANG S. MUZUMDAR (M.D.,D.V.D.,DNB)
DR. SUBODH SIRUR (M.D.D.V.D.)

WED 5.30 P.M. TO 6.30 P.M.
SAT. 4.30 P.M. (BY PRIOR APPTS)

OPHTHALMOLOGIST

DR. HARISH KODIAL (MS. FCPS. DOMS) TUE. 11.00 A.M. TO 12 NOON
DR. PRANAY KAPADIA (MS,FCPS, DOMS, DNB) THURS. 11 A.M. TO 12 NOON

HOMOEOPATHIC CONSULTANT

DR. TEJASWINI KULKARNI-BHAT (B,H.M.S.)

FRI. 5.30 P.M. TO 7.00 P.M.

PAEDIATRICIAN & ADOLESCENT HEALTH CONSULTANT

DR. PRANAV R. CHICKERMANE (M.D.DNB,DHM.)

MON 6.30 P.M. TO 7.30 P.M.
(BY PRIOR APPTS)

PHYSIOTHERAPIST

DR. SWATI PUTHLI

MON TO FRI (BY PRIOR APPOINTMENTS)

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Dr. Pranay Kapadia is a Leading Ophthalmic Surgeon in Mumbai and an Honorary Eye Surgeon at various Hospitals and Clinic. He is a Director of Kapadia Eye Care. **He will be joining our panel from January 2016.**

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor, I saw the advertisement of KSA's Holiday Home in the December 2015 issue of Kanara Saraswat and I thought these photographs taken at the Holiday Home can attract more visitors.

These are the photographs of Brahma Kamal, the mythical white lotus that has captured the imagination of mythological experts for generations.

At the Holiday Home, these mildly fragrant flowers started blooming at around 8.30 pm on 1st July 2015 and the full bloom was at midnight. This was for two consecutive nights. The flowers wilted away by 3.00 am. I was awake till around 1.30 am to capture these photographs.

After the full bloom, Shri Prakash Koppikar who manages the Holiday Home performed a small Aarati and Pooja and placed one Brahma Kamal at the feet of the photograph of our Gurus. It was a once-in-a-life-time experience.

Vivek Hattangadi, vivekhattangadi@yahoo.co.in

Dear Editor, Our Chitrapur Saraswat students are constantly getting financial support from KSA , Shri Chitrapur Math , CSES , Mahila samaj ,FDC etc for pursuing studies and for post graduation , professional courses . This is a major encouragement to take higher objectives in life .

However there is a major hurdle in getting admissions in prestigious universities , professional courses because of Government's reservation quota . More than 50 % of seats are covered by this quota . Today you will also note that communities which are well off like the Marathas , Jains ,Patels etc are trying to get included in this reserved category to get seats in these institutions and to get good jobs in Government services , Public sector services , municipality etc . Even after scoring 90% marks , our students are not sure of getting admission in these universities of their choice , where as reserved category students get admission even if they get less than 50% marks .

I suggest that KSA , Shri Chitrapur Math and allied Konkani speaking communities like GSBs , Goans can join hands and represent our case as Minority Community and get included in the reserved category and enjoy the benefits of the same for ever . We can also draw support from Bhanap secretaries in Central and State Govts and the influential persons from our community towards this effort .

Kishore Bijur

Dear Editor, After a long time we were able to read in KSA Magazine December 2015, a decent, clear, educative and informative minutes and deliberations of the last AGM meeting held at Talmakiwadi with record members present. We really appreciate laudable services rendered to our members at a short time.

Shrikar Talgeri, Mumbai

Dear Editor, I have read Tanuja Nadkarni's series of articles with great pleasure and interest. They are an inspiration to those who wish to go back to their roots - but have held back for fear of the challenges they might have to face. The Nadkarnis have coaxed 75kgs of rice from what was deemed to be 'infertile' soil! Their hard work coupled with grit and gumption has been crowned with success. Thank you, Tanuja, for teaching us that perseverance pays. God bless you with increasing success and joy in your efforts.

Savitri Babulkar

Dear Editor, Most invest varying proportion of their savings in fixed income securities like bank deposits and Post Office Small Savings Schemes such as the Senior Citizen Savings Scheme, Five Year National Savings Certificates , Post Office Time deposits and the Monthly Income Scheme. Senior citizens in particular, invest a large proportion of their savings in fixed income securities to ensure safety of capital and receipt of steady income. Interest rates on bank FDs have reduced in the recent past. The Government of India is examining reduction in interest rates on Small Savings Schemes to align them with market rates. Small Savings Scheme interest rates are reviewed every year and changes come into effect from April, 01 of every financial year. Therefore, those wanting to lock into higher rates should do so before March 31,2016. Further, with interest rates moving downhill, it is essential that assumptions made in preparing a post retirement financial plan are revisited by all (and particularly pensioners) since with increasing longevity, a retirement corpus has to generate adequate post tax income to maintain the desired standard of living for perhaps 25 years after retirement in a scenario where inflation would be 6-7% and medical expenses are likely to escalate.

Gokul Manjeshwar, Santacruz, Mumbai.

कॅनरा सारस्वत असोसिएशनाचो शतकोत्तर चतुर्थ वर्धापनदिन समारंभु

श्री गुरुभ्यो नमः

नमस्कारू आनि सुस्वागतम् ।

वेदिकेचेरी विराजमान जाल्लेले कॅनरा सारस्वत असोसिएशनाचे पदाधिकारी म्हळ्यारी-ज्येष्ठ माजी अध्यक्ष प्राध्यापिका कालिंदीताई मुझुमदार, माजी उपाध्यक्षु कर्नल मनोहर कर्पेमामु, उपाध्यक्षा श्रीमती गीताताई येन्नेमाडी, कार्याध्यक्ष श्री. राजा पंडित, सर्व पुरस्कार विजेते आनि आयचे उत्सवमूर्ती हांकां तशीची तुमकां सर्वांक विनम्र अभिवादन कोर्नु, हांव उदय मंकिकर, आयच्या कार्यक्रमाक प्रारंभु कर्तां.

आमगेलो अध्यक्ष श्री. कडले प्रवीणमाम्माक, अपरिहार्य कारणामितीं आजि येवच्याक जायने. आमगेल्या विनंतीक मानु दिव्नु, कालिंदीताईने आयच्या कार्यक्रमाच्या अध्यक्षपदाचो स्वीकारू केल्लो, त्याखात्तिर आम्मी तिगेले ऋणी जाव्नु आस्सती.

आजि २६ नोव्हेंबर, २०१५. कॅनरा सारस्वत असोसिएशन (KSA) ह्या आमगेल्या समाजांतु लोकप्रिय जाव्नु आशिल्या संस्थेचो शतकोत्तर चतुर्थ वर्धापन दिनु. म्हळ्यारी १०४th Foundation Day. १९११ सालांतु ह्याची दिसु आमगेल्या स्वयंप्रेरित (Self motivated) तेरा म्हालगड्यांनी आमगेल्या समाजाचो सर्वांगीण विकास जांवकाज ह्या उद्देशाने KSA ची स्थापना केलेली. सहकारम हर्षी, रावबहादूर तालमकीमाम्मागेल्या मार्गदर्शनांतु KSA चो प्रवासु सुरू जाल्लो आणि १०४ वर्स हो प्रवासु अथक सुरू आस्स. आमगेल्या समाजाच्या विकासांतु KSA चे अत्यंत महत्त्वपूर्ण योगदान आस्स. शिक्षण, ललितकला, क्रीडा, समाजकार्य इत्यादि क्षेत्रांतु KSA ने तरुण वर्गाक प्रोत्साहन दिल्यां, नांव पाविल्या मान्यवरांगेलो बहुमान कोर्नु तांगेल्या प्रति ऋण व्यक्त केल्यां आनि कर्त आस्स. त्यामिती KSA च्या संस्थापकांगेलो उद्देशु सुमारमट्टाक साध्य जाल्ला म्होणू म्होणयेद. प्रतिवरस, ह्या दिसु KSA, कोंकणी लेखन पुरस्कार, घळववळशीफलीपशी पुरस्कार, Sports Person of the Year पुरस्कार वितरित कर्ता आनि विविध क्षेत्रांतु लक्षणीय कार्य केलेल्या चित्रापुर सारस्वत मान्यवरांगेलो सन्म नु कर्ता.

आमगेल्या आयच्या कार्यक्रमाचे स्वरूप-

१. श्रीमती चंद्रा रमेश नाडकर्णी स्मृती Kiddies' Corner पुरस्कार वितरण

२. मान्यवरांगेलो सन्मानु - आयचे उत्सवमूर्ती

म्हळ्यारी-

* दिवंगत श्री. नागेश डी. कलबाग - (मरणोत्तर) KSA च्या निःस्पृह सेवेखात्तिर

* दिवंगत श्री. दिनेश डी. कल्याणपूर - (मरणोत्तर) KSA च्या निःस्पृह सेवेखात्तिर

* प्राध्यापक शेखर हट्टंगडी - पत्रकारिता आनि चित्रपटनिर्मिती खात्तिर

* श्री. विनयानंद कल्याणपूर- प्राचार्य Swami Parijnanashram Educational and Vocational centre for the Handicapped Virar.

* प्राध्यापक रामचंद्र पी. गोकर्ण - World Renowned Authority on Naval Architecture and Propeller Design.

३. श्रीमती गंगा एम. नाडकर्णी स्मृती कोंकणी लेखन पुरस्काराचें वितरण. मानकरी आस्सती - वेदमूर्ती श्रीकृष्ण भवानीशंकर भट, श्री. मुरलीधर बेट्राबेट आनि डॉ. (श्रीमती) कुमुदिनी माणगांवकर.

४. दिवंगत श्री. सुरेश नाडकर्णी स्मृती Award for outstanding Sports Person of the Year चें वितरण.

कार्यक्रमाची सांगता प्रितीभोजनाने जाल्ली. सर्वांनी हाज्जो लाभु घेव्नु आमकां उपकृत कोर्काज हें विनम्र आवाहन.

श्रीमती चंद्रा नाडकर्णी स्मृती Kiddies Corner पुरस्कार

दिवंगत भटकळ सदानंदमामु म्हळ्यारी अेक चतुरस्त्र व्यक्तिमत्व. नवोदित लेखक/लेखिका, संगीतकार, गायक, वादक हांकां तांने कायम प्रोत्साहन दिल्लें. कॅनरा सारस्वत असोसिएशनाचो अध्यक्ष आस्तना नवोदित कलाकारांक मंच उपलब्ध कोर्नु दिवचे खात्तिर तांने स्वतंत्र कलाविभागाची स्थापना केल्ली. त्या अंतर्गत आत्तंथाई १७ संगीत संमेलनांचे आयोजन जाल्लें अनेक नवोदित कलाकार प्रतिथयश जाल्ले. तशीची तांने “कॅनरा सारस्वत” मासिकाचो संपादक आस्तना, चेडवांक लेखन/चित्रकला इत्यादितुं आवडी निर्माण जांवकाज, तांका प्रोत्साहन दिंवकाज म्होणू “Kiddies' Corner” हें सदर सुरू केल्लें. हें आत्तं चेडवांतु अगदी प्रिय जाव्नु आस्स. २०११ सालांतु सदानंदमाम्मागेलें निधन जाल्लें. नाडकर्णी रमेशमामु (पुणेचो) हो सदानंदमाम्मागेलो परममिनु. २०११ सालांतु तांने KSA क चाळीस हजार

रुपयांची देणगी दिल्ली आणि ताज्या वाड्डींथाव्नु “Kiddies Corner” तुं प्रकाशित जाल्लेल्या उत्कृष्ट लेख/कविता/चित्रकला इत्यादिक तागेल्या बायलेगेल्या, म्हळ्यारी श्रीमती चंद्रा रमेश नाडकर्णी हिगेल्या स्मरणार्थ पुरस्कार दिंवकाती अशशी आवाहन केल्लें. त्याप्रकार २०१३ धोरुं ह्या पुरस्काराची सुरुवात जाल्ली. हो पुरस्कार म्हळ्यारी सदानंद माम्माकई आदरांजली म्होणू म्होणयेद. आँदु ह्या पुरस्काराचें तिसरें वरस. हांव पुरस्कार विजेत्यांगेलीं नांव सांगता, तांन्नी कालिंदीताई मुझुमदार हांगेल्या हस्ते पुरस्काराचो स्वीकारू कोर्काज ही विनंती. (पुरस्कार विजेत्यांगेली नांव पान १४ री दिल्यांती)

चित्रापुर सारस्वत मान्यवरांगेलो बहुमान :

अेकळाक सांगिलेवारी, कॅनरा सारस्वत असोसिएशनाने केदनाई तरुण वर्गाक विविध क्षेत्रांतु उत्कृष्ट कार्य कोरूक, पुरस्कार दिव्नु, मंच उपलब्ध कोर्नु दिव्नु प्रेरित केल्यां, कौतुक केल्यां. तशीची विविध क्षेत्रांतु महत्त्वपूर्ण कार्य कोर्नु नांव पाविल्या आमगेल्या मान्यवरांगेलो गौरवु कोर्नु तांगेले प्रति ऋण व्यक्त केल्यां. हो बहुमानाचो कार्यक्रम पैलेंधोरुं जात्तालो, जाल्यारी तांतु एक सातत्य Continuity नाशिली. २००३ सालांतु KSA च्या कार्यकारिणीने एक संकल्पु केल्लो की, KSA च्या शताब्दी निमित्ताने २०११ थाई शंभरी मान्यवरांगेलो सत्कारू कोर्नु, ताज्जेउप्रांते प्रतिवरस ह्या सत्कार समारंभांतु सातत्य दव्वोरचें, त्या प्रकार आतंथाई १०९ मान्यवरांगेलो सत्कारू जाल्ला.

KSA च्या १०४ वर्सांच्या प्रवासांतु अनेकांनी महत्त्वपूर्ण योगदान दिल्यां आणि त्यामितींची हो प्रवासु यशस्वी जाल्ला. त्या कार्यकर्त्यांगेलें विस्मरण जाव्णयें आणि तरुण वर्गाक तांगेल्या कार्याची माहिती जांवकाज म्होणू पोरूं धोरुं, KSA खात्तिर लक्षणीय कार्य केलेल्या आणि आजि आमच्यांतु नात्तिल्या कार्यकर्त्यांगेलो मरणोत्तर बहुमान कोरूक सुरुवात केल्ली. पोरूं भास्करमाम कुंबळे हांगेलो बहुमान जाल्लो आणि आजि कलबाग नागेश मामु आणि कल्याणपूर दिनेशमामु हांगेलो मरणोत्तर बहुमान जात्लो. ताज्जेउप्रांते सर्वश्री शेखर हड्डंगडी, विनयानंद कल्याणपूर आणि प्राध्यापक रामचंद्र पी. गोकर्ण हांगेलो गौरवु जात्लो.

हांव अेकळाक तांगेलो परिचयु कोर्नु दितां. मागिरी तांनी श्रीमती कालिंदीताई मुझुमदार हांगेल्या हस्ते बहुमानाचो स्वीकारू कोर्नु आपणागेलें मनोगत व्यक्त कोर्काज ही विनंती.

श्री. नागेश डी. कलबाग (मरणोत्तर)

कलबाग नागेशमामु हें अशशी एक व्यक्तिमत्त्व की कॅनरा सारस्वत असोसिएशनाखात्तिर तांन्ने केल्लेलें कार्य विस्सोरचें असाध्य.

शिक्षण पूर्ण जायनाफुडे, नागेशमामु ताव्वळच्या लॉइडस् बँकाच्या सेवेंतु रुजू जाल्लो. विद्यार्थी आस्तनाधोरुं, नागेशमामु, KSA चो एक सक्रीय सदस्य आशिल्लो. KSAच्या सर्व क्रीडाविषयक कार्यक्रमांचे आयोजन तो अत्यंत यशस्वी रितीने कर्तालो. तागेली आयोजनाची क्षमता दृष्टी लाग्गशी आशिल्ली. क्रीडाविषयक मात्र न्हंयी, तरी KSA च्या प्रत्येक कार्यक्रमांतुं, उपक्रमांतुं, तागेलो सहभागु आस्तालो. खेळविषयक, सांस्कृतिक, संगीत संम्मेलनं, सहल, अगदी सर्व कार्यक्रम.

KSA च्या मेहनती सदस्यांपैकी एकळो, अशशी नागेशमामुविषयांतुं म्होणयेद. अनेक वर्स तांन्ने KSA चो खजिनदार म्होणू कार्य केल्लें. अत्यंत अचूक आणि पद्धतशीर कार्य. आपणागेल्या सहकाऱ्यांतु तो अत्यंत ‘प्रिय’ जाव्नु आशिल्लो. तागेलो अगदी विशेष गुण म्हळ्यारी, प्रसिद्धीलाग्गी थाव्नु नागेशमामु केदनाई धूर आशिल्लो. KSA चो कार्याध्यक्ष म्होणू तांन्ने अगदी श्रद्धेने, निःस्पृहतेने समर्पित कार्य केल्लें. अगदी आदर्श दव्वोरयेद अशशी! नागेशमामु असल्या समर्पित सदस्यांगेल्या कार्यामितींची आजि KSA शतकोत्तर चतुर्थ वर्धापनदिन साजरो कर्त आस्स!

नागेशमामुगेल्या ह्या निःस्पृह कार्याखात्तिर तांन्ना KSAची मानवंदना! तागेली धुव श्रीमती वीणा बलसे ह्या बहुमानाचा स्वीकारू कर्तली.

श्री. दिनेश दयानंद कल्याणपूर (मरणोत्तर)

दिनेशमामु स्वतःची एकी संस्था आशिल्लो म्होणू म्हळ्यारी, अतिशयोक्ती जावनयें. कारण, सामाजिक कार्यांतुं ३७ वर्स तागेलो सक्रीय सहभागु आशिल्लो. अशशी अगदी थोडेजण आस्तले की, तांन्नी विविध संस्थाखात्तिर इत्लीं वर्स समर्पित कार्य केल्यां आसकाज. दिनेशमामु म्हळ्यारी एक प्रामाणिक, सचोटीने कार्य कर्तलो, तशीची सर्वालाग्गी मित्रत्वाने वागतलो सदगृहस्थ म्होणू तागेल्या कार्यालयांतुं तशीची तांन्ने ज्या संस्थांखात्तिर कार्य केल्लें की थंयी सुपरिचित आशिल्लो.

२८ ऑक्टोबर १९३४ ह्या दिसु मुंबईंतु दिनेश मामुगेलो जन्मु जाल्लो. मध्यमवर्गीय कुटुंबांतु होडु जाल्लो. सान्न घरांतुं राबतल्या होडु मनाच्या आवसुबापसुगेलो एकळो पुतू. घर सान आशिल्लेतरी दिनेशमामुगेल्या आवसुबापसुने तांगेल्या लेकतल्यांक छत्र दिल्लें. हेची संस्कार दिनेशमामुगेल्या बालमनाचेरी जाल्ले. १९३८ तुं हें कुटुंब तालमकीवाडींतुं राबुक आयलें. आणि ह्याची तालमकी वाडींतुं दिनेशमामुने तागेल्या सामाजिक आणि सांस्कृतिक कार्यांक सुरुवात केल्ली.

दिनेशमाम्माने तागेलें शालेय आनि महाविद्यालयीन शिक्षण अनुक्रमे गिरगावांतुल्या शेट DGT हायस्कूलांथाव्नु आनि विल्सन कॉलेजांथाव्नु सायन्स विषय घेव्नु पूर्ण केल्लें. अभ्यासु, खेळु, सामाजिक कार्य ह्या सर्वांतु आपणागेलें प्राविण्य सिद्ध केल्लें. आंतरमहाविद्यालयीन टेबलटेनिस स्पर्धेंतु महाविद्यालयीन अग्रस्थान मेळ्ळें. १९५४ सालांतु पैलेफांतां, आंतरमहाविद्यालयीन कोंकणी नाट्यस्पर्धेंचें अत्यंत यशस्वी आयोजन केल्लें.

पदवीधर जायनाफुडे, दिनेशमामु, Bengal Immunity Co. Ltd. तुं Medical Representative म्होणु रूजू जाल्लो. नौकरींतु आसतनाची तांने Law, Homeopathy, Astrology, Accupressure इत्यादी विषयांचो अभ्यासु केल्लो आनि गरजूंक विनामूल्य सहाय केल्लें. Bengal Immunity Co. Ltd. तुं Medical Representative म्होणु कार्य सुरू कोर्नु दिनेशमामु क्षेत्रीय प्रमुख पदारीथायी पावलो. वीस वर्सांच्या सात्र प्रायेरी, १९५४ सालांतु दिनेशमामु KSA च्या कार्यकारिणींतु Sports Secretary म्होणु दाखल जाल्लो आनि तागेल्या KSA तुल्या प्रदीर्घ कार्याची सुरुवात जाल्ली. अत्यंत उत्साही, दक्ष तशीची आस्था आशिल्लो कार्यकर्ता अशशी तागेलें KSA वटु एक समीकरणची जाल्लें. KSA तुं विविध पदांचेरी तांने कार्य केल्लें अगदी उपाध्यक्ष पदथायी. खंचेयी क्षेत्रांतु कार्य कर्तना, दिनेशमाम्माने पदाचो केदनाई विचारू कर्ने. तो फक्त एकु काल्पनिक भेदु आशिल्लो (Distinction without a difference). TCHS, KSA, Grant Road Local Sabha, Konkani Sahitya Samiti, Sports and Social Clubs of Wilson College, Co-ordination Committee of Aid Giving Institutions, भ्रमण मंडळ, Popular Co. op Buying Club, Popular Ambulance Association अशशी नामवंत संस्थाखात्तिर दिनेशमाम्माने कार्य केल्लें.

दिनेशमाम्मागेल्या विशेष, उल्लेखनीय तशीची लक्षणीय कार्याविषयांतु सांगचे जाल्यारी-

* १९५४ सालांतु मुंबई विद्यापीठाच्या प्रथम आंतर महाविद्यालयीन कोंकणी नाट्यस्पर्धेंचे आयोजन.

* १९५६, १९७१ सालांतु चित्रापुर सारस्वत जनगणनेच्या कार्यांतु सहभागु. १९७१ तुं KSA चो मानद सचिवु म्होणु ह्या प्रकल्पाचेरी कार्य.

* KSA आनि TCHS तुं कार्यकारिणीच्या सर्व पदांचेरी श्रद्धेने समर्पित कार्य.

* “कॅनरा सारस्वत” मासिकाचो संपादक म्होणु कार्य.

* १९८८ सालांतु Convention on Managers & Entrepreneurship चें आयोजन.

* कोंकणी साहित्य समितीच्या पुनःरुज्जीवनांतु लक्षणीय कार्य.

* Nasik Holiday Home, परिज्ञानाश्रय आदि केएसएच्या विविध प्रकल्पांतु निधी वट्टु कोरचें कार्य.

Pharma Industry तुं कार्यरत आशिल्लेमितीं, दिनेशमाम्माने मस्त प्रवासु केल्लो.

दिनेशमाम्माने ज्या ज्या संस्थेंतु कार्य केलें की, त्या त्या संस्थाच्या विकासाखात्तिर अत्यंत विश्वासाने अथक कार्य केल्या.

वृत्तीने धार्मिक आशिल्लेमितीं, दत्तजयंतीच्या निमित्ताने, दिनेशमामु, भगवान दत्तात्रेयागेलें निवासस्थान जाव्नु आशिल्ल्या गिरनारांतु यात्रेक, दर्शनाक वचुगेलेलो. १८ डिसेंबर १९९१ ह्या दिसु, पूजा जायनाफुडे, देवळाचे मॅट्टु देंवतना, दिनेशमाम्माक पैलो Heart Attack आयलो आनि दत्तमहाराजांगेल्या पवित्र पादुकांच्या सात्रिध्यांतु तागेलें निधन जाल्लें.

१८ डिसेंबर, १९५४ ह्या दिसु दिनेशमाम्माने मुंबई विद्यापीठाच्या “प्रथम आंतरमहाविद्यालयीन कोंकणी नाट्यस्पर्धा” ह्या महत्वाच्या कार्यक्रमाचें आयोजन केल्लेलें आनि १८ डिसेंबर, १९९१ ह्या दिसु तो अनंतांतु विलीन जाल्लो, हो एकु योगायोगुची. ५६ वर्सांच्या अल्पायुष्यांतु ३७ वर्स सामाजिक आनि सांस्कृतिक क्षेत्रांतु लक्षणीय कार्य कोर्नु दिनेशमाम्माने हो इहलोकु सोळ्ळो.

दिनेशमाम्माक विविध क्षेत्रांतुल्या लक्षणीय योगदानाखात्तिर KSA ची मानवंदना!

दिनेशमाम्मागेली सुविद्य धर्मपत्नी मालिनीपाच्ची, हिक्का ह्या बहुमानाचो स्वीकारू कोर्काज म्होणू हांव विनंती कर्ता!

प्राध्यापक शेखर हट्टंगडी :

प्राध्यापक शेखर हो मूलतः “मुंबईचो चॅरको” “Bombay Boy” आनि तशी म्होणोव्नु घेंवच्यांतु ताक्का अगदी अभिमानु दिसता. मुंबई हिची तागेली जन्मभूमी आनि कर्मभूमी. फक्त दोनी वर्स तो मुंबई भायर आशिलो. १९८० तुं अमेरिकेंतु, आनि एक वरस, चित्रपट निर्मितीचे शिक्षण घेंवच्या निमित्ताने FTII पुणेंतु. शेखर मुंबईच्या St. Xaviers High School लांथाव्नु SSC जाल्लो आनि मुंबईच्याची St. Xaviers महाविद्यालयांथाव्नु विज्ञानशाखेचो पदवीधर जाल्लो. तागेली पैली नौकरीशिली Times of India ह्या सुप्रसिद्ध वर्तमानत्राचो बातमीदार म्होणू. ताजेउप्रांते, २४

वर्सांच्या सात्रप्रायेरी शेखरु, संपूर्ण हिंदुस्थानांतु वितरित जाल्ल्या “मिरर” ह्या वाचकप्रिय मासिकाचो Editor-in-chief जाल्लो. The Youngest Editor of a nationally Circulated Publication.

तीन वर्सानंतर आपणागेल्या यशस्वी कारकीर्दीमहेंतुं दुहेरी पदव्युत्तर पदवी शेखराने घेतली, Ohio University तुंथावु International Politics and Journalism ह्या विषयांतुं तशीची Harvard University च्या जॉन एफ. केनेडी School of Govt. थावु, Kennedy Fellowship in Public Policy मेळैली. मागिरी, शेखरु, न्यूयार्क शहरांतुल्या McGraw-Hill Publications तुं विज्ञान विषयक लेखकु आनि सहसंपादक जावु, वापस पत्रकारितेच्या क्षेत्रांतु आयलो. आनि खुशी खब्वरी म्हळ्यारी, शेखरगेली, ह्याची कंपनींतुं South Asia Correspondent म्होणू नियुक्ती जाल्ली आनि तागेल्या प्रितीच्या मुंबईंतुथावु कार्य कोरची संधी ताका मेळ्ळी. तागेल्या कामाचें स्वरूप आशिल्लें-व्यापार, राजकारण आनि नवीन सुरु जालेल्या Liberalizing Indian Economy ह्या विषयांतु बातमी दिंवची.

२००४ सालांतु, शेखराने ही नौकरी सोळ्ळी आनि विविध, भारतीय तशीची विदेशी प्रकाशनांखातिर स्वतंत्र पत्रकारितेचें कार्य सुरु केल्लें. तांतुं अमेरिकेंतु प्रकाशित जाल्ल्या “Little India” चो सुद्धाई अंतर्भाव आशिल्लो. ह्या स्वातंत्र्यामितीं, “तीन बहने” ह्या चित्रपटाच्या निर्मितींतु शेखराक सुप्रसिद्ध सिने दिग्दर्शक कुंदन शहा सांगाती काम कोर्ची संधी मेळ्ळी. “हुंडाबळी” ह्या विषयाचेरी अनेक प्रसंग चित्रित जालेल्या ह्या हिंदी चित्रपटाक अनेक राष्ट्रीय आनि आंतरराष्ट्रीय चित्रपट महोत्सवांतुं प्रवेश मेळ्ळो. तागेल्या संधारा ह्या चित्रपटाक अनेक पुरस्कार मेळ्ळे. ह्या चित्रपटनिर्मितीच्या यशाउप्रांते, शेखरु धैर्यानि पाठ्यपुस्तक आनि परिक्षेच्या जगांतुं वापस आयलो आनि कायदो म्हळ्यारी Law ह्या विषयांतुं पदवीधर जाल्लो. तेंवई मुंबई विद्यापीठाच्या अंतिम परीक्षेंतु, तीनी सुवर्णपदक मेळोवु सर्वप्रथम येवु. कौतुकास्पद खब्वरी.

तावळीधोर्नु शेखरु, प्राध्यापक शेखर जाल्लो. ‘कायदो’ हो विषयु शिकेलो, वकालत केल्ली तशी ‘विधी विषयक तत्वांचो, समकालीन पद्धती आनि प्रसंगांचे विश्लेषण कोर्चेखातिर उपयोग केल्लो. आनि आतं शेखरु आधुनिक धर्मविषयक कायद्याचें उल्लंघन कर्तल्या, परंपरागत चलत आयिल्ल्या रूढीविषयांतु मानवी जीवनाचेरी चित्रपट निर्माण कोर्नु स्वतः गेलें सिनेनिर्मितीचें कौशल्य विस्तृत कर्त आस्स. तागेल्या ह्या कार्याक आमगेल्यो शुभेच्छा!

पत्रकार, कायदेतज्ज्ञ, चित्रपट निर्माता/दिग्दर्शक अशशी विविध क्षेत्रांतुं नांव पाविल्ल्या प्राध्यापक शेखराक आमगेलो “मानाचा मुजरा”!

श्री. विनयानंद कल्याणूर :

२० मे १९५६ ह्या दिसु जन्मु.

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विनयमाम्माने परमपूज्य परिज्ञानाश्रम स्वामीजी (तृतीय) हांगेली, वैयक्तिक सेवक ह्या नात्याने सेवा केल्या.

१९८५ तुं श्री ट्रस्टाच्या Swami Parijnanashram Educational & Vocational Centre for the Handicapped ह्या संस्थेच्या कार्याक सुरुवात जाल्ली. तावळी धोर्नु विनयमामु ह्या संस्थेखातिर कार्य करीत आस्स. सुरुवातीक तो ह्या शाळेच्य स्थापनेंतु सहायु कर्तालो. तागेल्या कार्यांतु, विरारचो सामाजिक कार्यक्षेत्रांतुलो महर्षि डॉ. मोहन शांताराम मंकेकर (जो श्री ट्रस्टाचो व्यवस्थापकीय विश्वस्त जावु आस्स), हांगेल्या कार्याचो प्रभावु दिस्सुनु येता.

परमपूज्य परिज्ञानाश्रम स्वामीजींनी, विनयमाम्माक ह्या शाळेची देखरेख कोर्ची सूचना दिल्ली. ह्या शाळेंतु शिकतल्या विद्यार्थ्यांक समजून घेवची क्षमता आपणांतु येवकाज, तांचेलागी कशशी वागकाज हें समजून घेवका म्होणू विनयमाम्माने National Institute for Mentally Handicapped ह्या संस्थेथावु “Mental Retardation” ह्या विषयांतुं प्रमाणपत्र अभ्यासक्रम पूर्ण केल्लो तेंवई विशेषगुण प्राप्त कोर्नु घेवु, With Distinction. आनि ताका Swami Parijnanashram Educational & Vocational Centre for the Handicapped ह्या संस्थेंतु ‘प्राचार्य’ म्होणू पदोन्नति मेळ्ळी.

ग्रामीण सात्रिध्यांतुली ही पैली शाळा. हांतु विविध विकलांग एकडेची आस्सती. मानसिक, नेत्रहीन, कर्णबधीर आनि शारीरिक दुर्बल. ह्या शाळेचे वैशिष्ट्य म्हळ्यारी, हांगा शिक्षण, वाहतुक आनि धोनपारांचे जेवण विनामूल्य मेळता.

“येलो” ह्या चित्रपटाचो संशोधक संघु, संशोधनार्थ ह्या शाळेंतु आयिल्लो. तांकां “मानसिक रुग्ण” कशशी आसताती हें विनयमाम्माने तपशीलवार सांगले, अगदी त्या संघाचोची एक सदस्य जावु. मुखारी २०१४ सालांतु ह्या चित्रपटाक “राष्ट्रीय पुरस्कार” मेळ्ळो. ह्या चित्रपटांतु ह्या शाळेक, निर्माता दिग्दर्शकाने धन्यवाद दिल्याती.

सर्व नमुन्याच्या दुर्बल विद्यार्थ्यांक गृह व्यवस्थेविषयांतु आनुभविक ज्ञान दिव्चेखात्तिर विनयमाम्माने “Happy Home” ही योजना सुरू केल्या. ह्या योजनेअंतर्गत प्राथमिक स्वच्छता, फुटपणं, सभ्यता आनि शिष्टाचार तशीची दैनंदिन जीवनांतुल्या आचरणाविषयांतुं प्रशिक्षण दिताती.

श्री. फ्रँक कॉनलॉन आनि जनरल प्रकाश गोकर्णमाम हांगेल्या हस्ते विनयमाम्माणेल्या “We Can” ह्या योजनेचे उद्घाटन जाल्यां. ह्या योजनेअंतर्गत विद्यार्थ्यांक Horticulture, Working and Management of Supermarkets/Malls, Office Management ह्या विषयांतु मार्गदर्शन कोर्नु स्वतःगेले जीवन व्यतीत कोरूक सक्षम कर्ताती. हाज्जेमितीं, स्वतःगेलो उद्योग, व्यवसाय कर्तल्यांक सहायु जाता.

विनयमाम्माने अनेक महत्त्वपूर्ण कार्य केल्यांती. तशीची तो अनेक प्रतिष्ठित पुरस्कारांनी सन्मानित जाल्ला.

विनयमाम्माणेल्या महान समाजकार्याखात्तिर ताका KSA चो मानाचा मुजरा!

प्राध्यापक रामचंद्र गोकर्ण :

खरगपूर IIT चो Naval Architecture विषयाचो माजी प्राध्यापक तशीची पदव्युत्तर शिक्षण विभागाचो माजी मुख्याधिकारी, प्राध्यापक रामचंद्र गोकर्ण म्हळ्यारी Naval Architecture and Propeller Design विषय शिकौवच्यांतु चाळीस वर्सांचो प्रदीर्घ अनुभव आशिल्ली जागतिक कीर्तीची अधिकारी व्यक्ती. खखढ खरगपूराचो एकु प्रसिद्ध आनि प्रतिष्ठित माजी विद्यार्थी. श्री. तिलक सरकार ह्या विद्यार्थ्यानि (B.Tech १९८५) आपणागेल्या ह्या शिक्षकागेल्या सन्मानार्थ Tiara Charitable Foundation ह्या संस्थेमार्फत अनुदान दिंवची योजना कार्यान्वित केल्या.

खरगपूर IIT तुं Naval Architecture विषयाचें शिक्षण पूर्ण जायनाफुडे, गोकर्णमाम थंयींची विद्याविभागांतुं प्राध्यापक म्होणू रूजू जाल्लो. १९७९ तुं Ph.D. पूर्ण कोर्नु १९८०-१९८४ आनि १९८९-९० ह्या कालावधींतुं Naval Architecture विभागाचो, विभागप्रमुख म्होणू कार्य केल्लें तशीची १९९३-९६ आनि २०००-२००१ ह्या कालावधींतुं अनुक्रमे पदव्युत्तर शिक्षण विभागाचो मुख्याधिकारी आनि Board of Governors चो सदस्य म्होणू कार्य केल्लें. खरगपूर IIT ने गोकर्णमाम्माणेलो “प्रतिष्ठित माजी विद्यार्थी” म्होणू बहुमान केल्लो. पुरस्कारावटु मानपत्रसुद्दाई बहाल केल्लें. तें वाचून दाकैतां-

“Prof. R. P. Gokarn is renowned as an excellent teacher. In his long teaching career at IIT Kharagpur spanning nearly four decades, he inspired a whole generation of Indian Naval Architects. During the thirtynine years that he was at IIT Kharagpur, Prof. Ramchandra Prabhakar Gokarn taught a variety of Subjects including Resistance, Propulsion and Manoeuvrability of Ships, High Speed Marine Craft, Ship Power Systems, Stability of Buoyant Systems, Shipyard organisation, Shipbuilding Management and Ship Innovation.

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गोकर्णमामु २००२ सालांतुं पदव्युत्तर शिक्षण विभागाचो मुख्याधिकारी म्हळ्यारी Dean of Post Graduate Studies म्होणू IIT खरगपूर थाचु सेवानिवृत्त जाल्लो

आनि खरगपूर IIT ने तागेल्या नावाने योग्य विद्यार्थ्यांक प्रतिवरस शिष्यवृत्ती आनि अनुदान दिंवच्याक सुरू कोर्नु गोकर्णमाम्मागेलो सन्मानु केल्लो. IIT ने कोणागेलोई अशशी बहुमान/गौरवु कोरचो ही अप्रुब खब्बरी. म्होणूची हो एक होडु बहुमान म्होणयेद. ह्या शिष्यवृत्त्यांखात्तिर, अनुदानाखात्तिर लागतलो निधी, गोकर्णमाम्मागेल्या विद्यार्थ्यांनी, तांगेल्या मनांतु गोकर्णमाम्माविषयांतुं आशिली प्रिती आनि आदराखात्तिर दिल्ली. २००२ धोर्नु ह्या शिष्यवृत्त्यांक आनि अनुदानाक सुरुवात जाल्ली.

७५ वर्सांची प्राय जाल्लुसुद्दाई गोकर्णमामु तागेल्या क्षेत्रांतु अजूनीकई सक्रीय आस्स. आर्तांतुची, तांन्ने बरयिलें “Basic Ship Propulsion” हें पुस्तक प्रकाशित जाल्यां. मुंबईच्या OERC Academy तुं गोकर्णमामु आजिकई Naval Architecture आनि Marine Engineering हो विषयु शिकैता, विशाखापट्टणमच्या Indian Maritime University तुं Visiting Professor म्होणू वत्ता. अनेक Shipyards खात्तिर सल्लागार म्होणू कार्य करता.

तागेल्या ह्या अलौकिक कार्याखात्तिर KSA ची मानवंदना!

श्रीमती गंगा नाडकर्णी स्मृती कोंकणी लेखन पुरस्कार

कॅनरा सारस्वत असोसिएशनाने केदनाई तरुण वर्गाक, विविध क्षेत्रांतु लक्षणीय कार्य कोर्चेखात्तिर प्रोत्साहन दिल्यां. आनि दित्त आस्स. शालान्त, माध्यमिक, पदवी आनि पदव्युत्तर परिक्षांतु उत्तीर्ण जालेल्या विद्यार्थ्यांक प्रोत्साहन खात्तिर तांगेलें कौतुक कोर्चे खात्तिर, १९२४ धोर्नु विद्यार्थी गुणगौरव समारंभाक (Convocation) सुरुवात जाल्ली. २००२ सालांतु, गुलबर्गा विद्यापीठाचो कुलगुरू प्राध्यापक एम. व्ही. नाडकर्णी हांगेल्या हस्ते यशस्वी विद्यार्थ्यांगेलें कौतुक जाल्लें. कुलगुरू नाडकर्णी म्हळ्यारी, कोंकणी भाषेचेरी प्रभुत्व आशिल्लो, कोंकणी भाषाप्रेमी. तांन्ने एकवीस हजार रुपयांची देणगी केएसएक दिव्नु ताज्जे वाड्डींथाव्नु प्रतिवरस “कॅनरा सारस्वत” मासिकांतु प्रकाशित जाल्लेल्या उत्कृष्ट कोंकणी साहित्याक, तांगेली पत्नी श्रीमती गंगा नाडकर्णी हिगेल्या स्मृतींतु, कोंकणींतु लेखन कोर्चे खात्तिर प्रोत्साहनपर पुरस्कार दिंवकाती म्होणू विनंती केल्ली. आनि २००३ धोर्नु प्रतिवरस KSA च्या वर्धापनदिनादिसु ह्या पुरस्कारांचे वितरण जाता. तीनी पुरस्कार दिताती. ह्या पुरस्कारांक प्रथम, द्वितीय, तृतीय अशशी क्रमु ना. नोव्हेंबर-ऑक्टोबर ह्या कालावर्धींतु प्रकाशित जाल्लेल्या कोंकणी साहित्याचो ह्या पुरस्काराखात्तिर विचारू जाता. आजि, आम्मी नोव्हेंबर, २०१४ धोर्नु ऑक्टोबर, २०१५ दरम्यान प्रकाशित जाल्लेल्या तीनी उत्कृष्ट

कोंकणी साहित्य कृतींक पुरस्कार दित्त आस्सती. हांव पुरस्कार विजेत्यांगेली नांव सांगतां. तांन्नी श्रीमती कालिंदीताई मुझुमदार हांगेल्या हस्ते पुरस्काराचो स्वीकारू कोर्काज म्होणू विनम्र आवाहन.

पुरस्कार विजेते

१. वेदमूर्ती श्रीकृष्ण भवानीशंकर भट : बिक्रुण आम्मी बिक्रुण (कविता), जाने. १५
२. श्री. मुरलीधर बेट्राबेट : कानमंत्रु- ज्येष्ठ नागरिकांक (कविता), मार्च १५
३. डॉ. श्रीमती कुमुदिनी माणगांवकर : अशशी हें म्हांतारपण (कविता), ऑक्टो. १५

Outstanding Upcoming Sports Personality Award २०१५ :

विविध क्षेत्रांतु नांव पाविल्या अनेक चित्रापुर सारस्वतांगेली कर्मभूमी म्हळ्यारी “तालमकी वाडी” आनि “कॅनरा सारस्वत असोसिएशन” म्होणू म्होणयेद. दिवंगत नाडकर्णी सुरेशमामु (बाबमामु) हो तांतुलेपैकी एक. उत्कृष्ट क्रिकेटपटु आनि टेबलटेनिसपटु. बापू नाडकर्णी, पॉली उम्रीगर हांचे असल्या दिग्गजांवटु ACC च्या क्रिकेट संघांथाव्नु खेळतालो. आंतर विद्यापीठ क्रिकेट स्पर्धेंतुल्या एका मॅचांतु तांन्ने एका डावांतु प्रतिस्पर्धी संघाच्यो पुराई १० विकेट घेतिल्यो. तांगेलो हो विक्रमु आजिकई अबाधित आस्स. टेबलटेनिस स्पर्धेंतु बाबमाम्माने KSA संघाचें प्रतिनिधित्व केल्यां. अत्यंत निगर्वी प्रतिभावंत क्रीडापटु. तागेल्या कुटुंबियांनी तागेल्या स्मरणार्थ २००२ धोर्नु प्रतिवरस हो पुरस्कारू दिंवच्याक सुरुवात केल्ली.

औंदु ह्या पुरस्काराची मानकरी आस्स कुमारी नवमी शर्मा. तिगेल्या कौशल्याविषयांतु ऐकळाक सांगतां. मागिरी, नवमीक विनंती की तिन्ने श्रीमती कालिंदीताई मुझुमदार हांगेल्या हस्ते ह्या पुरस्काराचो स्वीकारू कोर्काज.

कुमारी नवमी शर्मा

औंदुंच्या Outstanding Upcoming Sports Personality Award ह्या पुरस्काराखात्तिर कुमारी नवमी शर्मा हिगेली निवड केल्या.

नवमी ही श्रीमती अपर्णा शर्मा (पूर्वाश्रमींची गुलवाडी) आनि श्री. सुनीलकुमार शर्मा हांगेली धुव.

प्रायी १४ वर्स. जुहूच्या आर्य विद्यामंदिर शाळेची विद्यार्थीनी. भारतांतुल्या पंधरा वर्सांभितरल्या squash खेळतल्या चलियांतु प्रथम मानांकित खेळाडू, शाळेंतु सुद्दाई, अभ्यासांतु अक्वल गुण मेळैता. अभ्यासु, शारीरिक तंदुरुस्ती तशीची खेळाच्या निमित्ताने जांवचो प्रवासु हांतुलो समतोल

तिन्ने अत्यंत हुशारीने राकला.

नवमीगेल्या मृदुभाषी आनि भिडस्त स्वभावामितीं, हेरशांतुं, तिज्यांतुली झुंजार वृत्ती दिस्सना. जाल्यारी, केदना ती Squash Court री खेळूक वत्ता, ताव्वळी एक्का वाघीणीवारी तिज्यांतुली झुंजारवृत्ती दिसून येता.

गेल्या एक्का वर्सांतुले तिन्ने मेळैल्या यशाचो, तिगेले कुटुंबीय, तिगेलो प्रशिक्षक तिगेलो संघु Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI) हांचेवट्टु आमकां सर्वांकयी अभिमानु दिसता.

जुलै २०१५ तुं Pioneer Junior Open Cologne ह्या पैल्या आंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्पर्धेंतु खेळतना, नवमी शर्मा कोणाकई गोत्नाशिली, तिक्का मानांकनई नाशिलें. जाल्यारी, तिने तिगेल्या प्रतिस्पर्ध्यांचेरी अत्यंत व्यवस्थितपणाने विजय प्राप्त कोर्नु घेव्नु सर्व दर्शकांक स्तिमित केल्लें. (ह्या स्पर्धेंतु विविध देशाचे खेळाडू सहभागी जाल्लेले) आनि अंतिम सामान्यांतुं प्रवेशु केल्लो. हाज्जेमितीं European Squash Federation चे सदस्य इल्ले प्रभावित जाल्ले की तांनी मुखावैल्या स्पर्धेंतु (The Dutch Junior Open of Amsterdam) नवमीक

द्वितीय मानांकन (Second Seed) दिल्लें. ह्याची स्पर्धेंतु UK ची प्रथम मानांकित खेळाडू Ellen Cooper हिगेलो पराभवु कोर्नु नवमीने अंतिम सामान्यांतुं प्रवेशु केल्लो.

२०११ सालांतुं नवमी तिगेली पैल्या स्पर्धेंतु खेळ्ळी. (मुंबईतु) आनि तांतु तिक्का "The Most Promising Girl Player" हो पुरस्कारू मेळ्ळो. आनि ह्याची पुरस्काराने नवमीगेल्या भावी यशाची नांदी जाल्ली. आजि तिन्ने CCI Open स्पर्धा जिंकल्या, आनि ती पुरस्कार समारंभाक वत्त आस्स. नवमीक विनंती की तिन्ने कालिंदी पाचगेल्या हस्ते ह्या पुरस्कारांचो स्वीकारू कोर्काज.

ताज्जेउप्रांते, दिवाळी २०१५ तुं आयोजित केलेल्या कॅरम आनि टेबल टेनिस स्पर्धेच्या पुरस्कारांचे वितरण जाल्लें. Men's Singles Carrom स्पर्धेच्या विजेत्याक दिवंगत सुरेश मास्केरी स्मृती पुरस्कार दिल्लो. हो पुरस्कारू, सुरेशागेली पत्नी श्रीमती माया मास्केरी हिन्ने सुरेशागेल्या ७५व्या स्मृतीदिनानिमित्त दिल्लो.

स्नेहभोजनाने कार्यक्रमाची सांगता जाल्ली.

(Speeches of the honoured invitees will be printed in the next issue).

Prizes for Kiddies' Corner

Drawings

8 and below

Aadnya D Shanbhag	A Vase	Nov-14
Saadya Madiman	The scene outside my village home	Nov-14

9 to 12 years

Anmruta Sawant	A scene on chowpatty sands	May-15
Ishika Milind Yennemadi	A pair of ducks swimming in a pond	Sep-15

12 to 16 years

Smriti Kumta	A pretty girl	Jul-15
Tejasvini Vinay Tonse	A scene in a warli village	Sep-15

Articles / essays / stories

8 and below

Shloka Rao	The Story that changed everything (Essay)	Aug-15
Anya Bailur	Sounds of Spring (poem)	Jul-15
Atmaj Koppikar	Arithmetic (poem)	Jan-15

9 to 12 years

Mallika Pal	The day I met Buddy (Essay)	Dec-14
Siya Ragade	I love naughts and crosses (essay)	Feb-15
Sanika Kodial	Autobiography of a Raindrop (essay)	Oct-14

**Diamond Jubilee Announcement of
Mr. Narsing Gulvady and Mrs. Sita Gulvady**

(3rd January 2016)



3rd January 1956



3rd January 1956

From sharing favorite authors and thoughts about Music and Art, to sharing deep insights about coping with setbacks and meeting challenges ; From strengthening our fledgling wings to steadying us in turbulent storms, you are the wind beneath our wings. You have always been ever loving, ever supportive, the lodestone that guides our family.

You have taught us the family mantra that: "Together, no problem is so big that we cannot solve it, or so small that we cannot share it".

Your voyage over the past 60 years has been an inspiring one which has gathered the family in a circle of love, mutual sense of values, and shared dreams and goals. Very fittingly, you epitomise everything about a Diamond- multi-faceted, precious, and rare.

Diamond comes from the Greek word 'adamas' which means unconquerable and enduring.

Many also believe that the fire in the diamond symbolizes the constant flame of love.

On this special day, your Diamond Wedding Anniversary,
We, your children: Shiva-Geeta; Kishore-Padmini
and your grandchildren: Rohit, Ranjit, Tanushree and Gayatri,
wish you both everlasting love and togetherness.

Four Generations



From Left to Right,
Mrs. Gauri Vinay Benegal nee Ubhayakar (Mother in the left)
Mrs. Ranjeeta Jayant Benegal nee Talgeri (Grandmother in the left)
Mrs. Vrinda Bhalchandra Talgeri nee Manikeri (Great Grandmother in the centre)
Kumari. Vaidehi Vinay Benegal (Great Grand Child)
Mr. Jayant Dinkar Benegal (Grandfather in the right)
Mr. Vinay Jayant Benegal (Father in the right)

Fifty Glorions Years

*With the Blessings of Our Kuladevata Shri Mangeshi and
Our Holy Guruprampara*



*Smt. T Seethalakshmi (nee Balnad)
And
Sri T. Rajaram Rao
Celebrated their 50th Marriage
Anniversary
On 16th December 2015*

May Gold Turn into Diamond !!

*With tons of Love and Best Wishes From:
Trikannads, Balanads, Taggarses, Kumtas, Maraballis,
and Relatives and Friends.*

Smt. Saroj Mohan Naik (nee Masurkar)
Celebrates her 80th Birthday on 13th January 2016.

Dear Akka (Aai),

With loving regards and best wishes for a happy and healthy future.



From : Shaila – Chittaranjan, Anil – Montse Vaidyas,
Anil, Sudhir –Kausalya, Samir – Sushma Masurkars,
Menaka – Prasanna Patki,
Sujata – Shrikant Muthye,
Sital Jindal,
Sonal – Sanjay Dhar,
Grandchildren,
Relatives and Friends.

HAPPY 75TH BIRTHDAY



Lt. Col. (Retired) VIDYANAND SHANKAR KALLIANPUR

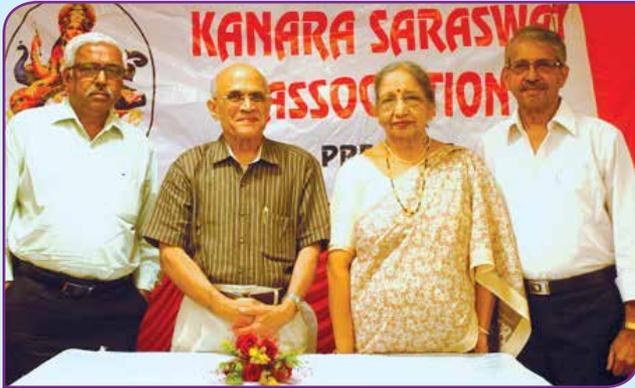
1ST JANUARY 1941

We pray to our Kuladevata Sri Shantadurga Devi,
Our Guruparampara and Param Pujya Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram
Swamiji to bless him with many more years of Good Health and Happiness.

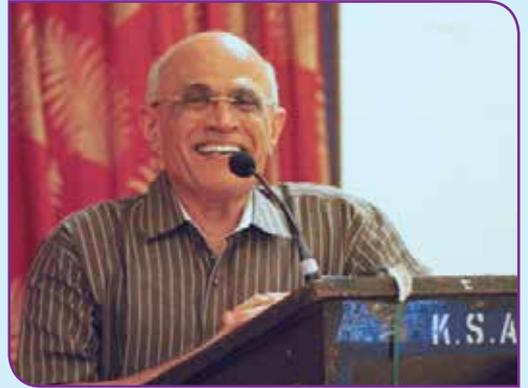
With lots of Love from:

Veena, Vikram, Vibha, Viren, Vidhi, Akriti, Sanskriti,
Kallianpurs, Bellares, Arangadys, Chandavarkars, Kailajes, Sujirs, Madimans,
friends, relatives and well wishers

“AT HOME” - KSA’s CONVOCATION 24th October 2015



(I to r) Raja Pandit, Chairman KSA; Chief Guest Shri Kuldeep Kalavar; Geeta Yennemadi, Vice President KSA and Master of Ceremonies Sunil Ullal were on the dias.



Chief Guest Shri Kuldeep Kalavar’s convocation address kept the students and parents engrossed.



Tanvi Bijur (SSC Xth) bagged many prizes.



Anirudh Chaitanya Kembre obtained 100/100 in Maths at ICSE XII



Unmani Balse scored 100/100 in Sanskrit at HSCE (XII) examination



Malavika Padukone who won the Shashi Ullal Memorial Annual Scholarship shared her thoughts on the occasion

“At Home” - KSA’s Convocation for students

REPORTED BY KISHORE BIJUR

We, Chitrapur Saraswats, are devotees of Goddess Saraswati, the Goddess of learning. As such we give great importance to education. In tune with this, the KSA has been encouraging students by felicitating successful students and giving prizes to the meritorious ones. It has been a practice since 1924 that the Vice President hosts this function and he or she is “At Home” to the students. This year it was on 24th October evening that KSA had organized this function to felicitate successful students of various boards and university exams. The Anandashram Hall was packed to capacity. Mr Sunil Ullal, the Honorary Secretary for sports and socials, was the Master of the Ceremonies and conducted the entire proceedings of the function very efficiently in a professional manner. He extended a warm welcome to the participants and the audience which was present in large numbers to motivate and encourage the students. Mrs Geeta Yennemadi – Vice President KSA presided over the function. Mr Sunil Ullal introduced the Chief Guest Mr. Kuldeep Kalavar, a well-known successful bhanap entrepreneur. Mr. Kalavar then addressed the students –

Address by the Chief Guest – Shri Kuldeep Kalavar

“Congratulations to each of you. You have crossed one milestone in this journey of life.

As you stand at this juncture questions crowd your mind! What is going to happen?

Will I be successful? etc... Don’t be afraid! Your parents, their parents, and every person have stood at this same milestone. Each asked himself the same question!! The questions were always the same but the concerns were different.

When your parents stood at this juncture few decades ago they were concerned about roti, kapda and makaan. When our ancestors left Kashmir they were concerned about getting a safe haven. Your concerns are different. The concerns of every generation have been different but their goal has always been identical. I would like to discuss the elements of a journey.

Every journey implies (1) purpose, (2) Milestones (3) a vehicle and (4) A source which supports and provides the foundation for the journey.

The purpose (or goal) of every generation’s life journey has been a search for happiness! Happiness is not a physical property, unlike sweetness which is a property of sugar. Trying to find happiness through physical acquisitions (Money, Assets, Land, gold or even power, designation etc) is futile. Physical assets are only a means to happiness. Don’t mistake them for happiness. Pleasure is temporary happiness. The first serving of a sweet gives pleasure. Every extra serving results in pleasure turning to pain!

A journey needs planning of milestones to be successful. At each **milestone** you review the next phase & understand & plan the means to overcome the roadblocks likely to crop up. Unfortunately most people hardly plan. Some girls & boys present here may have already been pressured to get married!

Are you ready for the next leg of life’s journey? Why should you get married? What is this institution called “Marriage”? What are the parameters to select a life partner? What is the role of astrology in deciding a life partner? These and many more questions need to be understood and planned before commencing the next leg of your life journey.

No one can become a successful doctor / engineer / cricketer or even a dancer without studying the basics of the subject. It is unfortunate people start life without knowing the basics - of life. It is like jumping into a swimming pool without knowing what swimming is! It is not surprising that many people don’t enjoy but think life is a burden.

Life - a cricket match : In the game of Cricket a batsman has no choice. He cannot choose the bowler, field placements, or type of ball that he is to receive. The only choice he has is how to play the ball. Also - he has no time to regret the previous or next ball. How he plays the current ball is all that counts! Happiness is inherent in every ball!!! He can allow it to pass or to hit it for a / single / four or a six! If he loses focus on the current ball he gets bowled.

Similarly Life is an endless match of experiences. You have no choice about what experience is going to confront you. How you handle the current experience is all that counts! Past and Future do not count. The past is a good teacher but a poor guide to the future! Happiness is inherent in each experience.

If we succeed we are happy, if we fail what happens normally – Most cry. Don't blame someone else!! Go back and study where you went wrong just as you do when you don't solve a math problem!

Vehicle: A journey's success depends upon the fitness of the vehicle we use. If it is not sturdy and capable of withstanding the rigors, the journey could be a disaster. For every animal and human the body is the only vehicle he has at his disposal to undertake the journey. Let it not become a liability! Remember the cricketer Agarakar. He had potential but because of poor fitness could not be successful. Keep your body superbly fit if you want to succeed in life!

Our Source & Foundation (Spirit) : Have you seen those huge towering skyscrapers? Their foundation remains unseen!

The quality / capability to weather storms/ earthquakes depend on the quality of their foundation. The foundation of man is spirit – but you cannot see Him. He is the source of everything that you need on this journey. How does spirit impact daily life? Every experience demands a decision. Even getting up in the morning is a decision!! The quality of your decision is directly related to the quality & depth of your spiritual foundation. Regular and disciplined

sadhana puts you in constant touch with your source. You receive insight, guidance and quality in decision making.

Each of us is blessed to be born as Chitrapur saraswats. We have an illustrious lineage of 11 Gurus - masters who have guided each generation on their journeys. May their blessings continue to flow to each of you in the years ahead. My best wishes to each of you for the future”.

Mr. Ullal then announced the names of the prize-winners. Prizes were then given to more than 30 successful students at the hands of Shri Kalavar. Students who have scored highest marks in different subjects in the 10th and 12th std of different boards walked proudly to the stage as their names were called to loud applause from the audience. Chairman Mr Raja Pandit announced Shri Shashi Ullal Memorial Annual Scholarship for Mass Media studies, which was awarded to Miss Malavika C. Padukone.

On behalf of all students Miss Tanvi Gurudutt Bijur proposed the vote of thanks. Mrs Geeta Yennemadi thanked the audience for the encouragement given to the students. The programme concluded with sumptuous refreshments being served to the audience.

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- ❖ Home Equity Loans
- ❖ Home Loans to Non Resident Indians (NRIs) & Person of Indian Origin (PIO) .
- ❖ Repatriation of Sale Proceeds of Immovable Property in India by NRI/PIO up to USD 1 Million per Person per Financial Year i.e. April to March under FEMA
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- ❖ Long Term Capital Gain Tax and Exemption under Section 54 , 54EC & 54F of Indian Income Tax Act 1961 arising from Sale of Residential Property/Other Immovable Property by an Individual/HUF.
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Are we becoming 'immobile' by constant use of mobile phones ?

BY MALAVIKA C. PADUKONE

(Winner of the 'Shashi Ullal Memorial Annual Scholarship' for Mass Media Studies)

It's common these days to see 'courting couples' sitting opposite or next to each other being 'mutually exclusive'. All thanks to the ubiquitous cell-phones that they carry with them. In other words, rather than 'chatting with each other', ironically, the couples are pre-occupied checking their dozens of 'WhatsApp' messages or sms-es and missed calls on their respective handsets. The popular humourist-actor & TV stand-up host Kapil Sharma quips that "teenage girls may forget their make-up kits and wallets but will remember to take their cell-phones with them, because it's like a soul mate".

People proudly flaunt their latest expensive hi-tech cell-phone models. Mobile phones have drastically changed lifestyles. Leaving home, without your phone is akin to leaving minus your shoes. Clearly, the mobile phone is one of the phenomenal marvel-wonder inventions of this modern age. What then are the repercussions of constantly using these devices day in and day out? Let's briefly analyse the benefits and drawbacks of mobile phones below and decide our own verdict.

Benefits of Mobile Phones:

1. Easy & Quick Communication - Most people have at least a simple, if not sophisticated, mobile phone. These devices are convenient to carry around and you can use them on the go as long as there is network coverage wherever you are. Many parents allow their kids to own mobile phone because they feel secure in the knowledge that they can access their kids wherever they are and at any time. Mobile phones have clearly made it easier to instantly communicate.

2. Always Connected - With the upgrades made year in, year out, mobile phones are becoming more like mini-computers with the added benefit of portability. One can receive and send emails, browse websites, download games and videos, book flight tickets, money transfer to banks and even chat with friends. With a mobile phone, you are connected globally through the internet. You can search and

navigate to places and obtain directions for places that you are not familiar with. You can check out what your friends are up to on social media (FaceBook, SnapChat etc) and you can even access your work PC remotely.

3. Multiple Uses - Mobile phones are convenient devices that can be used for a variety of tasks. You can take photographs (and 'selfies') , listen to music, watch movies, play games, browse, store notes, make video calls, and also set an alarm for your waking up. You can even use some hi-tech phones to control your TV and monitor CCTV cameras. Mobile phones have become the modern day personal assistant.

4. Emergency Situations - Although the mobile phone doesn't guarantee safety, you can use it to make calls whenever there is an emergency. Travelling with your phone is very important. In case you meet with an accident, you can always contact all those who will help you.

Drawbacks of Mobile Phones:

1. Constant Interruption - Since you're always connected when you have your mobile phone, it becomes impossible to ignore frequent interruptions. People are always on their phones receiving calls, checking out their friends on Facebook, chatting on WhatsApp, checking emails and listening to music. It has become virtually impossible to avoid unneeded interruption. If you're unable to control your calls, this can become a problem as you won't have time to get anything important done. Furthermore, you just can't avoid work-related urgent emails and phone calls when you're at home with your family or on vacation.

2. Risks of Privacy Leak - Having all your vital-info on your cellular device is very convenient. However, it's also dangerous because there's a possibility of someone else accessing your phone. Mobile phone theft is quite common and it could leave you exposed. It is therefore important to secure your phone from unauthorized access. You should also avoid storing sensitive data such as bank and credit card details. It is also possible for someone to 'hack'

and 'hijack' your email and social media accounts using your phone, for malicious reasons.

3. Dangerous Distraction - The accidents caused by usage of mobile phones while driving is innumerable. The temptation to answer an important call when driving is huge. The distraction could easily cause you to lose control of the car and consequently cause a major accident. While it is possible to put your phone on 'hands free' mode, it is usually best to wait until you get to your destination or even stop aside, in order to take the call.

The mobile phone can also disrupt a corporate meeting or academic class training if proper etiquette is not followed. The phone ringing can distract the attendees and waste precious time. Always put your phone on silent or discreet mode when you are put in such a situation.

4. No More 'Real' Interactions - Today, socializing that involves real physical interaction is becoming rare. People have become 'immobile', as they are used to interacting only on social platforms such as Facebook and Twitter, or chat applications such as

Viber and WhatsApp. While there's nothing expressly wrong with chatting on these platforms, it can be a problem if it is done at the expense of face-to-face interaction. It also tends to make you laid-back and lethargic which is hazardous for good health. In a family, where every member has a mobile phone and uses it every time they are together, it may even lead to gradual drift-rift of relationships and families.

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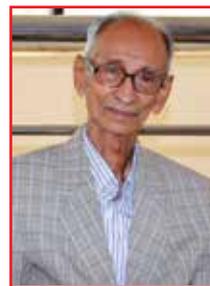
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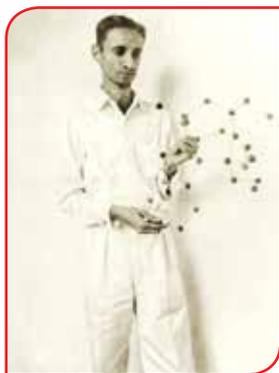
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Dr. Hattikudur Manohar (Ph D)

BY SRIRANG MANOHAR



Dr. Hattikudur Manohar (PhD) a well-known member of the community passed away at his residence in Bangalore on 29 November 2015.



In 1963 with a model of the structure of the molecule echitamine iodide.

Manohar-mam was born on 11 December 1929 in Coimbatore to Hattikudur Shiva Rau and Chandrabai. From early days he excelled at school, and also did well at cricket and tennis. After Shiva Rau-mam retired from the Government Agricultural College in 1947, the family moved to Bangalore. Manohar-mam was sent to Madras to study at Loyola College for his BSc. During this time he devel-

oped a serious illness, tuberculosis, which put a stop to participation in sports and caused a delay in studies. After rehabilitation, he resumed studies in 1952 at St. Joseph's College where he pursued his interest in the exact sciences getting a university rank for his BSc. After this, he joined Central College where he took up a BSc. Honours with specialization in Physics and followed up with an MSc.

Manohar-mam joined for a PhD at the famous Physics Department of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc.), with Prof. S. Ramaseshan, a brilliant scientist who later went on to become Director of the Institute. His PhD was on elucidation of the structure of Echitamine iodide, using the method of x-ray crystallography. This was a very exciting research problem since four eminent chemists in India, Australia, the United States and England had already proposed structures, but a definitive solution had not yet been demonstrated. Manohar-mam and Ramaseshan were successful in showing the exact structure of the molecule first, narrowly edging out the group from England.

Following his PhD in 1963, Manohar-mam joined the Inorganic and Physical Chemistry department

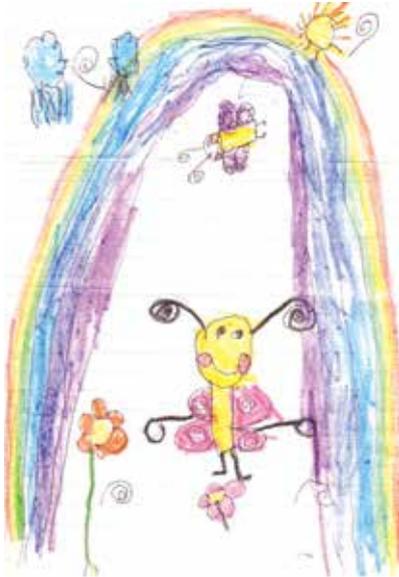
of IISc as Lecturer. He went on to become Associate Professor (1978), Professor (1983) and Department Chairman (1989) continuing in the field of x-ray crystallography. During this time he undertook a sabbatical for 2 years in Switzerland. He guided many PhD students for their theses and quite a few of them are now working at top institutions such as Dr. Reddy's Labs, Stanford University etc.

After retirement in 1990 Manohar-mam took up many hobbies at which he had always excelled but had had little time during his research years. He was an avid photographer and made several thousand photographs using an analog camera mostly during his travels. He was a good philatelist and had several albums of beautiful and rare stamps. He was also interested in social issues and was an active member of Malleshwaram Swabhimana Initiative for a cleaner, greener, safer and healthier environment at Malleshwaram. After moving to Jalahalli, Manohar-mam was also involved in initiatives for waste segregation and maintenance of the footpaths in the neighbourhood. He was a patron of the Akshaya Patra Scheme, Karunashraya and of Child Relief and You (CRY) among others.

Manohar-mam was a very good writer in English, writing in a simple style and published several articles in the Kanara Saraswat, the IISc newsletter, the Canara Union newsletter and the 'Deccan Herald' newspaper. He wrote on diverse topics, but especially to popularize science. He was also editor of the Science and Technology section of the Kanara Saraswat. Manohar-mam was also busy with his reminiscences whose draft copy of 140 pages including several photographs, was ready in October 2015. Around this time, he developed complications related to cardiac problems. After a short illness, he passed away, at home in Bangalore, surrounded by his close family. He is survived by his wife of 52 years – Sudha, his sons Sanjay and Srirang, daughters-in-law, Preety and Joan, and a grandson, Ram.

Kiddies' Corner

Happy Butterfly



Chinmayee Bakul Kodikal (5years)

Mom and baby elephants



Malavika Kolpe (7 years)

Colours

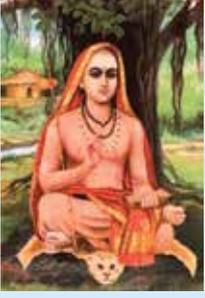
Colours, colours everywhere,
Red, green, white and blue,
Everywhere in the air,
Seen by me and you.

Red is the rose
Which makes our bouquets sweet;
Green is sometimes gross
But is even cool grass which beat the heat.

White is glue
Which can even stick your shoe;
Seas are blue,
Over which seagulls flew.

Our Colours world
Is such a big wonder
I cannot understand it
That is why make a blunder.

AAHANA CHERKAL
(11 years)

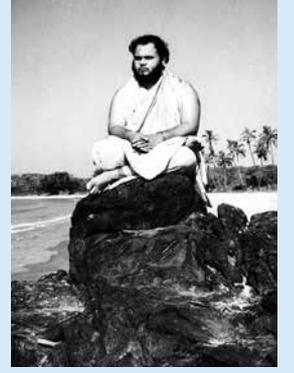


“I ----- WE” “Haanv - Aammai”

By Parama Pujya Swami Parijnanashram III
(Part 15)



Here is the fifteenth 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



प्रचारांतु हाड्डेले आस्ताति, तडदी म्बून शरीरांतर्गत सूक्ष्मशरीर सूक्ष्म शरीरांतर्गत कारणाशरीर- ह्या शरीरांतु यान्कुई आनि क्रितारि अनर्णनीय एकि सुरवा अवस्था जन्मजात प्रतीडकळ्यांक आस्ताचि. जाव्याचे इलेचि, चेडवांक फट्टिसांगूनु खेडेलवारि त्या परमात्माने इंद्रिय-प्रत तज्जान्य अन्य सुखावास प्राय इवळी आस्ताति. मन-इंद्रिय त्या बाह्य पदार्थांक स्पर्श कर्ताति. अनुभन कर्ताति आनि जांवचे सुरवा त्या पदार्थांतुचि आस्स आशिश लेकाति. ह्या वेव्यारि अनुभन जन्म सुरवा आपणागळ्या अंतर्सांतुचि आस्ता अथवा सुख आपवांतु चि सुख आशिशिल्या ह्या सुखाक आपवाचि व्यक्त स्वकांपांतु आपवांतुची उत्पन्न कर्ता म्हड्डेले ह्यान-सूक्ष्मज्ञान ह्या बाह्य पदार्थांनीती आम्हा केवटु येता.

आनु- आपणागळ्या रकांयाळु आमले संस्कार तांच् म्हवकेचि माड्डा

अंतर्भुवन करतले. आपणागळ्यांक अंतर्भुवन जावचो लव्यासु माड्डा सानु अस्तजा धोनु काळीनी विविष्ट मयादिन नियमांतु वत जावु उरलेली सगळे वेडु हांक चिंतनांतु मननांतु अंतर्सांतु नद्व्या प्रयत्नांतु घालताली. जाणि ह्या अवस्थेंतुचि आम्हा अलीकिक सुखाचि परित्रावा कडेली.

मनुष्याक तौद ही एकि सुरवाचि अवस्था. चारीबाजूने आशिल्ले दुःखपदार्थ आपणागळ्यांक लवक नसतात. बाह्य शब्दस्पर्श अनुभनाक येताति... मन

येने संस्कार वलात प्रमल कर्ता, आनी जंतर ... आपलांतुल्यांचे एक ग्रंथींतु-
 पुगीतता लाईंतु वचूंक जेज जाता. आनी मनुष्याक निद्रावर्धन येता. तांतु त्या
 आवरठाळीती 'हांव' म्हळेंली वृत्ती विस्मृतानयेंतु-शी- ~~का~~ तडाकार जाता.
 आनी मनुष्याने जाग्रत जाशेंत जंतर ताका कौवु येता 'सुखमहमस्नासी' *
 हांवे सुखाने वेद काडी... मुळु. जाल्यार हे अनुभव अहंनृत्तिक इहांव' *
 जाग्रत जायनापडे मेवता अर्थात अनुमाने हांव सुखारि आशिल्ले. हांवे
 सुखारि & निद्रा काडलेनि म्हळेंले ज्ञान त्या मनुष्याने उटायताचे सिध्द केलेले
 जाता.

सुखान्या अवस्थेंतुचे जादि त्या शब्द-वस-रूप-गंध-स्पर्श गुणाने वंचित
 जावु 'हांव' जाग्रत जावुई आसल्यारि त्या सुखाचे जोडसाठी केवाक
 कोकक जायद? अनुस्यूत जावु त्या सुखाचो अनुभव 'हांव' म्हळेंल्याने
 जाग्रत अवस्थेंतु- आवरठा-नालिकेचे खेळत आसल्यारि ताका निद्राचेंत
 सुखापेदां हे सुख महत्त पूर्ण आसा. हीच अनुभव मगल्या जेज्या साधना-
 नीती हांवे एदेंकुवाई हरतगत केलेले.

आनी अनन्य सुख ह्या नाईने वचुगल्यानीचे माका परिपूर्ण प्राप्त केनु
 वेवच्याक साध्य आस म्हळेंलेई हांवे श्रध्दापूर्वक सोडुनु काडलेले.
 हे ह्या अर्थाचे मगल्या गुणदेवानी ह्या गुहेदिमाने वार सोडुनु आयली
 नुं कोणु म्हणु विचारलेले. ह्या तांजल्या गुहा म्हळेंल्या शब्दाक हांवे
 आंतरीक गुहा होचि अशु झारि दवर्तेको. 'कुंकोणु' 'तुंकोणु' मुळु
 प्रभु कोनु 'भितारि यो.' ह्या वाक्यांचोई माका कोणु ह्याचे तांजल्या

वाक्यांनी उपदेशात्मक जावु प्राप्त जाळेली.

“I ----- WE” “Haanv - Aammi”

By Parama Pujya Swami Parijnanashram III

(Original in Konkani)

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND EXPLANATORY NOTES BY DR SUDHA TINAIKAR

Yes, it was definitely a period of transition for me. Keeping my sense organs of perception and actions (*jñânendriyâ-s* and *karmendriyâ-s*) under control, focusing my mind on the Self, I was trying hard to reach my goal of realizing the Self. In such a situation, this time was that of transition - I was almost there. In brief, I had kept the two intermediate *ashramâ-s* (*gruhasta* and *vânâprastha*) aside and was making an attempt to directly enter the fourth *ashram* straight from the first (*direct transition from brahmacharyâshrama to sanyâsâshrama*). This was one great leap, a significant transition in the life of a seeker. My Guru was talking about this ‘*Sandhi-kâla*’ and not what one routinely thinks of. A *Jñâni* never says anything out of context, even if it may superficially appear so.

Notes:

The *varna-âshrama dharma* is a smooth transition of a human mind from the *brahmacharya âshrama* through *gruhasta* and *vânâprasthâshramâ-s* to the final *sanyâsâshrama*. This system gives a person, a plan - to work out one’s natural tendencies and *samskâra-s*. As a house-holder he is able to *dhârmically* fulfill his natural desires, be a *karmayogi* and contribute to the world in the form of *pañcha-mahâ yagnâ-s*. Here, is an opportunity to do all the *karmâ-s* enjoined by the *Vedâ-s*. A *gruhasta* has the right to do certain rituals for his or his family’s personal gain. *Vânâprastha* is a gradual withdrawal from active life of a house-holder which is spent mostly away from home with total involvement in *upâsana* (meditation). This life prepares the person for the final *âshrama* - of total detachment from the world, while he immerses himself totally in *Âtma Vichâra* (contemplation on the Self). The scriptures also provide an opportunity for direct transition from *brahmacharyâshrama* to *sanyâsâshrama* - to a person who is prepared for a life of renunciation. This is what Lord Krishna talks about as

two lifestyles (*Dwividhâ Nishthâ*) in *Bhagwad Gita chapter 3-3*.

Nature has planned for the sense organs to be looking outwards. The common understanding of any person is that, if the mind and sense organs turn inwards, it is a waste of one’s life. This fear and the natural tendencies of the mind and senses -make a person constantly concentrate on the world of objects. Just as the most precious objects in the house are hidden in the darkest corners of the house in an unassuming box, similarly the most precious *âtman* is covered by three layers of the manifest body—the gross, subtle and the causal. All the contentment and happiness lies in this innermost Self which is the very abode of happiness. However, just like a child is distracted by toys, the Lord seems to have kept this secret Self out of reach and directed all the sense organs outwards. This confuses the individual making him feel that all the happiness and contentment is in the world of objects. In fact, “I” the *âtman* is the very source of peace and happiness. This knowledge remains elusive till a compassionate Guru is able to make one understand the Truth.

Notes:

In *Kathopanishad*, verse 2-1-1 says that it is as if *Îshwara* has tortured a human being- by directing the sense organs outwards. Therefore, the individual always looks outward and never at his own Self, which is the very source of happiness and immortality. A rare discriminating individual turns his vision inwards in search of that immortal “I”. A seeker of Truth needs to turn his mind inwards totally - from the outside world - and only then can he really see the Truth about himself.

It was the *samskârâ-s* of my parents which also made me look inwards (*antarmukha*) for that contentment and happiness. It was natural for

me to contemplate on the Self, looking inwards from my childhood. After completing my daily routine worship and rituals, I would spend the rest of the time in trying to go deeper into myself. This was the only time I experienced that limitless happiness.

For a living being sleep is a natural state of uninhibited happiness. The entire world outside disappears by itself. Experience, of the outside world, stops in this state. The *Jīva* wanders around for sometime and that too folds up into one of the hundred and one *nādi*-s (thin lymphatics-like structures). At that time, the individual experiences deep sleep. In the deep-sleep state, the individual “I” disappears and there is total ignorance of everything. It is only after waking up that one says “I slept well, it was a happy time and I did not know a thing”.

Notes:

Māndukya Upanishad talks about the details of the three states of mind (avasthā-s). In the Jagrut (waking) avasthā, the mind is functional fully and uses the gross-body to transact in the world. The sthula-sharira-abhimāni Jīva, here, is given a special name “Vishva”. In the next state of dream or swapna- avasthā, the physical body is totally out of function, the sūkshma sharira alone is active. The mind uses the stored impressions in its recesses and projects a world of dreams. The sūkshma-sharira-abhimāni Jīva in swapna- avasthā is called by the name “Taijasa”. In deep-sleep, the mind, with all its organs of perception and action is fully withdrawn, only the prāna (breathing activity) continues keeping the jīva alive. The Jīva here is totally identified with the kārana sharira (causal body) and given the name “Prāgñā”. These three states of the mind are mutually exclusive, that is they can never occur together at one time. The deep-sleep state is a very crude likeness to the state of moksha.

There is no mind to experience the state of total contentment during sleep. It is only on waking that I can say that “I was so happy asleep”! Is this not the reason why everyone waits to go to sleep? If a person is able to experience that very state of contentment in a fully-awake state -without any sort of veiling -how would it be? It is the very nature of myself, then experienced by the very same mind. This was an experience I had gathered

with a little of the *sādhana* that I had done. I had total trust that this indescribable happiness and contentment is possible to experience and that too in this cave of my very heart. This was shown to me by my Guru positively, when sitting in his cave, he had asked me, “Who are you?” and simultaneously He had said, “Come in”, which meant come deep into yourself to know that You are that very abode of infinite happiness and bliss.

Notes:

In the few paragraphs above, Swāmiji is explaining the deeper meaning of every sentence that Guru Govinda Bhagawad Pada had spoken to him on their first meeting. It was the very subtle and mature intellect of Shankara which was able to analyze the implied meaning (laksharthā) of each and every word uttered. This is a unique way in which Swāmiji has explained many deep vedāntic concepts, using situations and dialogue between the Guru and Shishya.

(To be continued)

प्राणलिंग

आभाळमाया खडतर वाट
दुर्गम चाल मानस तप
हेच खरे जीवन सत्य
ह्यातच आहे आयुष्याचे तथ्य
गुरु शिष्याचे नाते अतूट
सन्यासाश्रमाचे अंतिम टोक
अर्पण करिती शिष्य प्रितम
प्राणलिंग अर्पून धन्य होत शिष्य गुरु
अंतःकरणाची शुद्धता
आत्मज्ञानाची उत्तुंगता
सत्त्वशुद्ध श्रद्धा
प्राणार्पणाची सिद्धता
विश्वस्तुती हीच खरी भक्ति
परब्रह्माला आवाहन करी
आकाशाचा प्रतिध्वनी गरजे
ब्रह्मसाक्षात्कार अंधारतही तेज दिसे
ब्रह्मांड भेदले तेजोवलय कोसळे
तेजाची रास पडे
कवळुनी घेई अद्वैत ब्रह्म

– वसुधा सवणाल

Shri Ajit Bhavanishankar Pejawar A True Karmayogi with Vision and Wisdom

BY UDAY MANKIKAR

Shri Ajit Bhavanishankar Pejawar, popularly known as Pappa or Ajitbhai, is a versatile personality. A True Karmayogi with vision and wisdom. He is working for the benefit and upliftment of people in Kelwa Road area in Thane District for the past twenty five years.

Born on 26th July, 1937 to Shri Bhavanishankar and Smt Vatsala Pejawar at Mumbai, Ajit joined CitiBank after completing his education. He used to represent Citibank in various Cricket Tournaments as an all-rounder. Due to his good work, knowledge, honesty, robust personality, self discipline, leadership qualities etc. he became a Union leader at Citibank and did full justice to his job, both as a staff member and as a union leader.

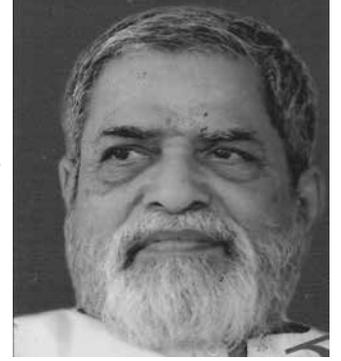
On account of vigorous sports activities, Ajit developed severe backache and suffered from it for some time. However, in 1964-65, he came in contact with Swami Ganganand of Ramakrishna Mission, who advised him to learn yoga from a non-professional Guru. Ajit's sheer devotion and dedication brought him in contact with Swami Vireshwar (in the year 1974) of Ramakrishna Mission, who gave him "Mantradeeksha" and Ajit started his journey towards spiritual life. Coincidentally, he met Shri Nikam Guruji- a well known, non professional yoga teacher, who taught him yoga. After getting cured from his backache, in the year 1982, Ajit started "Ambika Yoga Kuteer" at Dahisar. This Yoga Kuteer received such a tremendous response that Ajit opened its branches at Malad, Vileparle, Goregaon, Virar, Kelwe-Palghar and kept the promise he had made to Shri Nikam Guruji. Looking at Ajit's sincerity, Nikam Guruji advised him to reach out to the people in rural area, and accordingly, during 1989-90, Ajit came to Kelwa and since then Kelwa has become his "Karmabhoomi".

At Kelwa, initially Ajit started Ambika Yoga Kuteer, then Swami Vivekanand Nursery School and founded Swami Vivekanand Educational Pratishtan on 07.02.2011 for giving free education to Nursery and

Junior KG Students. As on date, 120 students are studying in this school. Ajit has started this school for the all-round development of backward people from Kelwa Village, and it is his dream that at least one boy from the village should become

an Engineer, a doctor, an advocate, a police officer, a Teacher and become a role model for others.

Ajit completed 75 years of age on 26.07.2013. A big function was organized in his honour by his friends, well-wishers and students to express their gratitude for him. His work is so magnanimous that he is popularly known as Ajitbhai or Pappa in Kelwa Village. One of his well wishers has rightly said about Ajitbhai that "दिव्यत्वाची जेथे प्रचिती तेथे कर माझे जुळती"!



The 152nd birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda falls on January 12th.

We pay a tribute to this Great Son of India who took the philosophy of the East to the World. We present some of Swamiji's quotes –



I am the thread that runs through all these pearls, and each pearl is a religion or even a sect thereof. Such are the different pearls, and God is the thread that runs through all of them; most people, however, are entirely unconscious of it.

Take up one idea. Make that one idea your life – think of it, dream of it, and live on that idea. Let the brain, muscles, nerves, every part of your body, be full of that idea, and just leave every other idea alone. This is the way to success. That is the way great spiritual giants are produced.

 **सुकन्या समृद्धि खाता**
SUKANYA SAMRIDDHI ACCOUNT

घर घर में वह संदेश पहुंचाना है। हर एक कन्या को समृद्ध बनाना है ॥
जन्मी नेटी घर घर कुरियों नगरं। हाकघर में सुकन्या समृद्धि खाता खुलवाएं ॥



मुलींच्या समृद्ध भविष्यासाठी

- प्रारंभीक गुंतवणूक रुपये १०००/- फक्त.
- नंतरचे डिपॉजिट रुपये १००/- च्या पटीत.
- खाते उघडल्यापासून १४ वर्षा पर्यंत डिपॉजिट.
- २०१४-२०१५ करिता ९.१% व्याज.
- एका आर्थिक वर्षात जास्तीत जास्त रुपये १,५०,०००/- पर्यंत गुंतवणूक.
- रूपये ५०/- भरून खंडित खाते सुरू.
- वयाच्या १८ व्या वर्षी ५०% पर्यंत रक्कम मुलीच्या शिक्षण किंवा लग्नासाठी काढता येतील.
- खाते २१ वर्षा नंतर बंद करता येते.



अधिक माहितीसाठी

कृपया नजीकच्या पोस्ट ऑफीसमध्ये संपर्क साधा

Recollections of Gandhiji and his visit to Bangalore in 1927

HALDIPUR BHASKER

Haldipur Bhasker is a very senior member of our Bangalore community. He is now 97 years old but is blessed with a remarkable memory. In the course of several old recollections he related to Shri Kishore Rao about Gandhiji's visit to Bangalore in 1927 and his interaction, as a boy of nine years, with members of Gandhiji's family. He wrote recently to Gopalkrishna Gandhi about his meetings with Gandhiji, Kasturba, Devdas Gandhi etc. and has received a reply. We reproduce here his e-mail to Gopalkrishna Gandhi that Kishore Rao Amembal with our readers.

18-April 2015

Sri H R Bhasker

"ATMA", 64-10th Main Road

Malleswaram, Bengaluru - 560003

Respected Sri Gopalkrishnaji,

The undersigned – H. R. Bhasker – had met you at the wedding reception of Sri Nandan Nilekani's daughter a few years back, albeit for a brief moment as you were in the midst of VIPs like Sri Chiranjeevi Singh and others.

The main purpose of writing this note is to inform you that I have with me Bapuji's 78 RPM Record titled "Mahatma Gandhi – His Spiritual Message" Part 1 & 2, an English recording by 'Columbia'. I would like to hand this over to you as I am sure you would like to have this. Besides this, I also have Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviyaji's two records, "Upadesh" and "Peace & Civilisation" – in case you are interested you can have these also. I am now 97 years young and would like these treasures to pass on to hands which value them. I feel you would be in a position to ensure that these are preserved and get the attention they deserve.

Now I would like you to spare some of your valuable time to peruse the following lines:

The year was 1927. I was 9 years old then. Bapuji had come to Bangalore to recoup his health and was staying at "Kumar Krupa" government guest house as desired by then Maharaja of Mysore, H.H. Sri Krishnaraj Wadeyar. I used to attend the evening prayers along with my elders. I was more interested

in observing how Bapuji would sit in one posture throughout the prayer meeting without moving, completely withdrawn. In later years when I took up reading the Bhagavad-Gita and came to Shloka 58 of Chapter II, the image of Bapuji would flash through my mind – a true 'Sthithaprajna'.

Being a regular at the evening programs, my mother made bold to speak to Ba, and invited her to visit us. She readily agreed, and came with Sri Devdasji and 3 / 4 others from their retinue. Refreshments were offered, including a sweet prepared with wheat flour, jaggery and groundnut. Devdasji on seeing this turned to Ba and said – "you were preparing this for us in our childhood days. I am eating this after a long time." We were happy that they liked what we had offered to them.

During Bapuji's stay, a civic reception was held in our famous "Lal Bagh Glass House". In spite of a thick bandage on my left knee due to a fall, I attended. Unable to sit down, I stood leaning against a pole, a little away from the dais. My attention all the time was on Bapuji. I saw Bapuji calling a volunteer who was near the dais and while speaking to him pointing a finger towards me. I became curious. That volunteer came towards me, lifted me up, carried me to the dais and placed me at the feet of Bapuji. My joy knew no bounds – I have cherished that moment to this day.

Sometime in 1939/40, we were requested by a relative of ours working in Ambalal Sarabhai Mills, to find suitable accommodation for Sri Shankarlal Banker. Sri Shankarlalji it seems had been advised by Bapuji to go to Bangalore to recoup. Luckily we were able to find accommodation for Sri Shankarlal in a neighbouring house. Shankarlalji became our neighbour for the next 3-4 months. He was able to regain his health due to the salubrious climate of Bangalore prevailing in those days. Whenever he found time he would visit us and narrate many interesting incidents. I will narrate only one, not to make you lose your patience.

It seems along with Bapuji, Shankarlalji also had been put behind bars by the British Raj. Shankarlalji

was feeling out of sorts, and would never recite prayers willingly. But Bapuji would insist on him reciting the 2nd Chapter of the Gita. Much later, Shankarlalji while in a tour of South India, went to Thiruvannamalai and visited Ramanashram, and sat along with others in the Hall. Any talk was out of question in the presence of Sri Ramana Maharshi. Shankarlalji at least felt he could have the Krupa Drishti of Bhagavan. AS the time was running out, Shankarlalji was feeling disappointed and disheartened. At that moment Maharshi suddenly turned his gaze towards Shankarlalji and looked straight into his eyes and shifted his gaze. Then a miracle happened. Shankarlalji started hearing in his ears, “repeat 2nd chapter, repeat 2nd chapter.....” Shankarlalji closed his eyes and silently repeated the entire 2nd chapter of Gita. The peace that he derived thereafter was indescribable. He needed nothing more. Shankarlalji made Bangalore his summer resort for the next 3-4 years, and came along with Anasuyaben Sarabhai, and as usual we would find accommodation for them.

Lastly, I have been an addict of “The Hindu” all these years. When Sri K R Narayanan became President, he rang you up and said “what are you doing, I want you here.” That speaks volumes of the person to whom the President spoke to!

I am sending this mail from my daughter’s e-mail as I do not have an e-mail of my own. I would be grateful if I could hear from you early, regarding the albums.

With regards,
Yours Sincerely,
H R Bhasker
Reply From Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi

Dear Sri Bhaskar

Thank you for your most evocative mail. You have a rare gift of recollection, invaluable for someone who has had your face-to-face moments with history.

I do not think too many have your wonderful appreciation of Shankerlal Banker, a definitive figure in the making of the Mahatma.

As for the albums, I will be an undeserving and also an unstable holder of such a gift. I am 70 now and in the process of lightening material possessions. Please consider giving them to the Sabarmati ashram and offer to them your recollections for their oral history project as well.

The person to contact there is Dr Tridip Suhrud. His e-mail address is: tridip.suhrud@gmail.com .

I once again send my appreciation to you for sharing you memories and perspectives with me, an anodyne in these philistine times.

With warmest regards,
Sincerely,
Gopalkrishna Gandhi

Donations Received

Kanara Saraswat Association is grateful to the following donor:

Medical Relief Fund

Pratibha Sudhir Gokarn (In memory of husband Sudhir Sumitrarao Gokarn)	5000/-
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Education Relief Fund

Pratibha Sudhir Gokarn (In memory of Husband Sudhir Sumitrarao Gokarn)	5000/-
--	--------



**SMT. PRAMILA
PRABHAKAR
VAKNALLI**
(nee Sunanda
Gangolli)
w/o late Shri.
Prabhakar Vaknalli



Passed away peacefully
on 4th November 2015.

Deeply mourned by:
Ravindra & Nandini
Shirish, Shubhada & Chi. Siddharth
Gautam, Sharmila & Chi. Vaishnavi

May her soul rest in peace...

A lesson for Today's leader The One Winged Bird

MAYUR KALBAG

A beautiful bird, I saw it fly
Through the winds, And into the sky
With a broken wing, To my sudden surprise
Yet,soaring high, With zest in its eyes

Through the floating skies
Between the bright and the blue
Gliding through higher spheres
To it,everything seemed new

The absence of the mundane
This bird felt unique joy
From high above as it flew
The world below, was just a toy

Free and in glee, the bird was
As it flew with its only wing
Why not me, I asked myself
The thought gave me a pleasant sting

Such great heights, with just a wing
A difficult task,

I wondered how To fly like her,
I told myself
It was a decision...never or now

Gifted we all are
Gifted with wings of thought
To fly far and away
To be able to never get caught
Like the one-winged bird

As nothing stopped her flight
Let us too keep flying high,
With our wings through the night

So what does this bird teach the leaders of the corporate worlds ?

Perseverance- we, sometimes are gifted with not just one , but more than even two wings to fly towards the serene skies of success (professional and personal), yet some of us tend to give up easily when

faced with the clouds of chaos and confusion as well as the storms of stress that we may encounter in our various journeys. The one winged bird teaches us that we too must keep the wings of courage and competency flapping till we reach the goal.

The attitude should be to never give up 'easily' even though there will be others who may pleasantly dissuade the leaders from going ahead and may even seem genuine in their efforts. But that is where the real test of our character lies. The choice is to wither away by listening to the others or to simply and intensely focus upon the goals that you have set for yourselves and for your team.

A lot of times, it is the leader who has to make that choice. He has to carry his entire team through tough times and that's where the character of Perseverance comes into application.

High spirits- like that bird, we too must keep persevering towards our goals but with enhanced attitudes of enthusiasm and zest. It is only when our perseverance is soaked in the character of such inspired emotions of excitement and exuberance that the team also feels these emotions of inspiration to join the leader in accomplishing his and his organization's vision.

The Night flight- The one winged bird never stopped its flight even when the skies turned dark. It never lost its focus and maintained its course albeit the darkness. I believe that there will be pitfalls and punctures in our professional and personal pursuits. But like that bird what is most important is that we continue our flight collectively. Yet as we keep flying towards the goal, it is also critical that we understand the causes for the pitfalls and make course corrections. If there is failure in our efforts we must be able to execute the Root Cause Analysis along with the team to find out what went wrong and what can be done to ensure it is not repeated again. Remember we must remember that the RCA or Root

Cause Analysis is not only a course corrector but also acts as a TEAM motivator as it brings high levels of CLARITY to our actions and thoughts.

Darkness also can bring stress as sometimes the bird too may be unable to see the course it has taken. Hence this stress of not being able to see ahead clearly also needs to be addressed by the leader for his team. The leader must be the guiding light for the other members and for this to happen he must first increase his levels of Concentration and Mind-sight, which means intensity of FOCUS.

Aspiration- Look at that bird!!! It was not satisfied with where it was. It aspired for higher skies. This passion for going higher is a great lesson for corporate leaders. Being satisfied at the same place of success especially when there are greater heights to accomplish is not best for the leader. Like that one winged bird, leaders of today must keep inspiring their teams to aspire for higher goals. In fact the first thing that leaders must do is get their team members to create for themselves a very clear and concise GOAL- Chart with specific timelines. Our flight, we must remember must not be limited but limitless just like that 'ONE-WINGED BIRD'.

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3rd Death Anniversary

8th January 2016



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

Each day of the three years that have 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 by:

Son: Nachiket

Daughter: Manasi, Son-in-law: Ajit

Grandson: Shaurya

The Bihari drives a Bentley

BHARAT SAVUR

We live in a space somewhere between upper Rajasthan and lower Bihar. That is, if one goes by the dynamics of our residential society's demography. Ever since mankind moved from cave to condo, the pecking order of people has been almost preordained: Manu's (sorry, Money's) new-old order. Reduced to modern Rank and File, and applied to context, we live in a micro-society. Where there are a few that rank. And more that file. In direct proportion to new money living alongside old poverty. In a locality called Lokhandwala. The showpiece of Mumbai's showbiz suburbs. Where a place once notorious for shoot-outs (captured by the movie: *Shoot-out at Lokhandwala*), is now landscaped and propelled by studios and peopled by, mostly, wannabe starlets. Where old wealth is a dwindling whisper, yielding place to the loud, proud shouts of the prevailing new Money Order.

Translated and kept short, for reasons of space, our society's owners are mainly Marwaris. And those that serve them are mostly from Bihar. This *dynocracy* (the rule of dynasts for those not familiar with the feudal order) is of even proportions. One servant per family member. And one automobile for every autocrat. This horsepower is driven, aptly of course, by those from the cow-belt countryside. The domestic too is from the same domain. And I have lived in this association for the past 30 years. And counting.

Appropriately, Aarey Milk Colony and Goregaon are adjacent for our modern now-urban cowboys. And the neighbouring cow-and-buffalo milk centre of Mumbai is perhaps the comfort zone of our cowboy behind the wheel deal. Yes, Buffalo Bill drives Marwari power. The Bihari and the Bentley.

Incidentally, Raj Thackeray and those of his silk ilk may not like this. But train traverse beyond Andheri (to say, Borivili) in Western Railway's second-class train compartment. Especially, leap into it during its evening peak hours. Sorry, Shashi Tharoor, this common 'cattle class' doesn't fly. It barely manages to board, precarious toe backed by fear-filled heel, the suburban train's so-called second class. And you can giddy up real late, oh, my midnight cowboy.

It is a long ride from Bihar's ancient Nalanda to today's not-so ananda. To conclude and make this piece contemporary, I refer to the just concluded Bihar elections. Yes, as long as there is *aaloo* in the *samosa*, there will also and always be a Lalu there. When Lalu long ago in his 'hay day' boasted he would convert Bihar into Japan, former prime minister Vajpayee famously wondered whether Lalu would change Japan into Bihar if he was in power there. This time, Lalu may not be at the wheel. But Lalu III could still drive Bihar from the back-seat. If so, the Mumbai migration could continue. Or will the prodigal's return turn the migrants' tide?

Meanwhile, I remain the sandwich between the two slices of society I began with. Or the *aloo* in Lalu's *samosa*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

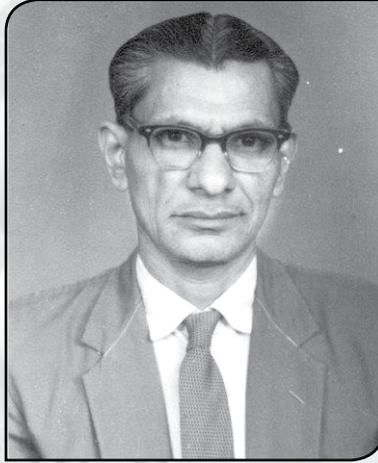
We,
Subhash M. Koppikar
and
Shanta S. Koppikar
(nee Shaila S. Harite),

thank all our relatives, friends and well-wishers for extending warmth and good wishes on the occasion of our
Golden Wedding Anniversary
on December 12, 2015.

May our lives continue to be enriched with your presence and affection.

Subhash: 8082222048

Shanta: 9619796286



SANJIVA RAO HIREBET

(22 January 1916 - 02 February 1996)

You were there to support whenever we faltered:

You were there to satisfy our unlimited wants:

You were there with solutions to our problems:

Now ,only your memories are with us.

You were there to encourage us when we felt let down:

You were there with your kind words whenever we were troubled:

You were there to share our happiness:

Now, only your memories are with us.

You were there with your worthy advice whenever sought:

You were the one who laid out our career paths:

You were there with the vision for the future for all of us:

Now, only your memories are with us.

In this centenary year of yours,

as we celebrate your memories,

we have only one prayer to the Lord:

to be born as your children again and again .

REVATHI BANTWAL

Dr VASANTHI SAVKUR, Dr SHARADA JAGADISH

CA ANANTHAKRISHNA HIREBET

Place names and Amchi Surnames - Bhatkal

DR. SUSHAMA ARUR

Bhatkal, a port-city with a rich history is situated in North Kanara district of Karnataka. It gets its name from celebrated Jain saint, *Bhatta Akalanka*, of 9th century. It is also said that the name is derived from *batta* which means circular and *Kala* is arena in Kannada, as the old town of Bhatkal on the sea coast had a circular layout surrounded by the hills. In fact, 1545 AD inscription calls the place Vrittapura (a circular city).

Bhatkal was an important port under the Satvahanas (1 BC -2AD) who encouraged maritime trade with Romans and West Asia. Later local rulers like Chutus and Alupas (4thc onwards) ruled over Bhatkal. An Italian traveler, Varthema speaks of trade in rice, spices, cotton, sugar, saltpeter, iron being articles of export through Bhatkal to the western countries. Arab and other European travelers speak highly of Bhatkal with its 'perfect weather', 'abundance of rice, fruits and flowers throughout the year'.... Both Vijaynagar and Bijapur rulers traded in quality horses, for their cavalry from Arabs through this port-city. Salvas, under Chennabhairadevi (feudatory of Vijaynagara) brought prosperity to the kingdom mainly due to her impetus for trade and commerce.

The Vijaynagara rulers did not allow the Portuguese to build factories in Bhatkal, while England founded one in 1637, after the downfall of the kingdom. But it did not last long, as the story goes that a dog in the English factory bit a temple bull which succumbed to the injury. The enraged people of Bhatkal attacked the factory and killed all the inmates, there after the factory was shut.

This city was coveted by the Portuguese, but the Rani Chennabhairadevi continuously safeguarded it with her bravery and shrewdness. The enraged Portuguese, to punish the Queen destroyed Bhatkal in 1541. Later an extension of the town grew in the eastern side into Mudhabhatkal.

Mudhabhatkal has many temples, basadis (Jain temples) and hero stones (soldiers who died in the battlefield) of Vijayanagara times, built by the local rulers and merchant communities. Adike Narayan temple built by areca nut merchant in 1550,

Narasa Kini Narasimha temple, Lakkarasa Kamti Lakshminarayan temple are some of the notable temples. Khetpai Narayan temple built in 1545-46 by a jeweler from Goa, who came and settled here due to the Portuguese harassment is unique. Queen Chennabhairadevi made a grant to this temple. There are sculptures of the builder and his wife and his family portraits on stone. There are beautiful panels depicting more than 20 scenes from Ramayana. Most amazing are the scenes of day to day life of the people, such as a lady churning curd, a lady shampooing her hair, a snake charmer, dueling scenes, scene of child birth etc depicting the social life of those times. Choleshvara temple is the oldest one, which speaks of Chola intrusion in Karnataka by about, 10th century.

Parshwanath basadi built during Queen Chennadevi of Haduvalli by a merchant named Timmi Shreshti, Chandranath Basadi and Vardhaman Basadi built by Narayan Nayak, commander of Chennabhairadevi are some of the notable Jain monuments. A Hero stone was built to commemorate one Enkappa Nayaka's death during the *phirangi* (Portuguese) attack on Bhatkal. There are more than 10 mosques, to name some are the Chinnada palli, Jamma Masjid with golden dome, Sultan Mosque ascribed to Tipu Sultan etc.

The Arab, Turk and Persian traders traded with the traditional trading community in Bhatkal who were predominantly Jains. These Jains were converted to Islam and later married and their descendants are called the Navayat Muslims of Bhatkal. It is said that even now some of these Navayat families follow the Jain tradition of eating their meal before sunset.

Thus the city of Bhatkal had a tradition of peaceful coexistence with different religious sects from the past. But in the recent past unfortunately it's not been the same. The city has many picturesque beaches and waterfalls. The port area of Bhatkal, falling in the Mavinkurve village has a dock and light house on a hill which is a tourist attraction.

Hope the Bhatkalkars would feel proud to know the history of their place and would see the town in new light when they visit it next time.

Personalia

(Pictures on page 41)

Pramod Karnad Bags Best CEO Award - Banking Frontiers, a leading Banking Magazine has declared 'Best CEO Award' of State Cooperative Banks to Shri Pramod Karnad, Managing Director of Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank (MSCB) in Conference recently held at Goa.

Pramod Karnad is a career cooperative Banker, having worked in MSCB for nearly 26 years in various positions before assuming charge as CEO in 2011. One of his key achievements has been in following the policies of the Board of Administrators, and bringing the Bank back into the positive net worth position and obtaining the Banking License from RBI. MSCB has urged huge Net Profit of Rs 411/- Crores as on 31st March 2015 and gave Rs 10 Crore Dividend to Govt. of Maharashtra. Pramod Karnad was responsible for developing a transfer price mechanism in the bank in order to levy appropriate rates of interest on various loan products, so as to recover fund cost, impact of CRR portion and product and sector risk cost.

Pramod has also received many Awards for his Literary Contributions in Marathi. He has Music Albums as well, to his credit.

Amit, son of Aruna (nee Basrur) and Shashank Raje, of Malleshwaram Bangaluru, was recently honoured with prestigious award and citation as "Best People Manager" by Shri Azim Premji, Wipro in the presence of the top management. The function was organised within the premises of the company Wipro at Electronic City.

Wipro is a \$ 7.5 Billion Company with approximately 1,60,000 employees and operates in more than 85 countries worldwide. The selection for this award is a very lengthy and rigorous process. The award is given to a select group of top 50 employees across the globe. The final round is anchored by Mr. Azim Premji himself. From childhood Amit has been a very bright boy in academics, kind and helpful by nature. During his school and college days he had actively participated in sports and various cultural activities. Before joining Wipro, Amit was working with Siemens India at Worli Mumbai, for few years as Senior Manager. At present he

is Head of Europe Operations of Immigration Services and Business Relationship, managing Immigration for all divisions of Wipro. He is keenly interested in sports and music, avid reader and loves to watch movies and plays, stage performances of various artists and is very fond of travelling and sightseeing.

Parikshit Basrur elder son of Neena & Shrikant Dayanand Basrur, Mumbai, has been elected on the Board of Directors for the Project Management Institute (PMI) Sydney Chapter, Australia. The Institute is a global not-for-profit Organisation which believes that Project Management is a critical competence that has a positive influence on Organisation results and Society. His previous role was as Associate Director for the Meetups during which he grew their membership base from 300 to over 1500 in less than 2 years, making it the largest Meetup in the greater Sydney region. He starts in his new capacity from January 2016.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Computer Engineering (BE) degree from the K.J.Somaiya College, Mumbai in 2003, Parikshit went to Auckland, New Zealand in 2004, where he completed his Master of Computer & Information Sciences from Auckland University of Technology (AUT).

His professional track record over a decade covers Management Consulting roles leading enterprise transformations for firms such as Xelocity, Infosys, Salesforce.com and ProQuest Consulting. He takes time out from his job to teach as Guest Lecturer, University of Sydney and Curtin University.

Presently Parikshit is employed as Senior Manager, Agile Initiatives, SingTel & Optus and is based with his family in Sydney, Australia.

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An ethereal incident — oh yes – but definitely to cherish forever!

I wish to narrate an awesome event that took place on Friday October 9, 2015 when I stood to be virtually “unearthed” as the grandson of late Rajadharma Prasaktha Justice K. Shankarnarayana Rao by Mr. K. Narasimha Murthy, Head Quarters Commissioner (S) Bharat Scouts & Guides, Karnataka State.

Mr. Narasimha Murthy gave me a pleasant surprise by inviting me as a *Special Invitee* to be present at the Inaugural function of a 5 day Karnataka State Joint Rally for Scouts and Guides to be held in Shivamogga commencing from October 13, 2015. This State rally was being organised under the auspices of the Shivamogga District Scouts Association that comprised of Scouts, Guides, Cubs and Bulbuls as representatives from about 14 – 15 districts of Karnataka. It also included their Teachers and Masters, besides State and District level dignitaries numbering around 500.

Most interestingly, this rally was to be held to **commemorate the memory** of my grandfather the late Rajadharma Prasaktha Justice **K. Shankarnarayana Rao**, the first ever Chief Scout Commissioner, Boy Scouts, Mysore State. Inexplicably, the day Mr. Murthy met me happened to be just the very day on which my grandfather had passed away way back in the year 1942. (Mahalaya Amavasya)

Firstly, any one in my place would have felt rather embarrassed to have suddenly come across an ingenious octogenarian so polite, so suave and soft spoken coming in search for the grandson of Justice K. Shankarnarayana Rao. It was for sure that this chance meeting would not have occurred but for the efforts put in by Mr. Murthy. The very satisfying grin on his face told the success of the task Mr. Murthy had set before himself. After all he had hit upon the right nail! This meeting to me was extremely gratifying and enjoyable, emanating a false feeling of me being a celebrity! Undoubtedly appreciating and thanking Mr. Murthy for whatever he did by way of sheer passion and sense of duty even at his young age would only be an understatement

Late Justice K. Shankarnarayana Rao was a man of many parts. Apart from his judicial responsibilities and serious other societal and domestic commitments, he was at the helm of affairs for Boys Scouts in Mysore State for a span of 19 years from 1923 to 1942, virtually till his death. He was the first recipient of the highest Scouting Award in the world, the “*Silver Wolf*” received personally from Lady Baden Powell. He was decorated with the title “*Rajadharma Prasaktha*” by the Maharaja of Mysore for his contribution in popularising Scouting in Mysore State, besides, adorning him with the *Gandabherunda*, a two headed mythological bird thought to possess magical strengths and capable of dealing with the ultimate forces of destruction. This intricately sculptured motif as a necklace in diamonds, gold silver and precious gemstones is the royal insignia of the erstwhile Mysore Kingdom. It was presented to my grandfather during the Dasara darbar.

On reaching Shivamogga the gateway to Malnad region, believe me, I was overwhelmed by the pleasant surprises after surprises that were in store for me, which I wish to share with you all.

To begin with, I was escorted to the venue of the Rally by the District Scouts, Shivamogga. On the way to my amazement I saw beautiful and mammoth posters exhibited on prominent roads comprising of the “greats” of Malnad. These large posters had the **Jog Falls** in the background (the second highest plunge falls in India and also one of the largest hydroelectric stations), **two elephants** (of the unique Sakrebailu Forest Camp for captive elephants, so very useful for harnessing elephant power) the horse-mounted **Keladi Shivappa Nayaka** (the 17th century king who is known for introducing reforms and transformations in his kingdom) and **K. Shankarnarayana Rao**, in his scouts attire. It was in Shimoga that my grandfather, commenced working as a junior to an Advocate and later became one of the most popular, revered and sought after Advocates of Shimoga. It was this professional success that brought him to Bangalore much against his wish only because the Maharaja of Mysore beckoned him to Bangalore, to join the Mysore Judicial Service as a District Judge though in those times he earned considerably much more as a famed Advocate in Shimoga than he would in the Government Judicial service. Nevertheless, his diligence and personality ultimately reached the pinnacle of success when he became the first Indian acting Chief Justice of erstwhile Mysore State having taken the reins from the British Chief Justice, Sir D’Arcy Riley

Immediately on reaching the gate of the venue I joined other dignitaries for a “*Grand Salute*” accorded

by about 40 Scouts and Guides with their ceremonial band. The Band thereafter, accompanied us right up to the well-designed colourful podium where my grandfather's decorated large portrait was placed before large brass lamps.

An Invocation to Lord Ganesha was sung by a girl who was a winner of a Kannada singing really show along with several boys and girls. This was followed by introduction of each dignitary present on the podium to the rally of 500 participants, duly honouring them with the Scout Scarf around their necks and offering beautiful laminated mementos of the replica of the poster. While each of the dignitaries extolled the virtues of Justice K. Shankarnarayana Rao in their own imitable way, the address of Mr. PGR Scindhia (Ex State Transport Minister) and the present Chief Scout Commissioner, Bharat Scouts and Guides, Karnataka was thought provoking. It was also praiseworthy and laudable that a beautiful, concise handout in Kannada was distributed touching upon almost all life achievements of late Justice Shankarnarayana Rao.

The revelry, among others, included:

I joined the dignitaries in releasing a colourful large *bunch of balloons* latching to a small size replica poster to rise high in the skies perhaps with the symbolic meaning that one needs to imbibe inspiration from all the "greats" to strive for something big and high in one's life.

This was followed by the *Torch Ceremony* when I was requested to light the Torch – symbol of harmony and goodwill and an important part of Opening Ceremonies. The Torch, which was hand over, was carried hand to hand by runners one Scout and one Guide representing each District participating in the rally, around the vast entire ground.

We were next guided to light the decorated brass lamps placed before the large garlanded portrait of my grandfather. I was offered to light the lamp first followed by other dignitaries. My son Deepak who had taken me to Shimoga was also given an affectionate opportunity to light the lamp.

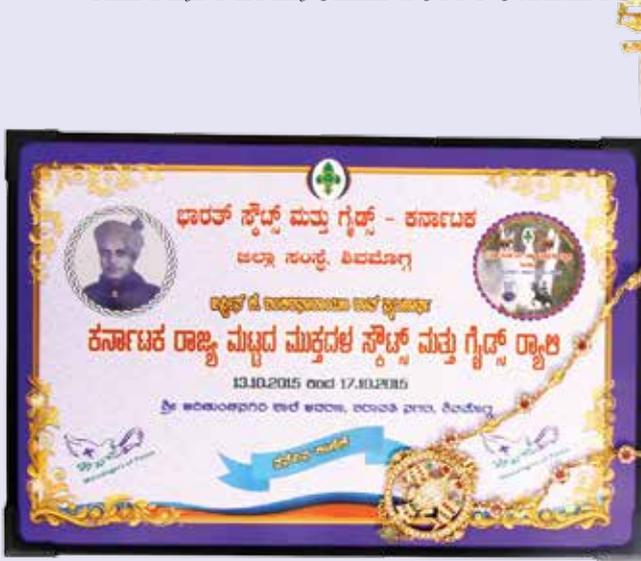
In my address, I profusely thanked Mr. PGR Scindhia, the Chief Scout Commissioner, Bharat Scouts & Guides, Karnataka State, the dignitaries and all present at the Rally for the unearthly opportunity bestowed upon me, the affection and regards accorded to me and very importantly for making me an eyewitness to the large heartedness and the ideals of scouts that were close to my grandfather. Importantly, for bringing about the State Rally on such a remarkable scale. On behalf of my elder brother K. Prakash (who was unavailable at that moment) and on my behalf, we both sponsored two large and decorative **Rolling Trophies** in fond memory of our grandfather, one for the Best Unit of Scouts and the other for the Best Unit of Guides along with medals encompassing all their State level competitions, games, sports and training during the rally. The celebrations lasted for about there and a half hours before the Vote of thanks was offered.

It is rather fascinating to perceive that this commemorative rally was held in the memory of my grandfather exactly 73 years after his death! The stark reality is none of the participants nor the dignitaries of the rally had seen much less met my grandfather because he belonged to an earlier generation altogether. 73 years is not a mean span to be remembered for and obeisance paid in such a grandiose manner. The million dollar question is what dynamics, at this point of time in life, could have driven all this to such a magnificent feat? Was it his extraordinary acts of piety, compassion and demonstration of love for suffering humanity or in short the *charisma* of my grandfather Shankarnarayana Rao, who achieved much and more in his 63 years of life than most of us could expect in several lifetimes?.

My son Deepak said that he has all the while heard lots about the immensity of his great grandfather, just like me, as both of us had not been born during his lifetime. However, at the time of watching the outstanding rally, and from the very atmosphere it permeated, we could virtually feel him. It immediately struck me whether was it something like the Hindi blockbuster *Phata poster nikhla hero!*

SUBHASH KUNDAPUR
9845240366

AWARDS RECEIVED BY LATE JUSTICE K. SHANKARNARAYANA RAO,
THE FIRST EVER CHIEF SCOUT COMMISSIONER, BOY SCOUTS, MYSORE STATE



The title “Rajadharm Prasaktha” by the Maharaja of Mysore for his contribution in popularising Scouting in Mysore State

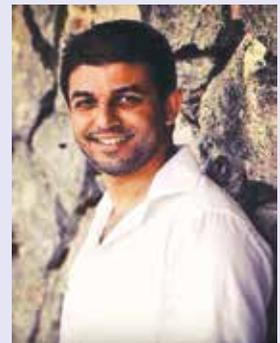
An intricately sculptured motif of the Gandabherunda a two headed mythological bird as a necklace in diamonds, gold silver and precious gemstones, the royal insignia of the erstwhile Mysore Kingdom.

The first recipient of the highest Scouting Award in the world. The “Silver Wolf” received personally from Lady Baden Powell.



Pramod Karnad

Personalia (Details on page 38)



Parikshit Basrur



Amit Raje



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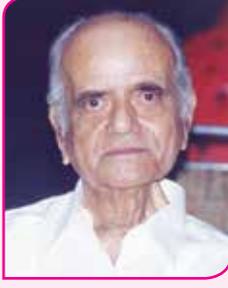
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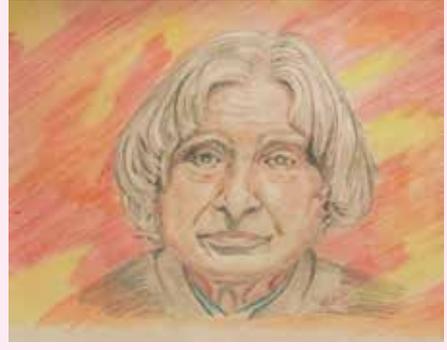
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Our beloved uncle and granduncle,
Shri. Gopalkrishna Amrutrao Kilpady,
Son of Late Shri. Amrutrao & Late Smt. Sita Kilpady,
passed away peacefully
on Friday, 4 December 2015 at 2250 hours
at his residence in Santa Cruz (West), Mumbai.
We will all deeply miss his warm sense of humour and loving
presence in our lives.
The Kilpady, Kumta, Benegal, Kalyanpur,
Mutatkar, Salukere, Tracy, Samsi, Buch and Mishra families.



A tribute to our Ex President **Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam**

A legend who I shall always respect
Superior in almost every aspect
You taught the Nation
it's about Us and not Me
That help and kindness is given for free
Your charisma left everyone you met
astounded
Yet like an anchor you were well grounded
You left the world doing what u loved best
Happy and ever smiling,
a life lived to the fullest.

Maithili Sirur

Smt. Geeta Rammohan Amembal

(16/09/1939 – 07/01/2015)

Age 75 years

Amma



One year has passed and its hard to believe
that you are no longer with us.
We cannot see you, but you are always with
us **FOREVER** in our Heart and Soul.
We remember you with pride.
Our hearts are full of memories and life will
never be the same again.

Sanjay, Aditi, Prathamesh and Jeetesh
Lalitha, Arun Konaje and Nakul
Sujatha, Sudhir Nayak and Siddharth

A Magical Week called *Seva Saptaha*

It is only when you spend seven whole days in a spiritually vibrant place with a new-found group of like-minded people from different places, that you discover a precious part of your own self which the overcrowded, noisy and demanding city routine can eclipse totally. After reading the joyous feedback of a Bengaluru group about their *Seva Saptaha* in Karla, you will definitely want to experience this bliss yourself.

Report by SADHANA KAIKINI

Seva Saptaha? What is that? For those of you who still have this question on your mind –here is an attempt to capture the joy of *sadhaka*-s who have spent seven days rediscovering themselves at the sacred precincts of the *Sanjeevani Samadhi* of our Beloved *Parama Guru Parijnanashram Swamiji III* and the serene *Durga Parameshwari Temple* at Karla.

Seva Saptaha begins on a Sunday at noon when the team - members are introduced to each other and also briefed by one of the *Seva Saptaha* core-committee members. This is to reassure the group which consists of *sadhaka*-s from different *sabha*-s from all over India and even abroad, so that they feel at home and look forward to a *saptaha* filled with fun and learning. The *saptaha*

ends on the following Sunday after lunch. But to accommodate those who cannot be there for an entire week due to unavoidable reasons, one is also

allowed to participate for just three or four days.

Here is my humble attempt to record the happy reactions of a group that went to Karla from the garden-city Bengaluru:

Listen to what homemaker Radhika

Nagrkattepachi had to say- "*Seva Saptaha* - seven days of *seva* at Karla was memorable for me. **Goddess Durga Parameshwari is so beautiful-soumya and ever-smiling making *sadhaka*-s forget themselves totally in Her *seva*.**

You learn teamwork while working with people of various age groups. You also learn time management which enables you to allot time for different activities like physical exercise in the morning, *anushtan* a little later, *bhajan-seva* followed by *puja* in the evening and so

much else! I gained a lot of confidence by being able to complete the work given to me. I



To serve....with love!



The 'ins' and 'outs' of breathing right

~~~~~ Parisevanam ~~~~~

would like to offer gratitude at the Lotus Feet of our Parama PujyaSwamiji for giving us such a wonderful opportunity to participate in *Seva Saptaha* at Karla.”

Every day of the *Seva Saptaha* is split into well-knit schedules that thoughtfully even allow time for an afternoon siesta for the senior citizens! Between sessions that feed the mind, intellect and spirit, time is allotted for practising *stotra-s* and *bhajan-s* for the *ashtaavidhaan puja* at night. Every morning after the *Suprabhatam* simple exercises are taken up by one member from the group. The women generally tend to get involved in the kitchen and dining room activities while the men take up *ashram* vigilance and serve at the reception desk. Of course, the male and female devotees do interchange roles as well! We have men rolling out perfectly round *chapatti-s* and women dealing with visitors.

Here is one of our *Yuva-s-* corporate executive Chaitanya Mudur speaking from his heart about his unique experience at Karla.

“A *Yuva* or any *sadhak* participating in the *Seva Saptaha* gets to learn a lot of things.

Discipline - We are required to follow a specific set of instructions like participating in *Suprabhaat*, doing exercises, our daily *japa* and *anushtan*. This inculcates a lot of discipline.

Planning and Co ordination – *Sanchaalak-s* plan and assign duties and activities to each of us and thereby give us a glimpse of what activities are involved and how they need to be delegated and performed. Registrations at the reception counter, guarding the *Kutir*, helping in kitchen tasks - preparing *chapatti-s*, serving meals to visitors, cleaning utensils – everything is done in a joyful atmosphere of caring and sharing.

Team-work - We are taught and learn to share our activities and help each other in all the work assigned to each one of us.

Talent Scouting- We get an opportunity to write and perform impromptu skits, sing *bhajan-s* or present any other cultural event on the last day all of which helps to explore our own hidden talents.

In short, our **SEVA** transforms us and helps us to become—**Simple, Effulgent, Versatile and even Ascetic!**”

The entertainment programme that we are expected to present before we leave is inevitably the tool that dissolves any imaginary barrier that may have existed among the group members. Practising for it once the rest of the residents including the boys who help out in the kitchen have gone to bed is a thrill in itself! The joy on the face of the senior citizens as they gradually shed the conviction that now they are no longer a part of the active and ‘happening’ world is truly worth watching!

Shivamma, a *Kannadiga* by birth and wife of Krishnappa who helps out at the Math at Bengaluru, won over many a heart at Karla during the *Seva Saptaha* by her sincere *shraddha* and *seva*. She said-

“My connection with Shri Chitrapur Math began years ago when my husband Krishnappa started working at the Bengaluru Math. When I heard that there is something called *Seva Saptaha* at Karla, I too wanted to participate. Thankfully, by the Guru’s Grace, I was given permission to do so. Since the last four years I’ve enjoyed these seven days thoroughly. **Putting rangoli every morning is my favourite activity— I carry the rangoli powder and other ingredients from Bengaluru every time. My whole family has felt the growing Grace after every visit of mine.** I am indebted for this beautiful chance to do *seva* and pray that the *Guru Shakti* and the *Devi’s* Blessings will always protect our family.”

The group of committed teachers who travel all the way from Pune and Mumbai just to spend an hour to an hour and a half with us - at least once a week touch us deeply by their devotion to the cause! Right from Sanskrit to a *swadhyaya* or meditation or the *Ashtamurti Upasana* – everything is taught with so much love and concern that it automatically infuses greater *bhakti* towards our holy *Guru Parampara*.

Kushal Bailur – an active member of the *Yuwadhara* who made time from her busy schedule for the *Seva Saptaha* says –

“I found participating in the *Seva Saptaha*, in the tranquil surroundings of the Shri Durga

~~~~~ Parisevanam ~~~~~

Parameshwari Temple, a truly rejuvenating experience. The serene environs at Karla provided a wonderful retreat for me, away from the crowds, noise and stress of city life. At the same time, the activities that we engaged in as part of our *seva* (*pranayam*, *yogasanas*, cleaning, cooking, *Vimarsh*, Sanskrit conversations, *Devi Anushthanam* and many others) gave me an opportunity to interact with individuals from varying age groups. **I felt that this combination of offering *seva* at the *Sannidhi*-s of our beloved Devi and Parama Guru-Parijnanashram Swamiji III and the calm, quiet environment, presented a wonderful learning experience while also giving a boost to my personal *sadhana*.”**

By the end of the week, as the team bustles around (by now) totally at home in the Math, they become an inspiration to the next team that moves in on the following Sunday. On the last day, promises are exchanged for meeting again and many photographs clicked. The very faces that had worn some nervous and anxious expressions are now wreathed in smiles as a result of all the fulfilling experiences they have had at the *Seva Saptaha*!

Here is what Gayatri Padubidri – a Special Educator skilfully balancing her personal and professional lives, feels –

“We are truly blessed that our Swamiji has given us this opportunity to perform *seva* at our Karla Math. I have been fortunate to do this *seva* over the past few years. **Each time I have returned with tremendous inner peace, patience, strength, and an enormous amount of energy and positivity. This helps me work with special children in a better way and accept them as they are.** This opportunity of performing *seva* not only helps in our spiritual growth but also helps us develop our intrapersonal and interpersonal relationships. We meet new people, make friends and learn a lot from them. I always look forward to one more opportunity to offer this *seva*. I consider myself very lucky to be born in this community.”

As we take turns to cautiously carry *Bhiksha* to the *ashram* for our Beloved Guru Swami and offer

it with care, we are engulfed by deep feelings of love and gratitude. The temple bells ringing all through the day are sweet music to our ears and we promise ourselves that this spiritual resonance will vibrate within us even after we are home.

In conclusion Sanskrit *Adhyapika*, *Geervana Pratishtha* - Suman Hirebetpachi, a senior citizen who has made the *Seva Saptaha* an intrinsic part of her life, has this to say-

“As soon as I enter the Karla Math, the Divine Devi’s endearing smile and *Vatsalyapurna* look fills my heart and tears fill my eyes! When I stand in front of the *Sanjeevani Samadhi* the serene silence fills my soul. Our Beloved Guru Swami’s photograph at the entrance of the Jnananand Kutir shows His Eyes filled with an inexplicable sadness. I often think that they reflect the inner turmoil of the *bhakta*-s when they first come to His *dwaar*.

The *Seva Saptaha* is a unique *yojana* to bring together different people from our community in close contact with one another. **With total focus on the *Guru Sannidhi* the duties allotted to me get done so naturally and easily! His Grace is such that without any conscious effort, I am able to become *antarmukhi* and practise *ekaant*!**

Perhaps even more beautiful is the after-effect of the *Seva Saptaha* for even when I return home to my usual routine I find myself carrying that powerful experience within. Even in the confines of my home, I feel the *Guru*’s Divine Presence. We Chitrapur Saraswats are blessed indeed!”

Koti-pranam-s to our Beloved Guru Parama Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji for creating this golden opportunity for spiritually enriching ourselves over an entire week stolen from our ‘busy’ lives, at the Lotus Feet of the Divine Durga Parameshwari Devi and the *Sanjeevani Samadhi* of our Parama Guru Pujya Parijnanashram Swamiji III.

Photos courtesy: Gourang Kodical

Bhaktisudha

Sanskrit Shlokas by Tulsidas from Ramcharitmanas – An offering by Geervana Pratishtha.

We present here the first part of this series. In our November issue we had given a part of this series erroneously labelled as part 1. This part should have preceded that. Our apologies to both the author and the readers for this error..... Editor

Readers may recall that we had endeavoured, in our Rasaswad series, to savour the beauty and richness of Kavikulaguru Kalidasa by having a brief peep into some selected shlokas of Meghadutam the inimitable poem, which treats the Cloud as a messenger of the Yaksha who is banished for one year, by his Master, for some unpardonable offence committed by him.

We also had a series in which the Mottos in Sanskrit, of various Public Sector undertakings, were taken up to trace their origin in scriptures and give the meaning with references of these.

As a part of the efforts of GeervanaPratishtha to let our readers have a glimpse of the varied nature of our Sanskrit heritage, we are embarking on a devotional path, this time around, with the Bhaktisudha series.

Many of us have heard of Ramacharit Manas by Goswamy Tulasi Das. (rather there will be no adult on this side of the Vindhya, who has not heard of this epic.) This epic in Vrajabhasha is divided in seven “Kandas” Cantos (sections,) viz Baala, Ayodhya, Aranya, Kishkindha, Sundara, Lanka and Uttara Kanda. Goswamy Tulasi Das begins each Kanda by certain Samskrit shlokas, and it is our endeavour to go through these, in order to savour the beauty of Goswamy’s language, erudition and devotion. We are all familiar with the beautiful bhajan श्री रामचन्द्र कृपालु भज मन हरण भव भय दारुणम्. It is composed in Sanskrit by Sant Tulasidas.

We begin with the shlokas of Balakanda in this edition of our presentation.

Shloka 1

वर्णानामर्थसंघानां रसानां छन्दसामपि ।

मङ्गलानां च कर्त्तारौ वन्दे वाणीविनायकौ ॥१-१॥

अन्वय :

वर्णानाम् (तथा) अर्थसंघानां (तथा) रसानां (च) छन्दसाम् अपि (तथा च) मङ्गलानां(च) कर्त्तारौ वाणीविनायकौ अहं, वन्दे।

Meaning:

I bow down to Vaani (Saraswati) and Lord Ganesha, who are the creators of alphabets, the (varied) meanings (emanating out of these arrangements of alphabets), of the (varied) sentiments (expressed by these arrangements of alphabets), of the different metres (in which these alphabets are strung together) and (finally, all that is) auspicious.

Comment

As is customary, any major epic begins with मङ्गलाचरण i.e. obeisance to God. Tulsidas here begins by paying his obeisance to Saraswati by whose Grace we all hope to express our sentiments, and Lord Ganesha (which again is customary to remember him initially, as he is the remover of all the obstacles).

Just note, what attributes are remembered or rather highlighted by Tulsidas here—he says these two (please note the dual number used in वाणीविनायकौ) together are the creators of the letters (वर्णानाम्) of the different groups of meanings (we get different meanings from the same set of letters, which is very common in Samskrit). The words formed by the letters are for expressing various emotional sentiments (रस). There are nine ag in our literature, dance, drama and paintings and sculptures as well, (all forms of art) Some of these are, Shringara, Raudra, Vira and so on.

In literature (in Kavya—poetry), the poems are composed in defined arrangement of letters denoted by छन्दस् and various arrangements have significance for expressing the Rasas as well.

In the end, Tulsidas says these two, Saraswati and Ganapati, are the creators of auspiciousness – please note the plural here मङ्गलानां that is to say abundance of auspiciousness of various hues. The thought behind this is that all our language (and speech) must ultimately depict auspiciousness. Let Mangala words issue from my mouth. We incidentally see this

same theme in our Shree Shankaranarayana Geetam, wherein we pray to Saraswati

वारिजाम्बके वरसरस्वति वारिजासन मोहिनि ।

वारिधरनिभवसने मन्मुखवारिजान्तर्वासनम् कुरु ॥

(Oh Saraswati, please make your abode in my lotus-mouth –Saraswati is auspicious, so is Lotus)

While it is customary to pay obeisance to the deities, in the mangalacharan , some poets also introduce the subject/theme. Tulsidas, while paying obeisance to the deities, has also touched upon the fact that he will be dealing with poetry, the chhandas ,the navarasas and so on.

Shloka 2

भवानीशंकरौ वन्दे श्रद्धाविश्वासरूपिणौ ।

याभ्यां विना न पश्यन्ति सिद्धाः

स्वान्तस्थमीश्वरम् ॥१-२॥

अन्वय :

(अहं) श्रद्धाविश्वासरूपिणौ भवानीशंकरौ वन्दे । याभ्यां विना सिद्धाः स्वान्तस्थमीश्वरम् न पश्यन्ति ॥

Meaning:

I bow down to Bhavani and Shankara, (the primordial Pair), without whom (without whose Grace) (even) the evolved ones, cannot perceive the divinity (which is always residing) within them

Comment

What a beautiful shloka and isn't it wonderful that this shloka will be so close to the hearts of all of us Chitrapur Saraswats! In praise of our Lord Bhavanishankara! Tulsidas says, Bhavani is Shradhdhaa, (to have faith) and Shankara is Vishwaas. (Confidence, trust, reliance,). Please note the subtle difference between the two. To begin with I must have faith and then when I test the faith against the touchstone of my experiences, I have the confidence which becomes unshakable. In English, both the words have similar meanings.

Tulsidas further goes on to say that (even) those who are sidhdhas, cannot realize The Lord within them. Now who are sidhdhas? Lord Krishna refers to sidhdhas:

मनुष्याणाम् सहस्रेषु कश्चिद्यतति सिद्धये।

यततामपि सिद्धानाम् कश्चिन्माम्वेत्ति तत्त्वतः॥

(गीता ७-३)

Among thousands of humans only one may strive to attain sidhdhi, and among thousands of such sidhdhas there may be one, who may realize me in principle.

To this averment by Krishna, Tulsidas has a way out so to say—he says even the sidhdhas need the help of Bhavani and Shankara to reach the stage of कश्चिन्माम्वेत्ति तत्त्वतः। To put it in other words, ONLY with the help of Bhavanishankara, the sidhdhas can realize the Lord within them. Here the word स्वान्तस्थमीश्वरम् is very important. The Lord is nothing but the Atmatatva and that is within us. ईश्वरो गुरुरात्मेति, we have learnt in our Dakshinaamurti stotra. This is the same thing.

Corrections, comments and feedback on

chitrapur.girvanapratishtha@gmail.com or kdmankikar@gmail.com

गाडी चालली चालली...

डौलात आमुची गाडी चालली ।

तिकिट मिळेल का सर्वांना ।

प्रवेश मिळेल प्रत्येकाला ।

जा शरण गुरुरायाला ॥

धावते गाडी वेगाने ।

गात जावु गाणी आनंदाने ।

नाही आम्हास भीती कुणाची ।

तिकिट मिळवू या गुरुकृपेची ॥

वळणे घेत गाडी वळते ।

खड्डे उडवित स्वारी उडते ।

पण नाही कुठे अपघात ।

आम्ही राहतो गुरुस्मरणात ॥

गाडी चालते रस्त्यावर फार दुस्तर ।

करील पार सारथी आमचा गुरु परमेश्वर ।

नंदीप्रमाणे बसू आम्ही त्याच्या समोर ।

करू ईश चिंतन, गुरु चिंतन निरंतर ॥

गाडीने धरिला सन्मार्ग ।

प. पू. स्वामींचा घडला सत्संग ।

आता मिळेल ना तिकिट खात्रीने ।

करितो आम्ही प्रार्थना ईश्वराला प्रेमाने ॥

– मुक्ताबाई चंदावर

हैं मन आमगेले

अरुणा कुंडाजे

परमेश्वराने आमकां जन्म दिव्ना हात, पाय, कान, दाँळे वगैरे सर्व अवयव आमकां दिवच्याक तो विसरनी. आमी मात्र विसरताती तागेल एक होडु उपकारू! ताने आमकां दिलेलें “मन”! हे मन नित्य चलतचि आसता. जालतरी या मनाचो उगडासु आमका मनांतुचि येना!

देवाने हे “मन” प्रत्यक्ष खईं दवरल्यां कळना. मनाचो जागो शरीरांतु खईं? देवाने मन खईं निपैल्यां? कळना. अशी दिसता “मन” आमगेले मना भित्तरीची आसतलें. तें भायर काडुक विचार कोरका पडता. आनि विचार कोरूक परत ‘मन’ चि जांवका. म्हळ्यारीची मनाशिवाय मनुशाक दुसरो कसलोई उपाय ना!

देवाने दिलेले हातपाय आमकां आराम मेळूक, मडचून दवरूक जाताती. ‘मन’ मात्र कशी मडचूंच्यें आनि दव्वोरचें खईं? ते सतत चलतचि आसता. आमकां नीद पळ्ळेल तावळी सुदांय-सोपनांतुं! कसले ना कसले विचार येतातीची. मन संपूर्ण खाली दवोरच्यें साध्य ना.

एकेक फांतां हें ‘मन’ स्वतः आपणाक जांवका जाले तशी चलता आनि आमकांय चलैता. त्या वेळारी आमगेली कसली चूकी जावनु ती दुसऱ्यांनी दाकौनु दिल्यारी आमी sorry म्हणताती. त्यावेळारी आमगेल्या मनाकचि बरें दिसता.

आमगेले खंच्येय अवयव तांका स्वतः कशशी जाई तशी हालनाती. आमगेल्या मनाने सांगिल तशी चलताती. मात्र मनाचेरी आमकां पूर्ण संयम (control) आसका!

“मन” हें भोचि चंचल आसता अशी थोडे विचारवंत म्हणताती. तांनी तशी म्होण्च्यें बरोबर म्होणु दिसता. आतं मनांतु आयिलें विसोरुनु दुसरेंचि मनांतु रिगता. खुशी, बेजारू, कोपु, दुःख-हे सर्व मनाचे खेळ जाल्याती! जाल्यारी मन शक्तिवान आस्ता. संसारांतु दुःख, कष्ट येताती ते सर्व सहन कोरुनु संसार सुखाचो जायशी करता तें. आमगेल्या संपूर्ण शरीराच्येरी राज्य कर्तलें हे आमगेले अमूल्य मन! ह्या मनाक संपूर्ण शांती मेळका म्होणुचि सत्पुरुषांनी “ध्यान” कोरूक बोसच्ये उत्तम उपाय सांगल्याती!

EXAM RESULTS

Dhruv Rajiv Kabad passed his CBSE (X) with A1 grade in all subjects



भगवद्गीतापठनस्पर्धा प्रसङ्गेन

मुम्बापुरीनगर्या स्थिताया ग्रँटरोड सभाया: अंबाबाई हेबळे गीतापठनस्पर्धाया: आयोजनं प्रसंशसनीयम्। चित्रापूर मठाधिपतिभिः प. पू. सद्योजात शमराश्रमैः आशिषः प्रदत्ताः प्रतिवर्षे आयोजकैः परीक्षकैः आबालवृद्धैः उत्साहपूर्णतया आरभ्यते। पूर्वनिर्देशितान् गीताश्लोकान् पठन्तः बालाः पठनानन्दम् अनुभवन्ति। वृद्धः अपि पठनप्रवणा भूत्वा सहर्षम् आगच्छन्ति। स्त्रीवर्गः अपि प्रभूतया मात्रया सहभागी भवति।

भारतस्य संस्कृति वेदेषु, उपनिषत्सु, स्मृतिषु च प्रतीता। एतेषां गन्यानां ज्ञानम् अपारं किन्तु ग्रन्थाः अनेकाः विचाराः मतानि भिन्नानि। साधकस्य मनसि संप्रमः जायते- अहं किं पठामि? इत्युक्तम् ‘श्रुतिर्विभिन्नाः स्मृतयश्च भिन्नाः नैको मुनिः यस्य वचः प्रमाणम्।’

अहो भागधेयम् अस्माकं यद् भगवद्गीता इहलोके विद्यते। अस्यां सर्वे वेदाः, उपनिषदानि, धर्मशास्त्रं जीवनशास्त्रं च गुटिकारूपेण (Capsule form) उपलब्धाः। परम रहस्यग्रन्थोऽयम् अनुष्ठुभू छन्दे अतिसरलभाषायां कथितः अल्पप्रयत्नेन अभ्यासेन भावार्थः ज्ञायते। कुरुक्षेत्रे नाम रणक्षेत्रे भगवता श्रीकृष्णेन अर्जुनः संबोधितः। ‘अहं शरचापं गृहीत्वा रणक्षेत्रे न गन्तुकामः’ अतः गीतापठनेन पाठनेच किं प्रयोजनम् इति केचित् जनाः मन्यन्ते। किन्तु मानवस्य मनसि पाण्डववृत्तिः तथा कौरववृत्तिश्च निवसतः। गीताया आशयः गभीरः तथा विस्तारपूर्वकेन तत्त्वबोधेन ज्ञायते यद् जीवने देहक्षेत्रेऽपि एषा बहूपयोगिनी। पाण्डववृत्त्या कौरववृत्त्युपरि कथं विजयश्रीः प्राप्तव्या, नरदेहस्य सार्थकं कथं साधनीयं, का साधना करणीया इति सम्यक्कृत्या मार्गदर्शनं कृतम्। यदि मानव जन्मस्य इतिकर्तव्यतां नाम मोक्षमपि लब्धुं मानव इच्छति तर्हि केन मार्गे ण प्रस्थानं कर्तव्यम् इति वेदव्यासेन कथितम्-

गीता सुगीता कर्तव्या किमन्यैः शास्त्रविस्तरैः।

या स्वयं पद्मनाभस्य मुखपद्मात् विनिसृता इत्यलम्॥

असे ही एक चित्र!

रेखा राव (कावळ)

लहानपणापासून मला मुंबईचे फार आकर्षण! मुंबईचे विस्तृत रस्ते, मोठी मोठी दुकाने, असंख्य लोकांना घेऊन धावणाऱ्या लोकल गाड्या, बसेस, मोटारी, कडक इस्त्रीचे कपडे घालून ऑफिसला जाणारी माणसं, जुहू-गिरगांव चौपाटी तेथील भेळ, पाणी-पुरीची दुकानं, इमारतीतून खाली उतरताच भाजीपासून कपडे, खेळणी, खाद्यपदार्थ मिळण्याची दुकानं आणि मुख्य म्हणजे बॉलीवुडमध्ये काम करणाऱ्या आवडत्या नट-नटींचे राहण्याचे ठिकाण! कधीतरी, कुठेतरी ती प्रत्यक्ष बघायला मिळतील ही आशा. (अर्थात हे त्यावेळेचे तरुण वयातले वेड) त्यामुळे त्या लखलखत्या, झगमगत्या मुंबापुरीला कधी जायला मिळेल याची आम्ही भावंडे आतुरतेने वाट पाहायचो. नशिबाने मला मुंबईत काम करणारा नवरा मुलगा भेटला आणि मी कायमची मुंबईकर झाले. गेली ४८ वर्षे मी मुंबईत राहते. आता ह्या अफाट मुंबईत इतके बदल झालेत की काही विचारू नका. “कालाय तस्मै नमः” काळाप्रमाणे बदल होणे, सुधारणा करणे हे आवश्यकच आहे. मोठ्या मोठ्या टॉवर्स, मॉल्स, मेट्रो, फ्लाय ओवर्स इत्यादीसाठी अहोरात्र काम करणारे मजूर पाहिले की मात्र अंगावर काटा येतो. अगदी गहिवरून येते. वाटतं, कसलं हे जीवन!

आमच्या घरासमोर कसली तरी केबल टाकण्यासाठी रस्ता खोदण्याचे (हे मुंबईचे नेहमीचे दृश्य) काम चालू होतं. दिवस-रात्र स्त्रिया व पुरुष मे महिन्याच्या रखरखीत उन्हात चोवीस तास रस्ता खोदत होते. आमच्या खिडकीसमोर आगीच्या ज्वाळा दिसू लागल्या. म्हणून मी खिडकीचे काचेचं दार सरकवून बाहेर पाहिलं. तर तीन दगडाच्या चुलीवर अॅल्युमिनियमचा मोठा हंडा ठेवून त्यात काहीतरी शिजत होतं. दगडाखाली कागदाचे कपडे, लाकडाच्या कांड्या घालून मोठा जाळ केला होता. एक काळी कुळकुळीत शेलाटी बाई मोठ्या लाकडाच्या डावाने भांड्यातला पदार्थ ढवळीत होती. ते पाहून माझे कुतूहल जागे झाले. मी निरीक्षण करीत राहिले. दगडामातीचा ढीग, रस्त्यावरून वाहनं धावतात, लोक येतात जातात. बरीच वाहने त्या दगडाच्या ढिगाऱ्यावर पार्क केलीत. जवळच कचऱ्याचे डबे भरून वाहतात. भटकी कुत्री त्यावर नाचतात. वरती कावळे घिरट्या घालतात. अशा

“मोकळ्या प्रसन्न वातावरणात” सूर्य अगदी माथ्यावर झळकत असताना ती झिपण्यावाली बाई तन्मयतेने स्वयंपाक करीत होती. माझे निरीक्षण चालूच होते. तिने सर्वांना बोलाविले असावे. कारण थोड्या वेळाने आजूबाजूला काम करणाऱ्या चार-पाच बायका व पुरुष अॅल्युमिनियमचे ताट घेऊन पुढे आले. त्या बाईने प्रत्येकाला डाव भरून भरून वाफाळलेला भात वाढला. बाजूला करून ठेवलेलं लालभडक कालवण त्यावर ओतलं. मग ते सगळे तिथेच बसून जेवायला लागले. त्यांचा घामाने, कामाने थकलेला, रापलेला क्षीण चेहरा उजळल्यासारखा वाटला. मनात आलं, ह्या बिचाऱ्या काम-कऱ्यांना दोन वेळच जेवण हीच मेजवानी. रात्रभर खोदल्याचा अधून मधून बोलण्याचा आवाज येत होता. बोलीभाषा दक्षिण भारतीय वाटत होती. पहाटे मी नेहमीसारखं वॉकला जायला बाहेर पडले. त्यातील काही बायका व पुरुष दगडमातीच्या ढिगाऱ्यावर पांढऱ्या रंगाची प्लॅस्टिकची पाथरी पसरून मस्त झोपले होते. त्यांना ना डासांचा ना घाणीचा ना लोकांचा त्रास होत होता. रस्त्याच्या एका कोपऱ्यात संसाराची चार भांडी काही वस्तू गोळा करून ठेवलेल्या. मी वॉक करून येताना सर्व उठलेले व त्यांचे खोदकाम सुरू झाले होते. आता त्यांचा संसार आमचे गेट ओलांडून पुढे गेला होता. चुलीवर चहाचे लाल पाणी उकळत होते. खोदकाम जसे पुढे सरकत होते तसा त्यांचा संसार म्हणजे चूल्ही सरकत होती. मनात आलं ह्यांची आन्धिकं, आंघोळ, वेणीफणी कसे व कुठे करीत असतील? त्यातून अवतीभवती बागडणारी चार-पाच छोटी मुलंही दिसली आणि अंगावर काटा आला. डोक्याला ना तेल ना पाणी, धुळीने बरबटलेला चेहरा, अस्ताव्यस्त केस, मळके कपडे. बिच्चारीSS ही मुलं... शिक्षण, बालपण हरवून बसलीत. ह्यांचं पुढे काय? तीन दिवस रस्ता खोदकाम चालू होतं. येता जाता मी पाहत होते. त्या बायकांच्या अंगावर गेले तीन दिवस तिच साडी-चोळी दिसत होती. त्यांना त्याचे काहीच वाटत नव्हते. पण मला मात्र हे दृश्य पाहून गहिवरून येत होते. यासाठी काय करावे समजत नव्हते. त्यांच्याविषयी कणव दाटून येत होती. ती निदान शब्दरूपाने लोकांसमोर मांडावी म्हणून हा छोटासा लेख!

तो आणि ती

श्यामला भट

रात्रीचा साडेनऊचा सुमार. नेहमीसारखी सारी कामे आटपून, झांकपाक करून ती स्वयंपाकखोलीतून बाहेर आली. तो कधीपासून टीवीवर 'घणाघाती चर्चा' पहात होता. "झालं, आता ती रिमोट ताब्यात घेणार आणि कुठचा तरी 'आलतूफालतू' कार्यक्रम बघत बसणार" असं त्याच्या मनात आलं. पाच मिनिटे झाली तरी ती रिमोट मागत नाही याचं त्याला आश्चर्यच वाटलं. त्याने तिच्याकडे पाहिलं तर ती रिकाम्या डोळ्यांनी समोरची भिंत पाहत होती. आणि काही मिनिटे अशीच गेली. तो अस्वस्थ झाला.

"काय गं, काय झालं?" यावर तिचा मोठा सुस्कारा.

"बरं वाटत नाही का तुला? आज कॉमेडी सर्कस नाही का बघायची?"

"जाऊ दे. देशात कुठे काय चाललंय ते पहा तुम्ही. माझं काय नेहमीचच. तुम्हाला काय फरक पडतो?"

"अरेच्या, विचारतोय, तर धड उत्तर का देत नाहीस?"

"मला कंटाळा आलाय, रोज सकाळपासून रात्रभर काम काम, अगदी वर्षानुवर्षे तेच तेच. एक दिवस तरी तुम्ही मला चहाखाणं करून दिलंय का? इतकी वर्षे तुमची नोकरी होती. आता सहा महिने झाले रिटायर्ड होऊन. छान चाललंय तुमचं. उशीरा उठणं, तासन्तास वर्तमानपत्र वाचणं, मित्रांबरोबर पत्ते, भटकणं, टीवी बघणं, मला आहे का रिटायरमेंट? रिटायरमेंट जाऊंदे, एखादा दिवस आरामात उठेन, आयता चहा पिईन, गरम कुणीतरी खायला देईल अशी छोटी आशा पण करता येत नाही. ते काही नाही, उद्या सकाळचा चहा नाश्ता तुम्हीच करायचा."

तो दचकलाच. यापेक्षा रोजचा रिमोटचा हट्ट बरा होता.

"मला येत नाही, नाहीतर मी रोज बनवून दिलं असतं."

"हो का, मग सुरुवात करा. कर्नाटकमधल्या खेडेगावातील मी, मराठी भाषासुद्धा येत नव्हती. तरी तुमच्या आग्रहाने बँकेत, पोस्टऑफिस तर कधी टेलिफोनच्या ऑफिसमध्ये जाऊन कामं करून येऊ लागले ना. आता तर 'ऑनलाईन पेमेंट' करते. 'केल्याने होत आहे रे, आधी केलेचं पाहिजे' असा तुमचाच उपदेश. मग आता तुम्हाला पण हळूहळू जमेल."

यावर त्याला काय बोलावं सुचेना. तीही गप्प राहिली. मध्येच म्हणाली, "तालमकीवाडीतले लोक, विशेषतः बायका भाग्यवान. रोज सकाळी गरमागरम खाणं, दारात हजर. मागाहून

जेवणाचे पदार्थ..."

तिचं बोलणं मध्येच तोडून तो म्हणाला.

"बाई माझे, मला तालमकीवाडीत घर घ्यायला सांगू नकोस. मला परवडणार नाही. त्यापेक्षा बोल, काय हवंय तुला सकाळी?"

"अरे वा! मी सांगेन ते तुम्ही करणार आहात का?"

"सांगून तर बघ." तिचा चेहरा खुशालला.

"सुरुवात न, तुम्ही उपमापासून करा. मी रसचंद्रिकेतलं पान काढून ठेवते."

"ठीक आहे. तू उद्या अगदी आरामात उठ. मी सगळं बघतो."

"नक्की न? मग उठल्या उठल्या कचऱ्याची बादली बाहेर ठेवा, दूधाची पिशवी आत घ्या. आणि..."

"तू निश्चित रहा. मी सगळं करीन."

ती अगदी आनंदीत झाली. झोपली तरी झोप लागेना. अगदी प्रथमच तो काहीतरी बनवणार होता. कुठे काय ठेवलंय त्याला कुठे माहीत आहे. सगळं शोधत बसणार." ती अस्वस्थपणे कुस बदलत राहिली. मग हलक्या पावलाने उठली. स्वयंपाकखोलीचं दार लावून घेतलं. मग छोट्या भांड्यात रवा, त्याला लागणं मीठ साखर घातलेलं पाणी, कढईत तेल, झारा, छोट्या ताटलीत कापून ठेवलेल्या मिरच्या, आलं, कढीपत्ता इत्यादी साऱ्या गोष्टी तिने काढून झाकून ठेवल्या. दूध तापवायचं भांडं विसळून झाकून ठेवलं. खडूने ओट्यावर सारं व्यवस्थित लिहून ठेवलं. बराच वेळ यात गेला तरी ती आता निश्चित झाली.

सकाळी नेहमीच्या वेळी जाग आली. शेजारी तो नव्हता म्हणजे कामाला लागला म्हणायचा. ती स्वतःशीच हसली आणि पुनः पांघरूण ओढून घेऊन झोपली, पण रहावेचना. तिने हलकेच कानोसा घेतला. कसलाच आवाज नाही, स्वयंपाकखोलीतून कसलाही सुगंध नाही. ती उठली, दबक्या पावलांनी स्वयंपाकखोलीच्या दाराआडून डोकावून पाहिलं. बघते तर, रात्री ओटा जसा होता तसाच. तिने घरभर पाहिलं. त्याचा कुठे पत्ता नव्हता. दुधाची पिशवी तेवढी टेबलावर आणि कचऱ्याची बादली बाहेर. कुठे गेला असेल? तिने त्याच्या मोबाईलचा नंबर लावला. तर घरातच आवाज ऐकू आला. ओह, चार्जिंगला लावला आहे. आता वाट बघत बसण्याशिवाय

दुसरं काय करणार. पण कधी तो येईल, कधी चहाखाणं बनवेल. ती चरफडत उठली. भराभरा उपमा बनवला. तरी तो परतला नाही. ती वर्तमानपत्र उघडून बसली. साडेआठ वाजले तरी तो आला नाही. रागाची जागा आता चिंतेने घेतली. नको नको ते विचार मनात येऊ लागले. तिने साडी बदलली आणि ती उतरली. गेटपर्यंत पोहोचते म्हणताना समोर कॉलनीतल्या काही मित्रांसोबत हसत येताना तो दिसला. तिला पाहताच मित्रांना निरोप देत तिला म्हणाला,

“अरे, तू का इतक्या लवकर उठलीस? चल, गरम गरम नाश्ता आणलाय बघ.” त्याच्या हातात मोठी पिशवी दिसत होती. ती काहीच न बोलता घराकडे वळली. घरात शिरल्या

शिरल्या त्याने पिशवीतून पुडकी काढायला सुरुवात केली.

“उपमा काय घेऊन बसलीस? वडा सांबार आणि पायनॅपल शिरा आणलाय अन्नपूर्णातून. काय दिलं की नाही सरप्राईज? अग हे लोक रोज मॉर्निंग वॉकला जातात. कधीपासून माझ्या मागे लागले होते. तू पण चल म्हणून आज बघतो तर सगळी अन्नपूर्णात बसली होती. दर रविवारी हा खास कार्यक्रम असतो त्यांचा. उद्यापासून मीही जाणार आहे आणि रविवारचा नाश्ता तुला माझ्याकडून. माझं खाणं झालंय तिथे. तू चहा तेवढा करून घे.”

मग शीळ घालत त्याने वर्तमानपत्र उचललं आणि तो आरामखुर्चीत पहुडला.

गुरुपौर्णिमेच्या प्रकाशात...

इच्छापूर्तिस्तव स्वहृष्टापायी जगी येऊन मी फसले...
हातातला हात तुझा माऊली सुटला कधी न कळले
सुखदुःखाच्या झूल्यावर झुलत जीव वेडा रमला
शेवटी भोवळ येतां प्रपंचातुन परमार्थी उतरला!

जगीं विषयवासना बाजारी मन हे उबगले
कर्मफलभोगाचे दुःख मी पुरते कोळून प्याले
मात्र मनसोक्त कर्तव्यदक्षतेने जगजीवन जगले
तव लीलामयी सृष्टीचा अनुभव घेऊन धन्य झाले.

माता माऊली एकच ध्यास-तव दर्शनासी भुकेले
जीवन हे तव चरणी अर्पण कराया जीव भाबडा तळमळे
बहु अपराधी मी क्षमस्व माते आस तव कुशीत शिरावे
बंधमुक्त तव एकतत्वीं सामावून वेगळे पुन्हा न कधी व्हावे!!

कळकळीचे मागणे हे मानून घे वात्सल्यमूर्ति करुणामयी
अनन्य भावें सर्वस्व वाहते माते मी विनम्र तव पार्यीं
गुरुपौर्णिमेच्या ज्ञानप्रकाशात माउली दर्शन मज द्यावे
अंतरीचा ज्ञानदीप उजळून तव तेजात एकरूप व्हावे!!

॥ हरि ॐ तत् सत् ॥

- डॉ. सौ. मीरा वरलक्ष्मी सुधाकर सौकुंर

नामस्मरण

श्रीराम श्रीराम नाम स्मरता ।
चिंता सारी सरली आता ॥
संसार नभी सुखदुःखाचे मेघ दाटे ।
नामवर्षा मग अमृत बरसे ॥
देवा तुझे चिंतन करता ।
विषयासक्ती नसे आता ॥
प्रपंचातून परमार्थाचा उदय होता ।
प्रपंच वाटे निरस आता ॥
देहबुद्धी सारी सरु लागता ।
मनात विवेकाने वैराग्य जागे होता ॥
अहंकार क्षीण होता - होता ।
काम क्रोध दूर होतो आता ॥
कामना वासना त्यागता त्यागता ।
मनास नैष्कर्म्याची ओढ लागे आता ॥
देवा, तूची सर्वस्व दाता ।
माझी शरणागती स्वीकार आता ॥
सारे जीवन समर्पण तुला ।
अंतःकरणाची तळमळ दूर करूनी ।
सद्गुरुंचा हात दे तू मला ॥

- सौ. विद्या दुर्गादास बैंदुर
(विद्या सिताराम भट)

‘ओरिएण्ट’ पंख्याचे मनोगत

चंद्रमा बिजुर

नमस्कार! मी ‘ओरिएण्ट!’ ओरिएण्ट मोहन बिजुर. बिजुर अशासाठी की माझ्या मालकाचं नाव आहे मोहन बिजुर उर्फ दादा!

२९ मे १९६६ रोजी चन्द्रमावैनी एफ-२६, कर्नाटक बिल्डींगचा उंबरठा ओलांडून आत आली. माहेर सोडून प्रथमच सासरी येताना थोडीशी नर्व्हस, थकलेली आणि घामाघूमही झाली होती चंद्रमावैनी! मोहनदादाने एक नजर माझ्यावर टाकली आणि पटकन पंख्याच म्हणजेच माझं बटण दाबलं! आणि मी मोठ्या आनंदाने गिरक्या घेऊ लागलो. क्षणांत वातावरण शांत-सुखद झालं.

दोन खोल्यांच बिऱ्हाड! बाहेरच्या खोलीत मी होतो. पण आत स्वयंपाकघरात पंखा नव्हता. ६७मध्ये कन्येचा जन्म झाला. ‘आनंदिता’ नाव ठेवलं. त्या दिवशी माझा थाट काही विचारू नका. क्रेपेपर्सच डेकोरेशन काय, रंगीबेरंगी फुगे काय! जो तो बाळाचं तर कौतुक करीच पण त्याबरोबर “आहा! पंखा मस्त आहे! मस्त हवा येते.” मी एकदम खुश! आणि त्यादिवशी बाळाबरोबरीने माझंही नामकरण झालं. “ओरि” उर्फ ओरिएण्ट! वा!!! क्या बात है। मी मारे खुशीत चार गिरक्या जास्तच घेतल्या.

आता बाळ ३-४ महिन्यांचं झालं. माझी आणि बाळाची गट्टी जमली. माझ्याशिवाय बाळ एक मिनिटही शांत बसत नसे. बाळाला आंघोळीनंतर दूध पाजून वैनी पाळण्यात घाली तेव्हा मला “हाताची घडी आणि तोंडावर बोट” ठेवून गप्प बसायची ताकीद असे. मी गपचूप उभा असे. पण बाळ? माझ्याकडे बघत जोरजोरात रडू लागे आणि वैनी नाइलाजाने मला चालतं करी. मी गिरक्या घेऊ लागलो की माझ्याकडे एकटक पाहता पाहता बाळ झोपी जाई.

आनंदिता आनंद घेऊन आली; संतोष संतोष घेऊन आला. अर्चनाला सुशीला आकाच्या ओटीत अर्पण करताना एकीच्या डोळ्यात आनंदाश्रु आणि दुसरीच्या-कृतार्थतेचे आँसू मी स्वतः पाहिले आहेत.

असा हा यांचा जीवन प्रवास! कुछ खट्टा कुछ मीठा! कभी खुशी कभी गम! या सर्वांत मी सहभागी झालोय. सर्वांचा साक्षी झालोय मी! मला या कुटुंबात- या घरकुलांत येऊन हे पन्नासावं वर्ष!

‘God made’ माणसं सुद्धा अशक्त होतात. मी तर man-made! आजार तर येणारच! तेव्हा मुलं म्हणतात, “डॅडी, ओरि आता old झाला. आता नवीन घेऊया.” तेव्हा दादा काय म्हणतात, “अरे, old झाला म्हणून कोणी टाकून का देतं? नाही ना? उद्या मी old झालो की मला टाकणार? नाही ना? मग असू दे की त्याला आपल्याकडे. थोडं औषधपाणी केलं की होईल बरा.”

अशी ही माझी ५० वर्षांची कर्मसाधना! दादा-वैनी दोन खोल्यांतून ४ खोल्यांत गेले. चारही खोल्यांत नवीन पंखे आले आणि वरिष्ठ कुटुंब प्रमुख म्हणून मला देवघरात-मंदिराच्या वर सर्वोच्च पद मिळालं! बाकीचे पंखे आले आणि गेले, पुनःपुनः आले नि गेले! पण मी? माझं स्थान अढळ आहे. परमात्म्याला चामर झुलवायचं अतिविशेष काम दादा-वैनींनी माझ्यावर सोपवलाय! दादा-वैनी पूजा-अर्चा-ध्यान-जप येथेच बसून करतात आणि मी शांतपणे प्रसन्नचित्ताने देवाला आणि भक्ताला चामर झुलवत असतो. रोज! तिन्ही प्रहरी! कृतकृत्य वाटतं! देवाची भक्ती करणाऱ्याची सेवा करणाऱ्यालाही पुण्य लाभतं असं वैनी नेहमी म्हणते आणि मला धन्यता वाटते!

आता हीच माझी साधना! शेवटच्या श्वासापर्यंत गिरक्या घेत घेत भगवन्त चरणी अर्पित व्हायचं!

“व्हॉट्स एप माझा सांगाती”

विजयालक्ष्मी कापनाडक

माणसाने कूपमंडूक होऊ नये. जगाबरोबर स्वतःला बदलले नाही, तर स्वतःची प्रगती होणे शक्य नाही. त्यामुळे सुखांपासून वंचित राहावे लागते.

माझ्या लेकीने माझ्या विरोधाला न जुमानता मोठा टचस्क्रीन मोबाइल विकत घेऊन माझ्या घरी पाठवला.

मोबाइलचे पार्सल घरी पोहोचण्याच्या एक दिवस आधी मला फोनवर सुचना दिली.

मी माझ्या जुन्या लहान मोबाइलवर संतुष्ट होते. त्या फोनने आप्पेष्टांची खुशाली कळते ना? बाऽऽस.

मुलींबरोबर नातवंडे केदार, मल्हार, अमृता माझ्या घरी

आल्यावर आईच्या फोनवरून छान छान व्हिडियो क्लिप्स व त्यांनी काढलेले फोटो इत्यादी दाखवत तेव्हा मजा वाटे पण ते तात्पुरते.

नंतर माझ्या बहिणीने मोठा मोबाइल घेतला व व्हॉट्स एपवर तिला चिकटून बसलेले पाहून मला तिची कीव येई. वाटे “ही पण वेडी झाली...”

मला तो फुकटचा टाइमपास वाटे व त्यासाठी भरमसाठ पैशांचा वायफळ खर्च वाटे.

दुसऱ्या दिवशी सकाळी कवरसहीत साधारण डायरी एवढा मोबाईल माझ्या घरी पोहोचला. संध्याकाळी लेकीने त्यावर योग्य प्रक्रिया करून दुसऱ्या दिवशी संध्याकाळी तो माझ्या ताब्यात दिला व त्यावरून व्हाट्स एप, मेसेज आणि फोन कसा करायचा त्याचे प्रात्यक्षिक दाखवले. अन् लहान मुलाला नवीन खेळणे हातात दिल्यावर जसा तो रंगतो, तसेच मी पण त्याच्यात रंगले.

सर्वात आधी बहीण ज्योती, नंतर मुर्लीशी संवाद साधताना माझी तारांबळ उडत होती. टचस्क्रीनमुळे बोट नको त्या अक्षरावर पडल्याने शब्दच बदलत. त्याची गम्मतच वेगळी असते. तुम्हीपण ते अनुभवले असेलच.

नात्यातील जवळीक जपण्यासाठी सतत संवादांची गरज

असते. फोनवर इतर नातेवाईकांशी बोलण्याने संबंध होतेच पण जवळीक कमी होत असल्याची मनात खंत वाटे.

आता मी माझा मोर्चा माझ्या नणंदा जानकी आणि सुनंदाकडे वळवला आणि त्यांनी पण तेवढ्याच जोशात छान प्रतिसाद देऊन माझे व्हॉट्स एप वर स्वागत केले.

आपली तिसरी पिढी या बाबतीत अतिशय हुशार आहे हे तुम्हीपण मान्य करता. केदारने ग्रुप करणे, आवडलेले मॅसेज फॉरवर्ड करणे आणि इतर गोष्टी शिकवल्या अन् माझे विश्वच जणू बदलले.

आपण अनुभवलेल्या गमती सर्वांमध्ये शेअर करणे सोपे झाले. नातलग, मित्रमैत्रिणी यांमध्ये जवळीक साधली जाते याचा मला खूप आनंद आहे.

सुप्रभातपासून शुभरात्रीपर्यंत सर्व संवाद आपोआप या मोबाईलमध्ये जमा होतात. त्यापैकी आपल्याला आवडलेली व्हिडियो क्लिप सर्वांना पाठवता येते, वर्तमानात घडणाऱ्या गोष्टी कळतात.

जेव्हा कधीतरी एकटेपणा जाणवू लागतो, तेव्हा हा मित्र माझ्या मदतीला धावून येतो.

असा हा “व्हॉट्स एप. माझा सांगाती.”



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Ode to Raavan

SHIGHRAKAVI: DR.R.R.MANJESHWAR; PUNE

The poem, ODE TO RAAVAN as below was
penned with the inspiration I got during a contem-
plative mood of mine....

I urge the learned readers to dispassionately browse
through;
that might give certain insights n even enlighten-
ment fine!

We haven't forgotten that basically you were a
pious Brahmin....

Who was careful enough, not even to kill a ver-
min!

We are well aware, performed you tapaas austere,
to appease Lord Shankar vibhuti...

Even you had started cutting your heads in yadnya
as sacrificial ahuti!

When your dear sister Shurpanakka was humiliat-
ed n even disfigured by Lakshman;

her only crime being she ardently proposed him to
make her his bride....

Only then, you abducted Sita to avenge n restore
your sister's shattered glory n pride!

You did abduct Sita in disguise of a bhikshuk,
but let us not forget the fact that she had diso-
beyed her Devar by crossing over the Lakshman
Rekha....

That encouraged Raavan, perhaps as a signal
wrong as her consent, which was quite obvious
'ankho-dekha'!

As a victor, he could have forced a 'Gandhar-
va-vivah' there n then in line with the ancient
traditions, but he merely did Sita-haran....

When Jatayu opposed him fiercely, Raavan could
have killed him, knowing his obvious role as a
'whistle blower'; but merely he clipped his wings,
on the run!

He kept Sita in a separate place, providing all royal
comforts; shelter n security too, may be by rather
inherently ugly looking guards but all-lady counte-
nance...

He tried in utmost humility, to plead, reason out
or allure her to be his queen, several times with
undying hope of acceptance!

In spite being an all mighty emperor, he never ever

tried to molest her,
humiliate her modesty in any way....
protected he Sita, as a true guest, atithi,
keeping all other ill forces at bay!
We also know, when you badly needed to go for
pee,
entrusted Shivlinga in the hands of Shri Ganesh,
disguised as a balak, not so innocent a child....
Deceitfully he grouted it permanently at Murdesh-
war, in a manner none can call mild!
When Rajdoot, Hanuman wouldn't even budge
to reveal his purpose of snooping even at secret
places....
As a King of the empire, you had legitimate right to
have such info
to safeguard your subjects, residing in golden
palaces!
You did not torture Hanuman, in secret chambers,
to extract truth by thrashes....
Instead, publicly ordered burning of his tail,
which but was used by Maruti to the greatest
advantage
only to burn your entire kingdom to ashes!
Despite the fact that Kumbhakarna, your mighty
brother, forever in deep slumber,
with all his latent Marshall powers left unused.....
And your other brother, Vibhishan, who shunned
you at the most crucial time,
further becoming a traitor, nothing to get amused!
Still you fought with valour, almost single handedly,
the loosing battle, which you knew all along....
Even while on death bed, counting your last
breaths,
gave you magnanimously all the secrets of warfare
to Lakshman free,
not even for a song!
You were invincible because of Shiva's boon,
no amount of cutting of your heads by Shri Ram
would have killed you;
In fact you had no match at initial stages of your
duel....
Until, Vibhishan gave away the secret of your
vulnerability at belly button to Ram, adding in fire,
the deceitful fuel!

Still, even before you breathed your last,
Lord Ram had to deeply apologize to you for hitting
you below the belt....

But you whole heartedly pardoned your arch
enemy Ram n then Vibhishan too and uttered Ram
naam before departure to Nether world,
seeing in the eyes of enemies, the remorse visibly
felt!

But instead of investigating whether you were
indeed 'sarva-guna-sampanna',
good in balancing multi tasking n wearing multiple
'thinking hats',
playing these multiple simultaneous roles...
We ridiculed you for your TEN HEADS, forgetting
the symbolism,

representing above un-researched facts,
by these self righteous mythological moles!
If a murderer Ratnakar can become Maharshi Val-
miki to author the epic of Ramayan....
Isn't there any 'maika laal' worth his salt to also
write even a myopic on Raavan?!

We all enjoy burning Raavan's effigy during Ramlila
with great fanfare and aplomb.....

We are so much used to burning effigies of any one
with contrasting views
or considered controversial these days;
that my poem above will have no effect on them
even if it was a shrapnel shell of a live bomb!
This is not to anyway adversely bias you or influ-
ence neither you
nor it is any intentional sacrilege of our traditions n
codes...

Even if a discerning reader understands the total
picture
and has a discretion to form his own views on due
deliberations,
the poet will feel fulfilled in his mission of discrimi-
nating good n bad
and more importantly the ultimate triumph of 'Sat-
vik' over 'Rajo' or "Tamo' gunaas,
all residing within all of us all the time in varying
degrees though, as 'Triguna' modes!

<<<>>>

In loving memory

Lalita Maruti Bailur

June 7th, 1922 – January 7th 2015

You will remain in our hearts

- Leena, Niranjana, Sachin, Camila,
Kamal, Sunanda and Ganesh



Orchid Mania

MAYA KALYANPUR

Shortly after our marriage, I discovered that my husband Suresh was crazy about gardening, particularly orchids above everything else. He had a green thumb and could resurrect a dying plant successfully into a flowering one. Within a short time his plants would propagate themselves and proliferate until we had a garden full of different varieties of roses, carnations, cannas and orchids. This made our life colourful. However, being in the banking industry back then, Suresh had to be prepared to relocate every now and then. We were constantly on the move from one state to another. This meant reducing our luggage as far as possible, everything except the orchids of course. I remember travelling by car to our first place of posting with all his 'rare' orchid plants in the front seat and part of the rear seat and somewhere squeezed in between were my children and I!

Sadly, he had to give them all away when we got our first overseas assignment. But once we returned to India, his impassioned collection made a quick start. Suresh had a fantastic collection of orchids from Kalimpong, Arunachal and Kerala. Then came our last and final move to our own apartment in Rustambagh in Bangalore. We felt very sad leaving that sprawling rented house with a garden. Where would all these potted beauties go? Suresh was in a quandary. It was heart wrenching to give away many of his prized possessions save only a few which now adorn the common area of our apartment building. The long corridors outside the two entrances of our duplex beckoned Suresh once more. He soon managed to convert these spaces into little green havens.

In the last several years a subtle change had come over him. He started conversing less with me and more with his plants. Every time he exited the doors, a musical whistle escaped his mouth which the parakeet outside was quick to imitate. When Suresh made his appearance outside the door, the bird would squawk and copy the whistle, startling the young ladies passing by on the street below. Imagine our embarrassment when they began giving dirty looks until they realized one day, that it was not my poor husband whistling at them!

He began to brood more and pore over voluminous books. He googled and doodled all day, participating in online seminars and webinars or carrying on long conversations on the phone interspersed with vanda, vanda, vanda. My suspicion was aroused and I decided to take the bull by its horns one morning. "Are you sure it is vanda and not Wendy you are talking about?" It became even more of a mystery gradually. He would disappear for hours on end and return from his jaunts only by dinner-time. Seedless, sorry, needless to say, something WAS going on but it was not Wendy thankfully. I had no foreboding of what lay ahead. Mysterious parcels started arriving at our doorstep. Plants, plants and more plants tumbled out and ate into my personal space. Even the bathrooms were not spared!

Out of the blue one day, rot iron stands were delivered. Then came a cartload of pots followed by bags of charcoal courtesy our isthriwala in the basement. Bricks and tiles were collected and broken into tiny pieces by Suresh. That was not all. Every little wire, string, plastic net, sponge and wooden blocks vanished from the apartment to adorn the cane lattices with strange looking upside down 'mounted' plants! Funnily, I was asked to guard these prized possessions zealously from predators like the Bangladeshi maid who would whisk away a whole floral bloom and tuck it in her luxuriant hair like Aung San Kyi!

Next came the squirrels that would scuttle around looking for seeds and drop the lighter pots in the process. It was my job to put back all that lay strewn on the floor but like the big bear in "The three bears" story, my dear husband would take one look and roar, "who has been eating my orchids!" So that is what it was, his love interest!

"Do you know how much they cost?" he thundered.

"Mmmm....I hazarded a guess. "Thirty no, twenty with the falling rupee?"

"Seven hundred to a thousand, you silly!"

I could handle maids, mainas, crows, parakeets, squirrels and all other creatures except the monkeys that came in a group, jumping, rummaging, uprooting every tender shoot and eating what lay within. We tried airguns, water pistols, just about everything, and

finally, lathi charge. That did the trick! To this day, the intimidating lathi leans against the railing outside our entrance, ready for rebuttal.

When several orchids bloomed simultaneously, I hoped they would emit a heavenly fragrance but the opposite happened. There was an unbearable stench. No, it wasn't the flowers as we discovered later. Territorial species that most animals are, our pet dog had been marking his territory on all the pots!

Slowly, the exquisite blooms were visible from the road below and attracted a lot of attention and appreciation and soon, I also became a great admirer of these orchids and their creator Suresh.

Interesting visitors came calling. They would speak in a strange lingo like the Lilliputians. I would hear unfamiliar words like *Coelogyne rochussenil*, *Cymbidium royal vanguard* etc. In fact, my precocious little grandson Moksh who was then just over four years, burst into the room one day to quiz his grandpa. "Ajja! Ajja!" he asked breathlessly, "what is the longest word in the English Dictionary," and then after a pause, "Dendrobiumchrysanthum!" We had a hearty laugh. It was clear that we had all been infected now with a hopelessly incurable bug called Orchid-mania!



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SAD DEMISE



Anuradha Bajekal (nee Maya Andar)

29 November 1958 – 5 December 2015

God saw you were getting tired, And a cure was not meant to be,
So he put his arms around you, And whispered Come with Me.
With tearful eyes we watched you, As we saw you pass away.
Although we love you deeply, We could not make you stay.
Your golden heart stopped beating, Hardworking hands at rest.

God broke our hearts,

To prove to us..... He only takes the best!!

Sorely missed by Shyam (Husband), Mihir (Son) and Niyati (daughter)

Bajekals, Andars, Relatives and Friends

and Holy Family School, Karad

TRIBUTE TO MY 'MAMMY'

By Niyati Bajekal

You were a guiding light to hundreds of people, and influenced many more. Everyone talks about what a wonderful teacher you were, but I wish to say something about the Mom you always will be for me-(words aren't enough but I'll try my best). The first thing you noticed when you saw me were my dimples and non-toothed smile, for you I was your daughter but for me you became my whole world! You raised me, scolded me, and made me the person I am today! People thought I'd be favoured by you in school, but my-a stricter mother who taught me Math I've never met before! You were the sole reason I scored-as grandpops says" More than what 2 Bajekals would have scored jointly in Math in the Boards'. You were the most chilled out mom who I could tell my heart's desires to and who helped me come back on the right path when I went astray! I'm already missing our loong talks on the weekends when I came home and sat without even changing to tell you all the latest mirch masala till you ushered me to freshen up coz dinner was ready. The way you always knew what I'd be craving for without me having to even tell you, the way you surprised me with my favourite things, the way you knew I wasn't feeling good with just one look will always boggle my mind! But I guess that's your unique Mom thing! You were and always will be my best friend and go-to buddy, only thing that's changed is that I'll be able to have these talks with you whenever, in my heart. Maybe you aren't with us physically, but your mental presence will be enough. Knowing that you're always watching over me will give me the strength to go ahead. You always looked for the best in people and I hope to do the same. I will never be the perfection you were, but I will strive to be at least half like you. I'll always miss your physical presence, but for our soul talks I know where to look at to find you smiling that wide smile and saying 'Yo Sexy Doc' with that snap of your fingers. Love you infinity times infinity and I promise to make you proud of me. You will always be the first person I fell in love with instantly!! I couldn't bear to see you suffer the way you did and I'm relieved that you're free from pain and in a happy place. Say hi to both Annamma and Ammamma from me. I hope you're at peace now Mammy!!

THE SECRET OF SUPRABHA'S SUCCESS

For the last ten to twelve years, our Company has been consistently winning accolades and awards from various National and International organizations. Every time this happens, we know that it is not merely a fruition of our efforts but that there is also a greater power at work, whose blessings are definitely up on us. As C.E.O. of the company, I have been pondering over what that mighty power could be, that is making us so successful both in India and across the world, and I am not only sure but it's my conviction that it is the blessings of Parampoojaniya Parijnanashram Swamiji that is the unseen force behind our success.

The founder of our company, Late Shri Jayakrishna Betrabet, his wife Smt. Radha Betrabet and Directors Shri. Prabhakar Rao Bantwal and Smt. Sumalata Bantwal have all rendered their dedicated service to Karla Math and P.P. Parijnanashram Swamiji. I too along with Mr. C.P. Shanbhag-Vice President, Mr. Subhash Manjeshwar - A.V.P. Quality Assurance, Mr. Ramesh Manjeshwar – Sr. Manager and a host of other Senior Executives had many opportunities to serve Karla Math during the Prathistha Mahotsav of Goddess Durga Parmeshwari and Samadhi of P.P. Parijnanashram Swamiji.

During His earthly existence, we had the golden opportunity of meeting P.P. Parijnanashram Swamiji and taking His blessings which was an unforgettable and divine experience for us. P.P. Parijnanashram Swamiji had also blessed our first unit in Bhosari when we started production because of which, today, Suprabha Protective Products Pvt. Ltd., is the largest manufacturer of Vapour Corrosion Inhibitors in India. Every time we attended a sales call in Mumbai, we made it a point to stop at Karla Math and pray to Goddess Durga Parmeshwari and take the blessings of P.P. Parijnanashram Swamiji both during his lifetime and thereafter at the Samadhi of His Holiness. The sales calls, needless to say, were always successful.

As C.E.O. of the company, I take great pride in dedicating our latest achievements—back to back awards from the Indian Institute of Packaging, Mumbai; World Packaging Organization, Sweden and Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi at the lotus feet of P.P. Parijnanashram Swamiji.

INDIASTAR 2015 AWARD, WORLDSTAR 2016 AWARD & SUPRABHA'S CONTRIBUTION TO "MAKE IN INDIA"

Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi, launched the "Make In India" concept last year.

The "Make in India" campaign with the "Roaring Lion" as the logo was conceptualized on the advice of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Govt. of India. This was first revealed to the world at the Industrial Fair, held at Hannover Messe, Germany in 2015 by the Prime Minister himself in a grand inaugural function.

The statue of the Roaring Lion exhibited in the Indian Pavilion at this fair was fabricated and assembled by BHEL, Hyderabad. This statue is an aluminum structure, comprising over 400 aluminum components and weighs around 25 tons.

The assignment given to Suprabha was:

- To design a suitable Sea Worthy Packaging System to ship the Lion, in open deck, from BHEL, Hyderabad works, to Hannover, Germany via JNPT, Mumbai.
- To reach the Lion to its destination, in its full glory, without losing its luster. No white rust or black marks were to appear on the Lion. Totally dry packing was required i.e. no Rust Preventive Oil was to be applied.

The challenges faced by Suprabha:

- Travel time was about 45 days both on road and sea.
- B.H.E.L. officials suggested vacuum packing system by using aluminum foil.
- The task of the packing activity was entrusted to Suprabha at very short notice and was to be completed in just two days time.

Suprabha has been working very closely with BHEL, Hyderabad, as B.H.E.L. has contracted their entire packaging activities of various products like Rotors, Turbines, Spare Parts, Panels, etc. It is a matter of pride for Suprabha that B.H.E.L. selected us to do this very important packing, which would reflect our national pride.

Team Suprabha, working at B.H.E.L., rose to this occasion. The first hurdle was arranging the aluminum foil required, at such short notice. To get aluminum foil of required quantity and fabricate a cover of the size required to pack the Lion, was impossible. Hence Team Suprabha had to first design the packing system to take care of the stringent requirements, considering the product / metal composition involved and organize the packing with the material available at the B.H.E.L. site.

Suprabha has already carried out similar kind of Open Deck Transportation for power plant equipments, involving land and sea transportation / shipment and we have received both national and international recognition for our “Seaworthy Packaging System for Open Deck Transportation” in 2008.

Recently our “Seaworthy Packaging System for Long Term Preservation and Transportation” was awarded the prestigious INDIASTAR 2015 AWARD by the Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP) on 10th October 2015. Suprabha is also selected to receive the WORLDSTAR 2016 AWARD from the World Packaging Organization at Budapest, Hungary, in May 2016, for this Packaging System.

With our expertise and vast knowledge of Seaworthy Packing combined with Long Term Preservation and Open Deck Transportation, our Team worked continuously for over 24 hours, with the available resources, under the watchful eyes of the top officials of B.H.E.L. It is to their credit that B.H.E.L. top officials including the Executive Director were personally present in the packing area throughout the packing activity. This gave encouragement and boosted the morale of Team Suprabha. We were able to hand over the Lion, fully packed and secured in the Seaworthy Packaging System to B.H.E.L. officials well within the stipulated time, thus enabling timely dispatch from the plant.

The much awaited D day arrived and the proud moment came, when the Executive Director of B.H.E.L. personally called and appreciated the Seaworthy Packing done by Team Suprabha, and informed that the Lion packed by Suprabha had reached Hannover in all its majesty, with its original luster intact and without any patches of white rust or black marks. In fact the Spokesperson of the External Affairs Ministry had tweeted and congratulated B.H.E.L. on this accomplishment. Indeed it was a thrilling experience to see the lion roaring and majestically walking across the podium, as we watched the inaugural session on our T.V. screens.

This is Suprabha’s ‘behind-the-scenes’ contribution to the Government’s ‘Make in India’ initiative, in a big way. Suprabha is proud to be associated with this endeavor that has kept the national tricolor flying high.

RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL QUALITY AWARD 2012

It was a proud moment for Suprabha Protective Products Pvt. Ltd., when on **28th October 2015**, our name was the first to be announced to receive the **COMMENDATION CERTIFICATE FOR 'SMALL SCALE – OTHERS' FOR RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL QUALITY AWARDS, 2012** in the NDMC Convention Centre, Parliament Street, New Delhi.

India is amongst the top ten industrial countries in the world, but to ensure that 'Made in India', is recognized around the world as a mark of quality, various Indian organizations have to make sincere and dedicated efforts. Commitment to excellence through strategic planning for quality and quality improvement programmes is becoming more and more essential for steady growth of Indian industry and its ability to compete in the global market.

With a view to encourage the Indian manufacturing and service organizations in this direction, Rajiv Gandhi National Quality Award (RGNQA) has been instituted by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India. This award was constituted in 1991 and recipients of this award, over the years, have excelled to become benchmarks of quality in their respective fields, for which they have even earned international recognition.

The award has been designed in line with similar awards in developed countries like Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, USA, Deming Prize of Japan and European Quality Award.

The assessment criteria for the award is based on the Total Quality Management (TQM) wherein an organization is assessed for meeting the needs and expectations of not only its customers but also of other interested parties like share holders, employees, suppliers and society at large. For SSI units, the assessment criteria, had six parameters viz: Leadership, Human Resources Management, Processes, Customer focused results, Impact on Environment and Society and Business results.

There were four Regional Evaluation Committees, members of which are acknowledged experts in their respective areas of specialization having excellent knowledge of Total Quality Management concept. After initial short listing, the selected organizations are visited by the members of the Regional Evaluation Committees for an on the spot fact finding and evaluation. The winners are finalized by the National Awards Committee on the basis of the reports and recommendations of the Regional Evaluation Committees.

For the year 2012 awards, 63 applications were received from all over India, out of which 16 were from SSI sector.

We at Suprabha, are proud recipients of the Commendation Certificate under SSI Sector, after going through the elaborate evaluation process. This award once again shows Suprabha's commitment to Quality, and coming from BIS itself, we believe this is a huge achievement and means a lot to us.

Written By:

Mr. Shashidhar K., C.E.O.

Suprabha Protective Products Pvt. Ltd., Pune

THE SECRET OF SUPRABHA'S SUCCESS



The “Make in India” Lion waiting to be packed for its journey to Hannover Messe, Germany.



The “Make in India” Lion as seen after the first stage of packing using Suprabha’s Seaworthy Packaging System.



Mr. Prabhakar Rao Bantwal – Chairman & Managing Director & Mrs. Sumalata Bantwal – Director, Suprabha Protective Products Pvt. Ltd., receiving the INDIASTAR 2015 Award from Dr. N.C. Saha, Director of Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP) for “Seaworthy Packaging System for Long Term Preservation and Transportation” at a function organized by IIP on 10th October 2015 at Hotel Renaissance, Mumbai.

(L to R) Mrs. Sumalata Bantwal, Dr. N.C. Saha & Mr. Prabhakar Rao Bantwal

Mr. Shashidhar K., C.E.O. and Mr. V.K. Srivastava, C.O.O., Suprabha Protective Products Pvt. Ltd. receiving the coveted RGNQA 2012 Award at the hands of Smt. Alka Panda, Director General, BIS.

(L to R) Mr. Rajat Moona – Director General, C-DAC, Mrs. Alka Panda – D.G., BIS, Mr. Shashidhar K – C.E.O & Mr. V.K. Srivastava – C.O.O.



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**Here & There... Celebration of H.H. Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji's Janmadivas
(Report on page 77)**

At Andheri Sabha



**Padukas of three Swamijis installed for puja
(Andheri Sabha)**

At Santacruz Sabha



Guru Poojan in progress (Andheri Sabha)

Diwali Celebrations 2015 in UK (Report on page 72)



Romancing Remotely

CHAITANYA PANDIT

Thursday, June 11 2015, time 11.00 pm. I was lying in bed, idling, sleepless; eyes wide open, turning on sides nonchalantly constantly. It could be the effect of jet lag or the exotic images of beautiful Alaska dancing in front of my eyes. Once upon a time a remote and inaccessible place on earth, sparsely populated, with six months of day and remaining six months of night, a beautiful icy continent frozen most part of the year. For my romance with the remote land of Alaska, the last frontiers, the Northern Tip of the globe, its bountiful nature encompassing gurgling waterfalls, stunning snow peaks, alluring glaciers, backdrop of a blue sky, vast greens of Tundra and Taiga rain forests and the miles and miles of Pacific Ocean was indeed a perfect place. I left no stone unturned to make use of each moment flirting with my girlfriend SRUSHTI (NATURE) at will & at ease. It reminded me of the SEAFARERS' SAFARI a poetic rendition by Keats, a famous poet of yesteryears, that I read during my childhood days, splendidly describing the experiences of traveller's sea voyage.

I landed in Mumbai on June 11 2015 early in the morning at 2.30 am after an arduous 19 hours air journey from Anchorage in the State of Alaska to Mumbai passing through five different time zones with two stopovers at Seattle and Dubai thus concluding my foreign vacation lasting 30 days, visiting Toronto in Canada, Seattle in US and Vancouver in Canada wherefrom I had taken Alaska Cruise. I was feeling triumphant, on top of the world as if I had discovered Alaska. The historic names of explorers like Hue-n Sang, Marco Polo, Columbus, Vasco-da-Gama crossed my mind.

During my school days I had read about the icy state of Alaska with six long months of severe winter plunging it into darkness for over 21 hours a day and the reverse during remaining months of summer time and learnt about Eskimos, its inhabitants,

their unique dwelling units popularly called Igloo, occupation of rearing of Reindeer etc. in Geography subject, my favourite. Alaska fascinated me and since then



I was dreaming about visiting Alaska.

It was my unexpected chance meeting in November 2014 with a senior retired individual Mr. Ashok Karnad, aged above 70, an avid traveller himself and brimming with childlike enthusiasm that triggered my temptation and heightened the adrenaline flowing through my veins. He was narrating his account of travelling to different parts of the world - Australia, New Zealand, Europe, US, Egypt, Japan, China and so on. His narrative left me spellbound. He added fuel to my burning desire of exploring the world. Suddenly I felt as if the whole world was at



my feet. I started gathering information about Alaska, its history, places of attractions, wild life, available infrastructure, culture etc. for the next six months prior to my actual travel date.

The much eagerly awaited day of May 29, 2015 arrived. At 12.30 we entered the border of Canada after a drive of slightly over three hours from Seattle. After completion of immigration checks at the security check post at the border town of Vancouver we proceeded to the pier from where our Cruise Ship was to commence its journey.

At the pier, the Royal Caribbean Cruise Company's officials were present, smilingly welcoming the guests on the Ship named 'Radiance of Seas'. Their personnel took charge of our baggages, neatly tagged with the luggage tag provided by the Cruise Company.

After security check both of us were issued a 'Sea Pass' that served the twin purpose of our identification cum entry to our allotted guest room located on the ninth floor having a balcony view. A photography session arranged by the cruise company then ensued.

The ship started its watery journey in the Pacific Ocean as per scheduled departure at 4.30 pm after completion of safety drill for all the passengers on board. I was excited since it was my life's first ever long distance cruise journey that too in a remote place like Alaska. The ship was riding the mild and peaceful waves of the Pacific Ocean. Cool, pleasant breeze was blowing while I was sitting in my room's balcony watching and enjoying the romance of waves. They were flirting with each other, coming close to kiss the ship's bottom and retracting leaving a trail of **milky white surf** behind. The ocean was quiet, the waves were dancing merrily making a pleasant melodious sound. It was a long evening. The Sun was shining on the sky tilting slowly towards the distant horizon en route for its resting place. Few patches of white clouds with grey tinge could be seen diffracting the sunrays on the ocean surface making it a great colourful spectacle. A calm serenity descended upon me.

As the ship gathered speed beautiful scenes all around were crossing, the freely swaying trees, the distant mountain peaks and vast expanse of the ocean. After spending an hour or so in my balcony, clicking snaps with my newly bought DSLR camera with a child like inquisitiveness we decided to explore the ship, our home on the ocean for seven nights. Each room was equipped with TV showing various channels that included a couple of channels owned and operated by Cruise Company. These channels were giving information about Alaska, the various places, land excursions, wild life and exotic marine life, culinary varieties from different countries more particularly promoting Alaska's native fish King Solomon and Halibut, shopping guide on board and at Ports of call, Alaskan culture, weather update, ocean depth, sailing speed in nautical miles, location map with sail direction, safety precautions, common facilities on the ship, next day's program etc. After taking preliminary information from the Company operated channel we came out of our room. Taking an evening stroll leisurely, visiting various decks and admiring the ambience, the decorative lighting and

artistically designed interiors, we entered the huge dining hall with much curiosity to satisfy our taste buds. My favourite place was the huge spacious dining hall with glass panels for better view of ocean and if lucky the migratory humped whales.

The dining hall was atheistically built with counters for cuisine from different countries including India. The names of the dish were displayed prominently. Separate counters for green salads, fresh fruits, ice creams, juices and beverages and side dishes could be seen. Plenty of sitting space was available all along the outer portion of the ship facilitating better viewing of ocean through glass panels. Crew members were seen clearing the used plates, cleaning the dining tables. I had sumptuous meal with my usual habit of overeating!

It was 10.30 pm. The sun was about to set on the horizon. With camera in hand I went to the top floor, the thirteenth floor. It was open to sky with swimming pool for adults and toddlers, pool side bar and theatre, table tennis court etc. A cold chilly wind was blowing. I pulled on my wind cheater and braved the wind to take the setting sun's photos. The horizon was displaying amazing aura of colours that had soothing effect on my sleep laden eyes. The night descended on the vast mass of ocean water. Water had assumed the colour of black ink. I and my wife, covered in thick shawl with only face uncovered, sat on the reclining pool chairs watching the American movie Alaska on the giant screen open air terrace with audience from different countries.

The Second whole day was cruising. In the evening we enjoyed the live western classical music concert, funny games and post dinner played chess.

Third day morning at about 7.00 am our ship docked at Ketchikan, the port city of Alaska. We disembarked on the land for our land excursion of much talked about float plane ride booked on board. The six seater float plane took off from the ocean water, soared high in the air and after almost an hour's flight time we landed on water at a remote island. While in flight we saw the miles and miles of **FJORDS. This is a Norwegian word. Fjord is a deep, narrow and elongated sea or lake drain with steep land on three sides. The opening towards the sea is called the mouth of Fjord and is often shallow.** Heavy glaciers moved across the land

century after century during ice age. They ground down the mountains carrying heaps of debris in to the sea thus forming the Fjords. They look like grey granite exciting the tourists.

The pilot of our float plane opened the door, alighted and asked us to alight as well on the sharp paddle-like legs of the float plane that were resting on the ocean water. Initially both of us were scared, but

later on we composed ourselves, calmed our nerves and alighted. It was indeed thrilling standing on the paddles of the float plane amidst water all around that too almost 900 ft. deep. Almost 10 minutes I was standing and watching the surrounding with awe while capturing those beautiful moments in my camera.

(To be continued...)

Report

Diwali 2015 Celebrations

SARASWAT SAMAJ UK

Our annual Diwali event was celebrated, jointly by SSUK/GSS, on 31st October 2015 at the Feltham Community College. Greeting and registration of members, their families and friends, from 3.30 pm onwards was ably handled by Shashank Kodikal, Abhishek Mavinkurve and his wife Prajna.

Two stalls were organised by Anushree Amembal(Shirur), Saieesha and Eashwar Bailoor, the proceeds of which will be going to Great Ormond Street Hospital and Samvit Sudha of Shri Chitrapur Math respectively.

After the hearty consumption of scrumptious Indian snacks, masala tea and drinks, guests were ready for the evening's entertainment to commence. The programme began with the traditional lighting of the Deepa by our seniormost members Mrs Geeta Adur, Mrs. Sumitra Kamath and Mr Manohar Kamath followed by Ganesha prayer, beautifully recited by 9 year old Saieesha Bailoor and bhajan sung by Geetanjali Ramakrishnan.

Samaj President Chandrakant Bailoor, welcomed the guests followed by a poem recitation by Mrs. Suman Nagarkatti composed by herself.

Our youth MCs, Chirag and Anushree Amembal, Shambhavi and Vinayak Prabhu flagged off the variety show with great gusto, entertaining the crowd and introducing the eager performers of the evening. The first act was by the children upto 12 years of age adorning historical costumes representing "Inventors, Explorers and Discoverers". The sensational global pioneers on stage were Christopher Columbus(Aadi Kamath), Isaac Newton(Eashwar Bailoor and Nikhil Kamath), Thomas Edison(Rujuul Nayak), Galileo(Ayush Pai), Neil Armstrong(Neharika Shenai) and Steve Jobs(Omkar Shenai) all showing off their gutsy acting !

Our very own Bollywood superstars lit up the stage with various wonderfully choreographed dances to popular filmi tracks. Thanks to Keya Sajip, Kosha and Aditi Karnad, Tina Adur, Arun, Arjun and Nishita Karnad, Advait, Chirag and Anushree Amembal, Sneha, Prema Prarthana and Niti for their lively performances. Beautiful traditional dances followed, with Bharatnatyam performed by the very talented Neha Mundkur and Saieesha Bailoor; a classical dance number by Avani and Anuja Shanbhag; A violin recital by Sneha Mallya and a fantastic rendition on the piano by Abhinav Heble was music to everyone's ears.

A hilarious comedy skit 'Coming Suun' enacted so well by the very talented Mrs. Bina Karnad, Rima and Ravi Karnad and family, Anupama and Gautham Kamath.

Now, we thought we knew our mythology. But an uproarious quiz arranged by Gautham Kamath put that to the test! It was great fun and full of surprises followed by a memory test by Sadanand Nayak and his family.

The grand finale at 8:15pm saw a series of world dances in which some committee members participated ending with the annual raffle draw with interesting prizes for the lucky winners, proceeds of which will be donated to Swami Parijnanashram Educational and Vocational Center for the Handicapped.

An extravagant South Indian fusion feast awaited everyone, with mouth-watering selection of vegetable fried rice and various curries with mango rasmalai for dessert. Guests were later treated to SSUK's very first colourful and sparkling fireworks display outside the hall which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Reported by Mrs. Gita G Talgeri (Pics on page 69)

The KalaiWala

SUMAN SHIRALI, ANDHERI

Who or what is a Kalaiwala? I bet most of the younger readers would have no idea about this. However, old-timers may still remember *kalaiwalas* as people who coated brass and copper utensils. In earlier days, copper utensils were most preferred for cooking. However, copper had to be lined as it reacts to acidic foods and without the lining, the copper may discolour the food or impart a bitter taste or even at times lead to food poisoning. So the utensils needed a *kalai* or retinning job every second month.

Let me try to explain the process of kalai in my layman's language - The re-tinners or *kalaiwalas* used to dig a pit in the ground and prepare a temporary blast furnace, airing it with bellows. They then heated the utensil; sprinkled a little ammonium chloride which gives out deep white smoke and a peculiar ammoniac smell. The powder is then rubbed all over the utensil's interior to rid the utensil of any grit and make it more abrasive. Then a piece of tin is touched to the hot interior of the utensil; the tin melts and is quickly rubbed into whole of the utensil forming a lining of tin in the interior. The utensil is then dipped into a bucket full of water to help the tin lining hold firm.

When we moved to our new home at Vakola, Santacruz (East) in the early 1970s, we had no "known" kalaiwala there. As we were in a new building, all of us residents were new to the area and so no one had any idea about where we could find a kalaiwala. One day I heard someone shouting "kalai kalai" and ran up to our balcony – and there he was – I called him up and asked him what was his rate for kalai. He quoted a rate which was less than half what my earlier kalaiwala would charge. I was sceptical and just gave him 2-3 utensils to see what he could do. He came back in a couple of hours with the vessels looking as good as new. I was overjoyed. He then went on to tell me where he worked and who were his major customers. I was very impressed and happy to get a solution to my kalai problems.

Not only did I give him all the vessels in our house for the 2nd round of kalai but also recommended him

to some of my neighbours. The kalaiwala tied up all the vessels in his cloth sack and promised to return in 2-3 hours. And that was the last we saw of him. I waited and waited but there was no sign of the kalaiwala. Late evening when my husband returned from work I tearfully told him what had happened. He told me not to worry and came with me to the market to buy a full set of new utensils!! I went to sleep feeling very guilty and helpless.

The next day I spoke with the others in the building and suggested that we file a police complaint about the theft of utensils but everyone laughed at me for my stupidity. I was determined to teach the kalaiwala a lesson so went alone to the police station (the first time ever for me!!) not knowing what to expect. The police were very kind and friendly and took down my complaint. They said they will let me know if they found anything. I was happy but there was not much hope of recovering anything. In the next few days, I had become the laughing stock of our locality. There was a datta mandir in our building complex where there used to be kirtans – in one such kirtan the kirtankaar actually mentioned that "someone" in the new building was foolish enough to believe in some stranger and lost all her utensils. I was feeling very low.

After some days, I got a letter from the police station saying they had arrested the culprit and they wanted me to go there to identify him and also see if I could find my utensils. I left immediately. When I got to the police station, I saw the kalaiwala sitting there. Gone was the smiling face and friendly attitude – this guy looked totally different – his head was shaved and he was looking grumpy – but it was the same person for sure. Once I identified him I was taken to a "store house" which was full of items recovered from arrested crooks. There were a whole lot of utensils in the room but none of them were mine. I was very disappointed and reported this to the policeman. He smiled and said as my complaint had mentioned 15-20 utensils were stolen from me, I could just go and pick up whichever utensil was closest looking to mine!!

When I got home with the utensils, I got a hero's welcome from my children and husband.

When my neighbours heard that I could get back some of the stolen items they too rushed to the police station but they were not allowed to take anything because they had not filed a police complaint!! Now it was my turn to laugh — and as a wise man once said “he who laughs last laughs the BEST”!!

The kalaiwala episode taught me not to be too trusting – and while over a period of time I have been fooled by various people, it is this kalaiwala incident that always stays with me !!

Due to a printer's devil a word in the last sentence in the 1st para of the article on page 65 of our December 2016 issue titled “Sant Chokha Mela” was misprinted. It should read as “Sant Chokha Mela from Mangalvadha was one of the main Saints in this मांदियाळी”.

We regret the error.

..... Editor

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The Very Thought of You...

NIRMALA VIJAY BELLARE, SIDHPUR, HIMACHAL PRADESH

On 5th June 2010 two of my old students Meelin Gurung and Shubrum Pun, came to meet me at about 4 o'clock in the evening. I was their class teacher in the year 1999 (class V B). They passed out class X from our Sacred Heart High School in the year 2004. After completing their XIIth at Army School Yel, Meelin was doing his ground officer course of Airlines at Delhi and Shubrum completed 4 years course in Fine Arts at Pune. Though as average student, he was an excellent painter and could draw and sketch beautiful sceneries and I had casually remarked to his worried mother that she need not bother about high percentage but see that he never gets red mark in the report card and pass every subject by being hard working, concentrating on spellings, diagrams and objective questions. It was an inspiration to him at a very tender age as I had told his mother that his beautiful hand writing as well as his creative talent of drawing and painting will definitely be a feather in his cap. He passed in all the classes and now he got a degree in Fine Arts. He had come home on a short holiday and was going to Ahmedabad on 7th June to join Post Graduation course in Fine Arts.

In January 2010, he happened to buy and read a novel by Mitch Alberr "Tuesdays with Morrie". It was Morrie Schwartz, the college professor, who taught him for nearly twenty years before. Mitch got a second chance rediscovering Morrie in the last months of the older man's life. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final class, lessons in how to live. When Shubrum read this book he remembered me and wanted to meet me personally after 11 years; when he came to Dharmashala on his vacation. He mentioned this to his friend Meelin and so both of them gave a surprise visit. They both expressed their appreciation to me and said they loved me very much as I was a real inspiration in their life. I felt happy and honoured. After spending nearly two hours with me talking about their old memories in class V, their present education, future plans etc. they left with a good bye.

Shubrum asked me whether I read the book "Tuesdays with Morrie". I told him that I have heard about it but would definitely buy it when I go to Chennai in December. Within half an hour Shubrum was back on his scooter with his personal copy written with his artistic writing

To,

Mrs Bellare,

With lots of regards and respect

From Shubrum Pun

I remembered a poster in my mother's clinic at Chennai with a small boy lying down with a 'pup' licking him excited with love for the boy with wordings printed below "when you love someone, show it." So Shubrum proved these words by showing his love for me by presenting a book which touched his heart.

The Magic Words

Savitri Babulkar

When a running boy bumps into me,
He stops to smile and say "SORRY!"

When Mom tells me to pass the cheese,
She never forgets to first say "PLEASE."

When a friend interrupts me while I speak,
He gently says "Oh EXCUSE ME?"

When I help a girl across a stile,
"THANK YOU!" she says with a smile

"THANK YOU, SORRY, EXCUSE ME, PLEASE,"
Can you think of nicer words than these?

They seem to open magic doors
And fill your world with friends galore.

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Here & There

Chennai: Monthly Sadhana Panchakam was conducted as usual. We had bhajans and puja on 20th November as also on 22nd November (Jagarani Ekadashi). Mahila Samaj organized a movie night on 14th Nov – Children’s Day to watch the National Award winning Tamil Movie “Kaaka Muttai” (the crow’s egg). It’s a story about two slum children of Chennai whose desire is to taste a pizza. For the complete movie experience, popcorn and soft drinks too were provided. It was well attended and appreciated.

Reported by Kavita Savoore

Goa: Goa Sabha holds monthly Satsanga-s on Sundays wherein the host performs Guru Pujanam accompanied by rendition of the Pujana shlokas by all participating members. Pujanam is followed by Bhajana-s, Stotra Pathanam, Maha-mrityunjaya Japa, Shankaranarayana Geetam, Mangal-Arti & Mangal-Pada.

Half-day Satsanga in September was held on Sept 20 in Margao at the residence of Smt. Trupti & Shri Jitendra Gokarn wherein Guru Pujanam was performed by Yuvati, Nivedita Jitendra Gokarn.

On Oct 18, full-day Satsanga was held in Margao at the residence of Smt. Neeta & Shri Ramdas Divgi, in which Navaratri was celebrated with Navaratri Nityapatha & Devi Anushthanam followed by Devi Pujanam performed by the host.

Parama Pujya Swamiji’s Janmadiwas was celebrated with full-day Satsanga in Mapusa on Nov 15 at the residence of Smt. Usha & Shri Arun Mudbidri. Yuvati, Nivedita Gokarn performed Guru Pujanam on behalf of Goa Yuvadhara.

Reported by Sabita Harite

Mumbai – Andheri : Pujya Swamiji’s *janmadiwas* celebrations at Andheri on 22nd November, 2015 - In our Guru Pujan, we invoke our Guru, Parama Guru and Parameshti Guru. Perhaps, in answer to those prayers, the Padukas of HH Anandashram Swamiji, HH Parijnanshrum Swamiji III and HH Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji descended in Shree Ram School, accompanied by resonating *Shankh-naad* and resounding *Jaijaikars*.

The Padukas were received by the Sabha President, Secretary and Jt. Treasurer.

On this divine occasion Prarthana kids, Yuva-s and senior laity members got together to perform Samuhik

Guru Pujan (Prarthana varg -3/Yuva-s - 9, seniors - 15). It was a proud moment to see the children performing with utmost devotion and keeping pace with the adults.

Post puja and refreshments there was a screening of Pujya Swamiji’s Aashirvachan held at Mahalaxmi Temple Goa in 2012 when He was invited by the Temple Trustees.

The function concluded with the singing of *Shankar Narayan Geet* and *Mangal Pada*.

We would like to express our deep gratitude to Chaitanya Dhareshwar maam, Ravi Kulkarni maam and Aruna Bellare pachhi for the padukas of HH Anandashram Swamiji, HHParijananashram Swamiji III and HH Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji respectively.

Also since Samuhik Gurupujan at Kanananjali Utsava, October 2014, our prarthana varg and yuva-s had made a *sankalp* to perform GuruPujan once a month and they haven’t missed it since November 2014!!

(Guru Pujan by yuva-s and prarthana varg is held at Shree Ram School on first Sunday of every month)

Reported by Tanmay D Bangalorekar

Mumbai, Borivali: Sannikarsha of Borivali Sabha on 22nd Nov 2015 was attended by 15 sadhakas to Karla including 5 sadhakas for seva saptah. All aspects of Sadhana Panchakam including Guru Pujan were completed. The first discourse of Dharmapracharak Rajgopal Bhat mam at Borivali Sabha for the year 2015-16 was held on 02nd Oct 2015 and the topic covered was Manache Shlok which was attended by about 60 members from the sabha. The 2nd discourse by Dharmapracharak Rajgopal Bhat mam was held on 29th Nov 2015 at Vamanashram Hall. Shri Rajgopal mam explained various aspects of Bhagavat Dharma which was well attended by about 75 members of Borivali Sabha.

Reported by Anand Dhareshwar

Mumbai - Dadar : The month of November brought joy, prosperity and light into all our lives as Diwali always does. Janmadiwas of Pujya Swamiji was another reason all our Sadhakas were looking forward to the month of November. After the grand Utsav of Kanananjali last year it was back to a programme at the local Sabha level this year.

So on 20th November, our sadhakas assembled at Matunga Mitra Mandal hall at 7pm to celebrate our Revered Guru’s birthday. The programme began with Namasmaran (Om Namoh Bhagavate Vasudevaya).

The lovely rendition of this Stotram as well as the Venkata Raman Stotram had us happily chanting along

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and remembering the many ways in which Swamiji has been like the boat which is always guiding all of us along the ocean that is 'Samsara'. The programme ended with cutting of the tasty cake baked by Suman Gulvady pachchi, Mangalarati and finally, Natural's ice cream.

Reported by Mohit Karkal

Mumbai – Santacruz : The Sabha had arranged for our Prarthana Varga children along with other devotees to celebrate Param Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji's JanamDivas on 20th November.

It had been a little over a year since Kannakanjali Utsava , and those memories shall remain etched in our hearts forever !! And we did not want to stop at that... so with great Love and Reverence, we offered whatever we could , yet again at HH's Lotus Feet. On 20th evening, we had a hall full of devotees who had gathered to watch our Prarthana children put in their best. We began with Deepanamaskar and Sabha commencing prayers, followed by Shri Guru Paduka Stotram and Shri Parijnanashram Trayodashi.

Akshata Benegal and Aryaa Betrabet performed a BharatNatyam dance on Ganesh Vandana to the singing of their dance teacher Chaitali Shah as an accompaniment . Later Anika Betrabet (5 years old) chanted the Shiva Manas Puja Stotram to everyone's amazement.

There was fancy dress for the younger group and they were dressed up as their favourite God/Goddess. (Akshay Benegal, Anika Betrabet, Rudra Shenoy, Aarnav Kalyanpur , Khushi Rao and Samvit Bhat). Some of them even mentioned as to why that particular God was their most loved one. Bhajan Seva was offered by the younger ones in a group and older ones in turns. (Nishant Gangoli, Devaunsh Bhat, Aadhya Ahuja, Veda Kailaje, Akshata Benegal and Aryaa Betrabet). We had Archana Gangoli pacchi playing the harmonium and Yuva, Amogh Rao on the tabla.

Later on Priya Bhat gave us a very positive feedback on our Prarthana Varga , about how it has helped both her kids, academically and artistically and has thus made them much more confident than before. She expressed her gratitude on her behalf and other parents as well, to Param Pujya Swamiji for giving them this platform to learn and further connect to our Guru and our revered GuruParampara.

The evening concluded with Mangal arati and closing prayers. Maya Manglore pacchi sponsored sumptuous Prasad as Seva . Kitkats were distributed to all the children present there.

All the devotees, children alike were happy to participate and we do hope and pray that we can offer this at Param Pujya Swamiji,s Feet, every year!

Reported by Kavita Karnad

Mumbai - Vile Parle-Vakola; Late Kalbag Sheshgirimam of "Shrikunj" in our community was a great freedom fighter,a social worker of low profile and also a great philanthropist.During our college days at Vile parle east(Mumbai),we heard only two names one was Sheshgirimam and another was Baburao Paranjpe for their ardent and noble social activities.

It was he who took keen interest in personal supervision of two of our buildings of Guruprasad Society at Hanuman Road in 1959 (now 56 years). It is because of his pioneering work, the society could withstand so many years in spite of heavy rains of Mumbai.

Nowadays to name chowks and roads of such noble persons are very rare, but recently the chowk at the signal junction of Hanuman Road and Paranjpe 'B'scheme road at Vile Parle east was named as

"Sheshgiri Narayan Kalbag Chowk" on a black marble plaque. This was really great news for residents and members of our Guruprasad Society. In fact we know that late Sheshgirimam was pioneer and founder member of our Kanara Saraswat Association and also Asia's first co-operative Hosing society i.e. Gamdevi Co.op Hsg. society now 100 years old. Such a great visionary one cannot forget in our community and we are all very much indebted to this person even now.

Reported by Shrikar Talgeri

Our Institutions

The Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi: Wednesday, 18th November 2015, was the eagerly awaited Cookery Competition Day in the Samaj Hall. Sweet / Savoury dishes could be presented using Sweet Potato as the main ingredient. One could see ladies trooping in with their cooked items and in no time the tables were laid out decorated with eye catching dishes, the aroma pervading through the hall. The judges were Mrs Vijaya Kunder and Mrs Anuradha (Champa) Arun Hattangadi, both culinary experts. There were in all 16 entries which were judged on the basis of taste, nutrition, novelty and presentation. The first prize for Hariyali Ragda Pattice and the second prize for Kabab Lajawab were both won by Mrs Geeta S. Balse and the third prize " Sweet Potato and Corn Cutlets" won by Mrs Usha K Surkund. An Appreciation prize was given to Nanogenarian Smt. Parvati Sharma (popularly

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known as Parvatipacchi) who submitted 4 entries in the competition!

During the interim period when judges were judging the items, Mrs Shamala Bhat gave a very interesting talk on some of the less known reminiscences about P.P. Shrimat Anandashram Swamiji related by devotees. Mrs Nirmala Nadkarni gave a hilarious talk on her travel travails. Mrs. Meera Varadalaxmi Soukur read out a poem.

Smt Vijayalaxmi Kapnadak introduced Mrs Kundar and Mrs Hattangadi. Mrs Shyamala Talgeri proposed the Vote of Thanks. Programme ended with all ladies partaking of the delicious spread.

Forthcoming Programmes

Sat 16th Jan 2016 at 3.30 pm at Samaj Hall – Sankranti Sammelan – Bhajans by Samvit Anand Bhanu Seva Vrinda, Andheri. Refreshments sponsored by Smt. Neeta Yadery.

Haldi-kumkum and Til laddoos by Samaj.

Thursday Jan 28th 2016 – Ladies' Day Out – Venue – Swami Sadyojat Nagar, Malavli (near Karla). Day Trip – Contrib including travel & food Rs. 700/-. Registering of names to be done by 15th Jan 2016. Details of timings to be intimated later. Non-members are also welcome.

Sunday Mar 13th 2016 – Yuvati Day – A One-Day Theatre Workshop for Young Ladies (Age 18 to 35 Years) – 9 am to 4 pm at Samaj Hall. Conducted by Ms. Choiti Ghosh, a Scholarly Performer. Pre-registration is a must. For details refer to page

Reported by Smt. Geeta S. Balse

The Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Santacruz: The Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Santacruz, had organized the following contests on 2 May, 2015:

The Saguna Yederi Memorial Fancy Dress Contest was judged by Namita Nadkarni and Veda Bopardikar. The winners were Mrs Savita Kakkar as 'Modern Ravan' – I Prize, Mrs Surekha Kodical as 'Lavni Dancer' – II Prize and Mrs Mangala Hattangadi as 'Bhajiwali' – III Prize. Mrs Savita Kakkar was crowned 'May Queen' by Mrs Geeta Nadkarni.

The Vasanti Bopardikar Singing Contest was judged by Shibani Rao and Savitri Babulkar. The winners were Mrs Sandhya Kulkarni – I Prize, Mrs Geeta Naimpalli – II Prize and Mrs Aruna Sharma – III Prize.

Mrs Sandhya Rajesh Kulkarni was crowned "The Golden Voice of Saraswat Mahila Samaj" by Ms Veda Bopardikar. The cash prizes and refreshments were sponsored by Mrs Geeta Nadkarni.

Reported by Sujata Nadkarni

CLASSIFIEDS MATRIMONIAL

CSB Boy DOB 01/07/1985 MBA in finance from Mumbai university height 5.10 working in a top IT firm in Pune, Preference: well educated girl under 29 years cast on bar, contact mother on 26604275.

BIRTH

A daughter (Avani), born to Akhila and Pramathesh Trikannad, on November 19, 2015, at Bangalore. Grand-daughter to Vijaya and Girish Trikkannad of Madgaon, Goa, and to Nandita and Anil Mudbidri of Dharwad.

OBITUARY

Nov 30, 2015: Savkur Sunder Rao (Annu), passed away peacefully in São Paulo, Brasil. He was 81. Deeply mourned by Sheela (née Vasanti Mannige), Sameer, Mamta, Smruti, Srishti and family.

PHOTOGRAPHY

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FLAT FOR RENT

2 adjacent flats in Talmakiwadi for rent (628 sq. ft each). Strictly no agents. Please contact directly. Mob - 8691890873 (Preference to Saraswats/ GSBs/ Marathis)

FLAT FOR SALE

2 BHK Flat for sale in Sri Chitrapur Co-operative Housing Society on 15th cross Malleshwaram, Bangalore. Corner flat with good light and air. Apartment facing Shri Chitrapur Mutt. Car and scooter parking available. Interested parties please send your queries to – chitrapurflatsale@gmail.com **No calls will be entertained.**

DOMESTIC TIDINGS

BIRTHS

We welcome the following new arrivals:

- Nov 05 : A daughter (Swara) to Payal (nee Benegal) and Manish Choudhary at Indore.
Nov 19 : A daughter (Avani) to Akhila (nee Mudbidri) and Pramathesh Trikannad at Bangalore.

MARRIAGE

We congratulate the young couples

- Nov 27 : Mihika Gurunandan Bolangady with Sid-darth Umesh Southeikal at Bangalore.
Dec 6 : Dr. Sushumna Gurudatt Bhat Shukla with Gaurav Arun Kumar Bansal at Alvekodi, near Shirali.
Dec 14 : Varsha Dilip Murdeshwar with Deepak Balkrishna Pai at Pune.

OBITUARIES

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

- Sept 11 : Hemmad Venugopal Rao (81) at Borivali, Mumbai.
Sept 17 : Sharad Anant Kagal (79) at Pune.
Oct 31 : Ramcharan Pandurang Kapnadak (53) at Chennai.
Nov 12 : Smt Malati Mohan Kulkarni (nee Surkund) (77) at Goregaon, Mumbai.
Nov 14 : Suniti Mangesh Mavinkurve (nee Nadkarni) (76) at Hyderabad.
Nov 20 : Pandit Sumitra Dinesh (76) at Parel, Mumbai.
Nov 21 : Vasant Venkatrao Talgeri at Andheri, Mumbai.
Nov 23 : Mohan M Sirur at Chitrapur CHS, Bandra (West), Mumbai.
Nov 29 : Sharada Mohan Amladi (nee Gulvady) (76) at Santacruz, Mumbai.

Dec 1 : Vasanti Ganesh Nadkarni (nee Nagarkatti) (78) at Mumbai.

Dec 16 : Kisan Ramchandra Talgeri (78) at Goregaon, Mumbai.

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Date: Sunday, 13th March, 2016

Time: 9 AM to 4 PM

Venue: Saraswat Mahila Samaj Premises,

B1, Saraswat Buildings (near Gamdevi Temple), Kashibai Navrange Marg, Gamdevi, Mumbai – 7.

Registration: Rs.1,000/- per head (inclusive of Fees, Lunch, and Tea).

Limited Seats: Apply early, before

15th January, 2016.

Contact – Sadhana Kamat: 9867009215 / Smita Mavinkurve: 9820224652

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