

# Kanara Saraswat

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION

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## Grand Finale of the Centenary Celebrations of the Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi



*Centenary President Geeta Balse (seen on right) presents a Memento to Chief Guest Prof. Kalindi Muzumdar as President Geeta Bijoor (seen on left) looks on.*



*Saraswati Vrindagaan members welcoming the audience with their signature Swagat Geet.*



*Shoma Kaikini and her troupe performing a graceful traditional Kathak dance.*



*Sangeet Sarita - Nivedita Hattangadi, Suvarna Kagal Ghaisas and Dr. Divya Bijur sang a variety of compositions in Raag Hansadhwani.*



*The Yuvativibhag of the Samaj performed a colourful and scintillating Rajasthani folk dance - Ghoomar.*



*Prof. Sadhana Kamat, past president of the Samaj who had planned the entire event bade a farewell to the audience at the end of the show.*

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## Kanara Saraswat

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Office: 13/1-2, Association Building,  
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J.D. Marg, Mumbai 400007

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

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e-mail: [editor@kanarasaraswat.in](mailto:editor@kanarasaraswat.in)  
[kanara\\_saraswat@hotmail.com](mailto:kanara_saraswat@hotmail.com)  
(For Publication in the Magazine)

e-mail: [admin@kanarasaraswat.in](mailto: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 all our readers a Happy Diwali and a  
Prosperous, Healthy and Peaceful year ahead!

**The Annual General Meeting of the Kanara Saraswat Association was held on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at the Shrimad Anandashram Hall, Talmakiwadi.**  
**Mr. Praveen Kadle has been re-elected as the President and Mr. Kishore Masurkar has been elected as the Vice president. Details of the proceedings of the AGM and the new Managing Committee will be published in the forthcoming issue.**





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## *From the President's Desk....*

Dear Friends,

At the outset, let me wish all the members of the Kanara Saraswat Association and all the readers of the KSA magazine Happy Deepawali and a prosperous New Year.

I also take this opportunity to thank all the members of KSA for re-electing me as a President in the just concluded Annual General Meeting of 17th September 2017, for a period of two more years.

In the last two years, my agenda was to extricate KSA from the financial instability it was facing. Thanks to the support of our sponsors, a couple of fund raising musical events that we held and the tight financial prudence that we exercised in the last two years, we have been in a position to wipe out the overdraft of close to Rs.1 crore which was outstanding for more than six years. In addition to this, over the last two years, we have been able to improve our Deposit base by around Rs.25 lacs. The financial books are now in a much better position and KSA can report an excess of income over expenditure, starting from the just concluded financial year 2016-17.

In this effort, I must thank the Managing Committee, staff of KSA, members of KSA, patrons, sponsors and all the well-wishers of KSA for their whole-hearted support in making this happen.

Going forward, in the next two years, we would now like to work on the unfinished agenda of re-establishing KSA as a premier Social and Cultural institution of our community – in line with the vision of our founders. Towards this objective, we set the following agenda that we would like to execute. We intend to

- continue to improve our financial base,
- comply with all statutory regulations,
- improve our membership drive with greater focus on roping in the younger generation to become members of KSA, and also involve them in revitalising the youth wing of KSA,
- improve the revenue from all the physical assets that KSA has in Mumbai and Nasik,
- increase the cultural and social contribution of KSA,
- improve the readership of KSA significantly,
- re-publish the rich literary work published by KSA in the last more than 100 years through e-books,
- establish strong links with other social and cultural institutions of our community that exist in other cities,
- improve the standards of governance and bring transparency in the management of KSA operations.

This agenda cannot be executed without the full support from all the members and well-wishers of KSA. We, at the Managing Committee, therefore seek unstinting support from all you. We are always open to constructive suggestions and feedback.

Once again wishing all of you Happy and Prosperous Deepawali.

Regards,

**Praveen P Kadle**





## Letters to the Editor

Pasaydaan by saint Jnaneshwar. His style of explaining and presentation in chaste simple language is worth reading and admirable. Such upanyasas are very educative, noteworthy and also informative especially to the younger generation. Our best wishes to Mankikarmam.

**Shrikar Talgeri, Mumbai**

**Dear Editor,** I want to thank all of you at the Kanara Saraswat for the lead article on our son Shiv. This was so generous of you.

It was a wonderful idea to twin the article about Kiran Rao with the two interviews with Amit Masurkar. They are extraordinary people. It was fascinating to read about the two films Amit has made. His reasons for doing them are so compelling. One feels moved by the fact that so many forces have come together into the narrative—art and commentary, deeply felt activism while not losing sight of story-telling. And the filming process itself of both Suleimani Keeda and Newton. That people should choose complexity over easier work is admirable. Our deep good wishes to both young people.

**Usha Aroor, Bengaluru**

**Dear Editor,** Please convey my warm compliments to Shri. Praveen P. Kadle, President, KSA, for his very interesting article 'From the President's Desk', K.S. September 2017 issue.

The thin boundaries drawn between conventional office of the past and the present ultra modern days' globally connected anywhere anytime type virtual office are well narrated but defined under different human sentiments vis a vis moods, leading to good and bad outcomes.

The professionals, either being with celebrity status or being not so important, are supposed to always deliver their best irrespective of time, occasion and their mood, in order to remain and survive in the competitive reckoning globally 24 X 7.

Thus, perhaps, the motivational speaker may be required to change his presentation in these very terms.

**Satish G. Burde, Mumbai.**

**Dear Editor,** Krishnanandmam (Mankikar) is one who motivates our life especially with his upanyasas on Narada Bhakti sutras and now a discussion on

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# Diwali Messages



Dear Friends,

May this auspicious occasion of Deepawali brighten your life with happiness, luck and success! I wish all of you a very Happy Diwali and a prosperous year ahead!

**Praveen P Kadle**

President, Kanara Saraswat Association

---



Dear Friends,

On this Deepawali...Festival of lights, May every aspect of your life become as luminous and exciting as the lights flickering on the lamps and bring you ever lasting Happiness.

HAPPY DEEPAVALI...

**Kishore Masurkar**

Vice President, Kanara Saraswat Association

---



What better time to hold up a light for love, against hatred?  
Wishing all of you a bright and joyful Diwali!

**Sharayu Kowshik**

President Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi

---



On the Auspicious occasion of Diwali, May the Glow of Joy illuminate your life with Peace, Prosperity and Happiness. As the new year dawns, reach out your hands and take hold of hope and ride on the wings of courage to a bright new day!  
Happy Diwali!

**Vidyalakshmi Kulkarni,**

Vice President Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi



## Four Generations

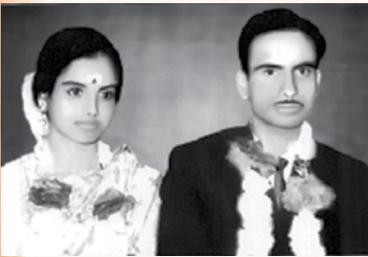


From Left : Mother Trupti Kalyanpur with Baby Abheer,  
Great Grand Mother Padma G. Dutt, Grand Mother Shobha Kalyanpur

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## Hundredth Foundation Day Celebrations of the Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi



Vidyalaxmi Kulkarni welcomed the audience



Sharayu Kowshik gave an introduction of the Samaj



Usha Surkund compered the entire proceedings



Shrikala Vinekar read out the Treasurer's Report



Padmini Bhatkal gave the vote of thanks



Kalindi Kodial announced the Kalapushpanjali - a feast of music, dance, theatre and poetry.

### Kavyakusumanjali



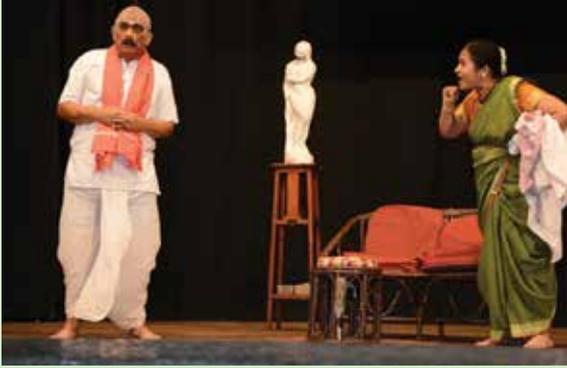
Poems were read by (l to r): Kanchan Honnavar, Geeta Yennemadi, Chandrama Bijur & Dr. Pranav Kodial





## Hundredth Foundation Day Celebrations

### Natya Sampada - 2 short skits



Kau Kau .. by Dr. Uday Andar & Deepa Savkur



Bhaubandaki by Smita Mavinkurve, Anand Nadkarni and Uday Mankikar



Shabdabhrama by Shobhana Bijoor



Uday Mankikar reading the story 'FingerSmith'

Shobha Marballi gave a short Bharat Natyam recital to the song 'Ye ho Rangadevate rang bhari'



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## Hundredth Foundation Day Celebrations Of the Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi

REPORTED BY SUMAN KODIAL

Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of a grandparent is a commemorative occasion. But, participating in the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration of an institution that our grand mothers created is an honour. Hence the decision of the Saraswat Mahila Samaj to honour our founders with darjedar karyakrams over the last year, with the Foundation Day celebration on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Chowpatty, Mumbai serving as the grand finale.

Chairperson Vidyaxmi Kulkarni's welcome address was followed by an introduction of the Samaj by Vice President, Sharayu Kowshik who spoke about the Logo of the Samaj - 'Seva Vidya Kala' - and the efforts of the managing committees over the past 100 years to achieve these goals. President Geeta Bijoor summarized the Samaj activities during the Centenary year. She also mentioned that Saraswat Mahila Samaj now, has a presence on Facebook.

The Treasurer's report by Shrikala Vinekar highlighted how generous donations by our well wishers to the Samaj funds have helped deserving ladies and students to the tune of Rs.4,80,000 this year itself.

Geeta Balse, the Centenary Committee President, introduced the Chief Guest, Prof. Smt. Kalindi Mujumdar. Kalindipachi's dedicated service to the marginalized members of Society has helped her win both, awards as well as the hearts of people. She shared the sanskars instilled by her parents, and credited these values as the foundation of her samaj seva. Geeta Bijoor and Geeta Balse felicitated her with a bouquet and a Saraswati Moorty .

This segment ended with a vote of thanks by the Hon. Secretary, Padmini Bhatkal.

Saraswati Vrinda Gaan initiated the next segment of the program with a melodious Swagat Geet, the Samaj's signature song written by Sadhana Kamat and set to tune by Geeta Yennemadi. Shobha Marballi followed with a dance set to Rang Devate Rang Bhari. This popular Gokulashtami mhanati, sung by Saraswati Vrinda Gaan, was an apt naandi for the programme that followed.

In her chaste Hindi, Kalindi Kodial announced that the kalapushpanjali being presented was a bouquet of music, dance, theatre and poetry.

In Nrityadhara, renowned danseuse, Shoma Kaikini and her troupe – Yashasma Savkur, Aakruti Shah, Shilpa Thakkar, Janaki Anwadia, Rashmi Bagwe and Jil Patel, performed a graceful traditional Kathak dance set to the katha in "Baaje Re Murailya Baaje".

The Kavyakusum segment saw Kanchan Honnavar read some humorous poems by the senior Konkani poet Smt. Aruna Kundaje. Geeta Yennemadi read out some of the witty poems of Shri Murlidhar Betrabet. Chandrama Bijur presented the Konkani adaptation of a Kannada poem 'My Mother's Saree' by Vaidehi , an Akademi Award Winner, as well as a Marathi poem 'Kanaa' (Spine) by acclaimed Jnanapeetha Award winner Kavi Kusumagraj. Dr. Pranav Kodial shared his own poem expressing a physician's emotions, and also one by the American poet Michael Mack "A Small Pain in my Chest", both translated in Konkani.

Natyasampada presented two skits. A hilarious scene from 'Kau Kau Yethe Yethe Bais Re Mora', written by Late Shri Vasant Nadkarni - a Konkani adaptation of "Lekure Udand Jhaali," by Shri Vasant Kanetkar, featuring Dr. Uday Andar and Deepa Savkur was highly appreciated for its humour. The presentation of 'Dha Cha Maa', part of the famous Marathi drama Bhaubandaki, with Smita Mavinkurve, Uday Mankikar and Anand Nadkarni was also well received.

A rare treat followed with Shobhana Bijoor's Shabdabhrama (ventriloquism) act where she interacted with her puppet friend, Fantoosh. His punny dialogues and rendition of "Ek Do Teen" were mind blowing. In addition to her performance, Shobhanapachi had a more personal connection to the event as she is the granddaughter of Smt. Ambabai S. Kalbag, one of the Samaj's founder members.

Uday Mankikar's presentation of "Fingersmith", a Konkani translation of Roald Dahl's short story, "The Hitchhiker," brought more fun to the celebration.

In Sangeet Sarita, an appropriately named music segment, organised and compered by Smt. Geeta Yennemadi, all compositions were based on raga "Hansdhwani". Suvarna Kagal Ghaisas' Natyapad and bhavgeet were captivating. Nivedita Hattangadi gave an enthralling Hindustani classical music recital. Dr. Divya Bijur's rendition of a yesteryear's Bollywood song introduced nostalgia to the event and received hearty applause.

The concluding performance, a Rajasthani folk dance, Ghoomar, was performed by the Yuvati Vibhag of the Samaj – Riddhima Savkur Rao (who also choreographed the dance), Ketaki Mavinkurve, Sanjana Kalyanpur, Aishwarya Rao, Neha Hoskote Dholakia, Divya Vinekar, Dhanashree Mallapur and Devika Kulkarni .The circular pattern of the dance was the embodiment of the Samaj's





efforts, showcasing how each generation continues to contribute to the work of the previous one.

Usha Surkund's impeccable Konkani compering, along with relevant inputs by Smita Mavinkurve and Deepa Savkur helped weave each segment together.

Closing the event with our National Anthem served to remind us of the Samaj's mission to serve the community.

Members of the audience were gifted with snack boxes as a warm farewell from the Samaj.

As I left the hall, Shoma Kaikini's one liner, "These days we talk of women's empowerment but who knew that Saraswat Mahila Samaj has been at it for the last 100 Years?" echoed in my mind.

Here's looking forward to hundreds of more years of success for our Mahila Samaj.

*Chief Guest Prof. Smt. Kalindi Muzumdar's speech will be printed in the next issue.*

**Errata:**

In the Book Review by Savitri Babulkar given on page 21 of our August issue the following sentence about the author was missed. 'Dr. Dilip Nadkarni, an orthopaedic surgeon practising in Santacruz West, is also a performing artiste with mastery over the keyboard and the piano accordion'.  
Regrets .... Editor

**Mrs Maya Gangavali  
Mr Vinay Gangavali**



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## Suresh L Kati- A Tribute

UDAY MANKIKAR

It was 12<sup>th</sup> August 2017, 8.30 in the morning, Smita Mavinkurve, Sureshmam's daughter informed me about the sad demise of Sureshmam. It was indeed a shocking news for me. The person whom I admired the most had taken exit from this world.

Sureshmam had tremendous love and respect for our Talmakiwadi and he used to feel very proud when he was referred to as "Wadilal". I would like to give an example about his love for Wadi and Wadiites. It was Talmakiwadi's Diamond Jubilee year. A grand function was organized to felicitate the residents of Wadi who had substantially contributed in various walks of life. The Chief Guest of the function could not reach in time. Sureshmam, who was sitting in the audience, was requested to do the honours. He was so delighted that he spontaneously accepted the request and thanked the organizers for giving him the opportunity to honour his own people.

Sureshmam took over from Shri Vasant Kulkarni as the President of Kanara Saraswat Association for the years 1991-92 and 1992-93, and as President of Kanara Saraswat Association, he was required to contribute in the column "From the President's Desk" in KSA's mouthpiece "Kanara Saraswat". I would like to give below a small portion from his write-up in the said column, which highlights Sureshmam's character and simplicity.

"While writing from the President's Desk, my mind goes to one letter received by our Editor (K.S. April 1992) wherein the writer had praised the writings of my predecessor Vasant Kulkarni. His messages were always humorous and informative. Let me confess that I am not as learned and well read a man as Vasant Kulkarni. I will strive to emulate him in this quality but my writing, I am afraid, may continue to be based on my own experiences. To be precise, I am what I am. Hope you will bear with me."

Sureshmam always believed in 'team spirit'. He always used to say, "In our daily life, the common Indian seems interested only in himself and not in the team that he plays for, or the organization he works for and to which he should have a 'sense of belonging'. This is my experience of the Indian character or trait during several decades of service in the private as well as government sector. Does this trait infect our Chitrapur Saraswat community also? We take pride in ourselves as being a small but talented community – a cut above others. But we must not think of ourselves

only in the confines of our community but as contributors to the larger interests of our developing country. We are indeed great talkers but very poor achievers. And this we need to correct 'Talk less and do more' should be our motto."

"Though our country is rich in talent, knowledge, caliber and capable of producing/manufacturing indigenous products, we still import the products / machinery etc" was Sureshmam's only agony. Only a patriotic citizen of the country can have such a feeling.

Born on 12.09.1932, Sureshmam graduated with a degree in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering in 1952 from the University of Mumbai. He joined the Department of Atomic Energy in 1956 and was deputed for a year's training to the Atomic Energy of Canada in 1956-57 and to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in USA in 1962-63. He was designated as Planning Engineer in the Reactor Operations Division of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) to cater to such needs as design modification, irradiation programming and new designs for APSARA, ZERLINA and CIRUS research reactors. He participated in the preparation of the Hazards Evaluation Report for the CIRUS reactor (40 MWT)

From 1967, he worked in the Engineering Division of the Power Projects, now known as Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd., in various capacities such as Principal Design Engineer, Chief Engineer (Nuclear), and Director (Engg). In these capacities, he was responsible for the design, planning and procurement of equipment for RAPP, MAPP, NAPP and future 220 MWe reactors. Sureshmam developed the standardized design concept for the 220 MWe reactors to achieve speedy construction. This concept was later used for the 550 MWe PHWR. He was instrumental in adopting pre-stressed concrete for containment buildings and incorporating therein a vapour suppression pool for improved containment. He also played a major role in indigenizing the manufacture of several critical and sophisticated nuclear equipments required for the nuclear power programme; hitherto, these were being imported.





## My Memories of Shri S.L. KATI

By PRAMOD KHAMBATKONE

Sureshmam participated in several meetings of the International Atomic Energy (IAEA) in Vienna, during 1975-77 and served as Member of its Design Review Committee to review design safety guides for nuclear power plants. He was appointed as Executive Director (500 MWe) to evolve a design of 500 MWe PHWR without any collaboration from foreign countries. He evolved a totally indigenous design also using the standardized design concept of the 220 MWe PHWR. He took over as Chairman of the Nuclear Power Board in April 1987 and later, in the same year as Managing Director of the Nuclear Power Corporation. Simultaneously, he also became a Member of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Sureshmam, was the recipient of various prestigious awards for his magnanimous work in the Nuclear Power - The Diamond Jubilee – P.M. Ahluwalia award for 1988 in the field of Power Engineering, instituted by the Central Board of Irrigation and Power. The award was presented to him by Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma, the then Vice President of India, in recognition of his outstanding services in the field of Nuclear Power.

- National Design Award by the Institute of Engineers for his design work for nuclear power reactors.

- On 30<sup>th</sup> October 2008, Sureshmam was conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award 2007 of the "Excellence in Science, Engineering, Technology Awards Scheme" of the Government of India, Department of Atomic Energy for his outstanding contribution in the area of Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor Technology Development of Atomic Energy in India. He received this award at the hands of Dr Manmohan Singh, the then Prime Minister of India.

- Kanara Saraswat Association also honoured Sureshmam in 1987 and 2008

Sureshmam was also the Chairman of SVC Bank Ltd and President of Kanara Saraswat Association. The Kanara Saraswat Association honoured Sureshmam in the year 2008. While expressing his feelings, he said – "Whatever I have become is only due to the upbringing that I had from my foster father Laxmanmam who was a School teacher. Whatever I have achieved in life, is only because of his upbringing and advice. So, I cannot forget him. What a humble submission! Sureshmam always advised his family members and friends to be honest and hard working to make our country proud and be calm in adversity.

In Sureshmam's death, we have lost a great human being! He was a down to earth person, despite his outstanding achievements [ मात्ते खांच्यारी आनि पाय नॅलारी ] a rare phenomenon nowadays !

तागेल्या आत्म्याक सद्गति मेळो म्होणु भवानीशंकर देवागेल्या चरणांतु प्रार्थना!

My association with our beloved Suresh Katimam has been since early 1973 when I joined Power Project Engg. Division (Colaba), after my graduation from VJTI in 1972. I had some official work at BARC (Chembur), so some approval note was required from Head of Division. He was the Principal Design Engineer and number two in the organization. I was a junior engineer, so was afraid to contact a man holding such a high position in the organization.

Somehow, since there was no alternative, I gathered courage and met him with my paper. He asked me about the work and immediately signed the paper. As I was about to leave the cabin, he politely asked me to sit and enquired about how I liked the job and also enquired about my family. I was taken aback, how a person of his status can be so friendly and kind hearted with a junior engineer in the organization! I was very much relieved since I was new to the organization and did not have any friendly guiding force to help me.

Katimam was very kind and easily approachable person in the organization. This quality of his made him famous among the Engineering staff.

Katimam was very intelligent and a great leader with a pleasing personality. He was the guiding force for all Engineers. I have seen, whenever people had any technical problems which their boss could not solve to their satisfaction, they used to approach Katimam directly. Being an Electrical and Mechanical Engineer with nuclear experience, Katimam could resolve their problems to their satisfaction. I have seen them coming out of Katimam's cabin with smiling faces. Many times he used to pay surprise visits to Engineers' cabins and discuss their work. I have often seen Katimam working late in the evening even after office hours. It was the intent to finish the work undertaken in time, the quality of his that I liked very much. Yes, I too tried to follow his footsteps in this regard.

On my personal front, one day after many years of my marriage, my wife told me that before our marriage was fixed in 1977, her grandfather, Devidas Hosangadi had approached Katimam to find out about my job and his opinion about the alliance. I was very fortunate that Katimam recommended my case, due to which I am happily married for last 40 years!

I am a beneficiary of Katimam's technical brilliance, wisdom and above all kindness from day one when I met him on joining PPED to the day of his retirement from NPCIL (erstwhile PPED). I pray God to bless his soul and rest him in eternal peace.





# A Child's Diwali

BY SARAS RAO AND GAYATRI MADAN DUTT



There are some mornings when your mind becomes aware even before you are awake; when your slumbering consciousness is half-open and receptive, as if something out of the new day has told it that it must listen. Your shoulder is lightly touched and you sit up and squint into the darkness outside. Suddenly, it doesn't matter that it is an unearthly five in the morning. The magical zest that you already sensed in sleep fills the air. You breathe it in and forget everything, except that today is Diwali.

You run your fingers through the messy mop that the oil that was massaged into your scalp the previous night, has made of your hair. Diwali morning must begin with a tellaa nhaana, a ritual cum beauty treatment. You have decided you must have it in the old way. You rub oil all over yourself. The heady scent of sesamum oil and soapnut powder or shikakai floats languorously in the steam curling out of the hot water. And you think of how this links you to your great-grandmother and the many, many more before her, whose tradition you are carrying on. Her Diwali bath must have started much earlier than yours, and her water may have been drawn cold, straight from the old family well.

You watch the bucket fill. This is not the everyday water you knew. This is Diwali-morning water, the water that Mother Ganga and all sacred rivers inhabit just for today. Bathing anywhere this morning, in river, tank or well, is as good as bathing in their holy cleansing waters. And you remember your mother's beautiful shlokas as she bathed you when you were little. She would pour the last four chambus of water over your head, reciting 'Swami dayya, tugalen tirtha', 'Kashi Bhagirathi, tugalen tirtha', 'Ganga-Yamuna, tugalen tirtha', ending with 'Sri Ram raksha'. You finish your bath with the same four chambus and shlokas – today, those chamбу-fuls are not just symbolically sacred, but really so.

Over the years, Diwali has come to mean so many things:

It is your grandfather, repeating the story of Diwali – the triumph of good over evil. It has been told so many times that you might almost reach out and touch the moss that has grown over each word. You prompt him most of the time with what comes next, yet, every time, it is as if you were hearing the story for the first time. You see again the great scene when Krishna's discus finally brings down the demon, Narakasura. You reconstruct his bristling moustache and big red eyes. You look importantly at the wide-eyed fascination of your little brother who has heard the story about five

times less than you have, not knowing that you look as wide-eyed.

Diwali is overdosing on mithaai undes and saath, and tying up the aakaash goodu. It means rockets that zip upwards, detonate and flower the night in a thousand petals.

Diwali is bombs that make your eardrum jump in your ear. It is the 'wheels of Vishnu' that spin and spark over the ground, sometimes swerving into the saris of watching women, loosening pandemonium.

Diwali is the effigy of Ravana, stuffed with crackers, down to the cordite cigarette in his mouth, being set off. You listen to the blanketing explosions, your hands held tightly over your ears.

And Diwali is your little dog missing, whom you eventually find curled up behind the kitchen gas cylinder, a bundle of shivers.

(Your romance with firecrackers has moved in steps, rising each succeeding year to higher things. From the sparklers you once nervously held and which often 'bit', you slowly learn to swing them round and round to write your name in the night. Then you manage to light your first phooljhadi or anaar, the 'pomegranate' which releases a fountain of stars and light. You are blissfully content and spend the following hour striking green and pink matches. You need that hour to muster up the confidence to tackle your next anaar. In the years to come, you finally let off your atom bomb – the greatest achievement of all. Then it is for you to watch yourself in your children, as they grow up like you through the same stages, from diffidence to happy courage.)

Every now and then, you keep sneaking off into a quiet corner away from the others, saying you'll bring another box of crackers. Really, and you never confess it, you have been watching all evening for Lakshmi. To invite her home, you have helped to light all those little earthen bowls of oil tipped with an upright smile of flame. As you fervently stumble through all the prayers you have learnt, you know she must show herself. She will appear, walking slowly among the diyas, her jewels glistening; her smile the brightest lamp of them all.

Then your heart is in your mouth. There is someone coming. A jingle of bangles, a rustle of silk, and your mother steps into view. You watch as she fills each lamp with more oil. Here is your Lakshmi you need not go far in search of, who's always there for you; always home. Lakshmi Puja is not the worship of just one goddess, it is a eulogy to all womanhood.

The following morning dawns strangely empty. You





look around at the soot and ash of spent fireworks, and at the effaced rangolis. Diwali is seemingly over. But in a corner, in the angle of the terrace door that the night wind missed, a divvo, its exhausted flame more blue than gold, shines on.

Your mother continues to light two divlis in the devaa

kooda for the rest of the year. It is the warmth, wonder and worship of Diwali carried on in smaller measure.

The spirit; the flame of Diwali, never burns out. Lit within you in childhood, it lives on in your heart's, as in the earth's, deepest core.

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## Your Own Diwali

SAVITRI BABULKAR

Back in 1966, a lovely Dilip-Kumar/Waheeda-Rehman starrer, 'Dil Diya Dard Liya', gave us memorable songs. One of the best was "Saavan aaye ya na aaye; jiya jab jhoom,saavan hai" – with brilliant lyrics by Shakeel Badayuni set to music by the inimitable Naushad. Roughly translated, it means "Regardless of the actual advent of the Festive Season, when the heart/soul rejoices, the season seems festive."

We don't need to wait for the calendar to mark the days on which to light lamps to proclaim the coming of Diwali. Any occasion that brings us joy, is our own 'Diwali' – a time for private celebration: a time to rejoice that 'God's in His Heaven - All's right with the world'.

There have been several times when the family has rejoiced – especially in 1965 and 1971, when my husband came home unscathed from the war front. There are hundreds of Defence Services wives who have felt the same. But the joy is dimmed by news of young friends who have fallen on the field, never to return.

So I wish to mention an occasion which brought undiluted delight and relief to the entire family. It happened in 1977. But let me start at the very beginning.....

During our nomadic 'Army' existence, we needed an anchor from time to time – and a place to settle down when my husband retired. So we decided to invest in a small flat during one of our trips to Bombay (now Mumbai). That we happened to be in Bombay when new flats were coming up in the Santacruz Saraswat Colony was in itself a small miracle. That we were allotted a flat at all, was another.

One cousin after another rented the place while we were away in far-away cantonments. When it fell vacant, a friend of a friend sorely needed a place. It was difficult to refuse - even after having read and re-read 'Don't Say Yes When You Want to Say No'.

At the end of two years, he readily vacated our flat and moved into his own. No questions asked. Bless him!

Thereafter, a cousin who was posted in Mumbai was looking for a flat. Someone mentioned ours. Naturally

he and his lovely new bride approached us. The result was predictable. He moved into the flat. Within two years, he was posted out and handed us the key when they moved out.

Subsequently, another cousin approached me. She was a classmate and close friend, as well. She had health problems and school-going children. They promised to vacate the place whenever we wished. All they wanted was 'one year's notice'. How, then, could I have refused her?

Even though my close relatives approved, the General Public was sceptical. They predicted that I'd 'lose the flat forever'. There was plenty of time to think about that, I said... and that I'd cross the bridge when I came to it.

The bridge was in sight when my son appeared for his 9<sup>th</sup> standard exam in their boarding school. The following year, on completion of school finals in 1977, he'd be seeking admission in a college in Mumbai. So I wrote to my cousin. But Premi was then too ill to reply. However, we got an assurance from her husband, Premanand, that they would vacate the flat by April the following year.....

When we arrived in Mumbai, we moved in with another cousin and called up my 'tenant' cousin. She was too ill to respond, poor dear. Once again it was her husband who spoke. He said their own flat, though almost complete, had had last-minute hitches. They'd take three more weeks to move out of our flat. I raised a silent eyebrow. Had we 'lost the flat' as so many had predicted? Was the General Public right, after all??

Amazingly, they were not! For our good Tenant arrived in two weeks' time; and handed over the keys. No questions asked. In a world where personal gain comes above all else, they preferred to honour a commitment rather than seek personal comfort. Relief and gratitude filled our hearts.

There was every reason to rejoice! For Premi and Premanand had forever restored our faith in humanity.

*The author can be contacted at savitri.babulkar@gmail.com*





# Goddess Laxmi's Blessings

NALINI S NADKARNI, KANDIVLI, MUMBAI

After completing his doctorate in the U.S. my cousin Vinod was offered a very good job there. He then married an American girl, Cynthia Turner, and decided to settle down there. There was no news of him for five years. So it was pleasant surprise when I saw his email a few weeks before Diwali. He said he and Cynthia were planning a trip to India this year. He asked for the exact dates of Diwali and wondered if it was convenient if they stayed with us.

Not having met a foreigner before, I was a little hesitant at first. But with my husband Girish with me I was sure I'd be able to manage. Besides, Radha and Rekha (our teenage daughters) would help, when necessary. So I quietly wrote back to Vinod, giving him the dates and assuring him that he and Cynthia were welcome to stay with us.

They arrived on the morning on Dhan Trayodashi. It was good meeting Vinod after such a long time. To our great joy and relief, Cynthia turned out to be warm and friendly, easily fitting into our lifestyle. Girish had taken a week's leave and the girls had Diwali vacations.

After lunch, Vinod and I exchanged news about family and friends. Cynthia was curious to learn more about Diwali. So I told her that the word "Deepavali" meant a string of lights. And that it was a five day festival. I explained the importance each day in detail. "How interesting" she said.

At twilight I lighted the nilanjan at our small household shrine. And everyone gathered there as the girls sang "Bhagyada Laxmi baramma".

"Hey, Amma used to sing this song," said Vinod, with nostalgia. I recalled it too, and told him most Amchis were fond of this Kannada bhajan.

Very melodious! Said Cynthia, genuinely appreciative. "What does it mean?" I explained to her that it was a hymn song in the evening to invite Goddess Laxmi (the Goddess of wealth) into our home. As I explained each verse, the girls wrote down the words in Roman script, at her request and taught her the tune.

On Narak Chaturdashi, the couple went sight-seeing, taking the girls with them. Cynthia was delighted with the illuminations. On Laxmi pooja day, the girls had to attend a birthday party; so Vinod and Cynthia went shopping on their own. I requested them to be back in time for the Laxmi pooja.

While they were away, I gave our framed picture of Laxmi a prominent place in the sitting room, with flowers and the paraphernalia for the pooja. The girls returned at seven. The guests came in shortly afterwards, but disappeared in their bedroom to unload their shopping bags. They came back almost immediately looking

deeply distressed.

Apparently, Vinod's brief case was missing. He had it with him when they were seated in the taxi; but he couldn't recall, carrying it, when they paid off the taxi driver. They had carried Indian currency in Cynthia's purse for convenience. The briefcase must have been left on the seat. The briefcase was invaluable- with their passports, visa papers, return tickets, credit cards, and U.S. currency. They had to leave within a week..... How would they manage? We all surrounded her, trying to pacify her, and assuring them that all would be well; but it was difficult even to convince ourselves. When Girish suggested approaching police, Vinod declined, saying he didn't have the number of the taxi.

So, to change the mood, I quietly suggested that we perform the pooja before deciding on anything. We could pray to the Goddess, I said to help recover the lost briefcase. Cynthia was sporting enough to join us, when we sang, "Bhagyada Laxmi baramma" after the pooja.

However, after the pooja, we were in no mood for conversation. While we sat brooding over the unfortunate mishap, the doorbell broke the spell. Rekha, who went to open the door, almost shouted with excitement, "Vinodmam, come quickly! It's the taxi man with your briefcase"! Indeed, rushing to the door we saw a man standing outside the door, holding out the briefcase to Vinod.

"Saheb, you forgot this in my taxi. Please check whether all your things are intact." I could see that Vinod was tempted to hug him; but we politely invited him in, and asked him to be seated. Though he readily accepted the "prasad" with a smile, he refused the thousand rupees offered by Vinod.

"Saheb, I am just doing my duty, nothing more. Besides, today is a Friday, and Laxmi pooja day. So you should not part with your money." "On the contrary, Laxmi will bless me with more money, to give away, if I repay your kindness." Countered Vinod, but gave in gracefully respecting the man's wishes. However, before the man left, Vinod noted down his mobile number and address.

The next morning, he visited the good man with gifts worth much more than a thousand rupees. Cynthia was all praise for Indian people's honesty. She requested me for a picture of Goddess Laxmi, promising to light a tiny bulb in front of it, and to sing "Bhagyada Laxmi" to one, who had so readily answered our fervent prayers.

That is one Diwali we all will never forget as long as we live!

(Note: This article is mere fiction)





# Running with the Wild Dogs

MAYUR KALBAG

"Dogs!!!...yes, I have seen them, have had a few as puppies when I was a child; but what are these 'WILD' Dogs that you are talking about???" This question was put to me by one of the participants at a three day Leadership Development Seminar that I was conducting. The Training program was related to 'Developing Leadership Instincts by observing and analyzing behaviors of Animals'.

We were discussing what we could learn from the different creatures living upon this earth and that is when I told them about the wild dogs and about their amazing and distinctive qualities related to Team working and Leadership!

Wild dogs live in the wilderness of Africa and also some parts of the forests of western India. There is also a species of wild dogs called the Dingo that make their habitat in certain parts of Australia. Of these African dogs are pleasantly unique from the other carnivores and there are certain very interesting, intriguing and inspiring features about these dogs!

Let us therefore start riding with these wild dogs and while we are running along with them let us also observe and learn a few precious qualities that would surely help us enhance ourselves as better Team Managers and Leaders in our Professional as well as our Personal lives!

**Strength in Togetherness** - The African wild dog is actually a small sized animal, probably the size of a normal street dog and therefore, in front of a large deer or even a wild buffalo the wild dog looks almost minuscule. However, as more and more of these small dogs get together they get more confident and courageous in their attitude to hunt down their prey. The feeling that they are not alone but have the backing of many more gives them that mental fortitude and strength and this is what makes them believe that they can conquer the largest of prey! I have seen not just a wild buffalo but even a giraffe being chased and then hunted by such a pack of wild dogs.

I am sure you understand how important it is to deal with a tough situation or a failure or even accomplish bigger goals with the help of Team Work. The leader must understand that only when he gets his entire team together and gets them motivated that he will be able to achieve the most difficult targets. What we can therefore see and learn from these wild dogs is 'Strength In Togetherness'.

**Perseverance and Tenacity**- It is said that once the wild dogs decide upon a particular prey they will never stop chasing it till the prey itself gets tired and gives up and gets eventually caught. Even a lioness or a

cheetah have been known to give up on their chase after realizing that there is little chance of catching it. But wild dogs just keep running after the prey and never stop for a second. They run in packs and keep inspiring each other on. They keep motivating one another to pursue their target. I am sure this is an inspiring quality for us to learn. When budgets or targets are set and all the team members set out to achieve them, it is important for the Team Leader or their Manager to keep their motivations high and guide them in situations where they may lose their tenacity or perseverance towards accomplishing their goals and budgets. Some of these team members may decide to give up on their 'Chase' and this is when the leader of the 'Pack' must get 'Proactive' and 'Inspire' that particular team member to persevere and progress!

**Hierarchy and Mutual Respect**- Though these dogs may come across as extremely wild in the way they especially eat their prey while it's still alive, it is also important to note that these wild dogs observe a hierarchy within the pack. Yes! The first to eat the prey are the senior most ones and then come the others. There is never a fight among themselves for the food. There is this unspoken respect for one another and this is very inspiring.

**Caring and Helpful**- Something more amazing is the fact that some of these dogs purposefully overeat and fill up their stomachs. In fact they actually carry this food back to their homes for their little ones. As they meet the young puppies they begin to regurgitate the food for the puppies to eat. This caring and motherly gesture is most touching. For us Managers and Leaders, the clear learning that comes across is that we must learn to share and care. What must the manager or leader share? I would say that the 'Two' most important things to share would be **Knowledge** and along with it the **Experience**. Sharing of knowledge and experience can help the juniors to steadily grow in their respective careers /profession and thereby help in the growth of the organization as well!

To me the word caring means to help your team members when they could be going through work stress or even personal stress. Caring is about 'Understanding Your Every Team Member and Slow and Steadily Helping Each of Them to Grow in their Respective Strengths and Simultaneously Helping Them to Improve Upon Their Improvement Areas or Weaknesses'.

We, as Human Beings think of ourselves as being the ultimate in God's Creations. But there are many amazing Sea-creatures; Birds, Animals, Reptiles and Insects from whom we have a lot to learn!





# A Child's View of Pre-independence

AIR COMMODORE B.S.HATANGADI. V.S.M (RETD)

Seventy years ago we became an independent country, free from the yoke of British rule.

How was it to be a child in that era? I was a child of the forties in Bombay, now Mumbai.

I have clear memories of some of the scenes of that time. It is said that we vividly recall those portions of our life which were lived intensely. Here is a Kaleidoscope of my experiences of an era gone forever.

When I was ten, I read a book "Our India" by Mino Masani. It had very attractive illustrations. I remember the map of India, drawn like a three dimensional slab cut in the shape of India. One afternoon when walking home from school I suddenly recalled a sentence from that book. It said that the life expectancy of an Indian was 27 years.

"Oh my God!" I thought in absolute terror "I only have seventeen more years to live". I don't remember how many days that haunting and terrifying fear echoed in my mind!

My grandfather used to often dispatch me to buy one anna's worth of snuff from the local Paan shop and reward me with tip of 3 pies. These were tiny little copper coins, about the size of a shirt button. Twelve of these coins made an anna! Sixteen annas made a rupee which was a heavy silver coin. A ten rupee currency note was a treasure. Coming back to snuff, Paan shops of those times were in a small window of a building next to the street. I had to stand up on tip-toe to be seen by the shop keeper. Every Paan shop had an enamel basin, piled high with a black goeey smelly paste-like stuff. Men would buy it, stuff their chillums with it, light it, and blow out a thick, white, acrid, evil smelling smoke. That was Ganja. Marijuana. sold and smoked openly!

My father's maternal uncle had a quaint name. Pombatmajal Manjunath. Generally called Mhainath-maam. A robust, healthy, ruddy complexioned talkative man. He would periodically visit us from some remote place where he worked in a cement factory. He insisted on beckoning us children, a captive audience, to narrate his views. He always wore a grey hand-spun shirt, very roomy khaki short- pants, and a black side-cap. He rabidly hated the British. He would mention many times about how the stupid British were to wage war against the brave Germans, at some far off place.

One morning, he came striding in with a great sense of glee and exuberance.

"Hanka dhavandaayle re", he declared in our Konkani language. "These foolish cowards have been driven

away from France by Hitler. They drowned like rats in the ocean. They will now learn how it is to be defeated and humiliated". After Mhainath- mam calmed down, he explained that he was referring to the retreat of British troops from Dunkirk due to a blitz attack by the Nazi army, in the beginning of the Second World War.

Later, much later, I learnt that for some strange reason the Germans didn't follow through and the ignoble evacuation was largely successful.

We lived in a lower middle class locality called Shivaji Park area, in Dadar. One morning when my brother and I, aged 8 and 10, were walking to School, we found the streets almost deserted. We saw posters every now and then with bold scrawls of QUIT INDIA. QUIT INDIA. The roads were teeming with police-men - heavy, blotchy red, pith-hatted, white-uniformed, broad-belted, bulging-stomached, revolver-clad, foreign looking men, menacingly strutting along. Their eyes full of contempt and disdain. One of them shouted at us, two frightened kittens, to "Get the hell off. You Darkies. You want to get killed?" We sped away, scared and seething with anger for being called Darkies. This was on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 1942.

One day, there was a visible excitement in the entire neighbourhood. Grown-ups and children were equally excited. There was constant discussion about a lecture to take place in the evening at Shivaji Park. We heard that Officers of Azad Hind Fauj were going to address. That evening our father took us boys to the Park. I had never seen the Park so full of people. On a high platform we could see several people in Uniform. There was a woman in uniform and we were told that she is Captain Lakshmi. At the very outset she said loudly in the mike. "Jai Hind" and waited for us to repeat. She said it again and again. The entire crowd also shouted "Jai Hind. Jai Hind". It sounded like thunder.

We couldn't understand what she said. Every now and then people would clap resoundingly and shout "Jai Hind". Her talk was followed by that of Captain Shah Nawaz. He spoke with a lot of action about giving blood for the country and was again responded to by very loud clapping.

At the end, the Azad Hind folks on the dais, jointly sang a very inspiring song and asked us to repeat each line. The opening verses were "Kadam kadam bhadyeja, khushike geet gayeja. Yeh zindagi hai Kaumki. Kaumpe lootayeja." The anthem of Azad Hind Fauj.

Suddenly there was a lot of commotion and a lot of smoke all around, smelling very pungent . People were





running helter skelter. Our father held us fast and we ran to a nearby building and hid there till the crowd dispersed.

A few days later, we were told that these officers were Court Martialed in the Red Fort at Delhi.

Came 14<sup>th</sup> August 1947. The eve of India's Independence. We boys could feel the electricity in the air. Everyone was preparing for something. Just before midnight we went to my uncle's place to listen to their radio. Nehru was going to speak. Over the radio crackle, we heard him fairly clearly. All grown-ups listened intently, and were visibly moved. My father told us that this is the best speech ever made to herald the Independence of a country.

Mhainathmaam told us about the great sacrifices done by our leaders. How they gave up their wealth, families, jobs and all comforts with only one aim. Freedom. The British people were leaving India. Now onwards India is a free country. We will rule ourselves. No foreigner will dare try to enslave us. With tears in his eyes, he said that at least he would die in a free country

Came 15<sup>th</sup>. August 1947. Flags and buntings were flying everywhere.. In the evening all school children were loaded in to lorries and ferried from place to place. The Gateway of India was a blaze of lights. Trams were fully lit and trundled along offering free rides. We were delighted to be showered with sweets wherever we stopped. There was joy everywhere!

More than seventy years have gone by since that era.

India looks and feels so entirely different. As predicted a few years ago in the essays of GurCharan Das, the great elephant, that is India, is plodding resolutely towards progress, Taking in its stride the burden of corruption, casteism, partisanship, poverty, overpopulation, and so on .

I am sharing these glimpses of an era of pre-independence to tell the post-Independence generations about how it was, not so long ago. How lucky they are to be born in a country where you don't have to succumb to a foreign ruler who oppresses and humiliates you after looting your wealth.

## Book Review:

# Slave Boy and other Stories

REVIEWED BY GOPINATH MAVINKURVE

**Author: Asha Gangoli**

**Publisher: Cinnamon Teal Publishing,**

**Pp: 223 Cover Price – Rs 299/-**

It isn't an autobiography. It doesn't seem to be entirely a work of fiction, but a collection of experiences and stories that seem honest to their settings and characters. Asha Gangoli has narrated her experiences with such people in her lives that would have ordinarily been considered too insignificant to write about.

Having been an army wife traversing the country, her experiences in various places have been penned charmingly, "without unnecessary embellishment; sparsely, simply and elegantly with a discreet and unmistakable undercurrent of fellow feeling and empathy", to quote Shyam Benegal in his 'Foreword' to the book.

The stories range from her pets, her early experiences in school and people she knew closely. Some are set during the time of Partition which unconsciously affected her early life and bring home to the reader the fear and distrust between the two communities at the time. "Slave Boy" is a masterly narrative of a young boy who survives the mayhem of Partition and the many turns his life takes.

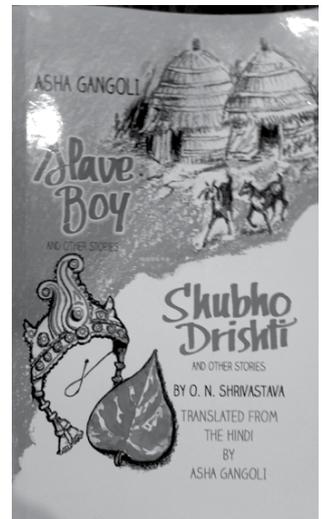
other Stories" by O.N. Shrivastava, translated by Asha Gangoli from the Hindi. Charming tales of ordinary folks standing tall in the face of adversity offer readers a refreshing experience.

The main story "Shubho Drishti" is of two young men and the women they fall in love with and where life finally takes them.

All through the book, the reader is left amazed at the fresh, quaint style of narration that runs all along – a style that one can't but admire and leaves you wanting more!

The Book is available with the author, who may be contacted at [sudhiringangoli@yahoo.co.in](mailto:sudhiringangoli@yahoo.co.in)

Or on her Cellphone No. +91 9890 303 747





# The sarpanch and a query for the doctor

DR. N.U. GULVADY

As a medical professional who spent the formative years of my career in Rajasthan, here's an anecdote that highlights one of my social-cultural experiences in the region.

Back in 1954, I was posted in the primary health centre at a Rajasthan village. With no telegraph office or electricity, the place was cut off from the rest of the State. The nearest doctor was 50 miles away!

One day, while I was attending to patients at the health centre, I saw the village sarpanch coming towards the clinic with a serious look on his face. He walked into my room and said he wanted to consult me. Upon being told that I first needed to attend to my patients who were in the queue, he waited till my patient roll was over. When I asked him what he wanted to talk about, he said, "My buffalo is unwell. I want you to come and see him since I can't get him to your clinic."

Despite several attempts to tell him I didn't know how to treat animals, he wasn't convinced. The sarpanch's inability to reassert his authority and get the job done made matters worse. He went on to say, "I don't like liars. If you don't want to see my buffalo, just tell me. Don't tell me stories on how you don't know how to treat animals."

My clarification was of no avail. With his temper rising and nostrils flaring, he said, "You city-dwellers think we villagers are fools and idiots. Do you feel that way too?"

When I asked for the reason, he said, "You want me to believe that without proving your skills on animals, the government has allowed you to practise your medicine on human beings? Do you expect me to believe that?"

I was stunned. I couldn't think of an answer to his valid question. After waiting for any reply, the sarpanchji stormed out of my room and I resumed my work.

A few months later, I saw the sarpanch coming towards the clinic again. Remembering our earlier encounter, I was apprehensive and I wondered what he expected from me this time. As he entered, I stood up and welcomed him.

In complete contrast to how he spoke to me earlier, he said softly, "Doctor, today I have come to tell you that you really don't know how to treat animals." Taken aback, I asked what made him say that. He replied, "I had assigned somebody to watch over you whenever you made any home visit. That person never saw you treat any animal."

With a sigh of relief, I thanked him and appreciated his readiness to come and apologise for his mistake.

However, before leaving, he said something that I continue to ponder over: "Doctor, I still wonder how the government has allowed you to practise medicine on human beings without first practising it on animals."

Courtesy – The HINDU , JULY 16, 2017

## Adieu Monsoon



The parched earth awaited you  
You invigorated us all with the soothing  
nectarine droplets

You calmed our frayed nerves with the  
moisture laden breeze  
Nature smiled, the bewitching greenery was  
a welcome sight.

The bowers swung to a beautiful rhythm  
Then there were days when you let lose  
your fury on all  
for being environmentally unfriendly, to  
teach a lesson or two.

Now it appears it is time to bid Adieu  
One can see the Lazer shows, as Shivas  
drumbeats,  
adding the audio visual effects to natures  
fireworks display.

'Parting is sweet sorrow'  
Before curtains draw and you bid a final  
goodbye  
Thank you for the soothing effects of your  
persona,  
you cast a beautiful spell on us all.

See you again.  
Till then  
So long, farewell, needless to say we will  
miss you.

Love you monsoon.

**Vanita Kumta**





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# How To Cultivate Your Career Early-On

Siddharth Pandey

Mr Rakesh Pandey is our elder brother (Late) Col Jairam Sarvotham Sanadi's son-in-law. Rakesh & his family have settled in USA (Washington) for



over 30 years. Their son Siddharth Pandey works for a Company which deals with assisting civilians during calamities experienced during cyclones, forest fires, floods etc. Siddharth has written this article which deals with the experiences he has faced

in his work area and the personal efforts he has made to be successful and contribute to his Company's commitments for which he has been awarded many prizes..... Wg Cdr Prakash Sanadi (Retd), Pune

I've been with Dewberry for a little more than two years, and in that short time, I've managed to increase my responsibilities and steer my career towards working on the sorts of tasks I'm most interested in. After reflecting on what has helped me advance in my career, I've realized there are a few lessons I'd like to share.

## Making Waves

When I first started at Dewberry, one of the things my team lead said to me that I really took to heart was "make waves." Don't say no to any opportunity you may get—no matter if it's extremely boring or incredibly difficult, say yes. This can make it easier to figure out what sorts of tasks you like working on and help you to start seeing what kind of career path you should take. Saying yes allows you to share your skills and knowledge with task and project managers, get to know people throughout your organization, and become a person that people depend on—making yourself a resource. Plus, you may learn something you didn't know before!

Have an opportunity to work overtime on a last minute project? Take it! Some of the most exciting work I have done here involved long days and even nights trying to get an important deliverable out the door, and the lessons learned and friendships gained were unparalleled.

Another aspect of "making waves," is not being afraid to speak up. Of course do so respectfully, but seeing something that could be improved and having

the confidence to say something makes a difference. I believe that the vast majority of people that I've come across appreciate it when you share your opinion. We are always looking for ways to improve what we do and provide better products/value to our clients, so if you have ideas, don't hesitate to share them.

## Use Your Personal Time to Invest in Your Career

You have to invest in your career in your personal time. Making an effort to seek opportunities that will better yourself is important. I'm in the midst of completing my master's degree, and I just finished a graduate certificate program. It's something I've been pushing myself to do because I've seen a lot of people wait too long to get back into school and ultimately just don't follow through. You don't necessarily need a master's degree or doctorate to move up in your career, but it certainly helps, especially when it comes to figuring out what you want to do.

## "I already have a job, what's the point of being involved in professional societies?"

I get it. But this can be a short-sighted outlook. Professional organizations enable you to continue learning and growing in your career, while also providing networking opportunities. I try to attend events, conferences, and presentations as much as I can. I've even been able to present at a few events, which helps get my name out there, as well as our company's name. Currently, I'm on the executive committee of the Maryland State Geographic Information Committee. We've been looking for ways to expand our influence in the state—trying to connect people of all demographics together to use data efficiently, not duplicate efforts, and collaborate.

## Where I am Today

By taking the time to invest in my own career through continued education and professional organizations, I have seen my opportunities at Dewberry grow. When I started, I only handled a couple of tasks, and now through increased responsibility, there's more diversity in my workload. I've gone from the point of just being told what to do all of the time, to helping the project manager figure out what needs to be done and collaborating with other staff to determine what can be accomplished in a timely fashion. I believe my positive outlook, motivation, and involvement have greatly benefited my career and will continue to do so.





## LATE SHASHI ULLAL ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

**Applications are invited from students of reputed business management schools for an annual scholarship of ₹ 1,00,000/- for the year 2017-18**

An Annual Scholarship of ₹ 1Lakh for a deserving student has been instituted by Shri Pradeep Ullal and family in memory of late Shri Shashi Ullal. Mr Shashi Ullal was one of the pioneers of the IT industry in India. This is the Third year of the Scholarship.

The aspiring student should fulfil the following conditions:-

1. He/she should be a Chitrapur Saraswat.
2. He/She should have got admission to a reputed Business School for a post graduate degree/diploma in Business Management. The same student may apply the following year as well.
3. There is no income criteria.
4. The Candidate should submit a note on why he is interested in acquiring a business degree. The selected Student should write an Essay on any General Topic which will be published in KS Magazine after his/her selection for the Scholarship.
5. KSA's Managing Committee has formed a Committee of 3 persons for selection of Student among applications received for Scholarship since last year. The names of members are 1) Mr Sunil Ullal, Engineer & Sportsman from VJTI & KSA Committee member, 2) Mr Bharat Nadkarni, Professor in Bajaj Institute of Management, Mumbai University, Sportsman & Former Mumbai Ranji Trophy Cricketer. 3) Mrs Smita Mavinkurve, Mathematician & Software Developer and Editor of KS Magazine.

Applications from students who fulfil the above conditions are invited so as to reach KSA Office by Saturday, 31st December 2017. Tel : 23802263, 23805655

Applications may be sent to KSA Office, 13/1-2, Talmakiwadi, Javji Dadaji Road, Mumbai 400007 or to the Email id - admin@kanarasaraswat.in

**Sunil Ullal**

Jt Secretary & Member of Selection Committee

## KSA invites Applications from eligible students for Interest Free Refundable Educational Grants

- 1) Eligibility of Students :-
  - a) Age:- Minimum 18 Years & Maximum 35 Years
  - b) Grades In School/College:- Not specific but Student Should have mental capability to complete Education.
  - c) Income Criteria for Family :- Maximum ₹ 70,000/- p.m.(₹ 80,000/- if any differently abled person in the family or any family member suffering from a major illness which requires high cost of treatment.
- 2) Eligible Studies :- **a)** Professional Courses leading to Graduation **b)** Post Graduation **c)** Research **d)** Humanities (Post Graduation level & Above) **e)** Foreign Education (Post Graduation level & Above) **f)** Any Other.  
The selection of Studies should be such that it will help the student to earn a reasonable level of income after completion of Studies.
- 3) Quantum of Grant :- Maximum ₹ 1 lac per year for Studies Inland & ₹ 2 lakhs per year for Studies Abroad subject to Availability of Funds.

For more details refer Application Form available on KSA Website: [www.kanarasaraswat.in](http://www.kanarasaraswat.in) or get it by requesting Manager to email address:- [admin@kanarasaraswat.in](mailto:admin@kanarasaraswat.in) or [shobhanadiliprao@gmail.com](mailto:shobhanadiliprao@gmail.com).

**Yatin Mavinkurve,**

Secretary – Fund management,  
Mobile – 9619142121





# Early Childhood Development and Parenting

The Yearling House was set up in June 2012 by Puja Padbidri, a professional pediatric physiotherapist. After getting her Masters from the University of Illinois, Puja worked in Early Intervention aimed at children between the ages of 0-3 years in USA for almost a decade. She returned to India when her son was a few months old and immediately saw a gap in the awareness levels and support structures available for early detection and intervention. Hearing parents say they wish they had known something sooner and having regrets about not having access to basic scientific information, is what fuels her passion for The Yearling House. The Yearling House started a support group on Facebook called 'Early Childhood Development and Parenting India.' This hugely popular group laid the official foundations of The Yearling House.

Their team has now grown and through The Yearling House, they hope to change the world and parenting attitudes, one family at a time.

## Importance of tummy time

PUJA PADBIDRI, PAEDIATRIC PHYSICAL THERAPIST

### What is tummy time?

Placing a baby, right from birth, on its tummy is called tummy time.

### How is it important?

1. When babies are in the womb, their bodies are scrunched up like a ball. This brings their hands close to the mouth and their spines in a "C" curve. Their movements inside, against the uterine wall, help in development of their sensory processing, especially their body awareness and movement pathways. Outside the womb, the position that is closest to this, is when the baby on its tummy. This is the NATURAL posture of a newborn. All movements have their beginnings from this position.



1. Movements are always in relation to gravity. Gravity helps us develop strength, balance and coordination. Our brain uses this constant to start gathering data on how the body needs to move and estimates efficiency. Being on the tummy, allows maximum impact of gravity. At the same time, movements need at least one point of stability. Being on tummy, shoulders and hips to act as these stability points while allowing free movements of head and hands. This is the first pattern of coordinated movement that develops in a newborn, within the first few days of birth.

2. Our head is the heaviest part of the body. In order to lift head up, babies need to get help from arms and shoulders. This can only happen in tummy down positions.

3. Babies' vision is developing in the first 6-8 weeks. For the eye muscles to gain strength for focus

and tracking, head position in space and neck control is essential. If the baby is never put on the tummy during these crucial weeks, babies have trouble attaining visual control in the first 6 weeks. Learning for depth perception also needs the baby to start measuring against a constant, which is the floor. The same inputs are impossible while lying on the back.

4. The strength gained by pushing up on palms during the first 3 months help with opening of fists, reaching movements of arms and even impacts handwriting at 4 years.

Why not start at 3 months?

1. By 3 months, the head weight has increased, body size has changed but muscle strength is insufficient to even attempt movements of head in tummy time.

2. By 3 months, lying on back constantly has pulled the shoulders and spine into a flattened position. It requires much more strength at this

point to move in the right pattern.

3. The need to move is so strong that babies start to use unnecessary and sometimes wrong patterns of movements to satisfy this need. It is harder to break wrong patterns and redirect a baby to newer patterns at this stage.

4. Constant lying on the back has flattened the head, sometimes caused neck muscle tightness on one side. Babies are unable to overcome this tightness to move their heads as required without supervised physiotherapy visits. To prevent such situations, tummy time should start at birth.

(Continued on page 27)





## Moodbidri- Reminiscences

SATYANARAYAN PANDIT

Moodbidri – yes, the tiny, little hamlet during my childhood and growing years some 70 years ago, and now a bustling town, is the place where I was born and brought up. It is the surname of at least 3 'Amchi' families, whose ancestors lived in Moodbidri, more than 100 years ago. Those who are familiar with Mangaluru of yesteryears, would fondly remember the jovial, affable, well-known and most admired 'Amchi' doctor, late Moodbidri Umeshmam (also known as Kotebagil Umeshmam) from one of the Moodbidri families. Incidentally, Kotebagil means 'entrance to the fort' and is a place in Moodbidri where a fort built by Tipu Sultan existed. The fort is now in ruins.

1. **Location:** Moodbidri is located about 35 kms. away from Mangaluru city in the north-easterly direction. It is the junction of several major roads and caters to a large mobile population. The National Highway NH 169 from Mangaluru to Karkala/ Shivamogga and beyond passes through Moodbidri. NH70 connects this town with Mulky and joins the Coastal Highway NH 66. A State Highway takes off from Moodbidri, which after 2 kms, forks into 2 roads – one leading to Belthangady and Shri Dharmasthala via Venoor and the other to Bantwal & BC Road via Siddakatte. 3 other smaller roads emanate from Moodbidri- one to Kodyadka (seat of the well-known Annapoorneshwari Devi Shrine), the other to Naravi and the third to Ponnechary and beyond.

2. **My childhood days:** A few anecdotes from my childhood 'memory book' to give a flavor of Moodbidri in the days of yore !! With hardly any traffic, Moodbidri roads were very safe during my childhood and school days. Almost every household in the neighborhood had their own milking cows. It was customary for these cows to be let out in the morning for grazing at the meadows and return home in the evening. I was told that as a 3-year old child, I used to go behind these cows, until my mother came running to pick me up or some good Samaritan from the neighborhood brought me home.

As a 5-6 years old, I was very fond of buses. I used to hold my younger sister's hand and would go up to the village bus stand. We would stand there for about 2 hours, watching the buses plying between various destinations and having a break at Moodbidri. Being children of the village school Head-Master, everyone in the village knew us and cared for us. This activity, however, came to an end, once I was admitted to the school.

Yet another unusual sight those days, I distinctly remember, was the 'Postal Runner'. To those villages

which were covered by bus routes, the mail was carried by buses. However, where there was no bus service, the 'Postal Runner' was the carrier! A commendable and well appreciated British legacy! The 'Runner' used to carry the mail twice a week to these villages, 10-12 kms. away. He used to leave Moodbidri around 8 AM with the mail and carry a metallic rod fixed with bells, which announced the village that the 'Runner' was on his way. As soon as we heard the sound of the bells from a distance, we kids used to run to the roadside and watch the 'Runner' with awe and admiration. The 'Runner' in postal uniform and a bag on his back, was indeed, running, after giving us a friendly and affectionate smile and waving his hand!!

3. **Historical Significance:** History unfolds that Moodbidri was ruled by the local Jain Chieftains, Wodeyars or Chowtas. The coastal region came under Tipu Sultan's regime in the latter half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. After Tipu's fall in 1799, the district administration was taken over by the British. The Chieftains, however, were granted limited powers under the British rule. The Chowter Palace (known as Aramane in Kannada) still exists, with a large ground in front and a huge 'Mahadwara' through which elephants used to pass through in the days gone by. Inside the Palace, there are 2 large wooden carvings which are manifestations of profound skill and artistry. These gorgeous and captivating gems of art are known as – Navanari Kunjara (formation of 9 ladies into an elephant) and Pancha Nari Turaga (formation of 5 ladies into a horse)!!

4. **Jain Pilgrimage Town :** Moodbidri is known as 'Jain Kashi' and a major Pilgrimage Center for Jains. It is a Jain Temple town with a rich cultural heritage. Jainism or Jain Dharma has 2 major sects -Digambar and Svetambar. Jains in Karnataka State generally belong to Digambar Sect. Jains worship 24 Thirthankars – Lord Rishabhadeva is the 1<sup>st</sup> and Lord Mahavira 24<sup>th</sup>. Jain Temples are known as Basadi-s and there are 18 of them in Moodbidri. Two of them are most prominent – Tribhuvana Tilaka Chudamani (meaning Crest Jewel of 3 Worlds) or popularly known as 'Thousand Pillared Basadi (Saavira Kambhada Basadi in Kannada) and the other 'Guru Basadi. Jains from all over, specially from Rajasthan and Gujarat, visit this 'Kshetra' to offer Prayers and worship the Lord and Holy Scriptures.

The Thousand Pillared Basadi was built during the rule of the local Chieftain Devaraya Wodeyar. The construction of the Holy Shrine started in 1430 and





was completed in 1461. The Temple is famous for its 1000 pillars. The presiding Deity of the Temple is Lord Chandranatha Swamy. The 2.5 meter bronze idol of the Lord is considered extremely sacred. The Temple is also well known for the open Pillared hall in front, consisting of large variety of ornate pillars decorated with exquisite carvings, typical of Vijayanagar style. A 15- meter tall, single stone pillar called 'Maanasthamba' is right in front of the Temple.

'Guru Basadi' is the oldest and the most revered Temple. The Shrine houses the sacred Palm leaf manuscripts known as 'Dhavala Texts' as well as 52 priceless idols. The Sanctum Sanctorum is the seat of 3.5 meters high idol of Lord Parshvanatha Swamy. During the raids of Mughals on Shravanabelagola, some ancient and sacred Jain literature was moved to Moodbidri for safe custody and is preserved in 'Guru Basadi'.

Among the other Basadi-s, Ammanavaru Basadi stands foremost. Located in Betkeri near Kotebagil, it enshrines a large idol of Goddess Devimata and smaller idols of 24 Thirthankars.

Moodbidri is the seat of 'Guru Peetha' and the Math manages all the 18 Temples. The 'Peetha' is adorned by Parama Poojya Charukeerthy Bhattaraka Swamiji.

**5. Cultural town :** Moodbidri is also a center for cultural activities such as- Tulu and Kannada dramas, traditional Yakshagana Bayalata ( dance drama) by different Mela-s and Yakshagana Talamaddale. Dasara Sahitya Utsava during Navaratri is a popular and much awaited event.

**6. Moodbidri today:** A lively and rapidly growing town, Moodbidri has become a cynosure of Education and a hub. The more than 100 years old Sri Digambar Jain Vidya Vardhak Sangha manages a number of Educational institutions including Jain PUCollege and full fledged Sri Dhavala College. The Academy of General Education, Manipal conducts Mahavira College.

However, it is the Alva's Educational Foundation which has transformed Moodbidri into an International Educational Township. Promoted by Dr. Mohan Alva in 1995, the Foundation offers all major and professional courses and up to Post-Graduation level in certain disciplines. Dr. Alva, a son-of-the-soil, is a great visionary, philanthropist and educationist par excellence. The sprawling Campus has more than 8500 students, of which more than 700 children with disabilities are getting scholarship and an equal number are pursuing studies under the 'Student Adoption Scheme' which provides free education, food and accommodation. The Foundation attracts students not only from Karnataka and neighboring States but also from the far-off North

Eastern States such as Manipur and Nagaland and overseas countries like Sri Lanka.

Under Dr. Alva's initiative, Moodbidri has received tremendous boost in terms of cultural activities with annual programs such as -Nudisiri, Virasat, dance recitals and Independence Day celebrations. Mention may be made of Alva's Pragati, a 2- day mega job fair for 'Campus Placement'. This annual event has proved to be a tremendous success.

Moodbidri is a Town Municipal Council now and recently, has been declared Taluka Headquarters.

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## The Diwali Morn



The darkness of morning just before dawn;  
With fragrance of ootna floating – on a Diwali morn.

Delighted little feet they spring - across the  
wooden threshold;  
With earthen lamps flickering- the lure they  
hold!

The bursting of crackers at the crack of dawn;  
With dazzling sparklers- rings of light they  
form!

But aromas crisp and sweet- whenthey come  
wafting;  
The tired little feet happily troop in!

**Veena Bantwal**

*From page 25*

5. Starting tummy time at 3 months creates a lag of at least 3 months for achievement of other milestones that follow. Babies cannot reach the next milestone without sufficient time in between to practice, gain strength and coordination required for the next movement. So there is no way a baby without head control at 3 months will roll by 6 months, crawl by 8 and walk by 12 months. Skipping milestones or moving in atypical patterns is not considered as catching up.





# Electricity Generation

## Science activity for Students (and others too!)

SANJAY GOKARN

Sanjay Gurunath Gokarn had his basic education in Dharwad (SSLC, 1967, Basel Mission High School and B.Sc, 1972 Karnatak College). Subsequently he got his M.Sc (Physics, 1974) and Ph.D (Solid state Chemistry, 1981) from IIT/Bombay. After a brief stint as a scientific Officer (1980-83) in TIFR, Mumbai, he continued his research in geophysics with the Indian Institute of Geomagnetism (IIG), Colaba (now shifted to New Panvel) from where he superannuated in Jan, 2013 as Professor.

Post retirement, he was the Chief mentor with the Innovation Hub of the Nehru Science Centre (NSC), E.Moses Road, Worli, where he was involved in training the Higher secondary school students inculcate innovative and creative thinking through hands on Science experiments. He still continues to be informally associated with the NSC at present.

During his association with Nehru Science Centre, he had an opportunity to closely interact with almost 300 students from different schools ranging from municipal to the international schools studying in std 5th to 10th. The students were encouraged to perform the experiments on their own and draw their own inferences. One set of such experiment is described here. Although there are several variations of such experiments on the internet, several people find it difficult to replicate them. In sharp contrast all the photographs shown here show the actual experimental set-up.

We will carry a series of these articles and hope this will enthuse our youngsters to experiment and enjoy!

The very word "electricity generation" invariably reminds us of those huge Hydrel dams far away from our cities albeit huge and picturesque (nearest Hydrel power station for Bombayites: Bhatsa dam on Mumbai Nasik road) or the smoky and smelly thermal power plants (nearest thermal power plant for Bombayites: Thermal Power station near Chembur refineries). However we are surrounded by electricity within as well as around us. It is just the simple question of separating the electrons from the neutral atoms to create ions. Looks very simple no? It is indeed that simple. Just rub your palms together or rub your palms on woolen sweaters or a polypropylene sheet in the months of Jan or Feb when the atmosphere is dry and you have the static electricity right on your palm.

If you want to get a scientist-like feeling, just take a copper wire and a zinc wire and poke them in a lemon; and the other ends of these wires are the source of electricity. A voltmeter (or a multimeter to measure

voltage) will show a voltage across them (the wires).

Gosh! Can't you find a better use for useful and expensive stuff like lemons and the potatoes? If that is your reaction, then go to Chowpatty or Juhu beach or any other sea front. You could also bring the sea water home in a bottle. Dip the copper and zinc wires in the sea water and you have your free electricity. It is a good idea to clean the surfaces of the wires with steel wool, emery paper or a pen knife to remove any dust/rust/enamel etc and also to wash them with a soap water to remove any oil or grease.

Copper wires are OK but where will I get the zinc wire from? Never ever heard of? Never mind there should be sufficient zinc at home in the form of those nails, screws or iron bolts which do not rust so easily. They are known as the Galvanised iron nails ("GI nails" is the word used in hardware shops). Perhaps a friendly carpenter may give you a couple of them free of cost). Galvanised iron is iron article coated with a layer of zinc to protect it from rusting. For the purpose at hand, these objects are as good as zinc surfaces.

But that electricity is barely sufficient to show on a meter, because it is of the order of 0.7 Volt (V) and current of about 0.5 milli Amperes (mA). It cannot even light a small (5 mm) light emitting diode (LED), which requires about 2.5 V at about 4 mA.

For a small LED to glow, we need at least 3 volts and about 5 mA current. Easiest way to do this is to use at least 7-8 lemons. More the lemons, brighter will be the LED. If you wish to be thrifty, use half or even quarter lemons so that you can manage with lesser number of lemons) each with a copper and a zinc wires poked in to them. Take care to see that (1) maximum length of the wires is inside the lemon even zig zag wires will also do and (2) the copper and zinc wires do not touch each other. Now arrange all lemons in a line and connect the copper of one lemon to the zinc of the next with an electric wire such that they are in good electrical contact, (as shown in Photograph 1) known as the series connection in electrical parlance. In such a scheme of connections, the individual voltages add up. Now measure the voltage between the copper wire in the first lemon and the zinc wire in the last lemon with a multi-meter. You will measure a voltage which is approximately 0.7 X number of the lemons. Every additional lemon will add 0.7 V. (With 32 lemons we could measure voltage in the range of 20-25 V). The current is still 0.5 mA. Never mind, the LED will glow. (Best to use red coloured LEDs because they need lower





voltage to glow than the green, blue or yellow LEDs.

How to increase the current? The electric current is proportional to the area of the wires in contact with the juice inside the lemon. Hence increase the area. Replace the nails with copper and GI plates which have larger surface area.

One boy, an eighth standard student working with me wished to scale up the current and also standardize the parameters such as the contact area of the wires, etc. In order to cut the cost we performed the experiment with sea water. The procedure is similar to the one described for wires and lemon and hence I will not repeat. The photograph no 2 shows the arrangement. Here four sets of copper-Zinc electrodes with a total surface area of 144 square inches are used). The voltage and currents as well as the LED lit by this system are shown in the inset. Should you need details or any other help, please contact me on the email sanjaygokarn@gmail.com.

A word of caution here for those who try this experiment: The lemons used for such experiments MAY BE POISONOUS AND ARE UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION. Just throw them in the trash bins after the experiments.

(Pictures on page 32)

## Army Life - Accidental Neighbour

WG CDR VS HATTANGADY, VETERAN

Life in the Armed Forces can be most colourful. The Army teaches you a "Never say die attitude". One of the early lessons you learn is - when inevitable, lie back and enjoy the situation. There is a solution to every problem. At times "There is no solution" is itself the solution! Some may get 3 transfers in one particular year and some may stay for 8 years in the same camp. On the other hand many may die young, many may get disabled. Each soldier has a unique experience. The tale that follows is that of a neighbour who was prone to minor accidents.

Bhallas, our new neighbours, appeared accident prone. Either he got a 'Zatka' in a minor accident or others got it in some incident involving him as you will see. Right on arrival Bhallaji tumbled back in his garden and sat heavily on a Garden Pot. He needed a soft inflated scooty tube with a big round hole in the centre to sit for the next 5 days. The Pot contained some cactus plants you see!

Bhallaji took his kids to the swimming pool on a Sunday. His kids were scared to jump from a height. To impress them Bhallaji climbed up the ladder to the highest diving platform. But when he stood there he felt jittery and froze. The life guard realized it and came up, coaxing him to come down, holding firmly on to his swimming trunk. Poor Bhallaji just tumbled in the water leaving his swimming trunks in the hands of the life guard! The onlookers got a zatka when a little stunned Bhallaji got out of the pool wearing nothing but a broad sheepish grin on his face!!

One day Bhallaji took his wife for shopping to the city. On his return he found that his wife was missing from the pillion seat. It took us 4 hours to locate her. She was found stranded at a busy traffic junction in the city. While waiting for a long time at a red signal she had got down from the scooter, suddenly the traffic moved and so did Bhallaji, leaving his wife behind.

Next day my son said - "I hope Bhallas do not have a hammer."

Why, I asked.

His reply was-" Bhalla Aunty was telling her husband that he needs some sense hammered into his head"..... 😊



**Kanara Saraswat Association**  
*Presents*



**ANNUAL DIWALI PROGRAMMES  
NAKSHATRA -2017**

**Venue: Shrimat Anandashram Hall,  
Talmakiwadi**

**Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017**  
8.30 p.m. onwards : **Story Telling Competition**  
(children below 8 yrs, between 8-12 yrs and 12-16 yrs); **Music competition** (below 16 year and above 16 years)

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017**  
8.30 p.m. onwards : **Variety Entertainment programme**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017**  
10.30 a.m. onwards: **Sports for Children**  
8.00 p.m. onwards : **Fancy Dress Competition**

**Sunil G Ullal**  
Hon. Secretary, Socials





# Examination Results 2017

**We congratulate the following students for their success in various board examinations!**

## 10th Standard

**Advait Hemant Kaikini**, Ahmedabad: CBSE stream, CGPA score of 9.2 out of 10

**Anagha Jayadev Shukla**, Hubballi: CBSE-10CGPA grade. Got District 2nd rank and silver medal in Ramayana exam conducted by Bharath Samskriti Prathishthana, Karnataka 2016 and various prizes in Bharatnatyam and drawing competitions.

**Ankita Anil Nadkarni**, Gokarn, Karnataka,. SSLCE 96.8%. CGA - A+

**Anusha Niraj Rao**, CBSE board, Delhi. from Muscat, Oman. CGPA score of 10 out of 10. She has now received a letter from the school enclosed for merit award. This will comprise of a Trophy with a certificate.

**Arya Anand Dhareshwar**, SSCE, 90.80%

**Arya Abhijeet Naik**, Dombivili West: SSCE 96.60%

**Disha Kiran Manjeshwar**, SSCE- 87.40%.

**Dnyanavi Hemant Karopady**, 90% marks in SSCE.

She also secured 97/100 marks in Social Sciences.

She also stood 1st in her School -Bal Mohan Vidya Mandir, Dadar in the International French Language Olympiad 2017 in the 10th std. & secured a Gold Medal from the French institution.

**Ketki Dattatreya Muzumdar**, Bandra (E), Mumbai. ICSE 557/600 (92.83%)

**Mitali Shantanu Mankikar**, Kumta, 621 out of 625, 99.36%. Won various prizes from Local Lions group and other educational bodies

**Nishadh Mavinkurve**, Bangalore scoring overall 92.17% , Mathematics – 98/100; Computer Application – 96/100; Science – 90/100

He was the Captain of the School Cricket Team.

\*In athletics, he won Gold Medal in all three Categories & was the Commanding Leader who took the Oath for Opening Ceremony for the Annual Sports meet. Has taken active part in School Curricular Activities.

**Prithvika Vikram Honavar** (Khar, Mumbai) ICSC 94%

**Nidhi Niaranjan Ullal**, Bangalore, CBSE 9.6 CGPA, 96 %

**Rashi Gowrang Chandavarkar**, ICSE Board securing 561 / 600 marks i.e. 93.5% from Gundecha Education Academy , Thakur Village Kandivili (East), Mumbai.

She has also topped in her school in Marathi subject with highest score of 99 marks out of 100.

**Shreshtha Shantaprasad Herenjal**, CBSE. CGPA 10, Grade 10 in all subjects. School: KendriyaVidyalaya, IISc, Bangalore.

**Shubhra Seth**, daughter of Dr.Shobhit Seth and Dr.Archana Seth nee Nadkarni, secured 95.8% in the best of five subjects and 94.67% overall in the ICSE Board Exams

**Tanya Chaitanya Byndoor**, Dahisar, Mumbai. SSCE 456/500 (91.2%)

## 12th Standard

**Mayur Kishore Karnad**, Santacruz (East), Mumbai HSC Maharashtra State Board, with 533/650 (82%) Examination passed: Common Proficiency Test (CPT) (C.A.) Institute: The Institute of Chartered Accountants Of India with 123/200 marks (above 100 passed)

**Keerthi Prashant Gulvadi**, Pune HSC (Commerce) 88.46%, Highest score in Maths 99/100

**Tanvi Gurudutt Bijur**, Santacruz (west), Mumbai ISC Board, Distinction ; School Topper in Commerce Stream with 97.75 % , Highest in Commerce - 100/100 and Highest in Accounts 100/100

## Graduates:

**Abhinav Gurucharan Hoskote** (Andheri West, Mumbai) a student of Seth Gordhandas Sunderdas Medical College (GSMC, Mumbai) affiliated to King Edward Memorial (KEM) Hospital, Mumbai has passed the Final MBBS winter examination held during December 2016/January 2017 with 67%.

**Anushree Pramod Amladi**, Talmakiwadi, Mumbai. BMS (SNDTWomen's Univ), 71% Grade A+

**Swati Satish Karnad**, B.Com: Agregated marks, 85.84% Programme Alpha sign grade A++.





# Examination Results 2017

## 10<sup>th</sup> Standard



Advait Kaikini



Anagha Shukla



Ankita Nadkarni



Anusha Rao



Arya Naik



Disha Manjeshwar



Dyanavi Karopady



Ketki Muzumdar



Mitali Mankikar



Nidhi Ullal



Nishadh Mavinkurve



Prithvik Honavar



Rashi Chandavarkar



Shreshtha Heranjal

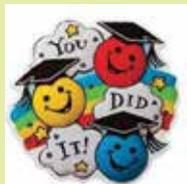


Shubhra Seth

## 12<sup>th</sup> Standard



Tanya Byndoor



Keerthi Gulwadi



Mayur Karnad



Tanvi Bijur

## Graduates



Abhinav Hoskote-MBBS



Anushree Amladi B.M.S



Swati Karnad B.Com





## Electricity Generation (Article on page 28)



Arrangement of lemons with copper and zinc wires, electrically connected (vide text)



Working experimental set-up to generate electricity from sea water, using copper and zinc plates. Four sets of copper-zinc plates (immersed in different jugs) were connected in series. The left inset shows the Red LED (10 mm diameter glowing) and the right inset shows the current (1.4 mA) voltage (2.29V) generated. The values are lower than those quoted in the text because this was recorded after continuous operation of the system for 8 hours. This project was done by a student of standard 8.



### In fond and loving memory of **Kombrabail Sadananda Rao**

who left for heavenly abode on  
Tuesday 29/08/2017 at 08:10PM  
in his residence, Kolathur.

We hold this picture tenderly.  
Deep in our heart the memories are kept  
to love, cherish and never forget.

#### **Deeply missed by:**

Rukmini (Wife)  
Sudhir (Son) & family  
Sadhana (Daughter) and family  
Sumana (Daughter) and family  
Sunitha (Daughter) and family

### **Mangesh Dattatrey Mugwe**

DOB: 01-Aug-1937 Demise: 10-Sep-2017



Attained Sadgati on  
10th September 2017  
at Mysuru

#### **Always remembered by**

Wife Uma,  
Daughter & family : Smita, Nandakishore,  
Kunal, Akhil  
Son & family: Girish, Mallika, Vibha  
Son & family: Sanjay, Swati, Chirag, Poorab  
Relatives: Nadkarnis, Shettys, Nayaks,  
Bantwals, Byndoors, Ubhaykars, Ulpes,  
Manjeshwars, Hattangadis, Mallebennurs,  
Tallurs, Relatives & Friends.





# Chitrapur Heritage Foundation

711 Daylily Court, Langhorne, Pennsylvania, USA

## Connecting US Amchis to Chitrapur Math

Founded in 2005, Chitrapur Heritage Foundation (CHF) is a Section 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization. The mission of CHF is to provide a vital link for Amchis in the US to stay actively connected with our Chitrapur Math and our Guruparampara. Currently, CHF Chapters are located in four main regions across the US. Over the past decade, Amchis in the US have supported students' education, temple restoration & cladding, and promoted women's empowerment in the villages of Chitrapur and Shirali.

The activities of CHF include:

- Facilitate the collection of annual "Vantiga" payment from every earning Saraswat in the US - "Vantiga" supports and maintains the upkeep of our spiritual centers in Bengaluru, Gokarn, Mallapur, Mangaluru, and Shirali;
- Promote cultural heritage by supporting temple restoration projects and maintenance of Chitrapur Museum archives;
- Support education of 100 students at the Srivali High School through the "Sponsor-A-Student" Scheme; and
- Preserve the rich cultural heritage of the Chitrapur Saraswat community in the US through Monthly Satsang and Prarthana Varga for children, and by celebrating festivals like Yugadi, Ram Navami, Gokulashtami, Ganesh Chaturthi, Navratri, Diwali.

### August 2017 Sanskriti Prachaar Shibir for NRIs in Karla



### Shibirathis' experiences:

- ❖ The Shibir was certainly a great experience. We learnt a lot about our Math, our Guruparampara and traditions. Very nice introduction to learning Samskrit. Great introduction to body fitness techniques like Rebounder and Ninaad. We all made new friends from across the globe.
- ❖ This Shibir was very special - Gia and I were overjoyed. Looking forward to the next shibir!
- ❖ All the Shibir sessions were well conducted by the Sanchalaks. No words to express my gratitude to our PP Swamiji for giving us so much of His time during Chaturmas and making each one of us special.
- ❖ Shibir was well organized - programs, content, accommodations, etc. Sanchalaks were superb. Of course, the highlights were the two interactions with our PP Swamiji - we all felt a deep sense of peace and bless when He spoke to us.

For more information, please contact **Arun Heble** (arheble@yahoo.com) Tel: +1-215-666-3200  
or **Pramod Mavinkurve** (pmkurve@gmail.com). Tel: 908-616-1497.



# My Scandinavian Sojourn

SUSHMA KOPPIKAR

"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I — I took the one less travelled by, and that has made all the difference." – Robert Frost

Inspired by this quote, I decided to take the path less travelled and headed with my family to the northernmost parts of the globe during Christmas time in 2016, for a truly magical experience.

Northern Lights - are one of nature's most marvelous sights and had been on my bucket list for quite sometime. Northern Lights or "Aurora Borealis" is a natural phenomenon attracting numerous tourists to Scandinavia during winter. Galileo Galilei, the seventeenth century astronomer, gave the northern lights their Latin name Aurora Borealis. The iconic swirls and bands of light - flickering greens and reds, often seen in the cold, dark Arctic skies, have inspired many a legend, poetry and art.

Many thought that it was quite crazy to visit Scandinavia during winter - when it's very cold and very dark - with sunlight only for 2 hours. The very thought of living in 22 hours of darkness seemed quite depressing.

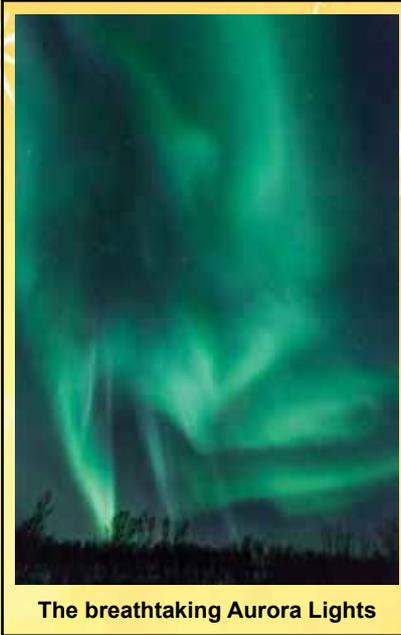
Having to wear 5 layers of clothing to beat the cold, was really daunting. But our sojourn to Scandinavia panned

out quite differently. It was a ten-day power-packed, fun-filled holiday, where we did a string of activities and enjoyed ourselves thoroughly – cold and darkness notwithstanding. And the icing on the cake

was sighting of the mesmerizing Northern Lights !

**Scandinavia** is a group of countries in northern Europe, that includes, Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

Sometimes Iceland and Finland are also included. The Scandinavian Peninsula is a large peninsula reaching west from northern Europe over the north side of the Baltic Sea. Norway, Sweden and some of Finland are on this peninsula, all highly developed economies. The **Scandinavian languages**, also called the North Germanic languages (Swedish, Norwegian, Danish) are closely related. Scandinavians are very disciplined, hard working and attach a lot of importance to their values. Norway was recently declared as the Happiest country in the world by the UN. The arrow on the picture of the globe shows the location of Scandinavia which is very close to the North Pole.



The breathtaking Aurora Lights



A reindeer ride



Santa's post office

Our journey began with an eight-hour flight from Mumbai via Istanbul, Turkey and we landed at the Finnish capital Helsinki, where it started snowing the moment we set foot in it. It was exciting to catch the snowflakes on your eyelashes and palm! The sonorous voice of Jim Reeves singing "Snowflakes, my pretty little snowflakes,...." played at the back of my head. Outside,

there were neon-lit reindeers statues - we were in reindeer-land now! Quick selfies/photos were clicked and then we were whisked off to the Sokos Hotel Presidentti on a luxury coach. It's also the land of Nokia and my daughter was delighted because internet was free and WLAN did not require any signing in. We had a sumptuous dinner at an Indian restaurant called India House.

Helsinki, a city on the Baltic Sea, is famous for good food, art, architecture, design and most importantly for





its sauna culture – a Finnish tradition that has spread all over the world. Finland is known as the Land of one million saunas because there are 5 million inhabitants and more than 3 million saunas! In fact, there are public saunas as well as private ones and more saunas here than cars! Finland gave the world vocabulary two beautiful words – ‘sauna’ and ‘Santa Claus’.

While catching a morning flight to Rovaniemi, the capital of Finnish Lapland, we saw the sun rising in Helsinki at 10.15 a.m.! Though we could see sunlight, the sun remained a few degrees below the horizon. A short one-and-a-half hour flight brought us to Rovaniemi, situated at 65 degree latitude, about 10 kilometers south of the **Arctic Circle**, at the confluence of the river Kemijoki and its tributary, the Ounasjoki. We checked in at Hotel Pohjanhovi. By 2.30 p.m. the sun had already set and the temperature was -2°C. The local guides fitted us with appropriate winter gear and we were all set for the husky dog ride. Three pairs of husky dogs are tied to a wooden sledge on which one person (my husband) has to stand to control the movements of the dogs and the other (me) sits on the flat surface of the sledge. The whole pack pulls the sledge and runs at full speed, with young, frisky little puppies in the lead. It was a thrilling ride, the dogs follow a dedicated path which is usually along a frozen lake or river, through the woods and into the wilderness, where everything is snow clad. This must be the “White Christmas” people talk about. The whole landscape is white - a stark contrast to the pitch dark sky.

Here in Rovaniemi, we had the snowmobile activity - the gear consisted of a helmet with visor, a thick jumpsuit and extra pair of gloves and snow shoes. All this was over the three-layers of clothing we already had on and gotten used to ever since we reached Helsinki. We saw daybreak at 11.00 a.m. with the sun barely trying to peep over the horizon. In summer, the converse happens – it never sets!. A snowmobile is like an automated skiing machine. It has a ski-like bottom and handle bars to navigate, an accelerator on the right of the handlebar and brake on the left. To turn left or right, you have to turn your body slightly to the left or right, as the case may be. A valid driving license is required for this activity. This activity was also on a frozen river. At half way point on the snowmobile track, our local guide taught us to drill holes in the ice and put in a fishing rod to catch fish. He made us some hot tea and sandwiches made of rye bread (staple of Finland) went round, which was more than welcome after the chilling ride. The ride back at 80 km/hour, through barely visible tracks was nonetheless exhilarating.

The evening was very exciting for my daughter,

for she would be meeting the “Real Santa Claus” at Santa Village. A month before Christmas, the eyes of the whole world turn to Rovaniemi as Santa Claus declares the Christmas season open in Santa Claus Village. Visitors flock to Rovaniemi, to experience the true magic of Christmas. It’s also home to Arktikum, a museum and science centre exploring the Arctic region and the history of Finnish Lapland. While posing next to a giant snow man at Santa Village, we realised we had crossed the Arctic Circle and were standing to the north of it, when we saw a row of tiny lighted blue bulbs to indicate the exact position of the Arctic Circle. It is believed that Santa lives at the Arctic Circle and is aided by his merry Elves who help him with toy making, baking gingerbread cookies, and of course, distributing gifts to all the kids across the globe. We clicked pictures with Santa with his flowing white beard and blue eyes, and went further to the famous Orange Santa Post Box. The Santa Post Office here receives millions of letters and postcards from all over the world. We posted a Santa postcard with a Santa stamp on it, to ourselves, just to test whether they really deliver and surprisingly, we did receive the postcard at our Mumbai home address!

The roads are excellent in Scandinavia, as is the case with the rest of Europe. A five-hour road trip from Rovaniemi to Kiruna in Sweden through breathtaking winter landscapes, was a very smooth one. The vehicles have to be fitted with winter tyres well before winter sets in, or their insurance is not paid if an accident occurs. On the way, we stopped at yet another frozen lake to enjoy walking in the deep snow, throwing snow balls at one another and admire the amazing snowscape. The skies were very clear in Kiruna, a coal and iron ore mining town. So clear that we could see a thousand million stars. We got our hopes up for a sighting of the elusive Northern Lights. Tripods and cameras were set up looking skyward ..... but no luck, no show.

The Ice Hotel built on frozen Torne river in Kiruna is one of the first ones in the world. Every year the hotel is built afresh. The ice blocks are specially cultivated and then used for building the Ice Hotel. Our tour guide Anton informed us that this was the 27<sup>th</sup> year of the Ice Hotel to be built. Work started in October with 200 workers and took 6 to 8 weeks to build it. Everything in the Ice Hotel is made of ice – the beds, chairs, sofa, chandeliers, windows, doors, wine glass, etc. Beds are covered with reindeer skin for warmth and sleeping bags are given to sleep on the ice beds. Room tariffs are steep. Ice blocks are glued together with ‘snice’ which is snow mixed with ice by a special process. Each room has a different theme like ‘House of Cards’, India Room, Marine world, etc. The temperature of the





hotel is maintained at a steady - 5° C and LED lights are used so that the ice does not melt. Next day was Hurtigruten coastal voyage to the northern most town in Norway called Tromso.

In the morning, we visited Camp Tamok the Reindeer Centre for reindeer sledding. The Samis are indigenous people inhabiting the Arctic area. Reindeer Sledding was followed by a hot Sami meal served by the charming, hospitable Sami people. The temperature was a freezing - 16° C.

The best time to see the Northern lights, our Northern Lights Guide informed us, is between 9 pm to 2 am. For maximizing your chances, you should find a hill, wide open field, beach etc so you can see the northern horizon, find a place with un-obscured view and away from light pollution. Try to adapt your eyes to the dark, this will help you see it better. Don't look at bright things or light from any electronic device. We followed all these instructions and waited with bated breath, cameras mounted, braving the pins and needles caused by icy winds and sub-zero temperature! Initially, traces of green light appeared in the sky. Gradually, the green band grew in size and my daughter started jumping in the knee-deep snow! We set up our tripods and clicked away like people possessed. We peeled off our gloves and caps to see better and operate our cameras.

We **had to** capture the Aurora on camera before the ethereal show ended ! Though it was freezing, none of us seemed to mind it. There was euphoria & rejoicing in the air and some even started clapping and blowing out kisses to the Lights.

These ethereal lights are formed by fast-moving, electrically charged particles that emanate from the sun. When they are driven towards the Poles by the Earth's magnetic field, they form bands and swirls of varying colours. Different gases in the upper atmosphere are responsible for the different colours seen. For e.g. green is oxygen, blue is nitrogen, etc. Within another 15 minutes, the movement from left to right gathered speed and we moved further up North near the river. Then we saw the dancing lights – beautiful green swirls of light with tinges of pink – the mesmeric Aurora in its full glory! All my efforts were worth it and I was grateful my wish was granted. It was a humbling and spiritually uplifting experience!

The Northern lights also have their southern counterpart above Antarctica, called the Aurora Australis. Who knows, our next trip may be down-under to catch those!

<<<>>>



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## सारस्वत महिला समाजाचा शतपूर्ती महोत्सव “कला-पुष्पांजली”

विजयालक्ष्मी सुरेश कापनाडक

“सेवा-विद्या-कला” हे ध्येय घेऊन, समाज सेवेत शंभर वर्षे पूर्ण करणाऱ्या, मुंबापुरीच्या गांवदेवी भागातील “सारस्वत महिला समाज” या संस्थेच्या शतपूर्ती महोत्सवाची यशस्वीरितीने सांगता झाली.

दिनांक १० सप्टेंबर २०१७ ह्या वर्धापनदिनी, गिरगाव चौपाटी जवळील भारतीय विद्या भवनाच्या सभागृहात “कला-पुष्पांजली” हा कार्यक्रम अत्यंत शानदार पद्धतीने संपन्न झाला.

कार्यक्रमाची सुरुवात सकाळी ठीक दहा वाजता संस्थेच्या कार्याध्यक्षा विद्यालक्ष्मी कुलकर्णी यांच्या स्वागतपर भाषणाने झाली. उपाध्यक्षा शरयू कौशिक यांनी महिला समाजाची उद्दिष्टे सांगितली, अध्यक्षा गीता बिजूर यांनी महिला समाजाने शतकम होत्सवी वर्षात सादर केलेल्या कार्यक्रमांचा आढावा घेतला, तर संस्थेच्या खजिनदार श्रीकला विणेकर यांनी ह्या वर्षी, संस्थेला विविध संस्था आणि व्यक्तींकडून मिळालेल्या देणग्यांविषयी माहिती सांगितली.

संस्थेच्या शतकमहोत्सवी वर्षाच्या अध्यक्षा गीता बलसे यांनी सन्माननीय पाहुण्या प्राध्यापिका श्रीमती कालिंदीताई मुझुमदार यांचा परिचय करून दिला. चित्रापुर सारस्वत समाजातील सन्माननीय कालिंदीताई, मुंबईच्या निर्मला निकेतनमध्ये समाजशास्त्राच्या प्राध्यापिका होत्या. त्या, समाजाकडून दुर्लक्षित व पीडित स्त्रियांच्या प्रगतिसाठी अथक प्रयत्न करणाऱ्या समाजसेविका आहेत. न्यायालयीन क्षेत्रातही त्यांनी सन्माननीय पदांवर कार्य केले आहे. अनेक समाजसेवी संस्थांचे अध्यक्षपद त्यांनी भूषविले आहे. गीता बिजूर आणि गीता बलसे यांनी त्यांनंतर, पुष्पगुच्छ आणि स्मृतीचिन्ह देऊन कालिंदीताईंचा सत्कार केला. कोमलहृदयी कालिंदीताईंनी आपल्या छोट्या भाषणातून समाज सेवेचा सोपा अर्थ सांगून उपस्थितांना मार्गदर्शन केले. त्या म्हणाल्या, “सण साजरे करताना, अफाट पैसा खर्च न करता, तो वाचवून पीडितांच्या गरजांसाठी खर्च करणे आणि ज्या लोकांची वेदना ऐकणारा कुणीही नाही, अशा लोकांशी प्रत्यक्ष बोलून, त्यांना विविध सरकारी योजना समजावून सांगून, त्यांचा लाभ त्यांना करून देणे ही समाजसेवा होय. त्यासाठी प्रत्येकाने स्वतःच्या शारीरिक तसेच मानसिक स्वास्थ्याची काळजी घेणे आवश्यक आहे.” नियमित व्यायाम आणि वाचन याचे महत्त्वही त्यांनी या प्रसंगी विशद केले.

मानद सचिव पद्मीनी भटकळ यांच्या आभार प्रदर्शनाने कार्यक्रमाचा पहिला भाग संपला.

**पहिले पुष्प :** कला-पुष्पांजली या कार्यक्रमाच्या दुसऱ्या भागाची सुरुवात साधना कामत यांनी रचना केलेल्या व गीता येन्नेमडी यांनी स्वरसाज चढविलेल्या स्वागत गीताने झाली. गीताताई व सरस्वती वृंदगानच्या कलाकारांनी शतपूर्ती-वरदान गीत सादर केले. ह्या गीतात, महिला समाजाची स्थापना, उद्दिष्टे आणि कार्ये यांचे सुंदर, समर्पक वर्णन केले आहे. त्यांनंतर, शोभा मरबळ्ळी यांच्या भावनृत्याने रंगदेवतेची प्रार्थना साकार झाली.

**दुसरे पुष्प :** लोकप्रिय कथक नृत्यांगना शोमा कायकिणी आणि त्यांच्या शिष्यवृंदाने, पंडित भीमसेन जोशी आणि लतादीदींच्या गीतावर समूह-नृत्य सादर केले. मुरलीच्या सौभाग्यावर रुसलेल्या राधेचे आणि कृष्णाचे दिव्य नाते, त्यांनी आपल्या नृत्यातून अत्यंत प्रभावीरित्या सादर केले.

**तिसरे पुष्प :** ज्येष्ठ कोंकणी कवयित्री अरुणा कुंडाजे, यांच्या “मॉंगाचो पुतू”, “घड्याळ” आणि “दैवाने केलेली प्रार्थना” ह्या कविता कांचन होनावर यांनी सादर केल्या. एका कवितेने देवळात जाताना स्वच्छ मनाने जावे ही शिकवण निली. दुसरी वेळेचे महत्त्व सांगणारी कविता तर तिसरे, पशुपक्ष्यांच्या माध्यमातून मुलांना नात्यांची ओळख करून देणारे बालगीत. ह्या कविता लोकांना आवडल्या.

गीता येन्नेमडी यांनी मुरलीधर बेट्राबेट यांच्या गोड पदार्थांची हाव असलेले “भटजी”, काळे माज्जर” आणि “दूरदृष्टि” या हास्य कविता सादर केल्या. “दूरदृष्टि” या कवितेत, उनाड आणि चोरट्या मुलापासून मातापित्यांना त्यांचे पैसे लपविण्यासाठी, त्यांच्या पुस्तकांपेक्षा सुरक्षित जागा इतर कुठेही नाही, हे सत्य मनाला चटका लावून गेले.

**चौथे पुष्प :** वसंत कानेटकर यांच्या “लेकुरे उदंड जाहली” या रसिकप्रिय नाटकाचे, “काव काव येथे येथे बैस रे मोरा...” या नावाने वसंत नाडकर्णी यांनी कोंकणीत रुपांतर केले होते. या “काव काव...” मधील एक प्रवेश डॉ. उदय अंडार आणि दीपा सवकूर यांनी उत्तम रितीने सादर करून धमाल उडविली अन् वातावरण प्रसन्न झाले.

**पाचवे पुष्प :** शोभना बिजूर यांनी आपल्या “शब्दभ्रम” या कार्यक्रमातून फंटूश या बोलक्या बाहुल्याबरोबर केलेला वार्तालाप वाखाणण्याजोगा होता. एक, दो, तीन... हे गाणं फंटूशकडून सुरेल पद्धतीने म्हणवून घेणे (म्हणजेच तोंड न उघडता म्हणणे) अत्यंत कौतुकास्पद होते.



**सहावे पुष्प :** मध्यान्तरानंतर, “संगीत सरिता”मध्ये हंसध्वनी या एकाच रागावर आधारित शास्त्रीय बंदिश, नाट्य संगीत, भावगीत आणि सिनेसंगीत यांच्या प्रवाहाचा रसास्वाद सर्व रसिक प्रेक्षकांनी मनमुराद लुटला. हे सुंदर गायन निवेदिता हट्टंगडी, सुवर्णा (कागल) घैसास आणि डॉ. दिव्या बिजूर यांनी अत्यंत प्रभावीरित्या सादर करून श्रोत्यांचे कान तृप्त केले. “युवती मना” आणि “ओ चाँद जहाँ वो जाये” या गीतांना भरपूर दाद मिळाली.

**सातवे पुष्प :** चंद्रमा बिजूर यांनी कन्नड कवयित्री वैदेही यांच्या कवितेचे कोंकणी रूपांतर प्रस्तुत केले. “मगेल्या आम्मागेलें काण्ड” या कवितेने श्रोत्यांना आईच्या जीवनातील विविध टप्प्यांची आठवण करून दिली. कविवर्य कुसुमाग्रजांची “कणा” ही मराठी कविता ऐकताना, पूरग्रस्तांची व्यथा हृदयाला भिडून गेली.

डॉक्टर रोग्याला तन आणि मनाने वाचविण्याचा प्रयत्न करतो, पण शेवटी यश-अपयश सर्वस्वी देवावर अवलंबून असते, ही भावना डॉ. प्रणव कोडियाळ यांनी आपल्या “हांव देवु न्हंयि आनि सैतानुयि न्हंयि” या कवितेतून व्यक्त केली. डॉ. प्रणव यांनी दुसरी इंग्रजी कविता (कोंकणीत अनुवाद केलेली) प्रस्तुत केली. या कवितेत, रणांगणावर मृत्युशय्येवर असलेल्या सैनिकाच्या अवस्थेचे मार्मिक वर्णन होते, ते मनाला चटका लावून गेले.

**आठवे पुष्प :** “ध चा मा” करून नारायणरावांचा वध घडवून आणणाऱ्या आनंदीबाई आणि राघोबादादा यांना निर्भिडपणे शिक्षा सांगणारे न्यायाधीश रामशास्त्री प्रभुणे यांचा न्यायनिवाडा दाखविणारे “भाऊबंदकी” हे कृष्णाजी प्रभाकर खाडिलकर लिखित रसिक मान्य नाटक. या नाटकातील एक जबरदस्त प्रवेश, उदय मंकिकर, आनंद नाडकर्णी आणि स्मिता माविनकुर्वे यांनी सादर केला.

**नववे पुष्प :** इंग्रजी लेखक रोलड डाल लिखित, कोंकणी भाषेत रूपांतरीत केलेली “खिसेकापूची गोष्ट” उदय मंकिकर यांनी सादर केली. उत्कृष्टरित्या सादर केलेल्या ह्या हास्यकथेमुळे सभागृहातील वातावरण प्रफुल्लित झाले.

**दहावे पुष्प :** सारस्वत महिला समाजाच्या युवती विभागातील कलाकारांनी सादर केलेल्या “घूमर” नृत्याने रंग व तालाची बहार उडवली.

कार्यक्रमाच्या शेवटी, प्रेक्षकांचा निरोप घेताना साधनाताई कामत यांनी गमतीचा एक नाविन्यपूर्ण प्रयोग केला. या अभिनव प्रयोगामुळे सर्व प्रेक्षक चकित झाले आणि त्यांनी टाळ्यांच्या कडकडाटात या प्रयोगाचे स्वागत केले. जन गण मन या राष्ट्रगीताने कार्यक्रमाची यशस्वी सांगता झाली. घरी जाताना

सारस्वत महिला समाजाने भेट म्हणून दिलेला खाऊचा डबा पाहून प्रेक्षक मंडळी संतुष्ट झाली.

संगीत, नृत्य, नाट्य आणि साहित्य, शब्दभ्रम यांसारख्या विविध ललितकलांचे पदर एकत्र गुंफून ते चोखंदळ प्रेक्षकांसमोर उलगडत जाणे हे एक जिकीरीचे काम एक आव्हानच म्हणाना!

साधना कामत यांच्या मार्गदर्शनाने उषा सुरकुंद, कालिंदी कोडियाळ, गीता येन्नेमडी, स्मिता माविनकुर्वे आणि दीपा सवकूर यांनी आपल्या समर्थ सूत्रसंचालनाने हे आव्हान लिलया पेलले.

अशारितीने, सारस्वत महिला समाजाने, विविध भाषांमधून कला आणि साहित्याची दहा पुष्पे सादर करून प्रेक्षकांना अर्पण केली.

धन्यवाद!

## “उदो उदो त्या दश स्त्रिशक्तिंचा”

(Dedicated to 10 Founders of Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi)

बुजुर्ग आपल्या समाजाचे,  
अन्नपूर्णेच्या स्वरूपातले।  
दूरदर्शी विचारधारांचे,  
मानवजातीच्या कल्याणाचे॥

बुजुर्ग आपल्या समाजाचे,  
स्वातंत्र्याच्या चळवळीचे।  
देशप्रेमाच्या कळकळीचे,  
स्वदेशीच्या धडपडीचे॥

बुजुर्ग आपल्या समाजाचे,  
पालक होती कुटुंबाचे।  
पर्याय शोधिती समस्यांचे  
शैक्षणिक अन् समाजाचे।

बुजुर्ग आपल्या समाजाचे,  
भगिनी बनती गरजुंचे।  
मार्गदर्शक बनती असहायांचे,  
सोडवीती प्रश्न गहनतेचे॥

बुजुर्ग आपल्या समाजाचे,  
सामाजिक बांधिलकीचे।  
मानवतेच्या प्रेमाचे,  
प्रेरक बनले परंपरेचे॥

बुजुर्ग आपल्या समाजाचे,  
स्त्रिशक्तिच्या रूपातले।  
सारस्वतांच्या अभिमानातले,  
भाग्यवंतांच्या काळातले॥

– सौ. प्रिया बडुकुळी





## सज्जनगडाचे समर्थ स्वामी रामदास

गुरूनाथ गोकर्ण

समर्थ रामदास स्वामी रामदासी संप्रदायाचे संस्थापक होते. रामदासांनी परमार्थ, स्वधर्मनिष्ठा, राष्ट्रप्रेम यांच्या प्रचारार्थ महाराष्ट्रातील प्रबोधन व संघटन केले. राजकारण धर्मकारणात जाणीवपूर्वक अंतर्भूत करणारे समर्थ रामदास हे एकमेव महाराष्ट्रीय संत होते.

समर्थांचे मूळ नाव नारायण सूर्याजी ठोसर. त्यांचा जन्म इ.स. १६०८ एप्रिल महिन्यात रामनवमी अर्थात चैत्र शुद्ध नवमीला सौ. राणूबाई व श्री. सूर्याजीपंत ठोसर यांच्या पोटी जांब गावी (जि. जालना) झाला. सूर्याजीपंत हे निःसीम सूर्योपासक होते.

नारायण लहानपणापासूनच विरक्त होता. तो इतरांहून वेगळा होता. अतिशय बुद्धीमान, निश्चयी तसाच कमालीचा खोडकर, तेवढाच साहसीही होता.

अशा या विलक्षण मुलाला संसारात अडकवले तरच तो ताळ्यावर येईल या कल्पनेने राणूबाईंनी त्याचे १२व्या वर्षी लग्न ठरवले. लग्न समारंभात पुरोहितांनी सावधान शब्द उच्चारताच ते ऐकून नेसत्या वस्त्रांनिशी लग्नमंडपातून नारायण पळाला. लोकांनी त्याचा पाठलाग केला. पण त्याने धावतच गावाबाहेरची नदी गाठली. पुढे चालत पंचवटीला येऊन श्रीरामाचे दर्शन घेतले आणि टाकळीस दीर्घकाळ म्हणजे १२ वर्षे तपश्चर्या केली. लग्नमंडपातून पळाल्यावर समर्थांनी टाकळी येथे मुक्काम केला. तेथे त्यांना प्रत्यक्ष रामरायाने दर्शन दिले. समर्थांची उपासना कडक होती. त्यांनी १२ वर्षे भारतभ्रमण केले. परिस्थितीचा अभ्यास केला.

आपल्याला कोणी ओळखू नये म्हणून त्यांनी रामदास हे नाव धारण केले. आपल्या साधनेसाठी टाकळीची निवड करण्याचे कारण नंदिनी नदीच्या काठावरील उंच टेकाडावरील घळ किंवा गुहेत असलेला एकांत हेच असावे. येथे त्यांनी गोमयाच्या मारूतीच्या मूर्तीची स्थापना केली.

ते रोज ब्राह्ममुहूर्तावर उठून १२०० सूर्यनमस्कार घालत. सूर्योदयापासून माध्याह्नीपर्यंत नदीच्या डोहात छातीइतक्या पाण्यात उभे राहून गायत्री मंत्र जप करीत असत. रोज दोन तास गायत्री मंत्र, चार तास श्री राम जय राम जय राम या त्रयोदशाक्षरी मंत्राचा जप म्हणजेच रोज सहा तास जप घडत असे. त्यांनी रामनामाचा १३ कोटी जप केल्यावर त्यांना साक्षात प्रभु रामचंद्राचे दर्शन होऊन प्रभुंनी त्यांचा शिष्य म्हणून स्वीकार केला.

ते रोज दुपारी केवळ पाच घरी भिक्षा मागून तिचा श्रीरामाला नैवेद्य दाखवत असत. तसेच दुपारी दोन तास मंदिरात श्रवण साधना करीत असत. आणि नंतर दोन तास ग्रंथांचा अभ्यास करीत. याच काळात त्यांनी वेद, उपनिषदे, सर्व प्राचीन

ग्रंथ, विविध शास्त्रे यांचा सखोल अभ्यास केला. रामायणाची रचना केली. या साधकावस्थेत त्यांनी आर्ततेने जी श्रीरामाची आळवणी केली तिच करुणाष्टके होत.

समर्थांची तपश्चर्या संपल्यानंतर त्यांनी १२ वर्षे भारतभ्रमण, तीर्थयात्रा केल्या. पुढे फिरत फिरत हिमालयात पोहोचल्यावर त्यांच्या मनातील वैराग्यभाव जागा होऊन देहासक्ती नष्ट झाली. त्यांना अनेक भाषा अवगत होत्या. भारतभ्रमण करीत असता श्रीनगरमध्ये शिखांचे सहावे गुरू हरगोविंद यांची व समर्थांची भेट झाली.

भारतभ्रमण झाल्यावर समर्थ जांब येथे आपल्या घरी जाऊन आईला भेटले. आपल्या तेथील वास्तव्यात त्यांनी आईला कपिल गीत हा अध्यात्मिक ग्रंथ समजावून दिला. मुलाने लग्न मंडपातून पलायन केल्याच्या धक्क्याने अंधत्व आलेल्या आईला त्यांनी चर्मचक्षुंबरोबर ज्ञानचक्षूही दिले. आसपासच्या परिसरातील लोकांना रामनामाचे व जप सामर्थ्याचे महत्त्व पटवून देऊन त्यांना नाममार्गाला लावले.

भारत भ्रमणाच्या १२ वर्षात समर्थांनी जे पाहिले, जे विदारक अनुभव घेतले त्याने त्यांचे अंतःकरण हेलावले. त्या काळी यवन राजवटीत भारतातील जनता अमानुष अत्याचार सहन करत कमालीच्या हीन, दीन, त्रस्त आणि अपमानित जीवन जगत होती. सर्वार्थाने खच्चीकरण झालेल्या तत्कालीन समाजाला परमार्थाच्या उपदेशाआधी प्रथम संघटित, शक्तीसंपन्न व आत्मविश्वासपूर्ण बनवायची गरज त्यांनी हेरली. समर्थांना हिमालयात प्रभू रामचंद्रांकडून धर्मसंस्थापनेसाठी प्रेरणा आणि नंतर गुरू हरगोविंद यांच्याकडून सशस्त्र क्रांतीची प्रेरणा मिळाली होती. त्यानुसार समर्थांनी शके १५७० रोजी चाफळमध्ये राममंदिराची स्थापना करून चाफळ, उंब्रज, बहे-बोरगाव, शिराळा, मनपाडळे, पारगाव आदी ११ ठिकाणी आणि नंतर इतरही शेकडो ठिकाणी शक्तीची देवता असलेल्या श्री हनुमंताची मंदिरे तसेच आसेतुहिमाचल मठांची स्थापना केली.

समर्थांनी मारूती मंदिरे स्थापन केल्यावर राम मंदिर स्थापनेची ओढ लागली. राममंदिरासाठी जागा निवडली गेली. चाफळ गावाजवळ एका टेकाडावर मंदिर बांधायचे ठरवले. धान्य आणि पैसा गोळा होऊ लागले. मंदिर हळुहळू उभे राहिले. परंतु आजुबाजूला मूर्ती समर्थांनी आणल्या नव्हत्या.

समर्थ निर्धास्त होते. मनात श्री रामरायाला आळवत होते. दरम्यान कोरेगावजवळ निगडीला समर्थ कीर्तनासाठी गेले असता कीर्तन संपवून परत येताना अंगापूरच्या रानात राहिले. तिथे सकाळी कृष्णेवर स्नान करून जप संध्या करताना त्यांना स्पष्ट





शब्द ऐक्य आले की या डोहातून माझी सुटका कर. संध्या पूर्ण करून त्यांनी कृष्णेच्या डोहात उडी मारली... आणि बऱ्याच वेळानंतर दोन मूर्ती घेऊन बाहेर पडले. एक मूर्ती देवीची होती तर दुसरी रामाची. राममूर्तीत लक्ष्मण, सीता, हनुमान यांच्याही छोट्या मूर्ती एका शिळेत घडवल्या होत्या. समर्थांनी ह्या राममूर्तीची चाफळ येथे स्थापना केली तर देवीच्या मूर्तीची दोन वर्षांनी सज्जनगडावर स्थापना केली.

समर्थांनी देशभरात स्थापना केलेले ११०० मठ आहेत. त्यांच्या मठाधिपतींच्या नियमित गुप्त बैठका होत आणि त्याद्वारे समर्थांची त्यांच्यावर कडवी नजर असे. “जो कोणी दासबोधाचे वाचन करून नीट समजावून घेईल व त्यानुसार आचरण करेल त्याला मोक्ष मिळेल. त्यासाठी वेगळा गुरू करण्याची गरज नाही. ग्रंथ हेच गुरू होत” असे त्यांचे शिष्यगणाला नेहमी सांगणे असे.

समर्थांनी लिहिलेले मनाचे श्लोक आजही घोरोघरी म्हटले जातात. समर्थांचा दासबोध ऑक्सफर्ड युनिव्हर्सिटीने मॅनेजमेंटचा उत्कृष्ट ग्रंथ म्हणून उल्लेखिला आहे. तसंच समर्थांचा आत्माराम हाही सूक्ष्म प्रबोधनाचा ग्रंथ आहे. समर्थांनी अनेक चमत्कार केले. पण त्यांना लोक त्यांच्याकडे ज्ञानासाठी यायला हवे असायचे. समर्थांनी कधीही प्रपंच सोडून परमार्थ करायला सांगितले नाही. समर्थांनी वेण्णा बाईसारख्या महंत तयार केल्या. अनेक शिष्य घडविले. शिवरायांना राजकारणात मार्गदर्शन केले. असे हे समर्थ म्हणजे अलौकिक व्यक्तिमत्व एका छोट्या पानात मावणे म्हणजे सूर्याला काजव्याच्या रूपात बघणे.

प्रभु रामचंद्र, आदिशक्ती तुळजाभवानी आणि शक्ती उपासनेसाठी मारुतीराया या तीन देवतांचा जागर त्यांनी समाजात मांडला.

समाज कल्याणाच्या असोशीतून समर्थांनी विपुल वाडमय निर्मिती केली. मनाचे श्लोक, करुणाष्टके, मारुतीस्तोत्र, कित्येक आरत्या, मनोबोध, याशिवाय रामायणातील किष्किंधा सुंदर व युद्ध ही कांडे, अनेक अभंग, भूपाळ्या, पदे, स्तोत्रे, भारूडे, राजधर्म व क्षात्रधर्म हे ग्रंथ, शिवाजी महाराज व संभाजी महाराज यांबरोबरचा विपुल पत्रव्यवहार, शिष्यांना मार्गदर्शन, धर्म उत्सव यासंबंधी मार्गदर्शन, आत्माराम, अन्वय-व्यतिरेक, वैराग्य-शतक, ज्ञान-शतक, उपदेश-शतक, षड्रिपु-विवेक इत्यादी विविध विपुल लेखन त्यांनी केले. शिवथरघळीतील एकांतवासात त्यांनी दासबोध हा त्यांचा प्रमुख ग्रंथ लिहिला. आज जगभरातील अनेक भाषांमध्ये या ग्रंथाचा अनुवाद झाला आहे.

सज्जनगड म्हणजे परळीचा किल्ला. सातारा जिल्ह्यात उरमोडी नदीच्या किनाऱ्यावर असलेला हा गड समर्थांच्या उर्वरीत आयुष्यातील वास्तव्यामुळे अजरामर झाला आहे. इथे समर्थ सेवा मंडळ आणि श्रीधर स्वामी प्रेरित सेवा मंडळ अशी दोन संस्थाने आहेत. दोन्हीचे कार्य एकच, समर्थ ज्ञानाचा

प्रसार. आजही येथे समर्थांनी सांगितलेली उपासना केली जाते. करुणाष्टके, सवाया, मनाचे श्लोक म्हटले जातात. दासबोध पठण होते. समर्थांची समाधी येथे आहे. त्यांच्यावरच्या बाजूला राममंदिर आहे. राम लक्ष्मण सीता यांच्या एका अंध शिल्पकाराकडून समर्थांनी घडवून घेतलेल्या सुंदर मूर्ती आहेत. गडावर गोशाळा आहे. इथे अनेक रामदासी सेवा देण्यासाठी राहिले आहेत. गडावर अंगाईदेवीचे सुंदर मंदिर आहे. धाव्याचा मारुती आहे.

समर्थ रामदास अद्वैत तत्वज्ञानाचे पुरस्कर्ते अर्थात अद्वैतवेदान्ती होते. केवळ ब्रह्म हेच सत्य आहे हा विचार त्यांच्या साहित्यात सर्वत्र दिसतो. दासबोधाच्या बहुतेक सर्व दशकांमध्ये ब्रह्म, माया, जीव, जगत्, परमेश्वर आदी गोष्टींची चर्चा आहे. पंचीकरण हा विषय त्यांनी अत्यंत सखोलपणे सांगितला. परब्रह्म, मूळमाया, गुणमाया, त्रिगुण, पंचमहाभूते, अष्टधा प्रकृती, विश्वाची उभारणी व संहार, पिंड-ब्रह्मांड रचना व त्यांचे संबंध अशा अनेक विषयांचे चिंतन समर्थांच्या साहित्यात आहे. सर्व कर्मांचा कर्ता हा राम असून, आपण मिथ्या अहंकारामुळे स्वतःकडे कर्तेपण घेतो असे ते सांगतात. समर्थ स्वतः सदैव विदेही अवस्थेत असल्याने त्यांचे हे अनुभवसिद्ध ज्ञान त्यांनी ग्रंथरूपाने मांडले. समर्थांनी १२ वर्षे नामस्मरण भक्ती करून पुढे सामान्यांना आचरणास तुलनेने सोप्या असलेल्या भक्तीमार्गाचा प्रसार केला. परमार्थाशिवाय केलेला प्रपंच भिकारी आहे, ज्या घरात रामनाम नाही ते घर खुशाल सोडून अरण्यात निघून जावे असे ते निश्चून सांगतात.

इ.स. १६८० मध्ये शिवराय निवर्तल्यावर समर्थ अत्यंत व्यथित झाले. नंतर इ.स. १६८१ मध्ये समर्थ वैशाख महिन्यात चाफळहून सज्जनगडी आले आणि त्यांनी तिथेच वास्तव्य केले. तिथल्या नुकताच जीर्णोद्धार झालेल्या इमारतीत प्रवेश करतानाच “येथे आता स्वल्प काळ रहाणे आहे” असे उद्गार त्यांनी काढले. नंतर त्यांनी जास्तीत जास्त एकांतवासात राहणेच पसंत केले. नंतर माघ कृष्ण पक्षात पाच दिवस अन्न पाणी पूर्ण वर्ज्य केले. याच काळात सज्जनगडावर तंजावर येथून राम पंचयतानाच्या मूर्तीचे आगमन झाले. समर्थांनी स्वहस्ते त्यांचे पूजन करून पूर्णपणे एकांतवास स्विकारला. नवमीला दिवसा दोन प्रहरांच्या वेळी समर्थांनी तीन वेळा रामनामाचा मोठ्याने घोष करून परंधामी गमन केले. हा घोष एवढ्या मोठ्याने केला की त्याने संपूर्ण गड दुमदुमून गेला. अशा प्रकारे समर्थांनी पूर्वसूचना देऊन माघ वद्य नवमी शके १६०३ अर्थात इ.स. १६८१ रोजी देह ठेवला.

**माझी काया आणि वाणी गेली म्हणाल अंतःकरणी।**

**परी मी आहे जगजीवनी । निरंतर।।**

**आत्माराम दासबोध।**

**माझे स्वरूप स्वतः सिद्ध।**

**असता न करावा हो खेद। भक्त जनीं।।**





## शतायुषी भव!

सुनंदा नाडकर्णी

“शतायुषी भव!” “शंभर वर्षे आयुष्य? हा आशिर्वाद आहे की... हा एक विचार करण्यासारखा प्रश्न आहे. माणसाला तारुण्यात संसारातील सर्व गोष्टी करताना उत्साह व ताकद असते. दुःखदायक गोष्टी सहन करण्याची शक्ती असते- मुला-बाळांना शिक्षण देऊन मोठे करण्याची हौस असते. त्यांचे संसार मांडून देण्याची हौस असते. व त्यासाठी झटण्याची शक्तीही असते. आपला संसार सुखी करण्याची आशा असते. एकदां मुलंबाळं मोठी होऊन त्यांचे संसार सांभाळू लागली की, आपल्यावर जबाबदारी नसते.

वय वाढू लागते तसे शरीर व मनही कमजोर होऊ लागते. अनेक व्याधी सुरू होतात. ब्लड प्रेशर, डायबेटीस, सांधेदुखी वगैरे दुखणी सुरू होतात. व वारंवार डॉक्टरकडे जावे लागते. औषधे चालू होतात. हळुहळू रोजचे व्यवहार करताना घरातल्यांची मदत घ्यावी लागते. सुना, मुली सर्व शिकलेल्या असतात त्या जांब करतात. त्यामुळे त्यांना घर, जांब व म्हातारी माणसं सांभाळण्याचा फार त्रास होतो. कुठे बाहेरगावी जायचे असले तर म्हातार्यांची व्यवस्था करून जावे लागते. जास्त आजारी (bed ridden) झाले तर त्यांच्या कामासाठी आया किंवा वॉर्डबॉय ठेवावे लागतात. ह्या महागड्या दिवसात सर्वांना परवडेल असे सांगता येत नाही पण निरूपाय म्हणून करावे लागते. शिवाय म्हातारपणी माणसाचा स्वभाव चिडचिडा होतो. लवकर राग येतो. हे सर्व सांभाळणे घरच्यांना त्रासदायक होते. नोकर मिळत नाहीत. मिळाले तरी ठराविक कामेच करतात तेही उपकार केल्यासारखे करतात. अशावेळी म्हातारी माणसं एक अडगळच वाटू लागते. पूर्वीचा मान राहत नाही म्हणून मनाला खिन्नता वाटते. सर्व ठीक चालले तरी काही ना काही लहान मोठे आजार चालूच असतात (वयामुळे) त्यामुळे म्हातार्यांना आपल्यामुळे सर्वांना किती त्रास होतो असे वाटून जगावेसेच वाटत नाही व मग म्हणतात, “ने रे बाबा देवा एकदा. पुरे झाले जगणे.” कशातही रस घ्यावासा वाटत नाही.

हल्ली पुष्कळ ठिकाणी मुलंबाळं चांगली शिकतात व परदेशी जातात. आई-वडील दोघेच घरी राहतात. मुले गरज असली तर पैसे पाठवतात. त्यांना हवी ती मदत करायला तयार असतात. पण मुलांचा विरह त्यांच्या मनात खड्डा पाडून जातो. निराळे राहवे लागले तरी जवळच कुठेतरी असावे असे वाटते. आई वडीलांना परदेशी नेले तरी त्यांना तिथे कंटाळा येतो म्हणून ते

कायम तिकडे जायला तयार नसतात. दोघे असेपर्यंत नोकर ठेऊन कसे तरी चांगले दिवस काढतात. पण कुणीतरी एक गेले तर मागे राहिलेल्याला फार त्रास होतो, जास्त बाहेर जाता येत नाही. घरात बसून वाचन केले तरी किती वाचता येते. डोळे ठीक असले तरी संबंध दिवस काय वाचणार? वेळ जात नाही म्हणून T.V. बघितला तरी त्यात मन रमत नाही.

हल्ली कित्येक ठिकाणी आपण पाहतो एकटाच पुरुष किंवा एकटी स्त्री रहात असते. नोकर मदतीला ठेवतात. पण काही गोष्टी नोकरांना करता येत नाहीत. हॉस्पिटलमध्ये जावं लागलं तर डॉक्टर काय सांगतात. काय लिहून देतात हे त्यांना कळत नाही. त्यासाठी कुणीतरी शिकलेले असावे लागते. प्रत्येक कामासाठी फॉर्मस् भरावे लागतात. ते नोकरांना जमत नाही. नातलग जवळ असतातच असे सांगता येत नाही. शिवाय त्यांची त्यांची काम असतातच ना? वय वाढते तसे आपल्यापेक्षा लहान असलेल्यांची सुख-दुःखे पाहावी लागतात. अशावेळी वाटते “गोली मारो त्या शतायुष्याला” कोणी आपल्या बरोबरीच्या मित्रमैत्रिणी, नातलग गेले तर वाटतं, “देवा माझी आठवण का करित नाहीस?” म्हणून मला वाटते की कुणालाही आशिर्वाद देताना “शंभर वर्षे आयुष्य! शतायुषी व्हा!” असा आशिर्वाद देण्याऐवजी "Happy Birthday! Wish you a very happy Long Life" असा आशिर्वाद द्यावा.

वर सांगितल्याप्रमाणे एकटे राहत असलेल्या माणसांना मदतीची फार गरज असते. मला वाटते की, ज्ञातीतील लोकांनी एकत्र येऊन मदत करावी. ६० वर्षांनंतर रिटायर होऊन चांगले सशक्त असलेल्यांनी सोशलवर्क करावे. व्हॉलेंटियर्स एकत्र करून कोणाला काय मदत करणे शक्य आहे, स्त्रिया व पुरुष दोघांनीही - ती मदत करावी. पैसे चार्ज करावे. डॉक्टर, हॉस्पिटल यांना पैसे द्यावे लागतातच ना? कोणीही सहज देईल. व्हॉलेंटियर्सना पुण्याचे काम केल्याचे समाधान मिळेल. अशा कामाला कुणीतरी सुरुवात केली पाहिजे. मग लोक मदत करतात. आपले K.S.A., महिला समाज वगैरे स्कॉलरशीप, गरजूंना मदत, आज्ञाच्यांना मदत, शिक्षणासाठी मदत देतच असतात ना? हे ही अत्यंत गरजेचे काम आहे, ज्ञातीतील लोकांनी ते जरूर करावे. समर्थ रामदास म्हणतात “केल्याने होत आहे रे। आधी केलेची पाहिजे”

सर्वांना "Wish you all a happy Long Life"





## शिंपल्यातले मोती

श्यामला भट

बोटींग मला फार आवडतं. अथांग जलाशय असावा. त्यात संथ बोट चालावी व आपण दूर जाणाऱ्या किनाऱ्यावरील हिरवाई पहात, पाण्याचा चुबुक-डुबुक आवाज ऐकत शांत मनाने एका वेगळ्याच जगात असल्याचा आनंद अनुभवावा.

त्यामुळे जगन्नाथाच्या दर्शनानंतर ओरिसाच्या सुप्रसिद्ध चिलीका तलावात बोटींगला जायचं म्हणताना मी खूप उत्तेजित होतेच पण तशीच काही साशंकही कारण वेळ झाली होती ऐन दुपारी बारा वाजताची. या कडकडीत उन्हात बोटींग?

या तलावाविषयी थोडं फार वाचलं होतं तीन तालुक्यात पसारा असलेला, छोटीमोठी बेटं मिरवणारा, खाऱ्या पाण्याचा, आशियातील सर्वात मोठा हा तलाव स्थलांतर करणाऱ्या पक्ष्यांचं तर माहेरघरच. शिवाय तऱ्हेतऱ्हेचे जलचर आगदी डॉल्फिनसुद्धा तिथं आढळतात.

तलाव जवळ आला आणि रस्त्याच्या दोन्ही बाजूला दुकानं दिसू लागली. तिथे रंगीबेरंगी, वेगवेगळ्या साईजच्या सुंदर कॅम्प भाड्याने मिळत होत्या. मग डोक्यावर कॅम्प, डोळ्यांना गॉगल्स, खांद्यावरून लटकत असणारी पर्स आणि फोन या वेषात मी पक्की टुरिस्ट दिसत असणार याची खात्री वाटू लागली.

समोर एक लहानसा दगडी चौथरा होता. चारी बाजूनी उघडा. वरती बांबूच्या आधाराने एक प्लॅस्टिकचं आच्छादन, चौथऱ्यावर एक मोडकं टेबल आणि बाकडं. बाकड्यावरचा एक कोपरा मला दिला गेला- हा वाढत्या वयाचा फायदा. एक माणूस भोंग्यातून नंबर ओरडत होता आणि किनाऱ्यावर नांगरलेल्या असंख्य जुन्या बोटीतून त्या त्या नंबराची बोट पुढे येत होती. आम्ही चाळीस जणी तीन बोटीत विभागल्या जाणार होतो.

पाण्यात डुगडुगणाऱ्या बोटीत पोहोचायचं कसं या चिंतेत मी असताना दोघांनी माझ्या खवाट्याला धरलं आणि पोत्यासारखं उचलून बोटीतल्या बाकावर बसवलं. हुश.

मशीनं खडखडू लागली आणि तिन्ही बोटी एकामागोमाग निघाल्याही. आनंदाचे चित्कार निघाले. मग सेल्फी, एकमेकींचे फोटो काढणं सुरू झालं. हळुहळू आजूबाजूच्या बोटीतलं अंतर वाढत जाऊन दुसऱ्या दोन बोटी त्या विस्तीर्ण जलाशयात दिसेनाश्या झाल्या.

सुदैवाने उन्हाचा मारा जाणवत नव्हता, वाराही सुखद वाहत होता. आम्ही पक्षी बघत होतो. डॉल्फिनला शोधत होतो. पाण्यात काही हललं की 'डॉल्फिन डॉल्फिन' म्हणून ओरडत

होतो. नंतर कळलं की, त्यांना बघायला तलावात खूप लांबवर जावं लागतं.

आणि अचानक बोट थांबली ती एका छोट्या वैराण बेटाजवळ.

“इथे उतरायचं?” आम्ही आश्चर्याने विचारलं.

“आप बैठे रहिये” बोटवाल्याने आश्वासन दिलं. इतक्यात दोन फाटक्या अंगाची काळीसावळी माणसं हातात प्लॅस्टिकची बकेट घेऊन बोटीत शिरली व आमच्या पुढ्यात बसली. एक जरा सरसावला. त्याच्या बकेटात बरेच शिंपले होते. आम्ही कुतुहलाने पाहत होतो.

त्याने दोन शिंपले उचलले व एकावर एक आपटून फोडायला सुरुवात केली. दोनतीन असेच फोडले व चेहरा वाकडा करत पाण्यात फेकले. अचानक त्याचा चेहरा उजळला. फोडलेल्या शिंपल्यातील लिबलिबीत पदार्थात त्याने बोट घालून एक मोठा आकाराच्या चण्याच्या डाळीएवढा मोती बाहेर काढला.

“अय्या, मोती?” सर्व बायकांनी कोरसमध्ये आश्चर्य, आनंद व्यक्त केला. त्याने तो जरासा धुवून आमच्या हाती सुपुर्द केला. मग एकीच्या हातून दुसरीकडे असा त्या मोत्याचा प्रवास सुरू झाला आणि मग शिंपल्यांतून मोती येत गेले. बायका हुळून गेल्या. तो विकणार होता हे उघडच होते.

“कितनेको देंगे?” चौकशी सुरू झाली. त्याने आपलं काम चालू ठेवत खालमानेनेच उत्तर दिलं.

“चारसोंका एक” “बापरे! चारसो! देनेका भाव बोलो”

सान्या बायका मुंबईच्या म्हणजे ओघानंच हुशार. घासाघीस करण्यात प्रवीण. त्या थोड्याच सांगितलेल्या किंमतीत घेणार!

“तीनसोंमें दो देना” बायकांनी आपसात विचार विनिमय करून सांगितलं.

“नही होगा” त्याने ठासून सांगितलं.

मग दोन्हीकडून रस्सीखेच सुरू झाली. मी मात्र शांतपणे बघत बसले होते कारण मुंबईहून निघताना मी ठरवलं होतं की काही खरेदी करायचीच नाही. पुष्कळ अनावश्यक गोष्टी आधीच घरात जमवून ठेवल्या आहेत. आग्राहून ताजमहालाची प्रतिकृती, काश्मीरहून छोटा लाकडी शिकारा, कुटून काय आणि कुटून काय. काही काळाने मग ती अडगळ वाटते त्यात आणखी कसलीच भर नको, अगदी मोत्यांचीसुद्धा.





शेवटी नेहमीसारखं 'ना तेरा ना मेरा' म्हणत बायकांनी चारशे रुपयांना जोडी या दराने मोती विकत घेतले. आणि अचानक त्याला एका शिंपल्यात काळा मोती मिळाला.

“काळा मोती?” आम्ही ऐकलंही नव्हतं. तो पुन्हा सगळ्यांती हातात घेऊन पाहिला. मीही. उन्हात धरल्यावर त्यात फिका गुलाबी, नारिंगी, जांभळट छटा दिसू लागल्या मी मोहून गेले. खरेदी न करण्याचा माझा निश्चय कुठल्या कुठे वाहून गेला.

“कितने को”

“आठसो रूपया से एक रूपया कम नहीं होगा” त्याने दरडावल्यासारखं सांगितलं. पण अशी संधी पुन्हा पुन्हा येत नाही म्हणून मी आशा न सोडता घासाघीस सुरू केली आणि चिकाटीने लढत देऊन चारशेला विकत घेतलाच.

मग तो उठला आणि त्याच्या जागी दुसरा येऊन बसला. त्याच्या बकेटात छोटे छोटे खडक होते. त्यानेही ते एकमेकांवर आपटून फोडायला सुरुवात केली आणि त्यातून बाहेर पडली ती सुंदर रंगाची, सुबक आकाराची पोवळी.

पण आमच्या माहितीप्रमाणे पोवळी खडकरूपातच असतात. मग त्यांना आकार, पॉलिश देऊन ती बाजारात येतात. त्यामुळे अशी गुंफायला तयार पोवळी खडकातून कशी बाहेर आली? काहीतरी घोळ आहे यावरच आमच एकमत झाले आणि कुणीच ती खरेदी केली नाहीत. तो समजावयाचा प्रयत्न करित होता पण आम्ही बधलो नाही. ते दोघे उतरून गेले आणि आमची बोट पुन्हा निघाली.

‘आमचे मोती तरी खरे असतील का’ हा विचार मनात येऊन थोडी अस्वस्थता वाटू लागली.

काही वेळाने बोट एका मोठ्या बेटाशी थांबली. आम्ही उतरलो. हॉटेलमधून आणलेली जेवणाची भांडी उतरवली गेली. बेटावर काही टेबल आणि खुर्च्या होत्या. आम्ही स्थानापन्न झालो.

थोड्या वेळाने दुसरी बोट आली. बायका उतरल्या आणि आनंदाने सांगू लागल्या,

“आम्ही मोती घेतले. अगदी डोळ्यासमोर शिंपल्यातून काढलेले.”

“कितीला पडले?” आम्ही उत्सुकतेने विचारलं.

“पांढरे मोती सहाशे रुपयांना जोडी. आणि नैनाबेनने सुंदर काळे मोती घेतले. तो दोन हजार म्हणून हडून बसला होता पण शेवटी दिली जोडी दीड हजाराला.

आम्ही अगदी चकित झालो. आम्ही मोजलेली किंमत त्यांना कळल्यावर त्यांचाही आनंद मावळला. नैनाबेन

माझ्याकडे आली. तिची आणि माझी ओळख या ट्रीपमधीलच. खेळकर स्वभाव, सौहार्दपूर्ण वागणूक, प्रवासात सतत जुन्या सिनेमातील गाणी ऐकण्याचा छंद असलेली नैनाबेन.

तिने माझ्याकडे येऊन माझा मोती बघायला मागितला. तिचे आणि माझी मोती निरखून पाहून ती हसली. मग तिने तिच्या पर्समधून एक छोटीशी झिप् लॉक पिशवी काढली व त्यात माझा मोती अलगद ठेवून मला परत दिला.

तिसरी बोट आली आणि जणू बॉम्ब फुटला. त्या बायकांना तर आमच्याही अर्ध्या किंमतीत मोती मिळाले होते.

वातावरण तंग झालं. अनेक प्रश्न मनात उसळू लागले. किंमतीत एवढा फरक कसा? मग त्यांची मूळ वाजवी किंमत काय असेल? हे मोती खरे आहेत की, खोटे मोती शिंपल्यात घालून चिकटवून आम्हांला दिले गेले मन घुमसत होतं. पण नेमकं कशासाठी? पैसे फुकट गेले म्हणून की या गावढळ, अडाणी दिसणाऱ्या माणसांनी हातोहात फसवलं म्हणून.

इतक्यात नैनाबेन आली आणि तिने विचारलं, “क्या हुआ? सब ऐसे मुंह लटकाके क्यों बैठी हैं?”

“क्यों नैनाबेन, हम सबको उन्होंने फंसाया तो आपको गुस्सा नहीं आता?” मी रागाने विचारलं.

तशी ती हसली आणि मग हिंदी, मराठी, गुजराती भाषांचं कडबोळं करून म्हणाली,

“कोण फसवत नाही आपल्याला? अगदी रोज सगळ्यांकडून आपण फसत असतोच की, बिल्डर असतील, नेते असतील, भोंदु बुवा, लबाड दुकानदार, जाहिरातदार, कुणी अगदी कुणीही आपल्याला फसवतं. आज या माणसांनी केलेल्या नाटकाला आपण दाद देऊ या आणि विसरुया त्या कारणाने ट्रीपच्या आनंदावर विरजण कशाला घालायचं? आता मी दीड हजार दिले म्हणजे माझ्या लेखी ते मोती दीड हजारचेच झाले न. माझ्या आईच्या ७५व्या वाढदिवसाला मी त्यांचे टॉप्स बनवून तिला भेट देणार आहे. आणि माझी खात्री आहे की तिला ते नक्की आवडतील. एंजॉय करायला आलो आहोत तर एंजॉय करुया की.

तर चला, गाण्यांच्या भेंड्या खेळू या का? मीच सुरुवात करते.

“सर जो तेरा चकराए या दिल् डुबा जाए। आज प्यारी पास मेरे, काहे रूठ जाय, काहे रूठ जाय?”

आम्हीही मग हसत ताल धरला.

“काहे रूठ जाय, काहे रूठ जाय”



## पुस्तक परिचय

उदय मंकिकर

### ॥अवधूत गीता॥

(भगवान श्री दत्तात्रेय यांच्या मूळ संस्कृत ग्रंथाचा श्लोकबद्ध मराठी अनुवाद)

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मुंबापुरीच्या सांताक्रुझ उपनगरातील, वाकोला विभागात ९३ वर्षांची परंपरा लाभलेले श्री गुरुदेव दत्त मंदिर, भक्तांना आंतरिक शांती आणि समाधान देण्याचे महान कार्य सातत्याने करीत आहे. १९२४ साली, सर्वश्री लक्ष्मणराव दत्तात्रय नाडकर्णी, देसाई आणि दत्ताराम बळवल्ली यांनी या मंदिराची स्थापना केली. १९५४ साली मंदिराचा विस्तार करण्यात आला आणि दत्तजयंतीच्या मुहूर्तावर, या मंदिरात नित्यपाठ, भजन, गुरुवारची विशेष पूजा, कीर्तन, प्रवचन इत्यादी कार्यक्रमांना सुरुवात झाली. कीर्तन कलानिधी ह.भ.प. नागानंद गुलवाडी यांच्या विशेष प्रयत्नांनी, आपल्या मठाचे दीप नमस्कार, शंकरनारायण गीत आणि मंगलपद यांचा नित्यपाठ भजनात समावेश झाला आणि ही प्रथा आजतागायत सुरू आहे. दररोज संध्याकाळी ह्या श्री गुरुदेव दत्त मंदिरात श्री चित्रापूर मठाचे दीपनमस्कार, संगीतासहित स्तोत्रे, भजने आणि “अवधूत गीता” या ग्रंथाच्या मूळ संस्कृत संहितेचे भाग वाचले जातात.

कोणतीही गोष्ट अर्थ समजून घेऊन केली तर त्याला एक अर्थपूर्ण परिपूर्णत्व येते आणि म्हणूनच सर्वांना सहज समजेल अशा सोप्या, सुरस आणि सुबोध मराठीत या ग्रंथाचे भाषांतर करावे की, जेणेकरून भक्तांची आध्यात्मिक प्रगती सुकर होईल असा विचार विश्वस्तांच्या मनात आला आणि त्यांनी ही जबाबदारी श्री. नारायण शांताराम शिराली यांच्यावर सोपविली.

श्री. नारायण शांताराम शिराली म्हणजे संस्कृत, मराठी, कोंकणी आणि इंग्रजी ह्या भाषांवर निर्विवाद प्रभुत्व असलेले एक व्यासंगी व्यक्तिमत्व. त्यांनी ही जबाबदारी स्विकारली. अवधूत गीता (मराठी) ग्रंथ पूर्ण करून परमपूज्य सद्योजात शंकराश्रम स्वामीजींना अर्पण केला.

परमेश्वर आणि त्याचे प्रेषित, साधुसंतांनी वेळोवेळी भरत खंडाच्या पुण्यभूमीत अवतार घेऊन अनेक ग्रंथांद्वारे, आध्यात्मिक प्रगती करू इच्छिणाऱ्या भाविकांना आत्मस्वरूपाचे दर्शन घडविले आहे. मार्गदर्शन केले आहे. अशा अनेकानेक ग्रंथांपैकी एक म्हणजे भगवान श्री दत्तात्रेयांनी स्वमुखाने सांगितलेली “अवधूत गीता.” यामध्ये आठ अध्यायात २७१ ओव्यांचा समावेश आहे.

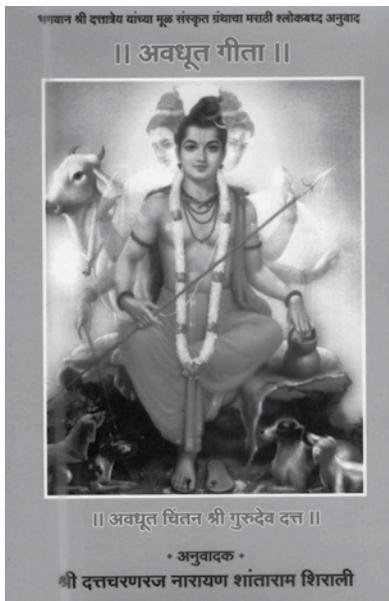
ग्रंथाच्या प्रारंभी श्री. दत्तगुरुंचे सुंदर स्तवन आहे. तसेच नाथलीलामृतामधील २६व्या अध्यायातील १०७ वी ओवी उद्धृत केली आहे. त्याचा अर्थ - “दत्तात्रय, हरी, कृष्ण, उन्मादी, नंददायक, मुनि, बाल, दिगंबर, पिशाच, ज्ञानसागर ही दहा नावे सर्वकाल पठन केल्याने मनांत असलेली सर्व कार्ये सिद्ध होतात. तसेच त्यांच्या नुसत्या स्मरण मात्राने सर्व पापांचा विनाश होतो. श्री दत्तात्रयाला स्मर्तुगामी म्हटले आहे, कारण त्यांच्या नुसत्या स्मरणाने ते प्रगट होतात.” त्यानंतर, श्रीमद वासुदेवानंद सरस्वती रचित संस्कृत “श्री दत्तप्रार्थनाचतुष्कम्” आहे.

अवधूत गीतेतील आठ अध्यायांमधून विविध मार्गदर्शक तत्वांचे विवेचन केले आहे. त्यांच्या ज्ञानामुळे, आचार विचारांमुळे, आनंदी जीवनाचा लाभ होतो आणि मानव भवसागर (संसाररूपी सागर) तरुन जातो.

ग्रंथात सांगितलेली मार्गदर्शक तत्वे :  
(सारांश)

अध्याय पहिला -

आत्मा हा संपूर्ण चराचरात भरलेला आहे. पावन स्वभावाने, निष्कलंक नभासारखा असलेला सर्वात्मा परमेश्वर निःसंशय अखंडच आहे. देहभाव मिथ्या असून निराकार परमेश्वरच खरा आहे हे ज्याने जाणले त्याला पुनर्जन्म नाही. ज्याच्या मनात कसलाही मोह नाही तेथे देहभाव नाश पावतो. देहभाव, निराकार ही भावना केवळ मायेपोटी जाणवते अन्यथा संपूर्ण जग निरंतर अखंडित आहे.





### अध्याय दुसरा -

विश्व म्हणजे बाह्यजग आणि आंतर जग (मनातील विचार) यामधील संघर्ष आहे.

गुरूंच्या उपदेशाशिवाय भवसागर तरता येत नाही. आत्म्याचे स्वरूप ज्याला कळले तो ब्रम्हामध्ये विलीन होतो.

### अध्याय तिसरा -

आत्मा हा सच्चिदानंद स्वरूपी असून ज्ञानामृत हे आकाशासारखे निष्कलंक, बंधमुक्त आहे. जीवनात सुखदुःख, प्रेमद्वेष, जन्म मृत्यु, दिवस-रात्र, शहाणा-मूर्ख असा भेदभाव नाही.

हे ब्रम्ह सहज स्वरूप आहे.

### अध्याय चौथा -

त्यागाचे महत्त्व विशद केले आहे.

### अध्याय पाचवा -

सुख दुःखात समभाव असावा तरच शोकाचे निरसन होते.

### अध्याय सहावा -

संसार म्हणजे मृगजळ. जन्म-मृत्यु, स्त्री-पुरुष, मी माझे असा भेदभाव आपण करतो. योगी असा भेदभाव करित नाहीत.

### अध्याय सातवा -

शुभाशुभ, शुभघडी, पाप-पुण्य, धर्म-अधर्म असा भेद नाही. योगी सतत/अथक प्रयत्नाने प्रगती करतो.

लक्ष्य नेहमी फलविरहित असावे. (निष्काम कर्म).

सर्वसंग परित्यागानेच, योगी परमेश्वर स्वरूप शिव होतो. ("अखंडित मनाकारो वर्तते केवल शिव!")

### अध्याय आठवा -

या अध्यायात अवधूत लक्षणांचा परिचय आहे.

अ - 'अ'कार सतत आनंदी राहणे.

व - वासनात्याग, मंगल बोलणे, वर्तमानात राहणे.

धू - शरीर धुळीने माखलेले असले तरीही मन अतिनिर्मळ असावे.

त - अहंकाररूपी तमाचा (अंधाराचा) त्याग करून सतत परमेश्वराचे चिंतन करावे.

आनंदस्वरूप अवधूत गीतेचे जो श्रवण करतो, पठण करतो त्यास अवश्य मुक्ति मिळते.

ग्रंथाच्या मुखपृष्ठावर श्री दत्तगुरुंचे तसेच आतील पानावर परम पूज्य सद्योजात शंकराश्रम स्वामीजींचे, वाचकांना आशीर्वादयुक्त प्रेरणा देणारे सुंदर, रंगीत छायाचित्र आहे. सर्वसामान्यांना समजेल अशा साध्या, सोप्या, ओघवत्या मराठी भाषेतील हा ग्रंथ ही

वाचकांसाठी एक पर्वणीच आहे. उत्कृष्ट छपाई आणि निर्दोष मुद्रण हे ह्या ग्रंथाचे वैशिष्ट्य आहे. थोडक्यात, श्री गुरुदेव दत्त मंदिर ट्रस्टच्या विश्वस्तानी ज्या उद्देशाने हा ग्रंथ प्रकाशित केला आहे, तो उद्देश खचितच स्तुत्य आहे. तो सर्वार्थाने फलद्रुप होवो ही सदिच्छा!

ह्या ग्रंथाच्या विक्रीतून मिळालेली रक्कम श्री गुरुदेव दत्त मंदिर, वाकोला यांना देण्यात येणार आहे. या ग्रंथाच्या निमित्ताने एका गोष्टीचा मला आवर्जून उल्लेख करावासा वाटतो. काही गोष्टींचे स्पष्टीकरण व्हावे म्हणून नारायण मामांशी मी संवाद साधला होता. सर्वप्रथम ह्या उत्कृष्ट ग्रंथाच्या प्रकाशनाबद्दल आणि उत्कृष्ट अनुवादासाठी त्यांचे अभिनंदन केले, त्यांना अभिवादन केले. तेव्हा ते म्हणाले की, ह्या अभिनंदनासाठी आणि अभिवादानासाठी जी व्यक्ति खरोखर पात्र आहे ती म्हणजे पुस्तक प्रकाशनातील दिग्गज श्री. गौरंग उभयकर. कोणत्याही प्रकारचा मोबदला न घेता त्यांनी ह्या ग्रंथाची रचना केली, मुद्रण आणि प्रकाशन केले. केवळ निरपेक्ष वृत्तीने. ह्या ग्रंथातील सातव्या अध्यायातील दुसऱ्या ओवीत सांगितल्याप्रमाणे-

**फलविरहित लक्ष्य योग्यायोग्यी च सावध।**

**विशुद्ध केवल तत्व वाद-विवाद संपला।।**

एवढेच नव्हे तर, ग्रंथात आपल्या नावाचा उल्लेख कटाक्षाने टाळला. गौरंगजी, आपल्या ह्या निष्काम कार्यासाठी विनम्र अभिवादन! तसेच श्री गुरुदेव दत्त मंदिर ट्रस्टचे सर्व विश्वस्त, खास करून श्री. सतीश गुलवाडी यांना धन्यवाद!

## तन्मणी

असोत आसू सुखाचे....

असोत अथवा दुःखाचे...

नाही पर्वा त्यांना कशाची....

असती ते सान्या जगताचे....

तप्त स्पंदने,

आसू, अन्यायाचे....

गलित काया,

आसू, एकाकी जीवाचे....

तृप्त साफल्य,

आसू, कर्तृत्वाचे....

समाधान शांती,

आसू, आनंदाचे....

अशीच त्यांची विविध रूपे....

अनमोल सुंदर मोती बनले....

गुंफूनी तन्मणी कंठी ल्याले....

महात्म त्यांचे मनी जाणिले....

- विद्या कागल





## Pasayadana: A prayer par excellence by Saint Jnaneshwara-5

KRISHNANANDA MANKIKAR

Stanza 7:

किंबहुना सर्व सुखी। पूर्ण होऊनि तिन्हीं लोकी।

भजिजो आदिपुरुखी। अखंडित ॥७॥

Word by word meaning:

किंबहुना what is gainsaying by telling more? सर्वसुखी fully happy and contented. पूर्ण complete, fulfilled होऊनि having become तिन्हीं लोकी in all the three worlds. भजिजो one who worships आदिपुरुखी the primordial Being. अखंडित without a break ॥7॥

Translation:

What more to state? One who incessantly worships the Primal Being, will become Complete (i.e. fulfilled) in all the three worlds, and will attain (the ultimate) happiness. ॥7॥

Comment:

This and the next stanza are like the फलश्रुति of this पसायदान. It is customary to end any stotra with a फलश्रुति. The फलश्रुति states the good that a stotra will bring to the one who recites it. So here it goes,

किंबहुना is short for किंबहुना उक्तेन In Marathi they say, अधिक सांगणे नलगे. Nothing more needs to be added. In conclusion of all above, Jnaneshwara says, one who incessantly worships the primal being, is fulfilled, is completely happy, in all the three worlds. Here the three worlds can be seen as the conventional three worlds viz. the Nether world, the Earth and the Heavens or stretching it a little, we can say it is the आधिभौतिक, आधिदैविक, आध्यात्मिक world i.e. the material world, the godly or the "Other worldly" one, (one which some of us may experience but may not see) and the spiritual one, to attain perfection in which, we strive throughout our life, nay that is the very purpose – the justification of our existence – the raison d'etre as they say in French.

On आधिभौतिक and आधिदैविक planes we must fight innumerable battles, wherein our पुरुषार्थ is important, while on the आध्यात्मिक plane it is the Grace of the Guru which propels us ahead on the path to salvation. Jnaneshwara says, one who worships the Primal Being, wins all his battles and thus attains happiness, as stated in stanzas 4–6

above, but with the help of the saints' Grace, or of the Guru shall we say?

Here आदिपुरुखी and अखंडित are the two most important words. The first denotes the primal energy. It may be seen that Jnaneshwara does not specify any deity or god. It is the primal Godhead. As it is succinctly and effectively told in the Kena Upanishad, wherein the preceptor tells the disciple that you worship THAT which propels your mind, your hearing, your sight and so on NOT THE ONE WHICH IS COMMONLY WORSHIPPED NOW! Secondly, akhandita, incessant is what is told to us by all those, who we have had the good fortune to read and hear. Moreover, as has been impressed upon us by our PP Swamiji, निदिध्यासन – constant contemplation is what is required to get nearer to the Godhead. Jnaneshwara gives the assurance that the one who follows this, has nothing but happiness in all the three worlds.

Narada in his Bhakti Sutras has stated

सुख दुःख इच्छा लाभ आदि त्यक्ते काले प्रतीक्ष्यमाणे क्षणार्धमपि व्यर्थं न नेयं । ५.१

Happiness सुख sorrow दुःख desires इच्छा getting benefits लाभ etc. आदि when given up, त्यक्ते (i.e. when one has had enough of it in a lifetime), at that time काले waiting (for the final moment) प्रतीक्ष्यमाणे even half a moment – क्षणार्धमपि should not be wasted व्यर्थं न नेयं (But must be spent in Bhakti)

Narada has also stated,

अव्यावृत्त भजनात् ।३.०३

Meaning, by uninterrupted bhajana अव्यावृत्त भजनात्

Bhajana भजन here is worshipping, not only “भजन” in the conventional sense of singing and reciting stotras in praise of the deity but remembering constantly, acting constantly as per His wish and desire and surrendering and dedicating all the actions at His feet.

Thus, अखंडित is stressed upon, by our elders. In addition to this, सातत्य – being in continuous practice, is very important on this path. Even the





Geeta stresses this.

**Stanza 8:**

आणि ग्रंथोपजीविये। विशेषीं लोकीं इयें।  
दृष्टादृष्ट विजयें। होआवे जी॥८॥

**Word by word meaning:**

आणि and ग्रंथोपजीविये one who lives by this book. विशेषीं especially लोकीं इयें in this world.

दृष्टादृष्ट seen and unseen विजयें victory. होआवे will happen (to him) जी Oh Sirs ॥८॥

**Translation:**

And one who lives by this book, especially in this world, will win over a victory over the seen and the unseen. ॥८॥

**Comment:**

The second stanza containing the फलश्रुति states, ग्रंथोपजीविये, i.e. and one who lives by this book (i.e. the Jnaneshwari) he will attain victory over the seen and the unseen the आधिभौतिक and the आधिदैविक. Please note again, as stated earlier, that there is no question of winning a "victory" over anyone in आध्यात्मिक. The former two, as we all are aware are fraught with constant battles, while the last one is a State to be attained. See how precise is the usage of words by माऊली as Jnaneshwara is known all over Maharashtra.

विशेषीं लोकीं इयें here Jnaneshwara uses the word विशेषीं i.e. especially. This is to stress the दृष्टादृष्ट विजयें which follows later. This विशेषीं stands for विशेषें करून can be applied to either लोकीं इयें in this world i.e. भूलोक i.e. now and here; or दृष्टादृष्ट विजयें victory over the seen or the unseen (perils-obstacles).

There is a tradition which believes that Jnaneshwara refers to the one who expounds this book to the laity as a कीर्तनकार when he refers to ग्रंथोपजीविये, since, उपजीविका in Marathi is commonly used for connoting "eking out a living". Therefore, the legend goes to state that Jnaneshwara had inserted a set of stanzas, which gave the process of alchemy, to make gold out of iron, which could be used by the person who read this book, to make a living for himself. It was said that Saint Ekanath, who in 1576 Shaka era, completely revised the tome, to drop out the impurities which had crept into the same, deleted these stanzas as well. But there is no proof to sustain this belief.

Be that as it may, the fact remains that the one who traverses this path, having constant recourse to this book, gets his life enriched, and, that is for sure.

**Stanza 9:**

येथ म्हणे श्री विश्वेशराओ। हा होईल दान पसावो।  
येणें वरें ज्ञानदेवो। सुखिया जाला॥९॥

**Word by word meaning:**

येथ here म्हणे says श्री विश्वेशराओ the Lord of the Universe. हा this होईल will surely be दान granted पसावो Prasada the Grace.

येणें with this वरें boon ज्ञानदेवो Jnanadeva. सुखिया जाला became contented ॥९॥

**Translation:**

Upon (hearing) this, (Jnaneshwara's Guru Nivruttinath ) verily the Lord of the Universe, said "This truly is the Prasad (the Grace) and will the same be granted to you. With this benediction, Jnanadeva became very happy. ॥९॥

**Comment:**

It must be remembered that Shree Nivruttinath who was the elder brother of Shree Jnaneshwara and his Guru, was in the audience when Jnaneshwari was recited. The last stanza reportedly refers to him.

It says, येथ here, means at this juncture, श्री विश्वेशराओ i.e. श्री विश्वेश्वर राय which is said to refer to Shree Nivrutti Natha, assured Jnaneshwara that whatever Prasad you have asked for will surely come to you. All of us will recall, when we go to our Kuladeva and our holy Math, there are occasions when we ask for Prasada. And a favourable prasada is referred to as प्रसादु जाल्लो. Same is the case here, it is as if Shree Nivruttinath says, प्रसादु जाल्लो. Almost like, "तूं काळजि कोर्नाक्का - प्रसादु जातलो." What a beautiful finish to the wish for Prasada. In Jnaneshwari, at the beginning of many chapters, there is Gurustuti by Jnaneshwara which is in direct reference to Shree Nivrutti Natha and in one place Nivrutti natha lovingly chides Jnaneshwara "Enough of praising me! Now please proceed with Krishna-Arjuna Dialogue" What a wonderful combination of Guru-Shishya and what devotion of Jnaneshwara to his Guru. Ennobling and enriching.





And, says Jnaneshwara, with these words of the Guru, Jnanadeva became contented.! What a fine end to a prayer!

### Conclusion:

We have gone through the Pasayadana. Though it is short, it is one of the most powerful विश्वप्रार्थना. It is a wondrous prayer for the well being of the Universe, to date. The author has nothing to ask for himself. Firstly he offers the entire creation of his at the Feet of the Lord and in return asks for the goodness to prevail not only in mankind but in all the beings. Living or inanimate. May there be no devastating storms may there be no

destructionist people. He also very emphatically adds the need, so to say of the Saints who shower the world with their auspiciousness. Without this "shower of Grace", it is not possible for the crop of goodness to grow on this Earth. In today's milieu is this not one prayer which should be on our lips often?

May the Lord Almighty grant the wish of Jnaneshwara and may there be peace, peace, peace!!

Shubham Bhavatu

Concluded.

Comments/corrections most welcome on [kdmanikar@gmail.com](mailto:kdmanikar@gmail.com)

## हृशार ज्योतिषी

एकी गोमटी चल्ली ज्योतिषालाग्यी वचुगली  
हातू जोणू नमस्कारू कोर्नु अुब्रली ॥१॥

ज्योतिषाक तिन्ने स्वःतागले जातक दिळे  
तान्ने तिक्का बसच्याक सांगले ॥२॥

ज्योतिषागल्या उत्राने आश्चर्य दिसले तिक्का  
बरोबरी जागेरी आयल्याचे समाधान जाल्ले तिक्का ॥४॥

प्रितम् नांव तुगल्या बामणागले वे ज्योतिष्याने निमगीले ?  
आश्चर्याने तिन्ने अगदी बरोबरी म्हळ्ळे ॥५॥

तुक्का दोनी चेडवं दिसताती ह्या जातकांतू  
अगदी बरोबरी कविता म्हणाली लाज्जूनू ॥६॥

काली तुम्मी धा किलो तांदूळ घेतलो न्हवे ?  
कविताने पांयशांचे नॉट दिळे ज्योतिषाक खुशीने ॥७॥

कविता म्हणाली गुरुजी हें तुमका कशशी कळता  
ह्या रेशन कार्डारी सगळे बरैलेले दिसता ॥८॥

ज्योतिष्याने तिक्का उगडासाने जातक हाडूक सांगले  
पांयशी रूपये फुकट गॅल्याने कवितागले हातपाय थंड जाल्ले ॥९॥

- मुरलीधर बेद्राबेट

## दिवाळी दिवसु

आयली दिवाळी आमगल्या घारा  
गोडशें खावु फटाके मारु साजरी कोच्यां॥  
सकाळीं पर्मळी उटणें लावु मात्यारी न्हाव्यां।  
नवीन वस्तरं घालु आम्मी शृंगारु कोच्यां।  
दँवाक पांय पोणु आशिर्वाद घेंव्यां।  
फेणोरी तुकडें उडें-मांडें सगळ्यांनी खांव्यां॥१॥

दिवाळी खाण घेवु शंजारा घरांतु व्होच्यां।  
सगळ्यां सांगाती बैसुनु आम्मी गम्मती कोच्यां।  
सगळ्यांनी मेळुनु कृष्णा दँवलांतु वचच्यां।  
दँवागळें दर्शन घेतु मन मोहित कोच्यां॥२॥

दॉनफारां मसाल्या भात आनी कोच्चोळी कोच्यां।  
ताज्जें सांगाती इडली चटणी, बजें तळ्यां।  
आंब्या श्रीखंड आनी पूरी आम्मी लाड्यां।  
सगळ्यांनी बैसुनु दिवाळी जँवण आम्मी जेव्यां ॥३॥

सांजे आम्मी लक्ष्मी पूजे तयारी कोच्यां।  
दँवाला दिवें लावु देवीक फूल माळ्यां।  
देवीगळें भजन म्होणु मागीरी आरती कोच्यां।  
रात्री भायर वोचुनु फटाके आम्मी माच्यां॥४॥

वायट विचारा असुरांक मारुनु सोड्यां।  
आम्मी सगळ्यांचेरी प्रीती कोरुक शिक्यां।  
नवीन विचारांनी वरस सुरु कोच्यां।  
अशी प्रती दिवसु दिवाळी साजरी कोच्यां॥५॥

- सुमन नागरकट्टी, यू.के.





Here is the twelfth instalment of Dr. SudhaTinaikar's absorbing de-mystification of a small, but very comprehensive, spiritual text

Having defined the three bodies - the gross body, the subtle body and the causal body स्थूल शरीरम्, सूक्ष्म शरीरम्, and कारण शरीरम् Tattvabodha goes on to describe the three states of the mind.

A living organism experiences three states of being which belong to the mind. When the jīva is awake, the mind, intellect and the sense organs along with the physical body interact with the external world. When the jīva is sleeping and experiences a dream, the physical body and the sense organs are inactive. However, the mind is active in experiencing a dream. In deep sleep the same jīva is totally oblivious to the external world and to the internal or private world of a dream. All these states which are called अवस्था-s belong to the body-mind and sense complex and not to the Ātmā or consciousness. Thus, in the definition of the Ātmā, a term अवस्था त्रय साक्षी was used.

अवस्था त्रयं किम् ?

**What are the three states?**

जागत्त्वप्नसुषुप्त्यवस्थाः |

They are the states of waking, dreaming and sleeping.

जागदवस्था का ?

श्रोत्रादिज्ञानेन्द्रियैः शब्दादि विषयैश्च ज्ञायते इति या सा जागदवस्था | स्थूलशरीराभिमानी आत्मा विश्व इत्युच्यते |

**What is the waking state?**

It is a state in which the jīva experiences the world outside through his sense organs like the sound perceived through the ears and so on. Here, the jīva totally identifies with the gross body and interacts with the world. We have to recollect here that in the description of the gross body, Tattvabodha calls it भोग आयतनम् or the locus of experience. Of course the gross body cannot function without the backing of the subtle body because of the indriyā-s or the sense organs of perception and action (ज्ञानेन्द्रियाणि and कर्मेन्द्रियाणि). In the waking state the jīva has the conviction that he is the doer and enjoyer (कर्ता and भोक्ता) With the identification with the gross body, the jīva is called vishva by the scriptures.

For the vishva, the world is solid and real. However, it is only one part of the day when vishva is transacting with the world. The very same solid world disappears in the other two states.

Now the dream state...

स्वप्नावस्था केति चेत् जागदवस्थायां यद् दृष्टं यत् श्रुतं तज्जनित वासनया निद्रासमये यः प्रपञ्चः प्रतीयते सा स्वप्नावस्था | सूक्ष्मशरीराभिमानी आत्मा तैजस इत्युच्यते |

**What is the state of dreaming?**

One dreams when one falls asleep. During sleep the gross body is not available to transact with the world. All the indriya-s are folded up. However, the mind is partially active (not fully as in the waking state). The mind by itself, independently projects an inner world of objects and situations very similar to the waking state. What is the raw material from which the mind weaves the dream state?

Tattvabodha says that all the experiences that the jīva goes through during the waking state are stored in the deep recesses of the mind as vāsanā-s or impressions. During sleep, these impressions are culled out by the mind and a world of dreams is created.

Here, the gross body being totally unavailable, the subtle body transacts by itself entirely with the dream world similar to the waking world. The jīva is thus totally identified with the subtle body (सूक्ष्मशरीराभिमानी). This jīva is called taijasa (thought created). While dreaming, the dream appears absolutely real.

We do often feel that what we see in the dream has never been experienced by us during the waking state any time; then how can the mind project the events as though experienced before? The mind can mix and match and warp the waking experiences and project a strange dream.

अथ सुषुप्त्यवस्था का ?

अहं किमपि न जानामि सुषुप्तेन मया निद्रानुभूयत इति सुषुप्त्यवस्था |

कारणशरीराभिमानी आत्मा प्राज्ञ इत्युच्यते |

In the state of deep sleep, the identification with the gross and subtle bodies is totally given up. The two bodies are in the seed form and the jīva identifies with only the causal body (कारण शरीरम्). The person in deep sleep does not know anything. He is totally unaware of his gross and subtle bodies. Except for the प्राणः or the life force, all the other organs are temporarily shut off. This is a state of bliss too; the deep sleeper is unconcerned with his surroundings, or any of his problems. Does the jīva know this in deep sleep? No. It is only when he wakes up can he say that "I slept so peacefully and did not remember a thing".

The sleeper jīva identified with the kâranasharîra





(कारणशरीर) is given the name prāṅnya (प्राज्ञः). The waking and dream states differ for different individuals depending upon the individual situations but the state of deep sleep is common to all the jīva-s.

The three states of experiences are mutually

exclusive. It means that I can be only in one state at one time. But there is someone who is the one who experiences all these states and that is the Atma.

( To be continued...)

## Personalia



**Mihika Row**, daughter of Gangolli Pandrang and Neema Row (née Kilpadi) has completed her course of study in Contemporary Art Practices at Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Bangalore, which leads to the award of Bachelor of Creative Arts by Mysore University.

Her specialty is photography that depicts emotions through a variety of techniques. In her collection of images for her final thesis project she worked on superimposed images accompanied by Haiku, a special form of poetry. She is currently preparing for an exhibition with some of her classmates who specialize in various fields of art. The exhibition is to be held in Bangalore.

**Navmi Sunil Sharma** has won the Bronze medal at the 24th Asian Junior Squash Tournament held last week in Amman, Jordan.



Nothing beats representing India at one of the biggest junior sporting events of Asia !

With stars in her eyes and her head held high, Mumbai's Navmi Sharma (daughter of Sunil Sharma and Aparna Gulvady-Sharma) represented India at the 24th Asian Junior squash championships at Amman, Jordan in mid-August 2017 and

clinched the bronze for India in the girls under 17 age category.

A voracious reader, 16 year old Navmi is a soft-spoken girl who has brilliantly balanced sport and academics. An ex- student of Arya Vidya Mandir school, Juhu, she was awarded the "Role Model for the entire School" title for her perfect management of studies, squash and fitness. Despite participating in various nation-wide tournaments and training relentlessly every

single day through her grade 10 and even through her board exams, she scored a scintillating 95.33% in her Xth ICSE board exams in April 2017. She is now an 11th grader of Mithibai college for Arts.

Though Navmi took up the sport at age ten (considered by many as a late start), she participated in several national and international tournaments; and trounced many formidable opponents, consistently working her way up to be ranked no.3 in Asia last year. She is presently among the top 3 in India in her age category.

At the Asian junior squash championships 2017, Navmi's persistence, tenacious training and fiery on-court performance saw her winning against a slew of other Asian opponents to secure a bronze podium finish for India, while Hong Kong bagged the gold and silver in her age category.

The very best of life's lessons are learnt on the battlefield of sports. Victory and defeat, humility, team work, spirit of sportsmanship, patriotism, time management, discipline and the 'never-say-die' attitude are just some of the things that sport teaches you.

All this hasn't come easy. Navmi has had more than her share of sacrifices- whether it has been giving up on birthday parties of friends or family get-togethers and vacations, she has always unflinchingly chosen to sweat it out in the glass court than party around.

Navmi encourages all youngsters to actively take up sports and to NOT take a break during crucial academic years like 10th and 12th. Sports act like a stress-buster and can help you focus better, grasp concepts faster and deliver better results. She strongly believes that one who can achieve in sports can conquer everything else in this world.

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# From the Cookbook of Vokethur Shantabaipachhi

## **Pesaret ( Andhra's Special)**

**Ingredients:** Moogh :1 cup, Rice : 1 ½ tblsp. ; Jeera: 1 tsp; Finely chopped ginger: ¾ tsp., garlic peeled and chopped 2 cloves (optional); green chillies chopped -2; haldi powder – ¼ tsp; oil or ghee as needed to fry pesarat; salt to taste.

Topping Ingredients: Finely chopped onions: 2 medium; chopped finely chopped green chillies -2 (optional)

**Method:** Soak moogh and rice together for at least 4 hours. Drain and grind with rest of the ingredients with some water into a smooth paste. Heat a lightly greased tawa and spread a ladle full of batter in the centre and spread it outwards into a thin circle. Spread the toppings or you can mix the toppings in the batter and drizzle oil around the edges for a crispy dosa. Flip over to the other side to cook it well. Serve hot with coconut chutney or tomato chatni for full filling and delicious breakfast.

## **Adai (Speciality of Tamilnadu)**

**Ingredients:** Rice -2 cups; mooghdal, udaddal, turdal and chanadal each ¼ cup; chopped coriander leaves ¼ cup; bedgi chillies- 6, green chillies chopped -3; chopped ginger- 1 tblsp; hing- ½ tsp; salt to taste, curry leaves chopped -8 to 10; onion medium chopped -2, coriander leaves chopped 3 tblsp(optional) , oil for frying adai- ¼ cup.

**Method:** Soak rice and dals together for about 4-6 hours. Drain and grind with raw red chillies, green chillies, ginger, salt and grind to a coarse paste and keep it for 3-4 hours. While preparing Adai add onion, curry leaves and coriander leaves and spread a ladle full making a thick dosa like thin doddak. Make small round hole in the middle and drizzle oil in it and around the sides and cover it for few minutes and flip and cook the other side with oil.

Serve hot as a healthy breakfast and delicious lunch for children's school tiffin

## **Bhadang (Spicy Seasonal Puffed Rice- Kurmura)**

**Ingredients:** Kurmura- ½ kg., peanuts (shengdana) fried- 1 ½ cup; copra slivered 1 ½ cup ; curry leaves 10-15, methkut- 4 tsp; cloves-4, cinnamon-2" ; black pepper – ½ tsp; chilli powder 1 tsp; dhane powder- 1 tsp; Jeera -1 tsp; a pinch of sugar ; salt to taste; groundnut oil - ¾ cup

**Method:** Place the kurmura in a bowl, grind or blend well spices , salt and sugar in a mortar or blender using a little oil. Mix the powder into the kurmura, Heat the remaining oil pop curry leaves, peanuts, and slivered dry coconut and sauté well and remove from the heat. Pour over the spiced kurmura stirring so that they are

coated with oil and peanut and coconut slivers are well distributed. Store after completely cooled in a dry airtight container. Serve hot or at room temperature as mid morning or after school snacks.

## **Vetha Kolombo**

**Ingredients:** Brinjal- ½ kg; large onions chopped -2; a small ball of tamarind; a pinch of hing powder; rai-1 tsp; methi-1tsp; turdal-1tsp; red bedgi chillies-3; ghee or oil- ¼ cup; spring of curry leaves -1; salt to taste; haldi powder- ½ tsp; turdal- ½ cup cooked

Ingredients for the paste: dhane 2 tsp; bedgi chillies -3; pepper5-6, chanadal – 2 tsp.

**Method:** Fry in oil or ghee- dhane, pepper, chanadal, dry red chillies and grind to a fine paste and keep aside. Soak tamarind in water with salt and haldi powder. Heat ghee or oil in a pan and make seasoning of rai, hing, turdal, methi, and chilli coarse powder and fry. Then add the ground masala and curry leaves and fry them roughly, then add chopped onions and fry till done. Then add brinjal pieces and fry till brinjal is well coated with masala, add the tamarind water and bring to boil. When the vegetable is cooked thicken the gravy with rice flour or wheat flour mixed with water and then add cooked turdal also and boil and serve with hot rice and curds.



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## Here and There

**Bengaluru:** Gokulashtami celebrations-Lord Krishna was decorated daily in various forms by an enthusiastic team of volunteers led by Smt. Anupama Chandavarkar. Mhanti-s were recited in the evenings daily followed by Aarti from 8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> August on this occasion. Gokulashtami was celebrated on 14<sup>th</sup> August with cradling of Lord Krishna. Gopal Kallo was celebrated on 15<sup>th</sup> August with dahi-handi breaking and active participation of kids dressed up as Krishna-Radha.

Lakshmi Pujan was performed on the occasion of Varamahalakshmi Vrata on 4<sup>th</sup> August. 'Samskrita Sphurna Shiviram' was conducted for the laity by the teachers of Geervana Pratishtha on 10<sup>th</sup> of August 2017.

The Punyatithi of Parama Pujya Shrimat Parijananshram Swamiji III was observed on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Samoohika Bhagavadgita Pathana was rendered from 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> August to mark the Punyatithi of Parama Pujya Shrimat Anandashram Swamiji. The same was observed on 24<sup>th</sup> August with Samoohika Gayatri Japa Anushtaan, recitation of Swami Anandashram Ashtottara and Bilvachana, Bhagavad Gita, Kenopanishad and Upanishad Bhashya Pathan, Guru Pujan, Ashtavadhana Seva, Deepalankar and Mouna.

Bhajan Seva was rendered by many devotees on different occasions during Chaturmasa. Hindustani Classical Music with Bhajans was rendered by Smt. Geeta Gulvady. There was a "Sangeetika on Chitrapur Darshanam" by Shri Anantakrishna Hirebet. Nritya Seva was rendered by Smt. Bhavani Nayel with students and Kum. Anvita Kodange. There was Santoor Recital by Shri Deepak Ullal.

On 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> August, Samoohik Gouri- Ganesh Pujan was held.

The series of talks by Smt. Dr. Sudha Tinaikar on Viveka Chudamani continued along with Pujan on Monday/Thursday/Friday and Samoohik Gayathri Japa Anushtan on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays.

### Reported by Saikrupa Nalkur

**Chennai :** In July apart from Monthly Sadhana Panchakam, we had Bhajans & Puja on 4th July and Yajnopavit Dharana on 28th July. August was jampacked with programmes. Monthly Sadhana Panchakam, Bhajans on Punyatithis of HH Shrimat Parijananashram III & HH Shrimat Anandashram Swamiji on 24th.

Mahila Samaj AGM was conducted on 12th Aug. The new office bearers are Shilpa Acharya-President, Dr. Purnima Rao-Vice President, Preetham Chandavarkar-Secretary. They were elected back by popular demand.

Shri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations commenced on 14th Aug. The next day programme started at 7 am with Nitya Niyama, Aarti followed by Flag Hoisting by Smt.

Geetha Gulwadi, the senior-most Committee member. This was followed by breakfast. Janma Katha, cradling ceremony and Nagar bhajan inside the hall premises in quick succession.

AGM.of both Local Sabha & Saraswat Association were held. The office bearers were the same as last year i.e. Padbidri Krishnanand Rao - President Saraswat Association & Local Sabha; Pradeep Gulvadi - Vice President Saraswat Association & Local Sabha; Prasad Gulwadi - Secretary Saraswat Association; Shivshankar Savoor- Treasurer-Association; Kavita Savoor - Secretary Local Sabha & Ashok Trikkanad - Treasurer Local Sabha. The day concluded with Mangalarti & Prasad Bhojan.

### Reported by Kavita Savoor

**Mangalore:** Sri Krishna Janmashtami was celebrated at Venugopal Shrine of Sri Vamanashrama Samadhi Math for 10 days from 8th August 2017 to 17th August 2017.

Bhajans of Ramavallabhadas by laity was held every day at evening and night on all the 10 days. Special Bhajan programs were also held most of the days by different Bhajana Mandalis of Mangalore. Every day during the Janmastami celebrations, Lord would be decorated in different costumes depicting different leelas he played during his life.

On 14<sup>th</sup> August Krishna Janmastami day, large number of devotees visited the Math to have blessings of Lord Venugopal. Cradling ceremony of the Lord was on 16<sup>th</sup> August. At night, there was Harikatha on the story and circumstances of the birth of Lord Krishna by Dr S P Gurudas. Sri Mangaldas Gulvady in tabla and Sri Ramesh Holla in Harmonium accompanied Dr S P Gurudas during Harikatha. On last day 17th August, Gopalakala was held in the evening where many kids dressed as Krishna and Radha entertained the audience. Santarpana Seva was also held at noon on last day.

Mangalore laity enthusiastically and joyfully participated in large numbers in the above Krishna Janmashtami celebrations which was conducted by Gokulashtami Celebrations Committee. Punyatithi of HH Parijananashram Swamiji III was observed on 11<sup>th</sup> August with Ashtavadhana Seva, Mangalarathi and Prasad Vitaran.

### Reported by Savnal Janardhan Rao

**Mumbai - Bandra-Khar:** Punyatithis of Shrimat Parijananashram Swamiji III and Shrimat Anandashram Swamiji were observed at Shri Anandashram Math, Khar on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2017 respectively. Guru Poojan was performed on both days, followed by Deep Namaskar, Ashtak, Mangalarati and prasad.

Shree Krishna Janmashtami celebrations were held on 14th August at Shri Anandashram Math, Khar. The





Parijnan Bhajan Mandal (Santacruz) sang melodious Krishna bhajans. This was followed by the cradling ceremony of the Lord. The Prarthana Varga children Anandita Trivedi sang a bandish in praise of Shree Krishna Bhagwan, while Rhea Trasikar read a poem by Surdas in Braj bhasha. This was followed by the Chocolate Handi in which all the children present participated enthusiastically.

**Reported by Shantala Trasikar**

**Mumbai - Dadar :** Samaradhana of HH Shrimath Parijnanashrama Swamiji III was commemorated at MMM hall on 8<sup>th</sup> August. Between 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> August, some of our yuvas participated in the annual Yuvadhara Sammelanam which was held at Karla. On 15<sup>th</sup> August, the yuvas participated in flag hoisting, Dahi Handi and last but not the least, a special treasure hunt!

Along with regular Prarthana classes, Smt. Shobha Puthli conducted sessions on Sanskrit Manache Shloka, Hanuman Chalisa and Bhagawad Gita for the children. As is the norm every year, Krishna Janmashtami was celebrated at Shri Dilip Puthli's residence and on 15<sup>th</sup> August our sadhakas offered their sashtang pranaams to Lord Krishna in the form of a Bhajan Seva.

On 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> August, Smt. Chandrama Bijur and group presented a wonderful programme at Karla Math in the form of "Sangeet Krishna Katha". On 18<sup>th</sup> August, our sadhakas performed Samuhik Devi Anushthanam at Shri Gajanan Chandavarkar's residence.

In the Swadhyaya held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August, some of our sadhakas reflected upon the significance of "Aatma Panchaka Puja" as well as the benefits of practising and maintaining a balance between "Vaaka" and "Praana," in order to bring harmony into our lives.

The Samaradhana of HH Shrimath Anandashrama Swamiji was commemorated on 24<sup>th</sup> August.

**Reported by Mohit Karkal.**

**Mumbai – Grant Road:** Gokulashtami Mhantys were held by the Canara Bhajan mandal at the Shrimat Anandashram Hall for 10 days, culminating in cradling ceremony and kallo for both elders as well as children. The youngsters celebrated Dahi-handi, with 1 handi tied between every two buildings in Talmakiwadi. Boys, girls and children participated with enthusiasm. Punyatithi of Shrimat Parijnanashram Swamiji was observed with Gurupoojan. Shrimat Anandashram Swamiji's Punyatithi was observed at Anandashram Colony with Gurupoojan.

**Reported by Smita Mavinkurve**

**Mumbai – Santacruz:** On 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 Punyatithi of HH Shrimat Anandashram Swamiji was observed with Pancharit Rudrabhishek and Sahasra Bilvachinadi Pooja. This was officiated by Ved Shri Ulman Anandbhat maam and was attended by devotees to

partake blessings.

On every 2nd and 4th Sunday, our Purush Varga devotees perform the Gayatri Anusthan at 9am.

This is well attended by over 25 devotees each time.

**Reported by Kavita Karnad**

## Our Institutions

### Chitrapur Saraswat Education & Relief Society

At the Annual General Meeting of Chitrapur Saraswat Education & Relief Society held on 20th August 2017, following members were elected as Office Bearers for the FY 2017-18 :

Shri Ashok D Hemmady – Chairman, Shri Arun S. Padbidri - Vice Chairman, Shri Gurudas U. Gulvady - Hon. Secretary, Capt. Arun S. Lajami - Hon. Treasurer, Shri Sunil N. Kaikini - Jt. Hon. Treasurer, Shri Ramesh M. Bijoor - Jt. Hon. Secretary, Dr. Narendra S. Hattikudur – Member, Shri Dinkar Rao Udyavar - Member

**Gurudas Gulvady, Hon. Sec, CSERS**

### Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September** a Grand Finale of our Centenary Celebrations was held at the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Auditorium, Chowpatty. A detailed report on this is given on page 11 in English and page 37 in Marathi.

On 15<sup>th</sup> September, the AGM of the Samaj was held at the Samaj Hall. The new Committee is as follows President: Sharayu Kowshik, Vice President: Vidyalakshmi Kulkarni, Chairperson: Padmini Bhatkal, Secretary: Smita Mavinkurve, Jt. Secretary: Priya Bijur, Treasurer: Shrikala Vinekar, Jt. Treasurer: Usha Surkund, Publicity: Geeta Balse & Vijayalakshmi Kapnadak, Library: Shyamala Talgeri & Nirmala Kalambi, Industrial Section: Priya Baddukulli, Member: Neeta Yadery. Ex-officios – Geeta Bijoor, Kanchan Sujir, Suman Kodial

### Forthcoming Programmes:

Wed. 11<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2017 at 3.30 p.m. at Samaj Hall - Kojagiri Get-together.

Contribution Rs. 70/- per head. Please register by 6<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

**Reported by Smita Mavinkurve**

### DONATION RECEIVED

**Kanara Saraswat Association is grateful to the following donor:**

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL RELIEF FUND

Nandini Sadanand Nadkarny Rs. 6,00,000/-  
(In m/o Late Shri Shantaram Vishveshwar Nadkarni and Late Mukta Shantaram Nadkarni)

The donation of Rs. 6,00,000 made by Smt. Nandini Sadanand Nadkarny to the KSA Scholarship Fund was printed in our last issue. We regret that, this was however missed. .... Editor





## My Journey Through Self-Defence

PRIYA HATANGADI (15 YRS)

I stood outside the examination room with my fellow students drenched in sweat; even the butterflies in my stomach could sense my restlessness. The sun slunk lazily down the horizon, its rays as hot as a flame as they pierced us with an intense glare. Beads of sweat dripped from my pale forehead into my mouth, its salty metallic taste engulfing my senses. I could hear the blood pounding in my ears. It was the day of my karate black belt exam and they were going to announce the results, after the grueling eleven hour exam. It was funny to think that a few years ago I was a different person, someone who was afraid of the outside world and didn't try to stand out in a crowd - someone who didn't do anything especially extraordinary or distinct. But that would hopefully change this day.

Before I started karate I was just an average 6th grader in a small but progressive town in India. I was not very confident and used to be afraid of being in a crowd. My friend circle was limited and I felt kind of isolated, until one day when my mother decided to enroll me in the karate class that took place at my school. I was reluctant to go at first and used to make excuses. Often, my mother had to drag me to the classes. A few weeks after I started the classes, one boy in my class bullying me, told me I was weak and that I would never get my black belt. I was so mad that day that I vowed to prove him wrong. It was partly out of this stubbornness and my drive to prove to myself that I went so far in this journey and didn't give up. Over time, I began to enjoy the classes and take pride in the art form. I started making good friends who remain my friends to this day. Karate had ultimately become my passion as I learnt its many different styles and each style's rich history. Some of my fondest memories come from practicing karate with my friends, learning how to use different weapons, marveling at the number of bruises I have received from practicing with those weapons and mostly the fun times in class. All these nostalgic memories flitted through my head as a source of distraction from my nervousness and anticipation.

Suddenly the main instructor said "Come inside students, the results are ready" his booming voice filling the room. We all timidly walked in, our breaths jagged and short. As we all sat down in the middle of the humongous room, they started calling out names to come up on the stage. I sat there my breath caught as I saw dozens of students whose names were called walk up and receive the results of their hard work.

"Priya Hatangadi", the instructor said, his earth shattering voice breaking me out of my trance. In that moment, I felt like my limbs were frozen and couldn't

move, but somehow conquering my fear I walked up on the stage that felt like it was as big as a city. I could hear my fumbling feet colliding with the ground at every step as time slowed down. It felt as if the whole world was looking at me as I walked up on that stage and stood in place. The main instructor stood towering over me and with a surprisingly gentle smile gave me my black belt, the thing that I had worked so hard for. He called me a Sempei, the first rank of the higher belts and bowed at me as he gave me my belt. As I took it I felt an immense sense of joy and pride for accomplishing the first thing in my life I truly earned and worked hard for. I felt proud of myself hearing the instructor call me this term of respect and seniority that made me feel part of something bigger than myself.

Through the thunder of clapping I could hear my parents rejoicing in the distant background. I felt the happiest and most confident that day than in my whole life. Karate has taught me most of the values that I uphold today and has made me into a confident, more self-assured person. It has not only taught me how to defend myself but has also taught me the value of respect, honesty, integrity, discipline and confidence. It has taught me values that most people appreciate only in the later stages of their life.. Getting my black belt was one of the best experiences of my life. This experience has shaped me into my best self. Karate has influenced my life a great deal and has made me the person I am today, A person that I am proud of.

### CONVOCATION 2017

The Kanara Saraswat Association invites all to felicitate successful Saraswat students who have passed from the various SSC/ HSC Boards, Universities and other examinations.

At 5.00 p.m. on Saturday, November 18, 2017 in Shrimat Anandashram Hall, Talmakiwadi, J. D. Marg, Mumbai – 400007

**Shri Kishore Masurkar**, Vice- President, KSA will be **"AT HOME"**

**Dr. (Prof.) Suneela Mavinkurve** (Retired Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences and Environment, Goa University) will be the Chief Guest and has kindly agreed to address the students.

**Shri Praveen Kadle**, President, KSA will preside over the function.

All the successful students with their parents and friends are invited.

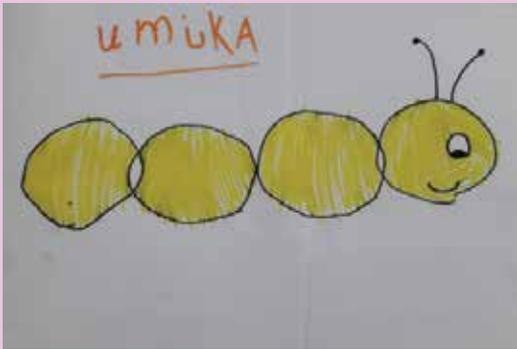
Please take your seats by 4.30 p.m.





**Kiddies' Corner (contd)**

**Caterpillar**



Umika Hattangadi - 5 years

**Sunflower**



Shriyans Hattangadi - 1 and half years

**Princess**



Pratyusha Savkur - 5 years

**Bird**



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## Karuneshwar Old Age Care House



‘Karuneshwar Old Age Care House’ near Panvel offers succour to Senior Citizens of economically backward families, irrespective of their cast and creed, either having no one to support them or abandoned by their near ones. They are physically weak, and suffering from impaired reasoning and memory disorders due to advanced age.

A pious couple Ishwar and Karuna Dhore, with the help of three persons take care of these people with love and dedication. This Old Age Home was founded by Iswar and Karuna Dhore in 2009. Ishwar served many years at Baba Amte’s ‘Anandvan’, a well-known centre for rehabilitation and empowerment of poor people suffering from Leprosy in Maharashtra state. Later on, he worked at the Leprosy rehab centre and Old Age Home at Shantivan, near Panvel, around 60 kilometers from Mumbai, for few years.

‘Karuneshwar Old Age Care House’ is located around 10 kms from Panvel station, near Shantivan, on New Panvel - Matheran Road. On an average 26 to 28 senior citizens stay there who are taken care of for their daily needs of food, clothing, medicines etc. Some of them require help for feeding, bathing, wearing diapers as well. A physician visits once in a month and examines them.

Anyone who wishes to support this institution taking care of less fortunate, deprived senior citizens; and wants to lend one’s helping hand for their requirements in kind or cash may please contact:

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# Parisevanam

**A touching account by KAVITA KARNAD on how taking the first step towards offering seva slowly enables you to shed unwanted clutter and**

## Discover The Light Within!

Jai Shankar!

Everyone is familiar with the phrase "Calm seas never make good sailors". Similarly, my journey and quest to connect deeper with the Divine began with profound incidents that were experienced by my family and myself. These evoked a deep sense of reverence, love, gratitude and the desire to offer seva at the Lotus feet of our Guru and our Math.

As a novice devotee, I initially watched in fascination the sincerity and seva offered by more mature sadhaka-s who had been around for a longer time. Soon, however, from just a volunteering parent, I was roped in as a Prarthana teacher. With Parama Pujya Swamiji's Blessings and encouragement from Smita Nagarkattepachi (who was then a Prarthana teacher herself and is now the Chief-Coordinator) there was no looking back. Interacting with children is a real stress buster and a different experience totally. It has been over 7 years now, and I am so glad to be a part of our Prarthana Varga family. My trips to Karla and Shirali increased and so did my attempt to participate

volunteers for stage performances by the little children of Shri Parijnanashram Vidyalaya in Karla was a unique experience altogether.



Om Shri Gurubhyo Namaha

Parama Pujya Swamiji's Blessings and Grace never cease to work wonders amongst devotees of all age groups, from senior citizens to the children in Prarthana and the 'teen-ups' of Yuvadhara. The amazing social outreach projects taken up by our Math under Parama Pujya Swamiji's Guidance - like woman- empowerment (through Samvit Sudha and HMPP i.e. Hand made paper products), Parimochana to initiate self-help groups in villages and most importantly, - education (mentoring of educational institutions at Shirali, Mallapur, Mangaluru and Karla) all conjure a feeling of deep pride and joy as the heart reiterates - "This is where I belong!".



Say c-h-e-e-s-e



Smileys for the happy children of Parijnanashram Vidyalaya

From physical fitness with rebounder sessions to emotional wellness and spiritual growth with japa, meditation, pranayam and ninaad sessions, His Holiness continually ensures that we derive maximum benefit in every sphere of keeping body, mind and spirit in sync.

in different activities. Each holistic trip / camp was memorable and wonderful. Making props with other

Swamiji's Aashirvachan-s, Upadesha-s and Swadhyaya-s have always been inspiring and motivating in all



Papercraft for Prarthana





## Parisevanam

spheres of my life and also are my constant guiding force. Satsang-s with like-minded people have further fueled my desire to delve more and deeper into the realm of the Divine Sannidhya of our Beloved Guru. Seva Saptaha gives me the necessary discipline, experience and exposure to interact with more devotees. This has taught me to shed my own inhibitions, accept my shortcomings, move past my comfort zone and LEARN!

Observing mauna has changed me a lot. It is an offering I make to the Divine on any one Monday of the month. That day is always special. I increase my japa and immerse myself in HH's Swadhyaya-s and Ashirvachan-s..This enables me to introspect, keep control over my emotions and to let go of that unwanted clutter which tends to exhaust so much of our good energy.

The emotional strength that mauna stirs within has done wonders in every aspect of my life - in seva or at home, or even in dealing with difficult people and situations. This has made me realize again and again that I take back so much more than what little I attempt to offer as seva!

In spite of the differences amongst us, (working style, thinking and attitude) all volunteers have that one strong bond in common, which is the reverence for our Guru and our Math. Where there is vibrancy in singing and chanting, there is also peace and tranquility in meditation and mauna. Each sadhaka gets an unfolding platform to display his or her

potential amidst the spectrum of varied skills and talent and different professionals. The resulting inspiration and creative output at each gathering at Pujya Swamiji's camps infuses so much joy and enthusiasm and becomes a beautiful expression of collective love and gratitude.

HMPP gave Sushma Koppikarpachi and me an opportunity to launch coloring books for children and diaries. Back in my own Santacruz sabha, we manage a Samvit Sudha hub with six volunteers (Smita Nagarkatte, Sujata Nadkarni, Shobha Nayampalli, Aditi Mudbidri, Surekha Padbidri and yours truly!). Getting involved in any of these voluntary activities may seem difficult in the beginning when self-doubt becomes a huge impediment to one's own untapped resources. But soon, when realization dawns that participation is what matters and every devotee is important to facilitate growth and bring about a change in himself/ herself and the samaja at large, the path opens up and more opportunities pour in. It is often said that "Little drops of water, little drops of sand, make the mighty ocean and the mighty land."

To be a Chitrapur Saraswat and to have a rich and revered Guru Parampara like ours to exalt in, is a true blessing!! So powerful and palpable is the feeling, that once connected, the Gurushakti draws you like a moth to a flame, not to burn, but to discover the light within!!

### Shri Chitrapur Math Mumbai (Grant Road) Local Sabha

**Shrimad Bhagvadgita Recitation Competition 2017** will be held on  
**Sunday 12th November 2017, 2.30 pm onwards at Talmakiwadi.**

**Shlokas for recitation:** Adhyaya 11, from 42 to 55 (14 Shlokas)

**Shlokas for Abhivyakti :**

१. सन्तुष्टः सततं योगी यतात्मा दृढनिश्चयः |  
मय्यर्पितमनोबुद्धिर्यो मद्भक्तः स मे प्रियः || १२-१४ ||
२. न हि देहभृता शक्यं त्यक्तुं कर्माण्यशेषतः |  
यस्तु कर्मफलत्यागी स त्यागीत्यभिधीयते || १८-१९ ||
३. अभ्यासयोगयुक्तेन चेतसा नान्यगामिना |  
परमं पुरुषं दिव्यं याति पार्थानुचिन्तयन् || ८-८ ||
४. यत्करोषि यदश्नासि यज्जुहोषि ददासि यत् |  
यत्तपस्यसि कौन्तेय तत्कुरुष्व मदर्पणम् || ९-२७ ||
५. ये यथा मां प्रपद्यन्ते तांस्तथैव भजाम्यहम् |  
मम वर्तमानुवर्तन्ते मनुष्याः पार्थ सर्वशः || ४-११ ||

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## Report

# Silver Jubilee of “Manyata Divas” and Silver Jubilee of Kumta Konkani Parishat

REPORTED BY ARUN UBHAYAKAR

It was a grand celebration of the Konkani mogis of Kumta in which they participated in hundreds in Rajandra Prasad Hall of Gibb High School in Kumta under the joint auspices of Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Academy and Konkani Parishat Kumta. The programme started with the attractive Folk Dances of Siddhi Troup of Sirsi-Yallapur for half an hour.

Then a seminar was held on “Constitutional recognition to Konkani” presided by Dr. Hemant Bhat of B.G.V.S College, Sadaashivgad, Karwar. Shri Prem Morais of Mangalore, Dr.Shivram Kamat, Kumta participated in the discussion. Konkani Academy Registrar, Dr.Devdas Pai was the coordinator.

The function started with a melodious welcome song by the girls of Gibb Girls High School and it was inaugurated by Father Jon Rodrigues of St. Baptist Church Kumta by lighting the lamp. Shri R.P.Naik, the



newly nominated President of Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Academy, Shri Arun Ubhayakar, the president of Kumta Konkani Parishat and Shri G.S.Kamat, the noted Chartered Accountant were the Chief Guests. Father John expressed his happiness about the active participation of hundreds of youths in the Konkani movement on this auspicious day of Manyata Divas.

Arun Ubhayakar welcomed all the guests and thanked the President of Karnataka Konkani Academy in joining hands in making this function a grand success. Shri R.P.Naik President said that he would arrange Academy programmes all over Karnataka and try to involve all 42 Konkani Pangads of the state. Five newly nominated members of the Academy were also present on the dais. Many noted Konkani Sadhakas were honoured.

Second seminar on “Role of youths in propagating Konkani in Media and Journalism” was held under the President-ship of Shri Vithaldas Kamat, a noted Journalist of Ankola. Prof. Steven Quadras of Mangalore presented his paper and Smt. Veena Kamat, Principal of Arts Science College and Shri Pramod Naik of Sirsi participated in the discussion that followed. Shri Anandu Naik the Lecturer of Govt. college was the coordinator.

Next session was Samvad with Shri Mahableshwar Sail, the great author, who was honoured with Saraswati Samman Award for the first time to Konkani author. Dr.Arvind Shanbhag introduced the author and questioned him about the circumstances that led to writing of such a great novel in Konkani. Arun Ubhayakar and Muralidher Prabhu participated in the discussion. Shri Sail expressed that he was inspired by the war type situations and sufferings of the potters in the changed circumstances that has been highlighted in his book.

After the lunch break Kavita Vachan session was held which was presided by Shri Kishna Sharma of Honavar, Konkani Academy Awardee. Participants were Vasudev

Shanbhag of Sirsi, Nagesh Anvekar of Karwar, Chaitanya Ubhayakar of Vasco.

Next Mahila session on “Konkani Education” was presided by Dr.Preeti Bhandarkar of

B.Ed. College ,Kumta. Participants were Smt.Surajrani Prabhu of Sirsi, Usha Rane Karwar and Jnanada Shanbhag Kumta, Nirmala Prabhu coordinated the programme.

In the concluding function Shri Tanaji Harlankar, a noted Konkani Sahiti of Goa and Chetankumar Nayak, Rtd. Akashwani Director and Arvind Karkikodi,President, Jilla Kannada Parishat were the chief guests. The inspiring speech by Tanaji thrilled all the spectators and received thunderous applause. Chetankumar in his speech recollected his association with Kumta and appreciated the magnanimous work done by Kumta Parishat under the able leadership of Ubhayakar. Arvind Karkikodi suggested that Kannada and Konkani were the sister languages and he would try to arrange Conferences jointly in future.

Arun Ubhayakar gave a farewell speech expressing his gratitude to the invited guests and the receptive audience. Shri R.P.Naik, President of Konkani Academy expressed his joy in joining hands with Kumta Konkani Parishat and said he was overwhelmed by excellently handled celebration leading to grand success. Attractive dance and drama programmes satisfied the thirst of the audience. The programme ended with the vote of thanks by Madhav Shanbhag.





## CLASSIFIEDS

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## DOMESTIC TIDINGS

### BIRTHS

*We welcome the following new arrivals:*

- May 30 : A daughter (Lila) to Aseem Anil Mudbidri and Devyani Vithal Haldipur at Krakow, Poland.
- Aug 15 : A daughter (Dhwani) to Chaitra & Rohit Dhareshwar at Chennai.

### MARRIAGE

*We congratulate the following couple:*

- Sept 2 : Dr. Rita Sudhir Golikeri with Eric Wood at Fort Worth, Texas, USA.

### OBITUARIES

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

- July 15 : Charudatt S Kowshik (84) of Hubli at Bangalore.
- Sept 6 : Lalita Mohan Bedramane (67) (nee Upponi) at Bangalore.
- Aug 28 : Prasad Haldipur (37) at Borivli (Mumbai).
- Sept 10 : Mangesh D Mugwe (80) at Mysore.
- Sept 20 : Mangesh Ganpat Balwally (81) at Mumbai.

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