

Kanara Saraswat

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION

Vol. 24 Issue 1

Mumbai

January 2019

Pages 48 Price ₹ 20/-

KSA'S CONVOCATION 2018 AT HOME



Vice President Kishore Masurkar
honouring Chief Guest Dr. Urmila Thatte



Dr. Urmila Thatte addressing the audience



Felicitating Dr. Suman Mundkur



Soumya Koppikar
giving a vote of
thanks on behalf of
all the students



Kishore Masurkar and Dr. Urmila Thatte with the successful students

We wish all our readers a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!



Namaste Bhai

Report on Birth Centenary Celebrations of Shankarrao Rakshe fondly called Bhai (page 25)

Photo Credits - Saraswat Club, Santacruz





Kanara Saraswat

A Monthly Magazine of the
Kanara Saraswat Association
Office: 13/1-2, Association Building,
Talmakiwadi, Near Talmaki Chowk,
J.D. Marg, Mumbai 400007

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

Vol. 24, No 1, January 2019

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

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

President: **Praveen P. Kadle**
Vice President: **Kishore Masurkar**
Chairman: **Jairam Khambadkone**

MEMBERS OF THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Managing Editor: **Gurunath Gokarn**
Editor: **Smita Mavinkurve**
Associate Editor: **Uday A. Mankikar**

Editorial Committee:

Usha K. Surkund
Devyani Bijoor

Computer Composing:
Sujata V. Masurkar

KSA Telephone: (022) 2380 2263

TELEFAX: (022) 23805655

KSA Holiday Home, Nashik

Tel: 0253-2580575 / 0253-2315881

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR KSA HEALTH LECTURE SERIES

**** Please Note change in date ****

Audio-Visual Presentation and Lecture
by **Dr Ashok Balsekar**
followed by Question & Answer session
on a burning issue plaguing our society today
Incompatibility, Marital Discord and Divorces
at 10 am on Sunday 3rd March 2019

at the Shrimat Anandashram Hall, KSA Bldg,
Talmakiwadi.

- Dr P S Mavinkurve,
Hon Secretary, Health Centre

IN THIS ISSUE....

From the President's Desk	5
Our Cover:	
KSA's Annual Convocation – 'At Home'	7
Letters to the Editor	9
Late Smt Aruna Rao (Kundaje) – A Tribute	
... Uday Mankikar	10
Late Suresh Rao (Andar) – A Tribute	
... Uday Mankikar	12
Tribute to my dear friend Smt. Nirmala Chikramane ...	
... Geeta Suresh Balse	13
बी.व्ही.इ.एस.ची "लक्ष्मी" – निर्मला चिकरमने बाई	
... विजयालक्ष्मी सुरेश कापनाडक	14
My dream of a new India ... Yashodhara Sirur	19
Military Musings : Nishan -The Colours	
... Maj Gen B N Rao (Retd.)	22
Kodagu and the Kodavas ... Satyanarayan Pandit	23
An Instant Vacation ... Gurudutt Mundkur	24
Report: Namaste Bhai !! ... Subodh Rao	25
The Sparrow's Wings in the Wind ... Veena Bantwal	26
सोनियाचा सोहळा... भाईची एक उपासक : अर्चना बलसावर – हड्डंगडी	26
Science Corner 16: Deep inside computers (continued)	
... Sanjay Gokarn	27
Atmabodh-4 ... Dr. Sudha Tinaikar	29
'Eye Contact'- An important part of your personality	
... Mayur Kalbag	30
Personalia	31
Kiddies' Corner: Drawings:	
Peacock dancing ... Umika Prasad Hattangadi;	
An Apple Tree ... Neeharika A. Baljekar;	
Fantasy ... Prateeksha Ullal ; Scenery ... Ishaan Madaye	32
Parisevanam: Devabhasha ... Sujata Haldipur	35
"रामकथा कोंकणी गीतरामायण" – सुश्राव्य सांगितिक कार्यक्रम	
... उदय मंकिकर	37
वृक्षवल्ली आम्हां सोयरी ... रेखा राव	38
समाजसेवा व गुरुसेवा यांतील फरक ... श्यामला कुळकर्णी	39
एक भयंकर प्रसंग : काळ आला होता पण ... शैलजा वैद्य (मासुरकर)	40
कोंकणी सौरभ – थॉड्यो आदगत्यां ... नलिनी नाडकर्णी	41
भाग्यद लक्ष्मी बारम्मा – मराठी अनुवाद ... ममता नगरकर	41
पोशिंदा ... सौ. प्रिया प्र. बडकुळी	42
Here & There	43
Our Institutions	44
Classifieds and Domestic Tidings	45

KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION (KSA)

is in the process of revamping its website and making it more interactive. For this purpose, **KSA is looking for freelance programmers** in PHP & MySQL, to develop various modules for the website. Interested persons may email us at kanarasaraswatassociation@gmail.com to enable us contact you and discuss further in the matter

With best compliments from:



STANDARD GREASES & SPECIALITIES PVT. LTD.

an ISO 9001 : 2000 Company
**Manufacturers of Lubricating Oils, Greases
& Specialities**

ROYAL CASTOR PRODUCTS LTD

an ISO 9001 : 2000 Company
**Manufacturers /Exporters of Hydrogenated Castor Oil,
12 Hydroxy Stearic Acid**

Regd./Adm. Office:

101, Ketan Apartments,
233, R.B. Mehta Marg, Patel Chowk, Ghatkopar (E),
Mumbai - 400 077.

Tel: 25013641-46 Fax: 25010384

Email: standardgroup@standardgreases.co.in

Web: www.standardgreases.co.in

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

Dear Friends,

At the outset, I take this opportunity to wish all of you a Happy and Prosperous New Year. I hope that the year 2019 brings great success to all of you in your endeavours.

25th December 2018 marked the day of the 150th birth anniversary of one of our Founders, Late Shri Rao Bahadur Talmaki. He was a great visionary and started premier institutions in banking and affordable housing through the Co-operative movement in India. Rao Bahadur Talmaki was in the true sense, the Father of the Co-operative movement in India. The Kanara Saraswat Association (KSA) along with all other major institutions which were founded by Shri Rao Bahadur Talmaki will celebrate the next 12 months with various programmes in his memory.

I just finished reading the autobiography of the famous tennis player Andre Agassi, 'Open'. In this book, he has compared the game of tennis with life. He writes, "Tennis uses the language of life. Advantage, service, fault, break, love, etc. The basic elements of tennis are those of everyday existence, because every match is a life in miniature. Even the structure of tennis, the way pieces fit inside one another mimic the structure of our days. Points become games, become sets, become tournaments, and it's all so tightly connected that any point can become the turning point. It reminds me of the way seconds become minutes, become hours, and any hour can be our finest or darkest."

How true it is! Life is like a game.

Look at the game of cricket. Don't you get 'bowled over' by someone's simplicity or beauty? Don't you ask someone not to make or raise some 'silly point'? Or don't you ask someone not to throw a 'googly' when you are suddenly taken by surprise? And don't you tell someone that you were hit for a 'six' when you get thrown completely off-guard?

Life is not like a brief T-20 match nor a One-Day Game. Life is like a long Test Match. To succeed, you need patience, perseverance, strength of character and all other virtues that you would need in a long game to face upheavals as well as enjoy good times in life. Like in the game of cricket, to succeed in life, sometimes you need to get on your 'back foot' and sometimes, you need to play on the 'forward'. When to go on 'defence' and when to 'attack' is the art of judgment that will pay you rich dividends in the game of cricket as well as in your life.

All of us must score our 'Goals' in life as we do in a game of hockey or football. We all hate to be losers. We all want to be winners in our lives. Therefore, as Andre Agassi says, like in every game, including in our lives, it is important as to how we play the right move at every second, every minute, every hour and finally every day. It is important to play the right move and live our life in the right manner to win this 'Game of Life'.

As we enter this New Year of 2019, let us aim at playing the right move every second of our life to make this New Year a Great Year for all of us.

Wishing you once again all the best for 2019!

With regards,

Praveen P. Kadle

KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION (KSA)

Refer Announcement in December 2018 issue of KANARA SARASWAT about our Facebook Page & YouTube Channel

Facebook authorities, for reasons not known, have disabled our facebook page created at that time (<https://www.facebook.com/Kanara-Saraswat-Association-255488695128876>). Please bear with us.

However, a fresh FACEBOOK PAGE has been created which can be accessed at <https://www.facebook.com/kanarasaraswatassociation>

It is our endeavour to be in touch with all members and our community across the globe not only through our magazine but also through the internet & social media network



FACEBOOK PAGE : <https://www.facebook.com/kanarasaraswatassociation>

OR

simply search for "KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION" from your facebook account
ALL KSA ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL BE FOUND HERE. LOGIN AND KEEP YOURSELF UPDATED

&



YOUTUBE CHANNEL: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmYX_Yvvd0TQrplN_VEbSAQ

OR

simply search for "KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION" on youtube.com
A FEW PAST PROGRAMS ARE ALREADY UP AND OTHERS WILL BE UPLOADED GRADUALLY. RECENTLY CONCLUDED PROGRAMS UPLOADED & FUTURE PROGRAMS WILL BE UPLOADED WITHIN THREE WEEKS OF THE PROGRAM

Rajan Kalyanpur

(Jt Hon Secretary for IT & Website)

Shivshankar Murdeshwar

(Hon Secretary)

Jairam Khambadkone

(Chairman)

:- With Best Compliments -:

From

ACME SOAP WORKS

Manufacturers of Industrial & Household Soaps & Detergents

Ram Mandir Road, Next to Ram Mandir,

Goregaon (W), Mumbai - 400 104

Telephone No.: 91 22 26762959 / 26762970 / 26794394,

Fax: 26762994

Email: acmesoap@vsnl.net Website: www.acmesoapworks.com

KSA's Annual Convocation – 'At Home'

The Annual Convocation programme called lovingly as 'At Home' was held in the Shrimad Anandashram Hall on Saturday 20th October 2018 at 5 p.m. Dr. Urmila Jamalabad - Thatte, renowned Pharmacologist was the Chief Guest. KSA's Vice President Shri Kishore Masurkar was the host for the day.

Smt. Ashwini Prashant welcomed everybody and invited Shri Kishore Masurkar, Vice President KSA, Shri Shivshankar Murdeshwar, Secretary KSA, Dr. Urmila Thatte and Shri Jairam Khambadkone, Chairman KSA to take their seats on the dais.

Shri Kishore Masurkar welcomed Dr. Thatte, all the successful students and their parents and family members and other people gathered in the hall. He said "KSA has been congratulating successful students and rewarding them for over 90 years (First Convocation was held in 1924) now. So in our mind's eye we can imagine our own grandparents and great grandparents gathered here on a similar occasion in the past! Many eminent personalities have come here in the past to congratulate and advise young students. H.H. Shrimad Anandashram Swamiji of hallowed memory had also presided over such a function in 1957!

I was wondering why this function is called 'At Home'. And then I realised that this is a function to appreciate our own children in our own institution the KSA! आम्ही आमगल्या चेडवांगेलें कौतुक आमगल्याची घरांतुं करताती! We, Chitrapur Saraswats, have always given a lot of emphasis to education. Even when we look for a marriage partner for our children the first question we ask is 'कस्ले शिकला or शिकल्या' All the students here have achieved one part of success and that is academic success. But this will lead to other successes for you to lead a successful life.

Dr. Urmila Thatte is one of the foremost pharmacologists of our country, who has achieved excellence in her area of expertise. I am very happy that she could come here today to address us. Thank you".

Smt. Ashwini Prashant then introduced Dr. Urmila Thatte.

- Smt Thatte was born as Urmila Jamalabad to Shri Jamalabad Vasant Rao and Smt. Meera Jamalabad (nee Andar) who used to be a professor of Maths in Wislon College. She studied at St. Columba in Mumbai, then St Mary's in Pune and finally Queen Mary's School in Mumbai. Her college education was done in Ruia College. Later she studied Medicine in Seth GS Medical College and obtained MD in Pharmacology, PhD in Pharmacology and DNB in Clinical Pharmacology. She is also a Fellow of the National Medical Science Academy New Delhi.

- She is a Member of the Subject Expert Committee (Govt. of India) for review of new drug applications and the Expert Committee set up by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for deciding compensation for Research Related Injury. She also serves on Scientific Advisory committee as a Clinical Pharmacology expert of the ICMR. She is a Member Secretary, Forum for Ethical Review Committee in India (FERCI), Chair of the Signal Review Panel, Pharmaco vigilance

Programme of India, member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Drug Evaluation and Asia-Pacific Consortium, International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research.

- She serves on the National Ethics Committee of NACO and chairs the Ethics Committee of the IIT-B. She also serves on the Institutional Ethics Committee of KEM Hospital as well as on the Independent Ethics Committee, Mumbai.

- Having won several prizes at the undergraduate level, her team's research work has been recognised by the prizes they have won in scientific conferences. She has been awarded the prestigious Dr. KN Udupa Award for Excellence in research in Ayurveda by IASTAM. She was conferred the "Excellence in Drug Research Award" (Traditional Medicine) by the Central Drug Research Institute, the prestigious Dr. B.N. Ghosh Oration of the Indian Pharmacological Society on the topic "Herbal Drug Development – Opportunities and Challenges" and the Dr. Faroque Abdullah Oration of SMS Medical College, Jaipur on "Ethical Issues in Clinical Research". She has over 200 Publications in National and International Journals including 8 books and 19 chapters in various books on clinical pharmacology to her credit. She was the Clinical Pharmacology Section Editor for Clinical Pharmacology for the API (Association of Physicians of India) Textbook of Medicine published in 2008. She is in the core team authoring the revision of the ICMR ethical guidelines for biomedical research.

- She likes to play the Sitar in her leisure time. She is married to Dr Mukund Thatte, Plastic Surgeon in Bombay Hospital since 36 years. She has two sons, both married. The elder son is a computer engineer with his own consultancy and lives in Goa. The younger son is a pediatrician and is now studying pediatric cardiology in Harvard.

Ashwini then invited Dr. Thatte to give away the merit prizes to the successful students.

After this was completed Dr. Thatte addressed the gathering – she said, "There's just something magical about a graduation speech because you have a captive (possibly non-attentive) group of accomplished students who are about to embark on the next chapter of their lives! I want to start off by thanking the organisers for inviting me here today – it's a homecoming of sorts for me you know! I feel really like I'm back in my parental fold! Feels great – thanks again.

I am at once taken back to the time when my younger son, Nikhil, had to give a speech in his school for standing first at the 10th std SSC exam in his school. He was also in what was called a merit list – I'm not sure such a list exists now – but to come to the point – I told him repeatedly I would like it if he wrote the speech in advance and rehearsed it with me and that I would help him write it! But no – he was now done with school and totally "old enough" to "manage". And what he spoke that day touched a corner in my heart – and I'm going to start with that today. He said that everyone

needs some stress in life – this is called eustress to function optimally. This should not become too much – that it become distress at any time. Or become too little so that you are not motivated to give your best. He linked it to the sun and water. Like the plants need just the right amount of sun and water to grow well – they cannot grow if the sun or water is too little or they will burn away with too much sun or drown in too much water! Just like this you need the right amount of “stress” – that is called eustress. And I thought that was such a clever thing he said and so right – I am of course biologically biased about most things my boys say or do – but keeping that bias aside I feel that is one of the most important mantras for your life forward from now on. Eustress remember – never distress!

While preparing for this speech I thought back to my life and my stresses... How did I cope? I think the most important way I learnt to deal with what life threw at me was to put my best foot forward and do my best. Give my best whatever the outcome- some outcomes were good, we won, some were bad – we lost and some ok types. Whatever it was I just went along happily to the next googly that life threw at me.

It's a tough life at times and one of the most important thing in this is your family. My family – my husband, mom in law, children and my own mom were the pillars on whom my career rests. Without their love and support none of it would be possible. And I can't emphasise it less – when my son had chicken pox for example, my mom and mom in law were there to look after the cranky lad - as I had to go and be an examiner – there was no way I could get out of that one at a final exam it is impossible to find another examiner at such a late notice! Oh well the cranky boy was also kind enough to let me go to work that day!

Steve Jobs had said in his Stanford Commencement Address -he dropped out of college after 6 months and accidentally attended a calligraphy class which he said helped him to design the typography for the Mac which, he said, tongue in cheek, Windows copied. So according to him all PCs would not have had the lovely typography they have now if he had not dropped out of college and just casually dropped into the calligraphy class. But what's important is what he said after that “ You can't connect the dots looking forward, you can only connect them looking backward”. You have to trust that the dots will connect sometime somewhere. This belief in the future is what took him forward to follow the path his heart dictated and look where it took him!

Another millennial who has changed the world Mark Zuckerberg – talked about “purpose” in his Harvard Commencement address last year. He said everyone should have some purpose and gave the example of the janitor who JFK met when he visited NASA – JFK asked the man what he was doing and the janitor said, “Mr. President, I am putting a man on the moon!” He had a purpose and even his cleaning up job contributed to that activity and he “owned” it. You all need to do that. I feel so often that that's what missing in many children nowadays – a lack of belonging, a lack of purpose. There is nothing lowly in the janitor's job. Everyone has to do all the jobs there are in the world and they all are

important – maybe as important as Neil Armstrong's was in walking on the moon – if the janitor had not kept the environment clean, how would the engineers have worked? Or the astronauts trained?

You need to own the project. I believe even when I was a lowly resident in my department I tried to “own” the project so much so that I lived it during the day when I was at work. I feel that ownership helped me to give my best and achieve whatever I have achieved. One last thing I would like to share before I end. In my field, pharmacology, we do research – it is our research that helps make medicines – safe and effective and available for use by you all – but the sense of gratification is slow to come by. Unlike when a clinician will treat a patient and gets an immediate sense of gratification or when a programmer writes code and the computer does his bidding – we need time and can feel good only after years of hard work! This has taught me patience and there are many many failures along the way. Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin in the most serendipitous way possible. It makes a romantic story. But today drug development is a slow process and needs patience. And that is another quality you should aim at.

Well – I think I will end with the words of Senator Elizabeth Warren , ‘Knowing who you are will help you when it's time to fight. Fight for the job you want, fight for the people who mean the most to you and fight for the kind of world you want to live in. It will help when people say that's impossible or you can't do that. Look, if you take the unexpected opportunities when they come up, if you know yourself, and if you fight for what you believe in, I can promise that you will live a life that is rich with meaning.’

Congratulations to all of you students who have done so well in your examinations. But remember that for most of you this is the first step. Continue to do your best and do not get disheartened if at any time things don't work out the way you wish them to. Success will come in the long run because you are you and you have the capacity. All my very best wishes to all of you.

Thank you.”

Ashwini then invited Soumya Koppikar to propose the vote of thanks on behalf of the students. Soumya expressed her happiness that an erudite person like Dr. Urmila Thatte had addressed them and given valuable messages. She also appreciated senior people like Dr. Suman Mundkur and Shri Vinay Yadery who were among the students and who had shown that age was no barrier to learning. She thanked Shri Masurkar and KSA for inviting the students and organizing this programme.

Dr. Prakash Mavinkurve congratulated the KSA for holding the convocation unflinchingly for the past so many years. He invited the parents and the students to come next year too to encourage the students.

Shri Jairam Khambadkone, Chairman KSA, then proposed the vote of thanks on behalf of the KSA. He said that he would like to call his vote of thanks as ‘an expression of gratitude’. He congratulated the students and said that their success is phenomenal as some of them have even scored 100%! But

he said that the parents are also to be congratulated equally as they go through much more stress than the children. He thanked Shri Masurkar for sparing his valuable time to come and be here with the students and parents. He thanked

Dr. Urmila Thatte and her family members for coming and gracing the occasion.

The programme concluded with refreshments being served to everyone.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor, We three sisters and our families would like to thank everyone on the KSA Committee for your heartfelt gesture of dedicating the Dec. 2018 issue to our mother Prof. Sadhana Kamat. We are also grateful to you and to the Saraswat Mahila Samaj for the Condolence Meet organised in her honour on 30th Sept.2018. We are truly comforted and touched by all that our relatives and friends had to say about Amma.

Shubha, Vibha, Anuja

Dear Editor, Thanks a lot for publishing so elaborately on Sadhana pacchi who I've barely known for 2-3 years. I failed to attend her Prayer Meet as I was out of town. Members of the community, her close associates, friends and family have spoken so fondly about her, I wish I'd known her at least half of what the others did. I feel honored to have met her and worked with her.

She had organised a Theatre Workshop with Choiti Ghosh in March 2016. After which she lovingly made us yuvatis a legitimate part of the Mahila Samaj. She also asked few of us to put together a Ghoomar dance performance at the closing of Saraswat Mahila Samaj's 100th year. And last but certainly not the least, she encouraged a few of us to stage a play on Women Empowerment in March 2017.

I will always be indebted to her for involving people like me and many others who have a keen interest in Performing Arts. After all, what else does an artist need? Thank you, Sadhana pacchi. You will always be in my prayers.

Divya Vinekar, Matunga (W)

Dear Editor, When you mentioned that late Dr. Venkat Manjunath Kaikini was a gynecologist, it was not incorrect. He was a **gynec-surgeon** - a super-specialty in those days. I know this because he was very closely related to me - my Aai's elder sisters' husband. He had a maternity hospital at Charni Road. Both I and my sister were born in his hospital under his care.

Vivek Hattangadi, Ahmedabad

Errata : The resolution for appointing the Statutory Auditors was seconded by Mahesh Kalawar. We had printed the name of Mahesh Kalyanpur by mistake. We regret the error.

On page 28 in the Minutes we had mentioned "One member suggested that specialists in different area such as Orthopedics etc. should be asked to attend the Health Centre". It was Shri Vinayak M.Yadery who had made this suggestion. The Minutes stand corrected to this effect.

Dear Editor, Sadhana Kamat - An ideal Exponent of Sadhana and Commitment.

Sadhana is imperative for success and dedication is pivotal. This was evinced in Sadhanapacchi. I can describe her thus- **S** – Sure and Sound, **A** = A Role Model, **D** – Dedication and nice, **H** – Honest to the Core, **A** – A class apart, **N** – Novel and enterprising, **A** – A woman for all seasons.

She had true qualities of the head and heart. Her passion for Mahila Samaj and social activities was indeed of paramount significance. Our Talmaki Health and Education will surely miss her expertise and skill and her valued contribution. Her passing away is a huge loss to all the institutions she helped.

Our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. May her soul rest in eternal peace in the abode of the Lord.

Vinayak M. Yadery

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

A Name that spells its class!

**WINOVER
CATERERS**

Marriages, Thread Ceremonies,
Engagements & Birthday Parties, etc.
DJ / Music System / Games / Entertainment

**WE DELIVER FOOD / SNACKS
FOR PARTIES AT HOME**

**WINOVER - PARTY HALL A/C - NON A/C
AVAILABLE AT VILE PARLE (EAST),
NEAR STATION, CAPACITY 100 PAX.**

Contact:

Vinod Kaval

4, Andrea Apartment, Off. Azad Road,
Vile Parle (East), Mumbai - 400 057.
Mobile: 98208 43392 Ph: (022)2618 2689

Late Smt Aruna Rao (Kundaje) – A Tribute

UDAY MANKIKAR

Smt Aruna Rao (Kundaje) nee Chandragiri, a veteran writer is no more. She left for her heavenly abode on 22nd October 2018, at the age of 94.

I came in contact with Arunpachhi in the year 1986, during Konkani Sahitya Samiti's 25th Konkani Drama Festival held at Karnatak Sangh Auditorium at Matunga, Mumbai. Her well known 3-Act musical play "Akash Mantav", produced by late Shri Murlidhar Hattangady, directed by Smt Radhika Trasi and set to music by Pandit Durgesh Chandavarkar was staged during this festival. It was a superb play in all respects. Shri Sylvester Lobo, a drama critic appreciated the play through "Evening News of India"-a well known newspaper as follows: "A little foresight and vision can work wonders and children can easily steal the limelight, which they did at the 25th Konkani Drama Festival held at Karnatak Sangh, Matunga. The people made known the efforts of a poet who otherwise would have remained in limbo. The children also got an opportunity to give expression to their talent and abilities. If cultural values are to be cherished and preserved, children's participation in cultural events and cultivating these values in them is of utmost importance."

Prof. Sadhana Kamat, who reviewed the book has said, "Aruna's wealth of Konkani vocabulary shows her mastery over her mother tongue. The lines have a lilting rhythm, inviting musical notes. The book is a must for the Konkani lovers – young and old". I would like to reproduce below, her one poem, to supplement Sadhanapachhi's appreciation –

आकाश मांटवा मूळाक
झाड माड उद्दाक
पाचवें रान पान्नाक पान
सान्न पक्षाक उब्बूक

आकाश मांटवा मूळाक
रंगचि रंग फुल्लाक
गुलाव तांवड कमळ नीळें
परमळ पावलें भोवर्याक

आकाश मांटवा मूळाक
धार धो धो पावसाक
तळें न्हंयी भरली वांयि
गुपचेक एक घोट पिंवच्याक

आकाश मांटवा मूळाक
नांचरे मोराले नाटक
उवली पावकं जांभळी चाक्कं
थक्क केल्ले मनाक
आकाश मांटवा मूळाक

I was so impressed with Arunapachhi's command on the Konkani language that I met her after the drama and touched her feet.

I was in regular touch with Arunapachhi thereafter, and could read her dramas/ poems / articles, both in Konkani



and Marathi. She was a prolific writer, who encouraged and motivated me to write in Konkani.

In the early years of her career as an author, she wrote plays, essays, several articles, short stories in Marathi. The plays were staged and the literature got published in various well known Marathi news papers and magazines. Her short story "Kichak" has appeared in the documented book "The Best Short Stories in Marathi" as "Sarvotkrushta Marathi Katha". Thereafter, she concentrated on Konkani literature.

Arunapachhi started writing in Konkani with the earnest desire to popularize and propagate the mother tongue of the Saraswats, and wrote numerous delightful poems for children as well as thought provoking ones for adults. Some of them she recited during the World Konkani Convention at Mangalore. Her highly acclaimed plays "Akash Mantav" for children and "Ammi Amchigalyo" for ladies were staged during the Silver Jubilee and Platinum Jubilee years of the Konkani Sahitya Samiti and Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi, respectively. She used to regularly present her poems on Raga-based talks in Konkani programmes on All India Radio (AIR), for several years.

Arunapachhi took ideas from nature, pure science, sports, social sciences and every other aspect of human endeavour to enrich her poems. She also specially created folk literature in Konkani, deriving inspiration from Powada, Bharud, Gondhal, Garba, Mangalagour, Lagna geet, Ovi, Balgeet, and many others. She also created various genres in Konkani literature, deriving inspiration, from English poetry metres, Irish limericks, Japanese Haiku and so on. Bhanap ladies groups from various Bhanap colonies in Mumbai presented her Konkani folk songs on Lord Krishna's theme "Gaulanya" during the year 1996.

She was the recipient of several prestigious awards for her Marathi and Konkani literature.: A few of them are listed here-

1) Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi's Umabai Arur Lekhan Puraskar in March 2000

2) Kanara Saraswat Association's Ganga M Nadkarni Smriti Konkani Lekhan Puraskar, on 26th November 2004

3) Kanara Saraswat Association felicitated her again in 2004 itself for her valuable contribution to Konkani language.

4) "Sahitya Akademi Award" from the Government of India, the highest honour in the field of literature.

5) मथायस कुटम कविता पुरस्कार (कविता ट्रस्ट २००८)

6) कर्नाटक साहित्य अकादेमी पुरस्कार - २०१३ ("साक्षात्कार" कविता संग्रहाक)

I had the good fortune of introducing Arunapachhi on a couple of occasions –when she was honoured by KSA in 2004 for her contribution to Konkani literature and when her 75th birthday was celebrated by Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi, and she was honoured by Veteran Rangkarmi Late Jaidev Hattangadi.

I also got the opportunity to write about her award winning book "साक्षात्कार" (a collection of thought provoking Konkani poems) in our KS magazine.

I would be failing in my duty, if, I do not share with you her poem "कोंकणी भास आमगेली" from her book "साक्षात्कार", which shows her love and respect for our mother tongue Konkani and also the richness of the language.

कोंकणी भास आमगेली मोवाळ मोग्गाची
कोंकणी भास आमगेली आमकां लाख मोलाची SS
एकएक अक्षर मोग्या कळयांचे
शब्द गांतले वाक्य विणले नाजूक विणियेचेंSS
कोंकणी भास आमगेली अमृत-शीलेची
मंदिराच्या गोपुराक घट्टायी शब्दांचीSS
हो कोंकणी भाषेचो कल्पतरू होडू होडू
सावळेंत मेळता फळ ताजें आमकां गोडू गोडू SS
ही भास तिगेल्या प्रजेक घेता पोटेळनू
रिवाज रिती प्रेम-प्रीती मोग्गाने शिकोवनू SS
कोंकणी भाषेची शोभा मधुर उत्रांतु
कोंकणी भाषेची सभा देवाल्या दरबारांतु SS

Arunapachhi's contribution to Hindustani classical music (vocal) was also prolific. Trained in the Agra tradition of

Hindustani classical music, she initiated and guided her daughter, Vrinda Mundkur in classical music and composed several bandishes for Vrinda to present them on stage. She has composed "Devi Stuti" bandishes on nine different Devis in nine ragas, the theme which has been conceptualized and recorded commercially and released as an album by SVC Bank Ltd in the year 2006. She also initiated the concept of thematic presentation of ragas and composed various bandishes to suit these presentations, "Stree Shakti", "Krishna", "Saas Nanand Mori", "Pratiksha" etc. "Anthem" for our Shri Chitrapur Math's Tercentenary and Kanara Saraswat's Centenary celebrations are also written by her. Arunapachhi was on the panel of judges of the music organization "Sur Singar Samsad", Mumbai. Her training in painting under the celebrated painter M. R. Achrekar as well as her own keen interest and study of other forms of art such as classical dance and drama had given her an acute insight into the beauties of all these performing arts which she successfully incorporated into her very own creations of poetry and dramas.

This multifaceted personality has left the world leaving behind her son, daughter, daughter-in-law, grand-daughters and a large number of her admirers and friends. It is a great loss not only to the family, but also for the literary world. In her death we have lost a great Konkani language lover, writer, musician, dramatist, painter and above all a nice, polite, humble and down to earth human being!

तिगेल्या आत्म्याक सद्गती मेळो !

ERRATA : On page 35 of KS Nov 2018 issue in the Examination Results the name Namrata Taggarse appeared by mistake. Please read it as Shephali Taggarse PUC- II (XII) Commerce 96.67%

On page 22 of our Dec 2018 issue in the Tribute to Sadhana Kamat by Prof. Kalindi Muzumdar the 1st line of the 2nd para should read as 'जो आवडतो सर्वांना तोची आवडे देवाला'

We regret the errors Editorial Committee

10TH ANNIVERSARY HOMAGE



29-04-26 - 04-01-2009

Smt. Shanta Jayant Mudbidri

a home maker stood by ethics & values in making a home

Taggarshe, Mudbidri, extended families and friends

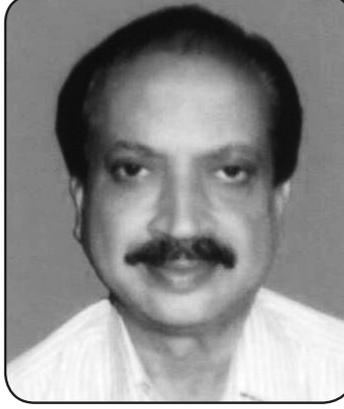


Late Suresh Rao (Andar) – A Tribute

UDAY MANKIKAR

Shri Suresh Rao (Andar), a dedicated, talented, veteran amateur theatre personality exited from this world on 12th October 2018, at the age of 83.

Sureshmam (as we used to call him) was born on 23rd October 1935 in Mumbai, did his schooling from Robert Money High School, B.Sc. from Wilson College, L T C from V J T I and initially joined Modern Mills. Subsequently, he joined Jupiter Mills and after completing 35 years of service he retired from there as Dyeing Finishing Master, at the age of 60. He had also completed Civil Defence Course in the year 1973, John Ambulance Course in 1960 and International Correspondence Course from London. Sureshmam was an excellent Table-Tennis player. He represented Wilson College in Table-Tennis Tournaments. He was also the Hon. Secretary of The Kanara Saraswat Association's Students' Committee in the year 1957, and had won several prizes in various sports and cultural activities of KSA.



Sureshmam married Shyamalpachhi (nee Tarebagil) in the year 1959. Coincidentally, he started representing his Modern Mill in Inter Mills Drama Competition from the same year and won many prestigious awards. Sureshmam continued his passion till 1998.

I came in contact with Sureshmam in the year 1969 when we acted together for the first time in the play titled "प्रेमा तुझा रंग कसा" staged during KSA's Annual Diwali programmes and subsequently acted together in many plays viz. "मेजर चंद्रकांत" "वल्लिदान" "सप्तपदी" "अंडर सेक्रेटरी" "माझा कुणा म्हणू मी" "पिशी प्राय" "हटाक वक्कद ना". I learnt a lot from him during performing in these plays. He had many good qualities such as punctuality, sincerity, dedication and non-interference in others' domain to name a few. He used to listen to the

drama plot first, then understand his role in the drama, have discussions with the director and then perform. He always used to take the co-artists along with him. I would like to share my experience here- In the year 1969, I was acting with the seniors for the first time in "प्रेमा तुझा रंग कसा" and I used to become very tense in a serious scene. Sureshmam encouraged me, motivated me and guided me too for that scene, almost in every rehearsal to remove my tension.

Another quality of his was to get into the role. In the drama "Major Chandrakant" he was playing the blind Major and I was playing his orderly's role. In one of the scenes he punishes me by beating me on my back with a stick. He as usual got so much involved in the role that I was really beaten on my back. As a result in subsequent shows I wore a padded bandi (jacket)! Major Chandrakant was one of his most memorable roles, so much so, that people started calling him "Major".

Sureshmam was a versatile actor. He played almost all types of roles with equal ease. His pleasing personality was an added advantage for him. He was honoured by Talmakiwadi Cooperative Housing Society during its Diamond Jubilee Year in 2000 for his contribution in dramatics.

When His Holiness Parijnanashram Swamiji revived the "Rathotsava", the very first year Mumbai group performed two dramas during Rathotsav at Shirali- "चित्रापुर वैभव" and "आत्मवंचना" and Sureshmam had the good fortune to act in both these dramas and receive blessings from Swamiji.

In Sureshmam's death, we not only lost a good versatile actor but a humble person too.

तागेल्या आत्म्याक सदगति मेळो

The Kanara Saraswat Editorial Committee had organised an Essay Competition and invited essays from readers on the topic "My Dream of a New India". The age groups were 18 to 25, 25 to 40 and 40 and above. We received one essay in the 1st group, 5 in the second and 11 in the third. The winners of these prizes are

Group 1 - Neeraja Narayan Rao, Mumbai - was awarded a participation prize, being the only participant in this group.

Group 2 - 1st - Yashodhara Sirur, Mumbai
2nd - Rupak Hattikudur, Mumbai
3rd - Siddharth Tallur, Mumbai

Group 3 - 1st - Sushma Philar, Bangalore
- 2nd - Sandeep Balwalli, Mumbai
- 3rd - Ravindra Tonse – Dharwar

We propose to print the prize winning essays in our forthcoming issues.

Tribute to My Dear Friend Smt. Nirmala Chikramane A Multifaceted Person “ A Karmayogi”

GEETA SURESH BALSE

It was a dark day on 24th November 2018 when early morning we heard the shocking news of the sudden and tragic death of our beloved Nirmala Chikramane in a car accident near Bangalore. She was travelling from Mangalore to Bangalore with 3 of her relatives. She succumbed to her injuries in a few hours. And as I brood in grief, I reminisce my long close association with her of almost 15 years in Managing Committee of the Balak Vrinda Education Society .

An epitome of grace, gentleness, compassion and kindness to one and all. she was a very versatile person, hard working, knowledgeable and a wizard with figures. After retiring from MSEB (Mumbai), as Jt. Secretary she plunged into social work.

She held the prestigious portfolio of Hon. Treasurer in the BVES School for the last many years – nearly 25 years and handled very efficiently all the Accounts of the English and Marathi Schools. This was no mean task as the school has about 1500 students, 80 teachers, staff and substaff. She guided the clerical staff in the preparation of the intricate wage / salary bill for staff as per Pay Commission Notification and Agreements. She also prepared salary scales, etc for the English School as the English section is a not aided by the govt. and handled other financial matters as well.

What was remarkable about her was in spite of her age (she was nearing 79), she had the rules & regulations of the School and its Bye Laws at the tip of her fingers. Her timely judgement has helped the school on many occasions. She was like an encyclopedia, yet unassuming, publicity shy, soft spoken and simple. She would rather be in the audience than on the stage.

Her achievements to name a few -

* She had a lion's share in starting the Junior College of Commerce in B.V.E.S., a giant leap indeed for the school, which has benefitted the students greatly.

* She was instrumental along with some others in the Managing Committee in getting Minority Status (Konkani) for the school which gave the school certain privileges.

* She has solved many difficult issues viz., when BMC imposed exorbitant property tax on the School Hall as it was rented out for weddings etc. It was with her initiative that she could convince the BMC Authorities the genuineness of the case that the hall was being used as a Pre-Primary School and only on Sunday / Public Holiday was given to donors to earn revenue which could be utilized for the development of our school and students many of whom hail from economically challenged background. The amount stood slashed from Rs 80 lakhs to Re 1 lakh. What an achievement ! Kudos to you Nirmala!

* It was with her efforts that BVES got the permission for receiving donations from abroad. With her convincing power and deliberations with authorities in New Delhi she managed to get these released so that we could then utilize these for the development of our School and students as desired by Donor.

On the personal side she had such a caring nature that she went out of her way to help teachers, staff and students in need. On the day of the Condolence Meeting in the school the staff were all heartbroken and some expressed their feeling emotionally referring to her as “Mai – Tai – Aai” etc.

One of the staff also expressed with gratitude how Nirmala had offered monetary help in a big way when her little daughter was to be operated for bone marrow transplant and also helped and guided her in obtaining grants from different charitable institutions.

She was “Sthitapradnya” and a real Karmayogi.

In addition to her numerous responsibilities in the school, she was also the Chairperson of the Talmakiwadi CHS Ltd. A number of persons paid glowing tributes to her at the condolence meeting held by the Talmakiwadi Society. Member after member spoke of her qualities – motherly- as the Managing committee members described her, in addition to the qualities described above. She was one of the longest working Members on their Committee and was a pillar of strength, handling vexing issues, dealing with the Municipal Corporation, Registrar of Coop Societies with confidence and firmness. She never ever lost her temper and settled all disputes to the satisfaction of both sides. This was no easy task but she handled all issues with a smile. As one of the Managing Committee member said, the void she left will never be filled.

She was in the forefront along with our beloved (late) Meerapachhi Mavinkurve in organizing religious parayan of Shri Chitrapur Guru Parampara Charitra, Das Bodh and Shri Siddharudh Charitra.

She was a great homemaker and an excellent cook and affectionate to all her family members. She was the central



figure around whom the family gathered for any occasions. She would invite lady teachers to stay overnight at her place during heavy rains or disruption of trains. I, too, have experienced her hospitality when after late diwali programmes or Datta Jayanti pooja she would coax me to stay overnight at her place. It was her genuine concern for us.

Nirmala had also initiated the purchase and development of barren land at Dahivali - Karla very close to our Math. Earlier an agricultural piece of land it was with her effort and hard work that it was granted permission for residential purpose, now there stand rows of lovely bungalows occupied

by many bhanap families in the –Guru Shakti Society”- only because of her vision. – Well done Nirmala!

Probably God felt the need to have such an exceptionally accomplished and affectionate person in his kingdom now to help some others.

Nirmala- I am sure he will tend to your with loving care as you have done to others and give you a long deserved rest, sadgati, eternal peace. You will always be like a “Dhruv Tara” watching over us – BVES, TCHS and your loved ones to guide us.

I conclude with tears in as I remember the Marathi bhaktigeet “जो आवडतो सर्वांना तोची आवडे देवाला” .

बी.व्ही.इ.एस.ची “लक्ष्मी” –निर्मला चिकरमने बाई

विजयालक्ष्मी सुरेश कापनाडक

मी तालमकी वाडीच्या सुंदता हायस्कूल शाळेत शिक्षिका असताना निर्मलापाची त्यांच्या नोकरीतून रिटायर होऊन आमच्या शाळेच्या व्यवस्थापन कमिटीमध्ये आल्या. सामान्य उंची, किंचित स्थूल बांधा, केसात चंदेरी झाक असलेल्या, सोनेरी फ्रेमचा चष्मा घालून चेहऱ्यावर स्मितहास्य असलेल्या ह्या बाईच्या व्यक्तिमत्त्वाने मी भारावून गेले.

पुढे काही वर्षांनंतर बालकवृंद एज्युकेशन कमिटीमध्ये मी आल्यावर त्यांच्याबरोबर माझा सहवास वाढला. त्यांच्या नावाप्रमाणे स्मितहास्य आणि मृदुवचन, सर्वांना आपले करण्याची वृत्ती, सर्वांना मदत करण्याच्या स्वभावामुळे त्या संस्थेतील कर्मचाऱ्यांच्या आई आणि मावशी झाल्या.

आपली इंग्रजी शाळा जरी प्रायवेट असली तरी त्या शाळेतील शिक्षकांना सरकारमान्य पगाराएवढाच पगार दिला पाहिजे हे त्यांचे धोरण होते. त्यासाठी संस्थेला वित्तीय मदतीसाठी व शाळेच्या भरभराटीसाठी त्या सतत प्रयत्नशील असत.

कमिटीत आल्यापासून सोसायटीचा वित्तविभाग (ट्रेजरर) त्यांनी शेवटपर्यंत सांभाळला. संस्थेच्या प्रत्येक जमाखर्चाची नोंद त्यांच्या नेहमी लक्षात असे. म्हणूनच आम्ही सदस्य त्यांना बी.व्ही.इ.एस.ची लक्ष्मी म्हणत असू.

सुंदता उच्चमाध्यमिक (HIGHER SECONDARY) विभागाचा आरंभ करण्यासाठी कै. दीपक मेस्त्री बरोबर वेगवेगळ्या सरकारी कार्यालयांच्या स्वतः किती फेऱ्या घातल्या असतील ते त्यांनाच ठाऊक. आपल्या कामाचा गाजावाजा त्यांनी कधीच केला नाही.

आमच्या सोसायटीला अचानक इलेक्ट्रिक बिल चुकीच्या मोठ्या रकमेचे आले तसेच दुसऱ्यांदा प्रॉपर्टी टेक्सचा फार मोठे (लाखात) बिल आले. तेव्हा बाईंनी स्वतः त्याचा व्यवस्थित अभ्यास करून त्यांनी ऑफिसमध्ये जाऊन बिलाची रक्कम कमी (हजारत) करवून घेतली.

समोर असलेल्या व्यक्तीचे बोलणे शांतपणे ऐकणे, परिस्थितीचा योग्य सखोल अभ्यास करून धाडसाने सामोरे जाऊन त्यावर मात करणे. ह्या सर्वगुणामुळे त्या संस्थेचा ‘आधारस्तंभ’ होत्या.

त्यांच्या खाजगी आयुष्यात भरपूर दुःखे पचवूनसुद्धा हसतमुखाने दुसऱ्यांना मदत करता करता हल्ली त्या थकल्या होत्या. गेल्या एप्रिल महिन्यात परदेशी स्थायिक लेकीच्या घरी जाऊन आल्यानंतर कार्ल्याच्या घरी राहण्याचा त्यांचा मानस होता. पण काही दिवसांनी त्यांना शाळा खुणवू लागली. वाडीतील घर भाड्याने दिल्यामुळे तिथं राहणे शक्य नव्हते. अंधेरी, बांद्राहून (नातलगांकडून) त्या आता शाळेत येत.

आमच्या शाळेचा यंदाच्या बारावीच्या परीक्षेचा निकाल ऐकून त्या खूश झाल्या आणि “पुढच्या वर्षी आणखी मुलांची संख्या वाढू देत” असे उद्गार त्यांनी काढलेत. आपली संस्था भरभराटीला यावी हीच त्यांची इच्छा असे.

आमची शेवटची भेट १७ नोव्हेंबर २०१८ ला मीटिंगमध्ये झाली. त्यानंतर त्या शिराली-विठ्ठल व इतर देवळांत गेल्या. त्यांनी देवाजवळ स्वतःला बोलविण्यासाठी साकडे घातले असेल. म्हणूनच देवाने लगेच त्यांना आपल्या कुशीत घेतले.

असे भाग्य फक्त पुण्यात्म्यांनाच मिळते. खरोखरच त्या “पुण्यात्मा” होत्या.

“DISHA” An Indian Classical Music Charity Event for Cancer Patients

on 19.01.2019 6.30 PM to 10.00 PM.

Entry Time 6.15 PM

at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Auditorium Chowpatty

to be performed by

Shri Amaan Ali Bangash on Sarod, Shri Rakesh Chaurasia on Flute and Shri. Aditya Kalyanpur on Tabla.

Donor Cards available on Book My Show Link :

<https://in.bookmyshow.com/events/disha-in-aid-of-cancer-patients/ET00089906>.

Please contact 9579589184

Happy Diamond (60th) Marriage Anniversary
Gurunath & Sukanya Kaikini (nee Sudha Kowshik)



14th December 1958



14th December 2018

Congratulations to the most popular, enthusiastic, caring and evergreen couple !

From:

Kaikini, Kowshik, Amladi, Someshwar, Talgeri, Nalkur, Gokarn, Yederi, Pathak,
Bakre, Hoskote, Bilagi & Sagar, family



In Service of
Online Matchmaking...



www.meetmatch.com

Register Now

Vrinda Rao's Online Marriage Bureau *since* 1999

Track Record with Testimonials of Successful Marriages.

Open to **CSBs, GSBs, Konkans, Marathis** and All Other Castes of Indians Worldwide.

Personalized Service at your request.

Search & Contact Your Matches on Your Phone.

Contact:
Suresh Rao
Vrinda Rao



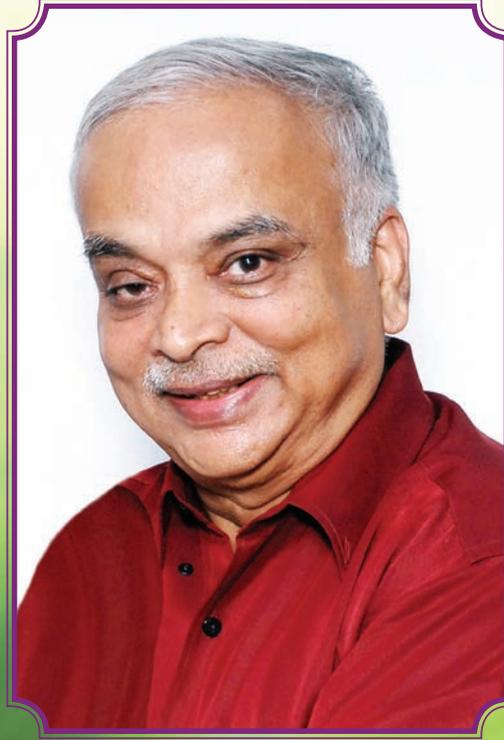
+1 619 252 3519

 +1 619 325 9592

vrindarao16@gmail.com

Shri. Arun Bhaskar Savur

4th November 1945 – 26th November 2018



Passed away peacefully at Shirali.

We pray for "Sadgati" of his departed soul.

Dearly missed and fondly remembered by loved ones.

Ani~~ka~~, Ananya, Atul Savur

Aarya, Tejal, Sushanth, Sure~~ka~~, Dinesh Katre

Gauri, Anjali Burma

Geeta, Sudhir Savur and family

Deepali Savur

Anaya, Nehal, Amit, Ashok Savur

Aryan, Ashita, Ra~~ka~~sh Dabral

ā y, Dianne, Amol, Alok Asha Kunder

Abhimanyu, Kiran Ban~~ka~~shwar

Mane~~ka~~, Sundeep R

Supriya, Pradip Kudiyadi

Rajani Vak~~ka~~alli

Relatives and Friends

100th
Birth Anniversary

In Ever Loving Memory of



Dattatreya N. Nilawar

Birth Date: 21st January 1919

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY IN HEAVEN PAPUJI !

We miss and love you so much.

Fondest wishes from all of us.

Children:

Suresh & Nirmala Nilawar

Rita & Kishore Masurkar

Grand Children: Poulomi, Namita, Shoma-Chirag, Rahul-Bron, Nikhil-Anjula.

Great-grandchildren: Gia, Veer, Aanya, Anaaya & Dylan.

Nilawars & Masurkars

You will forever be in our hearts dearest Papuji!



We pray to our Kuldevata and Revered Guruparampara
to grant eternal bliss



Dr. Kodial Prakash Rao

(18th January 1946 – 14th December 2018)

छायामन्यस्यकुर्वन्तिस्वयंतिष्ठन्तिचातपे |
फलान्यपिपरार्थायवृक्षाः सत्पुरुषाइव ||

(Trees give shade to others, themselves standing in the Sun and also give away their fruits to others. Similarly good people go through all hardships for the welfare of others.)

Deeply mourned by:

Dr.(Mrs) Chitra Prakash Rao

Vijeta & Pramath Kodial Rao

Supriya & Prashanth Kodial Rao

Vaania & Pranay Prachi & Baby

My dream of a new India

YASHODHARA SIRUR - 1ST PRIZE WINNER FROM GROUP 2

As a conscientious mother of an eight-month old, I recently had an awakening! I realised that my generation is going to be extremely hard-pressed to provide a wholesome childhood to their offspring. It struck me that we are living in a world where our children will never know what it is to climb a tree, for the simple reason that there is no sprawling tree in our cemented housing society. They will never know what it is to wish upon a shooting star, or to be awed by a glorious rainbow, because the skies are too smog-choked to see these natural wonders. They will never know what it is to go 'fishing' in little streams of water because the only water-bodies still intact are too dirty to play in. We have sentenced our little ones to a world where the crow and the city pigeon will be the only birds they'll have seen; a world with very few flowers, no fireflies, and only the occasional bee and butterfly. This dreary world is not something I want for my child. With this realization, came a newfound zeal to bring about change.

This, then, is my dream for a new India – To transform our country into the magical land it once was – A land full of fields and forests of green, azure blue seas and majestic rivers bursting with rich marine life, colourful birds, healthy animals and a happy populace.

The biggest threat to my dream of a clean and green India is ignorance. Many of us are not aware of the harm we are causing the environment. With our myopic dreams and goals, we just do not see the far-reaching consequences of our innocuous day-to-day activities. From the cars we drive, to the chocolate we have for dessert, everything leaves an indelible carbon footprint. Do we know how harmful plastic is for the ecosystem? We routinely order takeaway in plastic containers. Our babies are clothed in disposable plastic diapers, which take five hundred- odd years to disintegrate. We use sanitary napkins, which are not just harmful to the environment but also harmful to our own health. We indiscriminately use fossil fuels and electricity. We use tons of plastic equipment – buckets, tiffin-boxes, cutlery, chairs, tables, and more, even when there are eco-friendly options available.

Our state government recently came up with a wonderful initiative to rid us of single-use plastics. How many of us whole-heartedly supported the plastic ban? Are we the ones who ask the vegetable-wala to slip us a plastic bag on the sly? Are we the ones who are too lazy to carry our own cloth bag? And why stop at that? Why don't we reduce our use of packaging by carrying cloth bags/steel containers for all our needs? The government also should take a bigger leap and impose regulations on all packaged items – mineral water bottles, packets of chips, biscuits, snacks, shampoo bottles, beauty products and more. All non-biodegradable material should compulsorily be recycled, and the company responsible



**Yashodhara Sirur, BE (IT), MA (English Literature)
Working as a consultant at Xerox India Pvt. Ltd.**

for manufacturing the product should be made accountable for the recycling. All the Parles, Nestles, Britannias and Unilevers of India must be taken to task! As consumers, we must refuse to buy products with plastic packaging. We must support local and small-scale sellers who sell fair-trade and clean products. The next time we get ourselves a cold coffee, we must refuse the straw. If served in a plastic glass, refuse and carry your own mug. Next, flex prints and hoardings must be banned. Flex prints are not biodegradable, and invariably end up being dumped or burnt releasing toxic fumes. The government has taken the first step, it is true, however, they must not stop at that.

The ubiquity of plastic is largely due to its convenience. Although the invention of plastic has come as a boon in areas like medicine, where disposable/single use equipment is required for reasons of hygiene, it is being misused in most other walks of life. The irony is that an entire industry is involved in mining for oil, refining it and turning the by-products into cheap plastic cutlery, just to cater to the laziness of a person who does not want to wash his/her own spoon. This disposable culture has to stop. Our indolence coupled with our apathy is costing the environment dearly.

The success of the plastic ban depends heavily on education and awareness. While some of us applauded the ban, the government also faced a major backlash from others. The idea is to educate the population so that they are aware of the environmental cost of their actions. These days a lot of movies and daily soaps are spreading the word. This is indeed commendable, but more must follow suit! The government should look at various mediums to spread the message. Schools and colleges must be targeted. The initiative taken by Bhutan is laudable in this respect. Schools in Bhutan emphasize on the importance of nature. Many schools

have vegetable and flower gardens that the children tend themselves. Students are also required to clean their own classrooms using recycled brooms and sustainable cleaning equipment. The principles of environmental conservation are integrated in the school curriculum and are thus a part of the Bhutanese child's psyche. And sometimes, children set an example for their parents to learn from too! This is a system India would do well to emulate.

The onus of educating the masses does not only lie with the government. We must do our part too. As educated citizens, we must lead by example. Beginning with our families and friends, we must try to show the world a better and cleaner way of living.

Ignorance often goes hand-in-hand with its more dangerous cousin – disbelief! Ignorance can be remedied by focussed education, but what do you do when the person is unwilling to learn! Today we hear our politicians making ridiculous fanciful statements that have nothing to do with science. A number of people including our country's most illustrious politicians do not believe in climate change or global warming. Under the current government, India has seen some of the worst environmental policies in recent times. Environmental regulations are routinely flouted for the sake of development. Clearing of mangroves, wetlands and forestland has become rampant. The recent floods in Kerala have been a direct result of the government's disregard towards the environment. Early in 2011, the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel, which consisted of a board of renowned ecology experts, had warned that the burgeoning development taking place in and around the Western ghats has rendered the area unstable. The committee had emphasized the need for conservation of the fragile ecosystem by limiting high-risk activities like quarrying, mining, and construction near the Western ghat belt. The warning was not heeded. The frequent flooding in Mumbai is also, in part, attributable to the reclamation of the seabed and wetlands. In spite of sound scientific evidence, and a series of eco-related disasters to spur them, one would think our politicians would learn to take science seriously.

At a local level, people are just as opposed to scientific facts. Thousands of Ganpati idols are immersed in the sea during the Ganpati festival. Most of these idols are made of non-biodegradable Plaster-of-Paris and are painted with toxic lead-based paints. Plaster-of-paris drastically reduces the amount of oxygen in the water and when coupled with toxic paints, the combination is deadly. A small percentage of devotees use eco-friendly clay-based idols, but even these come at a significant environmental cost. According to a study conducted by the Mumbai-based Maharashtra Nature Park Society, more than two lakh idols are immersed in various water bodies in Mumbai every year. At such a large scale, even clay idols cause substantial damage to the marine ecosystem by clouding the water and blocking sunlight. This year, thousands of fish and turtles washed ashore after the Ganpati Visarjan. And yet, people will continue to immerse their Ganpati idols in the sea, for the sake of devotion,

tradition and culture. What use is this culture of ours if it is causing such wanton destruction?

Often, when these arguments are put forward to the public, they are not believed. People scoff at scientific facts and believe rather in religion and tradition. As Barack Obama, the ex-President of the USA puts it, "You have to believe in fact. Without facts, there's no basis for cooperation. If I say this is a podium and you say this is an elephant, it's going to be hard for us to cooperate."

Belief in facts is a product of quality education. A scientific temper is what is lacking in India's education system. Children must be encouraged to ask questions. Curiosity must be encouraged instead of being smothered. Children should be instructed to respect rules that have a clear rationalization associated with them. Mindless superstition should be discouraged, even if harmless. The scientific method of inquiry must be taught in schools and colleges. This will, in my humble opinion, give rise to a more open and accepting society where it will be easy to have conversations around conservation.

The recent rise in tourism has also become a major contributor towards pollution. It has become fashionable to travel. Also the increasing disposable income most people earn has brought an unprecedented interest in traveling. The state of Goa was once a clean haven. Today it is teeming with tourists with no love for nature. Leh-Ladakh rose to popularity after the movie '3 Idiots' and is in a dire state today. Hotels and restaurants have mushroomed to cater to the tourist demand and the hill station is facing a major water scarcity problem. The number of hikers visiting the Himalayas has also increased and so has the amount of trash strewn across the mountain ranges. We need to support and promote eco-friendly tourism practices. The least we can do is carry our own water bottles, eat local food, travel local and try our best to assimilate into the local way of living. After all, that is what travelling is all about.

Lastly, as the country that gave the world the concept of Ahimsa, how about we implement its essence into our lives? Ahimsa, or non-violence should apply not just to our fellow human beings, but also to animals. Today, our forestlands are dwindling. Trees are being felled to make way for roads, industries, housing and even for use as timber. Animals and birds are left with increasingly small spaces to thrive in. A number of species are already extinct and so many more are being pushed over the brink. We are in the midst of the Anthropocene extinction caused mainly by human activity. The fact that we are the only species to have caused a mass extinction, should drive us to shame. In the last month, at the Gir Wildlife Sanctuary, close to twenty-five lions were found dead. The cause of their death is indeed a virus. However, wildlife experts have opined that there are other reasons as well. The number of lions in the Gir forest territory far exceeds the recommended number. There are too many lions in too small an area of the forest. In such conditions, the spread of an infectious disease is rapid. The lions' ill-health is further exacerbated by constant territorial battles and lack of food.

The tigress Avni is another example of man's inadequacies being foisted upon a dumb beast. The tigress is touted to be a man-eater. However all the killings have taken place in an area of the forest restricted to humans. Illegal encroachment and cattle-grazing activities are sending humans deeper into the forest. Is it any wonder then, that there has been an increase in tiger attacks? Is it the tiger's fault for having attacked a human who very nearly wandered into her den?

We must understand that animals have an equal right to share space with us. Perhaps we cannot actively prevent deforestation or destruction of an animal's natural habitat, but we can surely refrain from buying products that are responsible for the same. We can provide shelter to the stray animals we see around us. If every building adopted a stray cat or dog, so many homeless animals would get off the roads.

How many of us kill or drive away the lonely lizard from our houses? I am pretty sure we all do. In a small way, we disturb the micro-ecosystem of our house. Without the lizard to keep their population in check, other creepy crawlies multiply. We then get a bottle of insect repellent and put an end to the menace. The insects are dead, the lizard is gone and we now have a plethora of unwholesome chemicals lingering in the air we breathe. Nobody wins! Instead, don't kill the lizard. Let's live and let live. Let's build our own houses, while making space for some of God's less fortunate creatures.

As an old saying goes, "We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children." If so, as stewards of the earth, it is our job to conserve and protect the natural world and leave it in better shape. Let us be true stewards. We owe it to our children.

<<<>>>

OBITUARY



Pramila Kumtakar (nee Kaikini)

Wife of : Late Prabhakar M Kumtakar

Expired on : 26.11.2018 (At the age of 79 years)

Deeply Mourned by:

Harishankar – Shanti Kumtakar (Son & daughter-in-law)

Aarti – Gaurish Padukone (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Shweta – Gopalkrishna Hattiangadi
(Daughter & Son-in-law)

Nivedita – Chinmay Nilekani

(Grand daughter & Son-in-law)

Shrijan & Dakshata (grand son & grand daughter)

& Others

6th Death Anniversary

8th January 2019



Mrs. Eakta Nandan Trasikar

(13th January 1955 to 8th January 2013)

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

We are missing you Mom

Fondly remembered by:

Son: Nachiket

Daughter: Manasi, Son-in-law: Ajit

Grandson: Shaurya

Nishan -The Colours

MAJ GEN B N RAO, AVSM, VSM & BAR (RETD)

National Defence Academy (NDA), Khadakvasla, is located near Pune and is the primary training institute for a majority of the officers in the Indian Armed Forces. The primary aim of the NDA is to inculcate the correct value system in its alumni. To achieve this, the Armed Forces ensure that the very best instructors and most illustrious personnel are posted to the academy.

As an acknowledgement of the sterling service that the NDA has rendered to the nation, the academy has been conferred the Presidential Colours or as we in the military call it, the *Nishan*. The *Nishan* is a customized flag and is a symbol of valour and heroic deeds of the alumni. Like in all units of the military, it is a source of intense pride and inspiration for the unit. When the colours are trooped, i.e. when the *Nishan* is brought on the parade ground, it is conferred a National Salute and all those present in uniform salute the colours. If one is not in uniform, he/she is expected to stand.

One of the most important appointments in the Academy is that of the Chief Drill Instructor or Subedar Major, Drill. He is a person below officer rank but has full authority and responsibility for the discipline and drill of all the officer cadets of the academy.

Subedar Major Darbara Singh of the Sikh Regiment once occupied this appointment. The man was tall, with an erect military bearing and always perfectly turned out. He was a physically very impressive personality.

The high point of training in the academy is the end of term passing out parade. This is the time when spirits are high amongst the cadets and makes controlling these 1500 young men a tough task. Rehearsals commence about 15 days ahead of the actual day.

The cadets initially gather for the parade inside the Quarter Master Fort (QM Fort). On one particular day, the cadets gathered inside the QM Fort were in a garrulous mood, there was no stopping the noise or the general confusion. One after another various drill instructors tried to bring about silence and order but to no avail. The noise did not die down even when the colours were brought into the fort and this was a serious matter indeed. This insult to the *Nishan* did not go down well with SM Darbara Singh. With his measured steps, he approached the podium and got on to it and with a voice heavy with anger and gruff with emotion he asked the cadets to lend him their ears. A hush fell over the assembly.

He said "Cadets, I am 52 years old and have served in the Indian Army for 36 years. I have seen the 1962 operations, the 1965 and 1971 wars as a combatant. The *Nishan* that you have not acknowledged today stands for me and countless others who have taken up the profession of arms and given their youth and lives for the honour of being given an opportunity to salute the *Nishan*, as the symbol of

supreme sacrifice made by our martyrs. I will tell you a story that might indicate to you the feelings that we soldiers have for the *Nishan*"

The SM drew a deep breath and continued in a sombre tone "in this very academy we have a "Hut of Remembrance" where the names of all former alumni who have fallen in action are inscribed on the walls. I have been in this academy for three years but been able to enter the hut only once. Because written on the wall is a name "Lt Palta of the 9th Battalion of the Sikh Regiment. During the 1962 China war, my "paltan" was posted in the Tawang Sector. I was deployed right on the border and my Section Commander was the same Lt Palta whose name is inscribed in the "Hut of Remembrance". On the night of 16th October 1962, the Chinese attacked our post and we were told to fight back to the last man and the last round. Lt Palta was personally leading the fight back. It was a harrowing time. We were out-numbered, out-gunned and desperately short of ammunition. Yet we soldiered on because Lt Palta did not know any other way.

Sometime during the night, Lt Palta was hit in the face by a mortar bomb. The explosion severed his head from his body and the lifeless body was thrown upon me. The enemy overran our post as soon as the officer was killed and I, 17 years old with 11 months of service fighting a bloody skirmish with the enemy and out of ammunition was lying under the body of my dead Section Commander. The blood from Lt Palta's body soaked my beard and chest and the enemy thinking that I was dead, did not even bother to take me as a POW. Through the night I lay there in the battered remains of our post, freezing in the Himalayan cold with all my comrades dead and the dead body of that heroic officer shielding me. It took me three days to wash off the blood from my face but in my mind, the blood of Lt Palta is still there, warm and caking slowly. I will carry this image to my funeral pyre". The SM's voice became gruffer with verbalised emotion, " when I entered the Hut for the first time, I saw Lt Palta's name and picture on the wall, in an instant I was transported back in time to 1962, and again felt his cold stiff body on top of mine and his blood congealing on my face. Till date, I haven't been able to enter the Hut again.

"Cadets, it's for officers like these that the Academy has been given the *Nishan*. It has been won by the blood of ex-NDA officers and it stands for all that is good and pure in these 'Kaliyugi' times. I will not allow you to insult the *Nishan* and Lt Palta as long as I have breath."

So saying, the SM stepped off the dais and strode out of the QM Fort. The fragile, pin-drop silence inside the fort was shattered only by the word of command ordering the commencement of the parade.

The *Nishan* is nothing but a flag for those who see it as such but for Subedar Major Darbara Singh of the 9th Battalion,

the Sikh Regiment of the Indian Army, and countless others like him, it stood for Lt Palta, and a cold winter night when a young Lieutenant died trying to lead his men into battle and to supreme honour. It stood for a quintessential Indian Army officer who even when dead continued to shield a

young frightened soldier who was out of ammunition and out of his wits. A breed of officers who gave these grizzled old men the self esteem and sense of izzat, of belonging to a family, of mattering, of esprit-de-corps, and in the very end, a way of life.

Kodagu and the Kodavas

SATYANARAYAN PANDIT , ANDHERI, MUMBAI.

Coastal Karnataka represents the region where our ancestors lived and some of us were born and brought up. Our next door neighbour, the tiny Kodagu District (popularly known as Coorg) is well known for its courageous people, internationally acclaimed speciality coffee and lush green landscape. The inhabitants of



Kodagu, known as Kodavas, are highly admired warriors and are extremely proud of their heritage, culture and tradition. Kodavas have carved a niche for themselves in the National stream, specifically in the Indian Armed Forces. India is proud to have two distinguished sons of Kodagu, Field Marshal K.M.Cariappa and Gen. K.S.Thimayyaa (seen in

the pic above) the helm of one of the largest Armies in the World, the Indian Army. In addition, Kodagu has also produced many noted personalities in the field of sports, literature and journalism.

The Land: Nestled in the majestic Western Ghats at an altitude of more than 1000 m, Kodagu is blessed with a salubrious weather. It offers a most picturesque and panoramic view, with its rugged hills, dense tropical forests, lush coffee plantations, swaying rice fields, meandering rivers and cascading waterfalls. The river Cauvery, also known as "Dakshina Ganga", originates at a high point called Talakaveri and is considered highly sacred. Kodagu was an independent state under the British rule and this status continued even after Independence. It was only in 1956, during the States Reorganization, that Kodagu became a district and merged with New Mysore State, which was subsequently renamed Karnataka. Madikeri is the District Headquarters, 138 km away from the coastal city of Mangaluru and 265 km from the State capital, Bengaluru.

Brief History : Kodagu was ruled by Haleri Rajas from 1600 to 1834, when the British took over. The Rajas were part of the Ikkeri Nayaka lineage, belonged to Lingayat Sect and spoke Kannada. The folklore goes that one of their princes came down to Haleri near Madikeri, conquered Kodagu and established his dynasty. The Raja's seat and Madikeri Fort were established by the Haleri Kings.

The People: Kodavas are indigenous, land owning community of hunters and warriors, with strong ties to the land and well known for their martial tradition. As a distinct ethnic group, they are handsome, well- built, industrious and fearless. They are Hindus by faith, speak the 'Kodava' language and maintain their marriage traditions, customs, rituals and culture.

Kodava festivals: Kodavas are fun-loving people and are fond of music and dance. They celebrate 3 major festivals- Puttari (also known as Huttari), Kail Polud and Kaveri Sankramana. Puttari is the harvest festival and observed with all the mirth and joy and participation by the entire Community. Puttari falls in the month of November/December.

One of the legends of our community, a celebrated poet of Kannada folklore and poems for the children and a leading literary luminary of his time, Shri Panje Mangesh Rao (1874-1937), lived in Mangaluru but spent some years in Madikeri. In one of his evergreen compositions, "Huttari Haadu", he pays tribute to Kodagu and the Kodavas and vividly describes Puttari celebrations. Those who have studied in Kannada medium and are familiar with Mangeshmama's contribution to Kannada literature, would fondly remember his pen- name

'Kavi Shishya'. Other major festivals – Kail Polud is observed in September and Kaveri Sankramana in October. The latter festival is in celebration of the birth of River Cauvery – revered as Mother - whose waters nourish Kodagu and parts of South India.

Weddings: Kodava weddings are conducted by the elders of both the bride and the bridegroom's families and not by priests. The bridegroom is dressed in ceremonial warrior outfit and the bride in

traditional saree, which they wear in a different style than others in the region. The marriages are celebrated with great joy, singing of folklore and dancing to the drumbeats, followed by sumptuous feasts, which include Kodava non-vegetarian dishes and liquor.

Economy : Kodagu's economy is based on agriculture and plantation crops. Rice is the staple food of the region, locally cultivated and meets the entire requirement. While meat and poultry products are locally sourced, fish and other marine items are obtained from Mangaluru. Agriculture and plantation crops provide employment to a large section of the population.



Coffee is the main plantation crop and Kodagu region is the largest producer of coffee in India in both the varieties – Arabica and Robusta. Indian coffee is unique and stands out as 'speciality coffee' in the Global market. Unlike other countries, Indian coffee is shade-grown and is much in demand internationally. Along with coffee, other plantation crops such as, oranges, cardamom, pepper, arecanut and bananas are also grown. This inter-planting has vastly improved the economic status of small and marginal planters. Kodagu oranges have a large market in South India.

Culture: Kodavas enjoy a distinct culture which is different from that of the neighbouring districts. Their dress, language, social structure, ancestral homes and religious practices are unique and set them apart. Their language – Kodava Thakk, is an independent Dravidian language but written in Kannada script. Kodavas practice Ancestral worship and Nature – the Sun, Fire and Water. Because of their martial traditions, Kodavas are classified as Kshatriyas.

Brief sketches of the most admired Kodava Sons:

Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa (1899- 1993):

A soldier of exceptional leadership qualities, he saw action in Iraq, Syria and Iran in 1941- 42 and then in Burma 1943-44, during World War II. He was the first Commander-in- Chief of the Indian Army during the Indo-Pak war of 1947. He was the recipient of many awards and accolades during his distinguished career. He retired from the Army in 1953 and was conferred the highest rank of Field Marshal in 1983.

Gen. K.S.Thimayya (1906 -1965):

Yet another distinguished son of Kodagu, Gen. Thimayya served the Indian Army and the Nation for 35 years. In 1957, he became Chief of the Army Staff and retired in 1961. He

was appointed Commander of the UN Peace Keeping Force in Cyprus in 1964 and died there in 1965, while on active duty.

Tourism and Sight Seeing: Generally known as Switzerland of India, tourism has tremendous potential in Kodagu. As a tourist destination, this beautiful land is gaining popularity. Although infrastructure in terms of budget hotel rooms, restaurants and transportation needs to be improved and augmented, a good number of resorts as well as comfortable 'Home-stay' facilities are available. While in Kodagu, a visit to a coffee estate is a 'must'.

There are a numerous sight-seeing spots in and around Madikeri. Raja's seat and the surrounding beautiful garden, Raja's tomb, Madikeri Fort, Abbey waterfalls and Omkareshwar Temple are in the close vicinity. Brahmagiri Hills, Bhagamandala and Talakaveri, Dubare Elephant Camp, Kaveri Nisargadhama and Namdroling Monestery Golden Temple (Tibetan Settlement) at Bylakuppe on the Mysuru Road, are worth visiting. The world famous Belur and Halebid Temples built by the Hoysala Dynasty can be easily reached from Madikeri—so also, Nagarahole and Bandipur Tiger Reserve and National Parks.

P.S.: In Aug. this year, part of Kodagu District, including Madikeri, was devastated by nature's fury in the form of unprecedented rains and crippled by the ravaging floods and huge hill-slides. Many families were uprooted having lost their dwellings and have undergone immeasurable suffering. The region is limping back but will take a great deal of time to attain normalcy. The battered but brave Kodavas have faced this calamity with utmost restraint and fierce fortitude and are looking forward to sunshine days in the time to come.

<<<>>>

An Instant Vacation

Gurudutt Mundkur

If one can't get away on a vacation, turn one's home into an instant vacation place. I write from experience, as I am not as mobile as some twelve months earlier. [Now, now... please do not interpret that as I am immobile].

Throughout our lives, most of us are led to believe that relaxation is best pursued outside of the home. As a result, we spend months anticipating weeklong vacations, seldom fully appreciating the leisure time we are blessed with on a more regular basis. It is possible, however, to re-experience the same utterly relaxed state one slips into while on holiday within one's home walls. The feelings of serenity one enjoys during a vacation are a product of one's outlook rather than one's locale. One gives oneself permission to enjoy oneself and unwind while on vacation. Granting oneself the same privilege while at home allows one to experience complete relaxation, even when surrounded by routine.

Our homes can be distracting places as most survival tasks are addressed there. Reviving the tranquillity one felt on holiday is as easy as creating an atmosphere that helps

one relax. First, one needs to divest oneself of the notion that messes must be cleaned up immediately and reaffirm that relaxation is as vital as physical nourishment. Then, set the mood. Music that reminds one of a beloved vacation destination can put one in a vacation mind-set. The exotic flavour of a tropical beverage or the spiciness a favourite ethnic dish can transport one to a more restful mental space. Finally, one puts aside one's projects and commit oneself to doing only what one considers truly pleasurable. One's responsibilities will wait as one puts up one's feet and revels in peacefulness that comes from within.

If one finds it difficult to ignore the temptation to simply fall back into one's usual schedule, one should consider that relaxation shall occupy a prominent place on one's "to-do" list. One deserves to take "one's time" and to care for oneself, even during life's busy periods. While one may not always be able to get away from it all, one can still nurture oneself and get one's peace of mind.

<<<>>>

Namaste Bhai !!!

SUBODH RAO
(Photos on inside cover)

Late Shri Shankarrao Rakshe (1918-2000) was fondly called BHAI by the residents of Saraswat Colony, Santacruz. He used to reside in the Colony and teach the children and youth of the colony various arts of physical fitness like Lezim, Malkhamb, dumbles, parallel bars and various forms of exercise/games in the vyayamshala during major part of his lifetime. As a token of respect and gratitude to Bhai for his dedication and mastery on his subject and the love that he showered on his students and residents of the Saraswat Colony, the Saraswat Club celebrated his birth centenary with grand pomp and splendour on the Saraswat Colony Grounds on 17th November, 2018. A huge gathering of people from both the Saraswat Colony and outside attended this momentous occasion.

The program began with greetings by the host couple Atul and Dipti Sanadi and the lighting of the traditional lamp by the respected dignitaries of the function. Our Param Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji has always witnessed the lezim done by the Saraswat Colony children during His various camps in the Colony and has always encouraged their talent. On this auspicious day, Swamiji sent an apt message, which was read out at the start of the program. Prayers and the vyayamshala Aarti were recited out loud by Shri Vasant Batrabet, Shri Gurudas Gulvady & Shri Anand Nayampalli, three of the early students of Bhai. These were the same prayers, which used to be recited at the Vyayamshala each day over the years. The Chief Guest of the function - Shri Madhukar Talwalkar (Director – Talwalkar Better Value Fitness Ltd) was honoured with flowers, shawl and shreephala by Dr. Narendra Hattikudur – President of The Saraswat Club. The Guest of Honour, Shri Uday Deshpande (Head of Shree Samarth Vyayam Mandir, Shivaji Park, Mumbai) was felicitated by Shri Talwalkar. Dr Kishor Nayampalli – Convenor of the Bhai Centenary Committee spoke in detail about Bhai, his nature and his disciplined approach with which he touched the lives of all. Shri Madhukar Talwalkar and Shri Uday Deshpande also made inspiring speeches and paid their tributes to Bhai.

This was followed by a professional and artistic display of Malkhamb by students of Shree Samarth Vyayam Mandir. Some of the displays were truly outstanding and audience was amazed to see how the traditional art of Malkhamb was kept alive and flourishing by Shree Samarth Vyayam Mandir ably led by Shri Uday Deshpande. Shri Deshpande provided an interesting running commentary during the performance explaining the nuances of the Sport. Energetic boys and girls kept the audience in awe with their performance.

The children of Sane Guruji Vyayam Mandir, Santacruz West then presented a wonderful performance of gymnastics and pyramids. This was followed by a demonstration on The Art of Self Defence – by Ms. Aarti Pawar and her team.

These performances were followed by a detailed AV Presentation by Jairam Khambadkone and Dr. Sharad Nayampalli, who were Bhai's early students. Shri

Khambadkone took us through the AV with a straight-from-the-heart account of Bhai and the Vyayamshala, its evolution over the years and how it was an integral part of all young residents of the Colony during that era.

The highlight of the event was the Lezim demonstration by three generations of Bhai's students of Swastik Samarth Vyayam Mandir (Saraswat Colony). First the seniors presented an admirable display of Lezim which was followed by a performance by the juniors. The most commendable point which merits mentioning is the proud fact that out of the 18 senior performers there were 3 performers above the age of 80!! The energy and the enthusiasm amongst the Lezim performers was a treat to watch during the show. The outstanding skill level of the Lezim performers was enjoyed by the entire audience so much that it culminated into a standing ovation for all the performers (young and old alike).

This was followed by a truly fantastic and majestic performance of Kalaripayattu (Kerala Art and dance form) by Shri Arprit Singh. This was a fire and lights traditional dance show accompanied by foot tapping Kerala music (playing in the background). Arprit's performance resulted in a well-deserved standing ovation given by the audience.

Shri Ramesh Bijoor gave the Vote of Thanks to all involved for providing their support. Dr Kishor Nayampalli was given a standing ovation for conceptualising, planning and coordinating the entire program. Following the directions of Dr Nayampalli, events were organised with meticulous planning taking into account both the quality and timeliness. His energy and enthusiasm at his current age is truly commendable. The entire program was designed under his leadership and assisted/acted by Bhai Centenary Celebration Sub-committee members along with Committee members of the Saraswat Club. The contributions of Shri Ramesh Bijoor and Shri Deepak Hemmady – who put their heart and soul into the program and its success - need special mention here.

The audience as well as the dignitaries were given snack boxes which included Bhai's favourite snack – Vada Pav and kaju khadi, a special sweet which Bhai was very fond of. The cherry on the cake was the "Soyi Prasad" (finely grated coconut mixed with sugar) which brought fond memories. Bhai used to distribute this very Prasad every Saturday to all the students of the Vyayamshala.

The prime sponsor of the function was Shri Kishore Saletore (in memory of Shri Ramdas Kini). SVC Co-operative Bank Ltd, Shri Durgesh and Smt. Nandini Chandavarkar, Shri Mohan A Chandavarkar, Shri Kishore Masurkar, Smt. Geeta and Shri Jayant Gangolli (in memory of Shri Satish, Shri Nandakumar and Shri Sunil Kalle) were the co-sponsors of the event. The event was also financially supported by present and past residents of the Saraswat Colony as well as ex-students of Bhai's Vyayamshala. The Saraswat Club would like to take this opportunity to thank all who participated in making the program a grand success.

The entire event was indeed a fitting tribute to our dear Bhai – who dedicated his life to physical fitness. Finally, it was a day to say 'Namaste Bhai' – a greeting to Bhai by one and all during his lifetime and an event to remember our beloved Bhai - to say - we love you and miss you.

<<<>>>

सोनियाचा सोहळा

पाँच – छः – सात – आठ – एक – दो – तीन – चार ,
हे आकडे आम्हाला आवडायचे फार,
कारण त्यांनी आमच्या बालपणाला दिले सुंदर आकार,
आणि हेच आहे आमच्या सदृढ आरोग्याचे सार

हे आकडे एवढे कसे ग्रेट ?
हे समजायला जरा धीर धरा आणी करा वेत !

सांताक्रुझ सारस्वत कॉलनीचा हॉल,
दर संध्याकाळी भगवच्च भरायचा मुलांनी जसे आजकालचे मॉल !
कुणी करायचे डंबेल, तर कुणी लेझिम व मल्लखांब,
मुले स्थूल असो की बारीक, बुटके किंवा लांब,
सगळे चपलतेने व आनंदाने एकत्र करत,
मुली असो व मुलगे, सहज हे खेळ शिकताना दिसत.

तीन पिढ्या 'आमची' मुलांना कुणी बरे शिकवले ?
कुणी बरे त्यांना असे चांगले वळण लावले ?

हे होते शंकरराव राक्षे ऊर्फ भाई
ज्यांनी आमच्यावर एवढी माया केली,
जशी करते आपल्या मुलावर एक आई.
म्हणूनच त्यांचा जन्म शताब्दी महोत्सव साजरा करायचे आले मनी,
आल्या तीन पिढ्या एकत्र १७ नोव्हेंबर २०१८ या दिनी.

मुंबई, पुणे, नासिक, दोहा, सिंगापूर वरून
भाईचे उपासक उत्साहाने जमले,
विविध कार्यक्रम व प्रेरित भाषणे ऐकून सगळ्यांचे मन रमले.
बालपणाची व्यायामशाळेची आरती ऐकून मन हरपले,
शनिवार असून साखर-खोबऱ्याच्या प्रसादाने तर डोळे भिजवले.

८० च्या वर वयाचे आजोबा व आजी,
आणि अगदी भाईची अखेरची बॅच व मामू आणी पाचची,
पाँच – छः – सात – आठ – एक – दो – तीन – चार
ह्या सुरात केले लहानपणी शिकवलेले आठवून,
पांढरा कुडता, निळा बेल्ट व व्यायामशाळेची बॅच घालून.

अविस्मणीय असा हा सोहळा झाला साजरा,
मूर्ती लहान पण कीर्ती महान,
अशा आमच्या भाईंना आमचा मानाचा मुजरा.

– भाईची एक उपासक : अर्चना बलसावर-हट्टंगडी

POEM 4:

The Sparrow's Wings in the Wind.

I) The Sparrow's Wings sitting snugly –
In its nest upon the Tree;
From its nest upon the Tree-
The Sparrow's Wings watch eagerly;
The branches swaying with the Wind –
The branches swaying merrily.

II) Flutter, flutter; flutter –
The Sparrow's Wings now flutter;
And the Wind has lured –
The Sparrow's Wings that flutter;
To leave its nest and soar!

III) The Sparrow's Wings they know –
When they have to flutter;
The Sparrow's Wings they know –
When they have to swerve;
Flying gaily the Sparrow's Wings-
Flying gaily with the wavering Wind;
The Sparrow's Wings they have-
They have some delightful verve!

IV) The Sparrow's Wings fluttering -
Loop-the-loop they are flying;
Soar they can the Sparrow's Wings-
And dive at will in the wavering Wind
So adept they are in the wavering Wind-
So adept they are these Sparrow's Wings.

Veena Bantwal

Rates for Classified Advertisements in Kanara Saraswat

For the first 30 words: Rs. 650/- for KSA Members and
Rs. 700/- for Non-members. For every additional word,
thereafter: Rs. 25/- Plus GST 5%

Donations

Kanara Saraswat Association is grateful to the
following donors:

Medical Relief Fund

Chandrakant L Basrur	Rs 15,000/-
(in memory of wife Smt Shalini C Basrur)	

Emergency Medical Relief Fund

Giridhari Chinnadore Dore	Rs 3,000/-
Shri Krishna Kamath	Rs 10,000/-

Essay Competition

Maj.Gen Baidur Nagesh Rao (AVSM)	Rs 10,000/-
----------------------------------	-------------

Deep inside computers (continued)

SANJAY GOKARN

Last month, we discussed some prerequisites for understanding the core of the computers. Despite my best efforts to simplify (especially the logic gates), some readers may have had difficulties appreciating that discussion. My apologies. I should also apologise to them in advance because the state of affairs may not be too different in this article. The flip side (from my view point) is, those who appreciated that article will have no difficulty at all in reading this one.

We discussed some logic gates last month. All logic gates find manifestation in electronics and are easily available in the electronics market. Just to provide an example, a simple implementation of NOT Gate is shown in Fig.1. All of us have heard "transistor" at least in the context of the radios of the sixties. It represents the phrase "transfer of resistance (electric)". A simple circuit with this device is shown in Fig.1. Transistor has three pins; emitter (E), base(B) and collector(C). The electric resistance between pins C and E is controlled by voltage across B and E. If voltage(B,E) is zero, the resistance (C,E) is larger than resistance R (vide figure) and hence voltage (C,E) is 5V. However when voltage (B,E) is 5V, the resistance (C,E) is lower than R and the voltage is to zero. This is exactly how a NOT gate acts (Fig.1. KS,Dec,18;P48.). Implementation of the other gates is out of scope of this article and hence we shall skip that part.

As mentioned last month, computers use the binary system of numbers. An example of adding in binary and decimal systems is shown in Fig.2. Both cases are similar, except that when the addition(1+1) is performed, the sum in binary is zero and a carry is generated, which can be added to the higher order digit to get the number '10', which is same as decimal '2' (vide the Fig.2,KS,Dec,18;P48). Now we have clues for building an electronic machine to add two numbers. If we form the 'truth table' for the sum, it corresponds to that of the 'XOR gate'. Similarly, the carry corresponds to an 'AND gate'.(compare Fig3, KS, Dec, 18; P48 and column S and C of Fig.1).To complete the addition process, we add carry to the next (higher order) bit, so that we get (1+1=10) in binary system.This is known as a one bit computer.(Psst. What is the use if it can add only 0+0, 0+1, 1+0 and 1+1). By adding more blocks we can manipulate larger numbers. In the bottom part of the Fig.3, a three digit adder shown with three blocks of adder. If we combine 8 blocks, we have 8-bit computer which can to handle numbers up to 2^8-1 or 255. These can be grouped in 128 negative and 127 positive numbers. Similarly with 32 blocks, we have a 32 bit computer which can add numbers up to 2,147,483,647 positive and equal number of negative numbers, which is sufficient for most of our computations. In the recent times, the laptops have 64 bit processors, which can manipulate numbers as large as 8 billion! (Psst net worth of Bill Gates is 79 billion USD! Can your computer handle it?) Well let's leave his problem to him and his windows.

Now how do we use electronics for subtraction? Come to think of it, subtraction is simply addition of a negative number. Thus the problem reduces to just finding negative of the number to be subtracted. To do this we will go back to the days when we learnt something without realising its usefulness; complement of a number. We shall use the decimal system as we did in our schools and then go to binary. What is the(9's complement of a single digit number? The answer is 9 minus the digit. For example, 9's complement of 2 is 7 (i.e, 9-2.). Once you get the complement of the number, add 1 to get the 10's complement; just increase the 9s complement by 1. Thus 10s complement of 1 is 8+1=9, 2 is 8 and so on. We shall now perform a simple one digit subtraction in two different ways below:

1. Conventional method: $5 - 3 = 2$ right?
2. Second method: $5 - 3 = 5 + (10\text{'s complement of } 3)$
 $= 5 + (1 + 9\text{'s complement of } 3)$
 $= 5 + (1 + 9 - 3)$
 $= 5 + 7$
 $= 12$ which is $= 2$ (if you ignore 1, the digit in the higher place

Same as in case 1, somewhat confusing but if you just remember to ignore the left most one digit, you can subtract by adding. Before proceeding further, we shall perform this operation on a four digit number in decimal system.

1. Conventional method: $7358 - 2579 = 4779$.
2. Second method: $7358 - 2579 = 7358 + (10\text{'s complement of } 2579)$
 $= 7358 + (1 + 9\text{'s complement of } 2579)$
 $= 7358 + (1 + 7420)$
 $= 14779 = 4779$
 (ignore the preceding 1)

You will see that the addition of the 10's complement is useful in subtracting one number from the other. The second method can be very easily implemented in electronic computing. Only change is that in binary system, the two's complement is used.

How to get 1's complement? Very easy. Change all the ones in the number to be subtracted to zero and all zeros to ones. How? Just send all digits through a set of NOT gates and you have it! As simple as that. Then if you add 1 to the resultant number, you get 2's complement. Now add this and ignore the leftmost bit to get the answer. We shall carry out the first example in binary system of numbers and see what we get,

- 2's complement method:
 $5-3$ (decimal) is $= 0101 - 0011$ in binary system
 $= 0101 + (2\text{'s complement of } 0011)$
 $= (0101 + (1 + 1\text{'s complement of } 0011))$
 $= (0101 + (1 + 1100))$

= (0101 + 1101)
 = (10010)

Ignore the leftmost 1 and we get 0010. If you refer to the table KS,Dec,18, you will see that 0010 corresponds to decimal 2. That is the answer!The 2's complement method is used for subtraction, storing in the memory and all other activities related to negative numbers.

Multiplication is essentially, repeated addition thus $2 \times 10 = 2+2+\dots$ ten times. Or 7×8 is adding 7 to itself (8-1) times. Similarly division is reduced to repeated subtraction. (Psst. How does computer multiply 1.5 by 3.14159? Does it add 1.5, 3.14159 times?) The exact processes of multiplication and division are somewhat complex algorithms for a discussion here and hence skipped.

So far we discussed about the building up of the Arithmetic Logic unit (ALU), some times known as RALU, R corresponds to Register, the small but very fast memory units where the

input and output values of the numbers are stored during the manipulation.

Another component of the computer is the control unit, which controls all the activities of the computer by channeling the flow of information under the control of a "microprogram", which is resident on the chip. This is controlled by the operating system (e.g., Windows) under the instructions of the users' programs. Depending upon the operation under consideration, the control unit opens and closes different gates. Thus for adding A and B, the registers containing these values are "gated" (connected) to the ADDER part of the ALU and the result is gated to a designated register. For subtracting (A-B), first B is gated to the "Inverter" (NOT gate) and then (NOT) B is gated to the ADDER.

I realise that I have skipped off several interesting aspects. Hence I sign off reluctantly. Wishing you all Merry Xmas and a very Happy new year. Bye.

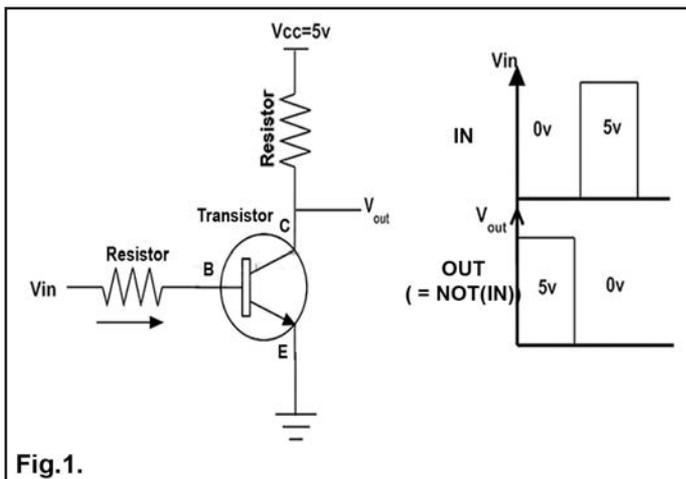


Fig.1.

Implementation of a NOT gate using electronic components. The input and output of this circuit are shown on the right. Here e: Emitter, B: Base and C: collector.

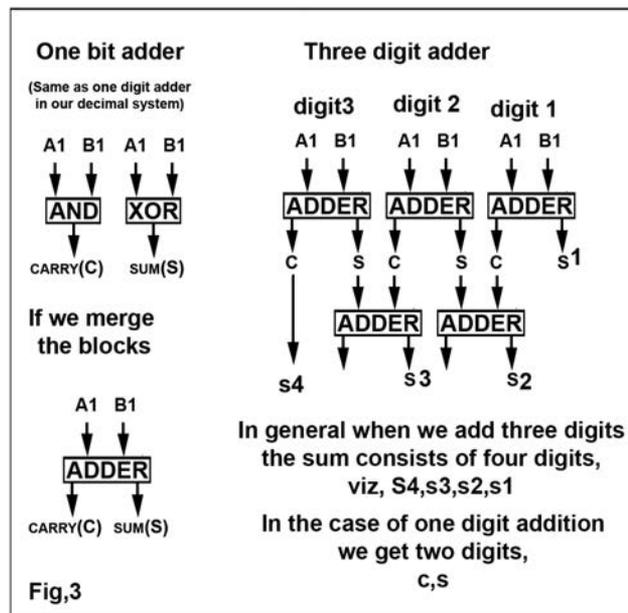
Binary Addition			Decimal Addition		
A	B	C	A	B	C
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	0	1	0
1	0	0	1	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	0

Hence $1 + 1 = 10$

Fig.2

Adding a one digit number in Binary and decimal number systems.

Implementation of a one bit adder and a three bit adder using the logic gates.



Fig,3

Parisevanam Atmabodh

The fourth instalment of the de-mystification of a compact and insightful spiritual text by our erudite contributor Dr. SUDHA TINA IKER

In verse 9, Āchārya Shankara explained that the one indivisible consciousness manifests itself in varied names and forms as the *jagat*; giving an example of one substance-gold- manifesting itself in the form of various ornaments.

Now the same is described taking the example of space.

यथाऽऽकाशो ह्यपीकेशो नानोपाधिगतो विभुः
तत्भेदाद्भिन्नवद्भाति तन्नाशे केवलो भवेत् ॥१०॥

Space (आकाशः) though indivisible, appears as enclosed space when seen with reference to an enclosure. The space within a pot is called pot- space (घटाकाशः) and that within the four walls of a building is called the building- space (मटाकाशः). Once the pot, or the four walls cease to exist, the enclosed space also no longer exists as separate from the indivisible space in its entirety.

Similarly, one indivisible, whole *ātmā* when available in the body-mind-sense complexes of various *jīva-s* is called the जीवात्मा or ह्यपीकेशः (the lord of the body-mind-sense complex). Lord Krishna refers to this enclosed *ātmā* as क्षेत्रज्ञः in *Bhagavad Gīta* (ch13 v 2). However, with the dissolution of the body-mind-sense complex, the *ātmā* remains one indivisible consciousness, pristine in itself.

From now onwards, *Ātmabodh* talks about the reasons for the bondage that a *jīva* feels and the means of freedom from this bondage.

नानोपाधिवशादेव जातिवर्णाश्रमादयः
आत्मन्यारोपितास्तोये रसवर्णादिभेदवत् ॥११॥

Brahman, which by itself is ever- free, appears to get affected and bound by the attributes of the body-mind-sense complexes (कार्यकरणसंघातः) of the various *jīva-s*. All the specific attributes of any *jīva* exist because of its three bodies (स्थूलसूक्ष्मकारण शरीराणि); as we say "I am a *Brahmana*, I am a *gruhasta* etc". The particular group, or *āshrama*, or *varga* is focusing on the body and its placement in a situation specific to it. Thus, the attributes belonging to the three bodies are superimposed upon the *ātmā* and are not the natural attributes of the *ātmā*.

Here again, an example is given. Water by itself is colourless and tasteless. However, when mixed with sugar, salt, lime or any other substance, it gets the respective taste. The taste is not an inherent quality of water itself, but superimposed upon it by what is mixed in it. Similarly, any colour added to water can colour it; the colour is not the inherent nature of water but is that which has been superimposed. Similarly *ātmā* or consciousness, which is in no way bound by any attribute, appears seemingly

associated with the attributes of its associated *upādhi-s*. *Ātmabodh* calls this superimposition as bondage (बन्धः)

Which three *upādhi-s* cause bondage to the *ātmā* is explained in the next few verses. The three bodies (स्थूलसूक्ष्मकारण शरीराणि) have been explained in detail in the *Tattvabodh* commentary. The reader may refer to the same. Here a brief mention will be made of the three bodies.

पञ्चीकृतमहाभूतसम्भवं कर्मसञ्चितम्
शरीरं सुम्ब्रदुःखानां भोगायतनमुच्यते ॥१२॥

The gross body (स्थूल शरीरम्) is a product of the 'grossified' five elements (पञ्चीकृतमहाभूतसम्भवं). It is born as a result of the accrued *karma-phala-s* of the individual *jīva*. It is the locus (आयतनम्) of all types of experiences that a *jīva* goes through.

पञ्चप्राणमनोबुद्धिदशेन्द्रिय समन्वितम्
अपञ्चीकृतभूतोत्थं सूक्ष्माङ्गं भोगसाधनम् ॥१३॥

The subtle body (सूक्ष्म शरीरम्) is a composite of five physiological *prāna-s*, five organs of perception (ज्ञानेन्द्रियाणि), five organs of action (कर्मेन्द्रियाणि) and the mind and intellect (अन्तःकरणम्). The subtle body is a product of five non-'grossified' elements. It is the instrument through which the *jīva* goes through all its experiences (भोगसाधनम्).

अनद्यविद्याऽनिर्वाच्या कारणोपाधिरुच्यते
उपधिन्नितयादन्यमात्मानमवधारयेत् ॥१४॥

The causal body (कारण शरीरम्) is also known by different names such as *prakruti*, the 'beginningless' seed of the gross and subtle bodies, the cause of the entire manifest Universe, original ignorance, of inexplicable nature, *māyā* etc.

The above mentioned three bodies with their attributes are superimposed on the pure, clear *ātmā* out of ignorance and the *jīva* goes through repeated birth and death cycles with all their binding experiences.

The same three bodies from another angle can be divided into five sheaths (पञ्च कोशाः). The five sheaths of the *jīva* have also been explained in detail in *Tattvabodh* commentary.

पञ्चकोशादियोगेन तत्त्वन्मय इव स्थितः
शुद्धात्मा नीलवस्त्रादियोगेन स्फाटिको यथा ॥१५॥

Brahman (*ātmā*) though pure like crystal, in association with the five (अन्नमय प्राणमय मनोमय विज्ञानमय आनन्दमय) *kosha-s*, seems to get sullied by the qualities of each of these *kosha-s* just as a pure, colourless crystal appears blue because of a blue cloth next to it. The "blue-ness" belongs to the cloth and not to the crystal.

The transference of a quality of one thing on to another is called *adhyāsa* (अध्यासः) or superimposition.

Vedanta says that the superimposition (अध्यासः) of the *anātmapādhi* on to the blemishless *ātmā* ("I") is the real cause of all the bondage that every *jīva* goes through. The

only way out of this bondage is through "*ātma-anātmaviveka*" (आत्म-अनात्म विवेकः) which is the subject matter of the next few verses.

(To be continued....)

'EYE CONTACT'- An Important Part Of Your Personality

MAYUR KALBAG

Many years ago I attended a seminar on "Developing Effective Communication Skills". I clearly remember a specific presentation that was made by the corporate trainer on a specific sub-topic within the subject of Effective Communication Skills. The name of the sub-topic was "Eye Contact". That day, as the trainer presented the sub-topic, I found it unusual and a bit disinteresting. However with the passage of time, I began to understand and fathom its role as a very interesting and useful tool for my overall personality development. Through this column I wish to share and also highlight the meaning and the positive relevance of "Eye Contact" in our life and especially in the way we can create a strong impact while interacting with people.

The Job Interview and the role of Eye contact

Abhinesh had applied for the position of a Supervisor in a large multi-national organization. He had passed the written test and the only formality to be completed was the "Personal Interview". Abhinesh walked into the room and saw three people from the interview panel seated across the table. He was asked to sit on the chair and some coffee was ordered for him as well. The interview began with the most typical question asked by one of the interviewers, "So, Mr. Abhinesh, why don't you tell us about yourself and also highlight the reasons for your desire to join our organization?" Abhinesh was well prepared to receive the questions and had even practiced answering them at home. Hence, upon hearing this specific question he was very excited to answer it. However as he began to speak, he was unable to look at the three interviewers' faces and answer. Abhinesh kept looking at everything else in the room except the people who mattered the most during the interview. His reluctance to look directly towards the three interviewers was what led them to assume that he was unsure and diffident about his answers. There was no "Eye Contact".

Hence, all through the interview, he seemed highly nervous and least interested to offer a confident eye contact to the three interviewers. It was only after the interview that one of them called Abhinesh back into the room. He asked, "What is your issue? We asked you some simple and straight questions about you and about your previous experience and all the time, as you were answering those questions you never even once looked at us. Do you realize the negative impression that it has created?" Abhinesh did not know what to answer. He apologized to the person and left the room hurriedly. The next day he was surprised to receive a call from the same organization. The lady from the Human Resources department told him that the decision with regards to his interview was yet to be taken. However, she requested him to meet her at her office. Abhinesh was slightly depressed

about not doing well in the interview; yet he reluctantly went to meet the lady. The meeting proved extremely positive for Abhinesh. The lady explained to him in great detail about how important eye contact is while speaking to one or many people. "Dear Abhinesh, the feedback that I received from the interviewers was that you are very intelligent, well qualified, experienced and perfectly fit for the job. However, they also said that you lacked self-confidence. They felt that you have a nervous and fearful attitude." "But how did they spot this attitude of mine?" Abhinesh asked. To this, the lady answered, "Well, the answer mainly lies in two words, 'EYE CONTACT'. It seems you were extremely hesitant and reluctant to look directly at your interviewers. Eye contact is that part of your personality which helps you to communicate your knowledge as well as your experience in the most confident and convincing manner. On the contrary if you avoid direct eye contact with the people you are interacting with, their perception about you becomes completely opposite. You may have answered all the questions but because you were not looking at them, the feeling you created was that you were stressed and shy apart from being nervous and diffident." "So are you saying that I have failed the interview?" Abhinesh asked her with a disappointed expression. "No, you have been given another chance. Two of the interviewers want to offer you another chance and that is because you deserve it. Tomorrow at noon you will have an interview where you will face the same interviewers and this time I am sure you will look at them and express your attitude of self confidence in the most effective manner. Never forget dear Abhinesh, your eyes can communicate a lot and sometimes even more than just the words." Saying this she wished him the best and walked away for another meeting.

Abhinesh left the office. The lady had quite literally opened his 'eyes'! The next day he walked into the room and looked directly at each of the interviewers as he shook their hands to greet them. From then on Abhinesh maintained eye contact while answering the battery of questions confidently. Eventually he won over the interviewers with his positive attitude and secured the job.

My main intent of writing this column on "eye contact" is to urge all of you to understand that just having a confident attitude is not enough. What is more important is the manner in which we communicate or show our confidence and it is here that "eye contact" plays a significant role. Whether it is an interview or an interaction with your senior management or while making a business or sales presentation, your eye contact towards your respective audience will always help you in projecting the 'best attitude' in you!

Personalia

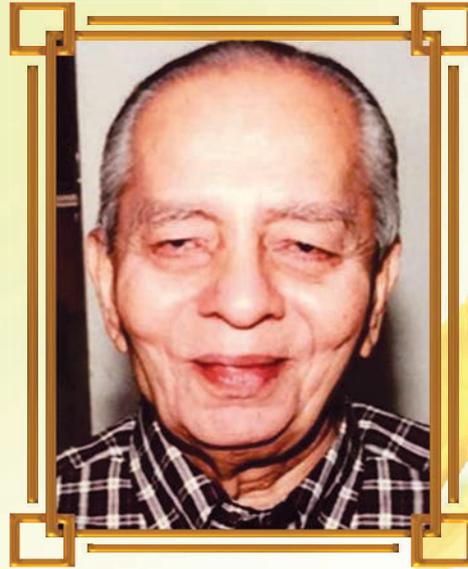
Shri Khambadkone Bhalchandra Rao was awarded the Annual Award for Best Translation by the Konkani Bhasha



Mandal at a glittering ceremony held in Goa on the 30th of September 2018. Shri Khambadkone Bhalchandra Rao translated stories of Leo Tolstoy to Konkani.

Dipti Arur Khutwal, daughter of Manjula (nee Nadkarni) and Mahesh Arur, wife of Uday D Khutwal has bagged the runner up prize for Maharashtra state in Empress Universe International Beauty Pageant 2018. The Grand Finale of

this pageant was held in Goa on 9th Dec. The award was given by Actress and Former Miss India Mahima Chaudhry. There were 18000 contestants worldwide for city level out of which only 700 contestants were selected for state level. She won the state level too.



Ramdas Nadkarni
(1926-2018)

Passed away peacefully in Mumbai on 12th December 2018. He was a noble and caring soul with lots of compassion and humbleness. He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by family and friends.

Kiddies' Corner

Peacock dancing



Umika Prasad Hattangadi (6 years)

'An Apple Tree'



Neeharika A. Baljekar (6 years)

Fantasy



Prateeksha Ullal (10 years)

Scenery



Ishaan Madaye (12 years)

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.



Monthly Bhajan Satsang in Bay Area.

Bharat and Kalpana Kundaje coordinate and conduct monthly Bhajan Satsangh in the Bay Area. The Bhajan Satsanghs are rotated among a number of families each month. About 30 to 35 individuals attend each session and participate actively.

After puja, aarti, and bhajans, the attendees partake prasada offered for naivedya.



Prarthana Varga in the Bay Area

After a brief hiatus, Prarthana Varga for children in the San Francisco Bay Area was re-launched in November 2018 by Kodikal Preetipacchi. In addition to participating in the regular Prarthana Varga curriculum, the children also celebrated PP Swamiji's birthday. The monthly Prarthana Varga will be held at the Sanatana Dharma Kendra temple in San Jose.

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.



HONAVAR ELECTRODES PRIVATE LIMITED

Regd. & Head Office : 305-309, 3rd Floor, Damji Shamji Industrial Complex,
9, L.B.S.Marg, Kurla (West), Mumbai – 400 070. INDIA
Tel. No. : 2502 0317 / 2502 1238 / 6500 8821
Fax : 91 - 22 - 2510 0048
E-Mail : hel@vsnl.com * Website : www.honavarelectrodes.net



***Knowledge is our Strength
it Keeps Increasing Steadily
By Sharing with Welding Industry***

ULTIMATE – 18M ET

SFA 5.5 AWS E 7018-G
IS:814-1991 EB 5629H3JX
DIN EN499 : E 42 5 B 42 H 5

An Outstanding electrode, approved by Indomag Steel Technology, for special application for steel plant. ULTIMATE-18MET displays remarkable weld metal properties:

Resistance to repeated thermal cycles.
Resistance to ageing.
CVN impact values upto 150 joules at minus 50°C.
Used successfully for LD CONVERTER VESSELS.

ULTIMATE – 18NC

SFA 5.1 AWS E 7018
IS:814-1991 EB 5426H3JX

FOR SOUR SERVICE

Meeting the test requirements of:
NACE standard TM-0284 for H.I.C. Test.
NACE standard TM-01-77 for S.S.C.C. Test.

Used successfully in welded fabrication out of HIC resistant steel plates.

CRYOMATE – 3

AWS A 5.11 ENiCrFe3
DIN 1736 EL-NiCr15FeMn

Nickel base alloy electrode gives outstanding performance in welding Inconel-600, Nimonic 75, Monel 400. Has high degree of resistance to hot cracking. Service temperature range 900°C to -250°C

CRYOMATE - 5

AWS A 5.11 ENiCrMo3
DIN 1736:ELNiCr20Mo9Nb

A basic coated non-synthetic electrode for welding of NiCrMo alloys and super austenitic stainless steels. Excellent electrode for 9% NiSteel (Q&T) for LNG services.

SILVERSHINE - 4462

AWS A 5.4 E 2209-16

Special electrode for welding "Duplex Stainless Steels" and "Duplex Steels to Mild Steel". Controlled Ferrite level with high resistance to pitting and stress corrosion. Also high yield strength of more than 500 N/MM²

SILVERSHINE – ZFU(PH)

AWS A 5.4 E 385-16
DIN 8556 E 20.25.5L CuR26

Fully austenitic, extra low carbon, resistant to corrosion in sulphuric, phosphoric and several organic acids. Suitable for welding tanks and process vessels, cast pumps and valves, in fertilizers plant.

CO₂ Wire
(ER - 70S-6)

**OUR MARKETING
ACTIVITIES**

**TIG Filler / Flux
Cored Wires**

Our revered Guru-Parama Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji has been very keen that all members of the Chitrapur Saraswat *samaj* should learn to converse in Sanskrit.

This detailed report by SUJATA HALDIPUR, on behalf of *Girvanapratishtha* - the Department of Sanskrit Studies, Shri Chitrapur Math, will tell you in how many ways the growing band of devoted teachers is trying to acquaint us with the incomparable sweetness and the innumerable gems in the vast treasury of our
Devabhasha

The love for and erudition in the *Devabhasha* - Sanskrit is ingrained in our Chitrapur Saraswat *samaj* since centuries. Our Math's prayers - Bhavani Shankar Suprabhatam, Shankar Narayan *Geetam*, *Deepa Namaskar* composed by our ancestors are a few examples which endorse this fact. A deep desire to share this treasure with all those who wish to be enthralled by it, has given birth to *Girvanapratishtha* - a department of Sanskrit Studies founded by our Beloved Guru Parama Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji.

In the year 2001, as per Pujya Swamiji's *Adesh* that people should learn and converse in Sanskrita (this was an unfulfilled wish of our Parama Guru- Pujya Parijnanashram Swamiji III), carefully compiled web lessons were uploaded on the internet. The lessons are very easy to follow and have an avid following both in India and abroad.

Around 2003, regular classes began. A proper syllabus was formulated. *Girvanapratishtha* has well- designed courses which gradually enable a student not only to decipher the meaning of the *shloka-s*, *stotra-s* recited by him/her, but also instill the confidence to converse in Sanskrit. The Sanskrit lessons have been divided into four courses. Till date, approximately 2,500 students have successfully completed the courses (*Upasana*, *Aradhana*, *Sadhana* and *Dharana*).

Girvanapratishtha is trying to promote Sanskrit - a holy Gurukarya- in the following manner. Here is a succinct summary of the variety of activities conducted over 2017 and 2018 to inspire love for this Divine language –

1. Regular classes are conducted in many places within India and abroad.

- Mumbai – Dadar, Bandra, Khar, Vileparle, Andheri, Goregaon, Borivali, Mulund and Thane
- Pune
- Bengaluru -Shri Chitrapur Math at Malleswaram, Vijaynagar, Jayanagar, Indranagar and Whitefield.

- Chennai
- Shirali
- Australia

Examinations were held twice annually (June and November 2017 and 2018) for students who had completed the *Aradhana/Sadhana/ Dharana* courses.

2. *Sambhashana Varga* is going on regularly at Bengaluru, Shirali and Mumbai. Many people are taking keen interest and attending these classes.

In Karla, Suman Nagarkatti pachi conducts *sambhashana* classes twice a week for *Seva Saptaha* volunteers.

In Bengaluru, regular *sambhashana* classes for the laity are conducted every Thursday by Rashmi Chandragiri pachi. About 30 students attend the *sambhashana* class every week. At the end of each class a *Ninaada* session is conducted.

Every Tuesday *sambhashana* classes are conducted by *Sadhana Kaikini* pachi at Jayanagar.

Every Wednesday- *Sunetra* Nagarkatte pachi conducts *sambhashana* classes for her students at her residence at Vijayanagar. About six students attend this *sambhashana* *varga*. A *Ninaada* session is conducted by *Sunetra* pachi after the class.

Snaatakottar Varga for post - *Dharana* students - (meaning, students who have completed *Dharana* but want to continue with Sanskrit *sambhashana*) - is conducted by Udaya Mavinkurve pachi. About 7-10 students attend the class every Thursday.

In Pune- *Vaishali Koppikar* pachi and in Shirali- *Aruna Bankeshwar* pachi have been conducting *sambhashana* classes regularly.

3. *Swadhyaya varga-s* – In some *sabha-s* students are doing *swadhyaya* of *shloka-s*, *stotra-s* or any other material related to *Vedanta*. In Mumbai's Grant Road *sabha*, *Suneela Mavinkurve* pachi conducted classes on the *Bhagwad*

~~~~~ Parisevanam ~~~~~

Geeta and *Tatwabodha*. In the Andheri *sabha*, Sheetala Chandavarkar pachi conducted a *swadhyaya* class on *Valmiki Ramayan*.

Sangita Pawar pachi conducts *swadhyaya* classes in Karla every week.

4. *Staravardhana -Stara vardhana* classes for teachers are conducted on Wednesdays at Khar, Mumbai and in Bengaluru- twice a month on Fridays. On alternate Fridays, the teachers in Bengaluru share best teaching practices amongst themselves to discover different teaching methodologies for various topics.

5. *Sambhashana shivirs* were held in Bengaluru. Often, a *shivir* is conducted during Swamiji's visit to a *sabha*.

6. So far, almost 60-65 teachers have taught in various Sanskrit classes. Many times, as the students complete the curriculum, they join the teachers' group. Sometimes, Puja

Swamiji encourages the students to teach so that their own concepts become clear.

7. *Girvanavaikhari* - An online interactive class for students abroad (USA) has been started by Shilpa Mudurpachi with great success. .

8. Sanskrit sessions comprising games, music and fun were conducted by Shilpa Mudur pachi during the *Kara Seva shiviram*, wherein there was enthusiastic participation by youths under the global umbrella called *Yuvadhara!*

9. During *Chaturmas* regular *Sambhashana* varga was conducted by the teachers who were present at the venue.

10. An audio recording of the Sanskrit book '*Prerana*' in the voice of our beloved late Seetam Basrur pachi was uploaded on our website - as a befitting tribute to her *seva*.

All this joyful learning and sharing is offered at the Lotus Feet of our Beloved Guru who is constantly encouraging us.



Abhivyakti about the Staravardhana shiviram by Sabita Harite



Sunetra Nagarkattepachi anchoring the Shivir Samapan Samaroha



Staravardhana shibirarthi-s with Dr. Shantala and Dr. H.R. Vishwasa

“रामकथा कोंकणी गीतरामायण” – सुश्राव्य सांगितिक कार्यक्रम

उदय मंकिकर

उत्तम संकल्पनेथावु नियोजित वेळेंतु, दर्जेदार कार्यक्रम सादर कोचें ही सारस्वत महिला समाज, गांवदेवी ह्या प्रतिष्ठित संस्थेची परंपरा. “रामकथा कोंकणी गीतरामायण” हो ह्याची परंपरेंतुलो एकु कार्यक्रमु. ज्येष्ठ आनि श्रेष्ठ साहित्यिका दिवंगत प्राध्यापिका साधनाताई कामत हिक्का सांगितिक आदरांजली दिवचे खातिर, दिनांक १३ नोव्हेंबर २०१८ ह्या दिसु सांजे ५.०० घंट्यांर, बालकवृंद एज्युकेशन सोसायटीच्या श्रीमती इंदिराबाई कल्याणपूरकर सभागृहांतु सारस्वत महिला समाजाने हो कार्यक्रमु धर्मप्रचारक श्री. राजगोपाल भटमामागेल्या अध्यक्षतेंतु सादर केल्लो. ह्या गीतरामायणाची रचयिता साधनाताई कामत, संगीत दिग्दर्शन आशालता गोकर्ण, गायिका संहिता गोकर्ण मुंडकुर आनि निवेदिका कालिंदी कोड्याळ. संवादिनी आनि तबला साथ संगत अनुक्रमे गीता येन्नेमाडी आनि अरुण हट्टंगडी हांन्नी केल्ली.

ह्या संपूर्ण कार्यक्रमाचेर, साधनाताईगेल्या कार्यक्रम आयोजनाच्या कार्यप्रणालीचो प्रभावु दिसुन आयलो. पावणे पांचांकचि सर्व रसिक प्रेक्षक आसनस्थ जाल्लेले. वेदिकेचेरी सर्व तयारी जाल्लेली, कार्यक्रमाच्या क्रमानुसार कामं वांटुन दिल्लेलीं. बरोबरी ५.०० घंट्यांर कार्यक्रमु सुरुवात जाल्ली. महिला समाजाची माजी अध्यक्ष आनि एकी ज्येष्ठ सभासद येन्नेमाडी गीतकाने राजगोपालमामागेले आनि इतर उपस्थितांगेले स्वागत केल्ले. तिन्ने मुखारि हेंवयि सांगले की, ह्या कार्यक्रमाची संकल्पना साधनाताई गेली. तिन्नेचि बरेयिल्या ११ पदांच्या कोंकणी गीतरामायणाची संगीतकार आशालता गोकर्ण. १९८२ सालांतु हे गीतरामायण आकाशवाणी मुंबई केंद्राच्या कोंकणी कार्यावळींतु मालिका स्वरूपांतु प्रसारित जाल्लेले. त्यावेळारी पुरायपदं आशालता गोकर्ण हिन्ने म्हळ्ळेलीं. मात्र, आजि हीं पदं तिगेली धुव संहिता गोकर्ण मुंडकुर म्हणतली. पदं कोंकणीतु आशिलेतरिकेयि रामकथा आनि रामलीला हे प्रकार हिंदीतु जात्ताति जाल्लेमितीं निवेदन हिंदीतु कोर्काज अशशी साधनाने ठरेयिलें. त्याप्रकार निवेदन हिंदीतु जाल्लें. त्याउप्रांते गीतकाने मुखावैल्या कार्यक्रमाची सूत्रं महिला समाजाची मानद सचिव स्मिता माविनकुर्वे हिक्का सुपूर्द केल्लीं.

स्मिता माविनकुर्वेने मुख्य अतिथी, धर्मप्रचारक राजगोपाल भटमामागेलो ह्य परिचय कोर्नु दिल्लो आनि समाजाची अध्यक्ष शरयू कौशिक हिन्ने देवी सरस्वतीगेलो विग्रह आनि पुष्पगुच्छ दिवनु राजगोपालमामागेलो आशीर्वादु घेतलो. समाजाची मानद संयुक्त सचिव प्रिया बिजुर हिन्ने, आशालता गोकर्ण ही समाजाच्या संगीत विभागाची माजी संचालिका आनि विठ्ठल शिंदे हांगेली शिष्या, गीता येन्नेमाडी ही शब्दप्रभू यशवंत देव हांगेली शिष्या तशीची सरस्वती वृंदगानाची संचालिका, संहिता गोकर्ण-मुंडकुर ही पंडित उल्हास कशाळकर हांगेली शिष्या, तिगेले परदेशांतु वास्तव्य आस्स आनि थंयि ती विद्यार्थ्यांक गायनाचे प्रशिक्षण दिता, सांगितिक कार्यक्रमांचे आयोजन करता, अरुण हट्टंगडी हो आचार्य हट्टंगडी तारानाथराव हांगेलो शिष्यु आनि कालिंदी कोड्याळ ही संगीत विषयांतुली पदव्युत्तर शिक्षण घेतिली, समाजाच्या सरस्वती वृंदगानाची एकी प्रमुख गायिका अशशी सर्व कलाकारांगेले

अत्यंत मोजक्या शब्दांतु समर्पक परिचय कोर्नु दिल्लो. ह्या परिचयाउप्रांते, सर्व कलाकारांगेले, शरयू कौशिक हिगेल्या हस्ते पुष्पगुच्छ दिवनु सत्कार जाल्लो. आनि “रामकथा कोंकणी गीतरामायण” ह्या कार्यक्रमाक सुरुवात जाल्ली.

कोंकणी गीतरामायणाचे रेखाटन अप्रतिम जाल्यां. हांतु श्रावणबाळागेल्या आवसुबापसुने दशरथाय्याक दिल्लेलो शाप, रामाक इत्याक वनवासाक वचकाज पळ्ळें हाज्जें वर्णन, भरतागेले बंधुप्रेम, शूर्पणखेने लक्ष्मणागेल्या मोहांतु पोडचें, रावणाने केलेले सीताहरण, हनुमंताने अशोकवनांतु वचें, शबरीगेली रामावैली निस्सीम भक्ती, ताक्का गोंडु बॉर मेळकाती म्होणू शबरीने उष्टी बॉर रामाक दिवची, हाज्जेमाक्षीची तिगेली भावना लक्षांतु घेवु रामाने ती खांवची, ह्यो घटना हृदयाक स्पर्श करताती. हनमंताने, लक्ष्मणागेले जीवु वांचवचेखातिर द्रोणागिरी पर्वत उक्कोळनु हाडचो, अहंकाराने मातवलेल्या रावणपुत्र मेघनाद अर्थात इंद्रजितागेले, रामाने केलेले, गर्वहरण हाज्जें वर्णन उत्कृष्ट. “सीतेगेली दैवगती” आनि “रामायण समाप्ती” हीं पदं दोंव्यांतु उद्दाक हाडेयिताति.

कालिंदी कोड्याळ हिगेल्या निवेदनाचो खास उल्लेख कोर्काज म्होणु दिसता. उत्कृष्ट हिंदींतुले, अत्यंत भावपूर्ण आनि सयुक्तिक निवेदन. तिगेल्या हिंदी भाषेवैल्या निर्विवाद प्रभुत्वाची जाणीव जाल्ली तशीची कथेंत समरस जावु, कथेचो आनि दृश्यांचो आधार घेवु, आवाजाच्या योग्य चढउतारांनी निवेदन केल्यारि तें कशशी परिणामकारक जात्ता हाज्जी प्रचिती आयली.

साधनाताईगेले गीतलेखन हें वृत्तबद्ध आनि तालबद्ध आशिलेमितीं, तिगेल्या गीतांक स्वरसाज चडौवचो केदनाई सुलभ आनि स्फूर्तिदायक आसता अशशी संगीतकार आवर्जून सांगताति. शब्दरचना साधी आशिलेमितीं गायक ती वग्गी आत्मसात करताती. त्यामितीं अभिजात संगीतकार आशालता गोकर्ण हिन्ने सर्व पदं उत्कृष्ट स्वरबद्ध केल्लीं. हीं ११ पदं गायिका संहिता गोकर्ण मुंडकुर हिन्ने उत्तम रितीने सादर कोर्नु प्रत्येक पदाचो आशयु प्रेक्षकांक पावेयिलो, एकु निखळ आनंदु दिल्लो. तिक्का दिग्गज संगीतकार गीता येन्नेमाडी हिन्ने संवादिनीचेरी आनि ज्येष्ठ तबलावादक अरुण हट्टंगडी हांन्ने तबल्याची उत्तम साथसंगत केल्ली. उत्तम गीतरचना, उत्तम निवेदन, उत्तम गायन आनि उत्तम साथसंगत ह्या सर्वांचो एकमेकांक पूरक मेळ जमल्यारी कार्यक्रम कशशी दर्जेदार जात्ता हाज्जें उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण म्हळ्यारी हो कार्यक्रमु. साधनाताईगेल्या लौकिकाक, ह्या कार्यक्रमाने, योग्य न्यायु दिल्लो, अशशी म्होणयेद. “रामकथा कोंकणी गीतरामायण” जायनाफुडे, स्मिता माविनकुर्वेने, राजगोपालमामाक, प्रेक्षकांक संबोधित कोर्ची विनंती केल्ली.

राजगोपालमामाने सांगले, ‘आजि पवित्र दिसु १३ नोव्हेंबर, आमगेले गुरू परमपूज्य सद्योजात शंकराश्रम स्वामजीगेले, ख्रिश्चन दिनदर्शिकेप्रकार जन्मदिवसु. ह्या दिसु सुश्राव्य सांगितिक श्रद्धांजली साधना कामतपाचेक दिलेले खातिर सर्व कलाकारांगेले अभिनंदन!’ ताज्जेउप्रांते राजगोपालमामाने, रामायण म्हळ्यारि कस्ले हें चुटुकभित्ती विशद कोर्नु सांगले. उषा सुरकुंद हिन्ने संबंधितांप्रति ऋण व्यक्त केल्लें. आशालता गोकर्ण हिन्ने आयोजित केलेल्या रुचकर अल्पोपहाराचो प्रेक्षकांनी आस्वाद घेनाफुडे ह्या कार्यक्रमाची सांगता जाल्ली.

वृक्षवल्ली आम्हां सोयरी...

रेखा राव

अलीकडे कुठलेही सण, उत्सव हे जात, धर्म, देश यापुरते मर्यादित राहिले नसून जागतिक पातळीवर साजरे केले जातात. याचे कारण तांत्रिक आणि वैज्ञानिक प्रगती. शिक्षण, प्रसार माध्यम, प्रवास यामुळे माणसांची वृत्ती आणि दृष्टी समृद्ध झाली आहे. आपल्या प्रगतीसाठी, स्वप्नपूर्तीसाठी तो जगाच्या पाठीवर कुठेही जाऊन वास्तव्य करू शकतो. साहजिकच तेथे राहिल्यावर तेथील सण, उत्सव, स्वातंत्र्यदिन तो उत्साहाने साजरे करतो. त्यामुळे दिवाळी, नाताळ, ईद हे सर्वत्र जगभर साजरे करताना दिसून येतात. त्याचप्रमाणे जागतिक पर्यावरण दिन, महिला दिन, योग दिन, ज्येष्ठ नागरिक दिन, व्हेलेन्टाईन डे साजरे होताना दिसतात. अलीकडे मातृदिन व पितृदिनही थाटात साजरे होताना दिसतात.

यंदाचा पितृदिन आम्ही आमच्या कन्येसोबत अमेरिकेतील कॅलिफोर्निया येथे साजरा केला. आमची निसर्गाची आवड पाहून तिने “मियुर नॅशनल मॅन्युमेंट” या पार्कला भेट देण्याचे ठरविले. हे पार्क तिच्या घरापासून साधारण दोन तासांच्या अंतरावर आहे. सुट्टीच्या दिवसात लोकांची फार गर्दी असल्यामुळे येथे पार्किंग मिळत नाही. म्हणून आम्ही एका विशिष्ट ठिकाणी गाडी पार्क करून तेथून शटल बस सर्व्हिस घेतली. डोंगरातील नागमोडी अरुंद रस्ता पार करीत आम्ही अर्ध्या तासाने पार्कजवळ पोचलो. दुपारचा दीड वाजला होता. सर्वत्र रखरखीत पिवळे धमक कडक ऊन पडले होते. तरीही कन्येच्या सांगण्यावरून आम्ही जाड जाकेट हातात घेतले होते. तिकीट दाखवून आम्ही पार्कच्या प्रवेशद्वारातून आत प्रवेश केला. एखाद्या अति थंडगार एसी हॉलमध्ये प्रवेश केल्यासारखे वाटले. संध्याकाळ व्हावी तसा मंद-अंधुक प्रकाश आणि अंगाला झोंबणारा थंडगार वारा! लगेच अंगावर जाकेट चढविले. आजूबाजूला पाहिले तर पहारा देत असल्यासारखे ताठ, सडसडीत, उंच, उंच वृक्ष. मानेला ताण देऊन नजर वर करून पाहिलं तर झाडाचे शेंडे कुठेच दिसत नाहीत. जणू आकाशावर स्वतःच्या पानांचे छत्र धरून उभे. झाडेही इतकी दाटीवाटीने उभी होती की सूर्याचे किरणही झाकले गेले होते. वृक्षांचा तो ताठ हिरवागार नजराणा पाहून मी थक्कच झाले. हा वृक्षांचा नजराणा डोंगरदऱ्यातून पुढे पुढे जात होता. हे पाहण्यासाठी डोंगरातून लाकडी फळ्या घालून सुरेख पथमार्ग केला होता. मध्ये मध्ये लाकडी पूल, कमानी लागत होत्या. त्या खालून झुळुझुळू पाण्याचा प्रवाह खळखळत वाहत होता. त्याला पक्ष्यांची किलबिल्लाट साथ देत होती. पुढे चालत जात होतो तसे जंगल घनदाट होत होते. गार वारा, अंगावर शहारे आणित होता. मग झाडांच्या छतामधून डोकावणारा एखादा सूर्याचा किरण दिसताच त्याची ऊब अंगावर घेण्यासाठी त्याच्याखाली थांबत होतो. बसायला बाजूला लाकडी बाकडे ठेवली होती. त्यावर बसून



विश्रांती घेत होतो व आजूबाजूच्या वृक्षांची पाहणी करीत होतो. वादळ, वारे, पाऊस, अग्नी यामुळे झाडांच्या बुंध्याला वेगवेगळे चित्र-विचित्र आकार आले होते. काहीना मोठे मोठे खिंडार पडले होते. त्यासमोर उभे राहून फोटो काढले. काही झाडे जखमी सैनिकांसारखी आडवी तिडवी पडली होती. त्यावर गवत, रोपटी, वेली उगवल्या होत्या. ही झाडं २ ते ३ हजार वर्षांपूर्वीची असून याची उंची ३८९ फूट असून रुंदी २२ फूट आहे. याची मूळ जमीनीत १४ ते १५ फूट असून ह्या मुळांचा विस्तार १०० फुटापर्यंत पसरलेला दिसतो. ह्या झाडांच्या बुंध्याच्या साली १२ ते २२ इंच जाड असतात. त्यामुळे याचे जीव-जंतू, ऊन, पाऊस अति थंडी यापासून रक्षण होते. या झाडांना ‘रेडवुड’ म्हणतात. ही झाडं केवळ कॅलिफोर्नियाच्या पॅसेफिक समुद्रकिनारी उत्तरेकडे दिसतात. येथील

समुद्राच्या खाडीत व दलदलीत याची वाढ होते. हे वृक्ष अनादी कालापासून उभे आहेत. यांच्या उंचीमुळे, खोल मुळांमुळे आणि बुंध्यावरील जाड सालीमुळे याचे सर्व हवामानापासून संरक्षण होते व अनेक वर्षे ही झाडं तग धरून जिवंत राहू शकतात. या झाडाची पानेही जाड टोकदार सूईसारखी निमुळती असतात, त्यामुळे ती पाणी शोषून घेतात. यावर छोटी छोटी फळं येतात. या झाडाच्या अति उंचीमुळे यावर सदैव धुके व दंव पडते. याचे पाणी होऊन झाडांना पोषण मिळते. झाडाच्या मुळांवरील रोपटी, वेली, गवत, यामुळे झाडांच्या मुळांना संरक्षण मिळते. अंधुक प्रकाशातही याची वाढ होते. यावरील फळं परिपक्व होताच बिया खाली पडतात आणि नव्या वृक्षाची निर्मिती होते. या वृक्षांच्या ओंडक्यावरील वर्तुळावरून या वृक्षाचे वय व

पावसाचा अंदाज केला जातो. ही जंगल संपत्ती टिकवून ठेवण्यासाठी येथील अमेरिकन सरकार सतत कार्यशील असते. वेळोवेळी याची नीट काळजी घेते. त्यामुळे हे जंगल हजारोवर्षांपासून सुरक्षित आहे आणि त्याचे सौंदर्य टिकून आहे.

हिरवी गर्द झाडी, सुरेख हवा आणि सुरेख परिसर पाहत आम्ही चालत चालत किती पुढे गेलो कळलेच नाही. खूप अंधारून आलं. गार वारा अंगाला झोंबू लागला. तसे आम्ही परत फिरलो. जितके चालून पुढे आलो होतो तितकेच परत चालायचे होते. वृक्षवल्लीची पुन्हा पाहणी करीत पार्कबाहेर आलो. तर बाहेर सोनेरी पिवळे ऊन पडले होते. संध्याकाळचे साडेचार वाजले होते. शटल बससाठी मोठी रांग होती. रांगेत उभे राहिलो. पण मनातून ते ताठ, विशाल, धीरगंभीर वृक्ष जात नव्हते. जणू पित्याच्या उदात्त, धीरगंभीर व्यक्तिमत्त्वाची आठवण करून देत होते. पितृदिनानिमित्त ओळख झालेली ही ‘रेडवुड’ वृक्षवल्ली कायम स्मरणात राहतील हे नक्की!!

समाजसेवा व गुरुसेवा यांतील फरक

श्यामला कुळकर्णी

समाजसेवा व गुरुसेवा यांत जमीनअस्मानाचा फरक आहे. समाजसेवेने समाजाची क्रांती जरी घडत असली तरी समाजसेवक जर ती अहंकाराने करित असला तर समाजसेवेने आपण महानकार्य करित असल्याची ती भ्रांतीच ठरते. कारण त्या अहंकारयुक्त कामामुळे तो आपली मनःशांती गमावून बसतो. परंतु गुरुसेवेद्वारा गुरुकृपा प्राप्त झाल्याने गुरुसेवकाच्या अहंकाराचा समूळ नाश होऊन तो मनःशांती प्राप्त करून घेऊ शकतो. समाजकर्त्याचा अहंकार जर अधिकाधिक वाढत गेला तर त्याची बुद्धी भ्रष्ट व नष्ट होऊन त्याच्या अमूल्य समयाचा व अमूल्य आयुष्याचा अपव्यय होतो. परंतु गुरुसेवकाचा अमूल्य समय व अमूल्य जीवन गुरुसेवेत खर्ची गेल्याने तो स्वस्थ व मस्त जीवन जगतो. त्यामुळे त्याचे जीवन सार्थकी लागते.

बहुतांशी समाजसेवकांचा हा समाजसेवा करताना आपल्या कार्याची स्तुती व्हावी, आपले कार्य चारचौघांत प्रदर्शित होऊन आपल्याला प्रसिद्धी मिळावी हा हेतू असतो. काही तर आपला उत्कर्ष साधण्यासाठी आपल्याहून प्रगती करून पुढे जाण्याचा प्रयत्न करणाऱ्याचे पाय खाली खेचण्याचे व आपला फायदा करून घेण्याचे महत्पाप करण्यासही मागे-पुढे पाहत नाहीत.

ज्याप्रमाणे मासेमारी समुद्रातून खेकडे पकडून विक्रीसाठी टोपलीत गोळा करून ठेवतो त्यावेळी एक खेकडा जर टोपलीतून वर चढण्याचा प्रयत्न करू लागला की दुसरा खेकडा त्याला ओढून खाली खेचतो. त्यावेळी तो खेकडा स्वतःही त्या दुसऱ्या खेकड्याबरोबर खाली टोपलीतच पडतो. शेवटी सर्वच मासेमारीची शिकार बनतात. त्याचा मतितार्थ एवढच की समाजात असेही काही समाजकर्ते होऊ शकतात की ते स्वतःही स्वतःचा उत्कर्ष साधून प्रगती करून घेत नाहीत व दुसऱ्यांनाही करू देत नाहीत.

परंतु गुरुसेवक हा गुरुसेवेमुळे निरहंकारी व विनम्र बनतो. त्यामुळे गुरुकृपेद्वारा त्याचा आत्मविश्वास बळावून त्याचे आत्मबल वाढते. त्यामुळे कुठल्याही बिकट परिस्थितीतही त्याची मनःस्थिती स्थिर राहून त्या प्रसंगाला तो धैर्याने व हसतमुखाने सामोरी जातो. त्यावेळी प्रत्येक बिकट प्रसंगी आपले सद्गुरू शक्तिरूपाने आपल्या पाठीशी असल्याची प्रचीती त्याला पदोपदी येत असते. गुरुसेवेने प्राप्त झालेल्या गुरुकृपेमुळे त्याचे मन इतके विशाल झालेले असते की गतजन्मीच्या वा गतआयुष्यातील दुष्कर्माद्वारे भोग भोगणाऱ्या दुःखी कष्टी लोकांना बघून त्याचे मन हळहळते. त्यांनीही गुरुसेवेने सद्गुरूंची कृपा संपादन करून घेतल्यास त्यांचा उद्धार होईल. म्हणजेच गुरुमंत्राच्या प्रभावाने प्रपंचातील लोक जरी आपल्या प्रेमापासून व आधारापासून दुरावले असले तरी त्यासाठी “दुःखाश्रू ढाळीत न बसता गुरुप्रेमाद्वारे गुरूंच्या प्रेमाच्या आधाराने जीवन जगल्यास प्रत्येक जण गुरुसेवा करून आपल्या आलेल्या दुःख-संकटावर मात करून आनंदी जीवन जगू शकेल. गुरुसेवक फक्त स्वतः गुरुसेवा करून आनंदी जीवन जगत नाही तर दुसऱ्यांनीही सुखी व आनंदी जीवन जगण्यासाठी त्यांना सद्बुद्धी, सद्गुरुसेवा करण्यास प्रेरित करतो. व त्यासाठी सद्गुरुचरणी सतत प्रार्थना करतो.

ह्या घोर कलियुगात जास्तीत जास्त संख्येने समाजातील लोकांचा कल दुसऱ्यांवर प्रेम करून त्यांना सुख व आनंद देण्यापेक्षा आपल्या स्वतःच्या फायद्यासाठी दुसऱ्यांना दुःख देऊन त्यांच्यावर राग-द्वेष-मत्सर करण्याकडेच जास्त असतो. काही समाजकर्ते तर सत्याच्या मार्गाने जाऊन समाजाच्या भल्यासाठी निःस्वार्थ कार्य करणाऱ्यांना स्वतःच्या स्वार्थासाठी व फायद्यासाठी दूर करण्याचे महात्पाप करतात. आपण समाजासाठी चंदनाप्रमाणे देह झिजवूनही विरोधक होऊन काही समाजकार्यकर्ते आपला मानसिक छळ करत आहेत ह्याचा त्याला मानसिक धक्का बसतो. मनाने हळव्या असणाऱ्या व सत्याने कार्य करणाऱ्या कार्यकर्त्याला याचे दुःख व मनःस्ताप होऊन त्याचे मानसिक संतुलन बिघडून त्याचे स्वास्थ्य बिघडते.

सत्याच्या मार्गाने जाऊन समाजकार्य करणारा जर सोशिक-हळवा असल्यास त्याच्या स्वास्थ्यावर हे दुष्परिणाम होऊन कार्यातून माघार घ्यावी लागते. परंतु जर कुणी कार्यकर्ता समाजाच्या हितासाठी किंवा त्या कार्याची आवड आहे म्हणून त्यात सहभागी झाला व मनापासून सत्याने आपले समाजकार्य निभावू लागला, तो मानसिक दृष्ट्या कितीही शक्तिशाली व धाडसी असला तरी त्याच्या सहवासातील विरोधकांनी जर त्याच्या विरोधात जाऊन मनःस्ताप दिला तर त्यामुळे त्याला मानसिक ताणतणावाला सामोरी जाऊन त्याचे स्वास्थ्य बिघडू शकते.

त्यापेक्षा सत्यप्रिय माणसाने जर आपल्या जीवनाचे सत्य व रहस्य जाणण्यासाठी गुरुसेवा करून आपला नश्वर व क्षणभंगूर असलेला देह झिजवल्यास त्या सेवकावर एक ना एक दिवस गुरुकृपेची बरसात होऊन तो गुरुप्रेमात नक्कीच न्हाऊन निघेल. तेव्हा त्यात त्यांचे पाप-ताप-दुःख-दैन्य सर्व धुवून मन शांत समाधानी होऊन त्याला खऱ्या शाश्वत सत्याचा व सुखाचा अनुभव आल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही.

समाजसेवा व समाजकार्य हे जोपर्यंत आपला देह सदृढ असेल तरच आपण करू शकतो. परंतु गुरूंच्या आज्ञेनुसार असो वा गुरुप्रेमाखातर स्वतःच्या आवडीने असो, आपण जेव्हा गुरुसेवा करतो तेव्हा देहाचे स्वास्थ्य असले तर देहाने कुठल्याही वयोमानाचा सेवक गुरुसेवा करू शकतो. परंतु वयोमानाने देह व मन क्षीण होऊन तो रोगग्रस्त होऊन अंधरुणाला खिळला तरीही तो गुरुसेवा करू शकतो. कारण सर्वात मोठी व सद्गुरूंना अति प्रिय असलेली गुरुसेवा म्हणजे गुरू बोधाचे आचरण करून स्मरणयुक्त व प्रेमयुक्त गुरुमंत्राचा अखंड जप करणे. ही सेवा गुरुसेवक कुठल्याही परिस्थितीत आचरण करू शकतो. ह्या सेवेने सेवकाच्या अहंकाराचा संपूर्ण नाश होऊन त्याचा आत्मविश्वास बळावतो, त्याच्या अंतरातील सुप्त दैवी शक्ती जागृत होऊन “ह्याच देही याच डोळा” तो सर्व मायापाशातून मुक्त होऊन मुक्तीचा सोहळा साजरा करू शकतो!

अशा प्रकारची गुरुसेवा करण्यात जेव्हा गुरुसेवक आपले जीवन चंदनाप्रमाणे झिजवतो त्यावेळी चंदन जसे आपण तितके उगाळू तितका त्याचा सुगंध अधिकाधिक दरवळत जातो व सर्व परिसर त्या सुवासाने बहरून जातो. त्याचप्रमाणे गुरुसेवक आपला देह असो वा मन असो गुरुसेवेत आपल्या अंतिम श्वासापर्यंत वाहतो तेव्हा त्याचेही जीवन सर्वांनाच आनंददायक व सुखदायक ठरते हे खास!

एक भयंकर प्रसंग : काळ आला होता पण...

शैलजा वैद्य (मासुरकर)

आमचा एस.एन.डी.टी. कॉलेजचा (पुणे) व हॉस्टेलचा पहिला दिवस म्हणता म्हणता १९६० साल उजाडले आणि आम्ही बी.ए.च्या वर्गात पोहोचलो. निसर्ग नियमानुसार एक वर्ष पार पडले आणि १९६१ सालचा मार्च महिना सुरू झाला. परीक्षेचे गंभीर वारे वाहू लागले. बोर्डावर वेळापत्रक झळकायला थोडासाच अवकाश होता. कॉलेजच्या इमारतीच्या व हॉस्टेलच्या मागे आजूबाजूला भरपूर मोकळी जागा, कडुलिंबाचे वृक्ष होते. मागच्या बाजूला तर टेकडी असल्याने बरेच खडक/कपारी आणि वाढलेले गवतही भरपूर होते. बऱ्याच मुली इतरांची जास्त कटकट नको म्हणून अभ्यासाला तिथे जाऊन बसत असत. नियमित वर्ग भरत नव्हतेच. फक्त कोणाला काही शंका/प्रश्न असले तर कॉलेजवर सर्व विषयांचे प्रोफेसर हजर असत. त्यांना भेटून शंका निरसन करून घेता येत असे.

आमच्या बहुतेकींच्या जागा ठरलेल्याच होत्या. सकाळी आंधोळी, चहापाणी आटपून आठ-नऊ वाजेपर्यंत आम्ही खोलीबाहेर पडून आपापले वृक्ष, खडक अडवून वाचायला बसायचो ते थेट एक वाजता जेवायच्या वेळेस मेसमध्ये जमायचो. जेवण झाल्यावर उन्हां तापली असल्याने खोलीतच वाचत बसायचो आणि मग चहा घेऊन संध्याकाळी पाचच्या सुमारास परत बाहेर जाऊन अभ्यास करायचो. अंधार पडून वहीत लिहिलेले दिसेनासे झाले की, आपापल्या खोलीवर जाऊन थोडे आवरून मेसमध्ये जेवायला जायचो. तोपर्यंत आठ वाजलेले असत. जेवून खाली चौकातच बसून एकमेकींना प्रश्न विचारून कितपर्यंत अभ्यास झालाय आणि डोक्यात शिरलाय ते बघून झोपायला जायचो. दुसऱ्या दिवशी परत तोच दिनक्रम सुरू होत असे.

त्याचदिवशी का कोण जाणे बाहेर झाडाखाली बसून अभ्यास करण्याऐवजी खोलीतच टेबल-खुर्चीवर बसून करायचा असे मी व माझी पार्टनर विमलने ठरविले आणि त्यानुसार गंभीरपणे आपापल्या वह्या-पुस्तके, नोट्स काढून वाचत बसलो. आमची खोली पहिल्या मजल्यावर हॉस्टेलच्या मागच्या बाजूला पण कोपऱ्यात असल्यामुळे आम्हाला एक खिडकी जास्त होती. मागे सर्व खडक व डोंगरच दिसत असत त्या जमान्यात. बहुतेक शनिवारी सकाळी आमची पी.टी. असे व आम्ही सरांसकट डोंगरावर चढून पुढे पेन्शनर मारुतीच्या टेकडीपर्यंत जाऊन खाली उतरायचो आणि कॉलेज/हॉस्टेलमध्ये परत यायचो. तेव्हा सर्वांनाच एवढा जोश होता की दमल्यासारखे त्यावेळेस वाटले तरी आठवड्याभरात परत ताजेतवाने होऊन टेकडीवर जायला आम्ही कंबर कसून तयार असायचो.

तर, दोन तास मन लावून अभ्यास केल्यावर जरा हातपाय मोकळे करायला खोलीतच फेऱ्या मारायचो. एकमेकींना प्रश्न विचारायचो किंवा खिडकीत थोडावेळ वारा खात उभे राहून इतर

मुलींना अभ्यास करताना बघायचो आणि थोडे ताजेतवाने होऊन परत अभ्यासाला बसायचो. त्यादिवशी असंच झालं! अभ्यासात लक्षच लागेना. काहीतरी चुकल्या चुकल्यासारखे वाटत होते, पण काय ते दोघीनाही कळेना. शेवटी पुस्तके बंद करून खिडकीपाशी गेलो आणि बाहेर बघता बघता क्षणभर हृदयाचे ठोके थांबल्यासारखे झाले. समोर जे काही उंचसखल खडक/गवत होते त्याच्या थोडेच पुढे आशा, कुंदा नि कुसुम अभ्यासाला बसल्या होत्या. अचानक त्या खडकाच्या कपारीतून एक मोठा काळा साप बाहेर पडताना मी व विमलने बघितला. पुढे जाऊन ह्या मुलीपर्यंत तो नक्कीच पोहोचला असता. काहीच सुचेना. डोळे विस्फारून आम्ही बघत होतो. प्रसंगाचे गांभीर्य लक्षात येऊन कशाबशा भानावर आलो नि त्या तिघींना हाका मारून 'साप आहे, तिथून ताबडतोब पळा' असे ओरडून सांगायला लागलो. आम्ही त्यांची चेष्टा करतोय असे अर्थातच त्यांना वाटल्याने त्यांनी दुर्लक्ष केले. पण जेव्हा जीवाच्या आकांताने व शपथेवर सांगितले तेव्हा त्यांना पटले व त्या घाईने उठल्या. तोपर्यंत सर्पराज समोर दिसले. जवळच असलेल्या आणखी काही मुलींनी पण ते लक्षात घेतले अन् मग एकच दंगा सुरू झाला. प्रसंगावधान राखून आशाने मेसमधील लक्ष्मण नावाच्या धष्टपुष्ट धाडशी वाढण्याला हाका मारून सांगितले. तो लगेच एक मोठे दांडके घेऊन पळत आला, आणखी दोघे आले. एव्हाना सापाचा प्रवास पुढे चालूच होता. पण वरून आम्ही त्याच्यावर लक्ष ठेवून असल्याने त्याचा योग्य ठिकाणा सांगता आला. चपळाईने त्या तिघांनी सापावर हल्ला करून त्याला मारले. त्याशिवाय गत्यंतरच नव्हते' व त्याची वरात हॉस्टेलच्या दाराशी आणली. सापाचे एकूण रूप बघून तो चांगला विषारी असणार असा सगळ्यांनी अंदाज बांधला.

ह्या प्रसंगामुळे मात्र सगळ्या मुलींना चांगली दहशत बसली. मेट्रनबाईनीही फर्मान काढले आणि एकमताने ठराव मान्य झाला की, उगीच दूर कुठे विशेषतः खडकाळ जागी मुळीच जायचे नाही. त्यानंतर दोन दिवस तरी मी व विमल "नायिका" झालो होतो. काय योगायोग होता तो! आमचे अभ्यासात लक्ष न लागणे, काहीतरी घडणार असे वाटणे व बेचैन होऊन खिडकीत उभे राहणे व त्याचवेळेस त्या सापाला बिळातून बाहेर पडायची दुर्बुद्धी की सद्बुद्धी होणे! हे सर्व आकलनाच्या बाहेर होते!!

आजही तो प्रसंग आठवला की, अंगावर शहारे येतात. त्या तिघींच्य सुदैवाने मोठा अनर्थ टळला होता नाहीतर त्यापैकी कदाचित एकीला तरी सापाने दंश केला असता आणि मग काय रामायण घडले असते ह्याची कल्पना न करणे बरे!

त्यांचा काळ आला होता पण... वेळ आली नव्हती हेच खरे!

कोंकणी सौरभ – थॉड्यो आदगत्याँ

नलिनी नाडकर्णी

प्रत्येक भाषेंतु, आदगत्याँ आसताती; आमगेल्या भाषेंतूयी आस्सति. माक्का दिस्ता की, आम्मी दुसऱ्यांलागि उल्लयतना, आदगत्याँ वापरल्यारी, आमगली उत्रं चड मनोरंजक जातलीं, म्हणु; त्या खात्तिर, हाँवे माक्का गोत्तु आशिल्याँ थॉड्योँ आदगत्याँ हांगा बरयल्याति. त्याँ प्राण्यांक उद्देशुन आस्सति. तुमकां ताज्जोँ उपयोग जातलोँ, अशशी अपेक्षा करतां.

- १) रश्मीक मेळूक वत्ना, तूवं तिगलँ एपॉयमेंट घेंवका शिल्लँ; ती 'सूण्या सट्टेक धोर्नु माजरा बारशाक थायि' वत्त आस्ता. तिन्ने घारा मेळचेंचि कम्मी.
- २) त्या कोपिष्ट मनुष्यागेल्या वाट्टेक वोचू नाक्का. तू नुस्तेंचि 'सूण्या तोंडातु बड्डि इत्याक घाल्ची?'
- ३) ताक्का कित्लेयि बुद्धिमार्गु सांगिल्तरि, तों तशशीची चलता; 'सूण्या बाल वांकडें तें वांकडेंचि'
- ४) ती शॉपिंगाक वत्ना कस्लँ हाडचें आस्स, म्हणु पैलेंचि ठरोवु वचना; 'सुण्याने सांते गेल्लेल्वारी' मनांतु आयलँ की भायूर सरता.
- ५) त्या दोंगांगलँ कस्लँ लव् मरैज् की बा; कॅदना पळेल तरी, दोंगयि, 'सूणं नी माज्जर शीं' झगडत पडताति.
- ६) आगो, तें ग्लास पडद; सम धरी; 'माजरा बाँडावेलोँ दीवाँ सों' तें गडगडत पळें.
- ७) शारदाचेरी, तिगली मांयि कारण नास्तना कॉप्पूता; जाल्यारी तिक्का तशशी कोर्नाक्का म्हणु सांगतलँ कॉण? 'माजरा गळ्यांतु घांट कॉण बांदतलँ?'
- ८) तू तुगेल्या भावजेक मदत कोरुक वच्चि आशिशली नवें? तावळ्ळी परत इत्याक आयली? 'वाट्टेरि माज्जर आड आयलँ' वें?
- ९) आर्त्तांतु; आमगेल्या रांदपिणीनँ, ऐकेकू रांदपा सामानु चोरुक सुरू कॅल्ला; ती लॅक्ता की माक्का कळणा म्हणु; 'माजरानँ दोंळ चिमि कोर्नु दूद पिल्लेली संगति.'
- १०) त्या दोंगांपैकी कॉणाचेरियि विश्वासु दव्वरुक जायना; तें दोंगयि 'उंदराक माज्जर साक्षि' आस्सति.
- ११) बाळा केदार! तू अमेरिका वत्ना, समीराक तुगलोँ बिज्नेस् सांभाळूक सांगता? ताक्का बिज्नेसाचों कसलेयि अनुभवु ना मरें; माक्का दिस्ता; तू मांकडा हात्तांतु माणिक' दिता, म्हणु.
- १२) आगो! हाँवे, मगेल्या मदतीक; आमगेल्या चाळेंतुल्या पूरायि चल्ल्यांक आपयिल्लें; जाल्यारी, नवीन एकळोँ आयलोँ कि, पैलेचों हळू पोळणु वत्तालोँ; 'मांडकां तालेभारू सों!'
- १३) दीपकू नी मिलिंदु, ह्या दोंगांनी बुद्धिबळ खेळच्या स्पर्धेंतु भागु घेतिल्लोँ; दीपकु भो बरों खेळाडू आशिशिलमिती तों जिंकलोँ; जाल्यारी मिलिंदागेलँ स्टॅडर्ड साधारण आस्स; तशिश कोर्नु तों

- हरलोँ 'हैरू धांवता म्हणु गांयडोळाक धावंचाक जात्ता वें?'
- १४) तिगेल्या उत्रारि विश्वासु दव्वरुक जायना; ती आजी अशशी उल्लैता नि फायि तशिश; दोनि ताँडाचें मालुंड शँ.'
 - १५) तों सुब्बा पाप, 'गाडुव शँ घोळता'; ताक्का बुद्धियि तितलीची म्हणा.
 - १६) तों वेंकु; तांकां बरो मॅळ्ळो; दोनि फांता मात्र पोंट्टाक घालचें; नि दीस् भरी 'घाण्या बैलु सो' घोळोवु घेंवचें.
 - १७) कॅदनायि जायना जावंचि खबरी मुगों; आदगातीचि आस्स म्हणा, 'वत्तांतु पाव्सु नि कुंकडा मांकडाक झगडें म्हणु!'
 - १८) चिके हगूर चमक गों; 'वाघु फाट्टी लागिल्लवारि' धावनाक्का.

भाग्यदा लक्ष्मी बारम्मा

ह्या कन्नड आरतीचा मराठी अनुवाद

भाग्याची लक्ष्मी ये माई

माझे आई सौभाग्याची लक्ष्मी ये माई

पायी पैँजण करिती किणकिण

पाऊल पुढती पाऊल टाकुन

संत सज्जन करिती पूजन

ताकांतल्या लोण्यापरि तू

अगणित भाग्य व वैभव देई

करांत शोभे कंकण हिरवी

कुंकुमांकिते पंकज लोचनी

जनक राजाची कुमारी तूची

वेंकटरमणाची राणी तू राणी

माणिकमोती उधळित येई

मनांत भक्ति आशा फुलवी

दिनकर कोटी तेजे मिरवीती

भक्तांच्या घरी सदा वास करी

नित्य सुमंगली नित्य महोत्सवी

सात्विक लोकांच्या मनी राहसी

चित्ताला आनंदित करिसी

दुधांत साखर घृत हे मिसळुनी

शुक्रवारी ही पूजा करूया

भक्तिने ममतेची सेवा

पुरंदर विठ्ठला अर्पण करूया

– श्रीमती ममता नगरकर

पोशिंदा

सौ. प्रिया प्र. बडुकुळी

टाळ-टिपऱ्यांच्या संगतीत भगवंताच्या अवर्णनीय रूपाचे गुणगान करता-करता बुवांच्या डोळ्यांतून सहज अश्रूंचा ओघ सुरू झाला. भक्तिरसात डुंबून ठेवून आपल्या असामान्य कीर्तन पद्धतीने बुवांनी एकवार जनसामान्यांस साक्षात भगवंताचे दर्शन घडवल्याने ते श्रोते संतुष्ट मनाने आपापल्या घरी पोहोचले.

सत्यभामाबाई घरी पोहोचताच आपल्या स्वयंपाकघरात प्रवेश करता-करता अण्णांस म्हणाल्या- “चला, आज कीर्तन-प्रवचनाने मन कसे संतुष्ट झाले हे कसे सांगू तुम्हाला.” तेवढ्यात अण्णासाहेब मिशिकलपणे म्हणाले- “बरे तर मग आजचा दिवस माझ्यासाठी सुखकर व्हावा हेच त्या परमेश्वराने माझ्या नशिबात वाढून ठेवले असावे.” हे ऐकताच सत्यभामाबाईना त्यांचा राग आला. राग अनावर होऊन त्या सरळ घराबाहेर निघून गेल्या. त्या त्यांच्या चाळीच्या सार्वजनिक व्हरांड्यात घराबाहेर ठेवलेल्या लाकडी पलंगावर जाऊन बसल्या. दिवेलागणीची वेळ होती. साडेसात वाजले होते. निम्मा स्वयंपाक झाला होता म्हणजेच निम्मा करणे बाकी होते.

साठी उलटून गेली तरीही सत्यभामाबाईना वानप्रस्थ-परमार्थ अथवा आध्यात्मिक बाबी ज्या संसारात रमता-रमता आपल्यातील अहंभाव-रागद्वेष-लोभमोह ह्या सर्वांना जमीनदोस्त करू शकतात आणि हे सर्व फक्त आपल्यातील आपण घडवून आणलेल्या बदलानेच शक्य होते हे कधीही उलगडलेच नाही. सतत राग-रुसवा मनात बाळगून का अध्यात्म साध्य होऊ शकते? ह्याचा विचार नको का करायला?

वेळ दवडत होती, परंतु सत्यभामाबाई स्वयंपाकघरात शिरण्याचे मनावर घेईनात. तसेच अण्णासाहेब आपल्या पत्नीस मनावण्यास व्हरांड्यात येईनात. असा बराच वेळ निघून गेला. चाळीतील प्रत्येक घरातील दिवा हळूहळू मालवला जात होता. आपल्या खिडकीचा पडदा सत्यभामाबाईनी हळूच बाजूस सारून बसल्या ठिकाणाहून घरात डोकावून भिंतीवर टांगलेल्या घड्याळावर आपली नजर टाकली, तर रात्रीचे दहा वाजले होते. मनातल्या मनात अण्णांवर राग असला तरीही त्यांना आपल्या वागण्याबद्दल वरमल्यासारखे वाटले. हळूच पलंगावरून उतरल्या आणि तरा-तरा स्वयंपाक घरात चालल्या झाल्या. चालता-चालता एकदाच त्यांनी अण्णासाहेबांवर कटाक्ष टाकला होता तर ते एका खुर्चीत गाढ झोपलेले सत्यभामाबाईना दिसले. भरभर स्वयंपाक आटपून त्यांनी ताट मांडून त्या बाहेर अण्णासाहेबांस जेवायला बोलावण्यास आल्या व हाक मारू लागल्या. तद्नंतर त्यांच्या खांद्यास हात लावून त्यांना उठवण्याचा प्रयत्न केला. परंतु त्यांचे प्रयत्न फोल ठरले. कारण बऱ्याच वेळेआधी हृदयविकाराच्या झटक्यामुळे अण्णासाहेबांनी जगाचा निरोप घेतला होता. हे समजताच सत्यभामाबाईच्या

पायाखालील जमीन सरकली. काय करावे त्यांस सुचेना. अचानक त्यांनी एक मोठा आक्रोश केला. जो आसमंतात इतका पसरला की, प्रत्येक शेजारी दरवाजा उघडून बाहेर आला व कानोसा घेऊ लागला. बाहेर व्हरांड्यात चर्चा होईतोवर सत्यभामाबाईनी त्यांस हाक मारली. हां-हां म्हणता डॉक्टर, शेजारी, आसस्वकीय सर्वजण त्यांच्या घरी जमले. सर्व काही पार पडले.

दिवसामागून दिवस जात होते. एके दिवशी दुपारी सत्यभामाबाई रेडिओवर आकाशवाणीवर गाण्याचा कार्यक्रम ऐकत घरात बसल्या होत्या. इतक्यात गदिमांचं एक जीवनाचं सत्य सांगणारं गीत सुरू झाले-

“लळा-जिव्हाळा शब्दच खोटे, माश्या मासा खाई
कुणी कुणाचे नाही राजा, कुणी कुणाचे नाही ।
पिसे, तनसडी, काड्या जमवी, चिमणी बांधे कोटे
दाणा दाणा आणून जगवी, जीव कोवळे छोटे
बळावता बळ पंखामधले पिल्लू उडुनी जाई ।
रक्तही जेथे सूड साधते, तेथे कसली माया ?
कोण कुणाची बहीण, भाऊ पती पुत्र वा
सांगायाची नाती सगळी, जो तो आपुले पाही जाया

हे गाणे ऐकता-ऐकता सत्यभामाबाई एकदम दुःखावेगाने कोसळल्या परंतु स्वतःला सावरीत म्हणाल्या - “नुसता अध्यात्म धरून, ह्या नश्वर जगास नश्वर मानून त्यात अध्यात्माचा वापर जनकल्याणासाठी न करता काय कमावले मी? फक्त गमावले. ही घोडचूक मी केली. “माश्या मासा खाई” अशी अवस्था निर्माण झाली.

उशिरा का होईना आता त्यांना उमगले होते की संसाराचा गाडा चालवताना त्यास अध्यात्माची जोड द्यावी. जेणेकरून आपण आपल्या कुठल्याही कर्मबंधनांपासून दूर न जाता अध्यात्माच्या जोडीने संसार सुरळीतपणे पार पाडू शकतो तसेच आपल्या शेवटच्या क्षणीही आपल्याकडे कसल्याही प्रकारचा न्यूनगंड उभा राहू शकत नाही.

हळुवार त्या शांतपणे उठून उभ्या राहिल्या. आपल्या पदराची गाठ आपल्या खांद्यावरून ओढत त्यांनी स्वयंपाकघरात प्रवेश केला. सतत त्यांना आपल्या एकाच चुकीचा वारंवार पश्चात्ताप होत होता आणि ती चूक म्हणजे स्वतःस माहीत असूनही मधुमेहाने त्रस्त आपल्या पतीस अण्णासाहेबांस त्यांच्या शेवटच्या क्षणी अन्नाचा घास आपण देऊ शकलो नाही व ते हे जग सोडून निघून गेले याचा.

वर्षामागून वर्षे सरत होती. सत्यभामाबाईच्या मनास लागलेली बोचणी त्यांच्या मनात सतत पिंगा घालू लागली. शेवटच्या श्वसापर्यंत त्या स्वतःस माफ करू शकल्या नाहीत. म्हणूनच अध्यात्माच्या जोडीनेच संसार करा जीवन सुखकर होईल.

Here and There

Bengaluru : Special Programmes: On 7th November on the occasion of Deepavali, Lakshmi Pujan was held. On 17th November on the occasion of Janma Divas of our Parama Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji as per *tithi*, Bhashya Pathan and Samoohik Guru Pujan was offered. On November 18th, the idol installation day of Parama Pujya Shrimad Anandashram Swamiji was observed with Ashtavadhana Seva. On 19th November Jagrani Ekadashi was observed with Akhanda Bhajan and Shiva Pujan. Tulsi Vivaha was celebrated on 20th November. Samoohika Durga Namaskar was performed on 23rd November which witnessed enthusiastic participation from the laity. Parama Pujya Swamiji blessed us with a visit from 26th November to 4th December. 27th November being the First Anniversary of the Mahasamadhi of Pujya Ishwaranand Giriji Maharaj, Parama Pujya Swamiji spoke with sadhaka-s after Deepanamaskara. Samskṛta Sambhashan classes for Yuva-s were conducted on 27th and 28th November by Smt. Shilpa Mudur visiting us from Mumbai. Durga Homa was performed on 29th November, Parama Pujya Swamiji conducted Swadhyaya on the bhajan "Tanmay ho ja mere man" on 30th November and 1st December.

Programmes by various Varga-s: On 1st Nov, about 6 yuvas along with the waste management team, prepared 81 kgs of compost for sale as Shrama Seva.

Regular Programmes: Pujan was performed by Gruhastha-s every Monday, Thursday and Friday. Sadhaka-s performed Samoohika Gayatri Japa Anushtaan every Sunday. The series of talks by Smt. Dr. Sudha Tinaikar on Kathopanishad continued on every Tuesday. A short 5 minute Ninada practice was a part of all regular activities. Ashtanga Fitness sessions were conducted by Yuvadhara on Fridays and Saturdays.

Reported by Saikrupa Nalkur

Chennai : On the Janmadinotsava of PP Shrimat Sadyojata Shankarashram Swamiji we had Guru Pujan followed by Bhajans. Sadhana Panchakam was conducted. On 19th Nov. Jagrani Ekadashi was observed with Bhajans.

Reported by Kavita Savoor

Goa : The year 2018 was marked by active participation of Goa Yuvadhara, individually as well as in groups, in Parama Pujya Swamiji's camps at Shirali and Karla, be it Utsava-s, Trekking or Sammelanam. They also performed Japa Anushtan during the entire Chaturmasa. The Guru Pujana held in Sabha's monthly Satsanga-s & Devi Pujana held in Navaratri Satsanga were also performed by Yuvas.

The highlight of the year for the Sabha was the visit of Parama Pujya Swamiji from November 8 to 14 at the invitation of the three Kuladevata temples. Abhisheka was performed by Swamiji at Shree Shantadurga Temple & Shree Mahalaxmi Temple. Maharudra was performed in the Divine Presence of Swamiji at Shree Mangeshi Temple, followed by Maha-Aarati by Swamiji. Palakhi Utsava was held at Shree Shantadurga Temple & Shree Mangeshi Temple. Here too, the Yuvas participated actively in unloading / loading of luggage of Retinue & devotees as well as in helping with arrangements at all three venues, besides singing bhajana-s & Stotra-s.

Reported by Sabita Harite.

Mangaluru: Janma Divas of Parama Poojya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji was celebrated at Shri Vamanashram Samadhi Math on Tuesday, 13th November 2018. On this occasion, Gayathri Japanushtan was performed by male Sadhakas in the morning from 7.30 to 8.30 a.m. This was followed by Samuhika Prarthana at Shree Vamanashram Sannidhi, Shree Umamaheshwar Sannidhi and other deities by Purohit Guruprasad Bhat Upponi on behalf of Vaivatdar and Laity. Later Shiyalabhisheka seva was also held at Vamansharam Sannidhi. On Saturday, 17th November (birthday as per Hindu calendar), Guru Poojan was conducted at Shri Samadhi Math by devotees which was followed by Prasada Vitaran.

"Guru Samaradhana" on the occasion of Punyatithi of Shri Vamanashram Swamiji was observed on Saturday, 1st December 2018. Programme began at 8 AM with Samuhika Prarthana at Vamanashram Sannidhi followed by Ekadasha Rudra and Shiyalabhishekas. Nearly 250 Shiyalabhishekas were offered to Vamanshram Sannidhi on this occasion. At noon, Maha Pooja was followed by Santarpana. At night, Palki Utsav of both Umamaheshwar and Bhavanishankar deities was held at Samadhi Math precincts. Utsav was followed by Ashtavadhana Seva, Mahapooja and Panivar. The above programmes were conducted jointly by Vaivatdar of Math and Shree Gokulashtami Celebrations Committee.

Reported by Savnal Janardhan Rao

Mumbai – Andheri: On Saturday, the 17th of November, 2018, the members of Andheri Sabha celebrated the birthday of PP Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji at the auditorium of Shri Ram High School in Andheri West. A successful Ninaad session was conducted by Sushma Gokarn-pachchi, which was followed by the Prarthana Varg children, the yuvas and others from the Andheri Sabha performing Gurupujan. Durga Kumta-pachchi then conducted an educative and fun activity called 'Sanskrit Krida' in order to educate the children and people of our community about Sanskrit and our culture.

In other updates, the Punyatithi of PP Shrimat Vamanashram Swamiji was observed on the 1st of December 2018, with an expert talk by Rajagopal Bhat-maam. He was kind enough to enlighten us all about the meaning and significance of the Ashtavidhan Seva performed every night at Shirali Math. We hope to have many more such activities in the coming month and grow together as a community.

Reported by Puja Gokarn

Mumbai - Santacruz : At Shrimat Anandashram Hall Saraswat Colony, Santacruz Punyatithi of HH Shrimat Vamanashram Swamiji was observed on 1st December, 2018 (Saturday) from 6pm onwards. Bhajans & Stotras followed by Deepa Namaskar, Mangal Arati were sung by devotees and prasada was served thereafter. Devotees had gathered in large numbers to perform a Samuhik Shri Devi Anushtana on 17th November, 2018, (at 9am) to celebrate Parama Pujya Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashrama Swamiji's Janamdivas (tithi wise).

Reported by Kavita Karnad

Mumbai - Thane Sabha: Seva Saptaha was offered by Thane Sabha between 4th and 11th November. Seven

sadhakas had the privilege of participating in this. Sannikarsh was offered on 11th November by nearly 20 sadhakas. H. H. Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji's Janmadivas was celebrated by Thane Sabha at multiple venues: - On 13th November, 13 members gathered at the residence of Shri. Dhananjay Nadkarni in Chembur, to perform Guru Poojan., on 17th November, which was Swamiji's Janmadivas as per tithi, 25 sadhakas gathered at the residence of Shri. Uday Kaikini in Chembur to perform Guru Poojan, Stotra Pathan and Devi Anushthaan. Members of Thane Yuvadhara and Prarthana Varga also participated in this event. On 17th November, members of the Samaj offered Devi Anushthaan from their respective homes for Swamiji's good health and long life. Twenty-eight sadhakas from Thane Sabha participated in this event.

Reported by Namrata Heranjal

New Delhi - Sunday the 14th October 2018 – Samuhik Navachandika Homa was held at Kavale Math jointly by the GSB and Chitrapur Math New Delhi local sabha on Sunday the 14th October 2018. Yajamans from our Sabha, Ullal Pradeep maam and Shobhana pacchi took sankalpa on behalf of our sabha participants. As families arrived for the auspicious Homa, the venue sported a festive look, even as some participants read the Navaratri Nityapath. After Purnahuti, our sabha's savashinis enthusiastically performed Kumkumarchana. For the Kanya puja, we had our sabha's first timer, 2 year old Toshani Nath gracing the occasion. A sumptuous Prasad bhojan concluded the day's fulfilling event.

Saturday the 10th November 2018 – Deepavali Get-Together - The evening brought in vibrancy, as our Yuvas literally took over conducting our Sabha's Deepavali event.

Our Yuvas and youngsters had been busy previous week practicing for the cultural event. The programme commenced with President Ullal Pradeep maam and our ever helpful Bondal Jaishankar maam welcoming first timers to our Sabha. A brief introduction by new members, and the evening's programme unfolded itself.

Our charming emcee Yuvati Pallavi Kadle Rao once again invited all in the audience and gave a brief about our past Deepavali functions. First in the programme's sequence was the *Ghoomar* performed by Yuvati Ishani Rajpal. This was followed by a skit in English, on incidents from young Krishna's life, replete with elaborate handcrafted props made by the Bondals, and performed by the young siblings Kedar and Samarth Sood, who regaled the audience with their cuteness, frankness and innocence. Herenjal Saiprasad maam then entertained us with medleys on his flute. Our prarthana varga girls Navya and Niyara Rege along with their friends Tashika and Sakshi, performed a contemporary dance to some peppy tunes, while Aahana Kilpady and Yashodhara Prasad sang a duet on "*Jhoom jhoom ke ayaa saawan....*" Hoskote Prashant maam then took over the stage with his rendering of a few medleys, followed by Kaikini Uma pacchi enthusiastically singing old Geeta Dutt songs.

The Yuvas then staged 'Modern Day Ramayana' (on the lines of a parody, pertaining to the 21st century's young generation), conceptualized, written and directed by Namrata Kilpady, with actors Ananya Majumder, Suparna Kerwar

Nath and Tamal Nath, Vishal and Pratima Rege, Raghuram Rao, (Vidya Kumar pacchi was the last minute stand-in) and Namrata Kilpady, with narration by Vishnu Priya and assisted by Natansh Kilpady in coordinating the screen content. Our prarthana varga members were the vaanar sena. It ended with all actors joining in a celebratory dance. Herenjal Saiprasad maam played his flute again to some melodies. The fun filled cultural evening wound up with a beautiful Sant Tukaram's Abhang sung by Sveta Hattangadi Kilpady pacchi, composed by her classical music Guru Smt Manik Bhide.

Our young prarthana varga members were felicitated and presented with tokens of encouragement. The concluding festive dinner showcased a slice of Bengali cuisine, specifically from the Sunderbans.

Saturday the 17th November 2018 - Janma Divas of PP Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji - Our Sabha had a superb Janma Diwas celebration of our dear Swamiji at the residence of Gundil Shekhar maam and Vidya pacchi, in Ghaziabad, with an energetic Sadhana Panchakam. Starting with sabha opening prayers, Shri Gurupaduka stotram, Shri Parijnana Trayodashi, we proceeded with Sadhana Panchakam. The event turned out to be quite magical, as the chants progressed. The altar was beautifully decorated with an exquisite backdrop of a peacock in the jungle, entirely handcrafted by Shekhar maam and Vidya pacchi. After a fulfilling Sadhana Panchakam, and Guru bhajana stotram, Kallianpur Shivani pacchi rendered a soulful bhajan "...Guru charanam...". The programme culminated with a delicious Prasad bhojan offering.

Reported by Vidya Kumtakar Kumar

Our Institutions

Balak Vrinda Education Society

It is with deep sorrow that we inform about the sad and sudden tragic death of our dear Smt. Nirmla Chikramane on 24th November 2018 in an accident near Bangalore. Tributes to her are printed elsewhere in this issue. She was a great source of strength to the School in her capacity as Hon. Treasurer. We pray to God to give her soul sadgati and strength to her family to bear this irreparable loss.

Reported by Geeta Suresh Balse

Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Chennai

Mahila Samaj in Chennai celebrated it's 70th year in Nov. The Platinum Jubilee celebrations on Nov 17th, 2018 included recapturing all the programs held by the Mahila Samaj in the 70 years. This was put together by way of a photographic presentation. It took everyone down memory lane, with people from the audience recognising members in the pictures & telling little anecdotes about them. 3 very senior members who were actively involved with the Mahila Samaj from the early years – Chitra Karnad, Uma Hattikudur & Meera Savoor – were honoured & felicitated. A medley of popular quawwali songs were enacted by a few members – all dressed in typical colourful quawwali outfits. This cheerful presentation was followed by a typical Sindhi dinner. Members had bought donor passes for the program, part of the collection was donated to charity – dinner was sponsored for the children of the CMS Children's Home. Members had

also donated clothes, books, toys & other essentials for the orphans in the Home. All in all, the Platinum Jubilee of the Saraswat Mahila Samaj in Chennai was a huge success & a very memorable one indeed.

Reported by Kavita Savoor

Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi

On the evening of 13th Nov 2018, the Saraswat Mahila Samaj of Gamdevi, organised a programme titled "Ramkatha – Konkani Geet Ramayan" at Smt. Indirabai Kalyanpur Hall, Talmakiwadi. The Guest of Honour was our well-known Dharmapracharak Shri V. Rajagopal Bhat.

'Ramkatha' - The translation of Geet Ramayan in Konkani was penned by late Sadhana Kamat, beautifully composed by Ashalata Gokarn, a Grade-I Radio Artist and rendered melodiously by her daughter Samhita Gokarn Mundkur. Geeta Yenemady on harmonium and Arun Hattangadi on tabla accompanied them beautifully. The programme was compered by Kalindi Kodial in chaste Hindi. The artists were introduced by Smita Mavinkurve. The musical program was followed by Shri Rajgopal Bhatmam's short thought provoking speech highlighting Valmiki Ramayan and its importance.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Usha Surkund and followed by snacks sponsored by Ashalata Gokarn and Mahila Samaj. A detailed report of this is given on page 37.

Reported by Vijayalaxmi Kapnadak

On the 21st November 2018 and interesting programme of cookery demonstration was organized at the Samaj Hall through Gits Food Products Company. As most of us are aware Gits have been famous for its instant food products especially their Gulabjamun, Vadas etc. On request they readily agreed to give a live demonstration of some of their products and to serve us their prepared items for taste.

The hall was packed to capacity and the Gits representatives had come and set up their tables/ food product packets etc. Smt Geeta Balse welcomed them. Smt Kiran Pednekar, their Marketing Coordinator and team leader spoke on length about their snacks as well as ready in minutes – instant meal products. After that was the live demonstration of Jalebis and moong dal vada. They invited members of the audience to join in trying out the frying of the jalebis. The best ones got prizes of their food packets.

They then served some of their ready to eat products such as Pav Bhaji, Gulab Jamun and dhokla. The dishes were very tasty, everyone enjoyed them. Smt. Pednekar also conducted on the spot games and gave away these instant food packets as prizes to the winners.

Smt Smita Mavinkurve proposed the Vote of Thanks.

The whole programme went off very well. The representatives of Gits managed the entire show right from setting up the counters, to serving the items and even cleaning up at the end! The committee members were treated like guests for once!

At the end there was a sale of their products at a substantial discount.

Reported by Geeta Suresh Balse

Forthcoming Programmes:

Wed. Jan. 9th 2019: 'Ladies' Day Out' at Kalyani Village Resort, Virar. Cost per head Rs 950/-

(Includes transport, breakfast, lunch, tea & snacks and activities)

* Cost based on full capacity of bus. Limited to 33 seats.

Wed. Jan. 16th 2019: at 3.30 p.m. in the Samaj Hall – 'Sankranti Sammelan' "Bhaktisang" music program by Shubhaswaranjali Mandal, Thane

Refreshments sponsored by Neeta Yadery, Haldi-kumkum and Til laddoos by Samaj

CLASSIFIEDS

MATRIMONIAL

Alliance invited for Bhanap Boy, M.A., aged 27 years, working in a good pvt firm at Mumbai, preferably from CSB Girls (working). May contact on telephone: 9882684134/9665005134.

Alliance invited for Chitrapur Saraswat girl, aged 30 years, 5'-9", B.Sc. (Zoology) / Hotel Management, good looking, doing catering business in Mumbai, sound and cultured family background. Interested boy expected with job in MNC/Govt./Bank, preferably based in Mumbai/Pune, may Contact - Mobile No. 9869437009 / 9869271461 or email - arunbijoor@gmail.com

ENGAGEMENT

Kalbag- Hemmady: SURAJ, son of Ghanashyam and Sheetal Kalbag of Vileparle East, Mumbai, engaged to ANANDITA, daughter of Vivek and Archana Hemmady of Wakad, Pune, on 24th November, 2018 in Mumbai.

BIRTH

A son (Ojas) born to Soumya (nee Ullal) and Abhishek Kantak on 18th September, 2018 at Mumbai. Grandson to Smt. Smita Ullal and Late. Shri. Ravishankar Ullal and Shri. Kisan and Late. Smt. Swati Kantak, Great grandson to Smt. Suman Savur.

FLAT FOR SALE

Flat for Sale : Luxurious 2BHK residential flat in Nashik, 975 Sq. feet built up, with allotted parking, road facing, 20 Sq. feet gallery and at prime location. For details contact 8408947780, 0253 – 2508318

OBITUARY ANNOUNCEMENT

Smt. Smita Kilpady, 60, passed away peacefully at Pune on 18.12.2018 following an illness patiently borne. We thank all those who were at our side to aid us to bear this loss and request them to treat this as individual acknowledgement.

DOMESTIC TIDINGS

BIRTHS

We welcome the following new arrivals:

Sept 18 : A son (Ojas) born to Soumya (nee Ullal) and Abhishek Kantak at Mumbai.

Nov 17 : A daughter, Riya to Neha and Rounak Shyam Mudbhatkal at Bangalore.

MARRIAGE

We congratulate the young couple

- Dec 13 : Mitali Dilip Puthli with Chaitanya Suresh Mallapur at Mumbai.
Dec 15 : Shruti Sidharth Kulkarni with Nakul Arun Lajami at Mumbai.

OBITUARIES

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

- Sept 14 : Ravindranath Rao Kadle (63) in Mangalore.
Nov 4 : Shakuntala Ratnakar Sajip (92) at Vakola-Santacruz, Mumbai.
Nov 13 : Nalini Sudhakar Trasi (90) at Dadar, Mumbai.
Nov 25 : Nirmala Gaurish Chikramane (79) of Talmakiwadi at Bangalore.
Nov 26 : Arun Bhaskar Savur (73) at Shirali.
Nov 26 : Pramila Kumtekar (82) at Bhilai.
Dec 06 : Suniti Muralidhar Manjeshwar (90) at Santacruz (West), Mumbai.
Dec 12 : Ramdas Nadkarni (92) at Santacruz east Mumbai.
Dec 12 : Pradeep Netter (55) at Andheri, Mumbai.
Dec 14 : Dr. Kodial Prakash Rao (73) in Mangalore.
Dec 18 : Dr. Ashok Ray Kulkarni (83) in Raghavwadi, Mumbai.
Dec 18 : Smita Kilpady (60) at Pune.
Dec 19 : Shreelata (Lalita) Anant Ubhaykar (81) of Bangalore nee Lalita Padbidri of Guruprasad Society, Vile Parle East at Igatpuri.
Dec 20 : Suniti Murdeshwar (79) at Andheri Mumbai.

Contact

for all your investment needs

⇒ Equity / Mutual Funds / Company
FDs/Govt.Bonds

**NIPUN INVESTMENTS
MANAGERS PVT LTD.**

Kotwal Complex , 4th Floor
Bhandarkar Road, Pune 411004

Contact :

Mr Sunil Shirali

Chartered Accountant &
Executive Director

Ph no 020-25650784 / 9822036203

Email id :

nipuninvestments@gmail.com

Lily Caterers

Lily Caterers

Bringing to the table a unique blend
of Tradition & Innovation!

Contact

Meera Shirish Wagle

9820256313/9819856313

Shibani Wagle
9619949982

Anand Rao
9833627501

D-5, Karnatak Bldgs., Mogul Lane, Mahim, Mumbai - 16

On the Panel:

Anandashram Hall, Talmakiwadi, Tardeo
Raja Shivaji Vidyalaya, Hindu Colony, Dadar

Visit us at

www.lily-caterers.com

*With Best Compliments
From*





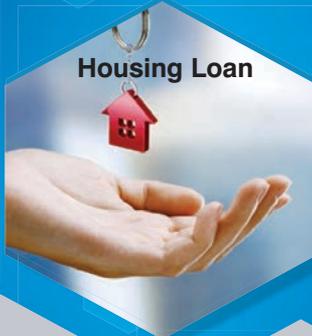
Enquire to Enjoy....

Competitive loan rates to suit your finance needs

Vehicle Loan



Housing Loan



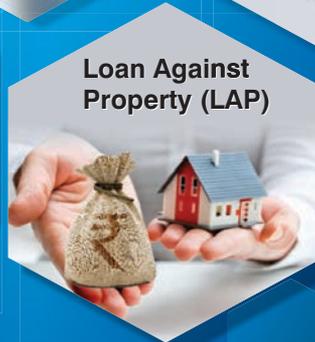
Education Loan



Doctor Loan



Loan Against Property (LAP)



Corporate Office:

SVC Tower, Nehru Road, Vakola, Santacruz (E), Mumbai - 400 055
Call: 022 - 6699 9999 / 7199 1000

*Conditions Apply

[SVCBankIndia](#) [SVC_Bank](#) [svc_bank](#) [www.svcbank.com](#) [SVC Care: 1800 313 2120](#)

Printer & Publisher – Smita Prakash Mavinkurve on behalf of Kanara Saraswat Association

Printed at SAP PRINT SOLUTIONS PVT. LTD., Shankarrao Naram Path, Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400013, Maharashtra. [www.sapprints.com](#)

Published at Kanara Saraswat Association, Association Building, 13/1-2, Talmakiwadi, Near Talmaki Chowk, J.D. Marg, Mumbai 400007

Editor – Smita Prakash Mavinkurve

RNI 61765/95