

# Kanara Saraswat

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION

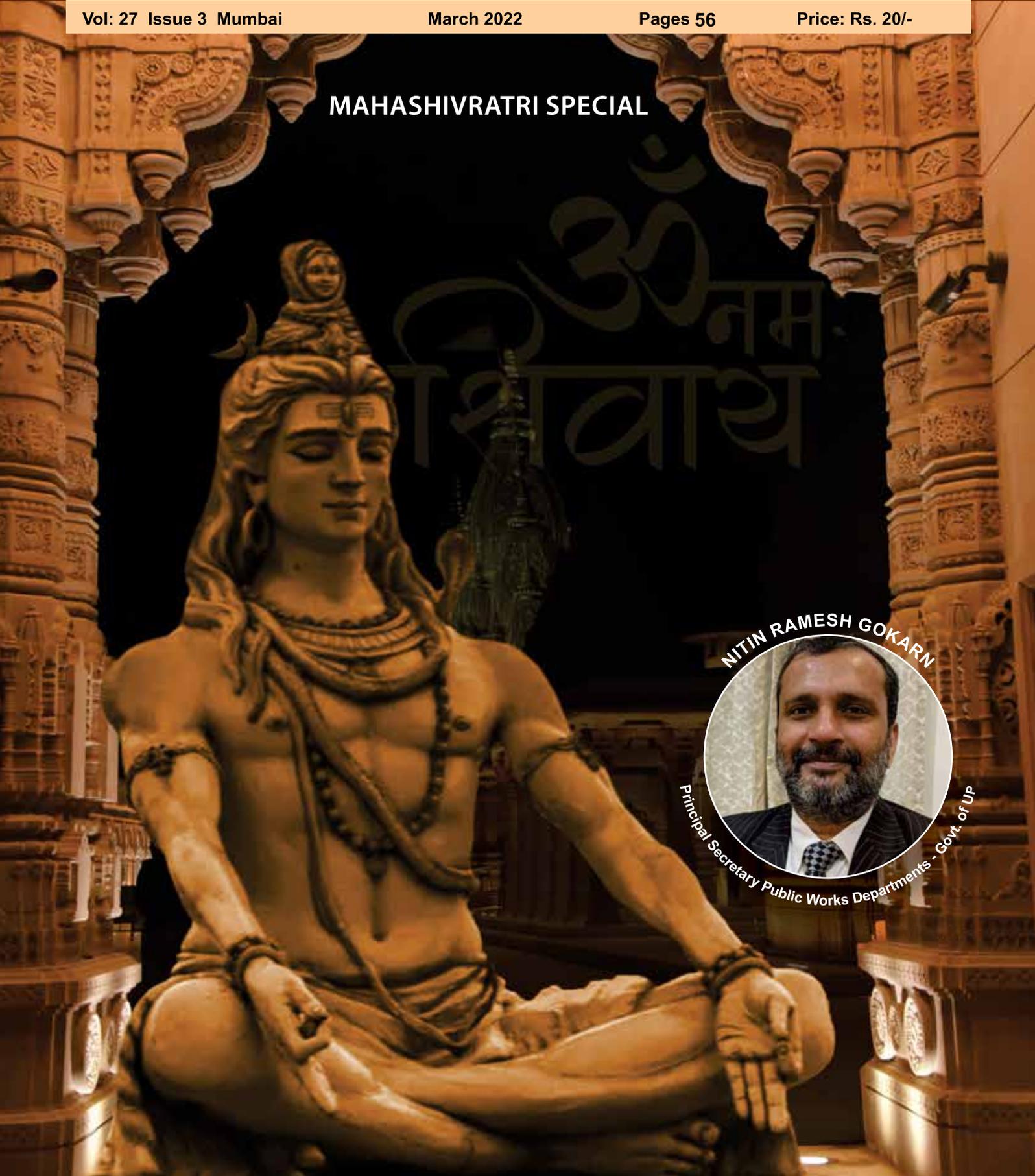
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MAHASHIVRATRI SPECIAL



NITIN RAMESH GOKARN



Principal Secretary Public Works Departments - Govt. of UP



Nitin R. Gokarn, IAS with  
Hon Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi



Nitin R. Gokarn, IAS With Hon Yogi Adityanath,  
Chief Minister Uttar Pradesh



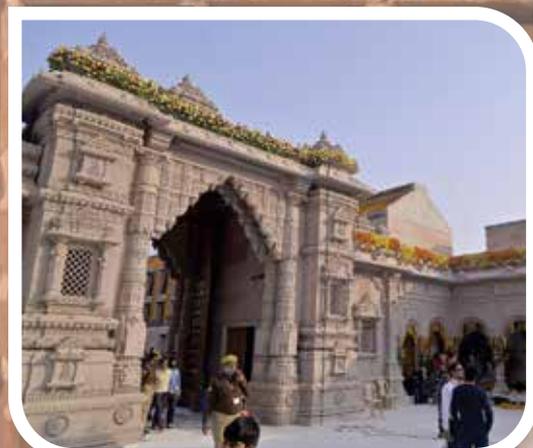
View of the main Shri Kashi Vishwanath Temple



Temple Chowk Bhawan Southern face



Eastern Gate to Temple Chowk Bhawan



Eastern Gate to Temple complex



## Kanara Saraswat

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Talmakiwadi, Near Talmaki Chowk,  
J.D. Marg, Mumbai 400007

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

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

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

President: **Praveen P. Kadle**  
Vice President: **Kishore Masurkar**  
Chairman: **Mahesh D Kalyanpur**

### MEMBERS OF THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Editor: **Nitin Gurunath Gokarn**  
Associate Editor: **Uday A. Mankikar**  
Editorial Committee:  
**Smita Mavinkurve**  
**Anjali Burde**

Computer Composing:  
**Sujata V. Masurkar**

Cover Page Design:  
**Roopali Kapnadak Sawant (Printeresting)**

KSA Telephone: (022) 2380 2263 To Avail Educational Aid  
or Medical Aid Contact: Mrs. Shobhana Rao

022-23802263 / 022-2380 5655

KSA Holiday Home, Nashik:

Tel: 0253-2580575 / 0253-2315881

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### FAMILY TREE PROJECT

#### VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FROM EACH BHANAP FAMILY

All members/readers are aware that the **FAMILY TREE PROJECT** has been initiated on a genealogical site [myheritage.com](http://myheritage.com). KSA has already taken action to load family trees of bhanap families available in our records.

The success of this project depends on active participation by a few members from each and every bhanap family. We, therefore, appeal to bhanaps from each family to come forward and help us in this venture.

**Assistance will primarily be required from volunteers to update records of their own or extended families.**

Readers/Members willing to contribute in this manner are requested to send email to:

[familytrees@kanarasaraswat.in](mailto:familytrees@kanarasaraswat.in)

or contact

Vandan Shiroor (+91 9833217925) OR Rajan Kalyanpur (+91 9820041961)



## **KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION**

Email: [admin@kanarasaraswat.in](mailto:admin@kanarasaraswat.in) \* WhatsApp: +91 8879557536

### ***15<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021-22***

#### **ON-LINE FELICITATION OF CHITRAPUR SARASWAT WOMEN**

**On Saturday 12th March, 2022@ 6.00 p.m.**

**CHIEF GUEST : 99 years Young & Energetic SHASHIKALA (Parvatipachi) SHARMA.**

**COMPERE for the IWD Event : Mrs PREETA MANKEKAR**

**The Honours list includes:**

- 1. Mrs. Anuradha Dhareshwar (State Recognition in Music)**
- 2. Ms. Ila Nitin Gokarn (International Recognition in Dance & Social Service)**
- 3. Mrs. Prameela Kundapur (State Recognition in Music)**
- 4. Dr. (Mrs.) Sudha Tinaikar (Spirituality Awareness)**
- 5. Mrs. Deepa Tracy (Women Empowerment )**
- 6. Mrs. Chaya Arun Ubhayakar (Social/Community Service)**

***:- With Best Compliments -:***

***From***

## **ACME SOAP WORKS**

**Manufacturers of Industrial & Household Soaps & Detergents**

**Ram Mandir Road, Next to Ram Mandir,**

**Goregaon (W), Mumbai - 400 104**

**Phone + 91 98332 60962.**

**Email id: [acme@acmesoapworks.com](mailto:acme@acmesoapworks.com)**



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

Dear Friends,

We recently lost the Nightingale of India, Lata Mangeshkar, who mesmerised the whole world over the last more than seventy-five years with her divine voice. She was compared with Goddess Saraswati. There would not be a single soul in this world who would not have experienced joy, pathos, devotion, love and spirituality while listening to her voice and effortless singing. There have been so many anecdotes of great personalities being moved by emotions with her mellifluous singing and how they would make it a point to listen to her recorded songs before beginning their important assignments.

Was Lata Mangeshkar a genius? In my view, she certainly was. Lata didi, as she was popularly known, has gone on record to state that it was the training from a very early age by her father and her continuous hard work, riyaz, her constant pursuit to gain mastery over the Hindi & Urdu languages, her keen desire to understand the emotions underlying the lyrics of the songs, that made her successful. In short, it was the hard work she put into each rendition that made her 'Gana Saraswati'.

This brings me to the point of comparing the qualities of a genius with the virtues of determination, dedication and discipline. If you study the great personalities who have achieved the highest level of success in the fields of science, technology, sports, music, business, politics and entertainment, it was not just their genius. It was their hard work, deep study of their subject matter and pursuit of their goals with single-minded dedication to achieve their objectives, that really took them to the pinnacle of glory and success.

The great scientist and pianist Albert Einstein, himself a genius, had a lot to say on this topic. There are lot of quotes attributed to him on this subject. Some of his famous statements are:

- Genius is 1% talent and 99% hard work,
- I am not a genius. I am just passionately curious. I ask many questions, and when the answer is simple, then God is answering,
- There is a genius in all of us.

So, when it comes to the definition of a genius, the simple reasoning as described by Albert Einstein is that every person has some talent but the hard work that one puts in, is what makes the difference ultimately. In life, there are no easy solutions. Plain luck and destiny can make some difference, but not always. The one who makes your destiny is 'YOU' with your own hard work. Therefore, finally, it is your own hard work and effort that makes you a genius.

Professor Michael Howe of Exeter University has mentioned in his book 'Genius Explained' that "Genuine relative achievements depend more on perseverance over the long haul than on prodigious childhood skills. What makes geniuses special is their long-term commitment. They struggle very hard and they keep on persisting. They excel at concentrating and persevering. Their efforts are focused and all geniuses have a firm sense of direction."

In short, there is no substitute for Hard Work.

With Regards,  
**Praveen P Kadle**

## **Bhanap Yellow Pages – A valuable resource for Bhanap Businesses By KSA-CSN TEAM**

It has been quite some time now, that the latest initiative of the Kanara Saraswat Association, namely the “Chitrapur Saraswat Network” (CSN) has been actively organizing various interactive sessions for the members of our community who have set up their own businesses or are self-employed professionals. Although the initial phase of its introduction witnessed physical meetings of *amchigele* entrepreneurs at various prominent locations in Mumbai and Pune, as the corona virus in all its forms engulfed all our activities and forced us to interact online, the real impetus to the movement was achieved through regular online interactions. Our community members joined in from all parts of the globe to such events like “*Mulaqats*”, knowledge sharing workshops, entrepreneurs club meetings (ECMs), One-on-Many meets etc.

Our Whatsapp and Telegram groups witnessed an encouraging response and through these platforms, we could encourage other members of our community engaged in business activities to register and list their businesses on our CSN website at [www.kanarasaraswat.com/csn](http://www.kanarasaraswat.com/csn)

As the listings grew in numbers steadily over these months, it was now felt that all our community members should now avail of this resource – basically, a database of all businesses offering various products and services of diverse nature from food products to cosmetics and from accounting services to insurance products. Although this database is now sizeable, we continue to appeal to any member of our community who is offering their product or service to register and list their businesses in the database feature that is core to all the allied other initiatives that CSN undertakes from time to time.

Thus, from a community that shied away from talking about our businesses, we are gradually talking about the businesses we run and sharing our successes with each other already. But the real success would be driven by the cultivation of a simple habit that needs to be imbibed within each of us – an effort to help our community members to grow and to step in wherever possible with our purchases!

That’s right – we need to prefer our community products over others available in the marketplace, provided that, the product (or service) is competitive in respect of price, quality and consistent supplies. We are all consumers of foodstuff, cosmetics, home furnishings, personal care products and a whole host of such stuff we use regularly – why not try out the products offered by our fellow *amchigeles*? Maybe you could get a great deal... that could lead you to get hooked for good!

Let us be ‘One up for Bhanap’ whenever we can. It is this very database that we need to come to and search for ‘papad’ ‘pickles’ or whatever it is that you’re looking for. The search feature of this database will pull out just that stuff pronto! So we need to come to this database as often as we can and give our own folks a chance to be a part of our daily needs.

With the website in place and many businesses already listed, our Vice-President, Shri Kishore Masurkar maam felt the need to reach out rapidly to all our community members as fast as we possibly could. So what best way than to develop a ‘clickable PDF file’ titled “Bhanap Yellow Pages” to do this for us? This file was inaugurated on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021 during the online *Mulaqat* with our prominent media figure, Shri Shiv Aroor. Given that the idea of our own yellow pages was blessed by H.H. Shrimat Param Pujya Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji, it is certain to reach out to all our community members through its circulation in all social media platforms formed and managed by us.

The icing on the cake is the creation of a short video demonstration by technical staff of M/s Entod Pharma, Kishore Masurkar maam’s organization of repute. This video lucidly portrays how our businesses can list in this web resource and how each of us can use it to search for our needs through the effective use of ‘keywords’. Let us all use these resources to the benefit of the collective growth of our community as it is intended to serve.

Let us all be “One-Up for Bhanap”!!

# ॐ नमः शिवाय



GRINESHWAR JYOTIR LINGA



MALLIKARJUN JYOTIR LINGA



NAGESHWAR JYOTIR LINGA



BHIMASHANKAR JYOTIR LINGA



SOMNATH JYOTIR LINGA



MAHAKAL JYOTIR LINGA



VAIDYANATH JYOTIR LINGA



KEDARNATH JYOTIR LINGA



KASHI VISHWANATH JYOTIR LINGA



TRIMBAKESHWAR JYOTIR LINGA



RAMESHWARAM JYOTIR LINGA



OMKARESHWAR JYOTIR LINGA



## **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 and donors receive the maximum charitable deduction allowed by law. 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 United States of America. Over the past decade, amchis in the US have supported students' education and promoted sustainable development of the village of Shirali.

#### **The activities of CHF includes:**

- Facilitate the collection of annual "Vantiga" payment from every earning Saraswat in the US - "Vantiga" is used to support and maintain the upkeep of our spiritual centers in Bengaluru, Gokarn, Mallapur, Mangaluru, and Shirali
- Support education institutions administered by Math-sponsored trusts: Srivali High School, Kotekar Campus of Saraswat Education Society, and Parijnan Vidyalaya.
- Finance the post-primary education of 100 students at the Srivali High School through the "Sponsor-A-Student" Scheme
- Contribute towards the preservation of the rich cultural heritage of the Chitrapur Saraswat community in the US, by celebrating festivals like Yugadi, Ram Navami, Gokulashtami, Navratri, Diwali, monthly satsang, and Prarthana Varga for children

CHF is a philanthropic organization that provides an avenue for US-based "amchis" to support the operation and maintenance of Shri Chitrapur Math as well as support the post-primary education of students in Chitrapur, Karla, Mangalore, and Shirali, and women empowerment programs administered by Parijnan Foundation.

CHF is set up with many Corporations/Organizations such as Bristol Myers Squibb, Johnson & Johnson etc. to receive Matching Gifts. CHF has also registered with Benevity in order to make it easier to participate in workplace giving programs such as those at Apple, Google, and Microsoft.

**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.**

|| JAI PARIJNAN ||

**PARIJNAN PARIVAR's** dream to construct a suitable home for the elderly, a home away from home is now completely ready for occupation.

'PARIJNANCHAYA' within the Gurushakti Complex at Dahiwall, Karla is a resort for the elderly. Available for short term and long-term stay, it is ideal for those elderly who have their near and dear ones far away, an abode of Tender Loving Care for all those who wish to stay here. There are other Bhanap residents around the home and Karla Math is about 1km away.

There is a **Reading room, Yoga area, Dining and TV recreation room, a wonderful garden and open walking area. Most of all, a peaceful place with oxygen in plenty.**

We encourage evening Bhajans, Light entertainment, Games, and interaction with all those who will occupy this place.

We have a modern kitchen to serve healthy and tasty food. Occupants will also be free to try their cooking skills and gardening skills if they are interested.

The residential rates are most affordable and for those who can't afford, we have special schemes on offer.

Unfortunately, the rooms are limited and we may not be able to serve all those who apply, so hurry up, visit us to choose your peaceful life.

PARIJNAN PARIVAR appreciates your support and welcomes further enquiries, for which you can contact:

Deepa Andar : 9820180104

Shashi Balsekar : 98336 35359

Dayanand Balse : 98700 67976



## **Our Own Kashi Vishweshwara Temple, Bankikodla**

Shri Kashi Vishweshwara temple was founded by Shri Jeevanmukta Swamiji at the request of the local elders of the time. Shri Swamiji, who hailed from Hyderabad, was on a pilgrimage to Gokarn. During his stay there, he used to give discourses on the great epics (Puranas) which so much impressed our elders that they requested him to come to Bankikodla and give them the benefit of his lucid and devotion-filled pravachans. Accordingly he came to Bankikodla and stayed at Shri Bankanatheshwar temple for 3-4 months and continued his discourses. At the end of this period, he started to go on a pilgrimage to Kashi. Many of his admirers desired to accompany him, but he dissuaded them from doing so, with the promise that he would bring the great God of Kashi - Lord Vishwanath - to Bankikodla.

Shri Swamiji then left for Kashi with only a few members as his entourage. On his return, as promised he brought a Shiva Linga. With a gift of free land and money contributions from the local people, a spacious temple was constructed in which the Shiva Linga brought from Benares was consecrated with



the usual ceremonies to the great joy of the community.

The *Prathista* ceremony took place on Vaishak Shuddha Trayodashi of 1858 A.D., which was conducted by Shri Jeevanmukta Swamiji himself. For the daily *vinayogas*. Shri Swamiji used to visit householders with Guru Patra and collect gifts in cash and kind. Later, the householders themselves started contributing rice etc. voluntarily. There are permanent sevas throughout the year endowed by devotees. The annual car festival is held on Margashirsha Shuddha Shristi (Champa Shasti) The *punyatithi* of the founder of the temple, Shri Jeevanmukta Swamiji, is observed on Chaitra Shuddha Chaturdashi. The Vardhanti Uthsav is held on Vaishak Shuddha Trayodashi.

This temple was renovated in 1934 and the *prathista* ceremony was performed by Shri Shivaram Swamiji on Vaishak Bahula Tritiya, i.e. on 27th May 1934. The temple is managed by the local 'ten' of the community. It was again renovated in 1961 and is in a good condition now.

*Source: Chitrapur Saraswat Temples and Shrines by Shri Ugran Sunder Rao*



### **SHRI CHITRPUR MATH, SHIRALI** **in association with** **THE KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION**



#### **announce**

#### **EXTENSION OF FINANCIAL AID to CSBs in DISTRESS for 2021-2022**

The **SECOND WAVE** of COVID-19 pandemic has hit our country resulting in financial distress to CSB families. In our commitment to support such families we have pleasure in extending similar financial support as extended in 2020-2021 to CSB families in need

- We request CSBs in financial distress to contact us (at the below-mentioned WhatsApp number / email) with their details (phone & email) to enable us get in touch with you.
- We also request you to recommend details (name, phone & email) of any CSBs in financial distress (at below-mentioned WhatsApp number / email) who may require such financial assistance
- High confidentiality will be maintained by SCM & KSA.

Please contact us by:

**Email: [covidsupport@kanarasaraswat.in](mailto:covidsupport@kanarasaraswat.in)**

**WhatsApp: +91 8879557536**

## The Editor's Reflections

The month of February 2022 brought a pall of gloom all over the country. With the passing away of the Queen of Melody, the Nightingale of India, Swara Kokila, Bharat Ratna Kum. Lata Mangeshkar, Didi to all of us, India lost her voice, so to speak. While she may not have been a CSB, her parental association with Goa and Mangueshi, makes us feel that she was a part of us. There isn't a single day that we cannot hear her melodious voice. The last pictures of her being on a wheel chair which went viral on social media depicting the decline in her health was very poignant and brought tears to many eyes. Perhaps, the Gods up there in Vaikuntha, are rejoicing over her arrival at the heavenly gates for regaling them with her divine and magical voice.

Moving away from the sad truth and reality of life brings up some glad tidings. After having put an Appeal to help our Bhanap educational Institution the BVES, many members have come forward to lend a helping hand and this is certainly an encouraging feature. However, the requirement is humongous and once again, our well-to-do community members are requested to come forward and support the Institution in a big way.

To say that the impact of social media on our individual lives is enormous would be an understatement. Over ten years ago, I met a school batch mate, Suren, while on my morning walk and thanks to FB, many of us who had lost contact with each other after our school days happened to get re-connected. This translated into a reunion of sorts. Frankly, we all have our school time crushes. One amongst us, Ajit, had a crush on a classmate Ameeta, in those unforgettable years. Life took both of them apart on different paths and they married different partners. But the mutual admiration between them was visible to all of us even as we all advanced in age and met in 2010 after almost 36 years. Sadly enough, Ajit lost his partner when he was 52. Similarly, the lady in question too had lost her husband. As we were ruminating and also teasing them both over the lunch table at the reunion, I just blurted unwittingly, "Why don't you both have a second innings"!! There was a stunned silence. The mood became sombre. Fortunately, the mood turned normal again as someone changed the topic. While on the way home, I offered to drop Ameeta and reopened the topic suggesting that I was serious about her starting a new life – a second innings. This time she was candid and agreed, she confessed having missed a companion and would think over it and talk to her children and grandchildren, some of whom had settled overseas. I called Ajit and told him what transpired and he was thankful, open and optimistic. Things took an unexpected turn, the man took the initiative and after some initial hesitation and consulting with family members, Ameeta gave the nod. They both got together again in their fifties and re-kindled a romance that did not blossom in school but happened later in life. Providence brought them together. All batch mates attended the rather simple wedding which was attended by all the family members from either side and their children and grandchildren specifically flew down from New Jersey and Sydney. This really should make us think whether - is it the end of the road for us if we lose a partner? However, many are unable to get together as they fear the taboos and being ostracised by their kith and kin. Romance and re-marriage for older people is not quite what society normally approves of, generally. But times are changing and we are becoming more tolerant and accepting reality.

Over the last few years, remarriages among the elderly have become more frequent than in the past. Matrimonial portals today include several profiles of senior citizens, and services have sprung up catering exclusively to second marriages. These are seeing a steady growth in registrations of people who are over sixty.

Companionship in advancing age is a necessity and can have distinct advantages of cohabitation. This is a food for thought. It is all about finding love and affection all over again. Our community is an erudite community which has moved away from the conservative shackles of the past to modern practical thinking. I do not know if my thoughts can become a positive harbinger in this direction. I am told that there are activists who are rendering social service in Pune and many groups have sprung up in other parts of India. Why should we look the other way? Your thoughts on this are certainly welcome. Do read Smt. Nalini Nadkarni's article in this issue.

As we celebrate Mahashivartri in this month, we feature the man who was behind the successful delivery of the Kashi Vishwanath corridor project., Nitin Ramesh Gokarn, IAS, my namesake and close cousin.

Enjoy reading the new Kanara Saraswat and feel free to share your ideas and feedback.

**Nitin G Gokarn**

## Letters to the Editor

**Dear Editor,** The Kanara Saraswat is a much loved magazine the world over and the latest issue is eagerly awaited every month. It was frustrating in the past when the post was irregular and the hard copy was delivered almost at the end of the month, if at all, or there was a delay in uploading the issue on the internet.

Of late, I have noticed that the KS is available on the net punctually on the first of every month and the hard copy is also being received within a few days of the start of the month. This speaks well for the KS team and reflects its dedication and pride in doing its job well. Also, I find that the Editorial Committee is taking pains to inform contributors of articles about the upload. I would like to thank and compliment you and your team for the punctuality in publishing and courtesy shown to the writers.

Lastly, I find the covers of the magazine are being very artfully designed. The cover of the Swarnim Vijay Varsh issue and also the Feb 22 issue are particularly eye catching, yet striking in its simplicity.

Well done.

**Maj Gen B N Rao, Pune**

**Dear Sir,** In the Feb '22 issue of KS, the article on "Saints of Sakori", an omission has occurred regarding the four *amchigele kanyas* initiated by Godavari Mataji. The line should have read as follows :

After the Maharaj's passing away, She took over the mantle initiating 33 other women into the fold (4 more *amchis*. 2 sisters Kum. Sumati and Suman tai nee Meera n Shanti Balsawar, Kum. Yamuna tai Bhat and Kum. Nalini Mhapsekar)

This is for information of all our esteemed readers of KS

**Ajit Madhu Bhat, Mumbai**

**Dear Editor,** The February 2022 issue was a good read. The front cover design was attractive, colourful and pleasing to the eye. The issue had a nice mix of articles on spiritual and music-oriented personalities. A bonanza for young readers too - *aadgatyos*, quizzes, puzzles which were a pleasure to read and solve. I very much enjoyed going through it. Please continue the good work.

**Gayatri Madan Dutt, Mumbai**

**Sir,** We have all been working from home off and on since the pandemic broke out and lockdown got announced. While it initially did feel good, it became monotonous being inside the home 24x7 as months passed by. One, therefore, was always looking for something to divert one's mind from the mundane due to routine office work when the pressure became a bit too much. This is where the new look Kanara Saraswat came to my rescue as a source of relaxation and diversion. The *aadgatis*, the Crossword, the Fun Time Quiz all added up to infuse in me a new energy to improve my knowledge, read, solve and do something different and enjoy.

That apart, I must admit that I enjoyed reading the articles on Ms Poonam Burde and Rajat Ubhaykar (Nov 22).

I look forward to innovative ideas to be incorporated in the Kanara Saraswat in times to come. Hope that Kanara Saraswat continues its good work and provides us with continuous entertainment and pleasure.

**Niyati Suprasan Kodial, UK**

**Dear Editor,** Pt. Nityanand Haldipur is among the few musicians today who treasure and present Hindustani classical music in its purest, pristine form. Pt. Nityanand's Raga unfoldment is contemplative and almost spiritual in nature. He transports the listener to go inwards, to introspect as it were, unlike most musicians who perform only to rouse the audience. Congratulations Pt. Nityanandji.

We wish Pt. Nityanandji the very best and pray for his good health, so that he continues to regale music lovers with his divine music. The interview in Feb issue was fantastic.

**Sharad Kilpady, Mumbai**

**Dear Editor,** First, my sincere compliments on your enthusiastic efforts to revamp the design and content of KS magazine. Congratulations! The covers are more arresting and the presentation of content more inviting. I am sure that with constructive criticism and varied creative input from your loyal readers, the magazine will continue to get a face lift in keeping with the fast- changing world..

**Shailaja Ganguly, Mumbai**

**Dear Editor,** I am indeed gratified to learn that my bosom pal and leading flautist of India, Pt. Nityanand Haldipur has been bestowed with the prestigious "Mallikarjun Mansur National Award" for his outstanding contribution in the field of Hindustani Classical Music. I am so happy that Kanara Saraswat has prominently featured him on the cover page-an honour he richly deserves (KS, Feb'22).

Nityanandji learnt the Bansuri from Late Pt. Devendra Murdeshwar, a disciple of the legendary Pt. Pannalal Ghosh. Later on, he started learning from Pandita Maa Annapoorna Devi. Nityanandji has been an ardent devotee of his Guru Maa - Pandita Annapoorna Devi ji, a doyen of the Maihar Gharana. A Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee, Pt. Nityanand is deserving of more such Awards, which I hope and pray, he will be honoured with, in the near future.

**Sadanand Naimpalli, SantaCruz, Mumbai**

**Dear Editor,** We received the latest copy of the Kanara Saraswat today. I spent a lot of time reading the various articles and wanted to mention that it was a pleasure reading it in such detail.

It has a new bright and colourful look, even some ads look so colourful. The interview with Pt. Nityanand Haldipur was very good. There is a kind of freshness to the Kanara Saraswat now and it is making a difference! Way to go Team KS!

**Anand Nilekani, Thane**

Starting April'22, the Best Letter to the Editor carries a cash prize of Rs 200

(Cont'd on page 14)

## RESTORING KASHI GLORY: THE MAN AND THE MISSION

POONAM BURDE (DY. NEWS EDITOR, TIMES NETWORK)

The Kashi Vishwanath corridor that was recently inaugurated seeks to restore the lost glory of a temple that is revered by Indians cutting across caste, class and regions. The transformation that we see today is a culmination of years of hard work, determination and a vision that not many had faith in. Yes, the grand makeover took place during a BJP government in the state of Uttar Pradesh, but it's not just the political will that made it happen. The ground work was done by many foot soldiers of Lord Shiva and one such is Nitin Ramesh Gokarn, who spearheaded the project.

2005 was the year, when Nitin Ramesh Gokarn had his first exposure to Varanasi. He recalls the state of affairs in the temple town back then. Even though lakhs of devotees thronged Kashi to seek blessings of the Lord Vishwanath, what greeted them were narrow lanes with garbage strewn around. They came to a town that was unplanned, disorganised and chaotic to say the least. A sanctum sanctorum that was completely dark with very little natural light penetrating in and stench from the unclean premises was how devotees sought their blessings. A visit at any hour would thus entail just a few moments with the deity, after perhaps hours of jostling in queues. No flyovers, no infrastructure and a dilapidated sewage system in one of the 12 abodes of Lord Shiva.

Deputed as the Commissioner of Varanasi, Nitin Gokarn was instrumental to wanting to change the face of the temple and the city itself. And thus began the mission of Kashi Kalyan. In 2005, the initial landscaping began, rebuilding and restoration of some of the other temples around Kashi Vishwanath. The first real renovation of the temple premises began in 2007. The Vishwanath-Tarkeshwar passage was a narrow one, it was opened up. Passage of light in *Garbagriha* was blocked by a high wall right in the front of it. The wall was broken and now devotees could now see the *Shivling* clearly as they offered prayers. Slowly began the groundwork for the rejuvenation of Kashi Vishwanath and its surroundings, completely driven by the local administration under the leadership of Nitin Gokarn and with inspiration from a saint. Nitin Gokarn recalls it was a job of a few that changed the face of the premises back then, with absolutely no political interest or backing. No political backing also meant slow progress. The locals didn't trust you, saw you as outsiders and along came bad press. But the idea was clear – make the experience of this pilgrimage for Lord Shiva's devotees as divine as possible. And that kept Nitin and his colleagues going with a single minded purpose.

Shifted out of Varanasi and on central deputation in 2008, Nitin Gokarn no longer remained in-charge of the project. It stayed so until 2015. But his connect with Kashi stayed as strong and his determination steadfast. In 2015, Nitin R Gokarn returned to Varanasi to begin another stint as the Divisional Commissioner there, only to realise not much had changed in the temple town in the years that he was away.

That also meant no progress on the makeover of Kashi. But destiny had some other ideas that made Nitin return and do what Providence wanted, perhaps! In 2017, Gokarn and the Chief Executive officer of Kashi came up with a blueprint that the current dispensation could not say no to. The idea was to expand eastwards from the Kashi Vishwanath temple and reach the Ganga. The aim was to give unfettered access to the temple from the river that is believed to have been brought to Earth and tamed by Lord Shiva. The completed project

### Profile of Nitin R Gokarn:

Born to Late Smt. Meera Gokarn (nee Chandavarkar) and Shri Ramesh Gokarn in Hubli, the town of his maternal grandparents, Nitin grew up and studied in Mumbai till he joined the Civil Services in 1987. Nitin's initial years were in TalmakiWadi and later schooling was in BARC, Anushakti Nagar where his father worked as a Scientist. During his High School the family shifted back to TalmakiWadi and later to Borivali during his College days. He studied in TISS, Chembur for his Master's degree while simultaneously studying for the UPSC exams of 1986 and was selected for the Indian Police Service, 1987 batch and allotted U.P. cadre. He worked first as Asst. Supt. Police at Allahabad and later at Agra and then reappeared for the UPSC 1989 exams while working and was selected for the Indian Administrative Service in the 1990 batch and again allotted U.P. cadre. While working in the I.A.S. he studied for the Chartered Financial Analyst exams from ICFAI Hyderabad and was awarded CFA by ICFAI in 1998. He took a sabbatical during 2004-06 at IIM Bangalore and completed PGP in Public Policy and Management. He has worked as Collector and District Magistrate in Firozabad, Lalitpur and Varanasi and twice as Divisional Commissioner Varanasi. He has also held the additional charges of Vice Chancellor in VBS Purvanchal University, Jaunpur and Vice Chancellor Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi during 2007-08 while working as Divisional Commissioner Varanasi. He has worked for 11 years in the Govt. of India as Secretary Coffee Board, Bangalore under the Ministry of Commerce and as Director JNNURM in the Ministry of Urban Development. He has also worked as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and as CEO of NATRIP under the Ministry of Heavy Industries. He is currently working as Principal Secretary PWD, Govt. of U.P. in Lucknow having worked earlier as Principal Secretary, Housing and Urban Planning Dept., Govt. of U.P.

is a major improvement on the plan he and his colleagues presented, says Gokarn.

Kashi is regarded to be the holiest city in Hinduism and

that meant there were temples and places of worship in every corner of the city. Apart from the main temple, there were temples and idols within the homes of the local residents there. Acquiring the land for the expansion meant that not only did they lose their home, but also their place of worship. Add to that the fact that some properties had no legally defined owners, making the process of acquisition complicated. Some home owners even chose to shut their doors on the government. But Nitin Gokarn recalls that many willingly gave up their land as their offering to the lord of the world. When I asked him about the opposition the project faced, Gokarn said the fact that all hurdles including legal ones were overcome proved that this was Providence. He recalled how even the Chief Justice saw merit in their vision.

Nitin Gokarn is a decorated IAS officer of the 1990 batch and Kashi Vishwanath is one of his proud achievements. Recently awarded the SKOCH honour, Nitin R Gokarn could be more resolute. "I am prepared for brickbats and bouquets" he said, but the awards definitely enable me to do more. To young IAS officers and aspirants, Gokarn has a message of encouragement. He says "the choice you have to make is a simple one, do you want to do better for yourself or do you want to do better for your country". If it is the latter for you, then couldn't be a better role model than Nitin Gokarn. His 30-year IAS career is peppered with enriching experiences and achievements, but perhaps the project that bridges the

spiritual and the temporal is the closest to his heart.

When I spoke to Nitin Gokarn, I could feel that he was driven by a higher power for 15 years to implement his vision, no matter the odds. And what better way to feel connected with this ancient temple and the power of Lord Shiva's *Shakti* than to know that his new abode has at its heart an *Aamchi*.

We wish Nitin Ramesh Gokarn success in all his endeavours which make him and our minuscule community proud to keep our heads high!

Nitin is married to Shreela (nee Ullal) who is an Interior Designer turned Digital and mixed media Artist and owner at Ekakini Art Studio. They have two daughters - Ila Gokarn, their elder daughter, is currently a PhD candidate in Computer Science at the Singapore Management University after having worked in the corporate sector for four years and has recently married Anvesh Madabushi who is Program Manager Electric Vehicles with Daimler in Japan. Their younger daughter Mallika Gokarn holds a Bachelor's Degree in Information Systems and is currently working as Data Scientist at Dell, Singapore and is also a co-founder at Creative Huddle.

Both Ila and Mallika are trained dancers in Bharatanatyam and Kathak respectively, and are currently into Odissi. Both have recently performed together at Huang Bo 2022, the Chinese New Year festival in Singapore.

#### Form IV (see Rule 8)

Statement about ownership and other particulars about the Kanara Saraswat Magazine to be published in the first issue of every year after the last day of February:

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I, the Publisher of 'Kanara Saraswat', hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

28 February, 2022      Nitin G. Gokarn  
Signature of the Publisher,  
Kanara Saraswat

#### Letters to the Editor (Cont'd from page 12)

Dear Sir,

I enjoyed reading our respected Vice President's message in "From the President's Team..." in the February 2022 issue of the magazine. It was a very apt comparison – comparing the mango sapling that was planted by the children many years ago to the founding of KSA in 1911 by our visionary the Late Rao Bahadur Shripad Talmaki. Both these (the mango tree and KSA), stand firmly even today, the fruits of which are being reaped by everyone even today.

Every bhanap must feel proud to see that this foundation laid by our Founder becomes stronger and wider by every member motivating their adult children to enrol as a member of KSA. By enrolling as a member, you are contributing to the tree growing stronger and wider so that the fruits can be reaped by many generations ahead. Further, a small lifetime contribution made by you for becoming a member adds to the Reserve Fund the interest on which is used for charitable activities of our well founded institution. Indeed, this will be our contribution or giving back to our samaj that our respected immediate past Chairman Mr. Jairam Khambadkone has also highlighted in his article "The Art of Giving Back" in the last issue.

Indeed, membership of KSA instills a feeling of belonging and brotherhood amongst us !

**Rajan Kalyanpur,**  
**Santa Cruz Mumbai**



With great sadness, we announce the tragic and untimely passing of **Meera Rao née Shirur, in Mumbai, on 26 December 2021**. She was the devoted daughter of late Gurudas Shirur and late Suniti Shirur (née Bantwal-Bhatt), beloved wife to Dilip Rao and adoring mother to their children, Ridhima and Siddharth.

*"One should never take for granted that those who seek to comfort us, live life untroubled among the simple and quiet words that sometimes do us good. Their lives have much difficulty and sadness and may remain far behind our own. Were it otherwise, they would never have been able to find those words."*

Meera was an exemplar in this respect. She quietly and bravely met life's challenges, reserving all her love and hope for others. Her smile, kindness and gentleness lit up our lives, all too briefly, even in the darkest of times.

Memory is a way to hold on to the things you love, the things you are, the things you never want to lose.

***We shall miss her always.***

**Meera is deeply mourned by**

Dilip, Ridhima & Iain and Siddharth,  
Geeta & Mohan Rao, Ritika, Rishab and Aidan,  
Veena & Anand Shirur,  
Krishna & Shreyas Rao, Nikhil & Roopali,  
Lina & Pradip Rao,  
Jennifer & Tom Rowe-Mitchell,  
family, friends and students.

**9th Death Anniversary  
Fond Remembrance**



**Gurudas Vithal Masurkar**  
(11<sup>th</sup> July 1922 - 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2013)

*You will always live in our hearts...*

**Wife:**

Mira

**Children:**

Nandini-Shivaram

Vinay-Sujata

Kishore-Rita

**Grandchildren:**

Neeta Sheila-Prashant

Amit-Aastha Anirudh

Nikhil-Anjula Namita-Mihir

**Great-grandchildren:**

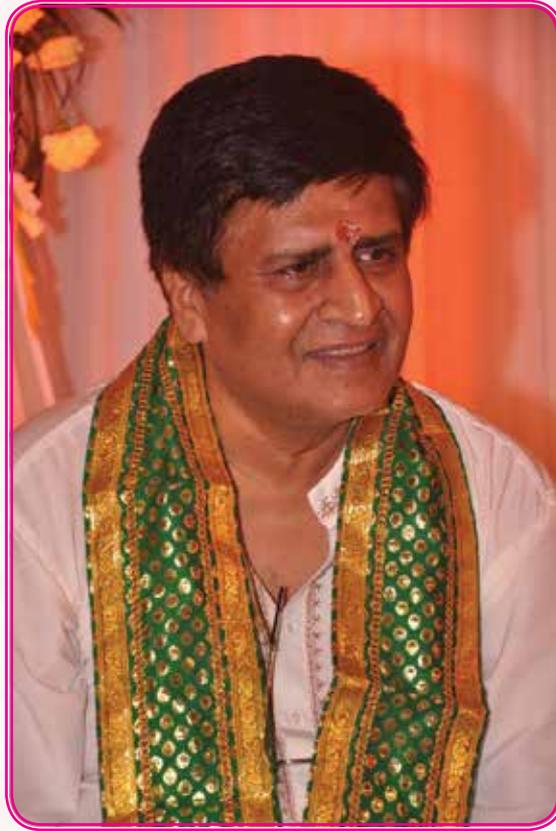
Ojas Vihaan Vera

Aanya Anaaya

**All his near and dear relatives and friends**

**Staff of Entod Pharmaceuticals Ltd.**

## OBITUARY



### **VIJAY MURLIDHAR GOKARN**

**September 16, 1953 – January 17, 2022.**

It is with great sadness that The Gokarn Family announces the peaceful passing of their beloved Vijay M. Gokarn, 68, on January 17th, 2022, at New Jersey, USA.

Vijay's life was defined by his passion for family, his ability to make everyone around him laugh, his absolute selflessness and his helpful nature. He achieved so much in life professionally and personally, but never spoke a word of his achievements or success.

He will always be remembered for his humble nature, his ability to give without receiving, his patience, his humour, his resilience and his ability to fight for those he loved. He will forever be missed, and continue to live in our hearts with his warm smile shining upon us all!

He is survived by his wife, Aparna, daughters Niketa and Sarita, sons-in-law Chintan and Ghalib, his 4 young grandchildren, mother Sunanda Gokarn, sister in law Gayatri Gokarn & family, brother Uday Gokarn/sister in law Veena & family, mother in law Chandrika Burde, brother in law Pratap Burde/sister in law Gouri & family, sister in law Shobha Burde & family.

# SAMPARKA

## “Swâmijî is coming to USA and Canada!”

BY ANILA MASKERI

What excitement! The anticipation, expectations of the *Bhânâp* laity were immense. The news spread quickly, and preparations commenced immediately. Meetings were called and we hurried to make arrangements for our dear Swâmijî to be amongst us for eight weeks in the summer of 1979. What a BOON!

Excitement yes, enthusiasm galore. It was a small community then, of some 60-odd people.

Pûjya Swâmijî arrived in the morning from USA at our home and was received with *Kumkuma* water, garlanded and then presented with the “*Mâna Patra*”. Much happiness prevailed over all who were present. For days prior to HH’s arrival, being inexperienced, I was quite anxious about how to receive, converse, and interact with spiritual dignitaries; so I prayed to Him to guide



all the members got used to His appealing manner, the outcome was all the more enjoyable.

When Lord Bhavânîshankar comes into one’s home, every activity centers around timely daily pûjâ-s, *naivedya* and offerings by various people. There were also the daily meals, rest periods, local sightseeing and educational trips with related activities, invitations by local communities and individuals.

### Some the highlights:

- A day trip to see one of the grandest of all God’s Creations – The Niagara Falls – from all three levels
- Some fruit farms along the way with free fruit to pick and eat, and fruit to buy; apple varieties and strawberries – the King of Canadian fruit.
- Landscaped Gardens
- The ocean-like Lake Ontario, with all its attractions.
- Dairy farming and milk production and distribution.



me at all times and that this visit be a successful and memorable one.

Swâmijî Himself put me in a comfortable frame of mind. He adjusted to the environment effortlessly and put everyone at ease, so life flowed very smoothly thereafter. All had a prayerful and enjoyable time. His kindness, serenity, silence and jovial touch, all helped to make all of us feel very comfortable and blessed indeed. It was Swâmijî’s wish that He should not be treated differently, but just like another member of the group. When



• Week-long visits to Ottawa and Montreal, Manitoba, and Mississauga – where a thread ceremony was celebrated.

• Last but not least – A trip to Toronto's Ward Island.

All the members and guests helped to add joy, fun and hard work in one way or another to every event. No write up would be complete without due acknowledgment to all those who are still fresh in my memory, though it is failing due to age.

Shrī Sadānand Mankikar was appointed the President and he coordinated the entire visit with great thought to detail. Late Shrī Māsūrkar Bhālchandra mām volunteered as an additional *Panditjī* and attended to all the morning duties of cleaning etc. for Lord Bhavānīshankar along with the *Math* appointed Bhattu-s and performed *pūjā*-s daily as his personal contribution. He also kept a vigilant eye on the safety of the Lord and our *Gurudeva*. Various members offered to escort *Gurudeva* to places that HH Swāmījī wanted to see plus, the regular local sights of interest. Shrī Ashok Kuchinād from London, Ontario designed and made two *āsana*-s for the *Panditjī*-s to use during *pūjā*-s.

Finally, my dear mother Smt. Indīrābaī Shrīpād Mankikar was the Queen of the kitchen. She was a Senior Citizen in her 80's and planned all the daily menus doing the bulk of the delicious daily cooking punctually. For *Ananta Chaturdashī* she had planned and prepared for 800 "*Pūranapolī*-s" to be made. It was only in the final stages that she was assisted by

two women folk and Shri Vaknallī Bhat mām to roll and roast the *polī*-s. He also helped her in the kitchen occasionally. When one thinks and does cooking for the Lord, all food turns out delicious. From childhood stories I've heard there used to be an elderly cook at Shirālī *Math* in olden times. He used to add a basket of salt to the curries during any *utsava*, when people/ attendees are in plenty, saying " Bhavānīshankarā *Tūn Pāva*", and it all turned out very tasty!

The end of the visit was upon us before we realized it. We all went to Credit river for the last of the *pūjā*-s, and thank Lord Bhavānīshankar and pay one's obeisance to Him for a glorious Chāturmāsa celebration in Toronto.

The Lord planned the final event so well. Late Shrī Mudbidrī Somshekar mām came for the last *Darshana* of our *Gurudeva* with a sack full of lovely apples! His Holiness blessed each one present with a "Smiling Red Apple" while doing their final *Namaskāra*. All the "children" were so happy and it was wonderful to see all the joyful faces, including His, as He leaned against an oak to observe the Lord's bliss!

Finally, what does one remember? What does one take home, apart from a lot of buzzing activity for 8 weeks? Is that ALL?

*Gurudeva*'s presence: IT was there before He arrived in Toronto; IT stayed with us when HE was with us, and IT will stay with each one of us forever and ever and ever...

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## Why Business Networking

By THE CSN TEAM

In our last article in January 2022 issue, we saw at length why Networking is important. Indeed the question that may arise in the minds of a Bhanap Entrepreneur not exposed to any Business Networking Platform "What's in it for ME" a fairly logical and expected question. Bhanap Entrepreneurs who have been associated with any such platform would and do know the benefits of Networking, and are aware that Business Networking is one of the most effective method to expand one's business.

It must be - at the outset - realised by the uninitiated entrepreneur, that Business Networking is NOT ONLY about generating more business for oneself (which can be safely perceived as an effective by-product of our individual and group networking efforts) **CREATING and BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS**, which is the MOST IMPORTANT objective and benefit of Business Networking. Buildings need time to reach completion, probably that's why it is called "Building Relationships". Relationships generated through Business Networking are like the fruitful result of a courtship. Both sides work to generate and build a bond and keep working to strengthen a bond.

David Lammy, British MP, says "A good life depends on the strength of our relationships with family, friends, neighbours, colleagues and strangers". Similarly Good and Effective Networking depends on the strength of our relationships with our Networking partners.

To buttress this point we could refer to the definition of Business Networking as propounded by Dr. Ivan Misner, founder of the premier international Networking platform, BNI "**Business Networking is the process of developing and activating your relationships to increase your business, enhance your knowledge and expand your sphere of influence.**"

So we could safely aver that one of the most important benefits of Business Networking is the relationships members are able to build. BBB - Build Relationships - Bond well - Business Betterment.

Another benefit is the eventual pleasing feeling of mutual self help which arises out of helping or sincerely trying to help networking partner/s achieve their desired business expansion goals.

Individually we ALL end up networking or trying to network when we need something. Like searching for a job for someone, we would search for a known source who could help the desirous candidate land a job. In fact nowadays, hiring / recruitment through referrals is actually encouraged in many progressive organisations.

Bhanaps Business Owners would, we are confident, agree that this approach would also work very effectively for Business. Getting started with a known vendor (known because it would be a referral from a credible source). What KSA-CSN aims to achieve is help organise a formal structured Business Networking Set-up where Bhanap Business Owners meet, interact, bond and help each other achieve mutual business goals in any which way one can.

The various activities planned towards achieving this objective are

- a) KSA-CSN Database - Bhanap Business owners can register their enterprises at [www.kanarasaraswat.in/csn](http://www.kanarasaraswat.in/csn)
- b) Bhanap Business Yellow Pages - A periodical listing of registered database members for circulation.
- c) ECM's (**E**ntrepreneur **C**lub **M**eetings) - pre-fixed periodical meetings where Business Owners meet, interact and bond, know each other and mutual plans better, these meets facilitate the process of mutual co-assistance between business owners. These meets are presently randomly organised virtually. Eventually once environs permit, these meets are intended to be physical meets at proximate geographically convenient locations and would be held at pre-fixed intervals and day/s.
- d) 1on1 meets - a detailed face to face meeting between 2 KSA-CSN members, organised based on mutual convenience of the participants.

HELP US TO HELP YOU  
**ONE UP FOR BHANAP**

## Minutes

*Across the forehead's highway*

A gigantic web, woven  
From question marks  
Milestoning the years –

Did I bolt the balcony door?  
Does Baby wait till  
The light turns green?  
Will I, won't I catch that flight?  
Will he be late again, tonight?

Now, on this soft heap of  
Mellow bones, the muslin  
Of gossamer skin sits lightly  
Swatting memories, like monsoon flies

Morning is a grilled window  
Milkman, paper boy, three vegetable carts  
And the robust thighs of  
Two grandchildren  
Thudding down the drive...

The tweak of the rocking chair  
Spaces out the afternoon, till  
A doorbell, or a clattering cup  
Jolts the pulse and breaks  
The nap..

Evening is a walking stick, two  
Slow rounds in the park, till  
The mosquitoes arrive...  
A lonely bench, unhappy knees and a pista kulfi  
If no eyes pry...

As darkness swallows  
Yet another day  
Beyond the sizzle of  
Paratha in ghee, beyond  
The babble and blanketed  
Out of sight  
Just the hiss, of  
A soft snore  
Gentling the night...

**Shailaja Ganguly**

*Smt. Shailaja Ganguly is a merit scholar of Bombay University with a first class degree in English Literature and German as a subsidiary. She has done many voice-over workshops. She is a journalist and was with the Times of India as Deputy Editor, FEMINA. She has published several books on various topics.*

## AN APPEAL

### BALAK VRINDA EDUCATION SOCIETY (BVES)

A majority amongst us know "Talmakiwadi" as one of the oldest Cooperative Housing Societies. Another institution viz. the BalakVrida Education Society's (BVES's) school is in Wadi. The history of this school dates back 81 years; founded in 1939 through the philanthropic efforts of our elders. The BVES (a private Bhanap institution without Government grants) imparted uninterrupted education and managed 5 (five) schools and a junior college and was self-sufficient till the Covid-19 pandemic struck.

We, at BVES have stuck to the ideals of our elders to fulfil the objectives of our founders. The pandemic has impacted the lower strata of society badly. Majority of the students are wards of domestic help, daily wage earners or from lower strata of society. This has meant forced drop-outs from schools impacting collection of fees with resultant impact on fixed costs like maintenance/ salaries etc with the student's strength being reduced to 800.

There was an inspection of the school's premises by Department of Education in compliance of which a Certificate needs to be provided to them by September 30, 2022. Based on their directive, BVES undertook a survey conducted by an approved structural engineer. On the basis of this report, quotations indicated a funds requirement of nearly Rs. 75 Lakhs. In addition to the monthly strain on revenues to maintain the school afloat, this additional gap needs to be **URGENTLY** filled.

Education is the backbone of our society. We therefore appeal to our fellow Bhanaps in India and abroad, and your circles including any of the school's **alumni**, to support BVES's fund raising efforts to carry out major repairs to the building infrastructure to prevent further damage for the children's safety. This will help 'make a difference in the lives of many underprivileged children who may be deprived of education because of their meagre resources. BVES has an FCNR approval for foreign donation. All donations to BVES are eligible for the exemption u/s 80-G, of the Income Tax Act, 1960. A humble request to help the cause, for financial support howsoever small, so that the sum total exceeds the objective. We will appreciate if you can send us an email on [balakvrinda@gmail.com](mailto:balakvrinda@gmail.com) or SMS /WhatsApp on 9819921093 / 9869925373 so that a detailed appeal can be sent to you mentioning the "Payee Account Number" and other details to choose the appropriate support for the cause.

**On behalf of the Managing Committee**

## Profile:

# Sadhana Khambatkone in Conversation with Smt Kusum Gokarn

Kusum Madhukar Gokarn is a journalist, poet and a multi-faceted personality who has kept pace with the latest changing trends. Her attitude and zest for life even at the age of 85 is an inspiration for all of us. As her niece, Sadhana Khambatkone, I talked to her through her life's journey.

**Let's start with a sneak peek into your childhood. Please tell us all about it.**

KG: I was born on 24<sup>th</sup> February 1936, to Vasanti and Dr. Mangalore Rama Rao. I spent my childhood in Limaye Building, Grant Road, Mumbai with my older siblings Anand, Bhaskar and younger sister Manik. I had four other boys of my age for company, so I picked up all their games like cricket, playing with marbles. I was a *pucca* tomboy, a daredevil. I would climb on the roof of my parents' flat on the top floor of our building or the water pipes and water tanks on our terrace to fly kites or to collect cut-down kites. My brothers used to tease me and call me Fearless Nadia, the popular Hindi film actress of those times. It gives me the creeps to just think of my naughty acts during my childhood!

**What were the defining influences on you during your teenage? You had varied interests such as photography, a field few girls ventured into in the 50s, in contrast to knitting. We would love to hear about these.**

KG: During my teens I learnt photography from my neighbor we called Limaye Nana, an elderly professional photographer. I was the model for his photographs during my childhood, some of which were published in foreign magazines. My photo as a six-month old with my mother won him a prize in a photo journal in London. Nana would print and enlarge his photographs in a dark room in his flat which I used to watch keenly. Thus, I developed an avid interest in photography. Nana bought me my first box-camera and taught me the basics. Later I got a folding camera of a German make, Voightlander. My parents bought filters, close-up lens, large bulbs, camera-stand and a flash gun for me. I used to take photos of my family and friends at home and during our family outings to picnic spots and get my camera roll printed at a nearby studio. Nana even got one photograph of flowers taken by me published in a magazine 'Anand'. By the time I was in my teens, I had collected quite a large number of photos I clicked which I have preserved. Another hobby I enjoyed was knitting, which I learnt from Nana's relative, Akka. I bought knitting books in English; gifted baby-sets to children and later knit for my sons. My knitting hobby waned after I took to creative writing. I was also fond of writing verses, at first in Marathi and later in English. I inherited this creative talent from my father. Though a medical practitioner he wrote Marathi *bhajans*. Nana encouraged me a lot. He also got two of my poems published in the same magazine 'Anand'. I passed SSC from St. Agnes High School and graduated in 1958 with B.A.Hons.from Wilson College Chowpatty with English Literature as my specialised subject and French as my subsidiary subject.

**Tell us about your life after marriage...**

I stood first from my English Dept. and got a scholarship to pursue a Master's degree in English Literature, my favorite subject. But my parents found a prospective groom for me and persuaded me to give up the idea of further studies. So, I surrendered my scholarship and agreed to marry Madhukar Ramarao Gokarn, a Civil Engineer, on 30<sup>th</sup> May in 1958.

**How did you enter the field of Journalism?**

Shortly after I got married, I went to Ahmednagar where my husband was posted in the Military Engineering Services. We were staying in the Camp area which was too far from the local college. So I thought of taking up a postal course in the study of Journalism through the British Institute of London. I completed the two year course within one year on 19<sup>th</sup> April 1960.

The same night I went to the hospital to deliver my first child. Thereafter, I took up freelance Journalism and started writing stories, articles and poems. I sent my work to magazines like Femina, Eve's Weekly, Mirror and Caravan. Though I got a pittance for my published writings, I was thrilled to see them in print. Thus, I could pursue



my hobby of writing from wherever we lived. My first article published in Femina was titled 'What With Gundu Around'. It was humorous, revolving around my naughty first-born son.

**The spiritual side of you comes through in most of your poetry. Can you elaborate on that?**

I have inherited this trait too from my father who was deeply spiritual. Almost ten years after my marriage when my husband was posted in Mumbai, I got the opportunity to attend a study group of some members of Swami Chinmayananda Mission at Colaba, close to our residence. I thus began my basic study of Vedanta through Swami Chinmayananda's books on Hindu philosophy. I also joined Royal Asiatic Library at Ballard Estate and continued reading books on Eastern and Western philosophy. I was deeply influenced by the writings of J. Krishnamurthy who was a free thinker. Consequently, my poetry became coloured with philosophical thoughts. The titles of my three published poetry books are – The Divine Union (1970), The Desert Blossom (1972) which is entirely based on the philosophy of Vedanta and Love Nectar (1981).

**What are your other interests and activities?**

After doing a Film Appreciation Course jointly sponsored by Film & Television Institute of India (FTII) and National Film Archives of India (NFAI) in Pune in 1974, I got a Govt. scholarship to undertake two research projects. The first

was in 1975, on Films of Violence. The second was in 1986 on Marathi and Hindi Devotional Films. In 1975 I did a B.Lib. Sc.degree course in Library Science and got the job of a Senior Librarian in NFAI, Pune. Girish Karnad, the famous film actor and director was the Director of FTII at that time. His mother Krishnabai would invite me to their bungalow during my lunch-break.

I got to see a whole lot of art films in Indian and foreign languages from all over the world that were projected daily in FTII theatre. I



also met some famous visiting film directors and actors like Satyajit Ray, Hrishikesh Mukherji, Aparna Sen, Amitabh and Jaya Bachchan, Shashi Kapoor, and many more. Also, Shabana Azmi and Om Puri, who later got a break in my uncle, Shyam Benegal's films; Mukesh Khanna who acted later as

Bhishma in the T.V. serial Mahabharat were students in FTII during the seventies while I was employed there. I left my job within a couple of years to join my husband in his transferrable job in MES. Thereafter, I resumed my freelance writing of articles and reviews of films for magazines. Since 1997 I got involved in the Senior Citizens' Movement initiated by Lt. Col. Madhav Athavale in Pune. I became a member of ASCOP (Association of Senior Citizens of Pune), FESCOM (Federation of Senior Citizens of Maharashtra) and Pensioner Magazine. I contributed articles to their magazines. We would often put up stalls in exhibitions held in Pune to publicise our activities. We would also take out *morchas* on the streets of Pune with banners, to create awareness amongst the public about the problems of senior citizens, such as lifestyle management, health and finance; especially if they are staying independently on their own, away from their children. We visited several Old Age Homes in and around Pune, like Athashree and Dignity Lifetsyle Homes at Neral, to see their living conditions. I wrote regular articles on these topics in newspapers and magazines.

In 1998 I started a club for senior citizens in the premises of Meera Society, Salisbury Park, Pune. I organised meetings and lectures by eminent persons by way of information and entertainment for elders and sent the coverage to newspapers and magazines. After my husband's demise in 2010, I

continued to stay in my flat by myself. Since the last ten years, Golden Nest has become a Society, open to residents of all ages. I feel very comfortable and secure staying by myself in Golden Nest. Moreover, my elder son Vivek and his family stay close by in another society which gives me extra safety and protection.

#### **How do you spend your time now?**

I am on the Managing Committee of Golden Nest Society and take part in organising meetings and entertainment parties for our residents on festivals and special occasions like the World Elders' Day. I am a life member of Dignity Foundation, Mumbai, since 1995. It provides enrichment services for senior citizens. Its monthly magazine 'Dignity Dialogue' publishes articles of interest to elders. I have been contributing my articles and poems to 'Dignity Dialogue' from the start. Being fond of literature and music, I have joined several clubs like Book Club, Literature Club and Gyaan Adab, which holds cultural programs on music and arts. I recite my poems in these clubs during our annual literary festival. Recently, after a break of almost 30 years or more I have resumed singing light songs in Hindi during our Solo Singing program in Dignity club. Due to the Pandemic our programs are taking place on Zoom.

#### **Are you comfortable with the computer and the latest social media groups?**

Yes, since I was used to typing my letters and articles on my Remington typewriter, I was comfortable learning to type on the computer. I am also hooked on to my mobile most of the time and have joined several Whatsapp groups on it. I enjoy exchanging news and forwards with my relatives and friends in India and abroad. I am also fond of watching Marathi serials and Hindi movies on the T.V. and listening to film songs in Marathi and Hindi on the radio. I feel completely fulfilled in my life.

#### **Can you share your thoughts about your qualities or ideology which have helped you through all the highs and lows of life?**

I come from a joint family background steeped in Hindu religion. My mother was very strict in observing her daily prayers and rituals but my father was liberal in his views. Though he himself was a strict vegetarian, he would feed me a raw egg daily to improve my health. By nature I am very adjustable. Since I have travelled all over India, I have learnt to adapt and adjust with all sorts of people. I believe in the policy 'Live and let live'.

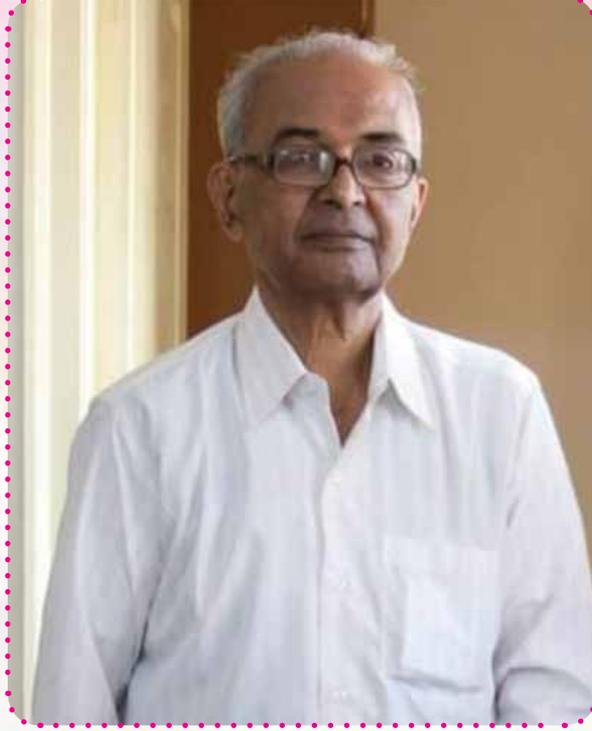
Kusum Gokarn can be reached at [gokarnkusum@gmail.com](mailto:gokarnkusum@gmail.com)

*About the Author : Sadhana Khambatkone is from Goregaon, Mumbai. She has been contributing articles to KS and Dignity Dialogue magazines, off and on. Sadhana can be reached at [spkhambatkone@gmail.com](mailto:spkhambatkone@gmail.com)*

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**Please donate books written by Amchi writers or Books on Saraswat Community to KSA Reference Library for Scholastic or Research Purpose.**

## Obituary Prabhakar Shankar Basrur



With deep sorrow, we would like to convey the demise of Prabhakar Shankar Basrur (Baab maam). He passed away in his sleep peacefully and took his last breath on 31st January at 7.30 am at the age of 98 at his residence in Malleswaram, Bangalore.

Words would fall short if one is asked to describe him. His love, benevolence, jovial, helping nature and exuberant positive energy that always surrounded him, made him special and one of the most amazing persons in our entire family. He had a selfless nature and had given most of his life in the service of God, Guru Parampara and to see us all happy.

He was extremely hardworking, very creative and a multi-talented artist. He was also a travel enthusiast, a dedicated, loving husband and father, ever caring and a motivating grandfather and many more qualities that have made him a role model to all of us over the years. We will always look up to him in our lifetime and so every moment seems empty without him.

Together, we pray, remember him and believe that his soul will attain sadgati. May the Almighty be by his side in his journey to heaven.

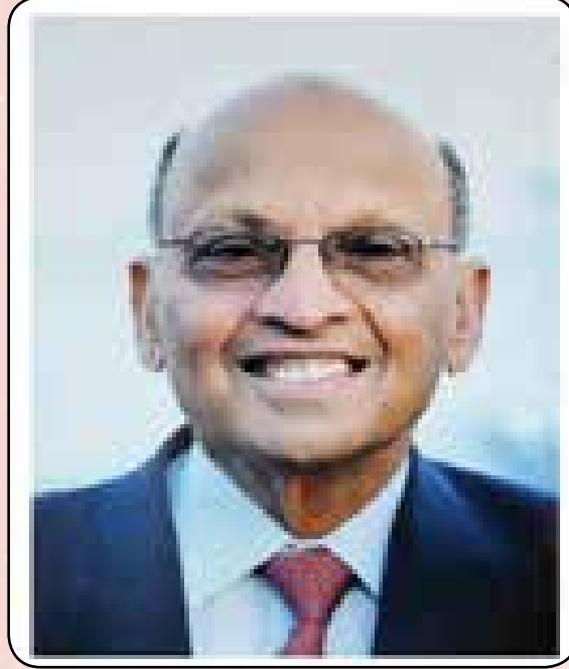
Let the divine light continue to shine upon him. He will always remain in our hearts.

### **Fondly remembered by:**

Kumud P Basur (Wife), Vrinda Nitin Ubhayakar and Jyoti Suraj Kalbag (daughters),  
Nitin Ubhayakar and Suraj Kalbag (Sons in law),  
Neeraj Ubhayakar and Neil Kalbag (grandsons),  
All close relatives and friends.

# **GURUDAS L. BAILUR - A TRIBUTE**

(25<sup>th</sup> July, 1935 – 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2022)



A brilliant academic career, with obtaining a rank in top ten at the Matriculation Examination of the former Bombay Province, topping all the five examinations of the Hindi Prachar Samiti in Wardha, being placed in the top ten positions in the prestigious Union Public Service Commission Competitive Examination for the Indian Administrative Service and the Indian Foreign Service thus being eligible for entry into either, followed by a distinguished career as a Civil Servant in the state of Haryana and in the Government of India ending with an assignment with the Commonwealth Secretariat in London as Special Adviser. His colleague in the Service, Mr. N.N.Vohra, former Governor of Jammu & Kashmir paid this tribute published in the Tribune Newspaper published from Chandigarh – “He was an extremely competent, devoted, humble, caring and a thoroughbred gentleman whose going away shall be missed by one and all”.

## **Deeply Missed By:**

Bailurs, Hejmadis, Gangollis, Haladys, Khambadkones and Haldipurs



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## **THE FIGHTING SPIRIT**

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

Major R D Law (later Brigadier) and I together attended the year-long Staff College course at Wellington in the Nilgiris, in 1971. By July that year, more than half our course was over and we were looking forward to receiving our posting orders by September. We were blissfully enjoying the salubrious summer hill climate even as a lot of hush-hush activity was going on in the army. Given the developments taking place in East Pakistan, we all knew that something was brewing because key unit personnel were being recalled from leave, we heard of the cancellation of an odd training course, units were being brought up to strength and equipment deficiencies were being made up. The signs of preparation for war were in full swing. War clouds were gathering over the horizon.

Maj. Law was an Armoured Corps officer; a tank man. He was suddenly taken off the course and whisked away to Ahmednagar on 'operational immediate' basis to raise a new independent armoured squadron and I lost touch with him briefly after that. I was hoping that I too would get posted to an active formation in the war zone and God heard my prayer. On the evening of 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 1971, even as I was reporting at Chotan in Rajasthan to the Headquarters of 330 Infantry Brigade, which was then a part of 11 Infantry Division, in the Barmer Sector of the Western Front, we were bombed by Pakistani aircraft returning from their pre-emptive air strike on Uttarlai airbase. It signalled the start of the 1971 Indo-Pak war which ended with the liberation of Bangladesh and India taking over 93,000 Pakistani prisoners of war.

In the Western desert sector, 11 Infantry Division was deep inside Pakistan, fighting its way towards Hyderabad city in Sind. The leading elements had temporarily halted at NayaChor, just short of the commencement of the green belt. And lo and behold! It was here I met Maj RD Law again. His armoured squadron had been attached to my brigade for a special operation. However, the war came to a halt at that juncture with India declaring a unilateral ceasefire.

Col.Dharam Raj Singh of 17 Raj Rif (Sawaiman) very graphically narrates the story of the

6 (Independent) Armoured Squadron.

"6 (Independent) Armoured Squadron (later part of 75 Armoured Regiment), one of the Indian tank units completed its raising on 13th November 1971 at Ahmednagar. Immediately thereafter, it moved to its battle location in Jaisalmer Sector.

"The Squadron reached Jaisalmer on 01 December 1971. Since most officers and men had been milked from other armoured regiments, they were yet to be drilled into a cohesive team. The officers of the squadron forming part of Major Law's team were:-

- Captain A.K Bhatia- Second in Command.
- Lieutenant Ved Pal Singh Dahiya- Troop Commander.

• Second Lieutenant K.R Bhadbhade- Troop Commander.

"Even though war was imminent, most tank crews had yet to remove the insignias of their original units. Old loyalties take time to die. As such they still stuck on to what they had learnt in their previous units. The squadron was in throes of initial teething problems that normally plague new raisings. Requisite governmental orders, authorizing the raising too had yet to arrive. Consequently, the squadron found it difficult to draw the much needed spares, fuel and ammunition. To sort out these problems, the Squadron Commander liaised with everyone that mattered, but in vain. As a last resort Major Law sent an 'Un-fit for War Report' to the Division. Fortunately, he found a patient listener in Colonel Dev, the Colonel General Staff of 12 Infantry Division. He arranged for him to meet the GOC and explain his problems. The shocked General got into 'direct control mode'. He bulldozed his way through all resistance to meet the squadron's needs.

"An exercise was organized for initial running-in and the first oil change of its new tanks. This was also the first opportunity for Major Law to exercise his command. The squadron commenced its exercise on 1st December. Constant intervention and coaxing by Major Law to sort out inter-personal issues also formed its part. The art is known only to those who have raised new units.

"They reached Tanot the next day i.e. 2nd Dec 1971. The same day, Lieutenant Dahiya had to be evacuated to Military Hospital Jodhpur. He had acute piles, the bleeding variety.

On the morning 4th December, the squadron was ordered to move to Kishengarh to be launched towards Rahimyar Khan. It formed part of 30 Infantry Brigade.

"However that night, i.e. 4<sup>th</sup>/ 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 1971, the Battle of Longewala happened. About four kms short of Kishengarh, the Squadron was ordered to change its axis of advance by 180 degrees & head for Longewala. It reached Longewala after last light & harboured inside the area defended by 17 RAJ RIF (Sawaiman) for the night. The tanks had done approximately 160 Km of move on track under battle conditions. They had just completed their initial running in. Its crew too were now fully integrated for battle on the morrow.

"On 8th Dec 1971 the Squadron was grouped with 6/5 Gurkhas to assault its objective. The attacking Companies of the unit ('A' and "D" Companies) were led by Major D S Drall and Major J S Hamal.

"Major Law's squadron joined them at the assault line. Though the H-hour was still 5 minutes away, the troops were ready in the forming-up-place. Major Law came on the radio to obtain a 'Ready for Assault Report' from his leading tanks. He was surprised to find 'Lieutenant Dahiya's voice among those who reported. The officer had just deserted from Military Hospital, Jodhpur to join the squadron in action. It was almost

H-hour and there was no time for further questions. The Squadron Commander asked the officer to 'see him' during the reorganization stage of the battle after the actual assault had been executed.

"6/5 GR with 6 (Independent) Armoured Squadron attacked and captured the objective. Large amounts of arms and ammunition abandoned by the enemy were also captured. Thereafter the combat group started reorganizing itself. Soon, a lone figure jumped out from one of the tanks and approached the Squadron Commander's tank. Major Law peeped out of the cupola to find Lieutenant Dahiya before him.

"Maj. Law enquired from him how he happened to be there, when he should have been in MH Jodhpur? Lieutenant Dahiya gave his explanation and reasons to leave the MH without orders. The reason for his desertion was "How could I show my face to my ancestors and my village?" His village had enjoyed a long military tradition. The officer desired to avoid a loss of face before his 'kith and kin'. Thereafter Lieutenant Dahiya joined every attack that the Squadron launched. The last one was on 9th Dec 1971 at B.P 638. After that he had to be forcibly evacuated back to MH Jodhpur since he was suffering from excessive loss of blood. Lieutenant Dahiya escaped punishment for being AWOL from the hospital on recommendation of Maj. Law, his Officer Commanding. The desertion was not cowardice. The officer had returned to rejoin his unit in the battlefield.

"The CO, MH is reported to have gone to Dahiya's sick bed personally and exonerated him for the offense: telling him not to do it again. Accepting his fault, the officer agreed. However CO, MH returned to ask once again, "Are you sure you will keep your word"? Though weak due to loss of blood, Dahiya shouted 'No Sir'; forcing the doctors and nursing staff of the ward to burst out in laughter.

Lt Dahiya is but one example of the praiseworthy, indomitable, fighting spirit of our young Indian Army officers.

The squadron had also been baptised by fire and a raw, brand new, raising had been woven into a battle hardened fighting unit in a very short time. The stories of valour and successes in war scripted the squadron's name into the regimental history books. Thanks to exemplary leadership in war.

After the war, a regrouped 330 Infantry Brigade (my formation) was left to hold on to the entire Pakistani occupied area whilst the majority of 11 Infantry Division units returned to their permanent locations. The armoured squadron was also left in location to support the brigade. 330 Infantry Brigade held the captured areas till the delineation talks with Pakistan were completed a year later.

After the brigade had settled into its new role, the units were given some time to regain command and control and make up their equipment and ammunition requirements. The troops also deserved a little well earned rest.

The Brigade Commander, Brig. Gurjit Singh Randhawa, of the Sikh Regiment, then decided to invite the commanding officers to Gadra Road in the makeshift Brigade Officers' Mess for an informal Sunday brunch. Maj. R D Law drove up in his battle tank at high speed and suddenly slewed around and came to an abrupt halt in front of the mess entrance; the tank tracks churning up a virtual sand storm. The thick cloud of sand descended on the mess building and everybody in it. RD Law jumped out of the cupola with a big naughty grin. His black beret and bushy moustache covered in sand, he cheerfully greeted everyone.

Everybody cursed RD Law as they brushed off the sand from their persons. The Commander was livid because he had to wash out his hair and beard a second time that morning. However, the Commander also had a good laugh later as we raised our beer mugs to say 'cheers'.

After all, we had won the war!

## Solution to Feb '22 Ganesha Crossword

KSA invites members to actively participate in solving Crosswords. It is a healthy tonic for the brain.

From April 2022, KSA announces a cash prize of ₹ 200 for accurately solving the Crossword.

If there are multiple winners, which is a distinct possibility, the Winner will be decided by lots. The names of others who also solve correctly, will be published alongside.

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## SARASWAT MARRIAGES

G. A. Chandavarkar

Published in May 1939 KS

Of the social problems that affect the welfare of our community there is none so great, perhaps with the solitary exemptions of unemployment as the one of marriages. Other things being suitable, domestic happiness largely depends upon the nature of the contracting parties.

They say that marriages are made in heaven, but it seems to me that on this earth astrologers make and unmake them. Even the highly educated people amongst us feel that the agreement of the horoscopes of the couple is the *sine qua non* of a happy family life. If the gotras of the parties are identical, the alliances are deemed fit. This latter, of course, has some scientific basis for it. But the case of horoscopes stands on a different footing altogether. A layman fails to understand the rationale of this horoscope affair. It is said that the two horoscopes must agree in certain gunas, Till now a large number of our marriages have been celebrated after a careful comparison of the horoscopes of the couples. Still the number of widows and widowers is woefully large – which drives me to the irresistible conclusion that either the astrological calculations were wrong or the comparison was meaningless. On the other hand, I know of very happy alliances that were contracted without any consultation of the astrologers whatsoever.

The inferences of all this is obvious. In these days when registered marriages are becoming popular, it is time some one should explain the rationale of the agreement of the horoscopes. Can a central astrological bureau be established anywhere, preferably at the Math, to explain the significance of horoscopes? If the need for the tallying of the horoscopes be established beyond the shadow of a doubt, it would be a source of no small income to the Bureau. A father having one or two marriageable sons is often pestered with requests to send in copies of their horoscopes and there are submitted to the judgement of certain so-called “astrologers”. Their versions are often conflicting. The believers also will welcome the decisions of a recognised astrological bureau. Is astrology a science that does really affect the future of a family and its members? An answer to this query will be welcomed by all, including the sceptics.

The system of kanyashulka or hundis can with advantage be replaced by the system of Life Insurance. Every bridegroom’s life should necessarily be insured and the policy be assigned to the bride. The father-in-law, if he chooses, can pay the premiums until such time as the son-in-law will be able to pay them. It may lighten the burden of all the parties in case of any mishap.

As matters stand at present, it seems advisable that the horoscope affair should not be given much importance and that insurance should take place of Vara-dakshina. If the horoscope be deemed essential, let a well established and authorised bureau decide the fate of the contracting parties

(This disclaimer informs readers that the views, thoughts, and opinions expressed in the article published in 1939 belong solely to the author, and not necessarily to the Kanara Saraswat Association, committee or other group or individual. Editor)

### The Grief of The Living

The burning pyre is still smouldering  
As the living mourn the dead  
The ones left behind are grieving the passing  
Of one who once lived among them  
Why am I alive and what is my utility,  
each wants to know  
When I should have been dead instead  
They cry out in futility  
This is the unfortunate refrain of the ones mourning  
Left behind by the passing of one beloved  
Who was once healthy and strong  
Now deceased and consigned to the flames  
At the end of life’s journey on earth  
Leaving behind vivid memories of togetherness  
Of caring and sharing and years of being there for one  
another  
Now suddenly broken apart so rudely  
And distanced by an entire dimension  
An entity that was once near and physical  
Now transformed into one distant and invisible  
How can one contend with a change so vast  
So sudden and devastating as to leave you aghast  
But no one can deny  
That this possibility called Death  
That hovers over all the living with dread  
Will come to each of us one day  
Though we know not when it will be  
It could come next minute or years later maybe  
We can only guess and ponder  
As we lie in shock and disbelief  
Trying to bear the grief of the one who has turned a new  
leaf  
And taken a leap into the unknown  
From the land of the living into the land of the dead  
We all know that death has to come to us one day  
But why does it have to be this way  
So shocking and so sudden  
As to tear us asunder  
and make life a burden  
Time heals all wounds they say  
But why does time stab us so mercilessly one day  
Only to heal us another day  
Nobody will say.

By Uday Gokarn

# Culinary treasures of Chitrapur Saraswats-The Curry Trail

ANJALI BURDE

Indian Curries popularized internationally are mainly the onion-tomato-spices-based gravies that also have yoghurt, cashew-almond-poppy seed or melon seed pastes to enhance their flavours, richness and consistency.

Our Chitrapur Saraswat curries are mostly coconut based or have a lentil + coconut combination. Dried red chillies or sometimes green chillies are used to enhance the spice, however rather than a mixture of dry spices (coriander, cumin, fenugreek, pepper, asafoetida) amchi recipes use just one or two of these spices/condiments to flavour their curries. Thus giving each curry a unique, distinctive flavour of the particular spice used.

Another singular aspect of our coconut based curries are that they have a hot as well as a cold version. The hot ones being called *kadis* and the cold ones are the *tambli*s. While *kadis* are preferably eaten in winter, *tambli*s are consumed in summer. To give a tangy taste, tamarind, votamba sol or kokum are used for *kadis*, while *tambli*s get their piquant sourness from slightly sour buttermilk or curd.

Additionally, each of the special spices used in the *kadi* or *tambli* have a medicinal value for e.g. asafoetida (*hing*) and cumin (*jeere*) are used to improve digestion.

The core of a mango seed or the dried skin of pomegranate when used in the *kadi* help in controlling diarrhoea.

*Shirkala* is another unique condiment used to relieve *vaat* related complaints such as back spasms or muscle spasms in general.

Teppal or the outer pod of sichuan pepper gives a sharp yet delicate aroma, commonly the *kadi* using teppal is called *koddel*. Teppal helps in reducing flatulence.

When a lentil coconut combination is used for the curry, fenugreek (*methi*) seeds are used for *ambat* and coriander (*dhane*) seeds for *sambare*. Hence our amchi curries not only are flavor-some but also promote good health naturally.

Here are recipes for a *kadi* and a *tambli* which are commonly prepared.

## Jeer-miryakadi (serves 4)

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup grated coconut
- 2 byadgi chillies
- ½ tsp jeera
- 4-5 black peppercorns
- 3-4 cloves garlic (crushed)
- a handful tender methi stalks cooked separately (optional)
- 2 kokum petals or a little tamarind
- ½ tsp ghee or coconut oilsalt to taste

**Method:** In a small pan heat ghee, add jeera, pepper and the garlic. Roast lightly and keep aside to cool. Grind the coconut, red chillies and roasted spices to a fine paste. If using tamarind add at the time of grinding. If using the cooked methi stalks also add them. Grind everything to a fine paste.

Add water to get the right consistency. Add salt and kokum (If being used instead of tamarind) and gently boil the curry.

Serve hot with steamed rice, papad and a dash of pickle.  
Note: Instead of grinding the crushed garlic, you can temper (*phanna*) the *kadi* with it instead.

## Ankrya tambli (green tambli)

### Ingredients:

- ¾ cup grated coconut
- 10-12 spinach leaves
- a pinch of asafoetida (*hing*)
- 2-3 green chillies (less spicy variety)
- ½ cup thick buttermilk
- salt to taste

**Method:** Blanch the spinach leaves in boiling water for few minutes. When leaves turn soft, drain the water and keep the leaves aside to cool. In a small tempering pan heat ½ teaspoon ghee, add the green chillies and hing and lightly roast. When cool grind coconut, chillies and hing and the spinach leaves to a fine paste. Remove in bowl, add salt to taste and the buttermilk and mix well. Serve the *tambli* with warm rice.

**Note:** *Ankre* are green tender shoots or leaves of plants. I have used spinach in this recipe as it is readily available. Traditionally tender leaves of ivy gourd (*tendli*), radish, pomegranate, ajwain (*savasambar*) etc. are used for making *ankrya* *tambli*. If you are lucky enough to find them certainly use them.

**A name that spells its class!**

# WINOVER

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**Atharv A. Bangalorekar, Andheri (6.5 years)**

**Amul Girl**



**Umika Prasad (9 years)**

**Ojas as Messi**



**Ojas Mavinkurve, Sirsi (10 years)**

**Om is Goku**



**Om Saiprakash, Sirsi (12 years)**

**Snake**



**Ananya Karanje, Mysore - 9 years**

## BIRTH CENTENARY REMEMBRANCE

*One Best Book is equal to 100 Friends*  
*One Good Friend is Equal to a Library – Dr A. P. J. Kalam*



### **Ugran Gajanan Rao**

**31<sup>st</sup> January 1922 – 30<sup>th</sup> December 1992**

More of a Good friend, than a father  
More of a mentor, than a teacher,  
Your unassuming ways, kindness and patience  
Your quiet humour , and rock like presence  
We felt safe in your ramparts  
Decades have passed, but Papa, you still dwell in our hearts

Wife: (Late) Suniti G Ugran

Daughters:

Chitra (Jyoti) &  
(Late) Jayant Padukone

Gayatri (Poonam)&  
Vijay Mudur

Grandchildren:

Jyotna- Sandeep Ragade  
Jasmina – Hemant Mallapur  
Jnyanesh Padukone

Priyanka- Rajiv Manjeshwar  
Ketan Mudur

Great grandchildren:

Niyati Ragade, Diya Mallapur

UGRANS, MUDURS, PADUKONES

## Birth Centenary of my Papa Shri Mangesh Bhavanishankar Gulwadi



My papa, Shri Mangesh Bhavanishankar Gulwadi would have completed his birth centenary on March 26, 2022. On this momentous day I express my deep love and respects towards my Papa. He was born in the Sri Datta Mandir premises in Shirali. My Ajja Shri Bhavanishankar Nagappa Gulwadi was a Shastri of our Chitrapur Math and was also assigned the duty of performing pooja at Sri Datta Mandir.

Few years later my Ajja moved to a house next to our Math. Papa's early childhood was in the surrounds of our Math and the holy presence of PP Anandashram Swamiji.

After completing his schooling, he contemplated moving to Bombay and sought PP Anandashram Swamiji's blessings for the same. PP Anandashram Swamiji blessed him success in his venture and Papa moved to Bombay.

He stayed with his cousin Shri Mangesh Mavinkurve at Sonawala building in Tardeo. After sometime Papa moved to Shri Datta Mandir in Talmakiwadi with his friend Shri Savkur Shankarbhata mam. Later when he had his own place to stay it so happened that the house was in Shri Datta Mandir compound in Vakola. All through

his journey in life he was blessed with the close presence of Shri Gurudev Datta.

After Ajja's death in 1948, Papa's elder brother Shri Naganand Gulwadi moved in with his family in the Vakola house with Papa.

The house in Shirali where they lived was later converted into our Shri Chitrapur Math library.

In 1953, Papa got married to Premalata Shantaram Talmaki.

Papa was actively involved with the Sabha and Math activities. He was very close to the Shukla families who were his neighbours in Shirali. We lived very close to Shukla Shankarnarayan mam's house in Vakola. My Amma and Papa used to visit their house very often. Papa was part of the Shishyasweekar Committee of PP Parijnanashram Swamiji.

In 1965, we moved to Azad Nagar, Andheri West. At that time Andheri was under Vile Parle Sabha. Later when the number of Bhanap families in Andheri grew significantly, my Papa and Murdeshwar mam (who lived around Lallubhai Park) formed the Andheri Sabha in 1966, which covered Andheri and Jogeshwari.

Papa was President of the Andheri Sabha for a number of years. During his time PP Parijnanashram Swamiji camped in Parijat Union Bank staff society and few years later in Yashodhan Bank of India staff society. During Swamiji's stay in Yashodhan, Swamiji mentioned that it felt like a mini Sadhana Saptaha. Papa was also a member of the Standing Committee for a number of years, and was actively involved in the fund-raising Committee for our Anandashram Math in Khar.

In Azad Nagar he was involved in establishing a cooperative society for groceries for the local community.

Papa's professional career was mostly with pharmaceutical companies and he travelled to many parts of India. His last job was with Geoffrey Manners and he retired as Marketing and Sales Manager.

In 1984, I migrated to Sydney, Australia with my wife and first born. Amma and Papa visited us a year later. They both enjoyed their time and were happy to continue staying with us. They were one of the first parent migrants in Sydney. They acclimatised very quickly to the weather and local conditions.

Soon after, they had good company of our friends' parents who were visitors to Sydney, some of whom later migrated and they had a very active Senior's group.

Amma and Papa were a great help to us and our kids too. Growing up with grandparents was a great opportunity to learn about our culture, traditions, Gauri & Ganapati Pooja and other festivals. Also importantly, speaking our mother tongue at home. The kids enjoyed their after-school time and vacations with their grandparents which was so important for their overall development.

Few years after Amma's passing away, he was not well and sadly on the Buddha/Vaishakh Poornima 30<sup>th</sup> April 1999, at the age of 77 he left for his heavenly abode. I was with him holding his hand in his last moments which he knew, and he smiled as he took his last breath.

I am blessed to have such a wonderful person as my Papa, who taught me so many things in life and guided me to stand on my own feet. Whatever I am today is all his efforts and blessings. I pray that his gentle hands will continue to guide me in my life's journey.

*By Shireesh Mangesh Gulwadi, Sydney*

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## The Muse

by Preeti Bhatt (nee Bankeshwar)

He was the flamboyant kind  
Surrounded by colours anew  
All kinds of shades was he  
Of red yellow n blue  
She was the sober kind  
Of fancy colours she had no clue  
Unembellished and unabashed was she  
Black n white were the only colours she knew  
He soaked himself in colours  
Splashed himself on the canvas of life  
Expressing his emotions of joy  
Pain, fears n rage  
She pulled out the sword  
Scribbling herself through pages of life  
A fearless verbal spree  
Of sensitive yet bold outrage  
His paintings became masterpieces  
Her stories fetched the Booker prize  
They thought they had created magic  
But everyone else, thought otherwise!  
Then many paintings later  
He started growing bald  
And many stories later  
She no longer stood tall  
He was now losing hair  
She found herself shrinking  
With no one to really care  
That both were slowly sinking!  
The painter was being autographed  
The writer was being interviewed  
But the tools they had used  
Lay in a sorry corner - 'abused'  
So \*HE the paint brush\*  
n  
\*SHE the pencil\*  
Found themselves in the scrap yard  
With memories of paintings n stories  
Buried in their backyard  
With no complaints  
For how they were treated  
More than grateful  
They had in some way contributed!  
Life had balanced out for them  
In one way or the other  
It wasn't by coincidence  
They had bumped into each other!

His paintings spoke her stories  
And her stories caught his colour  
And when they held hands they sensed  
Something in them was stellar  
And in the fag end of their lives  
As they hug each other n up they gaze  
The sky turns into a painting  
Illustrating a story to leave them amazed  
If u think this is a tragic story  
U r sadly mistaken  
For others they may have faded into oblivion  
But their union is on the verge  
Of creating a sensation  
They had lived all their lives as fractions  
Like a jigsaw puzzle in confusion  
Waiting for the right moment to complete the equation!  
For the world out there they are not much of USE  
But they know  
They found in each other  
For sure.....  
Their MUSE!!



**Vinay V Gangavali**  
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# FIVE 'P's to help you 'WIN' Interviews

MAYUR KALBAG

Winning is very important but winning does not mean that we have to always get selected in the Interview.

Winning basically means to have the positive attitude to 'GIVE YOUR BEST' in the interview and through your best efforts to enhance the probabilities of getting selected into the organization.

Having said this I believe there are some effective ways to help the candidate give his or her best and hence I would like to share some of these 'ways' or 'tips' listed as the Five P's.

**Planning & Preparation-** Before attending an interview in an organization it is vital for the candidate to do what is known as Planning & Preparation. A lot of times due to the lack of preparations the candidate experiences emotions of nervousness and fear in the interview thereby making it extremely difficult for him or her to get selected into the organization. I am of the firm belief that before attending or going for an interview sincere efforts must be made to learn about not only the 'job-related-subject' but also about the organization to which he or she has applied for. Along with preparing and planning about the subject and about the organization, it is extremely important to plan and prepare for 'Anticipated Questions'!

Remember we must appreciate that the more we plan and prepare the higher will be our self-confidence and it is this self-confidence that will play a major role in winning the interview.

**Practice-** It is said that Practice Makes the Person Perfect! However, I believe that Practice Makes Person Confident & Fearless. Yes! The more we practice the more we become confident to face any situation including those that are related

to facing the Interviewers. What kind of practice am I speaking of? Well, the answer is simple. I am speaking of something known as 'Mock Interviews'.

**Performance-** It is about the way we express ourselves especially, the manner in which we respond to the questions that are being asked during the interview. We must therefore perform and answer each and every question with the highest level of Confidence, deep sense of Conviction or Self-belief, strong emotion of Commitment, thorough Clarity about the subject and finally Effective Communication skills. It is only with the confluence of the above C's that the candidate will end up winning the interview.

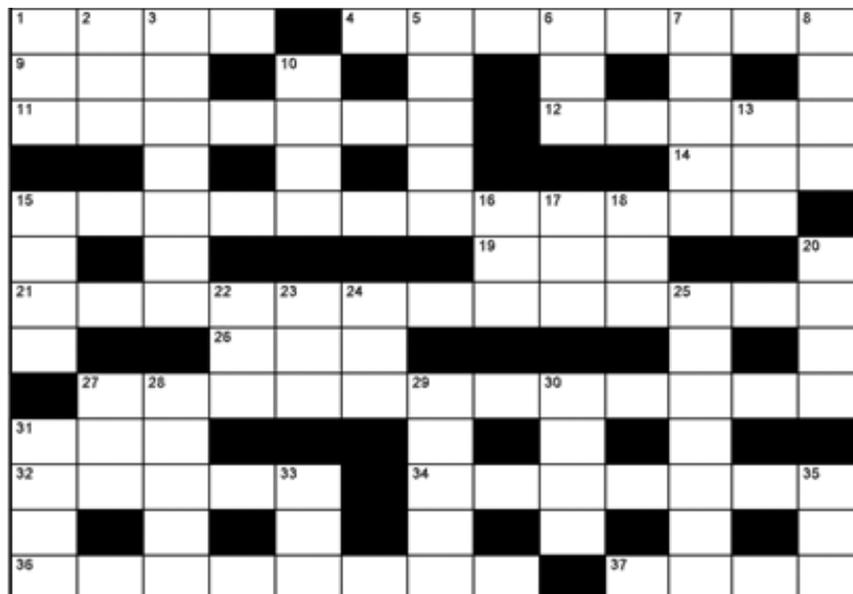
**Post Interview Analysis-** Despite winning the interview still you may not get selected. Despite the disappointment it is important to analyse your interview by asking a simple and yet a pertinent or relevant question. The question is, "Although I tried to 'Give my BEST', where can I improve further? Failures are actually the 'Stepping Stones to Success' and hence despite failing in an interview what is advantageous for the candidate is to be able to positively analyse and understand where he or she went wrong and how he or she can become better in the next Interview.

I can only say in conclusion that through the understanding and implementation of Planning; Preparation; Practice; Performance & Post-Interview Analysis or the FIVE 'P's, you will find yourself not only winning the Interview but also getting selected in the organization of your choice.

*(Mayur Kalbag is a Corporate Trainer & Leadership Coach)*

## FUN TIME CROSSWORD

( One Winner will be awarded a Cash prize of ₹ 200 for solving this Crossword correctly)

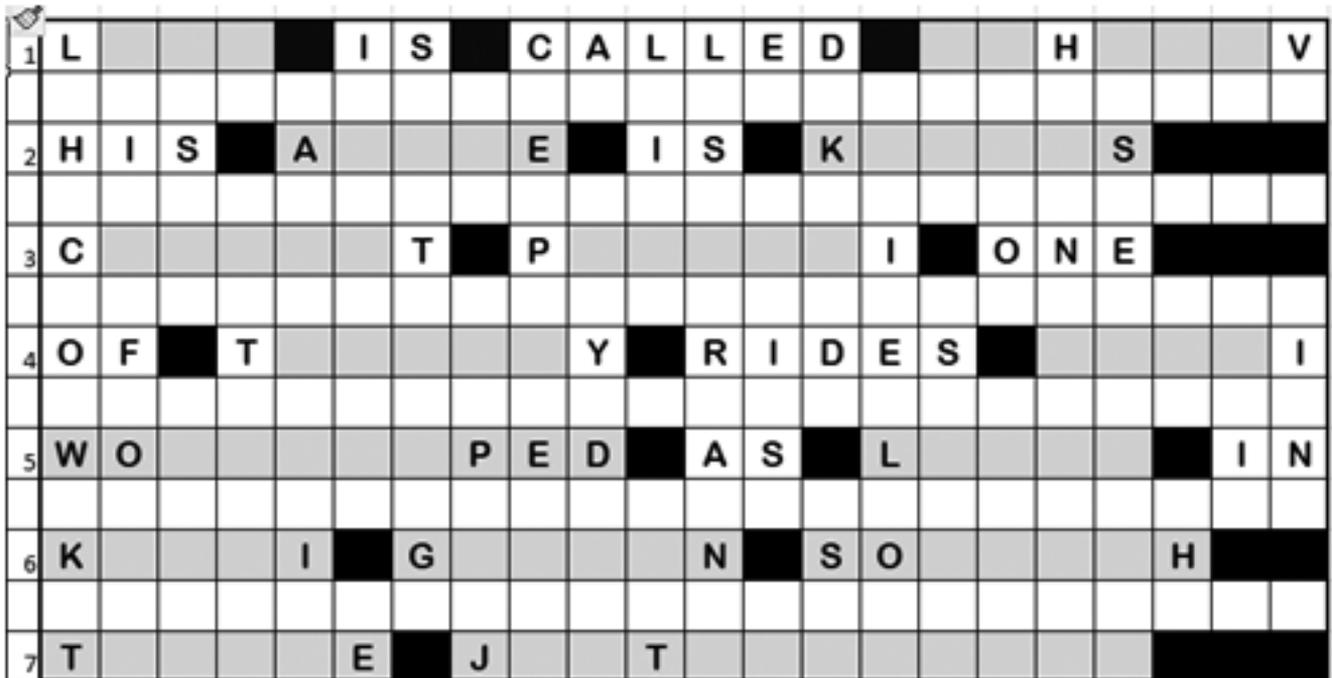


**Credits: Shri Sudhir Burde**

## FUN TIME CROSSWORD - clues

ACROSS		DOWN	
1	Revered Indian teacher (4)	6	College graduates follow their standards (3)
4	First shuttler to shine bright for India (8)	7	You heard the cosmic sound first (5)
9	Office applications working from home (3)	8	All at sea comfortably (4)
11	Journeyed by his rail to this pilgrimage town of amchis (7)	10	See 21 across.
12	Birthdays do have them for celebration (5)	13	Leave when this flashes to your attention (3)
14	Had inside a tea cup (3)	15	Do we stare in this direction, our ancestors did (4)
15	Keep an eye on patronisingly (5,3,4)	16	It left ditto to form a polka (3)
19	Monarch of the woods (3)	17	Extreme conflict taken to be aware (3)
21	Holy precincts located in 11 across (4,9)	18	Another name, another time (3)
26	Engineering college in Mysore (3)	20	One can create char to provide support (4)
27	He went in a cab to the idyllic cow's ear (7,5)	22	A spot of bother sometimes (3)
31	Merlin's midget boy (3)	23	Espionage in the Western world (3)
32	Loose fibre of old ropes (5)	24	Restrooms named to avoid embarrassment (3)
34	It may be removed from habit in span to name our community (7)	25	With 4 across (6)
36	Clinging crustacean arises from clean bar (8)	27	State of devasthanas (3)
37	Aangadi in Oxford (4)	28	Reverberates 7 down(5)
<b>DOWN</b>		29	Most coveted prize in the world (5)
1	A small metrical weight (3)	30	Officiates in religious ceremony (4)
2	Lead to a seat, informally (3)	31	Memorial at the end (4)
3	Boisterous revelry I listed (7)	33	Dream title in short (3)
5	Maybe from another planet, is it? (5)	35	A popular investment plan (3)

**THE FOLLOWING IS A SHIVA PUZZLE. FILL IN THE GREY CELLS TO FORM A SENTENCE \***



\* Winners name and all others who solve correctly will appear in April issue

**Clues in Row Nos:**

- |                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. (a) Addressed as with (b) Popular name</li> <li>2. Home and Location</li> <li>3. Partner and Name</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. (a) He is one of and (b) his vehicle</li> <li>5. His form on Earth</li> <li>6. His famous temples</li> <li>7. Number of his forms called as ...</li> </ul> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

In YUVASPEAK this time, we bring you a straight-from-the heart account of Bengaluru-based Ankita Karnad's introduction to and then, total involvement in many Math-centric activities.. Her earnest prayer-

***“I want to deepen my connection”..***

They say that life is made up of a great number of small moments and a small number of great moments. But I would like to think that I have been fortunate enough to experience a great number of great moments! After all, aren't the truly great moments the ones in which we have felt the touch of the Divine?

One of my earliest memories is of running around in the sunlight-strewn Shirali Math when I was 5 years old. My family had received an opportunity to have an audience with Parama Pujya Swamiji and my mother tells me she had placed me at Swamiji-s Feet and requested for Blessings. The flash of that Brightest Smile, the weight of that Warmest Hand on my head and the sweetest Kit Kat I had ever tasted are indelible marks in my memory.

An incident that gave me a glimpse of the power of the Guru's words was just before my 10<sup>th</sup> standard board exams. I had always been a fairly good student but for some inexplicable reason I was petrified of exams, so much so that I would work up a fever for even the monthly tests. During *teerth-vitaran* in Bengaluru Math, I mustered up the courage to tell Swamiji about it and seek Blessings for my upcoming exams. With a shake of head, Swamiji said “*Bhaiyya? Kallyaka? Naaba!*” (Fear? Why? No!) and with those words my exam-phobia was gone, never to return!

The year 2015 brought me what I consider the Compass-Of-My-Life – *Chitrapur Yuvadhara*. I had entered adulthood and was pursuing an Engineering degree, but it felt like I was just a confused, oddball of a child with lots of questions. During *Chaturmas* that year, I attended my first *Yuvadhara Sammelan* at Mallapur and it was like a homecoming. I was new to everything – the *stotra-s*, the *bhajan-s*, the *Anushthana-s*, the daily Math activities, the *Sanchalak-s/ Sanchalika-s* and my fellow *yuva-s*. But I could feel an overwhelming sense of belongingness in the *Guru Saanidhya*. I recall singing my first *bhajan* during *bhajan seva*, with lots of encouragement from my new friends and I even received a smile from Swamiji for my attempt! Now that I look back, I think that the whole experience at Mallapur, set the course of my life and brought about a lot of “firsts”.

I was fortunate to get my *mantra-deeksha* when Swamiji was camping at Bengaluru in the summer of 2016. It started a never ending quest to understand the infinite facets of my Guru and the importance of the *Gurushakti* in my life. I still recall that day like it was yesterday. Sensing I was bubbling with questions, Swamiji very kindly prompted me to speak my mind. And so it was that I ended up discussing topics

ranging from gender equality to the need for healthy debates in friendships with my *Gurumauli!*

Before I knew it, things within and without started to change. I started developing confidence, patience and the strength to make the right decisions both in my personal and professional life. My first foray into *seva* was as a Yuvadhara Representative for Bengaluru. It gave me many opportunities to work, grow and learn various skills like leadership, communication and public speaking. My sense of teamwork and *sevabhav* were further honed during the planning and execution of events like Musicals, Dramas, *Bhajan Seva*, Treks, *Dandiya* nights, Bengaluru Yuvathon, *Anand Mela* (a night of fun, food and games in the Bengaluru Math precincts) and Workshops on Mobile Phone usage for senior citizens. The *Shivir-s* and *Sammelan-s* have been like my regular “software updates” bringing invaluable lessons, experiences, friends-for-life and mentors. The extremely enjoyable Sanskrit activities in the *Shivir-s* even encouraged me to complete *Aradhana-Prabodhah*, one of *Girvanapratishtha's* online courses.

Some of my most happy experiences are thanks to Yuvadhara - celebrating *Janmashtami* at the *Yuvadhara Sammelan* in Karla, learning to make wooden shelves and lamps from Harin Hattiangadimaam and the students of Srivalli High School, cooking on wood fires in *Panchavati* during *Vanabhोजना* at the NRI *Shivir*, learning to make *Rudraksha Mala-s* at Mallapur and planting tree saplings on the Panchavati hill-top during the Shirali monsoons! Perhaps the happiest of them all is a dream-like experience of celebrating my birthday with Swamiji at Shirali!

The reason I consider Yuvadhara as my compass is because I now realise that the values that I have imbibed (and continue to imbibe) through *seva* and watching senior *sadhaka-s/sadhika-s* in *seva* have become my *sanskaara-s*. Operating in the *Gurukshetra* means building the alertness and fortitude to take both the Guru *Anumodana* and course corrections with equal acceptance, because we are never alone. This knowledge has given me the courage to face situations, especially for the past two turbulent years of the pandemic, with the thought “I face this in Your Presence!”

The regular activities, programmes and *Anushthana-s* under *Sayujyam* have ensured that we begin this special year that marks the 25th *Pattabhishekha Divasa* of Parama Pujya Swamiji and the 75th *Janmadivasa* of Our Guru Swami Parama Pujya Parijnanashram Swamiji III on a spiritual and peaceful note. The year 2022 is ready to give all of us perfect

# ~~~~~ Parisevanam ~~~~~

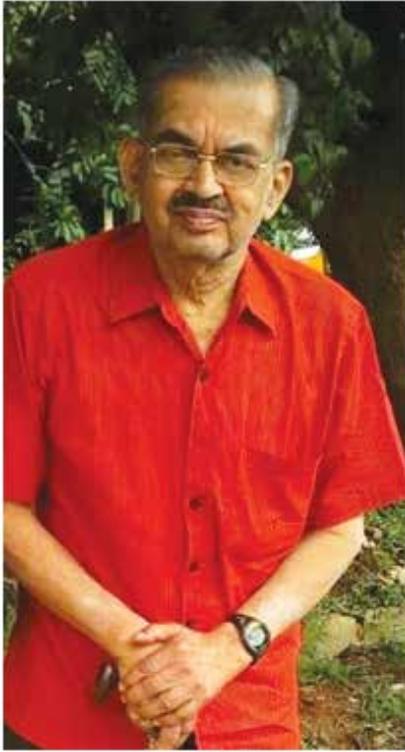
opportunities to express our gratitude to the *Gurushakti* in various forms. My only prayer is that I can use this year as well as all the upcoming years to deepen my connection, offer *seva* and increase my *adhikaara* to become a worthy *shishya* of Our *Guru* and *Guruparampara*!

*"While I wonder what it truly means to be deekshit,  
Of the Parampara, the boundless stream, I endeavour,  
To recognize the honour to be able to drink from it.  
Like a patient Mother, kindly nudging me along,  
They have always been here, eternally and forever,  
Even before I was born, for it is to Them I belong!"*

## MEMORABLE MILESTONES



## Mulky Ananthakrishna Rao (Babanna)



Dear Annu passed away peacefully on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at the age of 87 years at his home in Vyalikaval, Bangalore.

Son of Late Smt. Sumitra Bai, husband of Late Smt. Anuradha Mulky(nee Girija Sirur), beloved father of Arundathi, Vidya and Shyam.

A person whom everyone loved and respected, you were the ideal son, husband, father and grandfather.

**Lovingly remembered by -**  
Arundathi, Vidya, Shyam, family, relatives and friends.

**“Those we love never truly leave us.  
There are things that death cannot touch.”**

## SMT. VIJAYALAXMI DATTATRAYA HEMMADY

(3<sup>rd</sup> May, 1933 – 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2022)

(Nee Premlata Venugopal Basur)

Wife Of Late Shri Dattatraya Narsingrao Hemmady



With profound grief, we regret to inform the demise of our beloved mother, (Age: 88) who passed away peacefully in Virar at her residence.

*Deeply mourned by:*

Raghunandan Hemmady (Son),  
Aarti Hemmady (Daughter-in-law)  
Jyoti Jayant Hemmady (Daughter-in-law) and wife of  
Late Jayant Hemmady (Son)  
Shivanand Hemmady (Son ),  
Trupti Hemmady (Daughter-in-law)  
Usha Balchand Sujir (Daughter)  
Ruchira, Sailee, Aparna, Komal, (Grand-daughters)  
Jaidev, Omkar, Rahul and Kartik (Grandsons)

She will be deeply mourned by and fondly remembered by Family & Relatives.

*A Mother is with us always first in her lifetime,  
then forever in our Memory !*

In Memoriam

SRIKUMAR (VASANT) DHARESHWAR  
1969-2022

Passed away peacefully on Jan 26, 2022

Those we love don't go away; they walk beside us in our hearts  
and memories.

Sadly missed along life's way,  
quietly remembered everyday.  
No longer in our life to share,  
but in our hearts you're always there.

We miss you every moment our dearest SriKumar (Vasant)

Fondly remembered by

Varsha Dhareshwar (Wife) and Rishan Dhareshwar (Son)  
Vinit Dhareshwar (Brother) & Chitra Dhareshwar (Sis-in-law)  
Shyamala (Sister) & Ravishankar Koppikar (Brother-in-law)  
Dhareshwars - Prabhus  
Honavars  
Bellares - Sajips  
Murdeshwars - Basrurs  
Nieces, Nephews, Family and Friends



In Loving Memory of  
**Shri. Umanath Shamrao Karopady**  
Birth Centenary Year



22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 1922 - 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2003

And so, we wrote your name in our hearts, and that's where it will stay forever.

*Dearly missed and fondly remembered by:*

Children: Late Uday-Aruna, Sandhya-Umesh, Hemant-Hema  
Grandchildren: Manasi, Rashmi, Kirti, Dikshita & Dnyanavi  
Karopadys, Nadkarnis, Relatives & Friends.

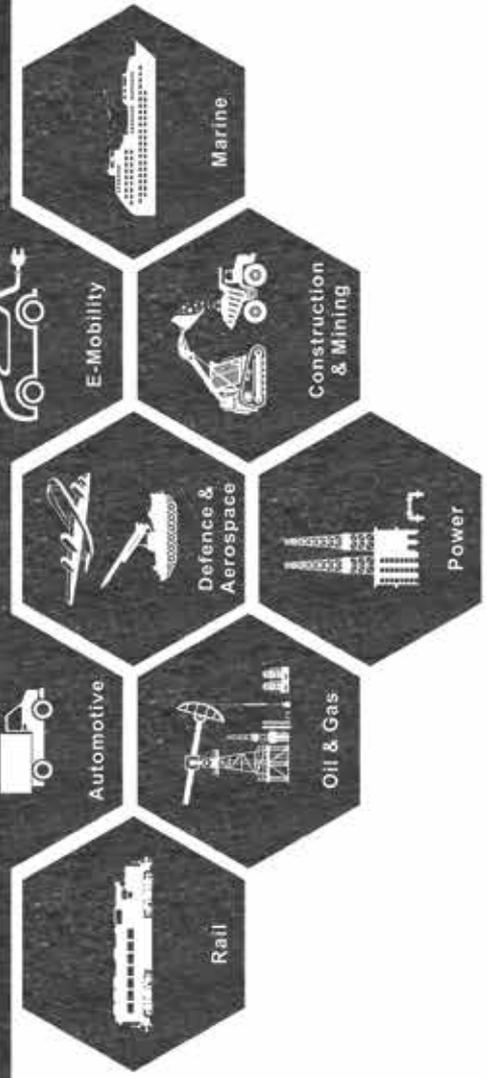
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# Parisevanam

## Bhagavad Gita

Here is a chapter-by-chapter analysis of an immortal text by our erudite contributor Dr. Sudha Tinaiker. The highlighted portions will enable you to realize that the gems of wisdom contained in this ancient treasury are an infallible guideline to living right

### CHAPTER 9 (Part 3)

After explaining the different levels of *bhakti* and also the attitude of *sakâma* and *nishkâmabhakta*-s, *Bhagavân* sums up this chapter by dealing with the highest knowledge –*Âtmajnânânam* and elaborating upon the glory of connecting with *Ishvara*.

**According to *Bhagavân*, it is never too late for any person to connect with Him with *bhakti*. The character or the age of the individual never matters. It is purely the commitment and the intention to be a *bhakta*, which is sufficient.** Even a person of questionable conduct, a person who has lead a very *adhârmic* life for many years can change. Once such a person connects with “Me” says *Bhagavân*, he should be considered a *dharmâtma* as he has surrendered to *Ishvara*. Once connected with a commitment to *Ishvara*, one is automatically in alignment with *dharma*. *Îshvara* is the very *dharma* and a sincere *bhakta* can never be aligned to *adharmâ*.

Such a person in course of time (soon enough क्षिप्रम् ) starts valuing *dharma* more than *artha* and *kâma*. *Bhagavân* says “ My *bhakta* never falls spiritually. He may have ups and downs in life, but once he surrenders to Me, I take care of his journey to *moksha*. Arjuna, may you take this to be My promise and vow to remember this (प्रतिजानीहि). (v 30,31)

Now *Bhagavân* talks about a few groups of people who are disadvantaged by being born into cultures and families which have no value for *moksha*, or a spiritual way of life, or a life of values. He calls them *Pâpayonayah* (पापयोनयः). He also mentions certain other classes of people who are disadvantaged due to their inherent emotional and intellectual handicaps.

*Pâpayonayaha* are those born in families of *asura*-s / *rakshasa*-s, or in extremely deprived families like *Prahlâda* or *Vâlmiki*. These were the people who by their mere *bhakti* and unconditioned surrender to *Ishvara* attained the final goal of human life-*moksha*.

People with highly emotional minds, strong attachments to the family and children, are here called “*sthree*”. Here *sthree* does not mean a woman by gender, but a person with a highly emotional mind who cannot think of *Ishvara* beyond a personal God (*gunasthree*).

Then there are people of predominantly *rajas*- oriented disposition, always thinking of gains-losses, money and other securities. They are *artha-kâma* oriented. Such a disposition of mind is called by *Bhagavân* here as “*Vaishya*”. Here *jâti Vaishya* is not talked about. It is a *guna Vaishya* which is pointed out here.

Similarly, a person with a predominantly *tamas*-oriented disposition is overpowered by intellectual dullness and inertia which does not fit into the pursuit of this knowledge. Here again a *guna-Shûdra* is talked about.

*Bhagavân* says that even these four groups of disadvantaged people by way of their birth or their mental dispositions, have all the chances of spiritual progress and attaining *moksha*, when they surrender to *Ishvara* with unconditional *bhakti*.

If this is the case with people with such significant disadvantages, what can we say about *guna Brahmana*-s and *guna Kshatriya*-s who are born and brought up with the *Vedic* atmosphere around them?

“Arjuna, you already have this advantage with you. You are a dharmic *Kshatriya*; but now in this perishable and sorrow filled *loka*. This is your best opportunity to surrender to Me. Hold on to Me and continue to do your *swadharma*. (v 32,33).

The concluding verse is the oft- quoted verse, which was very dear to our *Parama Pûjya Ânandâshram Swamiji*. This is the only verse in the entire *Gîtâ* which is repeated. This verse traces the entire lifestyle of a *bhakta* in five steps.

*Bhagavân* says मदभक्तो भव May you connect to me at least as an *ârtha-arthârthî bhakta* as a first step. You may use Me as a means to get your material goals fulfilled.

May you then ascend to be a मत्परायणो भव where I become your ultimate goal. Use Me as a means to attain Me as the goal itself.

Let Me be in the background of your mind all the time. Dwell on My *aparâ* and *parâprakti svarûpam* all the time; in and through your activities मन्मनाभव.

Offer all your actions as worship to Me, whatever they may be. Let every moment of your day become My worship and let all your experiences be My *prasâda* मद्याजीभव .

Lastly, surrender to Me because it is only my Grace from this point onwards which will take you to your goal माम् नमस्कुरु.

The first four are the *mumukshu*'s self-effort and the last one is that inevitable Grace which one needs to see the *mumukshu* cross over the cycle of birth and death. In this way, the *mumukshu* ultimately reaches Me मामेवैष्यसि, which is nothing but *moksha*- freedom from cycles of life-death once and for all. (v 34)

End of Chapter 9

(...To be continued)

# Kindness Costs Nothing But Gives Good Results

BY NALINI NADKARNI, MUMBAI

We Indians are reluctant to accept any change in our life style. And are apt to stick to tradition. Consequently, Sant Dnyaneshwar, and his family were the victims of the narrow minded outlook of the people of those times. Even reforms which would benefit society were not acceptable to them. Raja Ram Mohan Roy had to strive very hard for the abolition of Sati. Mahatma Phule and Savitribai Phule, Maharishi Karve, Nyayamoorti and Ramabai Ranade's efforts for the education of girls, and encouraging widow remarriage, had met with a very great opposition. Fortunately, those problems are now resolved with passage of time.

However, a new problem- looking after the aged - especially widows and widowers- now requires to be looked into, urgently. Due to medical facilities, and amenities in our living conditions, people's life span has increased. Formerly there were joint families and enough family members to look after the aged- but now, the picture is different. People have opted for nuclear families. Due to many reasons- the main being the constant rise in the cost of living, and the children's education being expensive, young and middle aged women are working outside their home. Migration of younger generations abroad is on the rise. There are no adequate old age homes. All these factors make life very difficult for senior citizens.

The younger generation have become more materialistic, and less duty-bound. They conveniently forget the sacrifices their parents had made for them. The parents are welcome to stay with them only if they are useful- the mother, to act as cook, baby sitter, and general house keeper, and the father, to run errands, like taking the children to school, extracurricular activities. So, in many cases, one parent is asked to live with one son, and the other, with the other sibling, as seen in the Amitabh Bacchan and Hema Malini movie, *Baghbaan*.

The plight of aged widows and widowers is worse. People are quick to criticise, but slow to help. To give an example, middle aged Sarla Deshmukh, had two young daughters. Post her husband Ashok's death, Sarla married Ashok's older brother Satish, a widower. Peoples' tongues started wagging conjecturing whether Sarla and Satish had been having an affair, even when Ashok had been alive. A neighbour of hers even remarked, "How will Sarla's daughters address him? "Baba or Kaka"?"

I have heard that a certain communities in Northern India, the older brother's widow marries his younger unmarried brother, for security. Probably, the movie, '*Ek Chaddar Mailisi*' (starring Rishi Kapoor and Hema Malini) was produced, on basis of that custom; it should be an eye opener for people criticizing Sarla's action.

I had not met my childhood friend, Suvarna for many years. Some time back, I chanced to meet her older sister, Vatsala, and enquired about Suvarna. Vatsala, flared up, and

said that their family had disowned Suvarna, a widow with three grand children, had now married a widower. On further enquiries, I learnt that Suvarna had no son, and that both her married daughters had settled abroad, with their families. Consequently, I did not understand the family's attitude, when Suvarna remarried, either for security or companionship!

My distant cousin Medha Rao recently married her office colleague Shekhar Joshi, when used to live in a chawl, with his aged, widower father. Just before Shekhar's marriage, Joshi kaka purchased a flat, for which he had to sell their tenement in the chawl, and also to part with his provident fund, which he had set aside, for a rainy day.

Every time I met Medha, she invariably complained about Kaka- that he needed a cup of tea at 7 am, before going for his morning walk, his dinner by 8 pm and that as he was a vegetarian, she had to cook vegetarian dish for him, whenever she and Shekhar had non-veg food, and so on.

As her mother Sagunakka- a widow lives fairly close to my house, she often seeks my help in running errands for her, which I am obliged to do. So, once, when, as usual, Medha was complaining about Kaka, I suggested that and he and Sagunakka could marry each other, and he could move in with her. (Sagunakka too is a vegetarian). Medha was shocked; "My God, what will people say?" was her remark. I wish they could solve the problem as in Stanley Houton's drama "The Dear Departed" In it, Mr. A an aged widower, stays with his two married daughters by turns, but is not welcome at either place. One day, he announces that he was making his will, that he would leave his property to the person with whom he would be staying, at the time of his death. On hearing this, both his daughters start calling him to stay, at their places. But Mr. A nonchalantly throws a bombshell, by saying that he had recently married a widow, and that he would be moving in' with her, immediately! (But in poor Joshi kaka's case, he had spent all his money on a flat for Shekhar)

Our old neighbour Sharada Kaku- an aged widow with two sons Umesh and Ramesh, had a specious two bedroom flat at Shivaji Park, a very good locality in Mumbai. When Umesh got married, he persuaded Kaku to sell that flat, and to buy two one bedroom flats in the suburbs (where the price of the flats was cheaper), one for him and the other for Ramesh, who intended to get married soon. Kaku did so. After Ramesh got married, her sons suggested that she could stay the first fortnight of each month with Umesh and the second one, with Ramesh. Kaku jokingly used to say "Ayeechi Vaatni Zaali." All went well until Kaku's health was good; but after a while, she started getting ailments, like high blood pressure, and pain in the joints, and needed to be taken to the doctor, for which neither her sons, nor daughters-in-law had time. If she was ill in the first fortnight, Umesh's wife used to say that Kaku could wait for a few days, until Ramesh could take her when

she was staying with him. The same thing happened when Kaku was staying with Ramesh, with the result that Kaku was the sufferer. Once when I visited Kaku, she sobbed and told me about this. With her permission, I called both Umesh and Ramesh over to my place, and spoke to them about taking Kaku to the doctor. They both made excuses about busy- also that Kaku was hypochondriac! So I suggested that Kaku could marry our former, aged neighbour at Shivaji Park- Dinu Kaka – a widower, who was both well off, and healthy, but needed a housekeeper-cum- companion. Both the brothers were scandalised , and said that people would poke fun at them. As Kaku herself was reluctant to take such a bold step, I could do nothing except warn her sons that unless they took proper

care of Kaku, I would let their relatives know of her plight, and would make arrangements to place her in a *vridhashram*.

There may be umpteen numbers of old aged people needing help, but are suffering silently fearing the censure of the society. So, it is my humble appeal to everybody- not to criticize aged widows and widowers who remarry but to encourage them.

Some time back, I had read the addresses of some marriage bureaus in a magazine. I appeal to those bureaus to help to fix the marriages of not only young people but also the aged ones. Thus, they will be doing noble work.

*Smt. Nalini Nadkarni is 95 years old and lives alone - Editor*

## FUN TIME QUIZ - PAICHAN KOUN

### Identify These Famous Bhanaps

(Names of winners who give correct answers will appear in April issue)



## Konkani Lexicon Fun Quiz

(What are the equivalent Konkani words?)

(for Answers please refer page 52)

Family

Great Grand Father

Great Grand Mother

Father's Younger Brother

Father's Sister

Mother's Brother

Mother's Sister

Wife's Brother

Wife's Sister

Son

Daughter

Father's Elder Brother

## “ संसाराचो खेळू ”

चैतन्य नाडकर्णी, विरार

संसाराच्या भवसागरांतु,  
जीवन एक नाटक  
हो खेळू सावल्यांचो,  
आम्मी ताक्का मानू दिंवचो.

सुखदुःखाची पाळं  
मस्त येत्ताति  
आम्मी सकट  
तांतु पोण्णु फसताति

आमगेल्या देहा पेल्लडी आस्स  
आमगेलो आत्मु,  
शांति आनि सुखांतुं,  
आस्स ताज्यांतु तो मग्नू.

## आदगत्यो आनि वाक्प्रचार

- १ आडकार्नेतुलें फोंपळ सुट्टुन वच्चें कठीण  
A betel nut (caught) in a nut-cracker.  
A difficult situation from which there is no release.
- २ आडाराकयि बिडार घट्टि  
The tenant is more assertive than the owner  
Might is right.
- ३ आत्मु राकुनु धर्मु  
The self must receive consideration before charity.  
Charity begins at home.
- ४ आदगति शिवय सद्गति ना  
There can be no salvation without the guidance of a good proverb.
- ५ आपण कुंटो दुसऱ्याक म्हणता थोटो  
He is lame of one leg, yet calls (laughs) at those who are lame of both.



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# “महिला दिन ”

डॉक्टर सुनंदा कार्नाड, धारवाड

दर वर्षी ८ मार्च हा दिवस जागतिक महिला दिन म्हणून साजरा केला जातो. त्यानिमित्ताने अनेक प्रतिष्ठित संस्थांद्वारे शाळा-कॉलेजातील शिक्षकांद्वारे महिलांसाठी विविध कार्यक्रमांचे आयोजन केले जाते. मान्यवर व्यक्तींची व्याख्याने आयोजित केली जातात नेट-युग असल्याने असंख्य नेटकरी स्त्रियांविषयी आदर व्यक्त करतात. विविध क्षेत्रातील मान्यवर महिलांचा सन्मान केला जातो. स्त्रियांना आदराने वागवा, त्यांचे हक्क त्यांना मिळू द्या, असा संदेश अनेक माध्यमातून देशभर प्रसारित केला जातो.

वर्षातून एक दिवस “महिला दिन” साजरा करून पूर्वीपासून चालत आलेल्या रूढी आणि परंपरा, पुरुषांचे घरांत नव्हे तर सर्व क्षेत्रांत असलेले वर्चस्व पुरुषप्रधान संस्कृतीची जपणूक हे सर्व बदलणार आहे का? घरात, समाजात, आर्थिक व राजकीय क्षेत्रात स्त्रियांना मानाचे स्थान व समान हक्क मिळणार आहेत का? स्त्रियांविषयी असलेली पुरुषांची मानसिकता एकाएकी बदलणार आहे का? त्यासाठी प्रत्येकाने जाणीवपूर्वक प्रयत्न करायला हवेत.

घराघरांतून आईने आपल्या मुलांवर स्त्री-पुरुष समानतेचे संस्कार करायला हवेत. तिने मुलाच्या मनात स्त्रियांविषयी आदर रुजवायला हवा. मुलगा आणि मुलगी समान आहेत, शिक्षण व स्वावलंबी होण्याची शिकवण तिने त्यांना द्यायला हवी. अखेर आईच मुलांची पहिली गुरु असते नाही का? तिलाहि वडिलांनी मानानं आदराने वागवणं, तिच्या कामात सहज मदत करणं, हेही तितकंच महत्त्वाचं! त्यांनीहि मुलांना केवळ शिस्त नव्हे, तर त्यांच्या बरोबर संवाद साधायला हवा त्यांचे विचार, त्यांना येणारे प्रश्न समजून योग्य ते मार्गदर्शन करायला हवं. एकूण घरात अनुकूल वातावरण असलं तर स्त्री पुरुष समानतेची बीजं तिथंच रुजतील आणि स्त्रियांविषयी पुरुषांची मानसिकता ही बदलेल.

हा आशावाद सुखद असला तरी प्रत्यक्षांत अजूनहि कौटुंबिक जीवनात स्त्रीला मिळणारी वागणूक भयंकर आहे. सासूशी मिळू जुळवून घेणं, नवऱ्याने पत्नीला ‘माणूस’ म्हणून वागवणं, ‘मुलगा हवा’ म्हणून तिला जबरदस्ती करणं, सतत घर कामात तिला गुंतवणं अशा अनेक प्रश्नांना तोंड देताना, जगणंहि कठीण होतं. नोकरी करून आर्थिक दृष्ट्या सक्षम झालेल्या स्त्रीला तर घरी, सगळ्यांच्या गरजा भागविताना ‘तारेवरची कसरत’ करावी लागते. घरात तिच्या धावपळीची, कष्टाची जाणीव असेल, तर स्त्री किती काम करते, स्वतःच्या प्रकृतीची काळजी न करता, हे समजते!

अखेर तीहि एक माणूस आहे, तिलाही भावना, आशा अपेक्षा आहेत, तिलाही खूप शिकावं, एखादी कला किंवा व्यवसाय घेऊन पुढे जावं, कमवावं, नाव मिळावं, स्वतःचे निर्णय स्वतः घ्यावेत, तिला स्वातंत्र्य हवं, सुख समाधानाने जगणं हवं - त्यासाठी ती कष्ट करते. आज प्रत्येक क्षेत्रात स्त्री पुरुषांच्या बरोबरीने, कित्येकदा त्यांच्याही पुढे जाते. पुरुषांपेक्षा जास्त कमावते. संधी मिळाली तर प्रत्येक व्यवसायात यशस्वी होते. हे तिचे पुढे जाणे मात्र

पुरुषाला खपत नाही. त्याचा ‘इगो’ दुखावतो आणि स्त्री सुखाला पारखी होते. मग तिच्यावर अनेक प्रकारची जोर जबरदस्ती, मानसिक आणि शारीरिक अत्याचार, सामूहिक बलात्कार होतात. विरोध केला, न्याय मागितला तर सर्वासमक्ष तिच्या चारित्र्यावर शिंतोडे पडतात, तिला जगणं असह्य होतं. या सर्वांचा विचार केला तर मन खिन्न होतं, वाटतं, कशाला हवा “महिला दिन”? कशाला हवा तो देखावा? त्यापेक्षा प्रत्येकाने त्या दिवशी जाणीवपूर्वक प्रतिज्ञा करावी, स्वतःचा स्त्री विषयी असलेला दृष्टिकोन बदलण्याची! असा प्रयत्न झाला तरच ती ताठ मानेने जगू शकेल. केवळ कुटुंबाचे नव्हे तर ही आदिशक्तीचं रूप आहे. तेहि ती आपल्या कर्तृत्वाने सिद्ध करील. तीच समाजांत आणि महान संस्कृती असलेल्या देशात खऱ्या अर्थानं परिवर्तन घडवील यात शंकाच नाही.

## श्री गणेश वंदना

चित्रा शिराली, धारवाड

श्री गजानन शारदे  
नमन भगवती देवते  
सदगुरुंसी वंदिता  
विद्या दे देवते ॥

नृत्य गान उपासना  
संगीत नाट्य आराधना  
सूर गान रागिणी  
कार रंगे जीवनी ॥१॥

षडज सूरान्चा अधिपती  
रिषभ कोमल आळवी  
गंधार गोड जुळतो  
मध्यम लय रंगतो ॥२॥

पंचम तार झंकारता  
निषाद निर्मळ लागता  
सप्तसूरान्चा वेल हा  
ताल लयेत बहरला ॥३॥

## उल्लैतलि गुफा

सुधीर कोप्पिकर, गोरगांव

दंडकारण्य राब्नांतु ऐकु म्हांतारो सिंहु आशिशलो । खरनखरः हें तागलें नांव । तरुण ऐक सिंहाने ताक्का हरौनु तागलें राज्यांथाव्नु ताक्का भाग्र घाल्लें । म्होंणु तो उत्तरेक सुभिक्ष रामराज्या दिशेक आशिशल्या अभयारण्याक वोच्चें विचारु कर्ता । धा बारा दिवसा प्रवासांतु कस्लेंयि खांवचाक मेळनातिलें भुक्केने पीडा जात आशिशलि । ताक्का एकि गुफा दिस्ता । तो भितरि वचुनु आराम कर्ता । मनांतु आशा आस्ता - रात्रि खंचितरि प्राणि गुफेंतु येतलि आनि मगलें पोट भर्तलें ।

त्या गुफेंतु ऐकु कोल्लो राबतालो । तागलें नांव दधीच । तो हुषारु आनि जागरूक आस्ता । सिंहागले पावलांचे ठसे तागल्या नजरेक पडताति । भितरि वतनाचे दिस्ताति । जाल्यारि परत भाग्र आयलेले पावुलं नाति । तरि कस्लें कोरूं । अशिश तो विचारांतु पडता ।

दधीचु होड्डाने म्हणता - "हे गुफे, नित्य हांवे आयले भितरि तूं माक्का विचार्ता, तुगलो दिवसु कशिश गेल्लो, तुक्का कोणकोण मेळ्ळे, पोट भरि खांवचाक मेळ्ळे वे? इत्यादि । आजि तूं गप्प गप्प इत्याक ?"

**खरनखरः** विचारु कर्ता । हांवे आजिथाइ उल्लैतले गुफे बदल आयकनि ।

दधीचु होड्डाने म्हणता - "हे गुफे, तुंवे आजि मौन धर्त्यारि हांव दुसर्या गुफेंतु वता ।"

**खरनखरः** विचारु कर्ता । माक्का पोळोवनु हि गुफा भिल्ल्या शि दिस्ता । आनि होड्डाने म्हणता "हांव तुगले खातिरि मवू हांतुळ घालत आशिशलि । तूं दणूला आस्तलो । भितरि यो ।"

**खरनखरः** ने हळू म्होंणु लेक्किले तरी तागलो सहज आवाजु सुद्दां गुफेंतु घुमता आनि दूर दूर थाई आयकूक येता । सगळे प्राणि जागरूक जाताति । दधीचु सुद्दां पलायन कर्ता ।

आनि म्हांतारो सिंहु जेवण येवचि वाट पळैत गुफेंतु रात्रभर येरझारे घालत वरलो ।

बालमित्रान्नों, आम्गलो भारतदेशु मस्त बाबांतु सगळे जगाक अचंबित कर्ता । तशिश कथाकथनांचो सुद्दां जवळ जवळ तीन हजार वर्षा पैले धोर्नु विंगड विंगड स्तरारि उपयोगु जातालें खें । ही काणि तुम्का आवडलि वे? काणि आयकुनु तुम्गले मनांतु खंचे प्रश्न आयले? आम्मि कस्लें नीतिपाठ शिक्येद? अवश्य बोरोव्नु कळयाति ।

मुखावैले आत्रतींतु परत एकि काणि आयकुंचाक आवडतलें वे?

### Answers of Konkani Lexicon Fun Quiz

(for questions on page 46)

कुटुंब	पाच्ची
पणजो	मेवणो
पणजी	मेवणी
बापोल्यो	पुतु, चल्ली
मावळणी	धुव, चल्ली
मावळो	म्हांतु

## Here and There

Report on the activities of Bengaluru Local Sabha for the month of January 2022

### (A) Special programmes:

- On 9<sup>th</sup> January, Sadhaka-s of Bengaluru and Pune Sabhas performed Samuhika Guru Pujana online (as part of the Sayujyam seva).

- On 18<sup>th</sup> January, the Vardhanti of our revered Naga, Annamma, Chamunda and Marikamba Sannidhi-s was observed at the Math with Navaka Pradhana Homa and Vishesh Pujana at all the sannidhi-s. This was live broadcast to Sadhakas.

- Shri Shankaracharya Ashtothara Shatanamavali parayana commenced online from January 23<sup>rd</sup> and recitation is being done every Sunday. It will conclude on Shri Shankara Jayanti.

### (B) Varga activities:

- On 2<sup>nd</sup> January, Yuvas performed Samoohika Guru Pujana as part of the Sayujyam Local to Global initiative

### (C) Regular Programmes :

(i) The series of talks on the Bhagavad Gita by Smt. Dr. Sudha Tinaikar commenced online on Shri Chitrapur Math website from 3<sup>rd</sup> June and is held every Wednesday.

(ii) Girvana Pratishta classes, Sambhashana Varga classes and Prarthana Varga are being conducted online.

(iii) Gayathri Japa Anushthan is performed online every Sunday between 7.00 am to 8.30 am.

(iv) Daily morning puja-s and evening Gruhastha puja-s are being performed in the Math.

(v) Durga Namaskar is being performed every Friday by Ved. Shri Vijay Karnad Bhat mam with the assistance of Shri Satyendra Sorab mam.

*Reported by Saikrupa Nalkur*

## Our Institutions

### SARASWAT MAHILA SAMAJ, GAMDEVI, Mumbai

A variety entertainment Virtual programme by our young artists was organised on Children's Day on 8th January 2022 "Samaj's Got Talent". President Ms Padmini Bhatkal welcomed the audience and the participating children/ all versatile kids ranging from 5 to 15 who were all set to showcase their talents. The presentation was anchored by Hon. Sec Priya Bijur very endearingly while talking to the kids to pep them up. Most of the kids had something excellent to present- playing the piano, tap dancing, dances on film songs. Cubic rapid formation while skating; very impressive speeches; mind blowing was the Bhagwad Gita non-stop recital of Chapter 16, very clear diction and pronunciation, some young girls sang lovely Marathi Bhavgeets and a boy playing a lovely song "Ajeeb Dastaan Hai Yeh", excellent tabla recital, paintings, collages displayed, Bharat Natyam dance well executed, and towards the end, old song "Rasik Balama" – Hindi film song. An excellent display of varied talent by such young kids. What impressed many not only their talent but also their confidence like seasoned stars. The

little kids kept the audience enthralled.

The programme ended with Vote of Thanks by Nivi Nadkarni congratulating the kids for their extraordinary talent and the audience gave a loud applause for these kids.

On the occasion of Sankranti Sammelana a very enchanting Virtual Programme was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2022, by a talented musical family.

A unique programme of Hindi film songs from the yesteryears, and some recent songs were presented by Ms. Deepali Kapnadak Vaze and her son Kedar Vaze, Ms. Roopali Kapnadak Sawant, and her young daughter Ms. Amruta Sawant and with maternal aunt Ms. Jyotsna Nadkarni, - all of them well accomplished and trained in light / classical music from distinguished Gurus and have also passed Govt Sangeet Visharad Exams. Have performed at various events and won prizes.

1) Deepali is a graduate in Hindustani Classical Music from SNDT University and also has a Dip. in light Music. Presently enjoying full time as a Social Worker of RSS Janakalyan Samiti.

2) Her son Kedar has completed Classical music from Gandharva Vidyalaya. He has completed B.E. in Production Engineering and planning to proceed to Canada for higher studies.

3) Roopali trained in Hindustani Classical Music from Gandharva Vidyalaya and light Sugam Sangeet and given performances on AIR and Doordarshan too. She is presently a full time Commercial Designer.

The youngest of the lot Amruta Sawant, daughter of Roopali is inclined to music genetically, from the mother. She is presently doing second year B. A. in Psychology and learning French.

Roopali and Deepali are daughters of Ms. Vijaylakshmi and Late Mr. Suresh Kapnadak.

The senior most amongst them, their maternal aunt Mrs. Jyotsna Vasant Nadkarni (nee Bellare) learnt music from Vyas Sangeet Vidyalaya, and many other illustrious Gurus. She has a melodious voice.

Maya Maskeri of Saraswat Mahila Samaj introduced all these 5 singers and requested them to present their programme. Jyotsna started the programme with an old beautiful lilting Hindi bhajan "Satyam Shivam Sundaram; and followed by "Jago Mohan Pyare and later on "Mohe Panghat Pe". Superb singing and very mellifluous voice. She did full justice to her songs.

Roopali and Deepali also sang some very old songs, romantic, emotional songs and duets too. Kedar sang Sufi / Ghazal and Amruta sang peppy songs of Geeta Dutt. It was an enjoyable programme, all of Hindi film songs – our childhood passion.

After that Mrs. Geeta Balse proposed the Vote of Thanks and heartily complimented all of them for their wonderful presentation and also thanked the audience for participating on the Zoom platform.

There were sponsors for this event

- 1) Mrs. Nirmala Nadkarni ₹ 1000/- in memory of her husband Shri Vasant Nadkarni.
- 2) Mrs. Vandita Tombat ₹ 1000/- in memory of her son Shashwat Tombat.
- 3) Mrs. Sheila Khambadkone – Donation of ₹ 2500/- towards Medical Fund in memory of her mother Smt. Shanta Hemmady.
- 4) Mrs. Chetana Kadle – Donation of ₹ 1 Lakh towards Scholarship Fund in memory of her mother Mrs. Kumud Mangalore.

The programme ended with greetings of “*Tilgul ghya goad goad bola*”.

*Reported by Geeta Suresh Balse*

## CLASSIFIEDS

### BIRTH

**Twin boys** Rishaan & Trishaan born on 29th November 2021 at Bangalore to Dr. Rithvik & Tanvi Vinekar. Grandsons to Shamrao & Srikala Vinekar and Kishore & Sreekala Mallapur and great grandsons to Sunanda Mallapur.

**A daughter**, Stuti, to Pramathesh and Akhila Trikannad on January 30, 2022 at Bangalore. Sister to Avani. Granddaughter to Girish and Vijaya Trikannad of Goa, and Anil and Nandita Mudbidri of Dharwad.

### FLAT FOR SALE

**Apartment** for sale in Malleswaram, Bangalore - 3 BHK , 1400 sq.ft super built up area with one parking space, excellent location on Margosa Road...contact 9980538110

## DOMESTIC TIDINGS

### BIRTHS

*We welcome the following new arrivals:*

2021

Nov 28 : Twin boys Trishaan and Rishaan to Tanvi and Dr Rithvik Shamrao Vinekar at Bangalore.

2022

Jan 30 : A daughter, Stuti, to Akhila (nee Mudbidri) and Pramathesh Anil Trikannad at Bangalore.

### MARRIAGE

*We congratulate the young couple*

Jan 20 : Shefali Hemant Hemmady with Veejendra Premand Raikar at Mumbai.

### OBITUARIES

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

2021

Dec 23 : Mamata Satish Nagarkar (87) at Talmakiwadi, Mumbai.

Dec 26 : Meera Dilip Rao at Mumbai.

Dec 29 : Lalitha Shirali (94) at Bengaluru.

2022

Jan 4 : Ramdas Murdeshwar (80) at Bengaluru.

Jan 6 : Nirmala Gajanan Herenjal of Dharwad (80) at Mumbai.

- Jan 15 : Meera Shivanand Harite (93) at Prabhadevi, Mumbai.
- Jan 17 : Sudha Ramesh Balse (nee Kalyanpur) (97), at Bangalore.
- Jan 18 : Bhalachandra Jaganath Rao (86), at Bengaluru
- Jan 19 : Suniti Burde (79) at Bengaluru.
- Jan 22 : Shyam Dhakras at Andheri, Mumbai.
- Jan 23 : Shanta Sureshchandra Kumble (nee Vasanti Chandawarkar) 80 at Mumbai.
- Jan 25 : Shanti Puttur (88) at Bengaluru.
- Jan 26 : Srikumar (Vasant ) Dhakeshwar, 53 at Mumbai.
- Jan 31 : Prabhakar Shankar Basrur (98) at Bangalore.
- Feb 3 : Tukaram Laxman Kodange (68) at Kandivli (E) , Mumbai.

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### KSA Contest - Announcement

We are happy to announce that from April 2022 issue of the Kanara Saraswat , the following cash prizes will be awarded to the contributor of:

1. The 'Best Letter' to the Editor.
2. The 'Best Article' authored by our youngsters in Youth Section.
3. The correct solution to either Quiz or Crossword Puzzle as indicated.

This contest is open to all members of KSA in India and overseas (having a Bank account in a Bank in India) and their immediate families only. This contest is not applicable to members of the Managing Committee or Editorial Board and their immediate families.

The cash prize is of Rs.200 for each category. (Two Hundred only)

In the event of multiple correct entries to the Quiz or Crossword which is likely, the winner will be decided by lots. The last date for receiving the correct entries is the 16<sup>th</sup> of every calendar month. Please mention your Name, Location and email id. So what are you waiting for! Read the magazine completely and share your views. The keyboard is calling.

**Editorial Committee**

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*From*



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