"Vidya Ratnas"

Dr. Bhaskar Hosangadi
Dr. Suneela Mavinkurve
Dr. Shakuntala Katre
Dr. Nutan Madiwal
Dr. Meena Chandawarkar
Shri Ramchandra Gokarn
honoured by
PM Manmohan Singh
Shubhada Vinekar
Shakuntala Kilpady
Kuldeep Kalavar
Dr. Mangesh Nadkarni
A moment of pride

Prof. Ramchandra and Mrs. Nita Gokarn

Dr. M. V. Nadkarni being honoured during the International workshop at the Institute for Social & Economic Change, Bangalore

Dr. Shakuntala Katre being felicitated

Dr. Meena Chandawarkar is being felicitated on becoming VC by Prof. H. B. Walikar, Former Vice Chancellor, Karnataka University, Dharwad and Prof. E. T. Puttiah, Former Vice Chancellor, Gulbarga

Dr. B. D. Hosangady being honoured by Dr. Snehlata Deshmukh, VC, Bombay University

Dr. Nutan Madiwal being honoured by Shri Satya Sai Baba in Puttaparthi on completing PhD.
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ANNOUNCEMENT
We are happy to announce that Ms. Anandita Balsavar from Bangalore will be joining the Editorial Committee effective September 2022. This is a part of our initiative to infuse young blood to make your Kanara Saraswat magazine appeal to all sections of our community. Anandita is pursuing B A (Psychology) and is a teenager. Please join me in welcoming young Anandita in to the Editorial Committee.
ANNOUNCEMENT

KSA Celebrates Deepawali during 75th Anniversary of India's Independence

Proposed Programme:
1. **Friday 21/10/2022**
   "Fancy Dress Competition" ... 6.00 pm
   "Hasva Hasvi", variety entertainment from Aamchi Kalakars of GPSM, Vile Parle from 7.00 pm onwards (IST).

2. **Saturday 22/10/2022**
   "Aamchi Space Heroes(Pilots) on KSA Floor", from 6.30 pm onwards (IST),

**VENUE: Shrimat Anandashram Hall, Talmakiwadi, Tardeo.**

3. **Sunday 23/10/2022**
   DIWALI PAHAT ONLINE from 8.00 am onwards (IST)

Request all inspiring AAMCHIS to attend all these programmes wholeheartedly and encourage the performers.

**Memory Test and Sports events** for children on **Sunday 23/10/2022** from 10.30 am onwards.

**Table Tennis Open tournaments** for all age groups from 21/10 to 23/10/2022 from 6.30 pm onwards and

**Devotional & Light Music Competition on 24/10/2022** from 7.00 pm onwards at KSA Hall.

Vandan Shirur
Hon Secretary

Sunil Ullal
Jt. Hon Secretary
(Sports & Cultural Events)

Chitrapur Saraswat Edu Relief Society

NOTICE

The Seventy-Sixth (76th) Annual General Meeting of the Chitrapur Saraswat Education & Relief Society will be held in Shrimat Anandashram Hall (Saraswat Club), Saraswat Colony, Santacruz (W), Mumbai – 400054, on **Sunday, the 18th of September, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.**, Members are requested to attend.


Hon. Secretary

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES CONTEST AUG 2022

The winners of the SPOT THE DIFFERENCE contest in published in Aug 2022 are:

Mr. Mohan Hemmady, Mrs. Kanchan Mannige, Ms. Soumya Karkal

CONGRATULATIONS!
Dear Friends,

If you analyse the personality of any human being, you will find that each person is a bundle of some basic traits, amongst which I find five key traits as the most important ones. According to me, these five traits are - intellectual honesty or integrity, empathy, ego, pride and humility. You can judge a person based on these five traits and then work or deal accordingly with that person.

In my view, every person should have intellectual honesty or integrity. A person must live with his beliefs in a steadfast manner and not keep changing his views based on the changing weather or situation. This can happen only if that individual is honest with his or her own thinking. Intellectual honesty allows one to admit one’s own mistakes, respect the views of others and this ultimately leads to moral accountability. Intellectual honesty makes one more liberal, less discriminating and more open to the views of others.

Every individual should have the basic quality of empathy, an ability to sense other people’s emotions, coupled with the ability to imagine what someone else might be thinking or feeling. A person with empathy tries to understand people, even if he does not agree with them. A person with empathy is a careful and good listener, who puts himself in the other person’s shoes and does not think only about himself. Empathy does not come naturally to every person, especially in today’s fast-paced society. It is therefore a conscious choice that we need to make and practise. The more we practise empathy, the more intuitive we become.

Ego is one of the worst enemies of an individual. Ego can make individuals selfish, manipulative and reckless. Such persons cannot see far beyond themselves. In their minds, they often feel that they are the centre of the whole universe. Ego makes an individual less passionate, more irrational, and greedy. Ego drives people away, adds more stress and ultimately makes one unhappy in life.

While an individual should be not egoistic, he should certainly have some self-esteem. For a person who has achieved something in life, it is common to have some pride in one’s achievements and success. But an obsessive feeling of self-achievement can sometimes bring in too much of pride. This can make that person quite egoistic. A person can certainly have pride in oneself in terms of whatever has been achieved, but the moment that person crosses the boundary of reasonable pride, one can then easily become an egoistic person. This is where the downfall of a person starts.

It is in this context that self-esteem is important. It is a belief in oneself and in one’s own abilities. It embodies the right degree of self-confidence. It gives one assurance about oneself. A person with self-esteem will never show any signs of ego or pride. He has the right degree of self-confidence, self-assurance and self-belief.

A person who is free from pride and ego and who displays complete humility is one of the most perfect persons. Such a person is most endearing to anyone. He is approachable, respected and is always held in high esteem. Humility allows selflessness and dignity to co-exist together.

A person with intellectual integrity, empathy with the right degree of self-esteem and humility would be the most ideal person to deal with. You will always learn from such a person. In fact, such a person can be a great leader. Very rarely will you come across such a person who embodies all these virtues. But if such a person does come into your life, try to emulate him. I am quite sure that by doing so, you too will be successful in your life.

Regards,
Praveen P Kadle
Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Going through the August issue of the KS left me with a great feeling. And I wondered why it should be so? I tried to consciously identify why I felt so elated about this particular issue? For one, I could feel the qualitative change in the magazine. And it had plenty of good things to say.

Visuals of the widespread Amrutotsava celebration by the community, that Dilip Sashital should be honoured with the well deserved Saraswat Gaurav, that SVC bank (my bank) should be feted for its excellent service for over a century, Nita Ramchandra Gokarn’s advice to senior citizens to keep pursuing their hobbies (I resolved afresh to keep writing my anecdotal articles after reading it), that KS is looking forward to adding youngsters to its editorial committee, and the many puzzles and quizzes; goodness! Efforts to promote our mother tongue through the innovative Konkani lexicon quiz and the Konkani Sammelan in San Jose as also the healthy financial state of KSA’s funds - all added to the feel good factor.

I was moved to see Swami Pandurangashram’s photo engraving so painstakingly obtained by Jaishankar Bondal, and the article on Swami Nityananda by our late Savitri Akka, not forgetting the lovely paintings by so many of our talented artists – all I can say is that the issue was exceptional. It certainly had something for everyone.

Above all, the magazine conveys that ours is a very contended and successful community and the blessings of our beloved Mathadipati, Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji and our Guru parampara is felt in every aspect of our lives.

Kudos to the editorial team.


**********

Dear Sir:

It is a very good idea to form a “Junior Editorial Group” of children between 9 and 15 years from all around the world. I have been a life member of KSA for nearly 50 years, the magazine has evolved. It is very heartening to see KSA explore new avenues to make the magazine more appealing to the entire generation, involving contributors and readers across all age groups. I will certainly share the information within our community in Australia and New Zealand (ANZ), and will request interested folks to contact the Editor directly.

Please note that our community in ANZ is firstly very small and especially just a handful in the 9-15 years age bracket yet we will try and propagate the message. We hope parents will encourage their children to participate in this admirable initiative.

Shireesh Gulwadi

President, Australia and New Zealand Sabha

**********
A teacher’s role in our life is not different from that of a sculptor. The sculptor gives shape and brings out the finer attributes of his sculpture by smoothing the rough edges. Similarly it is the teacher who shapes our lives right from our childhood till adulthood. The role of a teacher in any person’s life is immeasurable in terms of its contribution. It is simply prodigious. From parents who are our first teachers to our teachers in school and college, it is their contribution that makes us what we are in life. It is their contribution that shapes our personality and helps us climb the ladder of success. We need to be always grateful and thankful to our teachers who have touched our lives in some way or the other.

Teaching is one of the most respected and noble professions. It is a career which not only helps one gain knowledge of various topics and domains, but also helps one recognize his/her strengths and flaws, in the process helping him or her to become a responsible human being. Our community has a deep rooted past in the field of education and the contribution, talent and skills of our very own educationalists, teachers and trainers have been phenomenal.

Over the last few months we are trying to have theme based editions of Kanara Saraswat. September 5, the birthday of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, is celebrated as Teachers’ Day in Bharatvarsha. We therefore, decided to have this issue dedicated to the eminent academicians and teachers who have reached top echelons and guided innumerable students over the years.

There are many of us who do not forget some of our teachers for a lifetime. Especially those from our school days. We owe them a lot. We recall with nostalgia the encouragement as also the admonishments and chiding we may have received with immense pride and joy. In a teacher–student relationship, mutual respect is inevitable. Students respect teachers for their teaching skills, personal qualities, knowledge, and professionalism.

In this edition, we have profiled and interviewed ten “Vidya Ratnas” or educational gems from our community. Our community has excelled in producing some of the best selfless teachers who have shaped the careers of thousands who have carved a niche for themselves. There are many outstanding academicians but we could handpick ten only due to space restrictions. This edition extols their virtues, their evergreen contribution to the society at large. One can only feel a sense of pride and fulfillment when we read about their sacrifices, the challenges and hurdles they have faced and yet come out winners. Their ‘never say die’ spirit is indeed a commendable quality which we can try to emulate. A dedicated teacher goes far beyond the content taught, becomes a role model to the students. From my own experience of teaching over two decades, I can say with conviction that the feeling of fulfilment comes when a student calls you much after he has completed his education and still remembers you and calls you to say a few good words.

Moving on…..the response to the call for artistic contributions from our home grown talent has been heart-warming. A lot of members are sending their artistic work which is a happy augury. We also urge our members to participate in Crosswords and solving brain teasers which keeps our minds and grey cells well-oiled and active. Exercising the brain is as important as exercising the body. Our team puts in a lot of time and effort to create crosswords and other brain teasers. Encouragement and constructive feedback from our readers will certainly help us improve with every edition.

Finally, when this issue is in your hands we would be in the midst of the festival season with many more to follow. The next edition will be the Diwali Special issue for which we welcome contributions from all our members.

Happy Festival time. Have fun. Enjoy and God bless.
Meeting people is an everyday event. It happens all the time. But when one meets other people with a purpose – intention to help others and get helped by others, is when wonders may begin to happen.

“Everyone you will ever meet knows something you don’t.”

*Bill Nye, American mechanical engineer, science communicator, and television presenter*

Extending the above quote to Business Networking, Everyone you will ever meet KNOWS SOMEONE you don’t.

This is the basis of an ECM or Entrepreneurs Club Meet, wherein Bhanap Entrepreneurs meet on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month, exchange information about one’s business goals and plans, connects they are looking out for. Connects they could share among others. For information of those who have never attended an ECM, the structure of the Meet agenda is

- Sabha Prarambha Prarthana
- CSN Introduction
- NSI (Networking Skills Improvement) slot.
- Self Introduction round approx 1 to 2 minutes per attendee.
- EBP (Extended Business Presentation – 10 minute slot)
- Connect Sharing and announcement of member driven initiatives
- CSN announcements
- Sabha Samapti Prarthana

Presently these meets are online. Once physical meets commence, there would be a slot for member interaction and networking before the meet and Networking over Breakfast after the meet. Total time required is maximum of 2 hours.

A common query arising from people is that why keep meeting the same people every meeting. The answer is - Business is a dynamic happening, Goals may remain the same, but means to achieving the same may differ. As said by Heraclitus, a Greek philosopher, “CHANGE IS THE ONLY CONSTANT IN LIFE”. Ditto for Business, isn’t it? Customer targets are open to change and hence connects wanted this week may change till next meet. Also regularly meeting other business owners leads to better bonding and facilitates the desire to try and help fellow members.

Members have announced business received from fellow members to the tune of over Rs. 3 lakhs in the month of April / May 2022.

Some members have posted about their good feelings after attending ECM’s and are reproduced below; (some remarks have been edited for brevity without affecting sentiments expressed.)

**Sandeep Yедерi (Mumbai)** – It was my first EBP (Extended Business Presentation) and thankful to the KSA-CSN team for creating this opportunity for me. This is a brilliant platform and I would urge everyone in this group to take the benefit. Am so happy to have connected with some brilliant and successful minds in biz.

**Dr. Suman Mundkur (Mumbai)** - Yes, Today’s ECM was very encouraging. Brilliant presentation on Networking by Rajesh Hattangadi, seamless moderation by Sandeep Yederi and the spotlight on Ravindra Mangalore.

**Rekha Mavinkurve (Bengaluru)** - A big thank you to each and every one of you who attended the meeting today. It was such an eye opener for me to hear your introductions and learn about all the amazing things you do and your recent achievements.
Hats off to both the ladies and men who made time to attend and make this meeting a success!! I especially want to thank Suman Mundkur, Vaishnavi, Nandita for their support and Simrita, Mangal for their wonderful extended presentations!

Sadanand Savanal (Talegaon) - Wonderful meeting today and great energy. Super moderation by Vaishnavi. Fabulous presentation by Sandeep. Mangal gave nice insights into networking. Look forward to the next ECM.

Pradeep Padukone (Bengaluru) - I’m glad I participated.
For business entrepreneurs like me, KSA CSN is the perfect platform to feel "included, cared for, and supported" straightaway. Felt very good and rejuvenated. This is one big take away for me today. Thanks & regards to all participants and the anchors in this initiative.

CSN Networking News
CSN has organized 7 ECM’s (Entrepreneurs Club Meet) between February and July 2022.
The following members are congratulated for highest attendance rate

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<th>Name</th>
<th>ECM’s held</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Suman Mundkur</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Simrita Basrur</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Sadanand Savanal</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Ravindra Mangalore</td>
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CSN also thanks Rekha Mavinkurve (Bengaluru), Sandeep Yederi (Mumbai) and Vaishnavi Pandit (Mangaluru), Avinash Naimpally & Sadanand Savanal (Mumbai) for being pioneers in volunteering to help moderate the ECM’s and commends their contributions. KSA-CSN also would like to thank Rajesh Hattangadi for taking up the NSI (Networking Skills Improvement) slot, which is aimed to increase awareness about better ways of Networking.
Members have also started acknowledging great products/services from fellow members. Few members have met one on one and have posted on whatsapp groups about how helpful these meets have been.

ECM’s would now be held on 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month.

BHANAP YELLOW PAGES (concept initiated by Shri Kishore Masurkar, Vice President, KSA) a listing of CSN members who have registered on the CSN Database, were widely circulated on various social media avenues. This facility is available only to those Bhanap entrepreneurs registering on the CSN Database. Please encourage Bhanap Entrepreneurs/Professionals to register on the database and join in networking initiatives

APPEAL
Requesting DOMAIN EXPERTS to contribute their mite to CSN by offering to:
• Hold Workshops in the field of their Domain Expertise
• Author Articles in their related fields as may be useful to Amchi business entrepreneurs

HOW CAN I HELP KSA-CSN & FELLOW BHANAPS
1. If you are a Bhanap Entrepreneur, Register on the Database and participate in the various Networking Initiatives.
2. If you know a Bhanap Entrepreneur (existing or hopeful) please inform him/her about the KSA-CSN database and encourage him/her to register thereon and
3. If you are not self-employed or leading a retired life, you could also ask to attend ECM’s as a Visitor and see for yourself how KSA-CSN aims at and works towards better prosperity for Bhanaps.
4. If you are a decision maker in your organization then KSA-CSN could help you find a trustworthy vendor.

5. Inform Bhanaps in your know in any of the above categories to attend online ECM’s (2nd and 4th Sunday of every month @ 10 am).

6. If you know any Bhanaps who have good expert knowledge in their field of work and are willing to offer their help and guidance to KSA-CSN, please let us know.

7. We would also be pleased to receive names of High Achievers in the Bhanap Community as potential Guests of Honour for our Mulakats. It may be noted that final selection of names would be done by the functional Sub-Group/CSN Task Force and that decision would be final.

Link to register on the KSA-CSN Database is www.kanarasaraswat.com/csn

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**From our archives (Excerpts from KS 2002)**

**V. S. Naipaul and the Bhanap Priest**

Nandakumar Balwally, USA

V. S. Naipaul, the 2001 Nobel Laureate visited India several times and wrote three books on India. Naipaul won the Booker Prize in 1971 for his novel "In a Free State". He received a knighthood in Britain in 1990. In one of his books he makes a reference to a CSB priest. Naipaul's Brahmin ancestors had left India in late 19th century. They went to Trinidad. His ancestry, especially India's ancient civilization and the promise of progress from Independence, attracted him to India. During this visit, he makes a point to talk to individuals who are trying to break away from their past in a mild mutinous way. They are wrestling with their condition, however miserable and distancing themselves from the corrupt ways of the rich and the powerful. Their small numbers unite them to their common goal...

In this setting of mutiny and hope, gently strides the priest from the Chitrapur Saraswat Brahmin community. Naipaul does not name him to preserve his privacy. Perhaps he means to portray the priest to be an apt representative of our community. Naipaul's portrait of this priest is graphic and makes delightful reading.

The priest has moved to Mumbai from his native 300 miles south where for generations his family served the Bhavanishankar temple. Naipaul meets the priest in one of the chawls in Dadar. The meeting takes Naipaul's memories back to the time when pujas were regularly performed in his grandfather's house in Trinidad. His folks were Brahmins from north India and migrated to Trinidad under similar circumstances; they became farm workers. Later English education gave them and Naipaul a new lease on life. This Brahmin connection built an immediate rapport between Naipaul and the priest. The priest was a young man of thirty, known to many members of the Mumbai CSBs. So the community gave him immediate support. Being shy, he accepted whatever fees they gave him. In return, one of the housing developers of the community helped him buy a small flat, which cost him six years of his entire earnings! He had no complaints about life in Mumbai. He accepted all favours as divine gifts of lord Bhavanishankar. "Did he have pleasures?" asks Naipaul. The priest says he sees no division between work and pleasure. As a pujari, he serves God and for what might pass for pleasure", he likes "decorating the shrine". Naipaul describes his physical appearance thus: "He was a small, dainty man of thirty, with a little moustache and the pale skin of his community. He wore a necklace of sandalwood beads and he had a bag for his belongings. His voice was as soft as his smile and his eyes. He was a picture of a serene and gentle Brahmin: he looked as content and unfussy as he said he was". A little further Naipaul writes, "He looked inward and was serene. The only person he looked upward and still revered was the head of the Chitrapur Saraswat Brahmin community. He allowed other people to keep the world going etc.; it made him a good pujari".

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Flag hoisting on 15th August, Amrit mahotsava year!

At KSA - Shri Mahesh Kalyanpur, Chairman KSA unfurls the national tri-colour in DN Sirur Square in Talmakiwadi. Seen in pic are Shri Dilip Sashital, Rajiv Kallianpur, Dr. Prakash Mavinkurve and ex-Chairman Jairam Khambadkone with children waving the national flag.

Enthusiastic Gen Next in Saraswat Colony Santacruz

Shri Ashok Chandavarkar unfurls the National Flag in Karla

Swami Parijnanashram Educational and Vocational Centre celebrations (Virar)

Lt. Sachi Koppikar unfurls the national flag in Matunga Colony

Flag hoisting by Smt. Maya Hattiangadi at the Canara Union Bangalore. Present are Shri Prakash Aroor, Anand Nagarkar and others

Flag Hoisting in Chitrapur CHS Bandra by Shri Ramdas Shirali

September 2022

Kanara Saraswat
# Ultimate Series

**Electrodes For CS & HSLA Steel**

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**Customer Satisfaction with Quality + Technical Knowledge Sharing**
A letter of remembrance and gratitude from your three daughters:

Dearest Amma,

You were so lovingly involved in so many facets of our lives that its difficult to not feel your presence still, everyday and always.

There were so many things to learn from you. As a woman we looked up to your intelligence, confidence, and poise in every circumstance. As a wife & mother you were ever supportive, nurturing, and insightful, no matter which country you happened to be in, or which generation turned to you for the need of the hour; you were there for each of us.

Friends and family knew you to be cultured, chic and progressive. Your many talents ran from the practical to the artistic, from cooking multi-cultural cuisines to knitting dolls, painting, playing the sitar, classical dance and writing. In short there wasn’t much you couldn’t do, and your open and diverse interests enriched all our lives. We will always hold you in admiration for how versatile and young at heart you were. You faced every challenge with inner strength, determination and a smile.

Now more than ever we treasure the years we’ve had with you, and hold dear to our hearts all the precious memories that we’ve shared and all you’ve done for us.

Cherishing you always:

Your children: Nicola, Sammie, Ayesha, (Sons-in-law: Sunil, Neelesh)

Your grandchildren: Sahil, Vishal (granddaughter-in-law Vandita), Alisha, Mia, Mowgly and Leia

Extended Family and Friends

We are deeply saddened to say goodbye to:

SONA VIVEK RAO

(Wife of late Vivek Kelkar Rao and daughter of late Madhukar and Sita Hirebet)

Sept 13th, 1942 – Aug 6th, 2022
Dearest Amma,

It’s been a year since you left us but it feels like you will always be by our side. Fondly known as “Kumuda” (nee Shirur), Chhaya (Haldipur), Amma (as many would call you) and of course “Ammamma” to your grand-daughters, you were truly loved by all.

Amma, you were such a beautiful, sensitive, gentle and yet a strong person. We admire your perseverance in life and how you never let any obstacle stop you or us from reaching our goals. Losing your father at a young age and facing many adversities, only made you stronger and more determined. You entered every competition you could, topped Hindi State exams & earned your way through school scholarships so that you could help lessen the financial burden on the family. Your determination to be a graduate came to fruition when you completed your Bachelor’s Degree while raising 2 young daughters with a third one on the way.

You were extremely creative when you stitched us pretty dresses that always got us compliments. Your love for cooking showed through, when you made delicious pizzas, cakes, chaats & many unusual dishes that all of us looked forward to eating. Your traditional “Amchi” dishes and your iconic lemon pickle still brings fond memories to everyone who has tasted these. Your talent for singing got you many accolades through performances while working with employers such as RBI, BARC and Railways. Though you couldn’t pursue singing as a career, your sweet voice is remembered by all who have heard you.

Your kind soul always helped everyone, even strangers. You made friends wherever you went. Your only craving in life was a good cup of plain tea (‘Cha’), and you wouldn’t let anyone leave without a cup of tea, no matter the time of the day. You absorbed all good things from everyone irrespective of their age. You taught us to be positive in most challenging times and that every difficult situation was an opportunity to move towards our goals.

You joined Union Bank of India, after a long gap, at age of 47, when Annu had to retire on medical grounds. You managed your work, his health and encouraged us to continue studying despite sudden life changes. You were our strength when Annu passed away at an early age of 58. Life threw many curve balls at you, but you always handled them with grace and a smile.

To the wonder called AMMA, while we will miss your ever-smiling face and the warmest hugs, we will always and forever hold you in our hearts.

We know you are content up there with Swami Samartha and blessing us always.

Remembered fondly by

Leena and Vijay Kanchan, Laxmi and Deepak Kumta, Swati and Pranav Nagarkatte

Nidhi, Sakshi, Gauri and Aditi

Relatives and friends
A tale of two teachers- Made for each other-
Prof. Ramchandra and Nita Gokarn

Pranoti Koppikar-Mogre - in conversation with the Gokarns

For me, Ramchandra Gokarn - a former Head of the Department of Naval Architecture, Dean (Postgraduate Studies and Research) and Member, Board of Governors of IIT Kharagpur; has always been my Rambappa. A person of few words, it was through social media that I realized how much his students adore him.

I recall long ago his younger son, an IIT &IIM graduate and now a successful entrepreneur shared – “I am lucky to him as a father because he gave me the freedom of choice. Despite family pressures to join medical field, he guided me to follow my passion and that has been key to having a satisfying and successful career journey”.

When the opportunity to interview Rambappa came, I readily took it up to know more about this multi-faceted person.

Rambappa, can you tell us something about the formative years of your life.

My father had a job that involved frequent transfers to remote places. When I reached the age of six, my parents decided that I should go to a boarding school. At considerable sacrifice to themselves, they sent me to two of the finest schools in the country – Scindia School, Gwalior and Lawrence School, Lovedale (Dist. Nilgiris). I passed out of Lovedale in December 1955. After a year at Benares (now Varanasi) to do a course called Inter Science, I joined IIT Kharagpur to study a little-known subject, Naval Architecture. I graduated in 1962.

How and why did you choose to take up a teaching career at IIT Kharagpur?

As the end of my Naval Architecture course approached, I applied for admission to postgraduate courses in universities abroad. But India’s China war started and in the great patriotic fervor that built up, I decided not to go abroad at that time. My teachers in the Naval Architecture Department persuaded me to join the faculty. I found that I enjoyed teaching and decided to make it my career. I have never regretted it and feel humbled by the respect and affection that I have received from my students; one of my students, Tilak Sarkar, has even instituted an award in my name at IIT Kharagpur. I taught Naval Architecture for nearly forty years at IIT Kharagpur and after that for more than fifteen years at other institutions. I have thus had the privilege of teaching many people associated with ships and shipbuilding in our country and elsewhere.

Can you describe some of the highlights of your career.

I joined IIT Kharagpur as an Associate Lecturer in 1962 and became a Professor in 1972. Among the important posts that I held were Head of the Department of Naval Architecture, Dean (Postgraduate Studies and Research) and Member, Board of Governors of IIT Kharagpur. I was involved in a number of sponsored research projects and industrial consultancy projects. I was responsible for setting up two research laboratories that are still in regular operation twenty years after I retired from IIT Kharagpur.

I have written a book, “Basic Ship Propulsion”, that has received favorable comments from correspondents all over the world. I am finishing a second book, this one on Ship Maneuvrability.

In my long career, I have been fortunate to receive a few awards including the President’s Medal from Lawrence School, Lovedale (1954), the Distinguished Alumnus Award from IIT Kharagpur (2011) and the Lifetime Dedication Award from the Global Maritime Education and Training Association (2015). However, my most cherished award is the honor I received from the Kanara Saraswat Association in 2015; as I mentioned in my acceptance speech, it was special because “it was being given to me by my own people”.

You have always been interested in music. Can you elaborate on it for our readers?

I inherited my interest in music from my parents, both of whom were very fond of Indian classical music. I learnt to play the flute during my year at Benares and at IIT Kharagpur, a friend taught me a few classical pieces that I tried to reproduce on my flute. I have had no formal training in music and have learnt music by listening to recordings.
of established musicians. In due course, I gave up playing the flute and took to singing. In the many years that I spent at IIT Kharagpur, I gave a few performances on the flute and later also of vocal music. After coming to Mumbai following my retirement, I have continued my interest in music but sadly singing in public is now beyond me.

**Who have been your support pillars?**

I have been fortunate to have received the help and support of many people in my life – friends, colleagues, and the many close relatives that both my Nita and I have. My immediate family consisting of my wife Nita and our two sons, and their families have provided me close continuous support ever since they came into my life. In particular, Nita has provided me the blissful companionship for fifty-six years that only the most fortunate can hope to have.

**Rambappa’s pillar -Nita Gokarn, started her career as a teacher** and later progressed to be the Principal of one of the best schools in Kharagpur. Despite the tough job of balancing her demand career and family responsibilities, she continued following her passion in painting and crafts, and is an extremely talented artist. **For those who may not know, Nandan Nilekani’s portrait featured in the Kanara Saraswat June edition is her creation.** An achiever in her own right, thought of introducing her also to our readers.

**What propelled you to be a teacher?**

When I went to IIT Kharagpur from Mumbai after my wedding, I realized that the only career possible there was teaching. So, I did my B.Ed from Calcutta University and joined the local school in the campus there. At that time, the school had just been set up. With the dedication and the hard work of the teachers the school soon came to be recognized as one of the best schools in Kharagpur.

**Can you share a glimpse of your artistic talent with our readers. What are the various things that you have done?**

I have always been interested in arts and crafts. When my children were small, I experimented with making soft toys. Later, I tried my hand at making decorative carpets (wall hangings) and bas relief on aluminium and copper sheets. But these activities could only be pursued when I could spare time from my teaching career and the work at home. It is only when I came to Mumbai after retirement that I took up painting seriously. I have never taken any formal training in painting but have developed it as a hobby, I am very grateful to people who have encouraged me and have praised my paintings.

It is wonderful to know this wonderful couple - Thank you Rambappa -Nita Pachi for giving me the pleasure of talking to you about your accomplishments!

(Pranoti Mogre (nee Koppikar) is married with 2 boys. She graduated from VJTI, Mumbai in Electrical engineering in 1985. She is currently working with Accenture at the Senior management level. She loves travelling, trekking and watching movies. Pranoti can be reached at pranotimogre@gmail.com.)

**We want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, the intellect is expanded, and by which one can stand on one’s own feet.**

- Swami Vivekananda

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Kuldeep Kalavar – a Unique Life Coach out of the Ordinary

Nitin G Gokarn

We often mistake the word “Teacher” as a person teaching in schools or Colleges. What do you call a person who guides people in understanding the meaning and purpose of life and how to achieve it?

You will be surprised to know that Kuldeep Kalavar (KK) has countless students all over the world, many of whom have been with him for over 25 years and continue till date to study and practice his teachings. Teachers such as KK are the ones that help shape our world into a better place. Young and old, teenagers to seniors have benefited from this practice.

I had the pleasure of having an exclusive chat with Kuldeep Venkatrao Kalavar. Call him what you wish - Life coach, guide, mentor, consultant – there is hardly any aspect of life which he has not covered. His website www.unlearnliving.in gives a brief idea of his activity.

In an exclusive tete-a-tete, KK reminiscences about his foray in to becoming a guide in life and living. Here is a man with purpose and ideas.

KK was raised in Calcutta in his formative years. His first brush with teaching happened at a rather unbelievable age of 11-12. As a student of Protestant Missionary School, they were taught the Bible. To get credits seniors had to teach the Bible to the juniors. Thus, KK knew little about our own faith. Perhaps, that was one way for Providence to inculcate the uninitiated into imparting knowledge as a forerunner into the future. A few years later KK joined the Ramakrishna Mission college as a residential student in Narendrapur, Calcutta, where he was exposed to Vedanta and its approach to life and living. His interest in Vedanta took a positive turn as he was exposed to several spiritual texts of Swami Vivekananda and others from the RKM fold as well other famous spiritual personalities such as Swami Sivananda, Rama, etc. After two years at RKM college, he joined the Mechanical Eng. stream at BITS Ranchi which he completed in 1968.

Having been away from home for several years, KK was keen to bond with his family and the time came in 1968 when he completed his Engineering and took a job and stayed with his parents at Worli.

Fate can be cruel - It seemed so in KKs case. Within a few months of enjoying staying together with his parents an early morning his father Venkatrao Kalavar collapsed whilst having tea. In a matter of two hours everything was over. It was KK's first-hand encounter with death. Plethora of questions stormed through his mind. Where did he go? Where is he now? Here was a man walking, talking in front of him and within seconds he's gone.

KK was determined to seek answers to the never-ending stream of questions. He spent most of his spare time reading and researching numerous books and texts. He could get partial answers. His thirst for the answers could not get satiated. KK says this was the turning point of his life. His focus was now on ensuring he put in his best in (a) Working for a living and (b) Get answers to the Questions about Life, death and the before and after.

KKs search for answers seemed infinite. The next 15 – 20 years went in extensive research, studying, and experimenting with what various texts talked about. He joined many religious and philosophical institutions. Met many holy people, studied their philosophies etc. While he got answers to some questions, many remained unanswered. He found gaps in his knowledge – like many unconnected islands.

In 1983 he came to Mumbai and connected with Chinmaya Mission where his life took a different route. For the first time he met one who had answers to all his questions- Swami Brahmananda. This was the second turning point of his life. It was his guidance that shaped his life in the current direction. KK was fascinated by the fountain of knowledge He possessed. Swami Brahmananda was full of wisdom, a man of few words and took a specific liking for KK who would pester him with a load of questions each time they met. Not once did he flinch in responding even to the most awkward and difficult questions on Vedanta. This went on for years.

On a particular occasion Swami Brahmananda, after conducting a Satsang was answering some questions. On one question he turned to KK
and requested him to reply. KK did so. After the event whilst relaxing Swamiji turned to KK and said “You teach”. KK was stunned “Teach what?” Brahmananda repeated “Teach”. Swamiji being a man of few words- there was no point further pursuing the matter. It was final!

KK says I took it up as a challenge. “I had the habit of experimenting whatever I learnt to my daily experiences and check if what I knew was workable. I was convinced it works. I decided to teach “Applied Spirituality”. The group of which I was a student had about a dozen razor sharp ladies who were Chinmaya Mission students for many years- some more senior than me. When they heard this news - I was shocked when they asked “Can we join your class. It was mixed feelings of joy and elation and also an element of doubt whether I would be able to match up to expectations. Looking back, I realize GOD used me as an instrument to change many lives.”

The most heartening aspect is many of the ladies who joined KK twenty-five years ago are still attending his classes! I have not come across a student who has stuck with his preceptor for over 2 decades!

The year 2000 was a path breaking year. KKS family moved to Versova and he was still teaching the Chinmaya mission courses under the aegis of the Mission.

KK realized this location had very few amenities. Most residents were retired government and senior citizens who had to travel long distance for basic medical facilities. A Chinmaya Mission trustee suggested to KK that they must “do something.” They got together and formed a Trust to deliver basic medical facilities to these residents.

The next few years many youngsters left India for greener pastures overseas. They left behind ageing parents who were assailed by depression and solitude and had no friends to socialize. The trustee being a disciple of Swami Chinmayananda correctly identified the root cause of the problem- it was not just physical – it was mental too. Knowing KK’s background, he asked him to design a course where these seniors could come together and experience a mix of everything that life was – Fun, socializing, events, festivals etc. along with spirituality.

KK stitched together a program incorporating what he had learnt and practiced. This was a synthesis of various disciplines ranging from Vedantic study, Medicine, yoga, Prayers and body sciences all of which he had tried out on himself with success. The focus was to tune the body and mind to ensure Physical and mental wellbeing and trigger a change in their attitude to life and living.

He designed a one-day course for them. KK demonstrated the kriyas and the benefits thereof. The ladies who were with KK from the start attended and confirmed these techniques worked and answered many questions which they had faced. That was a big booster for KK who then went from strength to strength buoyed by this success. The underlying theme was “recognize GOD in every aspect of life and tune your mind and body with “THAT” and attain success and happiness.”

KK says “I reached a stage where I was doing well business wise but had to take a call and make a choice between making money and spreading happiness. After all I have gained in these years; I must give back to society. Why not share this knowledge”. KK opted for the latter.

In 2015, KK formed a non-profit organization, “Senior’s Paradise Foundation”. Its aim was to create an infrastructure for seniors.

The objective was to utilize the scores of years of experience each senior had within them to create a platform to meet, socialize, and support any senior in need. Many activities were offered: going on overnight and day picnics, events where song, dance and competitive events that involved sharing, caring, and make them enjoy life. “Make them look forward to each day with excitement” was the theme. They have 1500 families as on board on date.

KK realized very soon that many wanted more than socializing and sought spiritual knowledge. KK fulfilled this gap too by starting a more detailed set of courses with several levels - where even a person with no prior knowledge of GOD can start to apply spirituality. It is an organization called “Unlearn Living”. Their website www.unlearnliving gives details of the range of activities. Currently 5 levels (of 10 levels) are operational. The level 1 is for starters who wish to learn in a graded manner. KK has students from all ages and walks of life in India and abroad (USA, UAE, UK).

Kalavar says “Just as each vocation serves a purpose, has a structure and rules that guide in applying them to real life situations...Life
too has a purpose, structure and rules that can guide in successfully applying them to daily life experiences”.

The purpose of this organization is enable each seeker find answers which intrigue most and unlock their latent potential. In this process many personal questions like “Who am I?” “What is the purpose of my birth?” “What is my goal in life” - are answered.

KK has been successful in weaving and synthesizing the finer nuances of Vedanta, Yoga and knowledge gleaned from various texts coupled with practical examples duly validated to make the student dive deep into his spiritual foundation. This must be a very satisfying life journey - to pioneer and develop easy to understand and apply modules which have no parallel in the world. The content is unique in that respect and that makes Kuldeep Kalavar a unique life coach. Needless to mention Kuldeep must have burnt a lot of midnight oil with a lot of toil to make a success of the programs. For more details on his organizations, you may visit www.unlearnliving.in and search the net for Senior’s Paradise Foundation.

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1. **Please tell us about your initial years (as you were growing up, your school and college).**

I was born in February 1939 in the temple premises of Lord Bhadrambikeshwara at Manki-Madi village, Uttara Kannada. I completed my SSLC in the Government High School in Kannada medium. Thanks to the encouragement of my maternal uncle, Namu (S Ramachandra Rao) I continued my education in Karnatak College, Dharwad. He and his wife, Sunanda, happily accepted the responsibility of hosting me. I must also mention the crucial role played my mother in shaping the lives of both my brother and myself. It was due to her insistence and encouragement that we could go for higher education. Though she had only primary education, she used to help us in writing essays and introduced us to the Bhagavad-Gita, and instilled self-confidence in us.

I had scored very good marks in the SSLC examination securing the first rank in the school. I chose to join the Arts stream as I wanted to specialise in Sanskrit and Philosophy. In college, I started reading Bertrand Russell and Karl Marx, who interested me profoundly. So after the Intermediate examination, I took economics, sociology, and political science for BA. Karnatak College was then an eminent centre of learning and many distinguished teachers.

I submitted my PhD thesis in 1968 and got the degree early next year. In addition to submitting my PhD thesis, I married Ganga Karnad also in the same year thus making it a special year.

I joined the Post Graduate Department of Economics at the Marathwada University at Aurangabad as a faculty member in 1969, and later the Institute for Social & Economic Change (ISEC), as a Professor in 1976. It is at ISEC that I did most of my research, guidance and writing. Though I formally retired from ISEC in 1999, I am still associated with it as an Honorary Visiting Professor, continuing research guidance informally and also my writing work.

3. **Which is your area of specialization and how did you achieve mastery over the subject?**

As an economist primarily, most of my academic work has been in agricultural and ecological economics. ISEC bestowed on me the honour of being its first Head in 1981. I have not believed in narrow specialisation, and am equally interested in sociology, political science, ethics, religion and Sanskrit. After my retirement, most of my written work has been in these areas. It would be arrogance on my part to say that I have gained mastery over these subjects. I am still a humble student. But I gained depth in these subjects mainly by extensive reading, teaching, lecturing, researching, and writing on them.

4. **Can you narrate a few memorable challenging experiences as a teacher?**

The challenge came at the start itself, when I was asked to teach an important subject at the MA level soon after my obtaining the MA degree. The second challenge came at the Marathwada University, where students came to do MA from a Marathi medium at the BA level, and I had to explain in Marathi what I taught in English. Students had the option to write their answers in Marathi at their examinations, which also I had to evaluate.

The hardest challenge came in 2003 when my wife, Ganga suddenly passed away. It was very difficult to overcome the traumatic shock and resume my work of research and writing. I think I succeeded in it due to her good wishes only. Her memory served as an inspiration.
5. **What was the most satisfying of the professional journey as a Teacher?**

   My most satisfying work has been at ISEC as a research guide, and researcher. I could informally guide countless students and had the satisfaction of seeing them succeed. Writing my books on Hinduism and Ethics later, and my compositions in Sanskrit also gave me immense satisfaction. It is only due to Divine blessings that even after I turned 80, I continued to be an active author.

6. **Have you been honoured in your career with Awards, Doctorate or any other means of recognition? What have been your achievements/milestones in your journey so far?**

   Following are some of the achievements and milestones of my journey:
   
   - Invited by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Rome, to prepare *An Environmental Assessment of Andhra Pradesh Tribal Development Project*, which then was published in 1993.
   - Elected as the President at the 55th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics at IRMA in 1995.
   - Served as Vice Chancellor of Gulbarga University, in Karnataka for 3 years from 1999 onwards, on special invitation by the Governor of Karnataka.
   - Selected as a National Fellow of the Indian Council of Social Science Research and also invited to be an Honorary Visiting Professor at ISEC, an honour which continues even now.
   - Edited a book (jointly with an Australian scholar) on *Poverty, Environment, and Development*, based on the experience of four countries in 2001 for UNESCO.
   - Appointed as Chairman, Editorial Board, of the *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics* (Jan. 2005 to Dec 2007).
   - Elected Chairman of the Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research (Dharwad) in 2007 for five years, but I had to resign from it in 2009 due to growing hearing loss.
   - Was awarded the Best Research Paper Award for 2019, jointly with another scholar, on ‘Reconciling conservation of forests with the Forest Rights of 2006’ among the papers published in the *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics*.
   - Was honoured at an international seminar organised by ISEC and the National Institute for Disaster Management (Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI) on ‘Green Growth Strategies for Climate Resilience’ at ISEC, Bangalore in November 2020.
   - Having served on the Governing Board of many eminent social science research institutions also have 40 books and 147 academic papers published so far, with one more book and an article under publication.

7. **Do you think our education system lags behind compared to that of the developed countries?**

   Yes, but there are indications of improvement. The emphasis earlier was on informing and memorising. It has shifted now to promoting thinking and creativity.

   **Looking back, what is your advice to aspirants who wish to take up teaching assignments?**

   First and foremost, they should love teaching, love students, and love to constantly improve their knowledge. Teaching should not be a monologue. They should actively interact with students, check if they have followed what was taught, and seek queries. Even if silly questions are asked, a teacher should not ridicule the student. Teachers need patience. They should also take pride in their profession. Teachers are remunerated much better now than in the past. More youths should join the profession. There is a need for more teachers in the system at all levels.

   Education is kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel.

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*Sudoku Aug 22 Solution*
Dr. Meena Chandawarkar - Resilience personified

Anjali Burde

Dr. Meena Chandawarkar is a product of Bandra, Mumbai. After completing her schooling at Apostolic Carmel Convent, she pursued higher education from Narsee Monjee College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai. Having a keen desire to ‘earn and learn’ she took up a job at Bank of India as a part time passbook writer, in 1973, while studying for B.Com. and shifted to UBI.

Upon her marriage to Dr. Rajiv Chandrakant Chandawarkar, a consulting Pathologist and she had to move to Bagalkot. She took a transfer to Hubli, but having been born and brought up in a metro city like Mumbai she was reluctant about moving to a small town like Bagalkot. However she settled there and spent forty-five years of her life in Bagalkot. Looking back she feels she owes a lot to Bagalkot as it threw up many opportunities for her and groomed her personality.

For her joining the field of academia was purely by chance. She was very comfortable working as a banker but reluctantly resigned from the job when she received transfer orders to Belgaum. Around that time the Vidya Prasarak Mandal opened a new college at Bagalkot and Meena joined the Narsapur Arts and Shirur Commerce College as Vice Principal in 1984 and consequently became it’s Principal. Lack of knowledge of Kannada was a great hindrance for her growth but knowledge of English was a valuable asset. After an initial struggle in the new profession she took pains to learn Kannada and was able to win the hearts of her students.

Soon there was a cruel turn of fate. Meena lost her husband when she was forty-one and then another devastating shock was losing her teenage daughter Amrita, three years later. However, the wholehearted support from her parents-in-law, paved the way for her to pursue a career in education. Her faith in God and HH Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji, helped her sail through troubled times.

Meena taught Accountancy, Cost Accountancy and Organisational Behaviour to Undergraduate and Post Graduate students. She simultaneously pursued research in H.R.D. interventions and their impact on productivity in the Cement industry.

Having students from a rural background she found them lacking in confidence and communication skills but she took immense efforts to develop their confidence by organising various activities. She took the initiative to introduce the Japanese concept of Quality Circles, a popular concept in industry, in the field of education. She introduced it in the college through simple activities with relevant modifications.

Dr. Meena also organized many workshops at Bagalkot and Bijapur which aimed at inculcating self-confidence, improving communicative skills, enhancing abilities to work in a team, sharpening soft skills and making the students aware of the concept of emotional quotient. The Centre for Ideal Womanhood established in the University, focused on character building, spirituality, civic sense and loving care of elders.

After the Principal’s tenure of 21 years, Meena took over as the Director, UGC- Academic Staff College, Karnataka University, Dharwad. The Karnataka State Women’s University, Bijapur was set up in 2003. In March 2012, on the International Women’s Day, she assumed charge as the third Vice Chancellor of the University.

During this tenure, she undertook many innovative initiatives, to give the university a brand ‘Ananya’. One such step was to visit the women’s hostel every month to spend some quality time with the students residing there and organize confidence building and personality development activities for them.

After completing her tenure as the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Meena joined a prestigious group of educational institutions, B V Vidya Vardhak Sangha, Bagalkot as its Chief Adviser – Quality Assurance, in June 2016.

She joined Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal, Nagpur, in 2018. As its National Joint Secretary, she is engaged in conducting National/State level seminars on N.E.P. 2020 and Bharat Centric research. She is poised to complete fifty years of career experience, in 2023, which has truly been a golden era for her.

She has served in crucial capacities on a National and State Level on behalf of the HRD Ministry,
Govt. of India, the University Grants Commission, Govt. of Karnataka, The Dept. of Higher Education, Bangalore and the National Assessment and Accreditation Council, Bangalore.

Some of the awards and accolades that came her way in her long and fruitful journey are as follows;

**“Outstanding Contribution to Education” award** by World Education Congress at World Chancellors’ Meet on 27th June, 2014, at Mumbai.

**“Innovative B School Award-2014”** for outstanding contribution to Education by DNA & Innovative B School on 17 February 2014, at Mumbai.

**“Vishweshwariah Vignyan Puraskar 2013”** by Swadeshi Vignyan Andolan Karnataka on 15th September 2013, at University of Horticultural Sciences, Bagalkot.

**“Best Teacher Award”** in Commerce, by Karnataka State Government, Department of Collegiate Education, Bangalore, in July 1999.

Judged as the **“Best Resource Person”** by the participants of Orientation Programmes at Academic Staff College, Goa University.

Dr. Meena truly believes that one has to be blessed in order to join the teaching profession. However she feels that there is a dearth of inspiring teachers today. It is her sincere appeal the young generation to take up this profession and mould the future citizens of our nation, which according to her will be their most valued and treasured contribution to society.

She considers the NEP 2020 to be path breaking. According to her “It visualises bringing about a revolutionary change in our education system, focusing on a holistic development of the student. It intends to integrate our educational system with global partners, enhance thinking skills and instill national pride among students. Its emphasis on liberal education and providing flexibility to the learner through the ‘Multi entry and exit’ option, unique ‘Academic Bank of Credit’ policy and integrated research programme, will be a great boon for students. NEP 20 has paved way for our nation to be a Vishwaguru! The teacher’s role here is extremely critical in its effective implementation without which the policy will remain in paper only”.

Blended learning became a new normal during the Covid 19 pandemic. Dr. Meena feels that the blended mode of learning needs to be adopted and continued as it has proved to be very effective and convenient. It has brought some revolutionary changes in the education system. The U.G.C. has permitted 40% of the credits to be earned from other institutions and online. This enables anytime and anywhere learning.

Her advice to students is that “Quality comes at a price and there is never ever a short cut, only dedication and persistent efforts can crown you with success”.

The mantra she wishes to share with the younger generation is:

**“Not just intelligence but a focussed approach, with total dedication, can take you up the ladder of success. Individual excellence leads to collective excellence and collective excellence leads to national excellence”**.

**Humour**

Q: What do you serve but not eat?
A: A ping-pong ball.

Q: Why are fish never good badminton players?
A: They don't like getting near to the net.

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(Dr. Shakuntala Katre is a Gold medalist at post-graduation in Zoology and doctor of Philosophy from Bangalore University and Post-doctoral studies at Paris University, France. She was the recipient of the prestigious Atomic Energy Commission Scholarship for both, PG studies and Research. She is an acclaimed teacher besides being an eminent Scientist and a well known Indian Academician. She has over 100 research papers to her credit, published in National and International journals. Her accomplishments justify that the goal of education is the advancement of knowledge and commitment to excellence)

1. Please tell us about your initial years (as you were growing up)

I was born in 1946, to Nalini Katre and Narayana Katre. I completed my schooling, at the Malleshwaram Ladies Association School (popularly called Rukkamma Ragahavachar School), where I developed a love to pursue Science. It was the best holistic school environment that I enjoyed and my personality was shaped there, with motivation to participate, drive to compete and excel.

Thereafter, I pursued my one-year Pre-University at the Maharani’s College, Bangalore and later completed my B.Sc. with Botany, Zoology and Chemistry. At Maharani’s, I participated in intercollegiate events in both academic, cultural and sports events. I also participated in the All India NCC camp at Dharamsala, and was selected for the Republic Day Parade.

I then pursued my Masters in Zoology from Bangalore University, at the Central College Bangalore and completed my post-graduation in 1969 with a First Class First Rank in the University. Thereafter, I pursued my Ph.D. in Aquatic Biology and received my Ph.D. Degree in 1972.

2. Was entering Academia a decision by choice or accident? What led you to the teaching profession? Was it your first choice? Name the Institutions where you have imparted education.

I think it was a bit of both and perhaps the best choice! My professional career scaled up from a Research Assistant-Lecturer-Reader-Professor, and I had the opportunity to serve the University for 39 years as a Teacher - then as the Head of the Department of Zoology, Dean of Science, Member of the Academic Council, Senate and the Syndicate. I also served brief stints as Registrar Administration and Registrar Evaluation of Bangalore University, and retired in 1969 as the Director of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Board of the University.

3. Which is your area of specialization and how did you achieve mastery over the subject?

My specialization at Masters was Zoology (Animal Sciences), and for research it was Aquatic Biology. I set up an enviable Aqualab at the University and guided to completion research work of 12 M.Phil and 30 Doctorate Scholars, during my tenure. My mastery if I may call that so, was through sheer hard work and dedication to reach out to my students (both PG and doctoral), and an intense commitment to counsel them on all grounds. My greatest satisfaction was that all of my students have done very well.

4. What were some of the memorable or challenging experiences as a teacher?

As a PG Teacher, when the students used to have a lot of difficulty in assigning animals to their classified groups, I took it as a challenge and set the Zoology Department museum in order, with the help of the students. This hands-on training
helped the students to understand the nuances of Systematic Zoology. Also, Spending hours on field work and observations of animals in their natural ecological habitats along with the students, for their doctoral work, was a great learning experience for me.

In 1981 Bangalore University Zoology department was shifted from Central College to the Jnana Bharathi Campus which had water supply only from bore wells. This meant disaster to many of my doctoral students who had ongoing experiments working with freshwater prawns. So for nearly two years, I had to set up an ‘Aqualab’ at my residence, till their experiments were completed. I even converted my store room at home into a photographic studio, to help one of my students complete the microphotography task. As Jnana Bharathi campus was far away, most of my students had their work-related discussions, correction and editing of their theses at my home! These are unforgettable events to reminisce.

5. What was the most satisfying leg of the professional journey as a Teacher?

I think the most satisfying thought for me is that many of my students (both PG and Doctorate) have tried to emulate me in their careers - as Teachers or as Research Scientists- and many of my students, who have risen to very high positions in their careers, still remember their learning experience gained at the Aqualab and under my tutelage! (Dr.S. Ayyappan - even being recognized as worthy of receiving the Padmashri recently) and some making a mark as entrepreneurs par excellence (Dr.Kiran Muzumdar-Shaw of Biocon fame). That I think is the ultimate reward for any teacher!

6. Have you been honoured during your career with Awards or any other means of recognition? What have been your key achievements/ milestones in your journey so far?

I was awarded the Gold Medal for my PG performance and a citation as ‘the Millennium Zoologist’ by the Zoological Society. I was also awarded the UGC Research Associateship and the CSIR-CNRS Fellowship to pursue my post-doctoral studies, and pursued my sabbatical at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

Both while in service and after my superannuation, I was an Assessor for National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and after retirement, was invited to serve the NAAC as a Senior Academic Consultant. More recently, with my colleagues, I have also published two books, Dynamics of Indian Higher Education, and Quality Management system in Higher Education, the latter has been published by NAAC and recently flagged as an e-book.

7. Do you think our education system lags behind compared to that of the developed countries?

To date, there is a lot of rote- learning that is adhered to in our education system. Hands-on through practical exposure, and ‘Learning by doing’ is what the system lags as compared to the system that is practiced in developed countries. There is also a need to provide opportunities and space for Self-learning instead of too much Classroom-teaching! The Finland model is perhaps the best one to emulate.

8. What are your thoughts on the NEP 2020?

NEP 2020 as a policy no doubt includes transformative and aspirational ideas but we are yet to see concrete recommendations for both School and Higher Education implantation of NEP 2020 in most States. I would have appreciated if the ‘Bottoms up’ approach was adopted phase-wise, beginning with ECCE through School Education and then Higher Education, instead of the ‘Top down’ approach as adopted by some States. In some States while the HE-related policies are already set into motion, school education has not been adopted, which will hamper the continuity.

9. Blended learning became a new normal during the Covid-19 pandemic. Do you think this should continue beyond the pandemic too?

‘Blended Learning’ if resorted to in a proper manner, with ample planning and transparency, would be an ideal way forward. It would be most suitable for Secondary and Tertiary levels of education rather than in lower levels. However I believe that in depth classroom Teaching-Learning is the most-satisfying and long-lasting.

10. Looking back, what is your advice to aspirants who wish to take up teaching assignments?

Teaching is the most satisfying and fulfilling profession provided one has the dedication to serve selflessly. An honest teacher leaves behind a Legacy
The glaring dearth in our education system today is the lack of quality teachers with dedication—both at the school and college levels. I wish more ‘amchi’ girls and boys take up teaching as a profession...I feel that their contributions will go a long way in knowledge dissemination through teaching and new knowledge creation through research, ultimately serving the society.

******

Hemant Hemmady

Humour

The funny nature of the English language

Over 60 percent of all English words have Greek and Latin roots. Yet English language is not "Greek or Latin" to the majority of the world’s populace and is easily understood and followed by them, by and large. The popularity of the English language can be attributed to the fact that it is eclectic in nature and has incorporated words from different prominent languages of the world into its lexicon.

The popularity of English notwithstanding the language is not without its quirks and peculiarity. For instance take the word Fly, which has several meanings. 1 to move using wings, 2 to operate an aircraft, 3 zippers on a pair of pants, 4 a winged insect, 5 a flap forming the door of a tent, 6 the space over the stage in a theatre, 7 getting something accepted, like, your silly excuse is not going to fly with your teacher, 8 a fisherman's lure, 9 like, in the sentence, rumours and accusations are flying, 10 flying into a rage, 11 like, time flies like an arrow. This is perplexing for the uninitiated.

There are a few interesting sentences borrowed from the book "Enjoy Your English" written by N E Renton. The farm was used to produce, produce. The dump was so full that it had to refuse, more refuse. When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes. The insurance was invalid for the invalid. The bandage was wound around the wound. There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row. The buck does funny things when does are present. To help with planting the farmer taught his sow to sow. How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend? There is no ham in hamburger. There is neither pine nor apple in a pineapple. The quicksand actually drags people down slowly. The boxing rings are square. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads which do not taste sweet, are meat.

A joke on the same matter from the same source. A judge was interviewing a woman regarding her pending divorce and asked her "What are the grounds for your divorce?" She replied: About four acres and a nice little home in the middle of the property with a stream running by". "No" he said. "I mean what is the foundation of this case?" "It is made of concrete, bricks and mortar" she responded. "I mean" he continued "what are your relations like?" "I have an aunt and uncle living here in town and so do my husband’s parents". He said "Do you have a real grudge?" "No she replied "we have a two car carport and have never really needed one". Please" he tried again "is there any infidelity in your marriage? "Yes, both my son and daughter have stereo sets. We don’t necessarily like the music but the answer to your question is yes. Ma’am does your husband ever beat you up?" "Yes" she responded "about twice a week he gets up earlier than I do" Finally in frustration the judge asked "Lady, why do you want a divorce?" "Oh I don’t want a divorce" she replied. "I have never wanted a divorce. My husband does. He says that he can’t communicate with me."
When one calls Dr. Bhaskar Devidas Hosangadi, you are greeted with a divine message—Hare Krishna. Dr. Hosangadi was born in 1939, in Sirsi, Karnataka. He lost his mother to typhoid at the tender age of 5 and throughout his study and research in Chemistry; he wondered if chloramphenicol would have been able to save her had it been discovered in 1944.

His father’s transferable job took the young Bhaskar to schools in various places. He completed his schooling with a good performance from St. Xavier’s at Bombay. The habit of reading English novels helped Dr. Bhaskar develop confidence in the English language.

He was the first person in his family to take up science when he joined Elphinstone College. For higher studies, he moved to the Institute of Science where he graduated with honours undertaking research in Organic Chemistry.

Rather than join the M.Sc. course in Physical Chemistry, he was advised by Prof. Kabadi to take up M.Sc. by research with Prof. A. B. Kulkarni. This was the turning point in his life and Prof. Kulkarni not only had a number of projects but Bhaskar could also receive financial assistance. Thus, in 1959 began his learning and earning. Soon enough, he fell in love with Chemistry and working 14 hours a day became a matter of habit.

Bhaskar then took up work on a doctorate which would have been inconceivable but for the Junior Research Fellowship on a CISR project offered by Prof. Kulkarni. During this time, a lecture by Prof. D.H.R Barton at the Ciba Research Centre fascinated and inspired Bhaskar to take up a career in teaching and research. In 1964, his first paper was presented at the first Chemist’s Convention of the Indian Chemical Society. Bhaskar went on to complete his Ph.D. in 1966 for his successful research in the synthesis of hexahydronaphthacenes, an important structural analog of the potent antibiotic, Tetracycline.

Subsequent to completion of his PhD., Dr. Hosangadi had a brief stint as a Research Associate to Prof. Kulkarni and was involved in the isolation and structural assignment of the new xanthone, Cassiollin from the plant Cassia occidentlis Linn along with another colleague Dr. N. A. Kudav. He also studied the then emerging technique being applied for conformational analysis.

Between 1966–68 Dr. Hosangadi had a rewarding experience when he joined Pesticides Ltd. as a Research and Development Chemist before his dream job of teaching was realized when he took up a lecturer position at the University.

Dr. Hosangadi was not just an active member of the Indian Chemical Society but also served on the committee and as its President. He was instrumental in the initiation of the most successful event of the Society, the ‘Research Scholars’ Meets’ which provided a platform for doctoral students from research institutes in and around Mumbai to present their research work before top academicians and scientists. The first such meet was held in 1987 and is now an annual activity.

Prof. Hosangadi has been actively associated with academic institutions and was on the ‘Board of Studies in Chemistry’ of the University of Baroda, SNDT University as well as the University of Mumbai where he also served as the Chairman. He has served at various levels in M.S University, Baroda and Goa University. He is also a life member of the Indian Society for Radiation and Photochemical Sciences (ISRAPS) and a fellow of the Maharashttra Academy of Sciences.

He was the Managing Editor of the University of Mumbai (Science) journal and on the editorial boards of various other chemistry journals. He also served as the Honorary Secretary of the K Nagarajan Science Trust.

Dr. Hosangadi is known not just for his knowledge of chemistry but also for being a keen patient listener, an excellent orator and a dedicated Krishna follower. He was conferred the Maharashtra state award in 1999 as the “Best University teacher in Chemistry”. Post retirement he has been conducting classes on Srimad Bhagvatam in ISKCON (Chowpatty) and in Nasik, Belgavi, Surat and other places.

He has played a major role in compiling Grahastashram manual.
He has been ably supported in his life by wife Shobha and their children, daughter Pavitra and son Siddharth. Dr. Hosangadi has received the supreme gift of Krsna Consciousness from his Spiritual Master, His Holiness Radhanath Maharaj which he considers the greatest fortune for him and his family.

Dr. Nutan Madiwal – a versatile Academician
Shrikar Talgeri

Nutan Madiwal has had a distinguished career as an academician. Her father Vasant Mudbidri had a transferrable job which took him to different states which helped Nutan learn the vernacular language of those states. For her Higher Education, she joined the Sri Satya Sai Institute at Anantpur. The high point at the Institute was when she was awarded a Certificate of Merit for standing first in the College. She was awarded the Gold Medal in MA Philosophy. She had the opportunity to serve in the same Institution for five years after completing of her post-graduation in Education. (B. Ed)

Dr. Madiwal chose to join Academia as she was inspired by her teachers in schools and colleges and her maternal Aunt, Vatsala Sarwal, who retired as Principal, Chetana College, Mumbai. Dr Madiwal has the distinction of teaching in several top notch institutions of repute such as Sri Satya Sai Institute of Higher Learning at Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh, Government Law College, Churchgate, Sophia College, Mithibai College, and Pravin Gandhi College of Law apart from few others.

Dr. Madiwal chose to specialize in Philosophy and her love for the subject helped her in her profession and get a Doctorate degree in Philosophy.

When asked what was a memorable moment in her career, Dr. Madiwal says:

“I vividly remember the day I had to interact with commerce students. It was the last lecture of the day and there were very few students in the class. As usual, I shared an article from The Economic Times with the students, impressing upon them the importance of reading and keeping themselves updated about the developments in the commercial world. A week later a student thanked me for introducing him to the habit of reading Economic times.”

She also feels that the most satisfying leg of the professional journey as a Teacher is when students after graduation come and appreciate that learnings in the classroom have helped them in life.

After marriage, Dr. Madiwal took up teaching assignments in colleges in Mumbai as visiting faculty, filled in leave vacancy posts, and finally retired as a Full-Time Assistant Professor and In-Charge Principal from one of the premier law colleges in Mumbai -SVKM’s Pravin Gandhi College of Law, Vile Parle West, Mumbai. She was the Principal of SVKM’s Pravin Gandhi College of Law.

Dr. Madiwal has some nice words of advice to the younger lot: She says “If you love to share knowledge and ignite young minds, just take up teaching or be a trainer”.

On being asked her opinion on the new policy NEP 2020 she says ;

“NEP 2020 will transform India into an Active Learning Nation at all levels of education; the Academic Bank credit will provide multiple entry and exit options to students in higher education and provide a platform for pursuing Science, Commerce, Arts, and Technology at the same time. Blended learning may be used to facilitate learning beyond the limits of the classroom.”

Dr. Madiwal is fortunate to have had the occasion to spend time and receive blessings from Sri Sathya Sai Baba. She is passionate about Reiki and is a popular Reiki Master.

(Shrikar Talgeri is double graduate having completed both B A and B Com from Bombay. He was an active sportsman in his heydays. He holds a great passion for working for charitable and social organizations, He is at present the President of the Chitrapur Math Vile Parle-Vakola sabha. He can be reached at shrikartalgeri@gmail.com.)
Dr. Suneela Mavinkurve grew up in a protected family environment along with five siblings in Talmakiwadi. She did her primary schooling from the Balak Vrinda School and later graduated in Microbiology from the University of Bombay.

On completing her graduation, she applied for a job at BARC where she got the opportunity to work under the guidance of Dr. Umesh Kumta and acquired her Master’s degree. Also on his encouragement she accepted the offer of research fellowship at the Victoria University of Manchester.

I remember as a kid how all her relatives were excited since someone from the family was traveling abroad to UK for the first time. I distinctly recollect talking to her animatedly in 1971 about the atmosphere in London when India won the first ever Cricket match at the Oval after she returned.

On completing her PhD, she returned to India and took up the challenging offer to arrange a new Microbiology set up, at a post graduate Centre in Goa. This led to setting up of the Department of Microbiology at Goa University, where she taught and trained students for MSc/PhD. Her work also involved interaction with various other Universities and Institutions in India and abroad. The Goa University remained her कर्मभूमी until retirement. Dr. Mavinkurve has the distinction of being appointed as the Head of the Dept of Microbiology in Goa University and subsequently rose to become the Dean of Goa University and acting Vice Chancellor for a brief period.

Dr. Suneela has a unique distinction arguably the first to ride a two wheeler in the lanes of Panaji and Miramar. The locals used to be in awe of her as it was rare to see a lady that too clad in a sari ride a two-wheeler!! Her vast experience in teaching and training young minds has brought her immense satisfaction and her students continue to be in touch with her particularly on occasions like Teachers’ Day and Guru Poornima, to express their gratitude and share their achievements.

Just before retirement, she attended a short course in conversational Sanskrit, which proved to be a fulfilling aspiration for the post retirement stage of her life.

The new-found interest in the divine Sanskrit language led her to attend workshops on the same with young students. It brought in a realisation about the abundant knowledge, beauty and construction of the language also developing a longing for deeper study of the Sanskrit language.

Being a teacher for over 30 years Dr. Mavinkurve believed that what was studied had to be shared. She started teaching Sanskrit to young and old of our community. It was around that time that adopting Sanskrit as conversational language was being endorsed by Poojya Swamiji at SCM.

The COVID 19 Pandemic of 2020 which changed the teaching scenario completely was also a blessing as she continued to teach Sanskrit through ‘on-line-classes’. Subsequently she has also been teaching various courses of Girvaan Pratishtha – a Shri Chitrapur Math’s Sanskrit cell through its online teaching venture –PRABODH. Dr. Mavinkurve teaches at all the 3 levels – Aradhana, Sadhana and Dharana. Her longing for a deeper study about the genesis of words and overall Sanskrit language has led her undertake study of Paninian grammar.

Even after 40 beautiful years of teaching both Microbiology & Sanskrit her love for teaching still continues which she believes it is a God-given gift. One needs to plan even for a simple familiar topic from different angles, which takes one deeper and gives a broader outlook, eventually making even a difficult topic look simple.

Dr. Suneela now also serves as one of the Trustees on the Management board of her alma mater, the Balak Vrinda Education Society. As a Trustee one of the demanding challenges to face is the implementation of the New Education Policy of 2020. Several features of NEP are commendable and she believes that Primary school education in regional language / mother tongue would have a far-reaching effect on strengthening the local Indian languages and readership to the gems in the literature. NEP’s recommendation to develop scientific temper and provide for vocational training would surely enhance maximum potential in students. As
an educationist she sincerely desires earnest implementation of the NEP policies in a correct manner. She laments at **the state of the school which is so awfully short of funds that keeping it afloat has been a major challenge.**

While speaking at the KSA Convocation in 2017 as a Chief Guest, Dr. Mavinkurve had some sterling pearls of wisdom for the youngsters. She said “The efforts, hard work and studies were instruments and success in Exams and the knowledge gained by them was the goal. The acquired degree/ high marks become a forerunner for the next goal e.g. finding a job / admission to higher studies etc. This chain continues throughout life. It is therefore, a fruitful exercise to see at this stage how we proceeded to achieve today’s success. Whilst working hard, some small attractions which give immediate happiness tend to distract us. However hard work done, keeping in mind our long term gains makes us successful and happy in the long run”.

Dr. Mavinkurve feels eternally grateful to the Almighty for having given her the right support in the form of students, colleagues and well-wishers throughout her career and opportunity to render Seva at the Holy feet of the Goddess Saraswati in different capacities at different Institutions, and for helping her start and complete the journey with her *alma mater*.

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To encourage our members solve Crosswords, we have designed a special but simple easy to solve Crossword. This is a wonderful Brain Teaser and provides nourishment to the brain.

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**GANESH CHATURTHI CROSSWORD SEP 2022**

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<td>Lord’s favourite sweet (5)</td>
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<td>Blades of grass (6)</td>
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<td>Lord has face of (8)</td>
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<td>Ashtavinayak at (4)</td>
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**Clues Down (Continued):**

| 6 | Another consort (6) | 7 | Temple of sibling near Ooty (6) |
| 8 | Lord’s Mother’s name (7) | 13 | Main Ashtavinayak temple is here (7) | 4 | One son of Ganpati (5) |

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**Did you know this?**

Uthrapathiswaraswamy Temple is a Hindu temple in Tiruchenkattankudi in Nagapattinam district in the Tamil Nadu state of India. This is the only temple dedicated to Lord Ganesha which does not have the head of an Elephant but has the head of a Human.
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 Squib, 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.
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Shakuntala Kilpady started her career as a school teacher with Avabai Petit High School in 1980. After completing her B. Ed, she launched and headed Arya Vidya Mandir Boys’ School, Bandra, in 1983. Since then she was appointed as Principal at various schools in Mumbai until she retired in 2011, with 28 years of experience as a School Principal.

Shakul pachi, as she is fondly called, believes that substantial learning takes place in the classroom. Her job as a professional educator was to provide a clean, uncluttered environment in which teachers remain focused on children’s needs.

In her last stint as a School Principal with Shree Mumbadevi Vidya Mandir, she introduced a well-designed yoga-based programme for S.S.C. students that dramatically enhanced their performance at the examination by reducing their stress levels. The school achieved 100% results at S.S.C. Board exams for Seven years in a row! She also introduced an English Language Laboratory; Bharati Vidya’s E-Learning Project and Chess back in early-2000, when some of these initiatives were unheard of.

As a young student herself, she was educated at Alexandra Girls’ English Institution; and completed her B.A. (Hons) from St. Xavier’s College. At H.J. College of Education (for B. Ed.) she bagged Best Student Award apart from other awards & trophies.

Shakul pachi presented Papers at several International Conferences worldwide such as:

1. World Education Fellowship Conference (WEF), 1988, in Adelaide, Australia, entitled “Caring for the Aged”.
2. The theme of her Paper at the 1990 WEF Conference in London was “Learner Managed Learning – a Skill-Oriented Approach”.
3. She was the Resource Person for the Bombay Municipal Corporation (BMC) for their Workshops on Environmental Studies (E.V.S) and New Education Policy (NEP).
4. She was also a speaker at Workshops for teachers of Navodaya School, a project initiated by former PM, Rajiv Gandhi.

Shakul pachi is an avid traveller. She loves visiting her ancestral home in Haldipur and enjoys a retreat in Goa. Shakul pachi is a spiritually inclined person and admires her own father the Late Bhalchandra A. Haldipur who was a former DCP. Apart from him she also has a great regard for the iconic Nandan Nilekani.

When asked what her Mission as a School teacher was, Pachi proudly says:

To enable and empower the child for Life.

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**Brain Teaser - Pappa and Pupil**

A joint Parent’s Day and College Convocation party is being thrown for Mohan, Kamal, Jatin, Anand, Eknath and Suresh. Three of them have just passed out as graduates; the other three are their dads. Based on the following clues, can you identify who are the graduates and who each of their dad is?

**Clues:**

- **Suresh went to the hostel with Mohan’s son.**
- **Eknath and Jatin played together on the College’s cricket team. One of them is Anand’s son.**
- **Mohan and Eknath are not related to each other**

(Answers on page 45)

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**Solution to KSA Spellbinder on page 6**

SEAR, STAG, STAGE, SAGE, GATE, ROSE, SORE, SOAR, SEAT, GREATS, SORT, TAGS, RAGS, AROSE, EARS, AND STORAGE/GAROTES AND TOERAGS
Meet Shubhada Vinekar – Resolute, Tenacious and Steadfast

Shruti S Gokarn

In a long career spanning forty years, Shubhada Santosh Vinekar (nee Shyamala Sirur) has taught in kindergarten, primary school and high school. Not only having taught the youngest to the oldest in a school set up but also having headed each section, there is very little that Vinekar does not know about the running of a school. Her progression has been geometric.

Her interest in teaching began early in life when she used to read books and magazines related to the profession at her aunt’s house. A second and stronger factor which drew her to the profession was her own academic record. In her own words, “There is a common belief that people who become teachers have had an excellent academic track record. It was quite the opposite in my case –my academic performance was nothing to write home about...so I always felt that I should teach and help students who lag behind in studies.” Starting her teaching career even before she had completed her teacher training, her first job was at Shalinitai Dhareshwar’s kindergarten school. From there she moved to Ramabai Paranjape school followed by Indian Education Society, where she worked in different capacities for 35 years.

Recalling her experience of working at IES, she recalls one of the biggest challenges of her career – her principalship at the IES school at JNPT Nhava Sheva. The difficulties were numerous – she had to stay in the school building for the first eight days, the local people whose land had been acquired by JNPT for the construction of the building came one night to her house and threatened her – but the rewards were many too. She got the chance to get the school constructed according to her vision, and to set up the school from scratch. Despite the threats, she stayed on with encouragement from her mother, and the same locals became her biggest support system there.

When I asked her about her opinion of the role of a teacher, she is able to condense forty years of experience into a simple but powerful philosophy – children need only two things in school- a clear understanding of fundamental concepts and the love and affection of the teacher. Elaborating on this, she says that teachers must constantly upgrade themselves, by learning and doing refresher courses. True to her belief, she has always encouraged her teachers as well as support staff to study further, motivating them and giving them the support, they needed. She is also an advocate of using technology in the classroom, not as a replacement for the teacher, but to enhance the learning experience.

Her life philosophy is equally simple - enjoy life, enjoy yourself and let others also take enjoyment from life. She also speaks about the importance of appreciation whether on the personal or professional front, praising the unstinting support she received from her mother, husband and her son in a long and fulfilling career. It is only apt that we show this dedicated, enthusiastic and loving teacher, our appreciation on the occasion of Teachers’ Day.

After leaving Kotak, Vinekar volunteered for Desai foundation (NGO) assisting to create content for ‘Spoken English curriculum’ for the visually impaired. She also volunteered for ‘Global Chamber of Saraswat Entrepreneurs’.

(Shruti Gokarn is a former member of the Editorial Committee and a former school teacher.)
The following article by Col. Harjinder Singh, Sena Medal (Retd) of the Jat Regiment tells the story of a soldier in his unit named Ram Bharose. The meaning of the name may be interpreted as ‘everything depends on Ram’. Col Harjinder writes -

I was commissioned in July 1988 into 9 JAT located at Chaubattia (Uttarakhand). On completion of attachment at Jat Regimental Centre, Bareilly I was asked to join the unit and a 1 Ton (load carrying military vehicle a little larger than a Jeep) was sent to pick me up. My buddy in the Centre was from 9 JAT too. He had forewarned me to be careful since I was to be driven to the unit by a driver with the name of Sepoy Ram Bharose. Finding me a little tense during the journey, Ram Bharose broke his silence and said, “Saab: Ghabrao nahi, mera naam zaroor Ram Bharose hai par aap unit safety se pahunch jaengay”. There was little more interaction and I soon realized that Ram Bharose was quiet but sharp and shy but intelligent. I reached the unit safely and got busy with regimental duties.

Few years later suddenly Sepoy Ram Bharose was in the news. My buddy excitedly broke the news "Saab, Ram Bharose ney 2IC saab ki jeep thokh di". That was the end of Ram Bharose since the 2IC was CO (designate). I met Ram Bharose and told him not to worry; things would be sorted out.

A few years down the line I was appointed Adjutant of my battalion. Once I had settled in the chair, I detailed Ram Bharose to undergo a pre-course on weapons. He did extremely well on the pre-course but the CO refused to send him on the course for reasons best known to him.

Few years passed by when one day while I was on a staff posting I received a special BRO (Battalion Routine Order) of my unit, which read "Commanding Officer was pleased to inform that Havildar Ram Bharose has been awarded AX grading in Platoon Weapons Course". (AX is the highest grading attainable on an army course) For me, this was an excuse to open a bottle of Old Monk.

When I returned to 9 JAT after my staff tenure I was received at the railway station by none other than Ram Bharose, who was now the MT Havildar of the battalion. We celebrated his AX grading along with his promotion with the MT Platoon boys. After few drinks, I asked the MT JCO “Dhuli Saab, MT Platoon kaise chal raha hai”? And prompt came his reply ”Saab, sab kuch Ram Bharose chal raha hai”.

In Sept 2002, polling for assembly elections was taking place in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. Due to proximity to enemy, Commanding Officer had warned everyone to be careful of enemy’s sinister designs to disrupt the polls. Due to paucity of officers Naik Subedar Ram Bharose was made in-charge to coordinate the security of rear area. On 16 Sept 2002, at around 3 pm we suddenly heard a massive exchange of fire from the general direction of the rear location. No one knew what was happening. I inquired from the Adjutant, he too was lost and said, “Sir, sab kuch Ram Bharose hai”. After some time Ram Bharose was on line saying “Sir, Ram Bharose. Hum ney teen atankwadi ko thok diya hai”. Ram Bharose with four other drivers of MT Platoon had rushed towards village Manpur where grenades had been hurled on the polling booth by a terrorist. Going beyond the call of duty, Ram Bharose led his team from the front and without worrying about his personal safety neutralised three terrorists in just about ten minutes. Naik Subedar Ram Bharose was awarded Chief of Army Staff Commendation Card for his act of bravery. Till date, I feel he deserved a much higher decoration then what he got; probably he was destined for this recognition only.

In the year 2006, I took over the command of 34 Rashtriya Rifles (RR) Jat. In one interview parade, to my surprise, I found Ram Bharose standing with his posting order. Having been promoted to Subedar he was sent for his RR tenure.

In the evening, I called Ram Bharose to my office, and inquired about our unit. While leaving my office he had a request, ”Saab, mujhe MT mein maat dalo, mai bhi kaam kar sakta hoon”. I asked
about his choice; prompt came his reply "Saab, aap ki QRT" (QRT is the Quick Reaction Team that springs into immediate action in case of an attack by insurgents).

Despite reservations by the Adjutant and my Subedar Major, Ram Bharose’s journey as boss of CO’s QRT commenced. Operation after operation Ram Bharose ensured CO’s QRT was never at Ram Bharose’s mercy but always well prepared for every operational task. During a number of fire fights, I noticed he maintained his cool and showed no fear on his face. He proved himself again and again beyond everybody’s expectations; yet the joke in the battalion was "CO Saab, Ram Bharose chal raha hai". He finally bid good bye to 34 RR (Jat) in 2009 after earning three outstanding operational reports.

Four years later in 2012, Four JCOs from 9 JAT were under review in DPC (Departmental Promotion Committee) for elevation to the the rank of Subedar Major. Everyone in 9 JAT was putting their stakes on the other three JCOs. When the result was finally declassified, it was only Subedar Ram Bharose who was approved for the rank of Subedar Major.

Having been Subedar Major of 9 JAT for four years Ram Bharose finally retired as Honorary Captain with full military honours and enjoyed the fullest respect of each one of us in the battalion.

(Subedar Major is the highest rank attainable by an Other Rank (Jawan). There is only one Subedar major in an Infantry Battalion. Being the senior most JCO in the unit, the Subedar Major (SM Saab) has a special equation with the Commanding Officer. Grant of Honorary Rank of Captain is a special distinction conferred on selected individuals to entitle them to enjoy the pension of a Captain).

Lessons from the story-
• Lesson No 1. Never judge a person by his name, colour, creed or caste.
• Lesson No 2. While your name is given by your parents, it is you, who decides your journey and its destiny.
• Lesson No 3. Never blindly go by anybody’s judgement of a person unless you have physically seen and met him yourself.
• Lesson No 4. Life never denies you your legitimate right and honourable place provided you have the zeal to excel.

For your information

| PARALLEL RANK STRUCTURE IN ARMED FORCES OF INDIA |
|---|---|---|
| Army | Navy | Air Force |
| 1. General | Admiral | Air Chief Marshal |
| 2. Lieutenant General | Vice-Admiral | Air Marshal |
| 3. Major General | Rear Admiral | Air Vice-Marshal |
| 4. Brigadier | Commodore | Air Commodore |
| 5. Colonel | Captain | Group Captain |
| 6. Lieutenant Colonel | Commander | Wing Commander |
| 7. Major | Lieut. Commander | Squadron Leader |
| 8. Captain | Lieutenant | Flight Lieutenant |
| 9. Lieutenant | Sub-Lieutenant | Flying Officer |

FIELD MARSHAL AND EQUIVALENT

A General does not become a Field Marshal in the normal course of events. India had two Field Marshals since 1947.

1. Gen Manekshaw after 1971 Indo Pak was elevated as F M.
2. Gen K M Cariappa who was responsible for the success of driving off the Pakistani razzakars in 1947- 48 and saving Kashmir was elevated.
As we deal with the present, it’s important that we be mindful of expenses and also not lose sight of the future. So while we save money to meet immediate and short term expenses, let’s also continue to secure our long-term financial freedom.
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- Late G.V. Masurkar
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In loving Memory of
Shri Mangesh Dattatreya Mudbhatkal
Birth Centenary Year

Annu- You will always be in our hearts.
You were always loving, caring, happy and ready
to help people in need.

Dearly missed and fondly remembered by:
Wife: Smt. Nalini Mudbhatkal
Daughter: Smt. Kanchan Trikannad
Son-in-law: Dr. Vivek Trikannad
Grandchildren: Anmol and Abhijit Trikannad
Grand daughters in law: Manasi and Natasha
Great Grand Children: Alena, Aarin and Avir
Relatives and Friends

(DOB: 31st August 1922
DOD: 26th August 2002)

WE WILL MISS YOU MANNANA

YELORE TARA SANJIV RAO
(21.10.1942 – 04.07.2022)
Our beloved Amma, Yellore Tara Rao (aged 79 years), Wife of Yellore Sanjiv Rao (residing in Saraswat Colony, Santacruz West) who always spread joy and happiness amongst all, left for heavenly abode on Monday 04th July, 2022...Your gentle, caring and soft-spoken nature will be deeply missed by all of us. She was fondly called “Mannana” by her grand-daughter Khushi.

Deeply mourned by
Husband: Yellore Sanjiv Rao
Children: Subodh and Vandana Pooja (daughter in law) and Uday (son in law)
Grand-children: Khushi, Shweta and Sneha
Yellores, Baindurs, Chandragiris, Aldangadis, close friends and relatives.
My Visit To The Sanjan Residential Home (Report on page 43)

The inmates need our support. Donations are exempt from Income tax u/s 80 G

Around the World

Festival of Tabla 2022 in Los Angeles, USA (Report on page 64)
Pandit Ravi Bellare and Pandit Shashi Bellare Arts Foundation, Festival of Tabla 2022

Saili Oak sings khyaal with Pt.Omkar Gulvady on tabla
Pt. Omkar Gulvady enthralis the audiences
Shubha Chandramowli playing mridangam solo
Varenya Sastri (8 years) playing tabla solo

September 2022
Kanara Saraswat
My Visit To The Sanjan Residential Home

Pradeep Divgikar

My long pending desire to visit the Sanjan Residential Home for intellectually challenged/Special Adults was fulfilled, when I agreed to accompany Reshma Nayampally of the Dilkhush Welfare Society.

The Sanjan Home is spread over three acres and is located close to the banks of the Varoli River, in Umergam Taluka of Valsad District, Gujarat. Nearby is the famous Mahadev (Shiva) Temple which draws huge crowds of devotees especially on the auspicious occasion of Mahashivratri. Sanjan is approximately 160 kms from Mumbai and is one of the earliest settlements of the peaceful Parsi community.

I am eternally grateful to Almighty for having provided me an opportunity to spend an absolutely fulfilling day in the midst of the residents, staff and Day Care Centre students of the Sanjan Home. The love, affection, warmth and generosity of heart displayed by these truly SPECIAL persons was a remarkably humbling experience. Welcome Banners, huge smiles and warm hugs awaited us at the Home.

The Sanjan Home was founded by benevolent parents of Special Children who attended Dilkhush Special School, Juhu, through the formation of the Dilkhush Welfare Society (DWS) with a primary concern of providing care, comfort and a home for Special Adults, especially those who would be left alone to fend for themselves after the passing of their parents.

The layout of the Home is well spread with separate blocks dedicated for Residential, Administrative, Vocational, Dining, Medical and outdoor activities. The food, hygiene levels, cleanliness and other facilities are excellent. Donations from corporates, well-wishers, friends, relatives and benevolent persons in cash and kind have kept the Sanjan Home going and enabled it to upgrade its facilities. However, there is always a yawning gap between the inflow and the outflow. This is where we can do our bit for the underprivileged. They have also started a gardening project and have earmarked an area for farming and growing vegetables.

Reshma Nayampally has been working untiringly with the support of the other trustees to make the Sanjan Home a most sought after Haven for Special Adults. They work in tandem to garner funds, mobilise sponsors, upgrade facilities to provide the best for the residents and do it with utmost devotion and dedication. They are virtually surrogate parents for all the residents of the Home and those attending the Day Care centre.

We had a blast spending the day at Sanjan Home as we heard them sing, sang for them, danced with them, organized games for them and had lunch specially prepared by our family’s Master chef. It was indeed a day well spent and I couldn't stop marvelling at the deep commitment of my cousins Reshma and Neena who have been the heartbeats of the Sanjan Residential Home with their unwavering commitment, selfless devotion, zeal and enthusiasm. Their friends, relatives and well-wishers have contributed their might in the realization of this dream Home which is now 15 years old and poised for continual growth and is well and truly on its way to becoming a sustainable model in the years ahead.

However, the extended lockdown due to the raging pandemic sent the entire world into a tizzy. Industries and businesses were crippled financially, resulting in the loss of livelihoods all around. This also affected the inflow of generous and benevolent donations that the Sanjan Home was receiving.

The resultant depletion of the financial resources of the Sanjan Home is putting a strain on the Dilkhush Welfare Society even as it endeavours to ensure that the comfort and care accorded to residents of Sanjan Home are not compromised.

Loss of jobs and waning financial resources of some of the parents/guardians has resulted in their inability to pay their monthly fees on time.

Now that economic activity is slowly improving, we are hopeful that the Sanjan Home’s generous patrons will loosen their purse strings and
extend their benevolent support to this worthy cause. Little drops go on to make an ocean. Contributing to this noble cause can brighten up the lives of the under privileged residents of the Home. It is akin to doing God’s work.

Do visit their page to get a sense of the noble work being done by the DWS in bringing a smile on the faces of the Home residents through the immense care, love and affection showered upon them. If possible, do find time to visit the Sanjan Home and brighten the lives of the wonderful residents. I can guarantee you that you will not walk out without a tear in your eye or feeling thankful to Almighty for having made us “normal”. An effort to loosen your purse strings may go a long way in bringing smiles on the faces of the mentally challenged.

Donations are governed by Income Tax laws and deduction is granted u/s 80G.

Here is the link to the Sanjan Home page on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/sanjanhome

Solving this Crossword will improve your General Knowledge of Ramayan and Mahabharat epics

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THREE WINNERS WILL GET 250 EACH
Dear Members: There was a mix up of Clues (Across and Down) in the Aug 22 issue and hence we are reproducing the Crossword and Clues. A lot of effort has gone into creating this and hence members are requested to participate - Editor

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Solution Brain Teaser
(from page 35)

Pappa and Pupil

Anand is Eknath’s father,
Kamal is Suresh’s father,
and Mohan is Jatin’s father

---
During our childhood, most of us used to look forward to celebrate our birthdays. The birthday reminds us that another year has gone in nursing daily drudgery, meaningless pursuits and old regrets. Those elegant decorations sumptuous feasts, voices filled with mirth and music and little surprises packed in vibrant gift wraps are preserved forever as happy memories.

Umpteen new resolutions were made on every birthday to reform ourselves but, none of these have been either accomplished or implemented nor even achieved and as soon as the cake cutting gets over the resolutions are forgotten even for that matter our real nature. Blowing candles and cutting cakes have become nowadays a symbolic of western style, but we do sing the happy birthday song without fail since long by many as it has special and deep meaning and the remains as unforgettable and memorable. The HBD song thus now has been translated in 18 languages- so popular that has become. The persons are none other than American sisters. We are indebted to them profusely. But we forget them on our birthdays knowingly and sometimes, unknowingly. The birthday song was actually a folk song published long ago in 1893 and remained very popular forever which was the origin of “Good morning to All” of 1890, the melody and lyrics of which were written by Louisville sisters - Oatty and Mildred. Infact, when the question of copyright of this song came for legal arguments in the court of law, the judge Ruse gave over ruling and was made free song. The song the was recorded and personalised by Kenneth Arthur, claimed for copy of right, was American song writer and Musicologist (1859-1916).

Our birthdays do hold an immense spiritual significance. It is said that is the time to revive our deeper aspiration for an enlightenment which exists even and make a promise to our body, mind and soul to move in that direction. This is the day when we can develop our faculties to the level of where one can unite with the Divine. If we remain a little conscious, we can feel the presence within us. If we make a little more effort on this day, we accomplish the work of many lives in a lightening flash. Never ever worry about the past, because the Cosmos is giving you second chance for revival, regeneration, and rebirth. Let us therefore, pursue our past history and recall the people who have given unconditional love, care and support even. Welcome forgiveness in your heart. We can think of ways in which one can deepen to surrender can see the eternal flame in our consciousness for all the times to come. Let us not lose hope even darkest moments, because this eternal light continues to glow eternally within us.

God sends some people here with purpose to make life better for others. Every birthday is new beginning. Perhaps that is why God brings down curtain of night and to blot out the day that is gone. Seize the opportunity and make the life peaceful enjoyable and successful at least on birthdays. "HAPPY BIRTHDAY"

(Shrikar Talgeri is a former member of the Editorial Committee)

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### A Mother's Love

**Sapna Ullal**

The world may end,  
The roads may bend;  
The mountains may break,  
Dry may be the lake;  
But a mother's love is immortal.

The flowers may wither away,  
The trees may not always stay,  
The grass may dry,  
No more birds, flying in the sky;  
But a mother's love is immortal.

And all God’s creation may perish,  
No sun, no moon, no stars,  
No trees, no animals, no flowers,  
No oceans and seas for shoals of fish;  
But a mother's love is immortal.
1) आयलें वारे, गेल्ले वारे, ताज्जे कसलें चे रे चे रे?
The wind came and the wind went away, what is the good of talking about it.

2) आरती घेतल्याच उष्ण, तीर्थ घेतल्याच सैत्य.
By taking Arati (the waving of lamp) heat is generated in the body and if Teertha (water obtained from washing of idol) be taken cold is caused. Indicates an extremely delicate body affected by slightest heat or cold.

3) आवाळो दीवनु कुवाळें काडता.
Give a myrobalan and take an ashgourd.

4) आशा चळूद मासांतुलें तट्यां, माळपकांतुलो भट्टू.
Increase of ambition does not increase the duration of life.

5) आशाड मासांतुलें तट्यां, माळपकांतुलो भट्टू.
A Bhat in the Mahalaya season gets lot of eatables, and a horse in the Ashada gets lot of grass to eat. These two get fat in these seasons.

श्री रवि लक्ष्मीनारायण बैंडूर
(१९ नोव्हेंबर १९४१ - ३१ जून २०२२) – कामीती वित्त नेता (बुधंड)
आपल्या सर्व तुला "कुर्सलाळ" क्रणार्यांना तु "कुर्सला" होणारे. तु आम्ही आपल्याच भावाच मुळांना गेलां.
तुमची गुलाबीपालकृत भिंतीचे ढोकटांमुळे गावात गावात गावले. तुम्हाला हे बदलत लक्ष्मीनारायण अंगण, मेहताली M/s Dandekar Machines Works मध्ये कार्यरत होते.
तू लोणाच्या मेहता "सुगुण कोर्सकॉल्स" मध्ये विकलांग. भांडळाचे आणि MES कॉलेज पुणे, येथून रघुनाथ कोपलार्या विकास वेणुन तू विद्यांना विद्यालय पावून झालाम. व्यांनाराल, दांडकर कंपनीच्या संचालकाच्या आपल्याच्याकडे दांडकर कंपनीच्या Planning Department मध्ये भूमि झालाम. नोकरी करून असं तानाचे, वाग्टकोपर्यंत R.J. ब्लॉकवर्च्या वाढते कारपाळ म्हणून Management हा विप्रावर वेणून पद्धती शिक्षण फूर्ण केलेले. दांडकर कंपनीत कार्यरत असताना तू , Purchase, Sales आणि Production manager ही पद भूषितली. हे सर्व करून असताना तू बैंडूर गावाचे, दादा कैची झालाम हे कठलं नाही. वेंढ कमाण टुजा दादा क्रणाऱ्यांना लागले.
हे सर्व तुडाचा वांडलंगच (लक्ष्मीनारायण अंगण) आणि आई (क्षेमनक) चे संग्राम. एक आर्द्र मुळा क्षण, तू त्यांचं नॉंच राजपं. नाही कसी जोडलेले आणि जपायलेले हे तुडाकोर्स विकावले. तुडा च्या द्रम पचल्या चम्कावले, परपाळतीनी न घेता, आम्ही सूचना न देता, सप्तह नातव्याचे अन्धी हक्कांना, तुडाचा ती "भिंतीचे सिंड टाङ" मध्ये आंदोलने वेणुन गावात गावत. तुडा आश्चर्यचव्याने - गीताने, तुडा अतिरिक्त समयाचा साथ दिली. ते अस्वयंस्वत वर्ष छान वर्ष काढी आडे. आणि सर्वांच महत्त्वाचे म्हणजे तू एक "सवा मारूम".
तू अचानक धा जगाच्या रंगभूमिसारख्यांत अंधरांना पावले. मणाला तुडचा चचका लावून झाला. तू आज आमच्यात नाही, पण आमच्या स्मृतीत सवार राहिले.
तुडा आणि तुडचा म्हणजे आपण सर्वांचा सवन्नत प्रणाम !
रंग बरसे”... अनुभव जर्मनीतला

स्मिता बळकुली (जर्मनी)

दोन वर्षांत करोनामुळे जर्मनीतल्या कोणतेच कार्यक्रम होऊ शकले नाहीत. तरीही येथील ‘फ्रीफेल्ड’ या भागात असलेल्या ‘मराठी मित्र मंडळ’ने अनेक सुन वेगवेगळ्या आणि अनोख्या पद्धतीने ऑनलाइन साजरे करून जर्मनीमधील मराठी बंधु भिन्नतीच्या मनात आनंदाची आणि उत्साहाची ज्योत तेवढील. हे अतिशय कौशल्यास्पद आहे. त्याच्या वर्ष 2022 फेब्रुवारी पासत इथे साजरीले कार्यक्रमसारख्या बंधनात योग्य राहीली. त्यमुळे कोणताही सुन जवळ आला की, मराठी मित्र मंडळ कार्यक्रम ठेवणार का, याकडे डोळे लागलेले असाधारण. होऊनचा कार्यक्रम रिवारियर दिनांक 20 मार्च 2022 रोजी आयोजित करणार असे कल्पने आणि सर्वजनेने दिवसाची आतुरतेने वाच पाहू लागला.

मराठी मित्र मंडळतर्क होऊन पहिल्यांदाच्या आणि तीती रेस्टोरंट मध्ये साजरी होणार होती. त्यमुळे सहभागी होणार्या व सहभागी अभिलशा कल्पना नव्ही. पण हा सुन कसा साजरा होणार याची नोंद, अनुभवाची काळात्या असाधारण संवादमुळे एकत्र भेटायला मिळाला या विचाराचे सर्वथा मन हर्द, उल्लास अशा अनेक भावानांनी रंगवू गेली होती.

ढपारी ठरलेल्या वेळी मंडकी तिथे पोहोचली. रेस्टोरंटला लागून बाहेर असलेल्या छोट्याच्या अंगणात लंबाचं स्वागत आलेले. सर्वांना आध्यात्मिक गोड ध्वनी वसली कारण तिथे गुणाला आणि इतर रंग ठेवणार आले होते. मनात तर आणल्यास रंगवलेल्याचा होती. आता अतिशय उत्साहाची शर्मानी एकमेकांना विविध रंगांनी रंगवू टाळकले. त्याच्यासुद्धा त्यांनी बखोर नव्हीत होती. जर्मनीतल्यातल्याच्या वेळेचा उदय आहे. मराठी मित्र मंडळाने कार्यकर्त्यतेच पहिलचे आपल्या यादृच्छिक वेळात वेळ काळात, मेहनत धेवन भारतीय सुन, भारतीय पद्धती आणि साजरीत निवडली या अनेक भावानी गेली होती.

जर्मनीतल्याच्या समस्तीतील ह्याच्या कसल्या हस्तांत रेत नाही.२०२२ पाय मार्च सुद्धा शक्य होत नाही. पण त्यादिवशी वाचविलेल्या आपल्यांच्या घोड्याला लगाम घालून वार्षिक कार्यक्रम ठेवल होत. येथे देखील कुप्रसंख्याच्या अशी आपण्याची निषेध करते. त्यमुळे बाहेर असाधारण मराठी मंडलही प्रस्तुत करत. जर्मनीतल्याच्या घोड्यांना तसलेला मराठी मित्र मंडळाचे घेतली होती. त्याने आर्थिक कोरोनाने होऊन खेळली गेली. कारण शेवटच आपण जर्मनीत आहोत याच्याच भादरे ठेवावे लागताना नाही.

सहभागी होणार्यांमध्ये भारतीय वेगवेगळ्या राज्यातून मंडकी होती. शिवाय काही तरुण आपल्या ओफिस मंडळ, निरसंहाराच्या देशातील स्थानकार्यांमध्ये धेवल आले होते. त्यात एक जर्मनी तरुण सुद्धा होता. कोणत्याही आंदोलन सहभागी होणार्यांना राष्ट्रीय, धर्म, जातपत्र कसलं वेळात नसत, हेच खरे. कारण या संगठनांला देखील आपल्या या रंगाच्या संवादचा पुरपुर आणलं लुटला.

रंगांनी मंडलाने खेळून झाल्यावर, सगळं रेस्टोरंटच्या आत आलेला. वेळाच्या जर्मनीतल्या पहिल्यांदाच्या गाठी भेटी, ओक्तली झाल्या. मायदेशांपासून लाव आल्यावर, देशातील क्रमांक तालाब राहू जो आंदोलन होतो, तो त्यासारख्याच ठाकुक. एकमेकांसारखा संवाद साधले असता, सर्वांनी अतिशय उत्साह भारतीय पद्धतीच्या ज्ञानाचा आस्वाद घेतला.

भारतीय कार्यक्रम महत्त्वाची क्या शास्त्रीय आणि गाणा बजाण्याचा घेतला. ही अजूनेला आलेला. ज्याने आपल्यांनी हंगामीत होऊन गेली गणेच लागवणात आली. त्यावर ताल म्हणून नाहीत हरायचे जर्मनीतल्याच्या वेळेचा उदय आहे. मराठी मित्र मंडळाला ह्यांनी नव्हीत देखील होत. उत्साहात भेटी घेतला. त्यमुळे कोणते पाय तिथून निघट करते. पण रेस्टोरंटेत वेळ ठरली होती. नाईलाजाने संगठनांनी एकमेकांना निरोप घेतला, आर्थिक मराठी मित्र मंडळाचे आभार मार्गावर. निषेध मंडकी निरीक्षित करत, पण मनात मात्र चालावू होतं ‘रंग बरसे’!
### KONKANI LEXICON

**FUN QUIZ**

(What are the equivalent Konkani words?)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Konkani</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Palanquin</td>
<td>सरला आपाट</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise</td>
<td>आला गृहावण</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shadow</td>
<td>चडक्कडे ज्ञान</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burning charcoal</td>
<td>उघड़ण</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash</td>
<td>झरझर शिपण</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counsellor</td>
<td>मनमोर माझा</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frog</td>
<td>करी तथान</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potter</td>
<td>दहरवी झाडे</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood</td>
<td>वेली डोलती</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble</td>
<td>वाऱया संगे</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### “ओळखा पाहू”

**Answer on Page 70**

---

### “पालटावे हे चित्र सारे”

सरला आपाट आला गृहावण
चडक्कडे ज्ञान उघड़ण
झरझर शिपण मनमोर माझा करी नर्तन

हिरवी हिरवी झाडे वेली
डोलती वारुयासंगे
पानफुलंची साथ त्यांना
हंसती भिजती घेवासंगे

छतावरच्या पागोळ्या हिंदू उतरल्या
होऊनी जलधारा बाहू लागल्या
पारी नाही दिसत उदकी
कागदी बोटी सोडलेल्या

भक्तीचे जग गेले कुठे सारे
डुंगणारी खेळणारी छोटोमोठी पोरे
सूर्य ही एकटाची जाती पश्चिमेंस
mनमोर माझा झालासे किंती उदास

पालटावे हे चित्र सारे
mनी हाच एक ध्यास

रेखा राव
कौतुकाची थाप
रेखा राव

माणूस हा खुप भावनाप्राप्त आहे.

tyaautun tyaache kurni koontuk kela prasang kela the tyaar bhav vartant. mang taa vyahane lahan usha kaa motha. koontukachi tyaar ekavalal sadev ususuk astaata. mala aavatth maara samayat thakakha bau pramad tyaara amshai pame mahanta. taa taa cra vrsanaka aasaav tyaavache amsha koontu pranapat rahaat hothe. thaa jaraipajari xekalyala jaayayaa baahar gelyavari taa harvaa naye maapnut amaccha aiicide tyaara tyaache navi taa kornaa mulaaga, krutha rahaat. haa saav pat kaalat hetate. ekah koona betterkede taa xekalyala gela tikede tyaara koona kaaka bhaatte. tyaanithi tyaarche navi taa kornaa mulaaga, krutha rahaat. haa saav vicharalte. tyaare tyaavcha bawalya bharvaat saav sangite. maa xekant ghar avvarya amshimala mulaaga samshai mala raajukde ek kaaka bhaatte hothe taa maazha poot koontuk kaat hothe. tuze naav kaa bhaalaa? tu koorna mulaagaa krutha rahaat? asa vicharat hothe taa sangatana tyaara chehra aanaandane fult gela hothe. dika ceemakat hothe pudeethi taa aaga anekko gohii aanaandane sangat rahayacha. maa amshai saav bhaavde va aave-vadeel tyaarche koontuk kaaryacho.

pratyeek managsala aasha koontukachya thepachi prasanshe charyachya garj aahaa. tyaamulesh aanaand tar hootia shiyaa managa umarai theete. pude aajavan kaahitiiit asi eechva hothe. umed vaahante aapane kela tya karyache samadhane miche. tyaautun aapalya manasana, aapalya kudrache aapalya bhagirmihin iki aapalya samshene samajathat koontukachi tyaar dili the krukti jhalayachya samadhane miche. aapale koena sarsvat sansha tekhimm aapalya samajatiti sarv jyethi va shree, lahan shatare, koontuk sofaaha kunna tyaana saptiit dheete. aanaand deete. aata maichch bhaa na pantaharii unaliti tari kurni maheya lekhnaache, sambheylake koontuk kela the tar mat aanaaandane chaychana yethe. tyaautun aapalya paryatitili manasanee, kudratiil sadasit, saste, mheiyein iki kela the tar too dhadi. kaahi veshvapii gavadei sarvat sarvat mahila samjyo va koena sarsvat samshene maheya lekhnachha koontuk sofaaha jariapila kela tachi bhi angeeki bhavna pawale. aajahhi aapale sansha va samjyo yath apyesar aahaa. yacha k Accepted Answer tavaata.

pana hii koontukachi tyaar pratveekasakdeena miche thet asa aahi. oohedi the tyaavchya miyumaam chaar shabdhi bhotish aahi.

ulat anoohidi, apana chitar manas sansan foona korlo praysa kartaa. tyaavache koontukthi nakhaltal managa laagata. khe tar koontuk kaaryala, praysa kaaryala panne pedtan naaheeti thekh mahit kavali laagata aahi. pan koontukthi dushrache koontuk kaaryala kormana vataat aasaav kichha tyaartha aakar aahaa thet aasaav. tyaartha tikvacha prakruti thet thare!!

alikedcha pargat tatrik yogan samvad samthe kham va tatrik bhaav aadha adhik jhalat, tyaamulesh mulu, tayuran mendhee, sadev mohamaalik vina leptoop war vahanvataan.

vaachhane thant angi astaat aapahnya sabhadev vina kichha bharatvighani naicle vina kooneem mihaalaa the bhag astaat. maana pramanee anek naikes va changle sabhe (mesej koontukst) aal the tar ekadam kuil hothe, jar kama aal the va dikaa karapne sabhe aal the tar ekadam naaraa hothe. du-xhi hothe. sambhdeo nih oliah managa ika laavun dheete the tii kuil utdas lirpan hothe. tyaavcha manavari va shariavari gombar parihepan hothe astaavee tyaana samupadeshaachy garj astatee. prem aapah koontukachi garj astate, maana koonaamorli tari mokthi karne koo prakrutiin aasa pane alikedcha tatrik yogan the samvad harvat chaalayach anekkayacha prabhaa sthethaadh khami hothe chaalavet. tyaamulee the ekaaki, utdas hothe chaalaa aahaa. prishthi, changle sabhadee, koontuk, mahya, aapalepan, vayra, yachhi garj aahaa.

asha prishthi the koonee changlee kamgiri koeli the tyaarch koontuk jash kar. the koontukachi tyaar kaavete tyaarach nahi the tushaavaa aahaa, sabhadee deete. tethea tyaar kanyashna na karata cudar manane praysa kar. aadacha prishthi the pratveekalaka tyaar garj aahaa.

[mi riehya raay (kavach) 30-35 varsh kartho kadanaya, vibhig mangalakatuln samhee. anek ducchka mihaalaate 3 varshamg, 1 kadanvir, 1 pravas varsh, anee purrak prakashti jhalit. sangayala aanaand hothe the maaheya lekhnachha sukh-nath koena sabhadeva maaikatun dhalaa tyaartha stut pragasahnamu bhee maaheya lekhnachha aajahhi chaur aahaa. prishthad.

September 2022
Kanara Saraswat
वठार जाले तझेत
क्वांववर झी जाल्ली धवधवो दुहाची,
आता भूंयेक ना तान श्रवण आयले
जगदुरुले जन्म दिसु
धाले तानेले शंबर वेसु
नांचुंचू तानारी दिलेल आनंदु,
श्रवण आयले !!!
- डॉ. सुररामा आरुर, गोंय.

[वरकवी द. रा. बेंडे हांगेले कनच भाशेंतु बरयलेले "श्रवण" ह्या कवितेची कोंकणी अणकारा]

कान्हा तूनी आमुचा त्राता

मोहीले तू मना रे कान्हा
तव नामाच्या वेणूनार्दे
मनाराधे ला फुटला भक्ती चा पान्हा
कान्हा तूनी आमुचा त्राता

नारायणा अजन्मा तुम्ही तरी
भक्तां तारया त्राता बनूनी
अवतार घेतला घरणी वरी
कान्हा तूनी आमुचा त्राता

गोपा दंग जाहले तव संग लाला
यशोदेच्या प्रेमात न्वाजूनी
रंगत्या गोपिका सवे तव लीला
कान्हा तूनी आमुचा त्राता

शरणगातंगाचा चालविला योगक्षेम
भक्तांचे पाठीरायें बनूनी
रंगरे सर्वासी देऊऱ्या तव भ्रेम
कान्हा तूनी आमुचा त्राता

शरणगातंगाचा चालविला योगक्षेम
भक्तांचे पाठीरायें बनूनी
रंगरे सर्वासी देऊऱ्या तव भ्रेम
कान्हा तूनी आमुचा त्राता

पार्थच्या रणांगणी बनूनी साराठी
सदृम्म-कर्मबोध भक्ती मार्ग दाऊनी
उद्धरीले भक्तांसी करून कृतांथ
कान्हा तूनी आमुचा त्राता

विधा दुर्गादास बेंदुर
(विधा सीताराम भर्ते)
3.1 Read the translations in English and fill in the blanks with correct verbs from the box -

1. कमल ........................................... | 4. बाहन ...........................................  
The lotus blooms. The vehicle runs.
2. फल ........................................... | 5. जल ...........................................  
The fruit falls. The water flows.
3. पर्ण ........................................... | 6. संकरणक ...........................................  
The leaf dries. The computer computes.

* In all the above Sanskrit sentences, the words denoting the subject (one who performs the action) are in Neuter gender and singular number.

3.2 Sort the words and write them in the respective boxes -

**Masculine Ending in अ**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>शुनक:</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Neuter Ending in अ**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>पुष्कर</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Feminine Ending in आ**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>माला</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Feminine Ending in ई**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>लेखनी</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nouns in Sanskrit are classified on the basis of their gender and the ending sound. We shall learn this with more examples next time. 😊

**Answers to exercises are given on Page 66**

Girvanapratishtha conducts Online Certificate Course (3 levels) for Sanskrit in a graded series from beginner to advanced levels and Girvanavaikhari Online Sanskrit Sambhashan Course for beginners. Visit www.chitrapurmath.net/site/activities-girvanapratistha-online-classes to send your enquiry.

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Read our quarterly E-magazine at - www.chitrapurmath.net/site/activities-girvanapratistha-patrika
Keshav Mehta (Dadaji), the proprietor of A-1 Builders, was a rich but kind man. He and his family lived in a lovely two-storeyed bungalow. Unlike him, his wife Sharada judged everyone by their financial status.

Their older son Ashok worked in his father's business. His wife Ketaki, had brought in a sizeable dowry at their wedding. They lived with their 14-year-old son Akshay in the same bungalow. There was also a younger son Siddharth, born 12 years after his brother and therefore considered ‘an afterthought’. He was highly qualified and the CEO of a multinational firm.

In the compound adjacent to the bungalow in a one-bedroom flat lived Shanti Sagar an ailing widow. Her daughter was the 23 year-old Shweta. Mr. Sagar had been a bank manager and had succumbed to a massive heart attack when Shweta was just 16. Thereafter, Shweta had completed her education with the assistance of scholarships and was now a teacher at the same school, which Akshay attended. To supplement her income, she would visit the Mehta bungalow to teach Akshay during the weekend.

The first time she met Siddharth was at Akshay's birthday party. She found him reserved and aloof. Siddharth on the other hand could not help overhearing Akshay and Shweta talking and laughing in the study.

"I wonder whether you study at all with Miss Bombay Talkies chattering endlessly,” Siddharth mentioned to Akshay. Amused by the nickname, he asked Shweta why his Uncle has referred to her as such. “Bombay Talkies was an old film company and a cinema theatre. But then, I’d rather be a chatterbox, than a Tower of Silence,” she retorted. Thereafter, there were no further mentions on either side. If Siddharth was impressed with Akshay’s excellent grades, he said nothing about it.

Burdened by a heavy daily workload, Shweta gave up tutoring and spent more time attending to her mother. Akshay would visit whenever he needed assistance.

One afternoon, a visibly shaken Akshay came screaming to her for help. He had found his Dadaji lying motionless in the corridor. His parents were on a business trip abroad and Siddharth was outstation. “I am unable to reach uncle. I don’t know what to do” he said, tears streaming down his face.

“Don’t worry Akshay, Dadaji will be okay. Calm down and take a breath,” said Shweta as she consoled him. Suspecting a stroke, she immediately called up the family physician, and had Dadaji shifted to a hospital. With timely action of the specialist, Dadaji slowly stabilised.

A few days later, Siddharth dropped by Shweta’s residence, “I can’t thank you enough for your help,” he said. “Akshay just can’t stop talking about you. Nor can Dad.” Shweta smiled as she replied, “Anybody would have done the same. I just happened to be there.” Siddharth continued, “the specialist says it was your quick thinking that saved Dad’s life.”

“All thanks to the course on Home Nursing I have done.” In a lighter tone she added, "Girls' sometimes do worthwhile things you know, besides talking.” “I deserved that,” he said looking ashamed and smiled. ”Can we let bygones be bygones, and start afresh?” “I’m game,” she smiled. He extended his hand and she grasped it without hesitation only to pull it back quickly, suddenly shy of physical contact. He gave a sheepish smile turned and walked away.

That night, he lay sleepless thinking about this simple brave girl, so different from the ones he knew. She often dressed in pastel coloured salwar-kurtas with her hair in a braid which danced as she moved. Sometimes he would covertly watch her from his room window when she left for school dressed in a neat sari and her hair tied up in bun giving her a perfect teacher look. He smiled.

Every evening he would call her up on the pretext of updating her on Dadaji’s progress. Shweta would eagerly await these calls. When Dadaji was finally discharged from hospital, he insisted that ‘his saviour’ as he referred to her, visit them. Shweta was pleased to see the old man in good spirits and good-naturedly grumbling about his therapy lessons though
he was wheelchair bound. She spoke with him at length, but said little to Siddharth. Though talking to him was easy over the phone, she felt tongue-tied in his presence.

Anyway, it was better to stop thinking of him – they were poles apart in social status. They would remain only neighbours; and nothing more.

He called her late that evening, “You had a lot to say to Dad; but no time for anyone else,” “Well I came to see him, didn’t I?” she replied. “So, I need to get injured to get your attention?” he mocked. She laughed at that and hung up. It was getting increasingly hard to hide her feelings.

Her mother had smiled when she casually asked, “Why did your young man not drop in today?” “Ma, he is not my young man, he’s just Akshay’s uncle,” she said hastily as she turned away from further questions.

A few days later, Mrs Mehta, dropped a bombshell, “My friend, Pratima has brought a very good marriage proposal for Siddharth,” “Mom, I am not ready yet,” Siddharth complained.

“Well the girls won’t keep waiting for you,” she replied.

“Well the one meant for me will,” he retorted, rising to leave the table.

“I think he means Shweta Miss,” smiled Akshay,” I’ve seen him gazing at her picture in the Teachers’ group photograph,” said the nephew, causing Dadaji to laugh heartily.

“No way will I accept that girl in my home. She has no status whatsoever,” said Sharada emphatically.

Siddharth was already out of earshot, and he dialled Shweta, but she was unreachable. When he finally got through her later she mentioned that she was with a medical specialist who was suggesting surgery for her mother. “But, we’ll have to wait another six months till…….” He could almost sense her biting her tongue.

“Shweta. I could let you have – I mean lend you money right now, if you need it.”

“Must we discuss this now?” she replied, close to tears.

“No, no, you are right, we will talk tomorrow,” he said. That night he lay awake tossing in bed.

Next morning Shweta opened the door to find an angry Siddharth.

“I cannot understand this crazy pride of yours,” he barked,” Why can’t you accept help from a … friend?”

“Friend? Just because I helped in an emergency?”

“Given the choice, I’d have said ‘fiancé’. Mom brought in a marriage proposal yesterday. I don’t want to marry anyone for status or dowry. I want to marry only you… No-no don’t protest. Hear me out. We will get married immediately. I’ve decided to move in here with you to help look after your mother till we all shift into a new flat. Yes, we can meet Dad every Sunday and have Akshay visiting whenever he wants… Will that make you happy? Now if you’ll please move aside, I wish to ask your mother for her consent…” he stopped shouting when he heard a discreet cough from the bedroom doorway.

Shanti had a wide smile.” You have my blessings, children. Perhaps you might like some privacy too…” she added and closed the door. Siddharth promptly took the hint and held out his arms.

(Nalini Nadkarni is 97 and lives alone with a domestic caretaker in Borivali, Mumbai)

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EXAMINATION RESULTS 2022

Students who have passed in various examinations held in Mumbai, Pune, Bangalore and other parts of the country, are requested to send their details in the following proforma to the admin@kanarasaraswat.in before 10th September, 2022.

Name (in full):
Address and Telephone No.:
Examination passed and Board / University:
Marks obtained (Please enclose a photocopy of the Marks Sheet duly endorsed):
Merit or Prize/s obtained:
Photographs will be accepted only of those students who obtained 80% and above in SSCE/HSCE/ICSE/ CBSE, and above 75% for graduates.
Please note that all the results and photos will be printed in our October issue.
The monsoon season brings joy and cheer to all as it helps in fulfilling the basic human need of food and water. It also brings along with it natural disasters like floods and some ailments too. It is also a season where one needs to be careful about what one eats in order to stay safe and healthy.

It is advised that one should eat locally available fruits and vegetables available in a particular season to get their maximum health benefits. Come monsoon and we find certain plants start growing abundantly in the wild. These vegetables are called “raan bhaji” in Marathi and are consumed during the monsoon for their health promoting properties and nutritive value.

Although we may not be familiar with all these vegetables our CSB community does include a few of these in our monsoon diet. These include aalu/ pathrode paan ( colocassia leaves), taikilo (negro coffee/cassia tora leaves), haldi paan ( turmeric leaves) and phagala ( teasel gourd). Each of these vegetables have medicinal properties and are rich in nutritive value. These plants easily grew in the backyards of our village homes but are not easy to find in the cities. Although one can grow turmeric and colocassia in pots, in window gardens or terrace gardens of our city homes.

Commonly aalu paan is used for making pathrodo a much relished dish during Ganesh Chaturthi. Patal bhaji is another item prepared using these leaves, another unique dish is the gantya randayi where the leaves are tied into knots and cooked in a coconut based gravy. These leaves are a rich source of vitamin A & C, iron and calcium. They boost heart health and promote general well-being.

Haldi or turmeric leaves are used extensively in Saraswat cuisine to prepare the sweet delicacy Patholi, which again is a must during Ganesh Chaturthi and Suvarna Gowri Pooja. Fresh turmeric leaves are added to “cheppi kheer” for a subtle yet a unique flavor. Turmeric leaves have digestive and anti-septic properties. The leaves available in the season are often dried and stored to be used later in the year. It is also a custom to add dried turmeric leaves when making ghee from home-made butter.

Taikilo is another vegetable which is a monsoon favourite in our amchi homes. The leaves are used to make tambli, kadi and everyone’s favourite phodi. If one can correctly identify these leaves they can be sourced from open spaces and gardens where they grow abundantly in the rainy season, otherwise they are available with a few vegetable vendors. Taikilo is a rich source of fibre, calcium, vitamins and phytochemicals. The seeds of this plant have antifungal properties and are therefore used in ayurvedic skin care products.

Phagal is another vegetable that is consumed by adding to daali ambat or as phodi (fritters). Phagala phodi is another popular must have item in the Ganesh Chaturthi phodi platter. It can also be used to make a flavourful chutney. It is a highly recommended monsoon vegetable as it regulates blood pressure, promotes kidney and liver health and keeps viral infections at bay.

So make the most of these vegetables when they are in season and enjoy a healthy life.

Sharing the recipes of Taikilya phodi and Phagala chutney

**Phagala chutney**

**Ingredients:** 1 vati thinly sliced phagala 1 vati grated coconut
2-3 green chilies (adjust as per spice level) a generous pinch of hing
2 tsp oil a marble sized ball of tamarind Salt to taste.

**Method:** Heat oil on a tava and roast the phagala slices lightly, add hing and chillies while roasting. Cool completely. Grind the roasted mixture with coconut, tamarind and salt to a slightly coarse paste. The chutney is ready to serve. You may temper it with some mustard seeds if desired. Serve the chutney as a side dish or with jowar rotis.
**Taikilya phodi / baje**

**Ingredients:** 2 vatis chopped taikilo leaves 1
vati chopped onion

2-3 chopped green chillies

1/2 tsp turmeric

¼ tsp hing

1 tsp red chilli powder

1 cup gram flour

4 tbsp rice flour

2 tsp tamarind pulp

2 tsp grated jaggery salt to taste

Oil for deep frying

**Method:** In a large mixing bowl take the chopped leaves and onions. Add salt and spices and mix thoroughly. Add the flours and mix well. Sprinkle some water and allow the mixture to come together. Avoid adding much water, the mixture should hold shape. Make small balls, flatten the balls on your palms and deep fry in hot oil till crisp and golden brown. Serve the phodis with dal & rice as an accompaniment or as an evening snack.

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**Your dose of Financial Gyan**

**DID YOU KNOW ?**

If you had invested **Rs. 50,000 in March 2020** in select equities by buying ten shares each, the value of it on **16th Aug 2022** would have been a whopping over **Rs. 3,00,000**! A return of over **200 %**! Seeing is believing: Have a look at the data.

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Last month this article was published but an important input got missed out- The rest of the article is published here.

I had this portrait framed professionally by a photo framer who works for art exhibitions and was wondering how to send it across to H.H. Sadyojāt Shankarāshram Swāmījī and the Sangrahālaya at Shirālī, when behold! H.H. Swāmījī’s visit to Delhi enroute Haridwār was announced, and it all seamlessly fell into place. The portrait was handed over personally by me to H.H. Sadyojāt Shankarāshram Swāmījī, (as it happened on June 1, 2022 - the day of H.H. Pāṇḍuraṅgāshram Swāmījī’s Samārādhanā and He was very pleased to receive it. The portrait left with Him and the entourage when they proceeded to Mumbai enroute Shirālī on 9th June 2022. I understand that this portrait has since been installed in Gallery D at the Shrimat Parijñānāshram Vastu Sangrahālaya. A true Homecoming!!

On all counts, Pāṇḍuraṅgāshram Swāmījī was a remarkable figure----the first of our Swāmījī-s who had His picture taken so His message and mission could be seen and felt even by those who had never met Him. In an age of difficult communications, (remember it was the 19th century) particularly in the tough Ghāṭ area of North Karnāṭaka, He undertook a long and arduous journey all the way to Prayāg, Kāshī and Gayā (the Trīsthōli) taking advantage of newly built rail links (B.B. and C.I.) from South-West coast to the Gāṅgā valley areas. He laid the foundations of a modern settlement at Shirālī, expanding the Math, giving it a firm foundation, literally and figuratively. After extensive repairs to the main Math structure, it is surmised that a stone slab bearing the inscription “Shrī Kṛṣṇāshram Prāsāda” was placed over the portico. This has been there for long; perhaps H.H. Pāṇḍuraṅgāshram Swāmījī may have named the structure after His Guru. Inside the Math too, Samādhi-s of His predecessor Guru-s, as existent, were repaired, as were many subsidiary shrines around, giving Chitrāpur the status of a “Kśetra”. The Shivgāṅgā Sarovara and Pañchavaṭī constructions also came up in this era. Besides, He arranged for a post office, a school and a marketplace (weekly hāṭ) to be set up at Shirālī for convenience of residents and visitors. He frequently travelled the Kānara-s, and once even to Cālicuṭ (Kozhikode), to maintain close contact with the Math constituents. Presiding over, and taking interest in frequent Mahāsabhā-s, He was able to put the Math finances on a sound footing, and (very early, 1862) persuaded His Guru, H.H. Krṣṇāshram Swāmījī, to inaugurate the Rathotsava for the first time in Math history, which over the years, became a major socio-religious event in the Community calendar, adding to the popularity of the Math. Revived again by H.H. Parijñānāshram Swāmījī III in the last century, Rathotsava continues to be a major draw for not only our community (both local and abroad) but many non-Āmchī-s in the surrounding areas. (vintage KSA journals mention that photographs of Pāṇḍuraṅgāshram Swāmījī (at nominal price) were freely available at the venue of Rathayātra-s even in the 19th century, thus increasing His personal accessibility.)

In popular thought, the Swāmījī has also been widely revered as an incarnation of Lord Dattātreya.
As the biographer of H.H. Pāṇḍuraṅgāshram Swāmījī, (late) Dr. Gopāl S. Haṭṭiaṅgḍī, notes in his work “Pāṇḍuraṅg,Pāṇḍuraṅg” (1965) - “with all these qualities, He (H.H. Pāṇḍuraṅgāshram Swāmījī) can be thought of as “a master mind, a born genius and a great reformer” - the qualities we also see mirrored eminently in His successor (twice removed), H.H. Sadyojāt Shaṅkarāshram Swāmījī.

To revisit the brief commentary that accompanies the vintage portrait of H.H. Pāṇḍuraṅgāshram Swāmījī, the missionary tract says “the person depicted here is the Guru of the famous and rich Chitrapur Sāraswat Brahmin Math, Swāmī Pāṇḍuraṅgāshram”. It goes on to state that “the Guru was well known for having turned this location (Shirālī) into a “modern and widely successful pilgrimage site”.

I recall, with reverence, that the very first book Shāntish Nāyel and I collaborated to digitise for the website www.ChitrapurEbooks.com a decade ago, bringing a different and refreshing experience to us both, was ‘Pāṇḍuraṅg, Pāṇḍuraṅg’. The website is still a work in progress, by the abiding Grace of the Guruparamparā.

Whenever you visit the Shrīmat Parijñānāshram Vastu Saṅgrahālaya at Shirālī, do view this vintage portrait and its accompanying description.

JUMBLE KING – SOLVE THE BRAIN TEASER

How to Play: Unscramble the words. One letter to each square to form six normal words. Now arrange the letters in the circles to form a sentence at the bottom as given in the clue.

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Make the sentence in slots from encircled words

Six Words

(Pictorial Clue)

Answer on Page 70
Children’s Corner

We invite paintings, sketches and drawings from Children

Twilight - Tvisha Kadle
(14 years) Mumbai

Tree with a swing - Anisha Selvaraj
(5 years) USA

Maha Ganapati - Swara Sameer Naïmpalli
(13 years) Helsinki, Finland

Smiley Blue Fish
Gopal Baindur (14 years)
Bangalore

September 2022
Kanara Saraswat
Art Corner

Guruprasad Kalthod is by and large a self-trained artist. He started pencil drawing as a school boy and later for a short period he joined the Ken school of art and took a training course for a few months. He is now the Manager at Shrimath Anantheswar temple, Vittal, and uses his spare time to sketch and paint. Guruprasad Kalthod is truly blessed. More of his art and pictures in forthcoming issues.

HH Swami Anandashram (Samadhi 16-09-1966) by Guruprasad Kalthod

Swami Nityanand (Samadhi 8-8-1961 Ganeshpuri) by Guruprasad Kalthod

Shri Gajanan Maharaj (Sanjeevan Samadhi 8-9-1910) by Guruprasad Kalthod

Shri Sai baba (Shirdi) Samadhi 15-10-1918 by Guruprasad Kalthod

Charcoal sketches

September 2022

Kanara Saraswat
Laxman Khambadkone is a professional artist while Rucha Labadai is an IT professional who paints for passion as a hobby. Both live in Mumbai.
Shree Trust was the only organization, which had volunteered to run a school for the disabled, with financial assistance under the Scheme formulated by the Government of India at Beggars Home, Virar (East). It was inaugurated on 31st October, 1985 by our Parama Guru Parijnanashram Swamiji III in the august presence of 40 prominent dignitaries from various countries who had come to Mumbai on the occasion of World Disabled Day.

SWAMI PARIJNANASHRAM EDUCATIONAL AND VOCATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE HANDICAPPED is housed presently in the new three-storied building for disabled students on nearly an acre of land at Kharodi Naka, Bolinj purchased by Shree Trust and built with the help of philanthropic donors.

Presently we give admission to the Intellectually Disabled both in Education and Vocation Section, as well as Hearing and Speech Impaired children who submit Disability Certificate from concerned Civil Hospital. At present the total number of students of our School is 281. The Centre is recognized by the State Government of Maharashtra. The unique feature of our School is that we give Free Education, Free Transportation and a Free Mid-Day Meal to all the students.

MESSAGE FROM FOUNDERS:
VISION: To see ability in disability
MISSION: We aim to love the unloved, help the helpless and bring hope to the hopeless
MOTTO: Love, Dedication and Tolerance
INFRASTRUCTURE:
We have 281 students, 105 in the Intellectually Disabled Section, 68 in the Hearing Impaired Section and 108 in the Vocation Section. Students who are above 18 years of age are shifted to Vocation Section. There are many students still on waiting list.

ACTIVITIES:
Activities such as Computer Training, Vocational Training, Abacus Training, English Speaking, Sports, Athletic Programs, Yoga, Horticulture, Happy Home Project, We Can Project, Earn & Smile Project are undertaken.

Bravo!

Sweet Memories!
to help these special children to become independent, to earn and face the world with dignity, pride and self-esteem.

AWARDS:
Apart from the trophies bagged by the school, our students have won 69 Gold, 33 Silver and 25 Bronze medals before the lockdown began.

TEACHING STRATEGIES ADOPTED FOR INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED:
The School has created its own curriculum on the basis of pattern prescribed by National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (Formerly National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped - NIMH) for the Intellectualy Disabled.

For some Intellectually Disabled students, the syllabus /curriculum of National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOs) which offers Open Basic Education Programme, is adapted which offers the following three-level courses:

- OBE 'A' Level course—Equivalent to class III - 13 students have passed
- OBE 'B' Level course—Equivalent to class V - 6 students have passed in 2 papers.

The student’s parents are allowed to take number of subjects according to the convenience of their wards and complete the course.

Students are provided e-learning through Smart TV.

The Government of Maharashtra has started Disha project for Intellectually Disabled Students since Covid -19

BOOKS FOR CURRENT SESSION:
State Government curriculum is followed for Hearing Impaired and Speech Impaired students up to 7th Standard, e-learning through Smart TV and Diksha App was followed for ‘Online Teaching’ during Covid -19 and later on also for ‘Offline Teaching’

STAFF DETAILS:

- The School is given grant-in-aid by Government of Maharashtra and is supervised by the Social Justice and Empowerment Department. The Government of Maharashtra has employed well trained/RCI approved Special Teachers, Care Takers, Clerical Staff, Psychologist, Speech Therapist and a Physiotherapist.
- Apart from the Government Staff, Shree Trust, the parent body of the School, has employed well Trained Teachers for Special Students, Yoga Teacher, Cooks, Care Takers, Computer Teacher.
- Many persons also work on a purely Honorary Basis in Administration, Finance and also the Abacus Teacher, Art and Craft Teachers.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Miss Sanjana Rai received the special mention national award for the movie ‘YELLOW’ under feature film category.
- Miss Jagruti Jagdish Sakpal was selected in the India Team for the Special Olympics held in Abu Dhabi, 2019 for Handball game and bagged the bronze medal.
- Siddhesh Mahadik, went for Final National FLOORBALL Game to Himachal Pradesh from 4th to 14th March 2021 as PROBABLE STANDBY. If selected, he will be representing India in the International Special Olympics FLOORBALL Game to be held in KAZAN (RUSSIA), which is postponed due to Russia - Ukraine War.
- Miss Shalu Teklal Rana, a Hearing and Speech Impaired student studying in 7th Standard has been selected for the International level Competition (ILC) for 5th level due to continuous efforts since several years of Ms. Jyoti Shah teaching Abacus (UCMAS).
- Rehabilitation of so many students has been successful in various places such as in Reliance Industry, diamond cutting industry.
- Students are taught Horticulture to enable them to earn their livelihood by working in their own fields or in the neighbour’s fields.
- In the ‘Happy Home Project’ students are trained in simple tasks like cooking, cleaning, sweeping, mopping, dusting, as well as arranging clothes in their cupboards.
- ‘We Can Project’ trains students in sorting, cleaning, grading, weighing, sealing, labelling, arranging pulses, grains and other food items also folding clothes which will help them to get jobs in malls and shops.
The Ravi and Shashi Bellare Arts Foundation Festival of Tabla has evolved into a premier and prestigious showcase of Classical Indian Music, especially its percussion, in Los Angeles. There is a good reason for it: The venerable great tabla and pakhawaj maestro, composer and teacher, Late Pt. Taranath Rao, his multi-talented and dedicated student and nephew Late Pt. Ravi Bellare, and Taranathji's brother Late Pt. Harihar Rao, all lived here and popularized tabla playing, especially the rare art of tabla solo recitals. Pt. Ravi Bellare's twin brother the Late Pt. Shashi Bellare, also a great tabla player, composer and teacher, briefly performed and taught tabla in Los Angeles area. They nurtured and cultivated a large audience of music lovers and many well trained tabla players who all made the Los Angeles the Tabla Capital of the West. We just witnessed a well attended and well acclaimed fourth Festival. The first Festival of Tabla started in 2017, and quickly became a popular annual tradition, except for the interruption and delay caused by the pandemic. Although tabla playing, especially tabla solo was given importance at the Festival, tabla is mainly used as an accompanying instrument in other forms of Indian music and dance. So a lot of vocal and instrumental music and dance were showcased, where tabla was also featured as an important accompanying instrument. The precursor of tabla, the pakhawaj, which is primarily used for the ancient Indian classical music called Dhrupad, and its Southern Indian cousin mridangam were also featured. The Festival of Tabla 2022 was held at the venerable Sanatan Dharma Cultural Center in Norwalk, California, on July 30 and 31, 2022.

Saturday, July 30, 2022

The commencement of the program started with a brilliant tabla solo by 9 year old Shyam Dore, grandson and disciple of Narayan Kadekodi, himself a disciple of Pt. Taranath Rao and Pt. Ravi Bellare. Narayan played the lehra on harmonium. This was followed by two excellent tabla solos: the first by Shivam Pathak of the Bay Area, who is a student of Sanjay Deshpande, accompanied on sitar by Ted Morano, playing a delightful lehra. The second was by Sagar Shah, a student of Rupesh Kotecha, accompanied by his brother Akash Shah, a student of Mala Ganguly, who provided a lehra on harmonium.

After a delicious lunch, we witnessed a brilliant LAIMA women's ensemble, featuring students of Rajib Karmakar (sitar), Neel Agrawal (tabla) and Neelamjit Dhillon (flute): The artistes were 1) Lavina Shahani, Siona Bhasme and Rachana Pillai on tabla, (2) Meena Patil, Priya Majethia, Sahar Khundmiri, and Yadira Pascault Orozco on sitar, (3) Aakriti Maske on bansuri. Excellent Tabla solos by Pranav Ghatraju (student of Ustad Shabbir Nisar) and Shivam Sudame (student of Aditya Kalyanpur) followed the women's ensemble. Ted Morano on sitar for Shivam, and Pratyush Goberdhan (student of Pankaj Mishra) on violin for Pranav, provided melodious lehras.

The next item was a very beautiful and well sung vocal Hindustani music by Saili Oak (disciple of Ashwini Bhide) of the Bay Area, accompanied on tabla by the world famous Pt.Omkar Gulwady (a disciple of Pt. Taranathji) and Pt. Pankaj Mishra on sarangi. This enthralled the audience. To listen to an excellent vocalist accompanied by expert tabla exponent and an expert sarangi player was an unbelievable real treat!

After tea break, where delicious tea and snacks were served, there was a rare pakhawaj trio by Leonice Shinneman, Gregg Johnson and Peter Fagiola, and accompanying them on Slide Guitar was Dave Cipriani (student of Ustad Ashish Khan). It was supposed to be a quartet, but the fourth player, Jeff Feldman, was sick and could not attend, much to everybody's disappointment. All pakhawaj players were students of Pt. Taranathji or Pt. Ravi Bellare. Pakhawaj is the parent of tabla and used exclusively as an accompanying instrument for the ancient Dhrupad form of music, or as a solo instrument. Pakhawaj is a rare instrument.
but we were so lucky to hear not one, but three pakhawajs in unison and blending well with each other and the melodious lehra on slide guitar.

Soon after the pakhawaj trio, Ahilan Hatti (student of Pt. Tarun Bhattacharya, Paul Livingstone and Rupesh Kotecha) presented us with a lovely recital on santoor, well accompanied on tabla by Pranav Ghatraju. Following them was Carnatic singer and mridangam player Shubha Chandramauli, who gave a fabulous recital of vocal music and mridangam solo, much to the delight of everybody. **Female mridangam players can be counted on the fingers of two hands, and Shubha ranks as one of the most talented and accomplished artiste in both vocal music and mridangam playing.**

Leading into the much anticipated Grand Finale of Day one, was the penultimate recital: tabla solo of Varenya Sastry of Atlanta, Georgia, who at age of 8 years, displayed qualities, expertise and knowledge of seasoned adult *tablajis*. Varenya is a disciple of Anjaneya Sastry, his father. He has also learnt from Ust. Zakir Hussain and Pt. Yogesh Samsi. Pratyush Goberdhan provided beautiful lehra accompaniment on violin. Varenya held everybody spellbound and became the instant junior celebrity of the Festival. Many tabla stalwarts were impressed with his performance, and showered him with praises, encouragement and blessings. The Grand Finale item of Saturday was the much awaited and anticipated tabla solo by tabla maestro Pt. Omkar Gulwady, beautifully accompanied on sarangi by Pt. Pankaj Mishra. The listeners were in seventh heaven, witnessing a fabulous performance by one of the world’s greatest *tablajis*, presenting a full length solo featuring *kayadas, parans, gats, tihais and chakradhars*. Accompanying him was the rare sarangi for *lehra*.

**Sunday, July 31, 2022**

On Sunday morning, we were greeted with the sweet voice of Sneha Menon, a sixth grader and student of Yamuna Kadekodi, who presented a recital of Hindustani classical music. Sneha was accompanied on tabla by Shyam Dore. Aayush Savdekar of Singapore, followed her with a brilliant tabla solo, with Pratyush Goberdhan providing lehra on violin. Well known, popular and super talented local vocalist, Prasad Upasani (disciple of Pt. S.C.R. Bhat and Pt.K.G. Ginde) followed him with an excellent vocal concert, accompanied on tabla by Pt. Omkar Gulwady and on sarangi by Pankaj Mishra. Who could ask for more, than a good vocalist accompanied by a world class *tablaji* and *sarangiya*?

After a delicious lunch, there was a superb tabla solo by well-known and popular local tabla player and teacher, Debashish Choudhuri, who was accompanied by Pankaj Mishra, who provided a lovely *lehra* on sarangi. Prahlad Chudasama (student of Pt. Ravi Bellare, Alok Dasgupta and Shashank Bakshi) was the next performer, and he presented a heartwarming sitar concert. Prahlad was accompanied on tabla by his Gurubhai, Chandra Bhushan Rao (disciple of Pt. Ravi Bellare). Another well known and well appreciated local tabla duo, father and son combination of Hemant Ekbote (disciple of Pt. Shyamrao Ekbote and Pt. Sudhir Kumar Saxena) and Dani Ekbote thrilled us with a tabla duet performance, with Pratyush Goberdhan providing *lehra* accompaniment on violin. Both Ekbotes are well known performers and teachers of the art of tabla.

One of the two unusual and wonderful performance of the festival was the recital of Makheer Singh on Tauss, a parent of the Dilruba, which like it, is played with a bow. I have never heard it, seen it or heard of it before. It has a rich sound, and Makheer presented Raag Nasiri (which is very similar to Raag Bhimpalasi). Makheer is a local resident, and a disciple of Raaginder Singh Momi and Harlove Singh. We were extremely fortunate to witness this rare instrument being played with such expertise and passion, in our own backyard! Ravi Deo (disciple of Late Pt. Ramesh Kumar) was the accompanying tabalji, and assisted him very well.

The Sarangi Ensemble: Sarangi maestro Pankaj Mishra with students Pratyush Goberdhan, Chirag Dixit, Gabe Noel, George Koller, Eric Carroll and Bharadwaj Vellore Ramesh, each on their own individual sarangis presented a beautiful rendering of Raag Kirwani. Accompanying them on tabla was Sarang (no pun!) Majumdar (student of Pt. Nayan Ghosh). The Sarangi Ensemble was the star item
after Chai and snack break. Both items were delicious!

The second last item was an expert tabla solo by Korean-American lady, Jin Won (disciple of Pt. Divyang Vakil and Shubha Desai) of New York, who is a Kathak dancer and an excellent tabla player. Ted Morano provided her with lilting lehra on sitar. Of course the Grand Finale of Sunday was the much anticipated and eagerly awaited solo on Jori, by Sudarshan Chana of UK. Sudarshanj is a student of Sukhvinder Singh Namdhar. Jori is a set of drums that resembles a large tabla set, but has sound like pakhawaj, and like pakhawaj, has flour dough applied to the face of the larger drum. It has a very rich and deep sound, suitable for meditation. Like Tauss, it is played by Sikh musicians in the Gurudwaras. Also, like Tauss, it was the first time I saw it and heard it. It was heavenly.

The Festival of Tabla was the dream of Rupesh Kotecha, a disciple of Pt. Taranath Rao, Pt. Ravi Bellare, Pt. Shashi Bellare and some others. In 2017 he made his dream into reality, and has successfully achieved to make it a much sought annual tradition. He gets able help and encouragement from his wife Mona, other family members and friends who form a core group of volunteers. They worked extremely hard and made huge sacrifices for many months leading to each of the Festivals. Herculean effort and time is evolved in planning and executing a Festival of this calibre. Besides the meagre collection of revenue from tickets, the Festivals are funded largely by generous donations from well wishers and a few grants. Mona and Rupesh Kotecha were excellent Masters of Ceremonies. The crucial sound system was ably managed by Rahul Parikh. The stage lighting, sound equipment and the video display screen was provided and donated by Amit and Nishant Kotecha of 3D Sounds. The stage and venue decoration was managed by Sonali Flowers, and the delicious lunch, dinner and tea break snacks and beverages were provided by Jai Bharat Restaurant of Artesia. There was art exhibition of beautiful paintings and art forms based on traditional Indian themes by Smt. Mala Ganguli (who is also an accomplished singer) and Chandrika Kotecha. All this, coupled with an educated and appreciative audience created a wonderful ambience, making appreciation of the beautiful and ancient music thoroughly enjoyable. This year’s Festival was the best one so far, and each and every recital was out of the world. Kudos to the organizers, volunteers and artistes.

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About the author:

Vivek Ullal is a North Indian Classical Flautist, who learnt bansuri playing and music from Late Pt. Devendra Murdeshwar, Late Pt. V. G. Karnad, Late Pt. Ravi Bellare and Late Vidushi Lakshmi Shankar. He mainly plays Hindustani music, but also plays Folk music, Bollywood music, and light western music. Besides bansuri, he also plays piano accordion, harmonica, harmonium and tabla. He is an Anesthesiologist by profession. He can be reached at vivekullal@sbcglobal.net.

Answers to सरल-संस्कृतम् Refer Page 52

Exercise 3.1 - 1. विकसति 2. पतति 3. शुष्यति 4. धावति 5. वहति 6. गणयति

Exercise 3.2 - Masculine Ending in अ – वृक्षः, सैनिकः, मूर्खः

Neuter Ending in अ – पुष्मम्, गृहम्, व्यजनम्

Feminine Ending in आ – बालिका, शिक्षिका, गायिका

Feminine Ending in ई – कृपी, नर्तकी, स्थाली
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 12 - Bhakti Yoga

After having defined the five steps of bhakti, Bhagavān names the nirguna upāsaka as “Akshara Upāsaka” (अक्षरोपासक). Akshara here stands for the ultimate consciousness-existence Brahman.

However, Bhagavān chooses to glorify the bhakta who has given up all the karma phala (सर्वकर्मफलत्वात्) as the most exalted bhakta. This is because Bhagavān wants to make it clear that a mumukshu who takes the first step has started the most auspicious journey of his life; has realized the true purpose of his human birth. (v12)

Now Bhagavān wants to talk about the very nature of the Akshara Upāsaka who, ultimately, is called a jnānī or a stithaprajna. Almost every chapter of the Bhagavad Gītā describes the nature of the stithaprajna. The rest of this chapter is dedicated to the way a jnānī bhakta lives his life. The life of such a wise person can be emulated as sādhanā by a mumukshu (स्वयंप्रयत्न लक्षणानि मुनुक्षे साधनानि).

An Akshara Upāsaka is one who has compassion for all beings. He/she is devoid of ahankāra/mamakāra and remains calm and unperturbed in all situations. Conducive and non-conducive situations do not disturb him. (V13)

This jnānī is also a yogī who is happy and contented in all situations; not wanting anything other than what he/she has. He is of firm resolve (तत्तंसिद्धः) and in My constant remembrance. Such a bhakta is dearest to Me. (V14)

He/she does not disturb anybody, nor is he/she disturbed by any situation or person in the world with which/whom he/she interacts. He/she is not overtly excited, jealous of others, or fearful about being overpowered by others. (v15)

Such a jnānī bhakta is willing to take anything that comes, capable of letting go of anything and most often, not dependent upon the situations around him/her. It does not mean that he is callous or indifferent. It means he is able to take things as they are. No situation evokes any sorrow in him; on the contrary, he is able to learn even from the most sorrowful situation.

He is not unduly bound to any of his actions or their results (सर्वार्थपरित्यागः) and such a bhakta is closest to Me. (v16)

Neither is he unduly elated, nor severely depressed in any situation as he has no expectations out of whatever comes. He/she accepts every situation; happy or sad, with equal poise. He/she is able to give up emotional dependence on either the good or the not-so-good results of his/her actions, accepting them as the Lord’s Blessing. Such a bhakta is the dearest to Me. (v17)

He/she has no foes; but treats everyone alike with the same respect and love. Others may consider Him their enemy, but He/she has no preference towards any single person. Praise and censure do not shake him/her. Pairs of opposites like heat and cold, happiness and unhappiness do not have any effect on him/her. He/she remains aloof and not bound emotionally to anything. He/she is not elated by praise, nor saddened by the opposite. He/she has no attachment to any dwelling place (अनिक्ततः); willing to live wherever prārabdha takes him/her. This is because this bhakta realizes that the whole manifest Universe is mithya and constant change is its very nature. Such a person is called a sthirajprajna (स्थिराजप्रज्ञा) and is most loved by Me. (v18,19)

Akshara upāsanā is the road to immortality (भयंकर-अनन्तपरिवर्तितः) . The one who goes through all the five steps detailed by Me with shraddha and bhakti, ultimately reaches Me with the Akshara upāsanā and such a jnānī bhakta is dearest to Me. (v20)

With this, one of the shortest and the most beautiful chapters of the Bhagavad Gītā is concluded.

(To be continued...)
Canara Union - The Founder’s Story

Maya Hattiangadi

My paternal grandfather, Dr. Badakere Venkat Rao, had a magnetic personality and had a charisma which attracted many people to gather around him. He had a vision to unite the bhanaps who were few and all immigrants from places like Hubli, Dharwad, Mangalore, Mumbai, Pune and smaller places in Karnataka. He was a social worker who wanted women to come forward and take part in activities and discussions. Today it is more popularly known as women empowerment.

He lived in his own house which was not a huge bungalow but had a nice open space and a garden in front. The meetings started in his house. He had 4 or 5 likeminded men visiting daily in the evenings after their respective office hours. One of them would read the newspaper loud and discussed about personalities like Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Tagore and the Swadeshi movement.

Badakere Venkat Rao’s companion and support was his wife, Ratnabai. We all addressed her as Paati (grandma in Tamil). She would say her husband was “Deegoo ashshillo, baagla pashee deegoo mhunu, distaalo”. Ratnabai would make hot bhajjis, she would make ravoo (uppittu) or mitmirsange phovu or shevai usli. At festivals she would also serve a sweet like sheera. Obviously the attendance was not only good but also word of mouth spread about meetings and the added attraction the goodies. Ratnabai personally served everyone with love and care.

As more and more people started joining, space became a problem. Narsing mam Sirur who was the General Manager of Mysore Spinning and Weaving mills had a large bungalow with a big open space in front, and volunteered it for all the activities. This is where they started outdoor sports and also a gymnasium. Badakere Venkat Rao, being a sportsman with special interests in tennis and football encouraged young men including his son Bhaskar, to play games.

Badakere Venkat Rao graduated in agriculture and later did his MA in agricultural chemistry from Madras University. While working for Mysore government, he was offered a seat to do his doctorate in agricultural chemistry in Germany. Those days visiting a foreign country was a taboo and in line with rules prevalent at that time, he was ex-communicated. He was strong willed, truthful and honest. Inspite of all these problems he decided to go abroad to study. He was away for more than four years and completed his studies. He wanted to take a break to meet his wife, son and relatives. After a few months of break he wanted to take his wife Ratnabai and his only son Bhaskar to Germany for a couple of years so that they also experience the outside world and broaden their outlook. He always wanted to come back to India and serve his motherland.

He sent a letter with the news of his arrival at Bombay. Ratnabai, with all enthusiasm, made detailed plans to go to Bombay with her son, relatives and helpers, numbering about 25 of them. The journey was long and tiresome and had to be done using various modes of transport like bullock cart, ferry (boat), horse cart and some parts by train. They reached Bombay safely. Ratnabai and relatives arranged a grand reception with band and music to receive her husband. They waited anxiously for a healthy Venkat Rao to walk out but his cold body was brought out on stretcher. The family was told that he had developed cough and cold, which developed into pneumonia and he succumbed during the long sail on the high seas. What a shock and what trauma. It must have been a rude shock to Ratnabai who was in her twenties and for Bhaskar. As she was trained by her late husband to face any eventuality in his absence, with presence of mind she boldly asked the head priest to quickly perform the upanayanam of her son Bhaskar, so that he could go to the crematorium and perform the last rites of his father.

After returning to Bangalore she took control of her house, her son’s education and life went on. This is the life sketch of the brave, noble, kind and forward looking family who founded this great institution called CANARA UNION. Jai Hind.

Courtesy: The Canara Union Newsletter
Here & There

Bengaluru Local Sabha for July 2022:

Special programmes: On 10th July, on the occasion of Shayani Ekadashi, sadhaka-s participated in Akhanda Bhajan. On 13th July, on the auspicious occasion of Guru Purnima marking the Sabha Prarambha Vrata of Chaturmasya, Vyasa Pujan was performed at the Math by gruhastha-s. This was followed by Bhashya Pathana - Bhagavadgita, Upanishad and Brahma Sūtra and Ashtavadhana Seva.

Regular Programmes :
• Dr. (Smt.) Sudha Tinaikar commenced talks on Vivekachudamani online.
• Girvana Pratishtha classes, Sambhashana Varga classes and Prarthana Varga are being conducted regularly.
• Gayathri Japa Anushthaan is performed every Sunday.
• Daily morning pujan-s and evening pujan-s on Monday-s, Thursday-s and Friday-s were performed by Satyendra Sorab and gruhastha-s.
• Durga Namaskar is bring performed every Friday by Ved. Vijay Karnad Bhat.

THANE SABHA: A get-together of Dombivli-Kalyan sadhaka-s was arranged at the residence of Jyoti Nadkarni on 9th July, 2022. 17 members from 13 families were present. The event opened with the Sabha Prarambha Prarthana and Shankha vadya by Pradip Adur. Shraddhanjali was offered to some of members who have attained heavenly abode. A round of self-introduction by the members was followed by discussions regarding the upcoming Sabha events like Guru Pujan, Devi Pujan and Shiva Pujan to be performed during Chaturmasya. Bhajan Seva was offered by some sadhaka-s. Mouth organ was played by Shri Adur. Naivedya was offered to Shri Guru Paduka-s. The event concluded with Sabha Samapti Prarthana followed by Prasada vitarana.

On the occasion of Guru Purnima on 13 July, 2022, a bus was organised by Thane Sabha to enable its members to take part in the festivities at Karla and obtain Pujya Swamiji’s Blessings. The event was attended by about 15 members of Thane Sabha.

In Dombivli, Guru Purnima was celebrated at Jyoti Nadkarni’s residence. Sabha Prarambha Prarthana, Shri Guru Paduka stotram and Shri Parijnanashram Trayodashi were followed by Guru Pujan. The event ended with the Sabha Samapti Prarthana.

Chaturmasya Vishesha Sadhana is being offered by sadhaka-s of Thane Sabha. At present, 15 sadhaka-s are offering Vishesha Sadhana.

Thane Sabha’s Sanskrit Sambhashana varga started on 31st July, 2022. The first session was conducted online by Vaishali Koppikar, with 17 participants joining in. She taught the 7 question-words and how to use them. A story in Sanskrit was also read and the participants took turns to ask each other questions in Sanskrit as well as answer them. The participants also made sentences of their own. The session was interactive and enjoyed by all.

Report by Chandrima Kalbag

Our Institutions

Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi, Mumbai:

On Ashadhi Ekadashi Day, every year a musical programme on the lives and works of great Saints of Maharashtra and also of North India has been held – a time when pious devotees go on their religious “yatra” – or “Vaari” as they call it, walking, singing bhajans, kirtans, all the way to Pandharpur to have “Darshan” of their sacred loved deity – Lord Vithoba, from all over Maharashtra. And to celebrate this festival we at the Samaj organise every year a religious musical programme. This year a pre-recorded musical on “Sant Kabir” presented by Saraswati Vrinda Gaan 23 years back “Kabir Vaani” was shown. The narration was done by Neela Balsekar who has also done narration on Sant Janabai, P. P. Anandashram Swamiji and Sant Morya. The music for the songs were composed by Geeta Yennemadi, our Past President and the main organiser and lead singer of Saraswati Vrinda Gaan and also trained the mahilas of this group to sing these songs, some of which were in Hindi, Braj, Bhojpuri, Awadhi.

After a crisp introduction by Ashwini Prashant of this Saraswati Vrinda Gaan Group followed a shower of Kabir bhajans- dohas- which were set to melodious tunes, by Geeta and the narration explicitly lucid style having done intense research in Sant Kabir’s life, his work, his teaching even covering some of the minutest details. The songs thereafter sung in their mellifluous voices in perfect coordination which were so soulful and
Sant Kabir’s philosophy of life, so simply in his sayings, but with such in-depth meaning, was a treat for the ears and mind which kept the audience enthralled. The program ended with a “Gajar of Hari Bol Ram Ram Bol, Krishna Krishna Bol”- leading to a crescendo – where we felt we are in a trance. An enchanting evening of music, philosophy and learning, concluded with Nivedita Nadkarni’s proposing Vote Of Thanks with sincere appreciation of the Saraswati Vridha Gaan team, especially for having kept this audio in their archives in a safe condition for 23 long years. She also thanked Geeta Yennemadi for her donation of Rs 5,000/- to the Samaj Fund in memory of her loved ones- Varada Mulky, Lalita Yennemadi, Sumitra and Shri Krishnamurthy Nadkarni.

In the August issue we had mentioned sponsorship by Ashwini Prashant, erroneously missed out the name of her parents-in-law. The error is regretted.

**Reported by Geeta Suresh Balse**

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**DOMESTIC TIDINGS**

**MARRIAGE**

Apr 21 : Dr Namratha Subhash Balwalli with Dr. Ravi Maharudra Prabhu at Mumbai.

**BIRTH**

Aug 7 : A baby boy (Tanish) to Khushalini Ulman & Vaibhav Gaikwad at Melbourne, Aust.

**THREAD CEREMONY**

Aug 12 : Ahan Ashish Mavinkurve at Karla

**OBITUARIES**

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

- Apr 18 : Satyavati Shankar Savoor (86) at Mahim.
- July 3 : Dr Jaigopal B. Benegal at New Jersey, USA.
- July 4 : Vasant Laxman Udiaver (89) at Mumbai.
- July 12 : Durgesh Ramdas Kumtakar (58) at Hospet.
- July 17 : Kishor Bhaskar Amembal (85) at Pune.
- July 20 : Malini Kamalakar Karnad (93) at Nashik.
- July 23 : Jayadev Anant Bhat Shukla (57) at Hubli.
- July 30 : Nagesh Heble (83) in Bengaluru.
- July 31 : Ravi (Karun) Laxminarayan Baindoor (80) formerly of Bhiwandi at Pune.
- Aug 2 : Asha G Vithalkar (85) at Bangalore
- Aug 6 : Sona Vivek Rao (80) at Goa.
- Aug 8 : Shyam Hosangadi (72) at Bangalore.
- Aug 11 : Jayant Sanjivrao Baljekar (79) at Mumbai.
- Aug 12 : Umesh Shripad Trikannad (86) at Borivali.
- Aug 19 : Sudhir Gurunath Koppikar (87) at Juhu, Mumbai.
- Aug 19 : Meera Shripadrao Koppikar (96) at Mudhol, Bagalkot Dist.
- Aug 26 : Prasad Gulvady in Chennai

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**ENGAGEMENT**

*Engagement ceremony of Pranav son of Raisesh & Mangala Nagarkatti with Sharmila, daughter of Kishore & Sheela Kumble of Bengaluru on 15th July at Mumbai.*

**FLAT FOR SALE**

*For sale 2 Bedroom, Hall/dining and kitchen apartment with utility room in Chitrapur Housing Society, Next to Chitrapur Math, Malleswaram, Bangalore. Contact Geeta either by email geeta_h@hotmail.com or on whatsapp +61406450390.*

**SOLUTION TO JUMBLE KING - Refer to page 58**

This Temple is Flooded

Answers to Aug 22 Quiz

*Winner of this Quiz is Ms. Alka Bolangady (Bangalore)*

Smt. Lalith Rao Shri Bipin Nadkarni Shri Mohan Hemmady

**Answer of “ॐळख़ा पाहू”**

(see Page 49)

H.H. Sreeemath Parijnanashram III Swamiji in His (Pre-ordainment) Childhood!
With Best Compliments
From

Rithwik Foundation
For Performing Arts