

Kanara Saraswat

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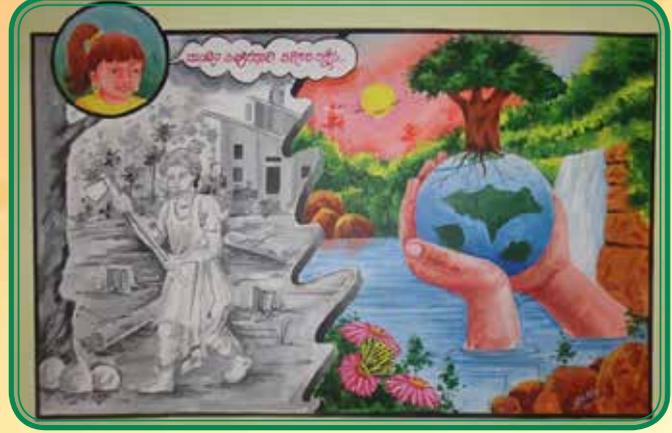
October 2019

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Srivali School's Manifold Achievements Paintings by the budding artists



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1st prise 2014-15 State level Pratibha
Karanji*



*Sachin Krishna Naik
2nd Prise in 2015-16 State Level
Pratibha Karanji*



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Kanara Saraswat

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PROGRAMME

- Distribution of **Chandra Ramesh Nadkarni Memorial Prizes** for Kiddies Corner.
- Distribution of Awards for Konkani Articles in Memory of **Smt Ganga M Nadkarni**.
- Distribution of Award for an outstanding upcoming Sports personality in memory of **Shri Suresh (Bab) V. Nadkarni** to **Ms. Ria Balwalli** (16 year-old teen who represented USA Deaf Sports Federation in World Deaf Badminton Tournament at Taipei in July 2019).
- Felicitation of eminent CSB personalities for their contributions to community, society and our nation:
 - **Dr. Sandeep Padbidri Rao and Dr. Smt. Sunayna Padbidri Rao**—serving the rural areas particularly to the poorer sections in and around Honavar for 30 years through medical services in Surgery and Gynaecology.
 - **Smt. Parul Kumta**—for social work benefitting differently abled persons especially autistic persons and the Parents' Support Groups.
 - **Shri. Gurudas Gulvady** -for outstanding contributions in providing education, medical and distress relief aid through the Chitrapur Saraswat Education & Relief Society (CSERS), Santa Cruz for over 20 years
 - **Cdr. (Retd) Prakash Upponi**—a Shaurya Chakra Award winner, for his meritorious service in Indian Navy with dedications and courage.
 - **Late Shri Madhu Bhat (Posthumous)** - for his valuable contribution to Konkani Amateur Theatre.
- Honouring jointly the **Members who have served on Editorial Committee of "KANARA SARASWAT" magazine during last 25 years to commemorate the Centenary Year of the Magazine.**

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

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From the President's Desk....

I have got many acquaintances, relatives and colleagues but very few close friends. The other day, while taking a long International journey, I tried to recollect the names of all my acquaintances and identify my real friends. I was disappointed when I was unable to do so easily. With these disheartening results, I tried to research the characteristics of a true friend. And what did I find?

A true friend is the one in whom you can put your trust, full confidence and share everything. A true friend is one who keeps his / her promises and makes you keep your promises. A true friend is one who chooses to be with you when the entire world is against you. A true friend is one who will be there with you during your happy or worst times. A true friend is one who will walk with you and not lead you or follow you. According to Eudora Welty, the late American short story writer and novelist, "True friendship is inherently a magnet".

True friendship is so rare that it is always a matter of jealousy to others. In the Greek myth of Damon and Pythias, the king Dionysius condemns Pythias to death but permits him to travel home to say goodbye to his family, provided he leaves his good friend Damon as a pledge for his return. The fateful day arrives, and Pythias has still not returned. Dionysius, being sure that Pythias will never return, orders that Damon is brought forth to be killed. But at the last possible moment, Pythias returns. Dionysius is so impressed with this great example of true friendship, that he releases both Pythias and Damon and begs of them to give him lessons on building true friendship.

The subject of true friendship has always been a matter of interest for centuries. The Greek Philosophers Epicurus and Aristotle both believed that true friendship is necessary for a happy life. Marcus Cicero, the Roman statesman, strongly believed that life was not worth living without having true friends. The best quote on true friendship was from Michel de Montaigne, one of the greatest French philosophers of French Renaissance who famously said, "True friendship occurs only once in every three hundred years".

When I read such meaningful statements of some of these great philosophers of ancient times and the mythological stories on true friendship, I am no longer so disappointed with my own performance in finding true friendship. But I wonder as to why I still have not got at least one true friend; and whether my standards or tests for true friendship are very exacting or demanding. May be, but I think I would not like to make any compromises on choosing my friends, considering its vital importance in my life. Instead, I would rather prefer reading books. I find that ultimately books are my true friends.

So, my search, for finding a true selfless friend still continues. As the famous English author Samuel Johnson said, "True friends are to be found and not made".

Praveen P. Kadle

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and presently working as Institute Chair Professor of Department of Chemical
Engineering, IIT Bombay,**

will be the Chief Guest and has kindly agreed to address the students.

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

**All the successful students, their parents and friends
are kindly invited for the function.**

**Shivshankar Murdeshwar
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Diwali Messages



On this auspicious Deepawali festival, I wish all of you Good Health, Prosperity, Peace and Success in endeavours in life! Wishing you a Great Year ahead!

Praveen Kadle, President KSA



With the light of Diyas and the sound of Mantras and Chants, may contentment and happiness fill the lives of everyone! Wishing a very happy and blessed Deepawali!

Kishore Masurkar, Vice President KSA



May this Diwali light up new dreams, fresh hopes, undiscovered avenues. different perspectives, everything bright and beautiful and fill your days with pleasant moments. Happy Diwali.

*Vidyalakshmi Kulkarni,
President, Saraswat Mahila Samaj*



May this Diwali light up your life in every possible way and may this help you light up the path you are walking. Happy Deepavali.

*Srikala Vinekar,
Chairperson, Saraswat Mahila Samaj*



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Srivali School's Manifold Achievements

There can be no bigger gift to a child than the gift of an education that will enable him or her to explore individual potential and thereby find an exclusive niche in the wide world outside. By offering this golden opportunity to children from underprivileged homes in and around Shirali, Srivali Trust's Srivali High School is ensuring that deserving youngsters can hold their head high and earn self-esteem and honour not just for themselves and their families, but to the school as well and sooner or later, to the nation at large!

Ten years ago, Chitrâpur, located within Shirali in Uttar Kannada, was like any other Indian village battling poverty, unemployment and a rising insecurity about an uncertain future. There was neither a high school nor a hospital. Women had no opportunities of earning an independent income. Young men were forced to migrate to cities in search of a livelihood.

But under the able Guidance of the 11th Mathadhipati of Shri Chitrapur Math-Parma Pujya Sadyojât ShaEkarâshram Swamiji many committed and capable volunteers from the community came forward, from the world over, to transform the lives of the locals, irrespective of their caste, creed or religion.

The first seed of change was sown in 1997, when the Srivali Trust was formed to promote projects promising sustainable development in the vital areas of health, education and self-employment. For the first time, every villager in Chitrâpur felt that timely medical aid, a regular income and a life of dignity were not far-fetched dreams !

Chitrâpur never had a high school. Every child who wanted to study beyond the seventh standard was forced to commute by bus to a nearby town. While the hunger for higher education was acute, dropping out became inevitable because few could afford the bus fare. The inauguration of Srivali High School in April 2004 transformed this dismal scenario forever.

While the land was donated by Shrî Chitrâpur Math, valuable funding to cover construction costs came from the US-based Kulkarni Foundation. Many willing individuals also came forward to provide furniture, equipment and to

contribute towards the running expenditure. Today, children of the school enjoy free education, books, mid-day meals and uniforms (stitched, of course, at Samvit Sudha).

On their part, these bright children are doing their best to do their institution proud. They have brought home several prizes from inter-school competitions in sports and performing arts held at the Taluka, District and even State-

level. Year after year the results at the SSLC Board examinations are improving. A large number of alumni have sought admissions into junior colleges. The wide world outside has just begun to open its arms to receive these deserving children of Chitrâpur.



Kala Kusuma Art Gallery

Smt. Mamata Bhatkal, Head-mistress, Srivali School shares some details about Srivali School - Srivali School, Chitrapur, Shirali was founded in the year 2004 by His Holiness Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji with the noble motto of 'Education and Empowerment'. The school is managed by Srivali Trust under the Guidance of H.H. Swamiji. Vidyadana (imparting education) and Annadana (offering free food) are the contemporary principles of Indian social and religious culture. Srivali School, inheriting this tradition..., has been carrying out these activities

since 2004.

Srivali Trust has become a unique institution providing education to more than 800 poor children with free food, free tuition, free uniform and other facilities being provided to all the children studying here. This is the only one of its kind in the entire Bhatkal Taluk and may be in the North Kanara District as well. The strength of this school has steadily grown in the years, as there were only 125 students

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to start with and currently, there are nearly 300 students belonging to all faiths and communities. The ceaseless and untiring efforts of the Trust have resulted in the growth of the school. Quality-wise too, the school stands first in both curricular and co-curricular activities in the entire district..

Co-curricular Activities:

The School undertakes various co-curricular activities for the overall development of the students such as School Council, Public Speaking, Music, Dance, Art and Craft Clubs, Sports, Scouts and Guides, participating in Science Exhibitions and Drawing competitions. The School also has a Mathematics Association, English Association and a Literary Club as well as a Dramatics Club for interested students who have the suitable aptitudes. Yoga and Life skills are also imparted to the students.

The Students have been consistently performing exceedingly well in the overall spectrum of curricular and co-curricular activities under the able guidance of trained and committed staff. The students of the school have brought many laurels and recognition to the institution.

Infrastructure:

Srivali School has a library equipped with a good number of books, for academic as well as knowledge development, spacious, well-furnished classrooms, Science, Maths and Craft Labs and a good playground.

Daily activities of the school:

The day starts with prayers, *Bhagavadgeeta* recitation, newspaper reading and discussion on current affairs. Apart from this 6 to 8 questions are asked to test the general knowledge of the students. After *shlokas*, meditation, and *bhajans* the students disperse into their respective classrooms.

The students are divided into four houses- Sindhu, Ganga, Narmada and Kaveri. Every Friday evening each house has some different activities. Every student's creativity is published in '*Spoorthi*', a newspaper in English. Annually, sports and cultural programs are also conducted.

Achievements of Srivali Students in the fields of Sports - Cultural activities & Education

- Academic year : 2007-08 - Our school secured 1st place in Bhatkal Taluk by scoring 96.33% in the S.S.L.C. Examination.
- Academic year : 2012-13 - It was a proud moment for our school that out of 30,000 students, our students Nikhil Taru Naik got the 1st Rank in The Drawing grade exam in higher grade division and Adarsh K. Revankar got the 3rd Rank in the Lower grade division of drawing grade examination.
- Academic year : 2013-14 - Our school was honoured by The Lion's Club Murudeshwar as "The Best School in Bhatkal Taluk". Our student Rakshit

P. Hebbar got the 1st place in Kannada speech and Adarsh K. Revankar got the 1st place in Drawing competition in the State level *Pratibha Karanji*.

- Academic year : 2014-15 – Again our student Adarsh K. Revankar got the 1st place in the State level Drawing competition and Vinuta Moger bagged the 'Best Actor' award in the State- level Drama competition of *Pratibha Karanji*. Our students Adarsh K. Revankar repeated his feat by securing the 1st place in the State-level Higher grade Drawing examination. Rakshita Hebbar participated in the State-level youth parliament in Bangalore.
- Academic year : 2015-16 - Our Srivali Drama Troupe made it to the State- level Pratibha Karanji events.
- Academic year : 2016-17 - Our student Shashidar Mahale was honoured as 'The Best Actor' in the science drama competition. Our student Praveen Erayya Devadiga created history by securing 6th Rank at the State- level by scoring 99.20% in the S.S.L.C. examination!
- Academic year : 2017-18 – An Innovative forum for Drawing students "**Kala Kusuma Art Gallery**" was started at our school.

Vocational Training

At the School's Vocational Training Centre, started by Harin Hattiangdi mam and his wife Jyoti pacchi, children from the school are taught multi-disciplinary skills like basic carpentry, electrical and plumbing work, which ups their confidence levels and also enhances their chances of having an independent set-up. Although these are voluntary workshops conducted before or after working hours there is an increasing number of students enrolling and what is most heartwarming is that there are a large number of girls too who have undergone the exhaustive training !

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor, As per the write-up about Lakshmi Sirur's Music Association 'Swaramala' in KSA August edition, we, Sujata S. Mankikar and Nirmala K. Mavinkurve are proud to say that we attended Swaramala's Live Music Event in Dr. Kashinath Ghanekar Auditorium Thane on 8th sep 2019.

We were very impressed that the program started exactly at 8 pm and ended at 11 pm as per the schedule. All singers were in the 40+ age group and they sang golden era melodies which were one better than other.

The song selection was excellent and musicians played brilliantly. On the whole it was a wonderful music event with spectacular performances. The audience were glued to the seats from start to end. We are proud of our sister Mrs. Lakshmi Sirur nee Asha Benegal.

Looking forward to many more!

Nirmala K Mavinkurve

Register names of Boys & Girls with KSA Marriage Bureau.
Contact: Usha Surkund -8108294931or Dilip Sashital -9920132925 or Geeta Kulkarni - 9969552759

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ಸಂತೋಷದಿಂದ ಕೊನೆ ಉಸಿರು ಬೆಳೆಯಬೇಕು

ಕುವೆಂಪು

ಇಡೀ ಜನತೆಗಾಗಿ ನಾಡಗೀತೆ ರಚಿಸಿದ ಕುವೆಂಪು
ನಾಡಿನಾದ್ಯಂತ ಓಡಾಡುತ್ತಿದೆ ಅವರ ನೆನಪು
ಅವರ ಹುಟ್ಟೂರು ತಿನ್ನವೊಗ್ಗ ಬೆಲೆ
ಅವರಲ್ಲಿತ್ತು ಉತ್ತಮ ಸಾಹಿತ್ಯ ಪ್ರಿಯ ಕಲೆ
ಜ್ಞಾನಸೀತ ಪ್ರಕಾಶಿಯ ಪ್ರಥಮ ವಿಜೇತರು
ಶೈತನ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪಾಡು ಬರೆದ ಬರಹಗಾರರು
ಅವರ ಸಂಗೀತ ಸಾಹಿತ್ಯ ಸಾವಿರಾರು
ನಂದಿಗೂ ನೆನಪಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವ ಕುವೆಂಪುರವರು.

ಪ್ರವಲಿ ಪ್ರೌಢಶಾಲೆ

ಇಡೀ ಉತ್ತರಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗೆ ಪರಿಚಿತ ಶಾಲೆ
ಅನೇಕ ಕೆಲಸಗಾರರ ದುಡಿಮೆಯ ಕಲೆ
ಸ್ವಾಮೀಜಿಯವರು ಅಪೀರ್ವಾದ ಹೊಂದಿದ ಪಾಠಶಾಲೆ
ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಬುದ್ಧಿವಂತ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ನೂರಾರು ತಲೆ
ನೂರಾರು ತಲೆಮಾರುಗಳ ಕೊನೆಯವರಗೂ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರಲಿ ಪ್ರವಲಿ ಪ್ರೌಢಶಾಲೆ.

ಸಾಲುಮರದ ತಿಮ್ಮಕ್ಕ

ಉಸಿರನು ನೀಡಿದ ತಾಯಿ
ಅಡೀ ಜಗತ್ತನ್ನ ರಕ್ಷಿಸಿದ ಭೂತಾಯಿ
ನಂದಿ ದಿಗೂ ಬಾಳು ಮಹಾತಾಯಿ
ನಿಮ್ಮಿಂದ ಬದುಕಿಹೆವು ನಾವು
ನಿಮಗೆ ಸದಾ ಧ್ಯಾನಿಯಾಗಿರುವೆವು ನಾವು
ನೀವನವೀಡಿ ಸಮಾಜಸೇವೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವೆವು
ಐದು ಅತ್ಯುತ್ತಮ ಸಮಾಜ ಸೇವಕಿಯಾಗಿರುವೆವು
ನನರ ಮನಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಉಸಿರಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಹೆಸರು
ನೀವಾಗಿದ್ದೀರಿ ನಮಗೆ ಪ್ರೀತಿಯ ತವರು
ಶಾಕೆಯ ಹಾಗೆ ಬೇವನ ನಡೆಸವು
ನಂದಿಗೂ ರಾಜಿಯಾಗಿ ಬಾಳವು
ಪ್ರವಲಿ ತಾಲಿಯಿಂದ ನಿಮಗೊಂದು ನಮನವನ್ನು

ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿ

ವರ್ಷಿತಾ ಮೆಕಟ್ಟಮಣ ದೇವಡಿಗ

8 ಬ ವಿಭಾಗ

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ವರ್ಷಿತಾ ಮೆಕಟ್ಟಮಣ ದೇವಡಿಗ

8 ಬ ವಿಭಾಗ

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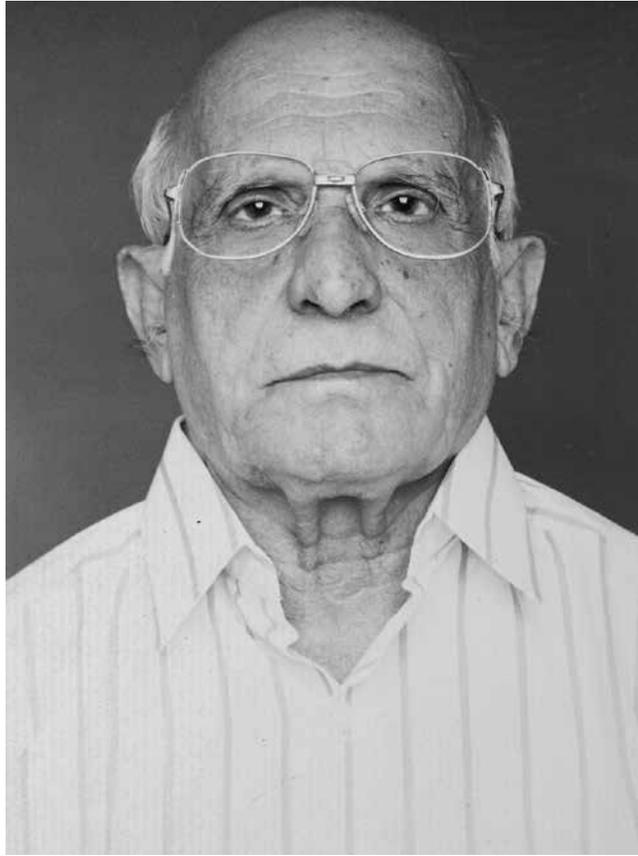
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Shri. Atmaram Shivrao Irde

Birth Date – 18th September 1919

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Children : Jaiprakash-Jyoti, Premalata-Ramdas and Naresh-Nandita

Grand Children: Deepak-Shilpa, Poonam-Heramb, Avinash and
Gurudutt-Shweta

Great-grand Children: Shravay, Spruha, Kriti and Rutva
Irde and Sajip Families

YOU WILL ALWAYS BE CHERISHED IN OUR HEARTS!!!

Ramesh Gangolli My Life In Music – Part 1

IN CONVERSATION WITH USHA AROOR

Courtesy – Canara Union News Letter

**I would like to thank Jayavanth and Lalith Rao who so kindly invited me to their house to record this freewheeling conversation. Also present and contributing were Shanta Gangolli, Saras Rao and Prakash Aroor. Thank you, Chitra Saletore, for your help and interest. - Usha Aroor*

RAMESH GANGOLLI, born in India and educated at the Universities of Bombay and Cambridge and the MIT, has distinguished himself in the field of mathematical research. He has been faculty, Chair and held other prestigious positions at the University of Washington, Seattle. He is currently Professor Emeritus of Mathematics and Adjunct Professor of Music.

He has always maintained a serious interest in Hindustani classical music, a commitment which has brought him in close touch with many musicians and ethnomusicologists and engaged him in the studies relating to the oral tradition. He was co-founder of Ragamala, a voluntary organisation devoted to Indian and South Asian music.



Ramesh Gangolli

I had always been keen on a long conversation with Rameshmam. It happened, at last, some months ago but carrying it into print was not easy! He felt it 'could not possibly be of any lasting interest to anyone'. 'This,' he told me, 'has, for a long time, been my view of myself, mainly because I have had the good fortune to have come across some truly brilliant people, musicians as well as mathematicians.'

I share this because that is the background in which he spoke to me, I realised-modesty, together with a willingness to share his experience. I pressed on. So many of us are interested in what he has to say, and to begin the conversation, I asked him how music became such a serious part of his life.

How did you get interested in music?

There is a little bit of history here. I grew up without any access to music. Eventually, we had a radio in our house and some music was available on the radio. My sister was interested in light music and at an early age she started learning from Shri Yeshwant Dev who was a brilliant composer of light music in Marathi. So there was music all around, some coming out of our neighbours' radios in Anandashram where I grew up. Perhaps this could be called the beginning of my interest in music.

I did not have any formal introduction to it, it was just superficial and yes, I had the opportunity to listen to a fair

amount of music here in Mumbai by coincidence. But I got the opportunity to listen to serious music in 1955, when I went to England. I was just 20. I remember LP records had just come in and we could borrow them from the libraries. I started listening to quite a bit of Western music since Indian music was not available. But after we went to the USA, there we had some money also to buy CDs or cassettes and listen at home.

You were in Cambridge...?

I was in Cambridge University from 1955–57, and when I returned to India, I was offered a position at Tata's which had just initiated a management cadre called Tata Administrative Services. This cadre would train candidates to take over as chief executives of the many subsidiaries of the Tata group. This sounded attractive to me and we were not very well off at that time, so I accepted the position. Then I went to Delhi and there my friend Amartya Sen fixed up a meeting with Professor P. C. Mahalanobis who advised me to do higher research in mathematics instead. He said that I should go to Kolkata and join the ISI where there were many mathematicians, and I could do my PhD under their guidance. They offered me a stipend of Rs 400 per month. I was engaged to Shanta by then and she supported me, though the rest of the family were not too happy about my decision not to join Tata. I went there in January and the atmosphere was good but I realised that if I ever wanted to do research in mathematics, it should be in the United States.

So after getting married in March, I applied to only two places-Harvard and the MIT. I was admitted to both. They offered me an assistantship in the MIT and offered me more money than Harvard did. Apart from that, the MIT had some renown in the subject of my interest and thus I joined the PhD Program there.

Our interest in music continued to be confined to listening to again Western music on the radio and television. After four years at the MIT, we moved to Seattle when I took up the post of Assistant Professor at the University of Washington. Here we had more money to spare and we started buying CDs and LPs of Indian music. Slowly, musicians started



Shanta Gangolli

visiting Seattle to perform there. People used to come sporadically. I remember T. Brinda and T. Vega performing there. Balasaraswati also came there to perform. Thus we had some exposure to high quality music even though our mainstay was LPs and CDs.

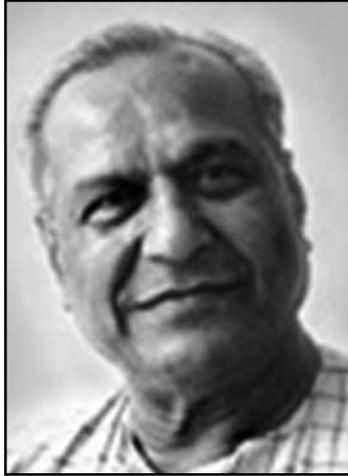
Did you look for someone to teach you?

Yes. In 1980, I realised that I was sufficiently interested in music and that I should learn something. There is a saying among mathematicians that mathematics and music cannot be just spectator sports. You can appreciate them fully only if you actually become a doer, a performer. So I decided to learn to sing.

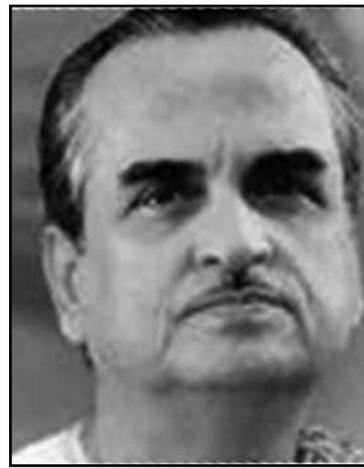
My friend, Sharad Gadre, who was younger than me, agreed to teach me. He was a very good singer and was trained by Gwalior gharana musicians such as Mirashibuwa and his disciple Nagesh Khalikar. His first two lessons were to repeat after him, various notes and phrases that he sang. Strangely, I was able to sing well, perhaps, I had a good ear for music. After two lessons, he said at my age I should not waste my time learning paltas, swaras and so on. What we should do is we should start singing together. I should imbibe the form and structure of ragas by learning and internalising compositions (*bandishes*). Thus in 1980, my weekly musical sessions of singing started. These sessions are still going on though Sharad is no more.

In 1981, with the help of other supporters of music, we founded Ragamala, a non-profit organisation devoted to the music of India, with the aim of bringing top-quality Indian music to Seattle. We also started getting musicians to perform in Seattle. By listening to these artists I was able to learn more and more. The School of Music at the University of Washington had a good Visiting Artist program in their Ethnomusicology Division, and through that program we had extended visits by good musicians. Sabri Khan and Yunus Hussain Khan were among those musicians who came to Seattle through that program. Besides, many other artists came to Seattle as Ragamala slowly extended its reach, and I was able to pick up from all those who came there, little by little, by asking them questions, reading about the ragas. Knowledge is like a snowball; it starts with a small amount but as you keep learning, it grows rapidly.

I never wanted or tried to become a concert performer. My ambition was to learn to appreciate and enjoy every bit of classical music. I was happy and was enjoying it always. Then I thought I should learn something about the history of music



K G Ginde



Dinkar Kaikini

and also about the traditions of the different gharanas, their repertoires, texts and so on. In addition to whatever I knew and enjoyed, I was keen to study the historical background too. When I began to study the texts of bandishes, I was forced to learn Braj, which is the dialect of Hindi in which the majority of khayal lyrics are written. In doing so, I was

helped immensely by my knowledge of Sanskrit, because I found that many words in Braj can be traced to origins in Prakrit, which is a vernacular form of Sanskrit. I found that it was easy to get a working knowledge of Braj if you knew Hindi grammar and had knowledge of Sanskrit.

People were coming to Ragamala as visiting musicians and I shamelessly exploited their knowledge, asked them questions and learnt from them. Additionally, I was able to get some grants from the Graduate School Research Fund at the University of Washington, so that I could now invite some people to do archival recordings. I also started reading about music. Bhatkhande's works for example, reading about the history of various musicians and so on. In Marathi, there is plenty of writing on music, and I read it extensively. In the latter part of the 80s we used to come to India during the winter, by arranging my teaching schedule to allow me a free winter quarter. In India, I used to interview various musicians, for example I interviewed people such as Wamanrao Sadolikar, Wamanrao Deshpande, Dilip Chandra VEDI, Kamal Tambe, Yashwantbuwa Joshi, among others at that time.

Did you write or make notes or publish these interviews?

No, this was only for my benefit and I was not journalistic about it. I was only trying to find out how things went and how people learnt and what the conditions were. For example, I interviewed Yashwantbuwa Joshi and Kamal Tambe to find out how they learnt and what the conditions were during their time.

I knew that there was a Vaishnav repertoire and when we were visiting Kalbag Umesh, I just told him that I was interested in interviewing some temple singers to find out their repertoire and he said that I have come to the right place. He said he knew Bachubhai Jhaveri who was the principal temple singer of the Vaishnav temple at Thakurdwar in Mumbai. So it came like rolling into my plate. Basically, my mission was to talk to various musicians about their learning methods, times, conditions etc which increased my knowledge of music.

I also came under the influence of DinkarKaikini and K G Gindeboth of whom were wonderful musicians. Gindeji was an absolutely fantastic storehouse of compositions. I talked to him in great detail about compositions and he was very generous with his time and gave me many cassettes of his lecture demonstrations. Slowly my knowledge began to grow and that's how my interest in music also grew.

I'm interested in how you managed your time.

Without Shanta's efficiency, we couldn't have managed this. We never allowed music to rule our lives since it was only once a week that we practised music. Till today we have kept it that way, mainly because I was not trying to become a concert musician. Practice was always once a week but we used to listen to music whenever we had free time. I also thought deeply about some compositions. I have a retentive memory so if I learnt a composition once, I remembered the way I learnt it, for a long time. Music memory is something very peculiar. The way you learn it first time and learn it well—that stays with you forever! You may learn another version but the first version comes to you automatically whereas the second version you learn needs some effort.

Sometimes, the composition you learn the first time may not be exactly the way the composer intended, so many versions I have learnt are from K G Ginde's versions of that composition or Dinkar Kaikini's version. These were acquired by listening to them or to the recordings.

As far as the raga was concerned, this was okay for me since I was not trying to become a concert musician. But if you are going to become a concert musician, then you have to get *talimand* absorb the *gayaki* of one or two gurus who are imparting it to you. I was free from this. I began to form a picture of the repertoire and in the meantime my knowledge of the language also grew. Whenever I came to a composition, I liked to understand what it meant and so I became fairly proficient with *Braj* and *Awadhi* also, because Tulsidas' compositions are in *Awadhi*. And most *khayal* compositions are in *Braj*. That is how I got a basic knowledge of *Braj* and *Awadhi*.

The encounters I had with musicians through *Ragamala* were very enriching. Most of the musicians who came to Seattle stayed with us. The fact that I was a serious amateur singer of *khayal* helped me to establish a very close relationship with many of them. Musicians would come to closer terms with their host when they found that the host was actually trying to sing and to learn music seriously. Once they were able to ascertain that we are 'of their kind', then they accepted us as a part of their circle.

So many musicians, when they came and attended our sessions, found that people were coming and trying to learn, and that created an atmosphere of interest. They also found that we had a very good set of listeners as a result of this activity. So they liked the Seattle atmosphere and they particularly liked the fact that I was trying to be a

practising musician although I was not a concert performer. So they were very free in sharing their knowledge or telling me about experiences they had and discussing composition material with me.

Over the thirty years we operated *Ragamala*, almost every top-level musician and also young promising artists went through our doors. Young musicians appreciated the fact we gave them an opportunity through *Ragamala* to get an exposure. For example, persons like Ashwini Bhide, Shahid Parvez, Bharati Ankalikar, Manjari Asnare were young performers when they first came to Seattle, as was Shruti Sadolikar.

How did you plan programmes for Ragamala?

Ragamala had a small selection committee, and this small group decided on the singer without any consideration of language, the place they came from, etc. There was a selection process and we followed it always. We used to have 6–8 concerts a year. I wrote proposals to the U. S. National Endowment for the Arts to get some grants and I persuaded the NEA to treat in-kind contributions made by our members as matching contributions for the cash grants we received.

We created an endowment of \$ 50,000 which was a large sum those days and this corpus gave us the flexibility needed for ambitious programmes. In those days going to USA was a kind of a rarity for musicians, they appreciated the opportunity. They liked the opportunity to learn about a new place. We were able to identify young talent and present them at the beginning of their career and launch them in a way. Many of them remember that even today and when we meet them, they acknowledge with gratitude their first performance at *Ragamala*.

I think you read a great deal as well?

People learn in different ways, use different styles. I became interested in reading literature in Marathi on music which was available extensively. I read things like Wamanrao Deshpande's *Gharandaj Gayaki*, which was later available in English also. I still have a fairly good library of Marathi books, Marathi folk songs. Basically, I became more Indian after going abroad than when I was in India!

The knowledge of Sanskrit really helped me to understand the finer points of music and compositions etc very well and these remained with me. There is a huge collection of Sanskrit works on music which lies hidden in various libraries in the country. I am not of the opinion that they are without flaws. But the act of knowing about them tells you a lot about how our culture works. You appreciate the way it works, by studying some of them. I became more and more interested in these things. My time on mathematics continued simultaneously as it was my profession and passion too.

Stay tuned with us for some more interesting conversation with Ramesh Gangolli mam in our next issue!

<<<>>>

Chandoba, Chandomama, Chandrayan 1.... now Chandrayan 2

DR. BHARAT ADUR, AKASH GANGA CENTRE FOR ASTRONOMY, BADLAPUR

Since our childhood days though we called it as Chandoba or Moon, we never knew that it had craters or holes, all we knew was that there is very large rabbit on the face of the Chandoba. We heard many stories associated with Chandoba, like how young Ram wanted the Moon to play with him in Ramayana but our knowledge of the Moon was poor, that nearest neighbor of Earth and our solar system was known by mnemonic (**My Very Educated Mother Just Showed Us Nine Planets ...**). Even looking through the telescope at the Moon was a far cry at school, forget that it had craters on its surface.



India decided to go to space in 1962. The visionary, Dr Vikram Sarabhai and Dr Abdul Kalam set up the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station (TERLS) in Thiruvananthapuram for upper atmospheric research and Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) at Ahmedabad along with Dr Devendra Lal (Geophysics-TIFR), Bombay.

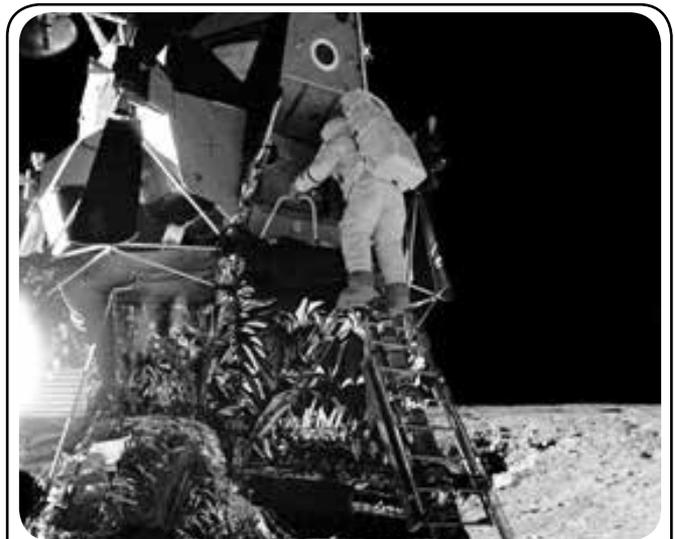
Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), formed in 1969 by Vikram Sarabhai, identified the role and importance of space technology in a Nation's development. ISRO has upheld its mission of bringing space to the service of the common man. Now ISRO has become one of the six largest space agencies in the world. ISRO maintains one of the largest fleet of communication satellites (INSAT) and remote sensing (IRS) satellites, that cater to the ever growing demand for fast and reliable communication and earth observation respectively.

To achieve complete self reliance, it was essential to develop cost efficient and reliable launch systems, which took shape in the form of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV). The famed PSLV went on to become a favored carrier for satellites of various countries due to its reliability and cost efficiency, promoting unprecedented international collaboration. The Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) was developed keeping in mind the heavier and more demanding geosynchronous communication satellites. ISRO has also contributed to science research centers and autonomous institutions for remote sensing, astronomy and

astrophysics, atmospheric sciences and space sciences.

Chandrayaan-1 was the first Indian lunar probe under Chandrayaan program. It was launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation in October 2008, and operated until August 2009. The mission included a lunar orbiter and a Moon Impact Probe (MIP). India launched the spacecraft using a PSLV-XL rocket, serial number C11, on 22 October 2008 at 00:52 UTC from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh about 80 km north of Chennai. The mission was a major boost to India's space program, as India researched and developed its own technology in order to explore the Moon. The vehicle was inserted into lunar orbit on 8 November 2008.

On 14 November 2008, the Moon Impact Probe separated

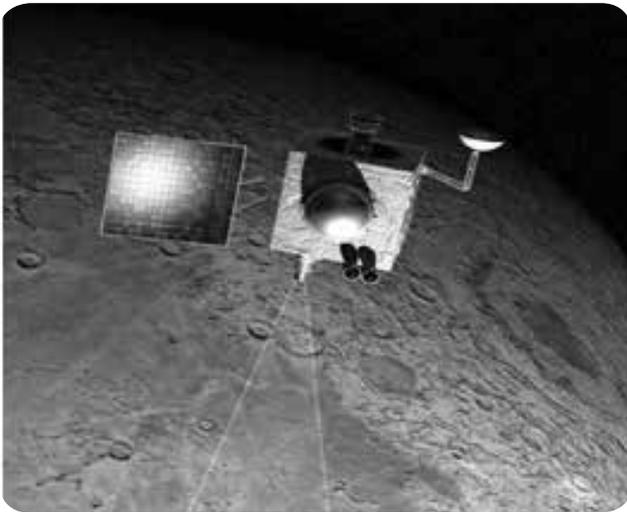


However there was already Space Race amongst US and Soviet Union, who would reach the Space first, be it artificial satellites, Man in Space, or Man on Moon.

A Moon landing is the arrival of a spacecraft on the surface of the Moon. This includes both manned and robotic missions. The first human-made object to touch the Moon was the Soviet Union's Luna 2, on 13 September 1959. The United States' Apollo 11 was the first manned mission to land on the Moon, on 20 July 1969.

from the Chandrayaan orbiter at 14:36 UTC and struck the south pole in a controlled manner, making India the fourth country to place its flag insignia on the Moon. The probe hit near the crater Shackleton at 15:01 UTC, ejecting sub-surface soil that could be analyzed for the presence of lunar water ice. The location of impact was named as Jawahar Point.

After almost a year, the orbiter started suffering from several technical issues including failure of the star sensors and poor thermal shielding; Chandrayaan stopped sending radio signals about 20:00 UTC on 28 August 2009, shortly after which the ISRO officially declared the mission over.



The estimated cost for the project was ₹ 386 crore. The remote sensing lunar satellite had a mass of 1,380 kg at launch and 675 kg in lunar orbit. It carried high resolution remote sensing equipment for visible, near infrared, and soft/ hard X-ray frequencies. Over a two-year period, it had surveyed the lunar surface to produce a complete map of its chemical characteristics and three-dimensional topography. The polar regions are of special interest as they might contain ice. The lunar mission carried five ISRO payloads and six payloads from other space agencies including NASA, ESA, and the Bulgarian Aerospace Agency. Among its many achievements was the discovery of widespread presence of water molecules in lunar soil.

Chandrayaan operated for 312 days as opposed to the intended two years but the mission achieved 95% of its planned objectives.

On 2 July 2016, NASA used ground-based radar systems to relocate Chandrayaan-1 in its lunar orbit, more than seven years after it shut down. Repeated observations over the next three months allowed a precise determination of its orbit which varies between 150 and 270 km in altitude every two years.

Chandrayaan-2 is the second lunar exploration mission developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), after Chandrayaan-1. It consists of a lunar orbiter, the Vikram lander, and the Pragyan lunar rover, all of which were developed in India. The main scientific objective is to map and study the variations in lunar surface composition, as well as the location and abundance of lunar water.

The mission launched on its course to the Moon from the second launch pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre on 22 July 2019 at 09:13 UTC by a Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark III (GSLV Mk III). The craft reached the Moon's orbit on 20 August 2019 and began orbital positioning manoeuvres for the landing of the Vikram lander. Vikram and the rover scheduled to land on the near side of the Moon, in the south polar region at a latitude of about 70° south at approximately 20:23 UTC on 6 September 2019 and conduct

scientific experiments for one lunar day, which approximates two Earth weeks.

However, the lander deviated from its intended trajectory starting at 2.1 kilometers altitude, and lost communication when touchdown confirmation was expected. Initial reports suggesting a crash have been confirmed by ISRO chairman K. Sivan, stating that the lander location had been found, and "it must have been a hard landing".

As of 15 September 2019, on-going efforts are being made by ISRO in hopes of restoring communications with Vikram. Both ISRO and NASA are in the process of trying to restore communications through their respective Deep Space Networks. Communication attempts will likely cease on 21 September 2019, fourteen days after Vikram's landing attempt. The orbiter, part of the mission with eight scientific instruments, remains operational and is expected to continue its seven-year mission to study the Moon.

Two landing sites were selected, each with a landing ellipse of 32 × 11 km. The prime landing site (PLS54) is at 70.90267 S 22.78110 E (~350 km north of the South Pole-Aitken Basin rim, and the alternate landing site (ALS01) is at 67.874064 S 18.46947 W. The prime site is on a high plain between the craters Manzinus C and Simpelius N, on the near side of the Moon.

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A Saagrasangeet Diwali

NALINI NADKARNI, KANDIVLI (E), MUMBAI

Diwali is fast approaching. As I prepare the sweets, I recall with nostalgia, the Diwali parties we used to have, when my husband, Sanjiv, was in service. Since my husband retired, and my daughter Nina, shifted to the US, our Diwali gatherings have gradually dwindled.

I clearly recall our first Diwali party. Nina must have been eight then. Sanjiv had been transferred to another Police Station on promotion. An officer arriving on promotion was expected to give a party to his staff ...Sanjiv said there would be twelve officers. I was preparing sweets for Diwali anyway. Our residential quarters being specious, I assured Sanjiv that it would be no problem to throw a party with the help of my friends.

This time, I engaged a cook to prepare the sweets and savouries. My cousin Usha arrived with her friend Shweta to help me on the day of the party. I adorned the door with Toran of mango leaves and marigold and the landing with a colourful Rangoli. Meanwhile, Usha and Shweta turned the sitting room into a magical fairyland with paper and thermacol decorations. The picture of Goddess Laxmi was Agarbattis and a coconut completed the décor.

Around 6 o'clock, the guests began to arrive. A chorus of Diwali greetings broke the ice. Sanjiv, clad in dhoti-kurta, assured them that it would be an informal get-together. This put everyone at peace. Soon, they were laughing and joking together.

Meanwhile, Nina kept getting in the way, in her new ghagra-choli. So, I sent her to the balcony to place the clay lamps (diyas) in a row along the railing. Usha followed her, filling the lamps with oil and placing a wick in each, to be lighted at dusk, adding to the magic.

At pooja time, while Sanjiv waved the Aarti in front of the lovely picture of Goddess Laxmi, all those who know the Aarti, joined in the singing, especially the ladies. A strong male voice sang, "Bhaagyada Laxmi Baaramma" with us. Later Sanjiv told me that the singer was a Kannadiga named Karanth- no wonder then, that he had sung the bhajan with a perfect accent!

After the Prasad had been distributed, after a sign from me, Sanjiv announced that the refreshments had been laid out on the dining table. He requested them to help themselves. After we all had the refreshments, everyone sat back with a cup of coffee.

"We should have some music to complete the joy of this evening," said Sanjiv, "Why don't you give us a song, Karanth? You have a lovely voice!" Karanth readily obliged with two bhajans, one in Kannada and the other in Hindi and both were highly appreciated. Another officer dug into his pocket and produced a mouth organ and played popular Hindi film songs that everyone joined in from time to time.

A third gentleman named Pawar, said he was used to singing only "Powadas". "Most welcome," said Sanjiv. We all looked forward to his performance. I quickly offered him a

brass thali, and he expertly beat the time on it using his fist. His inspiring patriotic song recreated Shivaji's heroism, and ended amidst loud applause. Usha then surprised everyone by saying, "Jijaji, who is a good singer, should entertain his guests with a song." A highly embarrassed Sanjiv confessed that he sang only in the bathroom- and only old Saigal songs. But the guests would accept no excuses, "You owe it to us" they said. Sanjiv had no choice, but to oblige. He was rewarded with thunderous clapping. One of the guests was so impressed, that he begged to be allowed to record Sanjiv's voice at a convenient date in the near future. "My father is a great fan of Saigal's, Sir. But I couldn't afford to buy him a gramophone in those days. Now, I am planning to buy him a tape recorder on his 75th birthday. I'll be grateful if you permit me to record your voice on it..."

Nina, who had been a silent witness to all this display of talent, shyly asked if she could dance to "Naachray Moraa". Sanjiv nodded with a smile.

Soon, tying on her ghungroos, she began to sing and dance and sway to everyone's delight. Within minutes, she became the star of the show, and earned a standing ovation, much to her delight!

Thereafter, our guests discreetly looked at their watches, and left thanking us profusely for a 'wonderful' party. Thus, our first get-together helped us forge bonds that lasted a long, long time!

Kabir's Kreations

Kabir Kumtha, a special young man from Saraswat Colony, Gamdevi, Mumbai, loves making *torans* & *haars*.

His preferred flower is the marigold (Jhendu), but he is willing to give others a try.

He can make up to 5 items at a stretch.

He likes to know who he is making them for and where they will be put up.

Kabir works out the design with help and is learning to select & buy flowers.

He enjoys hand-delivering them to your home & helping you put them up.

So, if you need up to 5 torans, stay up to 5kms from Grant Road, Mumbai and are okay with your order being delivered on the previous evening, **Kabir is your man!**



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+91 99302 75026
or on FaceBook messenger to
Kabir's Kreations FaceBook page



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Value System in The Military

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

No other service or profession lays as much emphasis on values, character traits and behavioural aspects of its members as do the armed forces. Not even the elite Indian Foreign Service. Values and behaviour expected from a person in uniform are ingrained right from Day One that he joins the defence training institution.

The process starts even earlier. Officer aspirants appearing for the UPSC examination to join any of the three fighting services, after passing a tough entrance examination and making it in the merit list, have to appear before a Services Selection Board. Here the aspirant is tested for his various physical, moral, mental, social and leadership qualities till the board is thoroughly satisfied that he is indeed the right material that they are looking for.

He undergoes a day and a half of psychological tests. The psychological profiling is very thorough. His integrity, sense of responsibility and behaviour when he is unobserved is noted. His dependability, his command and leadership qualities and team spirit are tested by making him the leader of a group in a 'command task.' His physical prowess is tested on the obstacle course.

On the fourth day, after all that, those few who make the grade, appear before the members of the selection board for a personal interview, where all the board members can see the candidate in person and assess him. At the end of it all, the names of the successful candidates who have been finally selected are announced.

It may be mentioned that rejection is rampant. No concession is made for anybody irrespective of background. There is no special consideration or preference for any category of people. Entire successive batches of SSB candidates are known to have been found unfit and rejected. After all this, one is put through a thorough medical examination. And a few get ruled out here also. Those who finally make the merit list, join the academy.

It was in the National Defence Academy at Khadakvasla that we were meaningfully and deliberately exposed to the norms and values that we were expected to live by. The poem 'If' by Rudyard Kipling was framed in every cadet's cabin over his study table. The Academy taught us everything - how to dress for various occasions, how to conduct ourselves, how to speak, good military bearing and military etiquette, table manners, camaraderie, punctuality, selflessness and self - sacrifice, fighting for a cause, moral and physical courage, honour and being a good citizen amongst others. Even good social behaviour and manners were insisted upon.

Vice Admiral B A Samson, a former Commandant of the NDA when addressing us cadets, once stated "the Academy will teach you to be humble enough to eat with the poor and fit enough to dine with Kings." So true...Service officers are equally at ease while they are eating pani-puri from the roadside vendor or while dining with diplomats.

Drill is the most important activity in the life of the cadet. It not only puts starch in the cadets but prepares them to become military professionals. Instantaneous and unquestioning obedience of orders is what drill instils in the cadets. A quality on which their very lives may one day depend e.g. when a submarine has to crash dive, a bomber is hit by flak or when an army unit is engaged in covert operations behind enemy lines.

The lasting lesson that we took from the NDA was its motto - to put 'Service Before Self', which everyone of us did throughout our service life. The NDA trained us for all round development. There was a strict 'honour code' for cadets and we were expected to live by it. If a cadet was consistently found lacking 'Officer Like Qualities' he could even be withdrawn from the Academy.

Sports and competitions forced us to put in our very best. Indeed if one did not put in one's best, he was taken to task. Feigning in boxing, shamming in cross country races or hesitating to jump off the 7 metre diving board into the swimming pool - all attracted the attention and ire of the system. Sports taught us to play to win. It also taught us how to take defeat sportingly and to be magnanimous in victory.

The Indian Military Academy further built upon the foundation already laid by the NDA. It taught us to be gentlemen first and officers next and imbibed in us, the credo of the Indian Army -

"The safety, honour and welfare of your country come first, always and every time.

The Honour, welfare and comfort of the men you command come next.

Your own ease, comfort and safety, come last, always and every time."

Physical courage and endurance continue to be enhanced even after commissioning through courses that young officers undergo. The Physical Training (PT) course and the Commando course are known for their tough standards. And those who volunteer to become Paratroopers need a special brand of fitness and courage.

The insistence on values and what is important to the army does not end with the academy. Military upbringing and grooming of young officers is a continuous process. Furthermore, the Commanding Officer keeps a watchful eye on the young officer's personal, physical, moral, spiritual and professional upbringing.

And as far as units are concerned, the army frowns on lavish parties and five star culture. Military correctness, courtesy, and good and clean environment are the order of the day. Furthermore, control of wasteful and avoidable expenditure whilst maintaining military standards, is insisted upon.

But with changing times and changing nature of warfare,

newer technologies and ever changing social norms, new rules of conduct needed to be enunciated. Gen K Sunderji, late COAS, did just that. He addressed a personal letter and addressed it by name to every officer of the Indian Army serving at that time, leaving them in no doubt as to what he expected of them.

More recently with Counter Insurgency Operations (CI Ops) becoming the norm rather than the exception and the army facing criticism, Late Gen B C Joshi, when he was Chief of the Army Staff, issued a set of instructions to all units engaged in CI Ops: because the army enjoys considerable latitude while operating under the aegis of AFSPA. Amongst the more important commandments included – no rape or molestation of women, no military disgrace (such as shooting unarmed civilians or burning villages), no torture resulting in death, no interference in local civil administration, use of minimum force etc. Any infringement would invite immediate and severe disciplinary action under the Army Act.

Value based living has become a way of life for the armed forces. Words like duty, honour, courage, colours and country will always find place in the military ethic. The Indian Army is the epitome of national integration. Its participation in nation building is well acknowledged. When India is ravaged by natural or manmade disasters – it is the armed forces that are inevitably called out to help. The armed forces are the last resort to help solve the nation's problems

The Indian Armed Forces, which are second to none in the world, set the example for others to follow.

Sad Demise



Gayatri Sunil Nadkarni

Birth: 2/3/1986 Death: 7/9/2019

We miss you every moment of our lives.
Your presence continues to surround us.
You live in the heart and minds of loving family
you left behind

Sunil Nadkarni & Family members
Brothers and sisters and all friends
(Nadkarnis, Honavars, Nayaks, Pais,
Shenoy & Kudvas)

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My Amma And The Joy Of Cooking

HEMA HATTANGADY

I have been thinking about home-cooked food and have realised it is not just a question of cooking something, or even cooking something nice. There is so much more to it—care, thinking of others, making things as perfectly as possible, passing on the commitment to making good food... and so much more.

And in all this, I see my mother, Maya Benegal who is 93. All her life she has been creating and cooking fabulous meals and snacks. She lost her mother while still in her early teens, so she had to take over the kitchen with no one to teach her. Amma ran the kitchen in her flat in Bangalore until she turned 86. As she grew weaker in memory and strength, my husband Ashok and I were worried that she might have an accident while she was alone and we asked her to move in with us, not too far from her base in Malleswaram.

During our growing up years, Amma's home-cooked food was at the centre of our family's feeling of well-being and of being cherished. My childhood memories are embellished with the aromas and flavours of 'gharchey-jevan' cooked by Amma. She turned out hot, soft chapatis (almost faster than the fan-fold paper of a dot matrix printer) which we ate with her succulent morambo (gooseberry jam) or tomato jam or seasonal preserves or with a delicious sabzi at 7 a.m. before school. She packed our lunch boxes. And she somehow still had the energy for making wholesome high-tea and dinners every single day. Luckily for us, Maggi noodles, frozen aloo tikkis and canned soups were not available in those days and even if our corner grocery store had stocked it, Amma would never have bought them.

Another thing I have learnt is that in times of hardship, resourcefulness becomes important. I still remember the stark nights, during the Indo-Pak War of 1971, which were replete with black-outs, air-raid sirens and a general feeling of dread. Black-outs meant we had to shut the kitchen down after 6 p.m. So we had high-tea and then huddled round the radio. Those memories also carry the sweet taste of Milkmaid biscuits, the size of a 50p coin and the aroma of hot bajays and vegetable sandwiches. On a serious note, the war brought serious cereal and sugar shortages and rationing. There was a local competition to create recipes without using cereals and Amma, resourceful and creative as ever won a prize for her creation!

Managing without appliances is also an aspect of making do. And my mother was a perfect example. In those days, not every home had an electric oven. Amma would hoist up a large rectangular tin on her waist with the ingredients for baking biscuits and nip down 3 blocks to a local bakery and come home with a load of fresh biscuits with ridges on top traced by a fork. The memory of that aroma wafting through

the house as she opened the still warm dabba still makes my mouth water.

Even today, friends and relatives recall her creations with great affection. Her nephews, nieces and grandchildren call on her birthday with 'Maya Mami, tugeley chiroti khaon kamhondista' (We long for your chirotis) or 'Ammama, when can we have your nimkis next...' One cousin who calls, without fail, on Amma's birthday speaks longingly of 'Maya Mami's silky parathas'. Her kodbalis, malpuris, besankhadis, rawaladoos, nevriss (kadabus) and chaklis (murkkus) were hugely popular. A niece recently revealed that her family had started making moong (whole green gram) dosas or peserattu once a week ever since they ate it at Amma's 30 years ago. Even as I write this I can imagine some of the readers from our extended family thinking 'but you forgot to mention her excellent!'

Repertoire and being able to make modifications to fit available resources is another important mark of a real food-maker. Amma's repertoire was endless as was her enthusiasm to dish up favourites for visitors from far and near. Anyone who came to visit was prevailed upon to stay on for a meal, take some goodies home in a box for the kids or at least sample some phenoris or kachoris. She would tweak recipes with little touches of her own to enhance the flavour, add to the crispness etc Like putting a spoon of hot oil in the 'bajjeypeet' to make the bajjey crisp or adding 1 raw garlic pod and a few raw dhanias seeds to the bendimasol or a dash of hing and a piece of raw onion to ambatmasol! Once, all 4 sisters got jaundice. Amma had to cook without oil. She somehow made delectable dosas which made a friend comment "Oh Mayapachi vey... Pole peetnaatilenpollekadata!" (in other words, she could create something out of nothing!)

Amma was also an expert in making countless pappads and vadiyos (sandige) at home. As kids, we thought it was a privilege to race upstairs to dry batches on the sunlit rooftop terrace and bring them down. On national holidays like Republic Day and Independence Day Amma would make tricolour ravakhadis and we would dive into them with patriotic fervour!

One year there was an entire stall in a Kanara Saraswat Association Fair in Delhi with all products made, suggested or advised by Amma (Maya) - from the basic cumin-coriander pitti to complicated amtimasala. We remember coming home from school for a couple of weeks to find all the neighbourhood 'amchi'pacchis pounding, grinding, roasting and eating and generally having fun while they made the masalas. We kids were given the all-important job of sealing (using a lit candle) and packing the finished product.

Though a vegetarian herself, Amma would make non-vegetarian food for us on the weekends. I realise now that this is an extraordinary quality for someone who makes food to



Making Kodbali

have—the ability to go beyond oneself and think of others.

I don't think Amma has ever written down a recipe or referred to any cook-book. She did not need kitchen scales to weigh or use calculators for conversions. She was also known for the quick and accurate estimation of quantities of ingredients needed for large gatherings at picnics or pujas. Just before our Konkani association picnics in Nehru Park or BudhJayanti Park the organiser would call Amma and ask how many cups of rice would be needed to make pulao for 70 people. Amma would answer without batting an eyelid or reaching for pen and paper. And her estimate would be just right. Amma would make her own sambar powder and amti powder which became so popular that she was coaxed into taking orders from friends!

Today when you step into any kitchen there is a range of appliances to make life easier. Amma, like other mums of the time, achieved what she did with the bare minimum of what we take for granted today. Amma had mastered the ragdo (grinding stone) which had pride of place in our kitchen. It was not an easy thing to master as my sloppy attempts showed me!

My husband Ashok and I went through some fads of diets for weight loss as we got into our forties, gave up ghee and most fats and experimented with many cuisines. After much trial and error (and after we paid for advice from nutrition experts and dietitians), we came back to the diets our mothers had fed us in our childhood. And Amma watches with a benign smile on her face as we have come full circle to using

'kuvaley' (ash-gourd) once a week to cleanse stomachs, gabbo (banana-stem), banana flower for its nutrition, and bhindi for memory!

In 2016, Amma had a fall and shattered her hip-bone so is only able to walk with a walker and cannot stand up for long. None of that has diminished her love for and interest in food-making. When our son visits from the US, she always makes delectable kodbalis. She now relishes the food made by our cook Ammu. Amma trained Ammu to make sambar powder and amti powder, pittichitni and lashneychitni, patolis and ghashis, ambats, kodels... To her credit, Ammu has written every recipe in Tamil in a little note-book.

Fast forward to 2019...Ammu suddenly started making some unusual dishes. When we asked her where she had got the recipe she grinned and said her 4-year-old grandson showed her how to log into YouTube so she now gets video recipe alerts in Tamil every day! This was surely the magic Ammahad set off. In the same way, our son Raghav and 15-year-old daughter Ananya have both taken to cooking. I see in all this how generous-hearted one has to be in passing on one's cooking wisdom to others, sort of passing the kailato-baton on!

It's getting on to lunch-time now so I raise my steel pailo of hot rasam to say 'three cheers' to my mother, and to loving homemakers like her everywhere! What they make, time and again, is perfect, and this is surely perfection for its own sake.

Courtesy Canara Union News Letter

WITH DEEP GRIEF, WE INFORM THE PASSING OF...



**Shri Radhakrishna Shiroor
(Ex- Air India)
(18. 10. 1933- 17. 09. 2019)**

**May the music of the angels,
Be the sweet sounds that you hear.
As you're rocked in Heaven's cradle,
May you never shed another tear.
I'll wear your memory proudly,
My brother, my true friend!
May my love for you reach Heaven above,
Until we meet again...**

**Fondly remembered by:
Mrs. Padma C. Rao (Sister)
Mrs. Nalini Shiroor (Wife)
Prashant- Archana, Pratibha- Ashish,
Prasanna, Shantanu, Narayan
and family.**

Examination Results 2019

We Congratulate the following students and wish them all the best

10th Standard

10th Standard

- Aditi Prashant Kowshik**, Hubballi - SSLC - 96.96%
Aditya Koppikar, Bailur - SSLC 97%
Akhil Shyamsunder Bhat, Mumbai - ICSE - 97.5%A
Grade
Computer application 100/100, History Civics Geogra-
phy; 99/100 and Maths 99/100
Anandita Balsavar, New Delhi - CBSE- 95%
Ananditha Chaitanya Kembre, Santacruz (East)
Mumbai - ICSE - 96.8%
Arnav Gurucharan Hoskote, Andheri West, Mumbai
- CBSE - 94.80%
Arjun Puthli - IGCSE - 95.40% - Cambridge
International Mathematics 99.0% (Scored Highest In
school)
Avantika Anand Bailoor, Pune - CBSE 91.8%
Merit: Topped the school for Social Science, obtained
99%
Dhruv Rohit Chandavarker, Goa - ICSE 92% (Histo-
ry 99%)
Esha Ananthrao Nalkur, Thane - CBSE - 86%
Ishaan Sameer Mavinkurve, Pune - CBSE 94%
Ishan Dhananjay Yellurkar, Bandra, Mumbai, ICSE
- 92.2%
Kartik Chetan Kalbag, Malad, Mumbai - SSCE
90.80%
Lochana Sanjay Koppikar, Borivali, Mumbai - SSCE
- 92.20%
Mihir Shailesh Tallur, Mumbai - CBSE 93%
Om Surendra Koppikar, Mumbai - SSCE - 82.80%
Riya Anand Golikere, Pune - SSCE - 94.4%
Rudra Abhijeet Parulekar, Mumbai - ICSE - 91%
Samiksha Satyendra Kumble, Talmakiwadi, Mumbai
- SSCE - 88.40 %
Varun Murlidhar Nambiar, Santacruz east
Mumbai ICSE - 96%

12th Standard

- Advait Kaikini**, Ahmedabad - CBSE 77%
Akshay Mohan Ullal, Bangalore - ISCE - 96.8%
Anagha Jayadev Shukla, Hubli - PUC - 94.83%
(KCET - Architecture rank 85)
Ankita Anil Nadkarni, Kalbag (Kumta) - PUC (Sci-
ence) - 92%
Anusha Niraj Rao, Muskat - CBSE A1
Arya A. Naik, Dombivli (W) - HSCE - 86.62%
Nidhi Niranjan Ullal, Bangalore, PUC - 81%
Purna V. Mullerpaten, Chennai - CBSE - Humanities
Group 90.8%
Tanya Chaitanya Byndoor, Dahisar, Mumbai - HSCE
- 92%

Graduation and Post Graduation

Diploma Mechanical Final Year

Mandar Radhakrishna Kodange, Nashik - Final year
- 92.63%

Executive Programe Examination (The Insti- tute of Company Sectrataries of India)

Kaivalya Ravindra Nadkarni, 61.28%

CA Final

Siddhi Shrikar Kadle - 215/400

Akshay Mohan Ullal: Merit or Prize Obtained: Certificate
for Academic Proficiency awarded by the Vidya Niketan
School

Akshay is now pursuing Commerce in the St. Joseph's
College of Commerce in Bangalore. He is interested in
football and plays the Guitar.

Ananditha Chaitanya Kembre, Santacruz(East) Mum-
bai - ICSE : Merit / Prizes obtained : Highest in biology
(99) and History (99), secured Rank 10 with 96.8%in
Lilavatibai Podar High School.

Mandar Radhakrishna Kodange: I am very much
thankful to our Chitrapur Math for the support it has been
providing for my education. By the grace of Lord Bhavani
Shankar and HH Swamiji, I scored in Diploma Mechanical
Final Year Summer 2019 with 92.63%. (Aggregated Marks
of 5th And 6th Semester :- 91.59%)

Merit or Prize Obtained: 2nd in 5th Semester and 6th
semester prize is awaited.

ANNOUNCEMENT – CHANGE IN CONTACT DETAILS OF OUR KSA HOLIDAY HOME, NASHIK

New Pandit Colony, Off. Sharanpur Road,
Nashik - 422 002

Phone: (0253) – 2580575 / 2315881 / 2232841.

Manager/Caretaker:

Mr Radhakrishna Kodange,

Mobile No: +91 7507463137

Email : nashikholidayhome@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE THAT
SMT. RAVIKALA & PRAKASH KOPPIKAR
ARE NO LONGER INVOLVED WITH THE
MANAGEMENT OF OUR
HOLIDAY HOME AT NASHIK

Examination Results 2019

10th Standard



Aditi Kowshik



Aditya Koppikar



Akhil Bhat



Anandita Balsavar



Ananditha Kembre



Arjun Puthli



Arnav Hoskote



Avantika Bailoor



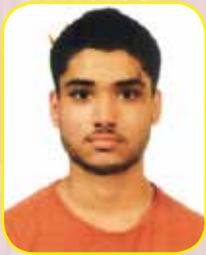
Dhruv Chandavarker



Esha Nalkur



Ishaan Mavinkurve



Ishan Yellurkar



Kartik Kalbag



Lochana Koppikar



Mihir Tallur



Om Surendra Koppikar



Riya Golikere



Rudra Parulekar



Samiksha Kumble



Varun Nambiar

12th Standard



Akshay Ullal



Anagha Shukla



Ankita Nadkarni



Anusha Rao



Arya Naik

Budding artists of Srivali High School, Chitrapur



Sachin Naik (Both the above)



Manoj Kumbar



Harish Naik

Results Continued...

12th Standard



Nidhi Ullal



Prerna Mullerpaten



Tanya Byndoor



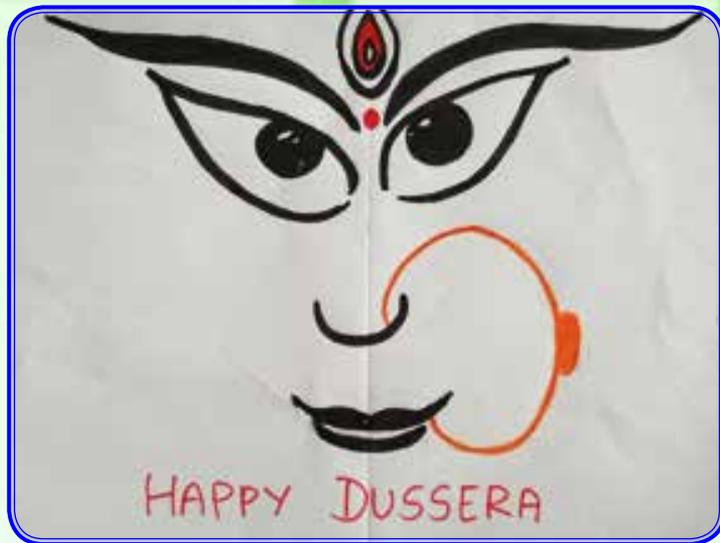
Siddhi Kadle



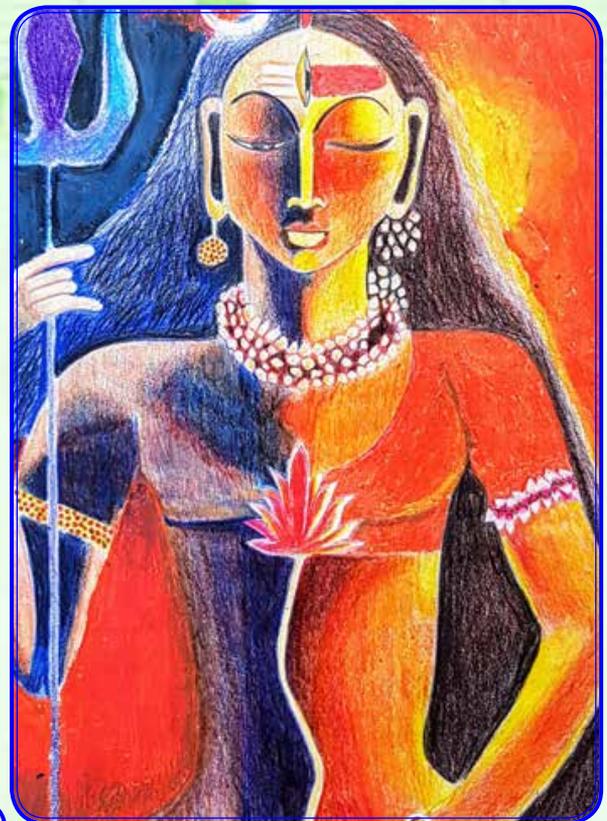
Mandar Kodange

Graduates /Post Graduates

Happy Dussera



Aarya Katre (9 years)



Aditi Mohan Ullal (14 years)

Unicorn

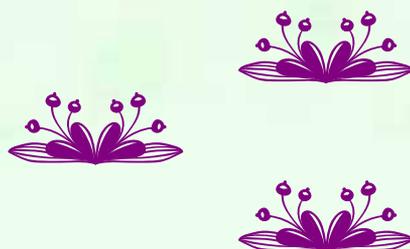


Belthangadi Aditi Rao (11 years)

Happy faces



Avani Santosh Sajip (9 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.

Gokulashtami / Shri Krishnajanmashtami in New Jersey, USA



Radha and Krishna puja

2014 celebrations



Vasudeva taking Balakrishna from Mathura to Gokul



Singing 'Maasa Shraavana', 'Vasudeva Moorthy Hathighetali', 'Dolaara Sunder'



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.

Celebration of Cultural Tradition Gokulashtami / Shri Krishnajanmashtami in New Jersey, USA

ASHOK BALWALLI & SHASHANK UDYAWER

Shri Krishna Janmashtami celebration is a rich heritage and tradition passed on through generations. Our Chitrapur Saraswat community is very fortunate to have inherited a very loving and unique way of celebrating this festival. Renowned Saint Shri Ramavallabhdas composed bhajans pouring his heart out in love for beloved Lord Shri Krishna and towards saints namely Jnanadev, Namdev, Ekanath, Tukaram, Ramdas and His Guru Laxmidhardas also His Guru Bhandhu Ragavdas. Devotees singing these melodious bhajans invoke the Guru Shakti, Lord Ganesha and Shaaradaa Devi, after which they traverse through various sections like 'Nitya Niyam', 'Vara Niyama', 'Bhakti', 'Dhyanopasana/Gondhala', 'Pujopachara', 'Dolotsava', 'ShriKrishnaJanma-katha' and 'Upasamhara'.

Sant Sri Ramavallabhdas shared these bhajans and blessed Shri Avadi Maata of our Chitrapur Saraswat community 400 years ago in the village of Mallapur (Mallinathapur). These bhajans are lovingly referred to as 'Gokulashtami-mhantis'.

In New Jersey, USA, Ashok & Vanita Balwalli have been hosting Shri Krishna Janmashtami Celebrations every year since 1983. Janmashtami celebrations begin in the morning with 'Shodashopchar Pujan' of Lord Shri Krishna. Then in the evening the children gather at their house and along with rest of the devotees participate in singing the starting prayers and Deepanamaskar after which the children take part in the ceremony to honor the birth of the Lord is done. In this Shri Baal Krishna (idol of baby Krishna) is taken in a decorated basket from one end of the room to the other end where a decorated cradle is kept. This ceremony gives the children a visual of the story of how baby Shri Krishna was taken from Mathura to Gokul right after HIS birth. After ceremoniously placing Shri Baal Krishna in the cradle, the children slowly and loving help in swaying the cradle. During this time Vanita Balwalli along with her daughter Shruti Balwalli-Udyawer conducts 'Radha/Krishna Pujan' honoring the children by doing Aarti and offering sweets to each of them. Delicious home-made Paanak is served along with sweets around the same time. The children are then given a home grown Tulsi plant each, to offer to Lord Shri Krishna which they later take home with them as prasad. During this part every year Umesh & Chitra Nagarkatte lead in singing a melodious 'Radha Krishna, Radha' chant as sweets and paanak is being distributed to all. We miss the loving presence of Chitra Nagarkatte now as she passed on to merge in the ultimate blissful state last year (August 2018).

The next section of the Janmashtami celebration is conducted outside in the backyard of the Balwalli residence. We first have Palki Utsav with an idol of Lord Shri Krishna placed in a small decorated palki, followed by Chocolate Hundis for children. This year we also included Rathotsav (a mid-sized replica of the Rath made by Ashok Balwalli). The Rath was pulled back and forth with a lot of cheering and excitement

in the backyard by the children and some adults. This was followed by potluck dinner prepared by various volunteers.

After dinner we all gather once again in the shrine room and that's when we start singing the 'Gokulashtami-mhantis' written by Saint Shri Ramavallabhdas. These mhantis go on until past midnight and in the end we all sit in meditation for a few minutes as taught by H.H. Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji and absorb the energy created through the ceremonial, fun filled, daylong celebration.

This is the most memorable day of the year for many of us as the whole experience of firstly celebrating Janmashtami with the children (hundi, palki, now the Rath included) and then the melodious 'mhantis' is very enriching. It brings back so many memories from childhood, back-home in India. We all are humbled with a sense of gratitude to the beloved Guru Shakti for blessing us with this rich heritage and tradition which we hope to carry on for generations to come. Only 7 devotees attended the first year and with the love and blessings of our beloved Guru Parampara this number has now grown to 120+ devotees. We bow with gratitude and love to the Guru Shakti as we continue to seek blessings in the form of guidance and everlasting love.



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Are you the 'DUDE'?

MAYUR KALBAG

If you want to truly succeed at your work and achieve the highest success, then there is one sure shot way to do that and that way is by becoming a 'DUDE'! I surely am not referring to the term 'dude', which we casually use to describe a person who probably projects an attitude of style and smartness. The dude I am referring to is different and that is because it signifies 'four' wonderful qualities to help you become the best in your professional as well as your personal life. Let us take a look at the **DUDE!**

Daring- Whether you are new in the organization or have been working for many years, it is time for you to become 'daring'. What is the deeper meaning of the term 'daring' and that too in the context of your role in the organization? To begin with, we can understand it as being brave and bold. Having said this, in the context of your role in the organization, the aspect of daring will be relevant especially when you may have to face new challenges, make tough decisions, or work with aggressive boss or superiors, colleagues or even clients. There will be many situations where you may feel nervous or experience the fear of failure as well. Remember, failures are one of the best teachers for us! It is in such situations that you must become daring, **GATHER COURAGE & DO WHAT YOU ARE CONVINCED IS RIGHT.**

Unique- Be different, but in a positive way. There was this group of friends who would climb to the top of the hill to reach an ancient temple. They would follow only one 'regular' route for a long time, till one of the friends suggested that they look for another alternative route. Most of the others dissuaded and discouraged him from trying something new or different saying it was a waste of time and that nothing good would come out of it. "Why do you want to try a different route? What if you fail? Isn't it better that we follow the same and safe route and not try to be foolish?" one of them said in almost an aggressive tone. "No, I do not agree with you. I believe there cannot be just one route or only one solution to a problem or a challenge. Even in this case there cannot be just one route to reach the temple. At the least, I will try and find if there is another way to the top. I just believe in trying to search for an alternate and hopefully a faster route to the top of the hill. I believe if I fail in finding the alternative route, I will be happy that I, at the least, tried". Saying this he left the group to find another route to the temple and surprisingly, he actually found two different and shorter routes to the temple! I believe that even as a professional, we must be unique in the way we execute our roles and responsibilities. Being unique means to be positively and progressively different and to...**'THINK OUT OF THE BOX!'**

Developmental- Always keep your eyes, ears and along with that, your attitude 'open' to learning something new each and every day. Remember you must always know that your professional success is directly proportionate to your professional development and this development happens only

when you invest time towards acquiring 'new' knowledge that related to your work, your skills and your competencies. Wherever and whenever you get the chance to attend some training, conference or seminar, make it a point to attend it with the attitude to develop your skills and knowledge. Having said this, try and also learn from every conversation you have with your seniors, your colleagues, your customers and even your juniors. **'Be like a sponge'** and keep absorbing as much as you can and by doing that you will experience a speedy growth in your professional as well as your personal life. Remember the two words - **LEARN & LEAP!**

Enthusiastic- When you see a child in the park, what is that you really see in that child. Well, the answer is simple. You will see a lot of enthusiasm and excitement. The child will be playful throughout the time that he is in the park, trying out new rides and wanting to sit on the swing. This child-like enthusiasm must be awakened within you as well, especially when you are working in an organization. I say this for a reason. Any and every organization will have budgets or targets for you to accomplish and with these expectations there will always be high pressure and the inevitable stress. Such things can become barriers to your professional effectiveness and could hamper your growth eventually. It is for this reason that I believe we must make our attitude a positive weapon to battle the negative emotions of stress, tension, worry and negative thinking. Only an enthusiastic employee will look at the half glass of water as half full and not half empty. Time has come to **LOOK AT THE SUNSHINE & NOT THE SHADOW.**

If you can truly understand and then develop the 'DUDE' qualities I will assure you that you will accomplish all your professional objectives and personal goals sooner than later!

The Relevance of Epic Stories to Real Life

CHAITANYA NADKARNI

The epic stories of Ekalavya and Abhimanyu in Mahabharata indicate the principle of indirect education, which is an example of self-education. Ekalavya, in the absence of a teacher learns the art of archery and masters it better than Arjuna, who is directly under the guidance of his teacher Dronacharya! Abhimanyu, while in his mother-Subhadra's womb, learns how to enter the territory encircled by enemies, when Sri Krishna explains it to a pregnant Subhadra.. This proves the presence of Guru Tatva within every individual.

And it is now scientifically proved that, it is possible that the child in the womb can grasp what its mother listens to and thinks about! That is, perhaps, why our elders advise pregnant women to read good spiritual books, to think good and stay in a happy mood!

Bheeshma's Long Journey

GAYATRI MADAN DUTT

The story of Bheeshma from the Mahabharata is the inspiring saga of a hero who unflinchingly walks the path of filial devotion to his father, and who unremittingly stands by his word.

Bheeshma, at birth, is given the name Devavrata. Soon after, his mother, Ganga, the River Goddess, forsakes his father, King Shantanu of Hastinapura. Later on, Shantanu falls in love with a fisherman's daughter, Satyawati, and proposes marriage. But Satyawati and her father lay down a condition: that, not Bheeshma or his children, but Satyawati's future son by Shantanu, and his descendants, should be made inheritors to the throne. Greatly dismayed, Shantanu refuses. But on returning home, he falls into dejection. Devavrata notices his father's sadness, finds out the reason for it, and seeks out the fisher girl. He urges Satyawati to accept Shantanu's marriage proposal, promising that he will renounce his position as his father's heir and also never marry, so that there will be no children to lay claim to the throne. He also swears to loyally serve the future rulers of Hastinapura born of Satyawati and Shantanu. It is a deeply self-denying vow that Devavrata takes for the sake of his father's happiness. It earns him the name *Bheeshma*: 'He of the Terrible Oath'. Overwhelmed by his son's act, Shantanu gifts him the boon of *ichchha mrityu*, the ability to choose the time of his death. The marriage takes place.

The passing years bring the birth of Satyawati and Shantanu's two sons, of their sons, in turn, and thereafter, the third generation; Bheeshma's grand-nephews: the adharmic Kauravas and the dharmic Pandavas. Bheeshma becomes witness to the jealousy and enmity that the Kauravas develop towards the Pandavas. His oath binds him to serve

the Kauravas who have unfairly taken over the rulership of Hastinapur. He has to watch in silent misery as they torment and exile the Pandavas.

In the great Bharata War that eventually breaks out, again to keep his word, Bheeshma is obliged to fight on the side of the Kauravas against the Pandavas. He is appointed commander of the forces and proves unassailable. But on the 10th day of the war, he quietly reveals to Pandava Arjuna whom he loves dearly, how to bring about his end.

Employing this tactic on the battlefield, Arjuna compels Bheeshma to lay down his arms and turn his face away. Then with a breaking heart, he covers his back in a shower of arrows. The mighty warrior falls supine, supported on a bed of arrows. The Kauravas and Pandavas, in grief, sit by their Pitaamaha-their Grand Sire. Invoking his father's boon of being able to choose the time of his death, Bheeshma, on his arrow bed-his *shara shayyaa*, waits 58 days for the *Punya Kaala* (the Auspicious Time) of *Uttarayana* (the Winter Solstice). This is the time when the sun begins its movement towards the north. At this blessed hour, Bheeshma leaves his body.

Along with hundreds of other tales, this moving story too made a long journey from its native Indian shores across the ocean into South East Asia. In the Cambodian temple of Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious structure, select war scenes from the Ramayana and Mahabharata are carved on the walls of its galleries. A special place is given to Bheeshma lying on his bed of arrows. Such is the fine sensitivity to the story shown by the makers of the temple, that on the day of the Winter Solstice, the rays of the setting sun fall on Bheeshma's image.

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Nominees of the deceased members may obtain claim form from the undersigned for the process of registering in place of the deceased member.

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Old Is Gold??

KAVITA KARNAD SAMUEL

The auctions at Sotheby's and Christie's, of rare and valuable artifacts are an experience to remember. Those invaluable pieces of yore, used or patronized by royalty and important people of the world, are displayed on the pedestal, highlighted by a brilliant light. The auctioneer generates untold enthusiasm about the piece to be auctioned, by narrating its provenance, its history and its association with some historical personality. The fervor in the audience rises to a fever pitch, as each show of hand enhances the selling price by a few thousand dollars. And the auctioneer's voice keeps rising with each bid, until it trembles with excitement at the highest proffer, before the hammer comes crashing on the anvil. SOLD!!

The auctioneer is happy, so is the buyer, for having outshone his bidding opponents; the seller is ecstatic and the mood is one of great festivity... Until the buyer has to empty his coffers and realize that he is stuck with a useless piece of history which may add to his social status and consequently his ego, but adds very little to his wisdom, knowledge or spiritual advancement.

Ostensibly invaluable pieces of art or history are treated with a fervent reverence by society. Pieces that may look very ornate, but are static, without memory, without wisdom, without very much to really add to our collective human consciousness are considered worthy of respect. Indeed, Old is Gold!!

But the same logic hardly applies to us humans. Human beings who are endowed with an enriched fabric of memory, history, wisdom of the ages, emotions, experience et al, become quite redundant with age. Once a human being is no longer financially useful or becomes technologically redundant, he/she is relegated to some corner of the social grid, which we still feel obliged to care for, not unlike the philanthropic dog shelters.

Elderly people, who have effaced their very souls to provide for the creature comforts of the next generation, are all but forgotten in the rat race for one-upmanship and keeping up with the Jones'. I live in a town with a sizable population of elderly, living all alone in their houses, or admitted in an institution, to rot at the hands of a care giver. The relatives condescend to call every once in a while, if only to ensure that the person is alive. They may also visit briefly, once a year, on their way to an exotic destination for a vacation. But the elderly is left to her own devices, her enervating aches and pains, and to deal with the excruciating loneliness, which is her lot.

"The Daughter from California" is a well known medical term for the next of kin of the patient, who flies down from abroad at the critical stage of the illness and throws her weight on the medical care givers, by pounding them with questions that spring from her half knowledge and liberally accusing the hospital staff for negligence. Never once does

she hold a mirror and ask who is ACTUALLY responsible for this pathetic condition of her parent or relative?

We live in strange world today.... one which values lifeless things and objects far more than human relations or emotions. Our attachment to our cell phones far outshines our attachment to our parents or significant others in our lives. Our focus on material aggrandizement far outstretches the need for simple joys of communion with our kin.

I face some very grave questions today: Should I feel proud to belong to a species that over-values lifeless objects and undervalues living edifices of wisdom? Should I invest my very limited time and energy on forging relationships with people, who are anything but self-centric? Am I to expect being sidelined to some penumbra of society, where I shall be merely tolerated till the breath ebbs out?

After all, we'd do good to remember that what goes round, comes round. We are bound to face the similar future of being lost to memory, because we are no longer actively useful to society. We'd better steel ourselves to disappear into oblivion, as the rest of the world takes strides by leaps and bounds into a very scary future! God save us!!



With profound sadness we announce the passing of **Shri Durganand Marballi**, age 79 years, father of Smt. Sangita Amladi at Bengaluru, Karnataka, India on Wednesday September 4th, 2019.

He lived a full life as a wonderful father and guide to his children. He was always engaged in religious activities in the community seeking the blessings of Kuladevata Shree Shantadurga Devi. He will be dearly missed and fondly remain in the hearts of wife Jyotsna Marballi, daughter Sangita Amladi, daughter in law Supriya Marballi, son Santosh Marballi, son-in-law Prashant Amladi and grandchildren Shounak, Pranav & Shreeram.

We wish his soul attains Sadgati! Hari Om!

Geetha Gulwadi

Oct 06, 1930 to Dec 29, 2017 – Chennai



Geetha Gulwadi, Geethpacchi to many and Geethamami to some, lived life on her own terms and died on her own terms, on Vaikunta Ekadashi Dec 29, 2017 - trust she went straight to heaven for all her good deeds.

She moved to Chennai with husband Harishanker Gulwadi & children in 1956 & has been an active member of the Saraswat Association, Chennai ever since. She was President of the Mahila Samaj several times and continued to be a mentor till the last day. Thanks to her, the Saraswat Mahila Samaj in Chennai exists today. Several times we have talked of closing it down but she kept telling us that closing down is easy, to start again is difficult. Her good sense and advice kept us going.

She was very religious but did not force others. She had faith in God and more so in Swamiji. Her respect for our Guruparamapara was awesome. Her 'zapu' and Deep Namaskar is something she would not miss whether she was at home or travelling. Whenever she was in a crisis or had to say thank you she would do the Guruparampara Parayan and that too early in the morning at 3 am so that there would be no disturbance. She donated generously to Vittal, Shirali and Karla and was always keen to visit these places. She loved eating mangoes. During the season she would take / send Banganapalli & Romania mangoes well known in the south, for Swamiji.

Gokulashtami and Dutta Jayanthi were her forte. She would lead the bhajans, knew what had to be done and when. She actively participated in the Guru Pujan, Shiv Pujan and Puniyatithi bhajan programs in Saraswat Association.

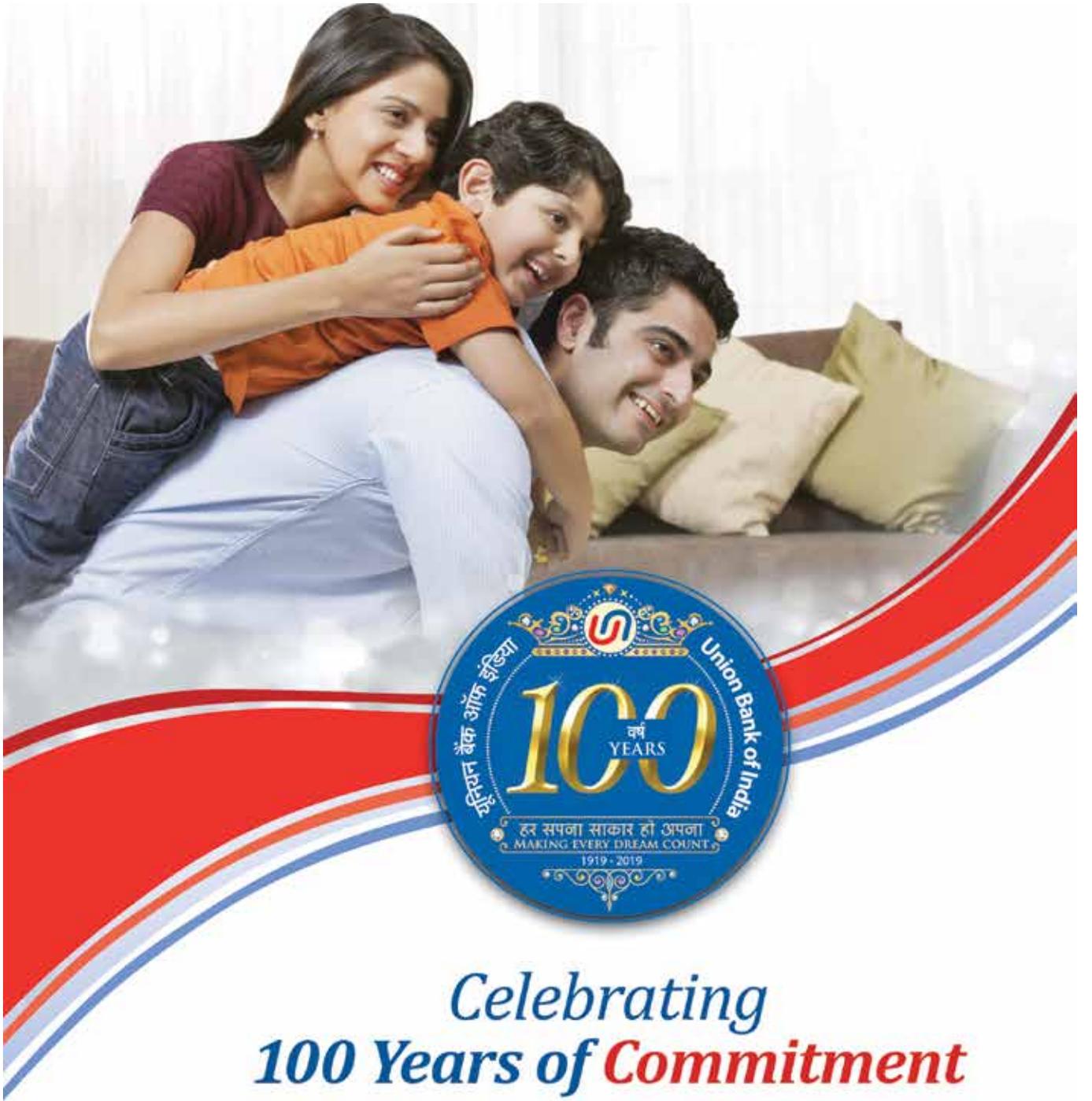
Her networking was superb. She loved everyone and everybody loved her. She kept in touch with all and was the first to wish her friends and loved ones on their birthday and anniversary. People from across the globe would definitely drop in to meet her if they came to Chennai and she would make their favourite dishes for tea or lunch. Inviting people over and feeding them was her passion and she knew what each one liked. She was one of the founder members of the Pool lunch group which still continues. Housie was a game she loved and would normally win at too.

Her talents included tatting and embroidery especially Kutch work and Kanta work. She was extremely fun loving. She took part in plays and in competitions - fancy dress, cookery, walking the ramp etc. She was enthusiastic about everything whether it was dancing at the grandchildren's weddings, watching cricket when Team India participated or playing 'Pagade' for hours on end. She egged others also to have fun. She loved travelling and was proud that she had been to Las Vegas and seen all the shows there. Her trip to Coutralam with family was one she enjoyed & that to Kashmir was her long time wish come true. "Gammatii kelle" was her favourite phrase. Her visit to Australia and to Dubai to meet the 9 great grandchildren, was something she could not stop talking about.

To sum up, she was religious, respected and loved by all, talented, involved, enthusiastic and fun loving. Every smile, every loving word, every kind action is a reflection of the beauty of her soul.

We, her children, Prasad Gulwadi, Purnima Rao, Prathima Khambadkone & Preetham Chandavarkar are proud of her & hope to carry her legacy forward.

Dr. Purnima Rao



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BIRTH CENTENARY REMEMBRANCE

Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
Still loved, still missed and very dear.



**Mr. Anandrao (Ananth) Amruthrao
Kallianpur Kallianpur**

Born – 25th October 1919

Attained Sadgati - 12th March 1997



Mrs. Premalata Anandrao Kallianpur

Born – 19th July 1929

Attained Sadgati – 11th May 1999

In memory of my Papa Who would have completed 100 years this year

Late Chitra / Ravikiran
Mangalore

Chaitanya / Anjali
Kallianpur

Sheela / Sanjay
Sawant

Grand Children

Anoop / Suman

Ameet / Aditi Esha

Siddharth / Sushreeta

Great Grand Children

Tejas

Anika, Aashay

Myra

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Heaven on Earth

BY MUKTABAI CHANDAVER

If sky is the limit, as they say, then Love has unlimited capacity. I have been fortunate in life to have received this from family, relatives, friends and neighbours transcending all boundaries of place, age and time. On my last birthday (93rd to be precise), I had an overwhelming experience of love with loving letters, warm greetings and affectionate sentiments pouring in from various quarters – friends, relatives, neighbours and others. Everyone from my Sadguru Bhajan Mandal and Sai Bhajan group also showered love on me. It was an amazing experience and a wonderful feeling.

The most special gift came in the form of a warm and affectionate letter from one of my friends (who is 2 years my senior) from the USA, where she had migrated decades ago to live with her son. The letter also contained a beautiful greeting card called "Thinking of you". The letter was an instant trip down memory lane. In the most loving manner, she reminisced about our years together, when we used to stay in the same building at Matunga; about how we spent the hot summer nights, on the terrace of our building, cheerfully, even in the absence of fans or refrigerators; how we womenfolk got together and made papads, vadiyo, etc. And yes, how we watched our children go to school together, enjoyed helping them participate in the various programmes

in the society, and watching them grow. Today, most of them are grandparents.

It is so true. It is not just the number of years spent together that made it a great experience but it is the love, the spirit and the warmth in relationship and friendship that brought us all together and kept us cheerful and happy in the days when many modern amenities, that are present now, were not available. I was overwhelmed by all the fond memories that my dear friend's letter had brought with it. So much time has flown since then. I am called *Aai* by my grandchildren. One of them calls me '*Hi-Fi Aai*' as I have been using a cell phone and 'Tablet' for some time now. One has to adapt to change, especially change that brings you closer to your loved ones and gives joy. It has been wonderful to chat with my grandchildren who are abroad, on Skype, and best of all, I have been able to see my little great grandson growing up in the U.S. and to witness his endearing antics. Finally, it's the love and affection that they have for me that makes me happy and keeps me going.

To love and be loved is a precious gift from God. It has to be treasured and cherished. Love has no limits and it gives you wings to soar to a higher plane in life and for love, the sky is the limit, which makes our life on earth – a Heaven!

IN LOVING MEMORY....



MOHAN SANJIVRAO HEMADY

8th Oct 1940 - 13th Oct 2018

Fondly remembered by....

Malini Mohan Hemady
Alka & Sanjay Hemady
Alka & Sandeep Dhareshwar
Karan, Rishaan, Flt. Lt. Risheek
All families, relatives & friends....

Awakenings - A Drama

VANITA KUMTA

At the very outset, I wish to make it very clear that in this piece of writing, I am sharing my own views and interpretations, which may differ from the perceptions of others.

'Awakenings' is an interesting movie on Encephalitis and the effects of the drug L Dopa. The movie features Robin Williams and Robert de Niro in an award-winning performance. I saw this movie recently and thought I could share its many salient points. Based on a true life-story, the drama film, nominated for 3 Academy Awards, is a movie based on a memoir by Oliver Sacks in 1973. Directed by Penny Marshall, it portrays Robin Williams as Dr. Malcolm Sayer at Bronx Hospital in 1969, whilst Robert de Niro plays the role of the patient Leonard.

It is about the attempt of Dr. Sayer to treat catatonic patients who survived the worldwide epidemic of Encephalitis lethargica between 1917 & 1928 which claimed 5 million lives owing to causes related to the disease.

Dr. Sayer attends a conference where he finds out that the drug L-Dopa is successful in treating patients suffering from Parkinson's disease. He becomes convinced that the same drug could be used to treat his patients. He does a trial-run with Leonard which delivers the desired result and "awakens" Leonard from his catatonic state.

I particularly liked the devotion of Dr. Sayer to his profession which brings out his deep involvement and concern for the welfare of his patients. It was pretty intriguing to know the patient Leonard harbouring a subtle feeling of concern for the doctor's personal life and the care he had for him deep down in his heart. The movie also shows the patient's effort to be of use by sharing his most disturbing moments of catatonia with the doctor.

What made a deep impression on me were the patient's urging and his imploring the doctor to get his camera to capture those scenes. The patient does so, so as to be of use to the society at large and to aid the medical profession in further study and research in this field. It was interesting to see him recollect flashbacks of his recovery period during his re-affliction and vice-versa. The patients in the ward as they recovered momentarily though from their affliction were also interesting to observe.

The movie also shows how the condition had the potential to relapse. It was very disturbing to see the patients relapse into their affliction. But it was even more disturbing to see how their relatives who just a while ago were so happy, relieved and thankful to the doctor for the sea change in treatment methodology went hammer and tongs at the doctor when their near and dear ones had a relapse.

One particular scene in the movie shows a lady recovering from her bout of illness and is keen to colour her hair. That set me wondering why I am strutting proudly with my mop of grey... err... snowy hair when most women are obsessed by their greying hair and are eager to colour it!

The most touching moment was when the doctor realises he has a life of his own, which he must live and give himself a break from the monotony of his work to delve into a few passionate moments for himself.

Last but not the least 'Awakenings' gives a peep into the complexities of the brain and the difficulties encountered by the medical profession whilst treating and changing the methodology of treatment.

Kiddies' Corner

Rejoice O World Rejoice!

Samvit Mavinkurve, 14 years

Rejoice O World Rejoice!
Rejoice in this unending pain,
Unending fear and unending joy,
Rejoice O World this divine voice,
The cause of drought and rain.
Rejoice O World, in the glory of the Unaging Boy!

Rejoice in the glory of this mischievous Girl,
The origin of this creative, yet monotonous world,
The most perfect dancer and the most perfect mother,
In Her sweet warm hands, let's become babies and curl!
She is all attractive; many towards Her have been hurled.
Rejoice then, O World in the glory of this Divine Mother!

He is the most perfect artist,
The painter of the whole universe,
The most lovable thief.
O World love Him and you shall see the path in the dark mist.
O World get out of your spell, get out of your curse.
Love Him and you will see Him even in a Child's Mischief!

She is the most fierce warrior,
The defeater of all,
Yet it is She who possesses infinite love and mercy,
For her valiant sons; the One who burns the eternal fire,
The cause of evil's fall.
Rejoice then O World, in She who manifests as the Divine Sea!

Rejoice O World, the One without beginning and end,
Rejoice O World, the One free from all bounds,
Rejoice O World, the One towards you, Her hands extend,
Run away from life's monotonous hounds,
Merge with the One and become like the Divine Sun.
Rejoice O World Rejoice!

Working on Cruise ships

PARAG NAGARKATTI

Working on cruise ships is a great way of making money while you travel the world. I have been to more than a hundred port cities from all corners of America and Canada to South America, from Iceland, Greenland, Europe & Russia to ANZ and the Pacific islands. I have been a photographer and videographer on board.

There are many departments one can work in, on the cruise ship.

1- F&B (food and beverage) -This is the biggest in the Hotel department of the ship. From being a chef to a restaurant steward or bartender and wine sommelier, a trained Hotel Management student can easily find a job here. One can also do cruise specific courses now offered by hiring agencies. It's a lot of hard work in this department as the whole cruise experience is focused on food with a five star quality.

2- Housekeeping - Housekeeping is a physically tough job from doing beds, cleaning to carrying the bags during embarkation and disembarkation of the cruise. But the potential to earn good tips from happy guests makes it worthwhile for those in this line.

3- Gift shops sales - Cruise ships have duty free shops like at the airport. Many luxury goods are also sold, along with liquor & cigars, such as jewellery and watches. Indians being natural sales people are preferred in this line. The biggest advantage here is that the shops are closed at ports and one can roam the whole day and see the beautiful places.

4- Spa - This department indulges in relaxation and leisure activities like massage, beauty enhancement, and also health activities like acupuncture and fitness training. A certificate course in any of the specialty activities and a basic experience can help to get a job here.

5- Photographer - Photography on board is fun and an enjoyable experience, and photographers are active from the start of the cruise to the end, right from taking pictures and selling them in the photo gallery. A certificate course and a basic work experience is all it takes to get a photographer's job.

It's quite amazing that I met my Wadi friends at many ports - Kartick Shirur in Miami, Deepak Baindur in Lisbon, Santosh Basrur in Melbourne and Sandeep Naimpally in Auckland. But the best part of ship life was the diversity of people I came across. You get to work with people from all over the world. Not only is the crew so varied, but also the guests sailing come from many parts of the world. As a videographer I got to see many ports, as I had to join a group of excursion on every port. I was a guide assistant come videographer. I have had many wonderful memories of beautiful tours, some of the them are the Military Tattoo in Edinbourough, Iceland, Rome, Norway - Bergen train ride, Quebec and New England, Alaska - Glacier Bay, New Zealand, Tahiti & Bora Bora Pacific islands.

These experiences are only the blessings of our elders. I remember I had expressed my dream of travelling like in the book 'Around the world in 80 days' to Late Savitri Sthalekar

pachi (mentor to many in Wadi). We were on a steamer ride from Gateway of India, and she replied with her blessings and best wishes which she and her husband Late Ganesh Sthalekar (mentor to Dhirubhai Ambani and General Manager in Birla's) always showered on many of us in Wadi.



There are many other specialty jobs also from bridge and engine staff to front desk, security, youth staff, technicians and so on. But the above mentioned five departments always have jobs available for Indians. One must apply through registered cruise line agents. One can apply on these websites for jobs –

www.airbornerecruiting.com / www.cruisecareers.in / www.kamaxi.com / www.induscareers.com

I would love to give guidance to those interested. My email id is www.redcruise.in

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



Sujata Ashok Mavinkurve
(20.02.1956 to 30.08.2014)

Five years have gone since you left us,
You will live in our heart for ever

Fondly remembered by
Ashok (Husband)

Madhura Sachin Nagarmath (Daughter)
Chinmaya Durgadas Kalyanpur (Daughter)
Grand Children

Purva S Nagarmath, Aum, Shree and Ved
Kalyanpur

Smt Shyamala S Bhat, Mavinkurve, Baindur,
Nadkarni, & Savkur families
All relatives and friends

Karwar calling...

NIRMALA DUMBLE

Karwar, a holiday destination? Why Karwar? One may wonder. Well, over the years I had heard about the clean beaches, beach resorts, and sea food. Aren't these reasons good enough to visit Karwar? Surely! But, for some reason I did not end up visiting Karwar.

This year when I decided to go for a short holiday, Karwar seemed to call...

Somehow, everything fell into place. I knew that one of my aunts was also keen to visit Karwar. So, when I approached her, she jumped at the opportunity and my uncle decided to join in too. Added fun! We made hotel bookings, train reservations and sightseeing plans in earnest. I started looking for "things to do" in Karwar. Thanks to a neighbor, my cousin and of course Google-pachhi, and to my train-travel partner's input about Parvati Fish Land (best seafood out of the three seafood restaurants we tried), I was well equipped with the necessary information on Karwar. We did all that and more, thanks to our auto rickshaw driver – Dayanand, who suggested many local attractions. By the way, we happily added him to our 'three-is-company'!

Sunset at Tagore Beach: Clean sand, almost empty beach, clean water and the vastness of the sea ... what else would I need to steal me heart? The waves were playing catch-me-if-you-can with my feet... well, almost. I mean, some waves would submerge my feet and some waves would go around my feet yet, not touching them at all. This was a beautiful experience. I must admit that the sound of the waves did scare me a bit. Yet it was soothing to gaze at the waves dancing away in their own masti. They made interesting wet patterns on the sand at different levels. It was amazing to watch the partly dry sand letting the waves have their own way. While being aware of its identity and importance in the Whole Plan, the sand accepted the waves as a part of Mother Nature's Play.

Rock Garden: Let me tell you about the 'man-made' wonders that I experienced. The Rock Garden displays

amazing cément sculptures of tribal people, fisher folks of Uttar Kannada and their lifestyle, animals. The cement sculptures were so life-like that they



seemed alive! Every display had a placard with its title and a brief explanation. What caught my eye was the crocodile that was created with a tree trunk and variety of stones!

INS Chapal (K94) of the Indian Navy: We visited the Warship on the Rabindranath Tagore Beach. This warship was deployed during the India - Pakistan war of 1971. It helped to cause heavy damage to Pakistani ships near Karachi. The Warship houses a Museum with displays of mannequins dressed-up as captain, sailors, doctors and other Navy personnel and replica of the missiles that were used. A short documentary on the Indian Navel Force is shown. Seeing what our mighty Navy does for our Mother Land, we were left wondering about our contribution to our nation...

Our visit to Baithkol Fishing Port in the evening was very interesting (apart from the smell that accompanies any such port). The fishing vessels were decorated with colorful designs and were 'parked'. The boats seemed happy, satisfied and relaxing after a hard day's work!

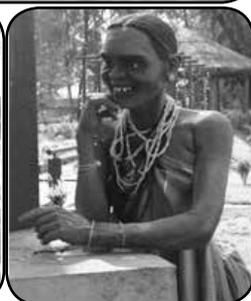
We had a long walk on the sand of Debagh beach, and a stroll in the midst of pine trees (Suru). We had interesting conversations with some busy and some relaxing fisher folks.

We saw manually operated wooden winch at regular intervals. To the amusement of the fisherman, my uncle sportingly helped them in pulling their boats on to the sand.

The scenic beauty of Karwar: Kali River, Majali Beach and Teelmati Beach was a source of inspiration. We viewed the Teelmati beach from a distance and I was quite fascinated by the islands dotting the expanse of the sea. My childhood favorite, Enid Blyton's Secret Island, has always made me want to visit an island. Small enough for me to cover the circumference on foot in one go. We came across 2-3 islands, but, I did not get to know their names. Well, *naam main kya rakha hai?* Because, though viewed from a distance, they looked fantastic - a true gift of Mother Nature.

During our Karwar stay, my aunt and I visited the lively Sunday market in the heart of the town. Leisurely looking at everything on sale from fresh fish to dried fish, vegetables, and fruits- you name it and it was available there. We had to stop and shop for local delicacies!

We did not visit a temple or a church in Karwar. But, I felt the presence of Divinity in various forms everywhere. Although, a very short vacation, it was gratifying to the mind, body and soul...



Atmabodh

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

In the previous few verses, Āchārya Shankarā refers to one having the right vision with respect to his real nature as the one with the eye of wisdom ज्ञान चक्षुः . Such a person is also called a ज्ञानी who has understood the vision of *Vedanta* "I am that *Brahman*, not the limited body-mind-sense complex" by *mahāvakyavichāra*. In *Bhagavad Gītā* Lord Krishna calls such a person by various names; स्थितप्रज्ञ, स्थिरप्रज्ञ, ज्ञानी, भक्तः, धीरः etc. *Vedanta* calls him a जीवन्मुक्तः .

A *Jīvanmuktah* is free from the bondage of *samsāra* here and now, while being alive. A *Jīvanmuktah* escapes the cycles of birth and death and is thus called a विदेहमुक्तः too.

Now *Ātmabodh* wants to describe the *Jīvanmuktah*.

जीवन्मुक्तस्तु तदशक्तविदशक्तवानशक्त पूर्वोपाधिगुणांस्त्यजेतशक्त |

सच्चिदानन्द मरूपद्वादशक्त भवेदशक्त भ्रूमर कीटवतशक्त ||४९||

A knower of *ātma* is free from *samsāra* here and now even as he is living in the present body-mind-sense complex itself. Such a person is called a *vidvān* (विद्वान्) .

Who is a *vidvān*? *Vedanta* says that a *vidvān* (*Jīvanmuktah*) is the knower of *Brahman* (knowing one-self to be that limitless, imperishable *Brahman*). A जीवन्मुक्तः gives up his identification with the *anātmā* body-mind-sense complex. Along with this, his identification as an agent of doer-ship and enjoyer-ship also disappears. He abides in his true nature constantly as that of an ever-existent consciousness-*Brahman*.

An example is given in this regard in our scripture (specifically in *Shrimad Bhāgavatam*). It is said that a worm (कीटः) is picked up by a wasp and kept captive in a cocoon. The wasp also constantly pecks at the worm. It is said that the worm is constantly thinking of the wasp and over a period of time comes out of the cocoon as the wasp itself. This is the well-known *bhramara-kīṭanyāya* (भ्रमर कीट न्यायः) . In the same way, a *mumukshu* constantly meditating over his true nature as *satyam-jñānam-anantham Brahma* becomes (abides in) in that very *Brahman*. *Vedanta* says ब्रह्मविद् ब्रह्मैव भवति; the knower of *Brahman* realizes himself to be none other than that *Brahman*.

Now *Ātmabodh* wants to elaborate upon the phalam (benefit) of this knowledge and how a *jīvanmuktah* actually lives his life.

तीर्त्वा मोहार्णवं हत्वा रागद्वेषदिराषदिराक्षसान् |

योगी शान्तिसमायुक्त आत्मारामो विराजते ||५०||

A very beautiful example is given here about the benefit of this knowledge. *Rāmāyana* is the source of this example. When He loses Sita, Rāma has to cross over the ocean of

his sorrow by a bridge and He destroys demons like *Rāvana* and his clan to unite again with his consort. This is said to have given Rama the ultimate peace of mind. The example is very symbolic. Sītā represents the peace and happiness which is one's own nature. Rāma loses it to the demons which represent the afflictions of the mind like desires, hate... (काम क्रोधादि दुर्वासनानि) . He has to ultimately cross over these afflictions by destroying them and regain the peace and happiness which are His own nature.

Similarly a *mumukshu*, called a *yogi* in this verse, has to cross over the ocean of delusion and sorrow (मोहार्णवम्), using the teaching of *Vedanta* as his bridge (सेतुः) and realize the ever-lasting peace which is his very nature (आत्मारामः) .

How does a *jīvanmuktah* live his life?

A *Jīvanmuktah* continues to have the same body-mind-sense complex, lives in the same set of surroundings and continues to do the same things which he has been doing. In which case what is the transformation that this knowledge has brought about in him? What makes him different from a person who has not realized his true nature? This is what Arjunā asked Lord Krishna in *Bhagavad Gītā* - how does a person with this knowledge transact in this world? How does he speak? How does he sit? How does he move about?" (स्थितप्रज्ञस्य का भाषाः?) The next verse talks about this -

बाह्यानित्यसुखासक्तिं हित्वात्मसुखनिर्वृतः

घटस्थदीपवत्स्वस्थः स्वान्तरेव प्रकाशते ||५१||

A lamp kept in a pot shines by itself within the pot and lights up the pot from within. It will not be lighting up anything outside the pot. Similarly, a *jīvanmuktah* is disinterested in the ephemeral and momentary experiences of happiness and pleasure associated with the world of objects. Though he is surrounded by the world with all its beauty, novelty and utility, he does not go after them. He knows the momentariness of such experiences. He is happy and contented with his own self wherever he is and with whatever is available to him. He is not affected by the polar opposites of life in the form of gain/loss, praise/censure, happiness/unhappiness and so on. He abides ever- fulfilled in himself, leading his life as a mere instrument of *Ishvara*. Lord Krishna describes the attitude of a *jīvanmuktah* in many verses scattered throughout the 18 chapters of the *Bhagavad Gīta*. A *jīvanmuktah* becomes an example to be followed by a *mumukshu*.

(To be continued.....)

“Devu baren koro”...

were the three magic words uttered by Parama Pujya Parijnanashram Swamiji III when He bestowed *mantra-deeksha* upon a fledgling initiate who had no idea of how that Blessing would one day open joyful avenues of *sadhana* and *seva* under the loving Guidance of our present Mathadhipati Parama Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji. Asha Awasthi’s frank and in-depth narrative is sure to inspire many *sadhaka*-s to discover the manifold joys and fulfillment *seva* gifts...

“One need not go in search of a Guru in life – when the time is right, the Guru will find you”....How true! . I had been fortunate to receive mantra-deeksha from our Parama Guru-

Parama Pujya Shrimat Parijnanashram Swamiji III. It was in 1973 at Mumbai where I, a newly married 21-year-old, went to take mantra deeksha from our Parama Guru at Khar Math; not because I was ‘ready’, but because

the elders in the family suggested I should. It was a very formal meeting with no conversation except repetition of the mantra and a very reassuring “Devu baren koro” from Pujya Swamiji in a voice full of love. Unfortunately, after this I only had Darshan of Guru Swami when I went to pay my last respects at Khar Math after His Mahasamadhi.. But the impact of His Presence and those three words stayed with me through the years alongside a dull pain at having missed Sadguru sannidhya.

Having married outside the Bhanap community, I was away from our Math busy tackling the vagaries of a mundane life. Settling down to live alone in Bangalore in the year 2000 after the sudden demise

of my husband, I was depressed with neither a purpose nor a clear direction in life. I was only an occasional visitor to our Math, receiving tirth from Parama Pujya Sadyojat

Shankarashram Swamiji during Their visits to Bangalore and attending the Swadhyaya/Ashirvachana-s.

Raw as I was, I remember my uneasiness for not



Dhannya bhagya seva ka avasara paaya

having carried a notebook and at the same time, unsure of whether taking down notes was ‘allowed’. I remember writing down some words on the papatra of the simple but deep ‘Shiva-Gurustotram’, almost surreptitiously, for fear of forgetting what

seemed like a ‘heavy dose of Vedanta’! But The Guru-Vani had kindled a thirst and I made up my mind to do a systematic study of Vedanta. We were brought up in times when ‘implicit obedience’ to elders was the rule and any kind of questioning was forbidden. As a result, in spite of this ‘firm’ resolve, my conditioned mind took three years to muster up courage even to speak to Pujya Swamiji and seek His Anumati and Guidance !

In 2008, fresh from the divine experience of the Guru Jyoti Pada Yatra, something stirred within and I volunteered for the first time during Pujya Swamiji’s Chaturmas at Bengaluru Math – cutting vegetables to the melodious accompaniment of bhajans, I was humbled - struck by the devoted seva being offered almost round- the -clock by many senior volunteers.

Then, during Swamiji’s visit in June 2009, suddenly out of the blue, Deepak Ugrankarmam called and I must have given him quite a shock by asking who he was ! I was asked to come for a meeting with Pujya Swamiji.



Guiding young minds towards a brighter tomorrow!

~~~~~ Parisevanam ~~~~~

My heart fairly leapt with joy but it was also a bit fearfulalmost like a student getting called by the Headmaster ! Once in the Guru's Presence, however, I was put at ease very soon by Pujya Swamiji who must have known my utter lack of preparedness. The Divine had stepped in to take charge of my life henceforth, though I was blissfully unaware ! In retrospect, it is evident that the Guru had been with me all along, known the vacuum in my heart and at the opportune time, drawn me into His Fold ! In spite of my inexperience combined with a high degree of nervousness I was allotted work related to the project Anandashraya.

Thus began a journey fraught with the usual ups and downs in a totally unknown territory - a journey which was both external and internal and which gradually revealed many lessons beginning with the very meaning of seva. What I thought was social service for helping the Institution actually turned out to be *sevana* for the purification of my own contaminated being !

As the chiselling by the Divine Sculptor progressed, there were many wonderful moments of sudden revelation and some not - so- wonderful as well. There was the joy of learning, making new friends and accepting unforeseen responsibilities.. for most of which I was not really 'qualified' in the technical sense. But then one learns to accept whatever comes from the Guru with a steadily growing conviction that lack of qualification may indeed be the biggest qualification in *Guru-kshetra* ! All one needs is a willingness to learn and faith that whatever comes from the Guru, will get done in spite of me and my not-so-confident mind.

There is a vast range of 'hands- on' learning to get involved with, be it participating as an Office Bearer of the Local Sabha Committee – planning, organising and 'fire-fighting' during Pujya Swamiji's visits, collecting Vantiga, coordinating various activities and initiatives like Anushthana-s, Vimarsha, Ninada, simple yoga or warm-up exercises at different venues of the Math, writing reports, learning the use of diacritical marks, Bhashya Pathan, editing documents and manuals, working on Math publications, doing bhajan seva or putting up cultural programmes, serving food, participating in Shivir-s organised for youngsters, NRIs or Girvanapratishtha and so much more. The opportunities are endless and so is the learning.

My interest in Vedanta pushed me to learn Samskrta – the divine language of our shastra-s. I entered into Aradhana with a lot of hesitation but the enchanting beauty of the language itself proved so inspiring that the homework and tests were all taken in stride joyously! Admittedly, I let it go for a few years after that. But the Guru keeps a vigilant eye on each and every volunteer's progress, creating opportunities and not allowing any stagnation to creep in. Again, it took a nudge from Pujya Swamiji to make me enrol into and not only complete the Sadhana and Dharana levels but continue my journey with Samskrit

by taking on Aradhana students !

In fact, since entering into seva, each day one seems to run against time trying desperately to prioritise and balance personal and seva activities and at the end of the day, falling into bed with healthy fatigue and a wonderful sense of satisfaction and fulfilment. It is difficult to imagine that there was a time earlier when each day used to hang heavy on my hands, or get wasted away in inconsequential worthless activities very often leaving a residue of restless hankering for something better, or more purposeful to do!

However, the journey is certainly no bed of roses ! There was the pain of making mistakes small and grave, getting warnings and being pulled up. Gradually, one realises that corrections made by the Guru in no uncertain terms, are in fact His Protection to save me from my own foolish self ! The Guru is a hard taskmaster but one learns to hang on realising that He is even harder on Himself ! All He wants is to turn you towards the right direction for self-discovery. The choice is yours, of course.

Admittedly, you tread alone on this path but there is no cause for fear at all because, very soon, you realise that the Guru -Shakti has been walking alongside, not only guiding you but protecting you from certain onslaughts of negative prarabdha even before they hit you !

Although this is a journey that each sadhaka takes on alone, the ever- compassionate Guru provides ample company on the way. Fellow sadhaka-s with whom you share your living and working space, throw light on their own as well as your latent strengths and efficiency and also reveal the 'cleverly' concealed weaknesses and deficiencies. One learns to handle all of it in good spirit and thereby, move ahead.

As you progress in seva, team- work and variety become immense opportunities provided by the Guru for one's growth – you gradually discover that all that was considered ordinary once, has suddenly taken on a spiritual flavour. Petty jealousies and criticism give way to immense tolerance and mutual admiration. Competition drains away while supporting each other takes precedence. In the Gurukshetra, you realise, there is room for anyone and everyone. The immense respect that is generated towards the Guru is then not just immature adoration but a firm awareness about His leading you every inch of the way....

Nothing is advocated by the Guru which has not been practised or experienced by Him first, to be then administered to devotees with an overwhelming love, compassion and generosity !This Inspiring Presence is the best inheritance that every Chitrapur Saraswat is born with - a divine opportunity to be led unto Divinity by Divinity Itself !

<<<>>>

“In the Guru-kshetra there is room for anyone and everyone”

Admirable Us Supreme Court and its Salutory Judgements

ARUN R UPPONI

The U.S. Supreme Court is the topmost court of the land and its court building stands in the capital, Washington D.C. marked by two statues representing the two purposes of the securing justice and the enforcement of law.

The U.S. SC's decisions are final except for an appeal to the President for getting Pardon for anybody's conviction in grave criminal offences like murders. This court consists of the Chief Justice and other associate judges appointed by the President, with the consent of the Senate, for an indefinite period. They don't have retirement age as do our SC judges. Judges meet on Saturdays to discuss the cases and after a majority of judges agree on a decision the cases are announced to the public on the following Monday.

A dissenting opinion represents the minority. The published judgments are taken as guidelines for the lower courts. If a majority of voters are displeased with the verdicts, they (voters) can amend the constitution or can pass new laws, through their representatives in legislature.

Original Jurisdiction: SC, receives original Jurisdiction, from the constitution. Here, the cases are not appealed from the lower federal courts or the State Supreme Courts. Cases of ambassador of foreign countries stationed at United States do not come under the purview of American Courts, under the International Law.

The Congress (National Legislative body of U.S.) has given extensive powers to the U.S. SC to solve disputes between two or more states.

Appellate Jurisdiction: Congress has given wide powers to the SC to hear appeals from the highest State Courts or from lower Federal Courts. Appeals are taken, when the validity of the treaty or statute of the U.S. is questioned and also when the validity of the State Law is under dispute on the ground of contravening the constitution, treaties, or the US law.

Remarkable Pronouncements of the U.S. Supreme Court on the Constitutional Amendments: (Ref: International Reporter)

The U.S. SC, deserves to get praise for its judicious and stern verdicts, and playing a vigorous role to keep the constitution in a safe manner if the legislatures exceed their powers in amending the laws, conflicting with constitution. The interpretation of the SC must be accepted as Law.

Giving Validity to Legislature: Constitution makes detailed provisions to the legislatures for making amendments in two specified stages of proposal and ratification on getting an adequate quorum. **The SC said this in the Olmstead Vs United States Case.** The court, further ruled that the amending process is distinct from that of ordinary law making and hence President's signature was not required. The constitution declares that congress should call a special convention and that 2/3rd of the majority voting is needed, in two Houses of Congress, on the request of 2/3rd of the States, for amending the law.

Ekiu Vs U.S.: Chief Justice, Holmes, of the U.S. SC ruled that as a sovereign nation the U.S. must have the power to regulate immigration, including the authority to forbid the entrances of particular foreigners into the country. Hence, the law, passed by the Government, was unbiased in nature.

Negro Suffrage Case: In this case, the SC nullified the 15th amendment and rule that the amendment approved by the legislature, did not give Negros, the Suffrage, and that no person could be convicted for a wrongful act, unless he discriminated against the Negros, because of their race. Here, the amendment, did not give Negros, voting rights. But, it merely said, that they could not be discriminated against due to their race. The SC also earned the pre-eminence in Judicial Preview.

Judicial Review of the U.S. Supreme Court: In the world renowned **Marburg Vs Madson Case**, the great Chief Justice, John Marshall, said that the constitution and the rights of the legislature, to pass the act, may be in collision and hence, it was the duty of the SC, to look into the unconstitutionality, of the legislative acts. So far, the SC invalidated more than hundred laws of the Congress, declaring that they were unconstitutional.

This is the power of the SC, proving that the laws of the states and local assemblies, null & void, for violating the national constitution, undoubtedly, the power of Judicial Review, has acted as a deterrent to the passage of numerous Statutes. Judicial Review has been praised in the U.S.

Further, the two upright and highly famed Justices of the U.S., SC, **Gibson and Blackstone**, ruled in the **Schenck Vs United States Case**, that the Power of the U.S. SC, to declare the State and local laws, contrary to the Federal constitution, was not only indispensable, in order to guarantee the Supremacy of the constitution, but was also to obtain uniformity, in the interpretation of the constitutional law, that brings sameness in all the States.

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Those were the Calcutta Day, sigh... a Pilot's Life!

SUNIL SAVUR

This is the third instalment of my series on "Those were the Calcutta days...".

There's always a time in our growing up period when we wonder "what and where does my father or mother work?" While some mothers would say "Papa (or Annu) *office-sa/kamavasagela*", in my case, Amma would say "Papa *bhurrvasagela*" accompanied by gesturing the palm of her right hand mimicking a plane taking off and flying. As I grew older, the meaning of "*bhurr*" gradually became clearer. Here's an account of Papa's "*bhurr*" career. The anecdotes are a collection of contributions from Amma, my three sisters and from my son Shantanu's interview with his Ajjju.

Gangadhar Rao Savur, our Papa, was born in 1928, grew up in Chickmagalur, was schooled at Ganapati High School, Mangalore and moved to Ruia College, Bombay for tertiary studies. There, he somehow found his first love, flying. He joined the Bombay Flying Club in 1948, in the face of some opposition from his elders. This club was founded in 1928 and Mr JRD Tata was the first to obtain the pilot's licence. Papa got his flying licence in 1950 and was hired by Bharat Airways, a Birla venture to be based in Calcutta. Bharat Airways along with seven other airlines was subsequently nationalised in 1953 to form Indian Airlines.

So, Papa moved to Calcutta in 1950 as a bachelor and soon became a married man in 1952.

Papa's journey from 1950 to his retirement in 1986 is itself a story of aviation in India – from Tiger Moths and Dakotas to Boeing and Airbus, from propellers to turbo-prop to jet engines, from narrow bodied to wide-bodied planes, from a 2-seater plane to a 300-seater plane – he has seen and flown them all!

The journey started with the DC-3 Dakota, a twin engine propeller aircraft, aka the "work horse", flying from Calcutta to eastern and western India destinations. The longest flight was known as the "night air-mail" carrying mail and cargo from Calcutta to Nagpur and after a night halt and refuelling onward to Bombay. With non-existent safety and electronics systems, it was probably a "nightmare" in addition to being a "night air-mail". Most of the DC-3 flights were to the Assam region which was known for unsettling weather especially the pre-monsoon 'nor westers'. Massive cumulonimbus clouds could toss a tiny DC-3 around like a toy. Papa lost a number of his friends to crashes in this area.

The next upgrade in technology were the turbo-prop driven Viscounts and Skymasters that dominated the Indian skies in the late 1950s, followed by the first jet powered narrow bodied 140-seater French plane, the Caravelle in 1964. This pencil-shaped plane was an elegant looking aircraft with twin jet engines on either side of its tail and created the first "roar" in the Indian skies. By this time, Papa was a senior pilot and was called 'Captain' or 'Commander'. Later, he rose to be a check pilot and a deputy operations manager.

Early 1970s saw the introduction of Boeing 737 and Papa was selected for training in Seattle, USA at the Boeing factory

and later for simulator training in Christchurch, New Zealand. A few years later, in 1978, he was again selected for training in Toulouse, France for the one of the first wide-bodied planes the Airbus A-300. On completion of the training, he was asked to fly one of their freshly manufactured A-300 for delivery from Toulouse to Indian Airlines in Bombay. It is difficult to imagine the pressures that Papa would have gone through as a freshly trained A-300 pilot (albeit a highly experienced one). With the introduction of B-737 and A-300, Papa would fly to all the major destinations in India from Calcutta and also, occasionally to Dubai and Singapore.



Papa always made "flying" sound easy to us! But we did get glimpses of the hard work and dedication that was required. I still remember when he would bring home full-scale print-outs of A-300 cockpit instruments and stick them up on bedroom walls. He would then sit on a "pilot's left seat" (a dining room chair!), blindfold himself and would reach out to the correct instrument that one of us called out from a list. The idea was that he should be able work in complete darkness should such emergencies happen. Then there were tons of documents and manuals that he had go through and practically memorise them. Some important manuals would always be in his heavy leather briefcase. Then, there were the six-monthly refresher courses that would test him on hypothetical situations such as bird hits on engines, one engine failure, fire in the cockpit and plane, Instrument Landing Systems, and various meteorological conditions such as storms, lightnings, dust, and near-zero visibility. Not to forget the fitness regime - a medical examination every six months conducted by IAF doctors – everything internal and external from head to toe was checked. Failure meant suspension of flying licence. So, there was strict diet restrictions on rice, potatoes, and fatty foods, and on the days when Papa was at home, he would go for high speed walking around the Maddox Square park in front of our house. That habit of walking continued after retirement in Bangalore walking everyday from Dattaprasad Flats to Sankey Tank and back.

Despite his hectic schedules, Papa ensured we had fun together as a family – excursions, get-togethers, holidays, and picnics – more about this in the next instalment of this series.

Amma was the backbone of the house. She had four kids to look after – schooling, sickness et al – and simultaneously coping with the daily anxiety of the inherently unsafe nature of Papa’s profession. We were shielded from that level of anxiety. She made Papa promise to call her from the airport as soon as he landed back from his flights – a promise that he kept all through his career. Of course, any delay in the phone call would raise anxiety levels considerably.

Some of the things we looked forward to were what Papa would bring back from his flights: oranges from Nagpur, *aapumangoes* from Bombay, pineapples from Agartala, long-grained rice and sweets from Delhi, *Hilsa* fish from Dhaka, Marathi magazines from Bombay for Amma during diwali, among others.

There were many incidents that he recounted to us – especially famous personalities that flew with him. Often he would invite some of them to the cockpit (yes, it was possible then!). Among them were Australian cricket captain Alan Border and team, UB chief Vijay Mallya, Jaya Prada, and others. One incident that I can never forget was when I was ten and flying from Bombay to Calcutta with Papa as Captain. As usual I was sitting in the spare seat in the cockpit, when Papa invited the great singer Hemanta Kumar who was a passenger, into the cockpit. When Hemanta-da realised I was his fan, he asked me of my favourite song sung by him. I said “*bekararkarkehameyunnajaiye*” and to my surprise and delight, he sang it for me!!

Of course, there were other ‘hairy’ incidents that Papa rarely talks about – such as flying troops during the ‘62, ‘65 and ‘71 wars, avoiding two enemy jet fighters over Bangladesh during the ‘72 war, bird hits on engines, landing on water-landed runways, extreme bad weather, among others.

One of the perks of the job was free domestic and international air tickets, but they were always “subject to load” – meaning we would have tickets but could not reserve seats. So, we would all go to the airport, wait until all passengers had checked in, and then get our seats if we were lucky. Many a times, we would come home disappointed especially if all six of us travelled together. But there was always the next day or the day after. Later, when we were older, we could travel singly and getting one seat was never a problem. Of course, a teenage boy like me getting pampered by air-hostesses was always one of the highlights of my travels.

Flying was Papa’s passion and he enjoyed it to the full. Today, when we show him the latest technological advances in aviation in the A-380s and Dreamliners, he muses that things have become much “easier” for today’s pilots – less of hands-on and more about pushing buttons, he says!

Errata – In our September 2019 issue we inadvertently omitted the name of the author Shri Sunil Savur on page 43. We apologise for the lapse

...Editor

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Magic with 370

SANJAY GOKARN

Over the past few days, the number 370 has been perhaps most popular all over India and Pakistan and even several parts of the world and makes regular news headlines on the social media, the print media and even tea time gossips. A lot of hype is created around this number, which is supposed to help us acquire property in Kashmir. Forget all that, here, we shall just play with the properties of this number.

370 is a special number and stands out from most other three digit numbers in the sense that

$$\begin{aligned} 3^3 + 7^3 + 0^3 &= 3*3*3 + 7*7*7 + 0*0*0 \\ &= 27 + 343 + 0 \\ &= 370. (!!!) \end{aligned}$$

Thus the sum of the individual digits raised to the power of 3 (number of digits in the number) exactly equals the number itself. Such numbers, where the sum of the individual digits (3, 7 and 0 here) raised to the power of the number of digits in the number (3 here) are known as the Armstrong numbers. There are very few which qualify to be Armstrong numbers. In fact there are only three other Armstrong numbers with three or less digits, 1,153, 370, 371 and 407. We have already tested the number 370 and found that it is indeed an Armstrong number. We shall check if the remaining numbers are also Armstrong numbers:

$$\begin{aligned} 1^3 + 5^3 + 3^3 &= 1 + 125 + 27 = 153 \\ 3^3 + 7^3 + 1^3 &= 27 + 343 + 1 = 371 \\ 4^3 + 0^3 + 7^3 &= 64 + 0 + 343 = 407 \end{aligned}$$

You are free to test the other three digit numbers (100 to 999) and check if they qualify to be Armstrong numbers. This is a good exercise for those who are learning computer languages to practice their skills. I have also read somewhere that such exercises are considered to be like a prophylactic to keep away several brain related problems.

In the case of a single digit number, any digit raised to the power of 1 is always the same digit and hence all the single digit numbers (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9) are Armstrong numbers. We do not have any two digit numbers (10 ... 99) to compare the sum of the squares of the digits to the number itself. We have already discussed the three digit numbers.

Only 3 four digit numbers, 1634, 8208 and 9474 qualify to be Armstrong numbers. Here you have to determine the sum of the fourth power of the individual digits. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} 1^4 + 6^4 + 3^4 + 4^4 &= 1 + 1296 + 81 + 256 \\ &= 1634. \end{aligned}$$

On similar lines one can find the Armstrong numbers with 5 or even more digits.

We have come across the "magic squares", essentially a 3X3 or 4X4 matrix of numbers with the different rows, columns and diagonals adding up to a common value. But have you tried to create your own magic square? Perhaps not. Here we shall discuss one way of creating our own magic square; the most perfect one. Why this superlative? It has

been formulated by none other than Srinivasa Ramanujan. So what? To know this read further.

One such magic square is shown in the 1st Figure

22	12	18	87
88	17	09	25
10	24	89	16
19	86	23	11

Birthdate of Ramanujan
22-12-1887

15	08	19	47
48	18	05	18
06	17	49	17
20	46	16	07

Indian Independence
15-08-1947

15	08	19	47
48	18	05	18
06	17	49	17
20	46	16	07

15	08	19	47
48	18	05	18
06	17	49	17
20	46	16	07

A	B	C	D
D+1	C-1	B-3	A+3
B-2	A+2	D+2	C-2
C+1	D-1	A+1	B-1

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बोर्डिंग पास

लता कर्नाड राव

“अमेरिका एक गॉमटो देश, जन्मांतू एक फंता पुणी थई वचका आनी एन्जॉय कोरनू येक्काफ्र अशशी कितलकी मैत्रिण्यांनी थई वचनू यानापुडे म्हळलेले. आमगळो पूत चेतन २० वर्सधोर्नू थई आस्स, जाल्यारी मगलं बामणाने, रमेशाने, बीझनेसांथाव्नु रिटायर जात म्हणसरी आम्का थई वचूक जायनी. आम्मी २००८ तू पयलें फंता अमेरिका वचगली. चेतनाने सांगिल्लें म्हणके आम्मी सकड तयारी कोर्नू सिंगापूर एक, मागिरी सिंगापूरथाव्नु सॅनफ्रान्सीस्को दुसरें, अशी सिंगापूर एअरलायन्सची तिकीट बुक केल्ली. आमगळें चें प्लाइंट राती ११.३० घंटेरी सुटलें आनी ४ तासाभीतरी सिंगापूर पावलें. आम्का मदराती ३ घंटे जाल्यारी सिंगापूरतू सकाळी ६ घंटे जालेलें. आमगळें मुखावैलें प्रवासाच्यें विमान ११ तासांनी आशिल्लिमिती चिकें आराम करूक सिंगापूर एअर पोर्टांतुलें “ट्रान्झीट हॉटेल” चें एक कूड बुक केल्लें. न्हावनू, जॅवण, आरामू कोर्नू आम्मी रूम सोणू दिलें, आनी जगांतुलें आशिल्लें हॉटेल आनी गॉमटो एअर पोर्ट पळोया म्हणू भायर सरली ह्या एअरपोर्टारी सकड धर्माचें, सकड वंशाचें प्रवासी पळोचक मॅळें. दुकानांतू विविध प्रकारची दिव्या रोषणाई दिसताली, मदेमदेतू कानारी हळ्वार संगीत येत आशिल्लें, थोडेकडे निवेदन, तांगली जाहिरात एकू याताली. वातानुकूलित, फुटची, सगळें सुखसोईनी सुसज्ज आशिल्लें त्या एअरपोर्टाचें आम्मी भरपूर फोटो काळ्ळे. आम्का टर्मिनल २ री थाव्नु टर्मिनल ३री वचें आशिल्लें, त्याखतीर आम्मी “स्कायट्रेनफ्र घेतलें. हें एक सान ऑटोमेटिक ट्रेन, T1, T2 आनी T3 री प्रवाश्यांक हाडीव्हरी करूक मात्र दवरलें. प्रवेशद्वारालागी वचें भीतरी ट्रेनाचें बागील उदारी जाता, तगू देवंतल्यानी वगी वगी देवंका आनी चडतल्यानी सटसटी चोणू भीतर वचका, कलेंई तिकीट घेंवका म्हणू ना! ट्रेन सुरू जाता. आम्मी ५ मिनिटाभीतरी T3 री येवू पावलीं.

आमगळें चेक-इन जायनाफुडे आम्मी एका दीग हॉलांतू वचगली, थई सॅनफ्रान्सीस्को वचें विमानाखातीर पुरा प्रवासी बशीलें. आश्चर्य म्हळ्यारी मगली एकळी कॉलेजांतुली मैत्रिणी प्राची, तिगलें बाम्मणावडू बशिली पळोनू माक्का भो खुशी जाल्ली. तिने तिगलें बाम्मणालो गुर्तु कोरनू दिल्लो. कितलकी वरसांच्यो खबऱ्यो उलोच्यांतू वेळू कशशी गेलो कळनी. आम्का आनीकई चड खुशी जाल्ली ती आमगळें चारीजणागळें सीटनंबरस वडू लागी आसती हें कळनापुडे! पयलें दोन नंबरस मगलें आनी रमेशागळें, आनी मुखावैले दोन नंबरस प्राची आनी अरविंदागळें. थोडे वेळाभीतरी माईकारी सांगलें की डीस्पले बोर्डारी ऑर्डर यातलें त्याप्रकारे प्रवाश्यांनी विमानांतू येवनू बसका म्होणू. सुरवेक फर्स्टक्लास आनी बीझनेस क्लासाचें नंबरस जायनापुडे इकॉनोमी क्लासाचे नंबर सुरू जाल्ले आनी आम्मी चारीजणई रांगेतू वचून उब्रली. मगलें बाम्मणू आनी हांव पासपोर्ट, वीसा, तिकीट ई. दाकोवनू भीतरी वचूगली, आमगळें सीटारी स्थानापन्न जाल्ली. आमगळें माक्षीची राबिल्ली आमगली फ्रेंडस येतली म्हणू वाट पळयत आशीली. विमानांतू एकेक म्हणू सकड प्रवासी येवनू बसलें, जाल्यारी प्राची नि अरविंद ना. वेळ जात जाता तीं दोग जण मात्र इत्या येनीती म्हणू आम्कां दोगांकई काळजी दिसू लागली. हांव दोन फंता entrance लागी वचून पळयलें, एअर होस्टेसाकई सांगलें की आमगली फ्रेंडस आनीकई भीतरी येनीती म्होणू ती माक्का म्हणाली,

“तू बैस, हांव पोळोवनु याता.फ्र हांव आनी रमेशू तांगलें विषयातूची विचार करत आशिली, कसलें जालें बा तांका, इत्याक येनीती! ह्या काळजांतू ३५/४० मिनिटं जावू गेल्ली, विमान सुटचें तयारींतू आशिल्लें, मगलें दोंळें सतत प्रवेशद्वारारी (entrance) आशिल्लें. मदेतू एअरहोस्टेस राबिल्ली, सटने कोणकी भीतरी आयलें म्हणके दिसलें. हांवे निलकून निलकून पळयतना मस्त दणूलेली प्राची, अरविंद भीतरी आईली दिसली. हांव खुशालेने एकदम उटावनु राबली, तांका वेवकळें आनी घट्टी आपलें, “प्राची, प्राची, हांगा...हांगा येय्याती.” एअर होस्टेसाने बॅस दवरूक तांका मदत केली आनी तांका बैसूक सांगलें. दोगईजण हुमेलेली, दणूलेली आनी धापेत आशिल्लीं. आम्मी तांका बैसूक सांगलें, पीवचाक उदाक दिलें, चिकें आराम कराती म्हणू सांगलें. थोडें वेळाने प्राचीने कसलें जालें म्हणू सांगूक सुरू केलें- “आम्मी सकड एक रांगेतू राबिली नवे, तुम्मी मुखारी वचगली, मागीरी आम्मी त्या ऑफीसराक पासपोर्ट, वीसा, तिकीट सकड दाकयलें. तों अरविंदाक म्हणालो, “Where is your boarding pass Sir?” “Bording pass? We don't have.” अरविंद म्हणालो, “Sir you have to bring your boarding pass, without it, you can't get in.” तें आयकून आम्का शॉक जाल्लें आमी ताक्का निमगलें” खंई मॅळता हें बोर्डिंग पास?” तो म्हणालो कस्टम्स चेक कौंटरारी निमगियाती. आम्मी आमगली केबिन बॅम्स घेवू अक्षरशः धांवली. थई आशिली लेडी ऑफीसर एक प्रवाश्याक कलकी सांगत आशिली. तिने आम्कां घुवूसुद्धा पळयनी. गडबडी आशिल्लेमिती आम्ही निमगीलें “Madam, pl. madam, we want boarding pass.” तिक्का चिकें कोपू आयलें, जाल्यारी तिने आमगली तिकीट/पासपोर्ट पळयलें आनी थई थावू तिसरें कौंटर वचूक सांगलें. आमी वापस त्या कौंटरालागी धांवली. तें कौंटर पळोनू घेतली एकी गुबीणी! ती तिगलें मोबाइलारी आनेक दिकाने तोंड घुंवडानू उल्लयत आशिली. ती संभाषणातू इतली मग्न आशिली की तिने आम्का पळयनीची. आम्का भो बॅजारू जालो, खंडीत आमगळें विमान आम्कां सोणू वता म्हणू लॅकलें. आमी वापस वापस तिक्का विनवण्या कॅल्यां, “मॅडम, प्लीज मॅडम, आम्का बोर्डिंग पास चीके वगी दित्ता वें, न्हंयि जात्यारी आमगळें फ्लाइंट वतलें, कृपा कोर्नू चिके वगी जायशिल्लें!” हगूर घुवू तिकीट, पासपोर्ट तिने घेतलें, कम्प्युटरारी कलकी टाईप केलें आनी आम्का बोर्डिंग पास दिलें. आम्ही भर्कनू ताण घेतलें नि Entrance gate दिक्काने धांवच्याक सुरू केलें. थई कस्टम ऑफीसराक विनवण्या कोर्नूई तांने आम्का सोणणी, वापस त्या हॉडू रांगेतू राबूक सांगलें. आमी भीवू गेलीं, टेन्शनाने हूम येवचाक लागली, विमान खंडीत miss जाता म्हणू लॅकलें. चेकींग जायनापुडे आमी वाघू माक्षी लागीलें म्हणकें फ्लाइंट एन्ट्रासालागी धांवली. अरविंद मज्याकई मस्त माक्षी आशिलो, जालें तितलें वगी धांवच्याक तों पळयत आशिल्लो. हांवे माइकारी आयकलें “Passenger gate will be closed within 2 minites.” फुल्ले स्पीडारी थावू हांव एन्ट्रसारी पावलीं. थई सेक्युरिटी ऑफीसराक सांगलें की मगलें बाम्मणू माक्षी धांवत यात आस्स. हांव मुखारी वचून विमानाच्या बागलालागी राबिलें एअरहोस्टेसाक मगलें

तिकीट, पासपोर्ट, बोर्डिंग पास दाकयलँ आनी तिक्का मगलो बाम्मूण माक्षी यात आस्स, कृपा कोर्नु चिकं वेट कोर्या म्हणू सांगलँ. धूरथाळू मगलॉ बाम्मूण धांवत यात आशिलॉ दिसलॉ. हांव म्हळं- “तॉ पळं मगलॉ बाम्मूण धांवत यात आस्स.” एक मिनिटाभीतरी तॉ येवू पावलॉ. आम्मी भीतरी रीगली आनी विमानाचं बागील बंद जालं. दैवा

परमेश्वरा, तुंवेची आम्का वांचवलँ आजी!” प्राचीने एकू दीर्घ श्वास घेतलॉ आनी वापस एक पॅलॉभोर्नु उद्दाक पिल्ली. अरविंद हासतचि खुशाल करत म्हणालॉ- “अशशी आशिली आमगली बोर्डिंग पासाची काणी, जन्मभरी उगडासू वर्तली.

क्षण एक पुरे रेखा राव

आयुष्य हे अनेक क्षणांनी भरलेले असते आणि कणाकणाने पुढे जात असते. माणसाच्या आयुष्याच्या प्रवासात असे अनेक क्षण येतात की त्यामुळे तो कधी आनंदाने भारावून जातो तर कधी दुःखाने, निराशेने खचून जातो. तरीही त्यातून मार्ग काढीत त्याला पुढे जावेच लागते. कारण माणसाला एकदाच जन्म मिळतो. ह्या आयुष्याच्या प्रवासात असंख्य खाचखळगे येणारच, परंतु ते धैर्याने पार करीत आयुष्याचा मनमुराद आनंद घेणं यातच माणसाचं सार्थक आहे. ते साध्य करायला त्याने शिकले पाहिजे.

माणसाच्या बालपणातील प्रत्येक क्षण इतके निरागस व गोड असतात की ते क्षण कधी संपून जातात याचा पत्ताच लागत नाही. तारुण्यातील क्षणाचं तर सांगूच नका. प्रत्येक क्षण आनंद, उत्साह जोशाने भरलेला असतो, तर कधी निराशा, उदासिनतेनं या अवस्थेत इच्छा, आकांक्षा, महत्वाकांक्षा उफाळून वर आलेल्या असतात. प्रेम, राग, लोभ मत्सर, मोह असे अनेक क्षण दाटून येतात. त्या क्षणाचे भान विसरून कधी चुकाही होतात. मग मन निराशेनं, उदासिनतेनं भरून जातं. मनाची अगदी द्विधा अवस्था होते. अशावेळी स्वतःला सावरून त्यातून मार्ग काढावा लागतो. काहींना समुपदेशक, मानसिक तज्ज्ञ यांचा आधार घ्यावा लागतो. घरातील प्रेमळ माणसांची सोबत, आधार लागतो. नाहीतर तो पूर्णपणे खचून जाऊन कधी व्यसनाच्या अधीन तर कधी आत्महत्येच्या मार्गाकडे वळतो. त्या अवस्थेत प्रत्येकाने डोळसपणे पाहत विचारपूर्वक वागायला हवे. तज्ज्ञांची मदत घ्यायला हवी.

कारण,

Some people are hurt by words
Some by action and some by silence
But the biggest hurt is that some
one ignoring us when we value
Them a lot.

वृद्धावस्थेतील क्षणांविषयी काय सांगू? त्या अवस्थेत संध्या-छाया भिववीत असतात. मन खूप हळवं झालेलं असतं. प्रेमासाठी मन भुकेलेलं असतं. अशावेळी प्रेमाचा एक शब्द जरी कानावर पडला तरी डोळे भरून येतात. कुणी मायेनं, आपुलकीने चौकशी केली तरी गहिवरून येतं. कुणी दुर्लक्ष केलं तर मन घायाळ होतं. कधी कुणाचे कठोर शब्द काळजाला घरे पाडतात. तर एखाद्या क्षणी कुणाच्या भूल-थापांना, गोड बोलण्याला फशी पडून सर्वस्व गमवावं लागतं. पैसा, अडका, संपत्ती, इस्टेट हातातून निसटून जाते. त्यावेळी मन इतकं तरल असतं की कोणतेही आघात

पचवणं कठीण जातं. अशावेळी आपल्या माणसाचं, प्रेमाचं भरभक्कम कवच असेल तर त्यातून तो स्वतःला सावरू शकतो. म्हणून एका कवीनं म्हटलंय,

“क्षण एक पुरे प्रेमाचा

वर्षाव पडो मरणाचा।।” वर्षाव पडो मरणाचा।।”

माणसाच्या ह्या तीनही अवस्थेत सण, समारंभ, उत्सव हे महत्वाचे काम करतात. या निमित्ताने मिळालेले प्रेमाचे, आनंदाचे क्षण सर्वांनी एकत्र घालविले पाहिजेत. दुःख, निराशा, वैर, धर्म, जात-पात सर्व विसरून ह्या सण-समारंभात सामील व्हायला पाहिजे. कारण ते क्षणच माणसाला जगण्याचे, आनंदाचे, आशेचे सामर्थ्य देतात. ते क्षण कायम स्मरणात राहतात.

ह्या दिवाळी सणाच्या निमित्ताने अंधःकाराचे दीप मालवून आनंदाचे दीप पेटवू या आणि आनंदाने उत्साहाने दिवाळी साजरी करूया. “शुभ दीपावली।।”

आळशी मल्ला

राकुड हाडरे पुता

कोइतो लाग्गद हात्ता

उद्दाक हाडरे पुता

बाइन्तु पडतां भित्तां

उज्जो जळइ पुता

हातपाय भाज्जुन वत्ता

जेवणा योरे पुता

धांत्त हांव येत्ता

होड वाट्टे आम्मा

होड वाट्टे आम्मा

मंगळूर गोपाळकृष्ण भट

Errata – In our September 2019 issue the name of the author of the sanskrit article was printed as Rekha Balwally. It should be Geeta Amlady.Editor

कुकुडुची धनत्रयोदशी

प्रिया प्रभाकर बडुकुळी

माळगावचा परिसर आज आनंदाने भरून गेला होता. धनत्रयोदशीच्या मुहूर्तावर अण्णासाहेबांनी आपली पत्नी चारुलताबाईंच्या स्मरणार्थ बांधलेल्या कॉलेजचा उद्घाटन-समारंभ आयोजित केला होता. सकाळपासून गावकरी कॉलेजच्या आवारात उभारलेल्या शमियान्यात येऊन सर्वतोपरी मदत करीत होते. फुलांच्या माळा तसेच रंगबिरंगी पताकांनी सारा परिसर सुशोभीत केला होता. अतिथी तसेच गावकऱ्यांची भोजनाची जय्यत तयारी केली होती.

शैक्षणिक विभागाच्या विविध क्षेत्रातील तज्ज्ञांना कॉलेजमध्ये प्राध्यापकपदी नेमले होते. त्या सर्व मान्यवरांना ह्या समारंभात आमंत्रित केले होते. तसेच कोणा एका मंत्री-महोदयास प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून आमंत्रित केले होते.

हातात आरतीचे तबक घेऊन गावातील बायका स्वागत-समारंभासाठी प्रमुख पाहुण्यांची वाट पाहत ताटकळत उभ्या होत्या. इतक्यात प्रवेशद्वारावर उभ्या त्या सर्वांस, “नवीन पोपट हा लागला विटू विटू बोलायला” ह्या गाण्याची रेकॉर्ड वाजवत काही टारगट मुले नाचत एका रंगबिरंगी फुगे व रिबीनींनी सजवलेल्या गाडीसह प्रवेशद्वाराच्या दिशेने येत असल्याचे दिसले. सर्वजण चकीत होऊन त्यास पाहत उभे राहिले. अण्णासाहेबांना वाटले की, कोणा नव्या चित्रपटाची जाहिरात करण्यासाठी तो घोळका आला असावा, परंतु क्षणभरात ती गाडी प्रवेशद्वाराशी उभी राहिली. गाडीचा दरवाजा उघडून एक व्यक्ती खाली उतरली. डोळ्यांवर गॉगल, डोक्यावर टोपी, सफेद सदरा व पायजमा आणि रंगीबेरंगी जाकिट!! भरीस भर म्हणून गळ्यात सोन्याची जाडसर साखळी!! गाडीतून खाली उतरून ती व्यक्ती सरळ स्वागत समारंभास उभ्या त्या बायकांच्या घोळक्यात शिरली. एका बाईच्या हातातून आरतीचे तबक हिसकावून घेत त्या माणसाने आपल्या जाकिटच्या खिशातून लायटर काढून तबकातील दिवा लावला. प्रमुख पाहुण्यांच्या त्या विक्षिप्त वागण्याचा उपस्थित बायका तसेच अण्णासाहेब व गावकऱ्यांस मोठा धक्का बसला, परंतु गप्प राहण्याशिवाय त्यांच्याकडे दुसरा पर्याय नव्हता.

तबकातील निरांजनाने आपल्या गाडीस ओवाळून प्रमुख पाहुण्यांनी गाडी समोर एक नारळ वाढवला. लगेच एका टारगट मुलाने गाडीच्या पुढ्यात फटाकडे फोडले. सारा प्रकार घडत असताना पाहुण्यांचा स्वागत समारंभ राहिला पाहुण्यांकडे! क्षणभर आपण कॉलेजच्या उद्घाटन समारंभात उभे आहोत का कुठे? असा सर्वसामान्यांच्या मनात विचार चाळवला.

एकंदरीत फटाकड्यांचा आवाज थांबताच अण्णासाहेब प्रमुख पाहुणे मंत्री-महोदयांच्या दिशेने सरसावले. तसेच इतर मान्यवरांसह त्यांनी रंगमंच गाठला. मध्यभागी मंचावर मांडलेल्या सिंहासनावर आसनस्थ होत रंगमंचावरून प्रमुख पाहुण्यांनी सर्वास नमस्कार केला. लगेच सर्वांनी टाळ्या वाजवून त्यांचे स्वागत केले. एका मागोमाग एक अशी सर्व मान्यवरांची भाषणे झाली. शेवटी अण्णासाहेबांनी प्रमुख पाहुण्यांस शैक्षणिक क्षेत्रातील त्यांच्या गाढ्या अनुभवांविषयी अनुमोदनपर चार शब्द बोलण्यास आग्रह करताच ते उभे राहिले. रंगमंचावरून एकवार तुच्छतेने त्या गरीब गावकऱ्यांकडे पाहत आपल्या गालात ठेवलेली तंबाखूची गोळी त्यांनी इतक्या दिमाखात थुंकून फेकली की, प्रेक्षकवर्गात पहिल्या रांगेत बसलेल्या कोण्या एका आर्जीच्या तोंडावर

जाऊन बसली. मंत्री-महोदयांच्या थुंकीमिश्रित माव्याच्या घाणेरड्या वासामुळे संतापलेल्या आर्जींनी आपल्या पायातील वहाण त्या मंत्री-महोदयांच्या दिशेने रंगमंचावर भिरकावली. आसपास बसलेल्या प्रेक्षकांस तसेच रंगमंचावर मान्यवरांस काय घडले हे कळण्याआधीच त्या आर्जी उठल्या आणि रंगमंचावर भाषण करण्यास सज्ज मंत्री-महोदयांस म्हणाल्या, “अव मंत्री-महोदय, तुम्ही विद्यार्थ्यांस शिक्षणाचं महत्त्व समजून सांगायला आलात की तरुण-बांड पोराना गुटखा व त्याचं आपल्या जीवनातलं महत्त्व पटवायला आलात? नसता धुमाकूळ मांडलाय इथं तुम्ही.”

आर्जीचे शब्द ऐकून बघ्यांसमोर झालेला अपमान सहन न होता मंत्री-महोदय रंगमंचावर चाचफडू लागले. त्यांना नेमके काय करावे सुचेना. त्यांची दयनीय स्थिती बघून आर्जी म्हणाली - “ए पोराना, जे जाले ते जाले. त्याबद्दल आपण एकमेकांची क्षमा मागू-माफ करू, पण एका अटीवर!

त्यावर मंत्री महोदय बोलले- “अट मंजूर.” तेव्हा म्हातारी म्हणाली, “मी काही प्रश्न विचारिन. मला त्याची उत्तरे द्यावीत तुम्ही.” त्यावर मंत्री-महोदयांनी होकार दिला. म्हातारी व मंत्री-महोदयांमध्ये प्रश्नोत्तरांची जुगलबंदी सुरू झाली. म्हातारी : शाळा कुठली तुजी?

मंत्रीमहोदय : माळगाव प्राथमिक शाळा.

म्हातारी : शिक्षण किती?

मंत्रीमहोदय : सातवी नापास (प्रेक्षक वर्गात पिकला हशा)

म्हातारी : मग उच्च शिक्षणाविषयी काय सांगणार विद्यार्थ्यांना तू?

मंत्री-महोदय : बरेच काही.

म्हातारी : कसे?

मंत्री-महोदय : आज धनत्रयोदशी. पाहिलात ना कस जक्कास बार उडवला तेव्हा. (लोकांकडे मिश्रिकलपणे हसत) कशी वाटली माजी शावलेट गाडी? नवी कोरी बरं का! वाटलं आजच तिचं उद्घाटन करावं कालेजच्या उद्घाटन-समारंभातच. (जरा थांबून) पहा माझ्याकडे धनत्रयोदशीला धन कसं खणाणत. नाहीतर तुम्ही कालेजच्या उद्घाटनाची नुसती वाटच पाहत इथं उभं राहायचं. म्हणूनच शिक्षित होऊन तुम्हासारखं राहण्यापेक्षा मंत्री बनून शावलेट हाकलण जास्त फायद्याचं नाय का मंडळी?

मंत्री-महोदयांचं शैक्षणिक अनुभवांविषयी मत मांडून संपतं-ना-संपतं प्रेक्षकवर्गात एकच एक गदारोळ झाला. कोणी एकजण धावत रंगमंचावर आला. त्या इसमाने मंत्री-महोदयांच्या जाकिटास पकडून त्यास रंगमंचावरून खाली उतरविले व प्रेक्षकवर्गात उभ्या त्या म्हातारीचा हात पकडून मायलेकांची भेट घडवून आणली. कारण तो इसम दुसरा कोणही नसून मंत्री-महोदयांच्या ऊर्फ कुकुडुच्या वर्गातील शालेय जीवनातील सहपाठी होता. ज्याने सातवी नापास होताच घर सोडून निघून गेलेल्या आपल्या मित्राच्या म्हणजेच कुकुडुच्या आईची कळकळ प्रत्यक्ष आपल्या डोळ्यांनी बघितली होती.

क्षणभर कुकुडुला शरमेलेसे वाटले. ती मायमात्र आपल्या पुत्रभेटीच्या आनंदात स्वतः डुंबून गेली.

परदेशात जायचंय पोटासाठी
नवऱ्याला फर्मान आलं बदलीसाठी
मग काय! बांधलं गाठोडं
जरी तुटत होतं आतडं.

मन व्याकुळ जाहलं, जरी तेथील सुखं वर्णिते सारे
सोडुनिया जीवलां इतकं दूर जावं का बरे?
हो, पण अग्नीसाक्षीने सात फेरे ज्याच्यासंगे घेतले
त्याच्यासोबत सातासमुद्रापार जाणे सहज जाहले

विचार सगळे टाकून मागे
ठरवलं 'अब सिर्फ बढना है आगे'.

पाऊल टाकलं परदेशात...

टापटीप होती चहूकडे
ना गर्दी ना धक्काबुक्की, सामसूमच सगळीकडे
त्या शांततेनेच झाले मी अस्वस्थ
लोकलमधली भांडणे आठवून केलं मनाला स्वस्थ!

जरी घरांत सर्व सुखसोयी हजर
शेजारपाजारी कुणाशीच नाही नजरानजर
हळूहळू बसू लागले माझे बस्तान
निश्चय केला, आता तक्रारींना नाही द्यायचं स्थान

इथल्या ताज्या भाज्या, फळं पाहून मन सुखावलं
आपल्या डाळी, पोहे न दिसल्याने लगेच ते बावरलं
लागलीच नवरदेवाने नेले मला एंशिन दुकानात
भारतीय ब्रॅडस् पाहून, आनंद मावेना गगनात.

पाहताना नवऱ्याचं गालातल्या गालात हसू
काय झालं मी खुणेनेच लागले पुसू
लहान बाळाच्या उत्साहाने म्हणे मी वावरले
काय घेऊ अन् काय नको असेच मला जाहले!

आपली माणसं आठवतील ह्यात नाही नवल
पण भाजीवाला अन् फळवाला आठवले हा झाला ना कहर!
भैया थोडा और मिरची देना, म्हणत फुकटातच घेत असू कडीपत्ता
इथे मात्र त्यासाठी बघा, कशा खातो आम्ही खस्ता!

तीन चार आठवडे येत नाही कडीपत्ता
शोधाय सारे दुकानात घालती धिरट्या
दुकानदाराने केला 'curry leaves' चा व्हाट्सअप्प ग्रुप
कडीपत्ता आला म्हणल्यावर, झुंडीचे अप्रुप
वापरते मी एक एक पान जपून
जसं भारतात वापरतो केशराची पात छटून

चेरी, पीच, स्ट्रोबेरी सर्वच ताजेतवाने
नवरा विचारी कलिंगड का होत नाही घेणे
तू आणलेलं कलिंगड नेहमी निघतं गोडचं
ते निवडून देणाऱ्या भैयाला इथे कसं आणू हे मात्र कोडचं
'लाल हो तोही देना' असा तिथला रवैया
इथे माहीत नाही, वसूल होईल का माझा रुपय्या!

धीर करून आणलं मी कलिंगड
आज कापू की उद्या, ठरवणे झालं अवघड
शेवटी कापलं कलिंगड लेकर 'भैया' का नाम
गोड निघाले कलिंगड, झाले फते माझे काम!

इथे उठायला गजरच लागतो
पहाटे बेल मारायला दुधभैया नसतो
पाववाल्याची ट्रींगट्रींग ऐकाया कान झाले अधीर
इथल्या शांततेत ट्रॅम अन् ट्रेन चेच आवाज देतात धीर.

राहू आपण स्वदेशी किंवा परदेशी
मनाला मात्र ठेवायचं आनंदी, ही खूणगाठ बांधली मनाशी!

- स्मिता बळवळ्ळी

गुरुः अपरिहार्यः

श्रीकला कौशिक

अथैकदा एका गोमतल्लिका (an excellent cow) तृणं चरन्ती चरन्ती चर्यामग्रा वनं प्राविशत्। (चर्या - moving, चरन्ती - while eating) तदा अकस्मात् तां प्रति धावन् व्याघ्रः तया दृष्टः। अकल्पिततया पुरतः आगतं क्षणविघ्नम् अवगम्य सा रोहिणी तत्क्षणं ततः अपासर्पत्। क्षणमात्रात् व्याघ्रः तस्य नखैः तां विदारयिष्येत् इति विचिन्त्य छलान्वितव्याघ्रात् अपसर्पितुं मरणाद्विमोक्तुं च गाधजलयूक्ते (गाध - shallow) पमगुप्तिकासारे तया झंपा कृता (झंपा - jump)। ताम् अनुसरन् व्याघ्रः अपि रभसेन (forcefully) कासारे वलितः (jumped)।

अल्पसमयाभ्यन्तरेव उभौ अवगन्तौ तयोः गलपर्यन्तं पमामितौ आस्ताम्। तयोः शिरौ एव पमस्योपरिष्ठात् जलस्योपरि दृश्यमानौ आस्ताम्। भयमरकष्टावस्थायाः विमोक्तुं यथाशक्ति महत्प्रयत्नं कृतवन्तौ उभौ। परन्तु लाभजनकः नासीत्। तर्हीपि अहंकारेण उन्मत्तः व्याघ्रः धेनुं प्रति भूयो भूयो गर्जनं कुर्वन् अवदत्-

'अहं तव अस्थीनि दन्तैर्निष्पीड्य आनन्दमनुभविष्यामि' इति।

परन्तु व्यर्थतया चेष्टमानं व्याघ्रं दृष्ट्वा हसन्ती सौरभेयी तं व्याघ्रं पृष्टवती- 'हे वनचर, तव गुरुः विद्यमानः अस्ति किम्? गुरोरूपरि श्रद्धा अस्ति किम्?' तदा शार्दूलः अवदत्- 'किमर्था एषा वाणी वदति? न जानासि किम्, अहमेव वनाधिराजः।' तदा धेनुः- 'त्वं वनाधिपतिः असि। परन्तु अस्मिन् समटावस्थातः रक्षणार्थं तव सामर्थ्यं निष्फलम्। तव मरणम् अत्रैव निश्चितमस्ति।' व्याघ्रः प्रत्यावादां कृतवान्। 'अहं वनाधीशः तर्हीपि एतस्मात् कष्टावस्थायाः बहिः आगन्तुं न शक्नोमि। त्वं तु साधारणधेनुः। ततः किं तव?' धेनुः उक्तवती 'मम मरणं न अत्र।' 'कथन्ते?'- व्याघ्रः पृष्टवान्। तदा धेनुः सौम्यतया उक्तवती 'अहं स्वमोचनं कर्तुं न शक्नोमि। परन्तु मम स्वामी शक्नोति। सूर्यास्ते जाते क्षणमात्रे गोशालायां मम अनुपस्थितिं ज्ञात्वा माम् अन्वेष्टुम् आगमिष्यति।

एकदा आगमिष्यति तदा तत्कालं माम् उत्थाप्य गृहं नयति। तथा उक्तमिव घटितम्। सूर्यास्ते जाते अचिरात् तस्याः स्वामी तत्रागत्य तस्याः दुर्गमावस्थामवगम्य तामुत्तरीय गृहं नीतवान्। उभावपि समाधानेन भगवन्तं प्रति कृतज्ञतां दर्शितवन्तौ। तात्पर्यार्थः धेनुः निर्व्याजात्मसमर्पणभावं दर्शयति। व्याघ्रः अहम्भावं, धेनोः

स्वामी गुरुरूपं, व्याघ्रस्य अनुधावनं तु अस्मिन् जगति विद्यमानान् विषयान् प्रकटीकरोति। अस्मिन् जगति बहवः विघ्नाः कष्टाः लिप्ताः भवन्ति। परन्तु गुरुभ्यः पूर्णतः श्रद्धया हृदयं करणीयम्। निश्चयेन यथोचितसमये गुरुः तस्मात् रक्षणं कुर्वन्ति। एतद् तु त्रिवारसत्यम्।

भावगीत

सूर लागले शब्द विसरले
मनात गाणे स्फुरू लागले
नीलाकाश ते दिसू लागले
गगनी तारे हंसू लागले

मंद वारा हर्षित झाला
हळूच येउनी स्पर्शुनी गेला
शुभ्र पांढऱ्या ढगांचा मेळा
तरंगावरी रंगत आला

अद्भूत तीनसांझा संध्या
सजवुनी आभाळात आली
दिनराज स्तब्ध होउनी गेला
सागराने सोहंकारही केला

शब्द विसरले सूर ते उरले
सागर तटी ते काव्य राहिले
मंद पाउली वाट परतली
अंधारात स्वघर गाठीलेस

- चैतन्य नाडकर्णी

सुंदर आयुष्य

एव्हरेस्ट शिखर गाठणे अशक्य असेल...

केदार अवाक्या बाहेर असेल...

तरी आयुष्य सुंदर असेल...

पद्मश्री मिळाली नसेल...

ऑल्लेपीक जिंकले नसेल...

तरी आयुष्य सुंदर असेल...

सोबती सोडून गेले असतील...

घरटे रिकामे ओके झाले असेल...

तरी आयुष्य सुंदर असेल...

मेधांचा गडगडाट होत असेल...

वीजा सर्वत्र लकाकत असतील...

तरी आयुष्य सुंदर असेल...

चौफेर घनघोर अंधार असेल...

एक काजवा अधांतरी उडत असेल...

तरी आयुष्य सुंदर असेल...

आयुष्य सप्त रंगीचं असतं...

रंगात त्या खेळायचं असतं...

आयुष्य अनुभवायचं असतं...

म्हणजेच आयुष्य परिपूर्ण होतं...

-विद्या कागल

Reflections

Ageism

SANJAY S TRASY, ANDHERI WEST

I am told that the happiness curve is U-shaped. But then, one day, I saw this elderly lady on my way to work (during my posting at Bhubaneswar). She was hardly three feet tall because she had a hunch with her head almost touching the ground. She walked around with a stick in her hand. I had shuddered and had felt a deep sense of remorse by looking at such a pitiable condition. I felt she was so unfortunate, given her age.

But now I understand that she was a victim of ageism through my thought process. In fact, I too was a victim of ageism because of my own thinking. I realize now, that within this unusual physical appearance, there was a great human spirit which was still enjoying the gift of life. She sang a beautiful tune in praise of God while taking bath at the tube well in the by-lane. She washed her own clothes (her saree) and wrapped herself with a fresh one. She basked in the early morning sunshine. She talked to the ladies on their way to work who in spite of being in a hurry to be on their way, spent a few minutes to chat with her. She lovingly cleaned the small temple below the banyan tree with water using her hands. She merrily fed green grass to the cattle. She often cooked rice and fish on her own using a chulha (brick stove) and ate this simple but nutritious meal on a leaf. She slept on the floor in the verandah without any discomfort.

She had blessed me with her presence and in fact given me hope and a lesson on "active ageing". So now when I see another elderly lady in a slum in Mumbai with a different lifestyle yet similar spirit like the lady in Bhubaneswar, I no longer seem to be carrying the feeling of ageism. The happiness curve is U-shaped indeed!



Smt. Sharada Raghuveer Dhareshwar,

fondly known as GULLU, (B.Sc.; B.Ed.), born on 6th October 1932,
passed away on 10th August 2019, at Panvel, Navi Mumbai, blissfully.

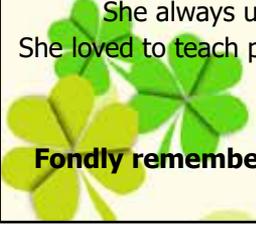
She was the wife of the late Shri Raghuveer Dhareshwar (B.E.) Engineer-in Chief, Western Railway, Churchgate;
mother of Jayant and Dr. Bharat, mother-in-law of: Lalitha and Krishnapriya,
grandmother of Aditya, Pranav, Chaitanya, grand mother-in-law of Suman, great grandmother of Krishna.

A very loving and warm hearted person, she was always smiling, full of zest for life and ever willing to impart
basic core values and spiritual wisdom of the scriptures and Bhagavadgita,
to all interested seekers and help everyone, known and unknown.

She always utilized every moment of her life for the spiritual good and wellbeing of all concerned.
She loved to teach primary school children and taught at Bengalee girls' School, Churchgate. She organized and
conducted, one of the first and oldest Bal Vihars of Chinmaya Mission.

She was an abhyasi of Heartfulness Institute.

Fondly remembered by her elder sister, Smt. SushilaTirkannad, Dhareshwars, Savurs, Tirkanads, Sharmas,
Bailurs, Agarwals, relatives and friends.



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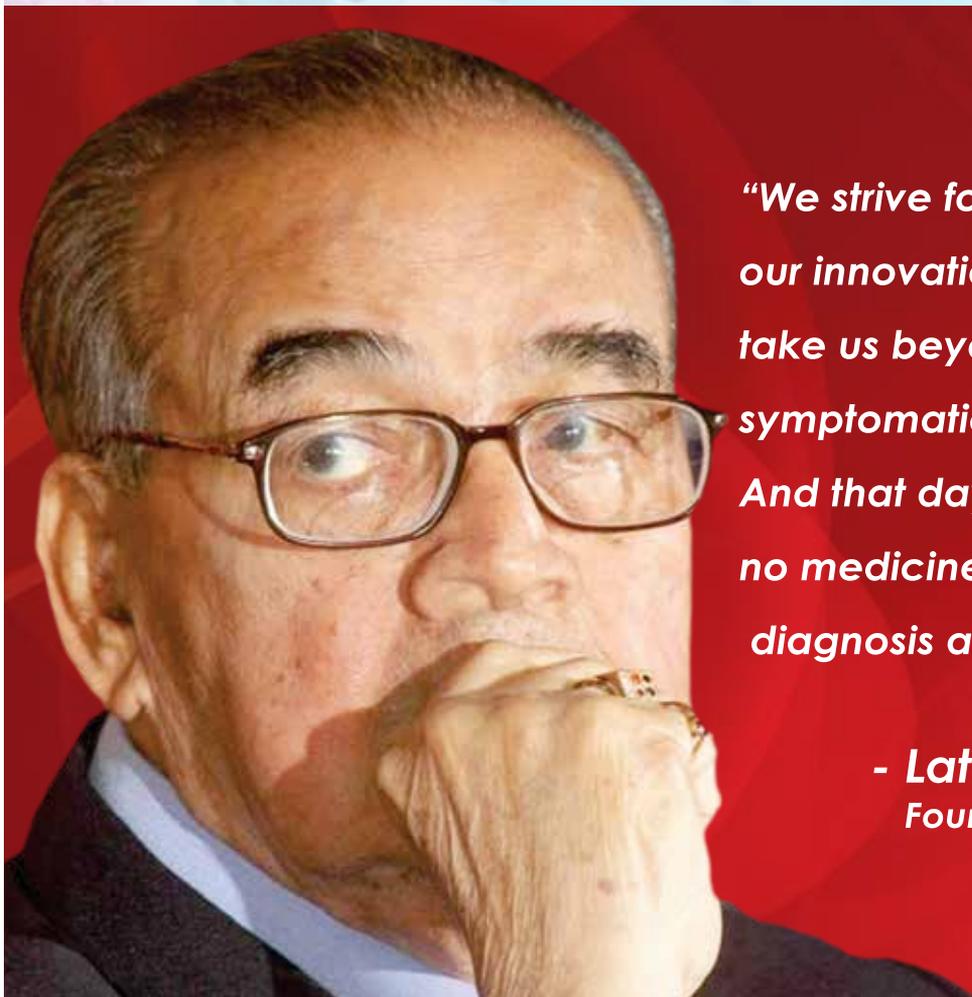
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Personalia



Aaryaman Hoskote



Dr. Anita Naimpally



Kanchan Rathna



Rudra Parulekar



Samvit Mavinkurve



Shefali Gokarn



Smriti Gulwadi - Receiving Kalanidhi Award



Aaryaman Hoskote (son of Dr. Hemangini and Prashant Hoskote and grandson of Sudha and late Shantaram Chittar and late Ahilya and Yogesh Hoskote) has an excellent academic background. A student of G D Goenka World School, Gurgaon, he has completed his IBDP and IGCSE with excellent scores. He has started his undergraduate studies at the University of Toronto (Scarborough campus) earlier this month. He is pursuing his Bachelor's degree in Physics, Astrophysics and Astronomy - subjects he has always been passionate about since his childhood. Prior to this, Aaryaman participated at the World Scholars Cup and won 17 Gold and 11 Silver medals in total, at the rounds held at Gurgaon and Barcelona culminating at the Tournament of Champions at the Yale University, USA.

Apart from academics, Aaryaman has been part of the school's Basketball and Swimming Team. In addition, his hobbies include reading, origami, music, photography and sketching.

Dr. Anita Naimpally, daughter of Anand and Seema Naimpally of Bangalore is currently studying in the final year of the MDS (Master of Dental Surgery) course in Prosthodontics & Implant Dentistry at the MS RAMAIAH University of Applied Sciences, Bangalore. She has secured the 2nd prize at the all-India competition held at the Maxillo-facial Symposium conducted by the Sri Sankara Cancer Foundation, Bangalore. At this competition several healthcare professionals presented their cases(work) about artificial body parts intended to replace natural ones lost due to cancer or accidents. Anita presented her work - "Ocular prosthesis" i.e. artificial eye which won the award. She lays her success at the feet of our holy Guruparampara and our most revered Guru HH Sadjyot Shankarashram Swamiji, whose grace and benediction made it possible. She also seeks Blessings from grandparents Shri Suresh Balwalli, late Smt. Naina Balwalli, and late Shri Muralidhar Naimpally & Smt. Kamalini Naimpally and all elders for her continued success and progress.

Kanchan Rathna (nee Belthangadi) is a professional artist based now in Bangalore.

Having studied Commercial Art from Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai, she then worked and trained with prominent Indian artists like T Kaladharan and also a Russian artist, Anna Korobitsina.

She has illustrated books and magazines including 'The Week' and has participated in many group and solo art shows. She was closely associated with the Kochi Muziris Biennale 2014 & 2016. Her paintings portray her creative self exploration and self expression through vivid, bold colours, textures, movement and energy. Her style is abstract impressionist.

She has commissioned paintings for homes, offices across the world and has recently commissioned paintings for hotel Holiday Inn, Kochi. One can see her body of work at www.facebook.com/Kanchanrathna. She can be reached at kanchanrat@yahoo.com.

Rudra Parulekar, son of Anisha and Late Abhijeet Parulekar and grandson of Aruna and V Narayanan not only excels in academics but in many other fields as well. He has participated and won laurels for himself and his school in singing in various other forums. He has completed 3B, 4A and 5 levels of Shiamak Davar's dance classes and secured 8th rank in Kyu Japanese martial arts. In the academic field his achievements include a 30th position at the International Olympiad of English Language organized by the Educational Society, New Delhi. He also participates and wins prizes in Throwball and Chess competitions. Currently he is into a new trend of music called 'Beat Boxing' and has given brilliant performances winning the hearts of the audience.

Samvit Mavinkurve, son of Shreeti and Sachidanand Mavinkurve is a teenager who loves to write. He has penned a number of poems and stories, some of which have appeared in our "Kiddies' Corner". He has bagged prizes for these as well. Now, he has been honoured as a 'Literary Colonel' by StoryMirror. StoryMirror is a global online portal for short stories and poems. It is a unique online creative platform created to showcase the diversity, versatility, and excellence in the field of literature and art. It offers an opportunity to all budding and experienced storytellers, poets and artists to showcase their talent. We wish Samvit success in his literary pursuits in the future!

Shefali Sudhir Gokarn has developed a wheelchair which converts into a stretcher and from the stretcher the patient can be shifted onto a bed or any other platform like

a car seat and vice versa.

Transferring patients in a conventional way means lifting the patient by at least 4-6 people. While lifting, the patient could get harmed or injured. This way of transfer is very risky specially post operation or in an emergency case, Also, if the patient is at home or in any situation where not enough people are available for lifting, then transfer by lifting becomes difficult. Conventional transfer is not only harmful for patients but also for caregivers. The caregivers may be at a high risk of fracture or serious injuries because of prolonged lifting.

So, Shefali Gokarn came up with an idea of transferring patients automatically with the help of a novel transformable transferable wheelchair. The person could be transferred to any surface, for example, a car seat, a bed, into an ambulance and also from any surface onto the wheelchair itself.

This automatic transformable transferable wheelchair was developed so as to provide a sense of independence to the patients and to have a risk-free transfer.

Congratulations Shefali! A commendable invention! It will be a boon to patients!

Smriti Gulwadi was always interested in having a business of her own. After completing her graduation instead of settling in a regular job she found her challenges and fulfillment in running an advertisement agency of her own. She was also a director of SVC Co-op Bank for 5 years. Smriti was awarded the "Kalaanidhi - Woman of Substance" award at the hands of Commissioner of Police, Thane Mr. Vivek Phansalkar recently.

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Here & There

Bengaluru : *Chaturmasa programmes-* Bhajan Seva was offered by Shalini Madiman & Aishwarya Gangoli, Saikrupa Nalkur & Uma Trasi, Shantala Nadkarni, Viha Nagarkatti & Nagarkatti family, Padma Betrabet, Ameeta Shiroor, Anushree & Chirag Amembal, Geeta Paddidri, Shantini Yederi & Tara Balwally, Lakshmi Nayak, Shiva Shakti and Guru Shakti Bhajan Mandali, Prarthana Varga, Karnad Family, Sangita Bhatkal & Students, Ullal Family, Arya Dhareshwar (Vrinda Kallianpur), Chitra Aldangdi & Savithri Gunavante and Shivani Kallianpur. Other programmes rendered were Bhajans and Harmonium Solo by Uday Nagarkatti, Hindustani Shastreeya Sangeet and Bhajans by Shreshtha Heranjal, Clown Magic Show by Sanjay Balsavar, talk by Malini Madimanpachi, Bharat Natyam Dance by Purvi Bantwal, Trisha Raghuram and Anvita Kodange.

Special Programmes- Painting workshop was conducted by Smt Rekha Mavinkurve on 2nd August. Nagara Panchami was observed on 5th August with *Naga puja* and Upakarma for Panchamkari-s. Varamahalakshmi Vrata was performed with Lakshmi Pujan on 9th August. Rig Upakarma was observed on 14th August. Punyatithi of P.P. Parijnanashram Swamiji III was observed on 19th August with Bhashya Pathan and Ashtavadhan Seva. Gokulasthanti s were recited from 16th to 24th August. Gokulastami was observed with cradling ceremony of Lord Shri Krishna on 23rd August. Gopal Kallo with handi breaking was observed on 24th August with children dressed as Gopi-Gopika-s. On the occasion of Samaradhana of Parama Pujya Shrimad Anandashram Swami, Samuhik Bhagavadgita Pathan was rendered from 26th to 31st August.

Vargas- Yuvatis offered Chaturmas Seva at Mallapur from 15th to 18th Aug. They participated in Sanskrit Sambhashan, learnt to string Rudraksha Malas, visited the nearby temples and learnt bhajans from Vasant Hossangadymam. On 25th and 31st Aug, yuvas participated in cultural programs. Prarthana Varg offered "Varsha Ritu" a program with skit , song and dance. Atharv Balwally of Bahrain offered melodious bhajan seva.

Reported by Saikrupa Nalkur

Kolkata : In August 2019 our community came to life once again with Janmashtami celebrated at our Kolkata Shri Kashi Math, (which is now a branch of Shri Kashi Math Sansthan – Varanasi). Bhajans were started at 6.30pm by our usual enthusiastic Kamath family, comprising of Ashwin Kamath, with his father Jayant Kamath and his 3 year old grandson Anay. Tejaswini Vernekar, a professional singer, now in Kolkata, rendered soulful bhajans ably accompanied on the table by her brother Vignesh. The programme was well attended which was followed with Prasad provided by Tara, Madhav and Rakesh Shenoy (Rao), Meera Kamath, and Shamala Pai.

Reported by Pradeep S. Nagarkatti

Mumbai - Santacruz : Rug Upakarma Homa : For the benefit of devotees the Sabha had arranged for Rug Upakarma Homa (Changing Of The Sacred Thread) on 14th August 2019(Wednesday). This was officiated by Ved Shri Ulman Anandbhat.

The Sabha observed Punyatithi of HH Shrimat Parijnanashram Swamiji III on 19th August 2019 (Monday). Bhajans were sung by Parijnan Bhajan Mandal of Santacruz. This was followed by Deepanamaskar, Mangalarati & Prasad.

On 1st September, 2019 - Our Sabha observed Samaradhana of HH Shrimat Anandashram Swamiji with "Panchamrut Rudrabhishek and Sahasara Bilvarchinadi Puja". This was officiated by Ved. Shri Ulman Anandbhatmaam. On 3rd September Bhajans by Swara Sadhana bhajan group was organised as a part of "Ganeshotsava" under the joint auspices of our Santacruz Sabha and Saraswat Mahila Samaj. This was followed by Deepanamaskar, Mangalarti and Prasad thereafter. Both these functions were held in Shrimat Anandashram Hall, Saraswat colony, Santacruz.

Reported by Kavita Karnad

Mumbai - Vile Parle-Vakola: Our Sabha observed Samaradhana of P. P. Shrimat Parijnanashram I on 14th of April, 2018 & P. P. Shrimat Pandurangashram Swamiji on 15th of June, 2018 by reading out excerpts from Bodhamrut book. On 20th April, 2018 on the auspicious occasion of Shankar Jayanthi about 25 Sadhakas from our Sabha gathered with devotion at the residence of Shri Anand Amladi at 4 pm. To begin with, Sadhakas performed Devi Anushthan with powerful chants as per the custom followed on every third Friday of the month in our Sabha. It was then followed by Adi Shankaracharya Pujan which was performed by Smt. Radhika Chittar. Sadhakas chanted a few Stotra-s and sang Bhajans based on Adi Shanakaracharya with dedicated zeal. This programme concluded with Sabha Samapti Prarthana, Mangalarati and Prasada Vitaran.

During Vile Parle-Vakola Seva Saptah from 6th to 13th May, 2018 at Karla Math, five Sadhakas gleefully took the opportunity to offer Seva in the Sannidhi of P. P. Parijnanashram Swamiji III and Devi Durga Parmeshwari. On 18th May about 22 Sadhakas participated in the Sannikarsha. A few Sadhikas from our Sabha performed Gurupujan on this day.

On 15th June, 2018 our Sabha participated in large number along with Bandra-Khar Sabha in Sapta Prahar under the leadership of Smt. Padmini Balsekar from Vile Parle-Vakola Sabha and Ms. Sujata Haldipur from Bandra-Khar Sabha. The Prahar started at 3.15 am by reciting Navratri Nityapath and powerful chanting of Mantras during Devi Anushthan. Melodious Bhajans accompanied by Smt. Mangala Nadkarni on Harmonium and Shri Padukonemam on Tabla were offered by devotees at the lotus feet of Devi Durga Parmeshwari and P P Parijnanashram Swamiji III. The resonance of Lalita Sahasranamavali chanted by the sadhikas infused the atmosphere with Divine Bliss during Kumkumacharna. This was followed by Bhajans and Stotra-s till the arrival of P P Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarshram Swamiji. Mangalarti was performed in the Divine presence of our revered Swamiji. Sadhakas were gratified to receive Blessings from Parama Pujya Swamiji in the serene and blissful atmosphere. Devotees dispersed after reciting Suprabhat Geetam at 6 am .

Reported by Radhika Chittar

Our Institutions

Balak Vrinda Education Society:

Teacher's Day was celebrated with a great enthusiasm on Friday 13th September 2019 in the School Hall of Balak Vrinda Education Society. Smt. Vibha (Kamat) D'souza, an Educationist was the Chief Guest. Dr Dilip Nadkarni (Eminent successful Orthopaedic Surgeon) was invited to give an entertainment programme. The hall was decorated with flowers / torans, the pooja table with the Vighraha of Devi Saraswati on it gaily adorned with flowers, diyas, rangolis etc.

The programme started with a warm welcome to the packed audience and the "Deep Prajwalan" by the Chief Guest along with the Managing Committee to the accompaniment of divine melodious Saraswati Vandana song "Jaya Sharade Wagishwari" to inaugurate the function.

Mr Sunil Ullal, Chairman of BVES, welcomed the audience and the Chief Guests and wished all the teachers. Usha Kagal, our Senior Managing Committee Member introduced Smt. Vibha D'souza. Smt. D'souza after graduation, followed it up by a Master's Degree in French and then acquired a B.Ed Degree from the St. Xaviers Institute of Education. After a small stint of teaching at Elphinston College and Alliance Francaise, she went on to get a higher Diploma in French and has been teaching Alliance Francaise for the past many years.

Smt. Vibha gave a very interesting engrossing talk narrating her experiences as a teacher and the different teachers who have taught her and have left a lasting impression on her mind. She stressed on the importance of establishing a good rapport with her students. She also related some anecdotes which were really thought provoking and kept the audience enthralled.

After this all the 5 school heads i.e. the English and Marathi High School, Marathi and English Primary section and the Pre-primary as well as the Head of the Junior College- Prof. Milind Nerurkar and all the other teachers were felicitated.

Then came the programme that everyone was eagerly waiting for - the entertainment programme by Dr Dilip Nadkarni. Dr. Nadkarni, who in addition to his successful career as an Orthopaedic Surgeon and a Consultant, is a great singer, composer, orator is passionate about old beautiful Hindi songs. He kept the audience spellbound with melodious songs of Hindi films by Rafi, Kishore Kumar, Manna Dey in his mellifluous voice accompanied by rhythmic dance, crisp compering and also demonstrated some meditation techniques and a quiz game of songs on different emotions for almost one hour.

The programme was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The atmosphere was charged with melody, joy and fun. Prof. Nerurkar gave a heart warming Vote of Thanks and the audience and gave a thunderous applause for the two Guests. The concept and organising of the whole programme and compering was done by Geeta Suresh Balse.

The programme concluded with tasty lunch.

Reported by Geeta Suresh Balse

Saraswat Cultural Forum, Pune:

Pune's bhanaps and other music lovers were treated to a scintillating performance of Hindustani Classical music by Dr. Nagaraj Rao Havaladar of Bengaluru on 7th September 2019.

Dr. Havaladar is a disciple of Madhava Gudi, who himself was a prime disciple of the Kirana scion Bhimsen Joshi. He is also a disciple of Panchakshari Swami Mattigatti, a senior disciple of Mallikarjun Mansur, of the Jaipur-Atrauli gharana. Dr. Havaladar holds a "Sangeetha Ratna" degree in Hindustani Classical Music from Karnataka University, Dharwad. He also holds a Doctorate in Music from Karnataka University, the subject of his thesis being "The History of Classical Music in Karnataka".

Dr. Havaladar kept us enthralled with his 'Ragas', interspersed with a talk on 'Music Mind and Medicine'. '**Bhagyada-LaxmiBaramma**' was an absolute treat for our Bhanap ears.

He was accompanied on the tabla by his son Kedarnath Havaladar, on the harmonium by Rahul Gole, on the tanpura by Varsha Kadle, and with Bhushan Toshniwal providing vocal support.

Reported by Sunil Mundkur

Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi

Members of Gamdevi Saraswat Mahila Samaj celebrated Krishna Janmashtami on 21st August in the Samaj hall. Smt. Savita Padukone lead the 'mhantyo' accompanied by Smt. Geeta Yennemady on the harmonium and Shri. Arun Hattangadi on the tabla. All the members enjoyed singing mhantyo along with them.

Priya Baddukully gave the vote of thanks and Prasad was sponsored by Smita Mavinkurve in memory of Smt. Meerabai Mavinkurve and Smt. Sulochanabai L. Kati.

Reported by Vijayalaxmi S. Kapnadak

Forthcoming Programs:

Navratri Sammelan - a musical evening by Smita Kulkarni is scheduled on 2nd Oct 2019 at 3.30pm in the Samaj hall.

Kojagiri Get-together on Wednesday 16th October 2019 at 3.30 p.m. at the Samaj Hall

Contribution Rs. 100/- per head. Please register by 10th October 2019.

Errata – In our September 2019 issue we inadvertently omitted the name of Smt. Geeta Suresh Balse who had written the report of Saraswat Mahila Samaj. We apologise for the lapse
.....Editor

Announcement

Kolkata Shri Kashi Math, 211 Lake Terrace Extension, Hemanta Kumar Sarani, Kolkata-700029 is very centrally located, and has 2 rooms, 1 dormitory and 1 room on the third floor which are available for devotees and visitors coming to Kolkata for 3 to 4 days with occupancy for maximum 12 to 13 persons at very low rates. All the rooms are semi furnished and comfortable.

For further details contact Rakesh Shenoy (Rao): 9836073034 srkshenoy316@gmail.com

CLASSIFIEDS

ENGAGEMENT

RAO-MUNDKUR: Vikram, Son of Subhash & Gayatri Rao of Mahim (West) Mumbai, engaged to **Devika**, daughter of Premanand and Vinaya Mundkur of Vile- Parle (East), Mumbai on 24th August 2019 in Mumbai.

BIRTH

Happy to announce the birth of a baby girl (**TWISHA**) to Tanvi (nee Byndoor) and Prasad Korgaonkar, grand daughter to Uma (nee Basrur) and Chaitanya Byndoor, Sandhya and Mayuresh Korgaonkar on 15th July 2019.

Baby Girl NIVRITI to Nikhita Nadkarni and Vivek Iyer on September 5, in Mumbai. Grand daughter to Rekha & Hemant Nadkarni and T Ramji & Late Sundari.

FLAT FOR SALE

A self contained flat, carpet area 400 sq.ft, IInd floor for sale in Karnatak CHS, Matunga Road, Mumbai. Preference to Amchis. Contact Bhokarikar 09421081129 / 09850923370. Brokers please excuse .

FLAT FOR SALE

One BHK available for sale. Registered Society in Thakur Complex, Kandivali (E). Convenient location. Near upcoming Metro Station. Builtup Area: 528 sq ft. Contact Vaibhav 9819153571

ANNOUNCEMENT

By the virtue of the order passed by The Family Court, Ranga Reddy District, Hyderabad on 16th April 2019, the marriage solemnized between Neeraj Ubhayakar and Haripriya Mamiduru held at Ananthapuramu on 11th Feb '2015 stands dissolved.

DOMESTIC TIDINGS

BIRTHS

We welcome the following new arrivals:

- Jul 05 : A son (Ayan) to Ashwini and Ketan Kowshik at Sunnywale, California, USA.
Jul 15 : A baby girl (Twisha) to Tanvi (nee Byndoor) and Prasad Korgaonkar at Mumbai.
Sept 5 : A baby girl (Nivriti) to Nikhita Nadkarni and Vivek Iyer in Mumbai.

THREAD CEREMONIES

We bless the following batus:

- May 23 : Daivik Suresh Kumble.
May 23 : Shlok Ravindra Hemmad

OBITUARIES

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

- Jul 16 : Suresh Gopal Nayalkar (80) in Sugarland TX – USA.
Aug 10 : Sharada (Gullu) Raghuvveer Dhareshwar (87) at Panvel, Navi Mumbai.
Aug 10 : Vinita S Baindur (85) in Pune.
Aug 23 : Pallavi (kumud) Prakash Bijur (62) in Mumbai.
Aug 24 : Jayant Bhaskar Hattangady (81) at Dombivli.
Aug 29 : Aruna Rammohan Nayampalli (nee Nadkarni) (92) at Virar.
Sept11 : Jyoti Pratap Kowshik (nee Trasi)(69) of Prabhadevi at Pune.
Sept15 : Satish Mallapur (76) at Andheri (Mumbai).
Sept15 : Vasanti Satish Savkur (82) of Deonar, Mumbai in Bengaluru.
Sept 16 : Vijaykumar Kolpe (81) of Mumbai at California

Shri Chitrapur Math Mumbai (Grant Road) Local Sabha Announces Smt. Ambabai Heble Bhagwad Geeta Competition - 2019

On Sunday, 24th November 2019 at 3.00 p.m.

at Smt. Indirabai Kallianpurkar Hall, Balak Vrinda Education Society, Off Talmakiwadi, J. D. Marg, Mumbai 400007

Shlokas for Recitation : Adhyaya 13 Shlokas 1 to 18

Shlokas for Abhivyakti :

१. वासांसि जीर्णानि यथा विहाय नवानि गृह्णाति नरोपराणि ।
तथा शरीराणि विहाय जीर्णान्यन्यानि संयाति नवानि देही ॥ २/२२
२. आरुरुक्षोर्मुनेर्योगं कर्म कारणमुच्यते ।
योगारूढस्य तस्यैव शमः कारणमुच्यते ॥ ६/३

३. मनुष्याणां सहस्रेषु कश्चिद्यतति सिद्धये ।
यततामपि सिद्धानां कश्चिन्मां वेत्ति तत्त्वतः ॥ ७/३
४. मन्मना भव मद्भक्तो मद्याजी मां नमस्कुरु ।
मामेवैष्यसि युक्त्वैवमात्मानं मत्परायणः ॥९/३४
५. यो न हृष्यति न द्वेष्टि न शोचति न काङ्क्षति ।
शुभाशुभपरित्यागी भक्तिमान्यः स मे प्रियः ॥१२/१७

Please give your names to your Sabha Co-ordinator & come to the venue by 2.30 p.m.

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