

Kanara Saraswat

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION

A leap of faith into Sustainable waste management



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Kanara Saraswat

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Kanara Saraswat Association



on Wednesday, **November 26, 2025**, at **5.30 p.m.**
at **Shrimat Anandashram Hall**
Talmakiwadi, J. D. Marg, Mumbai - 400007.



Felicitation of the following dignitaries:

Shri. AMIT TALGERI

(Excellence in Risk Leadership in Banking Sector)

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Prof. Smt. KARUNA GOKARN

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(TAEKWONDO)

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(Marathon Runner and Certified Coach)

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Hon Secretary

Sunil Ullal

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From the President's Team

Dear Members and Readers,

I welcome you to the season of Vanabhojana and Deepotsav Celebrations – festival of lights. This is celebrated during the month of Kartik. It is a period where many temples, especially in Karnataka, host grand celebrations, illuminating the area with countless lamps and organizing various cultural and religious events. The term also relates to the practice of “deepadana” (offering lamps) and is often associated with prayers to goddess Lakshmi, symbolizing the removal of darkness and the gain of knowledge.

To begin with, we have Tulsi Vivaah to be celebrated on 2nd November, 2025. It is considered a divine union between Tulsi Mata and Shaligram (a symbolic form of Lord Vishnu). The festival holds immense cultural, spiritual and religious significance, as devotees observe this sacred union to seek blessings, prosperity and harmony in their homes. During my childhood, while staying in Byndoor, we used to enjoy celebrating this more joyously than the Deepawali. Being celebration of marriage anniversary of Tulsi and Lord Vishnu, we used to decorate the Tulsi with Mantap and do Pooja. We used to burst more crackers and have fireworks done on this day, than Deepawali.

Followed by this, we have Vanabhojan and Deepotsav celebrations taking place at Shri Chitrapur Math, Shirali, Shri Guru Math, Mallapur, Shrimath Anantheshwar Temple, Vittal, Shri Umamaheshwar Devasthan, Mangaluru and Shri Satchidananda Dattatreya Temple, Kundapur.

I have fond memories of celebrating the deepotsav at Shri Satchidananda Dattatreya Temple, Kundapur. 50 feet in a row in front of the temple (both the sides), we used to light the lamps in three to four lines on a wooden stand. I was a student then doing my graduation in a college at Kundapur.

Shri Satchidananda Dattatreya Temple is a Century old temple founded by Saraswats. It was started in the first quarter of the 19th Century. It is said that many aamchis were living in Kundapur to provide education to their children at a local school started by a committed head master – Shri Raghunath Rao Bantwal. Since many aamchis were staying at this place, they wanted to have a temple of their own. With the Blessings of our eighth Mathadhipati Param Poojya Pandurangashram Swamiji, work of construction of this temple started and on June 22, 1885, amidst much rejoicing a marble idol of Lord Satchidananda Dattatreya was consecrated at the Holy Hands of Pujya Swamiji. Fifty years later, on June 9th, 1935 after a lot of repair work, punar pratishtha (Ashthabandha) was done at the Holy Hands of our 9th Mathadhipati – Param Poojya Anandashram Swamiji. In 1985, a three-day centenary celebration was held on 27th, 28th and 29th May, 1985.

I strongly suggest that during your next visit to Shirali or Vittla, please visit this temple and have darshan and get blessings of Lord Shri Satchidananda Dattatreya. You are also invited to visit this temple during Datta Jayanti, which is being celebrated this year on 4th December, 2025. I have really enjoyed these celebrations during my three years stay for my college studies.

Another event we cannot miss is the Annual Shashthi Festival at Vittla. I am sure many of us might have already planned the visit to Vittla between 21st November till 27th November and get the blessings of Lord Anantheshwar.

Enjoy these festivities during this month of November 2025.

Uday K. Gurkar

SHREE JANARDAN TEMPLE, MANKI

UPCOMING EVENTS on 14th November, '25 and 25th January, '26
AND

AN APPEAL FOR VANTIGA AND DONATIONS

For the kind attention of all families from Aghanashini, Chittar, Gokarn, Kaushik, Kowshik, Mankikar, Mankekar, Samrodi, Shirali, Shirlal / Shiroor, Sirur, Talmaki, Wagle and Yennemadi, who trace their roots to Shree Janardan Dev Temple, Manki.



UPCOMING EVENTS

* Friday, 14th November, 2025: Annual Vanabhojana will be held inside the Temple premises.
Programme Schedule:

9.30 a.m. onwards: Prarthana, Dhatri Homam, Anna Santarpana, followed by Vanabhojana.

5 p.m. onwards: Palkhi Utsav from Shree Janardan Temple to Hanuman Temple, which will culminate by around 10 p.m.

* Sunday, 25th January, 2026: The Vardhanti celebrations of our Temple will be held on Magha Shuddha Saptami (Ratha Saptami).

Programme Schedule:

9.30 a.m. onwards: Prarthana followed by Kalabhivridhi, Pavamana Abhisheka, Mahapooja, aarti, Teertha Vitarana and Prasad Bhojana.

An Ashlesha Bali Pooja at the Naga Sthana is also being planned for the first time.

We urge all devotees to plan their travel and attend at least one major function of our Temple in large numbers. Local devotees are always welcome to attend all the functions and festivals that are celebrated in our Temple.

Vantiga and donations by way of DDs or Crossed cheques favouring 'Shree Janardan Temple, Manki' may be addressed to the Hon. Secretary,

Mr. Vinay R. Kaushik, C/o, 16/3, Talmakiwadi, Javji Dadaji Marg,
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Ganesh Kaushik

The Editor's Column

Dear Readers,

In the June 2025 issue, I had mentioned that the Indian Met. Department had predicted 'above average' rains in the coming monsoon. Thanks to the La Nina effect, the rains seem to have continued through October and looks like the South-West monsoon will creep into November, aided and abetted by some cyclonic disturbances, before finally bidding goodbye.

Our October issue commemorating the birth centenary of Guru Dutt (Padukone) was very well received. The tributes to the legendary film maker evoked a lot of old memories for many of our readers, and some have shared them in their letters to the editor, published in this issue. There were quite a few accolades too for the teams at KSA for the magazine, and for organizing the special musical show at the Swatantryaveer Savarkar auditorium in Mumbai, that saw a packed house. We have a report on the same by Bhakti Ullal, and a colourful centrespread, capturing glimpses of the show. We urge readers to spread the word and subscribe to KSA's official YouTube channel, and watch the musical homage to Guru Dutt as also the Diwali Pahat programmes at leisure.

Our cover features Anil Maruti Gokarn, a bright automotive engineer, who decided to venture out of his comfort zone, and became an entrepreneur in the still nascent and mostly ignored sustainable waste management industry. The potential for this industry in India is huge, as evident from the fact that the market is projected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 5.80% to 6.50% from approximately \$13.1 billion in 2023 to \$21.7 billion by 2032.

Veteran film journalist Bharat Savur shares his memories about Guru Dutt and Geeta Dutt, and then goes on to vividly describe the sad childhood of their eldest son, Tarun, who too passed away at age 34.

Military Musings by Maj Gen B.N. Rao this month, is about the incredible post-Independence tale, of how the Indian Air Force and the then Hindustan Aircraft Limited (HAL, now renamed as Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.) put together abandoned B-24 aircraft that the British and American forces had junked at the aircraft graveyard at Chakeri airfield in Kanpur, after World War Two ended in 1945. An inspiring story indeed.

In his California Notebook, Jaidev Chandavarkar writes about his meeting with two individuals from the 'Greatest Generation' and Durga Puja celebrations at the Vedanta Center.

This month's Parisevanam edited by Shailaja Ganguly brings us an English translation of the Sanskrit speech that was delivered by Krishnanand Mankikar thanking HH Shrimat Sadyojat Shankarashram Swamiji for the honour bestowed upon him, for his immense contribution towards Girvanprathishta – the Department of Sanskrit studies, Shri Chitrapur Math.

In his concluding part on how global languages and their scripts are connected to Sanskrit and to India, our Junior Editorial committee member, Paarth S. Ray provides us vivid examples from Japan, Korea, and Mongolia, and goes on to explain some of scripts.

Raghubandan Trikanad expounds about the virtue of being grateful in his article.

Dwadashi and Trayodashi or twelfth and thirteenth days of the Shukla paksha and Krishna paksha is the topic of Anjali Burde's column on Tithis. Meanwhile, her journey on Superfoods has reached the letter K of the English alphabet.

Winter will start setting in and it would be an ideal time to visit Nashik during the holidays. Do avail the special Nashik Yatra package that has been devised by KSA, with a stay at its Holiday Home.

As I conclude, would like to remind readers that the KSA's 114th Foundation Day programme is being held at the Shrimat Anandashram Hall, Talmakiwadi on Wednesday, 26th November, and we invite all of you to turn up in large numbers.

Ramkishore M. Mankekar



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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Kudos to KS for the Oct 2025 issue in memory of actor Guru Dutt. The articles triggered childhood memories because Guru Dutt was my first cousin and two of his younger brothers Devi Dutt and Vijay were studying in Poona in the 1950s when they were school boys. They were boarders in SSPMS and my father was their Local Guardian. They used to often come home and we had a grand time. Vijay is no more and Devi Dutt is the only surviving sibling, settled in Mumbai.

Vasant(hi) Akka, Guru Dutt's mother, was my father Baindur Vittal Rao's younger sister and she often visited us in our home at 102 Erandavana in Poona. After I got married in Dec 1961, my wife Mira and I visited her at her Matunga flat whenever we passed through Mumbai.

Gurudutt also had one other younger brother and a sister; Atmaram and Lalita (Lalli) Lajmi. I was very fond of both and visited them on occasion. Atmaram was also a film producer though his films won lesser acclaim than Guru Dutt's movies. Atmaram's wife Nagam was an accomplished Bharat Natyam dancer.

I distinctly remember three occasions when Guru Dutt visited my father when passing through

Poona. Once with Waheeda Rehman, once with Geeta Bali and once with Geeta Dutt.

Happy memories!

**Maj Gen B N Rao, AVSM, VSM & Bar (Retd)
Pune**

Dear Editor,

2025 is a momentous year in the annals of Chitrapur Saraswats, as well as Indian cinema, as we celebrate the birth centenary of our own cinematic genius Vasant Shivshankar Padukone aka Guru Dutt. KSA has come out with a beautifully illustrated edition depicting the life and times of Guru Dutt.

The musical commemoration of Guru Dutt's repertoire on October 12 at the Veer Savarkar auditorium was impeccably curated and mellifluously sung by our budding singers. It was a sheer delight to listen to the medley of Guru Dutt's songs spanning his brief yet impactful career as both, method actor, and quirky director.

It revived nostalgic childhood moments of my meeting with music legend Mohammed Rafi at his home in Almeida Park, Bandra. Rafi was the soulful voice of Guru Dutt in most of his movies.

The little-known snippets emotionally narrated by comic actor Johnny Walker's son Nasiir about how Guru Dutt gave his comedian father a break in the Hindi film industry, were a pleasant surprise to the audience who were not aware of this milestone which transformed Johnny Walker's life from a bus conductor to a beloved comic actor.

Take a bow, KSA. We look forward to more such delightful programmes in future too.

Sanjay Mudbidri, Bengaluru

Dear Editor,

Congratulations to KSA on a superhit melodious, orchestra event preceded by well-deserved felicitations on stage! A historic, collaboration of our own KSA with the Cultural Ministry of Maharashtra State Govt. led by Hon'ble Minister Ashish Shelar!

Hearty congrats to the KS magazine team for the Guru Dutt Centenary special issue. It's a classic collector's item and an authentic, marvellous reference content of the glory of the great director-actor Guru Dutt (Padukone)! In his speech, distinguished senior film-journalist Chaitanya Padukone rightly hailed Guru Dutt, as the innovative 'star-maker' and as the music-savvy, immortal "Showman of Indian Cinema."

Gaurang Ramesh Wagle, Mumbai

Dear Editor,

My hearty congrats to all those who were honoured and those who performed on stage and made the Joint Maharashtra State Govt along with KSA – the Guru Dutt Centenary musical event on Oct 12th, a historic success occasion, and for the KS editorial team for the legendary Guru Dutt-centric excellent content.

My special appreciation to celeb senior film-journalist Shri Chaitanya Padukone, who spoke so well on stage. Indeed, we are all very proud of you, Chaitanya Sir!

Kanchan Honavar, Mumbai

Dear Editor,

I missed attending in person, the grand music show that the KSA and Maharashtra State Cultural Ministry organized, as I am presently abroad. But I really enjoyed watching it on KSA's YouTube channel! A great initiative and a big 'thank you' to eminent Sr. journalist Chaitanya Padukone for all his efforts! Chaitanya's sentimental speech was very impressive. Well done! Hats off!

Dr. Prakash Mavinkurve,
Camp London, UK

Dear Editor,

I am Vasant Hoskote aged 87 years. I am always eager to solve the Sudoku puzzle that is published every month in the KSA Magazine, because I am a Sudoku enthusiast.

This letter is to find out if there are any enthusiasts like me amongst the KSA members. I would like to interact with them and take them in my / our Sudoku Group comprising five individuals.

If interested, they may contact me at: 7738958922 or on my landline no: 022-49695964. My mail ID is vbhoskote@gmail.com. I will be very happy if I get to know senior enthusiasts.

Vasant B. Hoskote, Mumbai

Dear Editor,

Your October 2025 issue devoted to the genius filmmaker Guru Dutt Padukone was worth its weight in gold and a collectors' delight. All the articles devoted to him were insightful especially those by his younger brother Devi Dutt and veteran journalist Chaitanya Padukone. His films like Pyaasa and Kaagaz ke Phool and Sahib Bibi aur Ghulam are immortal classics. I request you to feature actors Nayampally and the Nag brothers in your future issues. Also actors like Geeta Kak and Shyamalee. All in all a great tribute to the virtuoso.

Sandeep Hattangady, Mumbai



Samruddhi Nandan Bhatkal has joined the LLM program in September at the University College London (UCL). Samruddhi graduated in 2022, from VIT University School of Law, BA.LLB (Hons) with overall CGPA of 8.43. She worked as a junior advocate at the office of Advocate General of the state of Karnataka at the Bangalore high court on constitutional, civil and environmental matters. Subsequently worked with senior advocates on civil matters in various courts in Bangalore.

In addition to UCL, Samruddhi had unconditional offers of admission from the London School of Economics and Georgetown Law, Washington DC along with a USD 25,000 scholarship.

Outside of otherwise very busy schedules, Samruddhi takes time to go on long walks or socialize with friends.

Anil M. Gokarn's ProEarth – A Leap of Faith into Sustainable Waste management

RAMKISHORE M. MANKEKAR

In our September 2023 edition, we had written about the Triton Valves venture that was begun by the late Maruti Vinayak Gokarn in 1975. And how, his wife, Anuradha Gokarn ably managed the company until their younger son Aditya took charge as the MD in 2013.

In this issue, we bring you the story of the elder son, Anil Maruti Gokarn, who became a Pune based entrepreneur in 2014, in the nascent sustainable waste management industry.

Anil was just nine years old when his entrepreneur father Maruti V. Gokarn suddenly passed away at age 56. He recollects how his mother rose to the occasion and decided to carry on with managing Triton Valves. He admired her resilience and bold commitment in the face of severe adversity, as she slowly but surely got the hang of the business and started steering it. Even as a child, he had learnt from both his parents that one should not be overawed by challenges but instead face them head on and achieve one's set goals.

After schooling at St. Joseph's High School, he obtained his degree in Mechanical Engineering at RV College of Engineering. Anil went abroad and got an MSc in Automotive Systems Engineering from the RWTH Aachen, Germany. In 2004, post completion of his studies, he returned home to Bangalore to join the family business and worked with Triton Valves for two years.

With his auto engineering background, the family felt that he could further enhance his skills by getting some experience in the wider auto industry. So, he joined TATA Motors in Pune. After a short stint there, he ventured on his own entrepreneurial journey, at first in the auto sector, to provide engineering services jointly with his German University.

After completing a few interesting projects for TATA Motors, MRF Tyres and other auto suppliers as a representative for the German University, the infamous financial crisis of 2008 was looming and he thought that it was not the right time to launch the consultancy on a bigger scale. Then his German professor referred him to join ZF, a



Memories of childhood. Maruti V. Gokarn and Anuradha with Anil (on the left) and Aditya.

leading German global technology supplier that was setting up base in Pune with their commercial vehicle transmission technology. Consequently, Anil continued in that city for the next five years.

Besides the entrepreneurial genes, Anil had been deeply influenced by his

maternal grandparents, Dr. Ratnakar Samsi, who actively served the community during the freedom movement, and his wife, Kalyani Samsi who was a dynamic social worker promoting the cause of women empowerment.

Decision to venture into environmental and social causes

In 2012, Anil decided to leave the auto industry as he felt motivated by the need to find solutions for certain fundamental challenges that the general population was facing in our country. He wanted to use his education and corporate experience to create something that would better serve an environmental and a social cause.

And so, he undertook a thorough research and study, which included mentoring and support from the Institute of Natural Organic Agriculture - INORA Know How Foundation, an NGO that had been working in this field for over 20 years. They had developed a Social Entrepreneurship Model that he got a chance to test and implement, under their close guidance. They had already researched and developed a practical, ready to market model combined with biotechnology and process know-how, that he was generously given access to.

He branched off on his own with the knowledge gained, and started ProEarth Ecosystems Pvt.Ltd. But it took him quite a while to get clarity on how

his ideas could be translated into business.

The next challenge was to figure out how to convince people to go for these approaches, when they already had free or extremely cheap services that collected their waste and took it out of sight.

However, what really worked in favour of Anil's company were the visionary policies that were already set in motion in Pune, long before the Swachh Bharat Mission and the Solid Waste Rules were rolled out in 2016.

Without these regulations and the support of understanding, considerate members of some residential communities, implementing Anil's ideas would not have been possible. It took him about six to eight months of extensive field work to get the first break.

Simultaneously, his team had to create awareness programmes and make it visible for the community on what the long-term damage would be, if the right steps were not taken towards sustainable waste management.

An even bigger challenge was to overcome the dynamics of convincing cooperative housing society committees, whose opinions and positions changed all the time, and for whom this matter was low on priority.

That was in 2014, but even today, sustainable waste management features in the top 5 issues that prevent India from becoming a developed country with a healthy quality of life.

When Anil first started his venture, it was just him and another partner who was interested in this work. As they started getting more projects, the team grew. Today, they have about 25 people working in ProEarth, of which six are at the supervisory and managerial level, and the rest are field staff moving from community to community.

ProEarth's key activities

ProEarth was setup as a decentralised solution to waste management. Normally people depend on the large municipal authority to collect their waste. There are many problems with these centralised models. Large centralised waste management systems have not worked efficiently in India so far. They have not been reliable and sustainable. As a result, more than 70% of waste is dumped in landfills. Centralised systems are also not stable. Whenever they do not run or break down, the entire system collapses.

ProEarth works on a decentralised approach, whereby individual communities take responsibility for their waste. The idea is to

process as much within the premises itself. In India more than 60% of waste is bio-degradable kitchen waste. The company offers to set up infrastructure to handle this within the premises and a service subsequently, to make sure it is converted into healthy compost in an odour free, clean, sustainable way - day in and day out. This waste then gets saved from the municipal system.

ProEarth's revenue model is in the setting-up of the infrastructure and the subsequent monthly maintenance of the system. It also offers all the training and awareness needed to support the system and bring residents, housekeeping staff, maids, and workers on a common platform to accomplish this task. It works today with waste of close to 18,000 households and processes around 10 tons of kitchen waste daily.

Garden waste is another major issue. Leaves and branches are normally burned and add pollution to the air. It offers a service to collect this and link it to tree plantation NGOs who use it as mulch, to improve soil quality and facilitate the survival of saplings. Most corporations do not have services to address this waste. ProEarth diverts more than 40 tons of garden waste monthly into sustainable soil development activities.

And finally, there are also recyclables like plastic, paper, cardboard, glass, e-waste, and many other materials which can be recovered for reuse, recycling, or upcycling if they are kept clean. It assists communities to organise this and link this to recycling with established organisations that are approved by pollution boards. ProEarth is now entering into offering this service to builders such as Godrej Properties and Mahindra Lifespaces, and wider industry, that wants to recycle with traceability and transparency.

These methods can ensure more than 80% of waste does not create environmental disasters through landfilling. This ensures our water, air and land is saved from pollution, recovers resources, creates sustainable jobs and support a healthy environment for us all.

Advantages of implementing sustainable waste management (Pune specific)

Many municipalities have now introduced tax rebates for communities who compost, install rainwater harvesting systems or rooftop solar systems to bring green benefits to society in general.

The Pune Municipal Corporation offers 5% tax rebate on property tax for every flat in a complex that composts.

Before the end of the financial year, the community must provide a request supported with tax numbers of all flats and explain the technology they are using and how much waste they are processing in-house. ProEarth is now also empanelled with the Pune Municipal Corporation, so its work is recognised for a tax rebate.

Once an application is sent, it is verified and the rebate is issued in the next tax demand note. The tax rebate is then applicable every year, if the project is running.

Basics of implementing these techniques

To set up a composting system, ProEarth first assesses the quantity of organic waste generated on-premise, using a thumb rule of about 750 grams per family per day. On this basis it calculates the space needed to set up treatment tanks. These could be made from civil construction or using plastic tanks. Shredders and mixing machines can also be used in large projects to speed up the process. Bacterial cultures and EM (Effective Microorganisms) sprays are used to suppress odours and make the process more efficient.

When more space is available, earthworms can also be added to make vermicompost. This is the highest quality of compost which can be generated.

While the infrastructure is being developed, awareness programmes are conducted to educate the residents, housekeeping, and maids as required. This is to ensure segregated waste is available for treatment.

Compost is generated in this process within 65-80 days, this can be speeded up to max 25-30 days using mixing and shredding machines. The compost generated is then sieved and can be directly used in the garden as a fertiliser.

For every 100 kg of waste added to the system about 10-15 kg of compost is generated. High quality compost can be sold at bulk rates of ₹ 3,000 to ₹ 4,000 per ton.

Marching towards a brighter future

Anil feels that they still have a long way to go to scale up the impact. The organic growth by the company so far, is not enough. The market is still not mature and the challenges remain, to convince people to take the sustainable route, which even though not exorbitant, appears like that, when compared to the easier, cheaper but dangerous alternative of dumping and burning. This is because the topic of waste in India is a low priority area, and largely out of sight and out of mind!

Anil's dream is to take his company public in the future. But presently, he is looking for key investor support to scale up the business in Pune first, and then look to cover more cities.

He is also on the look out to partner and collaborate with various organisations to offer more efficient, and customer focussed solutions, by extending ProEarth's work with builders, and begin projects with the IT and manufacturing industry to support them in their CSR, ESG goals (CSR - Corporate Social Responsibility) (ESG- Environment, Social, Governance) through zero waste to landfill approaches.

When Anil began his venture in 2014, it had a turnover of Rs. Four lakhs, and today it has gone up to around Rs. Two crore. He feels it is only a drop in the ocean and his company has a huge potential to grow more and achieve multifold.

Anil's wife Swapna Narayan is a Director at ProEarth. She grew up in the UAE, and has a degree in Computer Applications and an MBA in Marketing and HR.

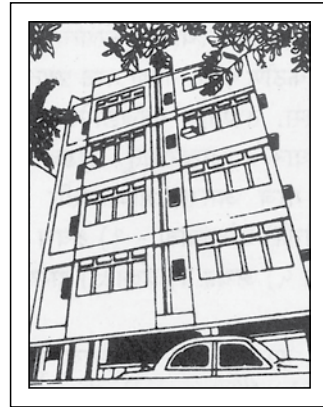


Swapna is also passionate about environmental and social causes. She volunteered for tree protection causes in Pune and supported citizens to get grievances addressed with MSEB. She has helped several communities get their excess electricity bills addressed and formed pressure groups to improve electricity

supply in Baner area in Pune. She was also a founding member of a Baner Citizens Forum. She is presently one semester away from completing her LLB at Fergusson College, Pune. Their daughter Isha is five.

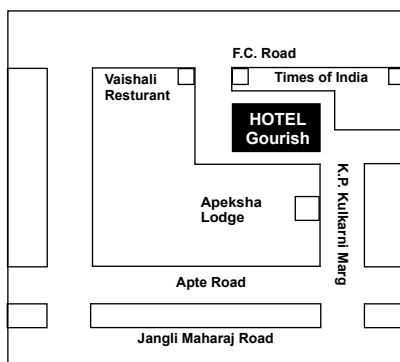
The family loves to take long drives on holidays. Anil's other stress busters are watching movies and documentaries on various subjects. He also enjoys cooking, especially non-vegetarian dishes.

WITH BEST COMPLIMENTS



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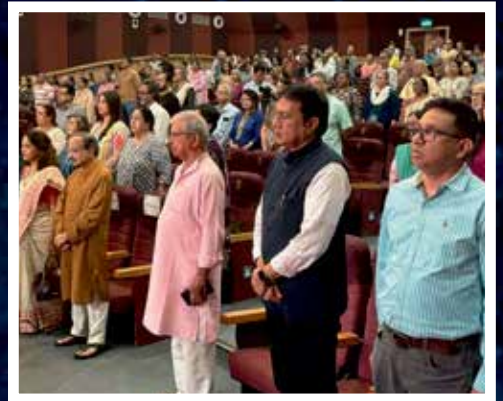
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KSA's Musical Tribute to Commem



orate Guru Dutt's Birth Centenary



Enjoy the programme and subscribe to KSA's YouTube Channel : <https://youtu.be/zLguJXlamLs>

November 2025

Kanara Saraswat

17



SHRĪ CHITRĀPUR MATH

Mumbaī (Grant Road) Local Sabhā

Announces

BHAGAWADGĪTĀ RECITATION COMPETITION

In Memory of Late Smt. Ambābāī HebĒ

AND ABHIVYAKTI 2025

On Sunday 16th November 2025 at 2.30 p.m.

At Smt.Indirābāī Kallianpurkar Hall, Bālak Vṛnda Education Society, Off Tālmakiwaḍī, J.D. Mārg, Mumbaī 400007

Shloka-s for Bhagawadgītā Recitation

Adhyāya 15, all Shloka-s



Shloka for Abhivyakti

उद्धरेदात्मनात्मानं नात्मानमवसादयेत् ।
आत्मैव ह्यात्मनो बन्धुरात्मैव रिपुरात्मनः ॥ ६.५ ॥

Participants must submit their names and age to their teachers or the Sabhā President.

Participants for Abhivyakti must be aged 15 or above

The teacher / Sabhā President / office bearer must send the list for the Bhagawadgītā competition and Abhivyakti to:

Mitali Puthli Mallapur: 9867214315 Shanta Hoskote: 9769736555

Teachers are requested to share the participants list by 10th November, 2025

Registrations begin at 1.15 pm on the Competition Day

In Loving Memory



Shri. Venkatarao Sreenivas Baindur

May 3rd, 1934 - September 27th, 2025

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Shri.
Venkatarao Sreenivas Baindur on September 27th, 2025 at
his son's house in Denver, Colorado, USA.

Born in a humble family, he was always proud of his hometown, Sagara (Karnataka). Known as Dr. Rao among his peers, he received his Ph.D. in Microbiology from IISc, Bengaluru. His passion for travel took him various places and his enthusiasm for life left a mark on everyone he met. He was always eager to help anyone in need and had a DIY attitude.

As someone who cherished the time spent with his loved ones, he leaves behind a large extended family and friends spread across the globe who will miss him dearly.

May his soul attain sadgati.

Baindur, Bhat, Kerwar, and Kumta family.

A Musical Homage to Guru Dutt: Celebrating the Legend's Birth Centenary

BHAKTI ULLAL

On July 9, 1925, Vasant Shivshankar Padukone was born—a life that would forever change the landscape of Indian cinema. Known to the world as Guru Dutt, he entered our homes and hearts, leaving behind a legacy of poetic artistry that continues to resonate across generations. This year, as we mark the birth centenary of this luminous gem of the Chitrapur Saraswat community, we gathered to celebrate not just a filmmaker but a visionary who transformed cinema into soulful expression.

An Afternoon of Remembrance and Melody

The Swatantrya Veer Savarkar Auditorium at Shivaji Park became a temple of nostalgia on Sunday, October 12, 2025, as the Kanara Saraswat Association (KSA), in collaboration with the Government of Maharashtra's Department of Cultural Affairs, presented "Guru Dutt – Yanchya Gaanyanchi Sangeetmay Rajni" (Guru Dutt – A Musical Evening of His Songs). The 3 p.m. programme drew enthusiasts from across the community, united in their reverence for a man who made poetry dance on celluloid.

The distinguished gathering on the dais reflected the cultural significance of the occasion. Advocate Ashish Shelar, Hon'ble Minister of Cultural Affairs and I.T., Government of Maharashtra, graced the event as the Chief Guest. Joining him were senior journalist Chaitanya Padukone and acclaimed actor Nasiir Khan, son of the legendary actor Johnny Walker, who brought a personal connection to Guru Dutt's extraordinary journey. KSA President Kishore Masurkar and Chairman Mahesh Kalyanpur completed the panel, their presence underscoring the community's pride in one of its brightest stars.

Lighting the Lamp of Memory

As the strains of the National Anthem and Maharashtra State Anthem filled the auditorium, hearts swelled with pride. Emcee Deepa Savkur, with her gracious warmth, welcomed the gathering and guided us through an afternoon that would traverse decades of cinematic excellence. The traditional *Deep Prajwalan* ceremony, performed by the distinguished guests, symbolically illuminated not only the stage but the enduring brilliance of Guru Dutt's artistic vision.

The KSA President then offered a heartfelt tribute to the cinematic maestro, emphasising

that this entire programme was a reverential *Manavandana*—a humble homage to Guru Dutt's extraordinary contributions to the world of art and cinema

The programme's early moments offered intimate glimpses into the maestro's world. Nasiir Khan transported us back in time, sharing cherished memories of how his father first encountered Guru Dutt and received his breakthrough role. In a delightful revelation, he recounted how Guru Dutt himself suggested the screen name "Johnny Walker"—a testament to the director's keen eye for talent and his generous spirit in nurturing it.

Chaitanya Padukone then painted a portrait of Guru Dutt's illustrious career, noting with pride how his films continue to be studied in international filmmaking courses—a recognition that transcends geographical and temporal boundaries. Even today, film students and cinephiles worldwide discover in his work a masterclass in visual storytelling and emotional depth.

A Bridge to the Past: Meeting Devi Dutt

The afternoon's most poignant moment arrived with the introduction of Devi Dutt (Padukone), Guru Dutt's youngest brother (now 87), and a distinguished film producer and ad-filmmaker in his own right. A video recording of a visit to his residence, projected on the large screen, created an evocative backdrop where Devi Dutt was felicitated by the KSA President. Here was a living link to the genius we celebrated—a man who had stood beside Guru Dutt during the creation of immortal classics: *Pyaasa*, *Saheb Bibi Aur Ghulam*, *Chaudhvin Ka Chand*, and *Kaagaz Ke Phool*. Devi Dutt carved his own distinguished path as well, producing *Aakrosh* (1980), which earned a National Award, and the beloved *Masoom* (1983), which garnered five Filmfare Awards. In conversation with Chaitanya Padukone, he shared anecdotes that brought his legendary brother closer to us all, making the past palpably present.

The unveiling of the October issue of the KS magazine—a special edition dedicated to Guru Dutt—by Shri Devi Dutt himself added a tangible dimension to the celebration, ensuring that this homage would extend beyond the auditorium walls and into homes across the global Chitrapur Saraswat community.

Words of Appreciation and Partnership

Minister Shelar's address resonated with genuine appreciation. He commended KSA for undertaking such a meaningful initiative and mentioned that, upon hearing of the planned event, he had immediately offered the support of the Maharashtra State Government's Cultural Affairs wing. His words underscored an important truth: great artists belong not just to communities but to entire cultures, and their legacies deserve institutional recognition and celebration.

The Musical Journey Begins

As the curtain rose again, the Emcee introduced Mangala Khadilkar, the prominent television and stage anchor who would guide us through the musical odyssey ahead. She eloquently framed what we were about to experience: a journey through the work of a creative genius whose films transcended mainstream Hindi cinema to become timeless works of poetic artistry. In his brief life of just 39 years, Guru Dutt had masterfully blended artistic expression with commercial success, creating not only distinctive cinema but also unforgettable music during the golden age of Indian films.

The evening's repertoire drew from films where Guru Dutt served as actor, director, or producer—each role undertaken with the same passionate perfectionism that defined his artistry.

First Half: Melodies of Love and Longing

The programme opened with Ashish Kagal's rendition of the title song from '*Chaudhvin Ka Chand*', that soulful melody which has captured hearts across generations. Shefali Karkal followed with the electrifying '*Tadbeer se bigdi hui*,' her sensuous voice breathing new life into the classic. Suvarna Kagal Ghaisas then charmed the audience with '*Bhanwara bada naadan*'—playful yet subtly melancholic, a perfect reflection of Guru Dutt's ability to layer complexity beneath apparent simplicity.

The haunting beauty of '*Waqt ne kiya*' from India's first Cinemascope film, *Kaagaz Ke Phool*, found perfect expression in Prashanti Bhat's voice. The song of despair, hopelessness, and lost love—themes that Guru Dutt explored with such poignant honesty—resonated deeply, reminding us why his work continues to touch souls decades later.

The first segment comprised a total of six solos and five duets, each performance a loving tribute to the musical legacy Guru Dutt left behind. The section concluded with a stirring male medley that included the Johnny Walker classic, '*Ae dil hai mushkil jeena yahan*' and the foot-tapping

'*Aankhon hi aankhon mein*'—capturing both the philosophical depth and playful charm that characterised Guru Dutt's oeuvre.

A Message from Another Icon

As the curtains reopened after the interval, the audience was treated to a video message from legendary badminton champion Prakash Padukone. In his warm and heartfelt tribute, Padukone spoke with pride about Guru Dutt's monumental contributions to Indian cinema and expressed his gratitude to KSA for organising this beautiful celebration. His words reminded us that excellence, whether on the badminton court or behind the camera, springs from the same wellspring of dedication and passion. This touching moment—one icon honouring another—underscored the constellation of talent that our community has gifted to the nation, each luminary shining in their own sphere yet united by their shared heritage and commitment to excellence.

Honouring the Enablers

Following this moving tribute, a moment of gratitude was extended to the sponsors whose generosity made this celebration possible: Pravin Kadle, Chairman of Ritwik Foundation; Kishore Masurkar, Chairman of Entod Pharmaceutical Ltd.; and Vinay Tonse, Managing Director of State Bank of India. Their support, acknowledged through felicitation by the KSA Chairman, exemplified the community spirit that enables cultural preservation and celebration.

The Orchestra of Talent

No musical tribute succeeds without exceptional singers and musicians, and this evening was blessed with vocal artists and instrumentalists who breathed life into timeless compositions. The six gifted singers—whose soulful voices had transported us through Guru Dutt's melodious legacy—were also felicitated. The Emcee's acknowledgement of the musical ensemble was equally heartfelt and well-deserved: Nishad Karalgikar on tabla, Prabhakar Mosamkar on octopad, Anil Karanjavkar on dholak/dholki, Vijay Tambe on flute, Amit Gothivrekhar on keyboard, and the multi-talented Prashant Lalit, who served as both keyboardist and music arranger. Sound engineer Swapnil Waingankar ensured that every note reached every corner of the auditorium with crystal clarity.

Second Half: Deeper Emotions, Timeless Questions

The second half delved into more introspective territory. Amit Savkur captured the soulful lament

of 'Jaane woh kaise,' that meditation on unrequited love and the mysteries of fate that evokes such profound melancholy. Shailesh Mavinkurve's flawless performance of the intense 'Yeh duniya agar mil bhi jaaye' gave listeners goosebumps, channelling the existential questioning that made Guru Dutt's work so philosophically rich.

The programme also celebrated lighter moments with beloved numbers like 'Babuji dheere chalna,' 'Jaane kahan mera jigar gaya ji,' 'Leke pehla pyaar,' and the delightfully commercial 'Sar jo tera chakraye,' which humorously peddles *tel malish* as a solution to life's many challenges—a reminder that Guru Dutt understood the full spectrum of human experience, from profound tragedy to everyday comedy.

Five solos and four duets in this section showcased the versatility of Guru Dutt's musical choices. The finale—a female medley featuring the lyrical "Jaane kya tune kahi" and the plaintive "Na jao saiya chudake baiya"—left the audience in a state of nostalgic reverie, the melodies lingering like memories of a beautiful dream.

Gratitude and Farewell

As the afternoon drew to a close, the Chairman felicitated the tireless organising team: Dilip Sashital, Bipin Nadkarni, and Aditya Mankikar, for their meticulous planning and execution of the programme.

Hon. Secretary of KSA, Ashwini Prashant offered the vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to the sponsors, organisers, performers, and the audience whose presence and participation had made the event a resounding success. The Sabha Samapti prarthana brought a divine conclusion to the event.

A Legacy That Lives On

As we departed the Swatantrya Veer Savarkar Auditorium that October afternoon, we carried with us more than memories of beautiful music. We carried a renewed appreciation for Guru Dutt—a man who, in his brief time on this earth, created art that speaks to the deepest chambers of the human heart.

This birth centenary celebration was more than a retrospective; it was a reaffirmation that great artists never truly leave us. Through their work, they continue to inspire, console, challenge, and enchant.

Guru Dutt ke gaane aur unki kahaaniyan—yeh sada rahengi hamare dilon mein.

For the benefit of all those who could not make it to the event, here's the KSA YouTube link which one can copy paste and watch at leisure: <https://youtu.be/zLguJXIamLs>

Producer Devi Dutt unveils KS magazine's special October issue

Renowned Producer Devi Dutt Padukone and his wife Chanda Dutt unveiled the print edition of the Kanara Saraswat magazine's "Guru Dutt Birth Centenary" special October issue at his residence, in the presence of KSA President Kishore Masurkar, KSA Chairman Mahesh Kalyanpur and veteran award winning journalist Chaitanya Padukone.



In a letter addressed to the KSA President, Devi Dutt thanked the Kanara Saraswat Association for the excellent tributes given to his brother

Guru Dutt for his immense contribution in a span of just 11 years to the Indian film industry, as a writer, director and actor between 1953 to 1964.

Devi Dutt also congratulated and complimented KSA for organizing the Musical Tribute as part of the birth centenary celebrations of the legend Guru Dutt Padukone. He watched the programme on KSA's YouTube channel and was all praise for the talented 'aamchi' singers and the accompanying music artistes' splendid performance.

He also appreciated Chaitanya Padukone for his speech in which he highlighted the amazing trailblazing techniques and concepts of Guru Dutt, that are being studied even today in film institutes and the industry, across the world.

Devi Dutt concluded his letter to the KSA President stating that he felt privileged and deeply honoured, having associated and worked with Guru Dutt for ten of the eleven years that the legend was in the Indian film industry.

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“Faith and perseverance can overcome every obstacle.”



“A family that prays together,
stays together.”

From Our Hearts

Kodial: Suman & Shreesh,
Kalindi,
Kodange: Radhika & Shivshankar,
Bijur: Shrirang & Anjali,
Ravindra & Sujal
and
Grandchildren
and
Great grandchildren

Vidya Durgadas Baindur (nee Vidya Sitaram Bhat)

05-09-1955 to 06-10-2025



नास्ति मातृसमा छाया नास्ति मातृसमा गतिः।

(Nāsti mātṛusamā chāyā nāsti mātṛusamā gatih)

Lovingly called Mummy, Amma, Tai, Akka, Maami.

Vidya's legacy lives on in the countless lives she touched, the lasting memories in important phases of our lives, the beautiful and thoughtful poems she penned, delicious recipes she shared, and the love she so freely gave, constant source of joy and support to our family and her friends.

A doting grandmother whose lullabies and stories will always remain as cherished memories with love and blessings.

She will be deeply missed by all of us.

May her beautiful soul attain sadgati.

Om Shanti.

Deeply mourned by
Durgadas Dattatraya Baindur
Nirmala Nagesh Murdeshwar
Shobhana Rao, Dilip Kumar Rao
Manoj, Anuya, Rhea, Ira
Nishant, Divya, Arnav
Relatives and Friends

CENTENARY REMEMBRANCE



RAGHAVENDRA ANANT BALWALLY

Husband of late Sheetala Balwally

25-11-1925 ~ 5-2-2007

Remembering our beloved Pappa on his
BIRTH CENTENARY

His simplicity, wisdom, and warmth
continue to inspire and guide us every day.
Forever in our hearts.

Sandhya and Vinay Gokarn, Sanjeev and Seema Balwally, Sudhir and Vandana Balwally
Shweta and Sandeep Rao, Samhita and Kaivalya Canay,
Vaishnavi Balwally, Sanika and Krishnay Balse,
Aviva Rao

Balwally, Yennemedy, Nagarkatti, Nadkarni and Kadle families

PRIYA BELLARE PRAKASH – REMEMBRANCES



At Lily Rose



Full Family



Priya - Kiran Family



With Cousins



Priya - Sumit - Children



Priya's Art

PRIYA BELLARE PRAKASH – REMEMBRANCES

Dear Priya,

As we approach the one-year mark since you left us, our hearts still ache with the loss of our beloved Priya. Your presence may have departed, but your memories continue to illuminate our lives. We cherish the 50 years you spent with us – 25 years in India (Mumbai) and 25 in the US with Sumit / Rohan – Aanya spreading joy, love, and sunshine wherever you went.

Memories of a Lifetime

The dual photos (1 & 2) capture wonderful memories of your Home at Lily Rose in Mumbai / Mahim - Photo 1 in July 1990, when you were just 16, with your Mamma, Pappa, and brother Kiran, and Photo 2 when you were nearing 50, ailing and still visited us in Mumbai from the US in July 2024, with your darling children, Rohan & Aanya and with Sumit & Kiran.

A Remarkable Journey

Your academic pursuits took you from Pune to Brandeis University and later to Northwestern University, where you and Sumit both earned your PhDs in Molecular Biology. Your dedication and perseverance earned you recognition as an exceptional scientist.

A Loving Mother

(Photo 6) You devoted yourself to raising Rohan and Aanya, instilling in them the values of love, compassion, and intellectual curiosity. Your children brought immense joy to our lives.

A Legacy of Love

Your courage and resilience in the face of adversity were a testament to your unbreakable spirit. Your book, “A Bucket of One and a Half Choices,” is a masterpiece that showcases your wit, humour, and determination. Your artistic talents were evident in the beautiful paintings (**Photo 7**) you created with your left hand despite your disabilities, and your generosity in donating the proceeds to charity reflects your compassionate heart.

Your Final Months

You were surrounded by loving friends and family who came to visit and support you -- Your cousins Ameya and Utkarsh from New Zealand, Sumit’s brothers Sameer from India and Manish from Singapore, your cousins Anuja and Aparna from the US, your friend Neha and your relatives Swapna, Manjula, Priya and others spent quality time with you. Kiran/Kavita and many friends and relatives visited you daily, bringing food and offering help. We will always cherish the memories of your last visit to Mumbai with Sumit, Kiran, Rohan and Aanya to see us all – Vijay, Sanjay, Jyotsna.

Feelings from Sumit

Priya brought so much joy and colour to our lives (**photo 6**). The beautiful memories we created together are a treasure I hold dear. The kids and I miss her presence dearly in every moment, but the love we shared continues to be a guiding light in our lives. To feel Priya’s presence, I often turn to her songs, poems (**see next page**), or art (**photo 7**). I share one of her insightful unpublished poems.

SOUNDS OF OUR OPERA -- A Poem by Priya

Secret lives we live
That we take comfort in,
Secret thoughts we think
That emancipate us.
Some secret beliefs
Are like dark tunnels
That turn into caverns
That keep us private,
But keep us searching
For our own impressions.
Those reflections we see
In other comrades and mates,
But we often go back into
Our own peaceful caves.
Day in and day out,
We roam in those tunnels
That stay secret from those
We love almost the most.
Our hearts and minds
Perform a battle
For the sake of our love
And our emancipation from rules.
We hear volatile voices
And crescendos of our soul,
Like an opera from a far-off stage
That calls out inside us
During our long, sleepless,
And unending night.

The unending night continues for us and may the Lord help us tide thru this absence of yours as bravely as possible.

With love and remembrances,

**Mamma, Pappa, Sumit, Rohan, Aanya, Kiran, Kavita, Monica, Ariana, Vijay, Sanjay, Jyotsna
Smita, Bharati, PRAKASHs – PRASADs – BELLAREs, Relatives and Friends**

The Last Christmas – Tarun Dutt

BHARAT SAVUR

The KSA's dedication of the October 2025 issue to the maestro Guru Dutt is a superb recollection of the life and times of the famous actor, producer and director. The collection took me back in time and place to Santa Cruz West, where we were a singing distance away from the illustrious Geeta and Guru Dutt. My aunt Saguna Kalyanpur lived on the first floor – a roof above the Dutt's. The latter was a classical Hindustani singer in tune with my mother Ahilya, also one. This musical bridge was a weekly connection between the two. Thus, I grew up to Hindustani classical strains. Music and mustard oil filled the air, fueled the atmosphere as we climbed the stairs to Sagunpachi's.

Then in 1984, when we shifted to our present abode in Versova, the musical chain was a step ahead. The Guru-Geeta Dutt siblings, Arun, Tarun and Nina were our old-new neighbours with a common flat number :1202. A wing for the Savurs, B for the Dutt's. In fact, our first viewing of our to-be apartment was from the Dutt's window.

The chimes continued with the second generation. Tarun was both family and friend. As our connection was raised a peg or two every evening for four years until his suicide in the last hours of 1988. Like father, like son. Alas, the apple doesn't fall too far away. This is a heart-felt tribute 37 years later.

He was a flower child gone to seed. A man who fought private battles, with himself and others, long after the war was over. His walk, like the man himself was both a swagger and a shuffling apology – a hint of what the man might have been if circumstances had not long before gone out of control.

He had, as others recognized, the face of his father. When the mood struck him, quizzical eyebrows completed the picture of Guru Dutt in freeze frame. Then 34, he died. With an unsuccessful marriage and movie (*Bindiya Chamkegi*) behind him. And one, aptly titled *Khule Aam* still on the floor.

He could be as gentle as the breeze. And, yet, was violent as a storm. For the late lamented Tarun, to be born as the eldest son of Guru and Geeta Dutt, was a boon as well as a bane – the

ghulam of *Sahib, Bibi Aur Ghulam*. Not quite ten, he saw Guru Dutt inexplicably and suddenly dead on the very day his father was to start a new life with his estranged wife and family. Then he saw his mother -Geeta (Roy) Dutt forlorn and forsaken, her once golden voice cracking with songs unsung, emotions poured into and out of alcoholic sustenance and subsistence – deliberately drink her way to destructive death. The child-man Tarun forged his identity with the never-to-be-forgotten images of his dead parents until his own premature end.

Years later, when he wrested the Guru Dutt banner and himself became a film-maker, the banner and surname became, at once, a sword, shield and cross too heavy for such a man to bear. While others may have prospered, Tarun plunged deeper and further into the quagmire of doubt and depression.

And then, suddenly, as the last hours of '88 churned by, Tarun was gone. He died, lonely as the day he was born. Unchanging in the world of film and family that had changed faster than he could, or would cope. It was an end that could have been scripted, and perhaps unconsciously was, by father Guru Dutt - with the background accompaniment of mother Geeta Dutt.

But, before that, exactly a week before, he had been Santa Claus at our family party. A man handing out gifts to others – he presented us his vast collection of western music LPs - like he had no tomorrow. Which, as we learnt, soon enough, Santa Clauses don't have. In Christmas tales they leave by the smoke escape. Some like Tarun, embrace death as the lonely, only Great Escape.

For, he was a man born to love. Destined to hate what his world had become. A genuine giver in a world of grabbers.

Examination Results

Congratulations to the successful students!

10th Standard

Aarav Satyajeet Hattangadi -CBSE - A1 - 98.33%

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Mishti Masurkar - ICSE - 97% (best of 5)
Euroschoo

Niyati Shanbhag - CBSE 93.4%

Gopal's Garden High School

Sanat Ravishankar Kadle - SSC - 94.20%

New India School

Shalaka Prasad Nadkarni - CBSE - 95.8%

Elpro International School

11th Standard

Anagha Anand Golikeri - 96%

Vidya Varthaka Premium University College,
Rajajinagar, Bangalore

12th Standard

Aditi Rao - 90.17%

Dhruv Kedar Shirali (Mumbai), Science 92.33%
MHTCET State of Maharashtra (PCM)- 99.835
(PERCENTILE)

BITSAT Score-(BITS Pilani University all India
Exam)- 291 score

Gaurav Sudhir Puthli (Mumbai) Science- 92.5%
CA Foundation 241/400

Tanushri Vijay Shirur - Commerce - 87.17%
Symbiosis College of Commerce and Economics,
Pune

Graduation

Ananditha Chaitanya Kembre

(Bachelor of Pharmacy)

Arya Gayatri Abhijeet Naik - MBBS Final Year
University Examination - 63%

Maharashtra University of Health Sciences
Nashik

Mayur Radhakrishna Kodange

Diploma in Mechatronics Engineering

95.26% Aggregate, Final Semester :- 99.75%

Guru Gobind Singh Polytechnic, Nashik

Saloni Shailesh Kallianpur,

Bachelor of Arts in Culinary Arts, ITM, Mumbai.

Samvit Sachidanand Mavinkurve

Bachelor's in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
at the University of Manchester -First Class
(Honours)

Post Graduation

Aayush Shantaram Bellare

MSc - Master of Science in Applied MicroBiology
- CGPA 8.11

VIT - Vellore Institute of Technology

Amruta Arvind Sawant, (daughter of Roopali
Kapnadak Sawant and Arvind Sawant)

Masters in Psychology from MIT WPU college in
Pune.



ॐ

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Examination Results

~~~~~ 10th Standard ~~~~~



**Aarav Hattangadi**

**10th Standard**



**Arav Rao**

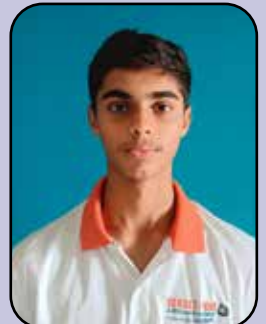
**11th Standard**



**Mishti Masurkar**



**Niyati Shanbhag**



**Sanat Kadle**

~~~~~ 12th Standard ~~~~~



Shalaka Nadkarni

12th Standard



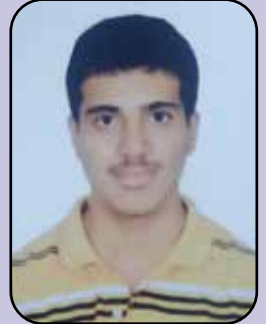
Anagha Golikeri



Aditi Rao



Dhruv Shirali



Gaurav Puthli

~~~~~ Graduation ~~~~~



**Tanushri Shirur**



**Ananditha Kembre**



**Arya Naik**



**Mayur Kodange**



**Saloni Kallianpur**

**Graduation**

~~~~~ Post Graduation ~~~~~



Samvit Mavinkurve



Aayush Bellare



Amruta Sawant

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Art corner



Aatmay Rao, 5 years, Watford UK



**Lovely Princess
Anagha Amit Mankekar, 10 years,
Calgary, Canada**



**Arya Rajesh Nadkarni,
12 years,
Goregaon, Mumbai**



**Snake defender, Goalkeeper cartoon
by Ojas Mavinkurve, age 14,
Hyderabad**



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FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX

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

Phoenix – word implying resurrection from the ashes.

This is a story from long ago, originally titled Air Force Day. The author is Arijit Ghosh and is reproduced as received.

It is an incredible tale of a newly independent nation and its people who had lived a large part of their lives under foreign rule and their idealistic desire to build their own identity. It's a tale of a generation that had seen two World Wars and an Air Force that had flown under a foreign Flag. It's a tale of men of great courage and grit, who endeavoured and succeeded against all odds to give their fledgling nation a sorely-needed heavy bomber aircraft when it could not afford one from the world markets.

The story begins at the close of the World War Two in 1945. The world had finally come to the end of one of the longest and bloodiest wars in human history, fought across multiple theatres all over the globe. It was a war that wiped out an entire generation. Those that survived were weary and anxious to go home, almost unbelieving of their good fortune.

In the Eastern Theatre, the British Royal Air Force (RAF) and the US Air Force (USAF) had operated the iconic B-24 Liberator Bombers out of small airfields in Eastern India at Ranchi in Bihar (now Jharkhand) and Panagarh, Dum Dum, Kalaikunda (Kharagpur), and Salua in undivided Bengal and from Chabua, Kumbhigram, and Jorhat in Assam, to attack Japanese military targets in China, Japan, Myanmar and Malaysia.

After the War, these aircraft could not be taken back home and were abandoned as junk at Chakeri airfield in Kanpur. The RAF was given the task of disabling them so that they could never be flown again. And there they lay —broken, forlorn, and abandoned— with weeds and vegetation growing over them, once-proud aircraft that had struck terror in the hearts of the enemy.

To be fair to them, the RAF tried their best to damage the aircraft and make them unusable. Bulldozers and trucks were rammed into fuselages and cockpit windows, instruments were smashed and removed, and sand was poured into engines.

But possibly, in their anxiety to go home, they may have cut a few corners. Of course, no one in their wildest dreams imagined that there would be an attempt to fly those wrecks again. But they reckoned without the resourcefulness, need, and sheer determination of Indians.

Three years later in 1948, during the days of the Kashmir Operations against invading Pakistani forces, the Indian Air Force (IAF) was tasked to assist the Indian Army in repelling the invaders. India had no bombers at the time other than the British Hawker Tempest, a fighter bomber that could barely carry two 1,000-pound bombs under its wings.

Desperate times called for desperate measures and the IAF loaded bombs into the fuselage — body— of Dakotas and literally rolled them off the aircraft without any aiming guidance.

The young country desperately needed a heavy bomber. But its finances just would not support such an ambition. It was then that someone at Air Headquarters thought of the aircraft graveyard at Chakeri and sent out a team to see if something could be salvaged from the wrecks of the nearly 100 B-24 Liberators rotting there.

The team reported that it might just be possible to make some airworthy again by cannibalising parts from other aircraft. By then, production of Liberators had ceased in the US and no aircraft company was able or willing to supply spares. No manuals were available and the Kanpur Air Force Base had no facilities to even work on these aircraft. They would have to be somehow moved to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in Bangalore —known back then as Hindustan Aircraft Limited— for massive overhaul.

Since the Indian Railways at the time also had no mechanism to transport these huge 67 ft long, 110 ft wide, 29,000-kg heavy aircraft to Bangalore from Kanpur, they were to be somehow made flyable to undertake the near suicidal flight to Bangalore. Chances were that only around 10 per cent of the untested, cannibalised aircraft would make it safely to Bangalore. The rest were expected to perish midway, killing the pilots and who dared to fly them. Qualified American B-24

pilots were contacted, but the fees they quoted were unaffordable for the new nation.

This brought HAL into the picture. During World War Two, HAL had been part of the war effort, overhauling Allied aircraft and assembling fighters and bombers of US origin. As such, they had worked on another iconic World War Two aircraft — the Douglas DC-3 Dakota. The DAKs, as they were fondly called, had the same Pratt and Whitney engines as the Liberators.

At this stage, the HAL's Chief Test Pilot Jamshed 'Jimmy' Kaikobad Munshi and a team of HAL engineers under the leadership of a Mr Yellappa stepped up and took charge. This team undertook temporary repairs on the abandoned aircraft to make them flyable for that initial flight to Bangalore. They taped up cockpit windows, cannibalised parts from other B-24s, and did some basic 'first line' maintenance on the engines so that some of those massive aircraft would start.

The intrepid Jimmy Munshi on his part was willing to fly these roughly restored aircraft from a junkyard in Kanpur to Bangalore on what would essentially be suicidal missions. He had never flown Liberators or any four-engine aircraft before, although he had experience of the twin engine DC-3 with its similar Pratt and Whitney engines.

Scouring through the cockpits of the long-abandoned aircraft, Jimmy managed to painstakingly put together an entire flying manual for the B-24s. Things were so bad that Mrs. Munshi refused to let her husband fly those missions alone and insisted on accompanying him in the cockpit in the co-pilot's seat, wearing a fur coat, because the heating system was inoperative.

Jimmy would open full power on the four engines, and if nothing blew up, do some fast taxiing around the tarmac to check that the engines were delivering enough power and that the brakes were functional. With minimum fuss, he would then take off from Chakeri to Bangalore —some 1,500 kms away— and fly with undercarriage down throughout the journey. This was because the hydraulic system that operated the undercarriage was unreliable and there was no guarantee that the wheels would come down again once retracted after take-off!

And thus, Jimmy flew out an incredible 42 Liberators to Bangalore where a team of HAL technicians waited to work on them and overhaul the iconic aircraft.

It is said that HAL offered to pay Jimmy 'a handsome amount' per flight for the risk that he was taking, but he refused, saying it was a job for which he was already being paid. Such was the idealism and nationalistic fervour of the time. India owes a debt to him and to Mr Yellappa and his men for attempting the impossible and making it work.

The rest is history. The HAL put together two squadrons of B-24s and the IAF acquired its first heavy bomber from an aircraft graveyard. They were used in a variety of roles, including maritime reconnaissance in the 1965 India-Pakistan War and even for photographing Mount Everest! The first six refurbished B-24s from the Kanpur graveyard were handed over to No 5 squadron of the IAF —the Tuskers— on November 5, 1948. Together with No 6 Squadron —Sea Dragons— the Tuskers operated these aircraft for the next 20 years until 1969 when they were finally retired from service.

A long-retired IAF pilot who flew them said, "I was lucky enough to fly these iconic aircraft and had the most wonderful experience of feeling the entire aircraft juddering under the power of four Pratt and Whitney 1830 engines at full power! The view from the gun turrets was unbelievable.

"The Dakota and the Liberator were a man's aeroplanes. The feel of flying them was incredibly powerful and they needed you to be alert always. Flying Canberras on operations in a strategic photo recce squadron later was a much quieter experience compared to these."

Around 18,000 B-24s were built during the World War years, but there were hardly any left for display in museums after the war and almost none in flying condition, except for the ones with the IAF. When they finally retired them in 1968, many air museums around the world clamoured for them.

Today, of the 13 Liberators left in museums there are just two in flying condition and both of them are from the IAF. Of these 13, six are from the Kanpur graveyard. These were flown from Pune in 1968-69 in inter-continental flights to museums in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, a testimony to the skills of the IAF airmen who maintained them.

And that is an incredibly proud, never to be forgotten story!

Well done IAF. Kudos to HAL.

A glimpse of what it is like to live in California

JAIDEV CHANDAVARKAR

The Greatest Generation

Tom Brokaw, a well-known American journalist, had written a book on the generation that his parents were from - the generation that grew up during the days of the Great Depression - and that fought in World War II. The title of his book was "The Greatest Generation" and he describes the values with which his parents and the Americans of their generation lived.

Here is a brief background on the Greatest Generation: World War II broke out in 1939 and United States entered the war in December 1941, after Pearl Harbor in Hawaii was attacked by the Imperial Japanese Navy. So, the American generation that fought in WWII were in their early twenties at the time of US involvement in the war. Anyone from this generation is now in their late 90s or have crossed the 100-year milestone.

We recently met two individuals from the Greatest Generation, when we were having lunch at a nearby Italian restaurant. They were two sisters – one was 95 years old and the older sister had crossed 100 years in age. Oddly enough, the 100-year-old sister was fitter and looked younger than her 95-year-old sibling, who had to use a cane to steady her steps. The 95-year-old was more talkative though, and told us about herself and her sister volunteering to be tour guides in the nearby President Reagan Memorial Library. As tour guides, they were very formally dressed, and looked like they were ready to go to a formal dinner. Since they were too old to drive, they had rented a car along with a driver to take them from home to the Reagan Library. Chitra complimented them both on their sturdy spirit of independence. The younger sister replied that she could never get used to a home-bound, disconnected existence and wanted to do something that helped people. Before we left, we once again expressed our admiration for them and wished them well.

Durga Puja in Santa Barbara

The Vedanta Center of Southern California has a branch location in the beautiful town of Montecito, just outside the limits of the city of Santa Barbara. Montecito is very wooded, with winding hill roads, and giant trees that cover up the entire sky. The town is home to the rich and famous; for example, Oprah Winfrey lives in Montecito, along with a lot of Hollywood celebrities.

On Saturday, September 27th, the Vedanta Center hosted Durga Puja for all the local devotees. About

half of the local devotees are Indian origin devotees, and of these, a significant proportion are Bengalis. But the other 50% are white Americans who are drawn to Hindu tradition. Some of the US born devotees have been with Vedanta for more than 40-50 years and have learnt to sing Sanskrit and Hindi bhajans. In fact, the Center has a "bhajan book" which not only has the words of the bhajans, but the tune written down too, like you have written music for Western classical music. So those who read music notations can play the tune on a keyboard and pick up the melody.

The Vedanta Center was founded in the 1940s by Swami Prabhavananda, a disciple of Swami Brahmananda of the Sri Ramakrishna Math. The Ramakrishna Math tradition is being followed to this day. Accordingly, the puja is very different from what we associate Durga Puja with in India, especially in Kolkata – music and chanting played over loudspeakers and very ornate Durga statues. Here, the Durga image is a small one that cannot be easily seen by the devotees. There are no microphones and no amplified sound – the chanting is low-volume and can be heard only because of the silence in the temple. In between the chanting, devotees offer "stutis" – compositions in praise of Durga; but even this singing is without amplification. After the food offering, prasad is served to all, and everyone leaves charged with the spiritual energy generated.

Email: chitransai@gmail.com

| Sudoku Nov-2025 | | | | | | Level Easy | | | Solution on page 53 |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|------------|---|---|---------------------|
| | | | | | 4 | | | | |
| 1 | | 8 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 6 | | 3 | |
| | 4 | | | | | 9 | | | |
| 2 | 7 | | 4 | | | | | | |
| | 9 | | 1 | | 8 | | 3 | | |
| | | | | | | | 2 | 1 | |
| | | 3 | | | | | 8 | | |
| 9 | | 7 | | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | |
| | | | 5 | | | | | | |

Humbled and Grateful!

In a moving address delivered in chaste Sanskrit, erudite Krishnanand Mankikarmam thanked Pujya Swamiji for the honour bestowed upon him, congratulated Yuvadhara and lauded the applauseworthy strides made by Girvanapratishtha -the Department of Sanskrit Studies, Shri Chitrapur Math

Om Shree Gurubhyo namah! Om Shree Bhavanishankaraaya namah! Om Shree Matre namah!

I am deeply indebted to Girvanapratishtha, which was established and encouraged by our holy Guru, for considering me befitting for this honour, although I have not retired as yet.

This is, undoubtedly, the Grace of the Guru.

In our childhood we were taught -

पापोऽहं पापकर्माऽहं, पापात्मा पापसंभवः |

त्राहि मां पुण्डरीकाक्ष सर्वपापहरे हरे | इति |

I am sin incarnate, I am the sinner, I am born of sin. O Vishnu the Lotus -eyed one, please save me. You eradicate every sin (in the world).

This has undergone a 180° transformation and now we are able to say, by the Grace of our Guru

पुण्योऽहं पुण्यकर्माऽहं, पुण्यश्रवणकीर्तनः |

मया लब्धोऽलभ्योऽयं जन्म सारस्वतेषु च |

सारस्वतसुजन्माऽहं, तत्रापि चित्रपुरस्थिते |

गुरुवर्याणां कृपादृष्ट्या सन्ततमाप्लावितोऽस्म्यहम् ||

I am the meritorious one, I do deeds which are full of merit, I listen to the Holy words and my speech too is not unholy.

I have got a good birth, which is not easily attainable, in this Saraswat samaja. Moreover, I am constantly blessed by the unwavering merciful glance Our of Guru in Chitrapur.

Please note, how this activity of Girvanapratishtha has grown over the past twenty-plus years. Those who were educated in English medium, are now

not only able to talk in Sanskrit, but they run Sanskrit classes and teach Sanskrit. It is said that by the mere merciful glance of the Guru, a true devotee attains the highest state (कैवल्यपद). Here we are beholding how, in our samaja, there is a constant flow of complete "Chaitanya" (पूर्णचैतन्य)

Talking of Chaitanya, we are reminded of the Keertana by our Dharmapracharaka Chaitanya Gulwady Mam, who, with reference to the Vijayaadashamee Mahotsava, showed us the three forms of Devi Saraswati, in his Keertana, The first one was Aadhidaivika (आधिदैविक) in which Devi Saraswati (for the benefit of the gods) was the annihilator of the demons Chanda and Munda. The next Rupa was Physical (आधिभौतिक) in which the course of the river Saraswati from her origin to the final meeting with the ocean was explained in detail, and then the Adhyatmika (आध्यात्मिक) Rupa in which Devi Saraswati's blessings enhance our excellence in speech and sharpness of the intellect. The Keertan was interspersed with stories and anecdotes, and, had enjoyable musical interludes. This kind of keertana, I feel, is the blossom of the tree by the name Girvanapratishtha which is growing day by day. This again, is yet another outcome of the Grace of the Guru.

I again state that I am not the one who deserves this honour. The credit lies at the feet of my revered maternal Grandfather Vinayak Chickermane, He inculcated the love for Sanskrit in me at a very young age, while my mother prompted me to study Bhagavadgeeta when I was in Standard five.

Moreover, I am forever indebted to the participants of the Vandana Varga for the love and affection, which is showered on me, by them.



UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS!

We are really blessed that because of our good deeds we have been endowed with such a Guru who not only takes care of our spiritual progress, but has also placed the upliftment of our samaja above everything. Treating that as His prime duty, he strives day and night for our upliftment. Various activities are being designed for our "Shishu Varga" -the tiny tots, the younger children "Baala Varga", the youth of our Samaja the Yuva-s, and adults as well. Due to these, the all-round progress of our samaja is being ensured. To such a Guru, no amount of prostration in gratitude is enough.

Last but not the least, I shall not only be failing in my duty, but will appear ungrateful if I stop here without making a mention of the way our Yuva-s organized and conducted this Navaratri Utsava 2025. There was not a single deficiency in the entire organization. There was no undue haste, no confusion, and no tension whatsoever. All events were well-knit together. At the end of each day, our Parama Pujya Swamiji were presented with the next day's programme in flawless Sanskrit. This should be emulated by all the Sabha-s. The cultural programmes which were presented at 5.00 pm every evening, were most interesting. The other day, the organizers had invited Pratibha Kamat, who is afflicted with autism, for a sitar

recital. This, I think, was a very commendable act, and they have thus set a praiseworthy example in front of the other sabha-s. There are more such (praiseworthy) instances but for want of time, I am unable to recount them.

The Sanskrit Games session which was organized a few days ago, was full of entertainment and inspired commendable participation by all present. This showed the success of our Girvanapratishtha and Vaikhari sessions. Truly, the Grace of Guru this was.

Our yuva varga truly deserves your encouragement and approbation. Come, let us all thank them by clapping our hands.

Once again I bow down at the feet of Parama Pujya Swamiji, without whose merciful gaze even whatever little I am able to do, would not have been possible. May I experience that Krupa drushti forever, is my prayer at the Lotus feet of Parama Pujya Swamiji.

Om namah Parvatipataye Hara Hara Mahadeva !

(Free translation from the original speech in Sanskrit by the author)

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 centres in Bengaluru, Gokarn, Mallapur, Mangaluru, and Shirali.
- Support educational institutions administered by Math-sponsored trusts: Srivali High School, Kotekar Campus of Saraswat Education Society, and Parijnan Vidyalaya.
- Finance the post-primary education of 100 students at the Srivali High School through the “Sponsor-A-Student” Scheme.
- Contribute towards the preservation of the rich cultural heritage of the Chitrapur Saraswat community in the US, by celebrating festivals like Yugadi, Ram Navami, Gokulashtami, Navratri, Diwali, monthly satsang, and Prarthana Varga for children.

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

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

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



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- Travel to various places of pilgrimage/sightseeing in A/c taxis (see itinerary below)
- Cost does not include cost of travel from your place of residence to Holiday Home; lunches/dinner while on travel; entry tickets and items not included in itinerary.
- Above pricing based on group size of 4 persons and multiples thereof; **Smaller groups (to facilitate families) also welcome subject to a higher price (particularly transportation).**



| | |
|-------|---|
| Day 1 | Arrival of all the Yatris to Nashik Holiday Home (NHH) till 12 Noon.
Post Lunch Visit to Gargoti Museum, Sinnar
Visit to Shree Samarth Ramdas Math, Takli
7 pm:- Godavari Aarti at Ramkund (Godavari Ghat)
Visit to Shree Sharadamba Temple (Shringeri Shankarayacharya Math) and Kalaram Mandir in Panchavati.
Dinner at NHH |
| Day 2 | Morning 6 am – Departure to Trimbakeshwar, Coins Musuem (Indian Institute for Research in Numismatic Studies).
Someshwar Mahadev Mandir, Balaji Devasthan and Someshwar Water Front.
11 am – Visit to Sula Wines. (Wine Tasting and Tour)
Lunch at NHH
Departure to Swantantrayaveer Vinayak Damodar Sawarkar, Residence (Now a Musuem) in Bhagur
Followed by Visit to Artillery Centre Museum and Anna Ganpati Mandir, Devlali
Dinner at NHH |
| Day 3 | Morning 6 am – Departure to Shirdi (Saibaba Samadhi)
Lunch at Shirdi.
Further Proceed to Shani-Shingnapur (Famous Temple of Shanidev)
Dinner also enroute to Nashik |
| Day 4 | Morning 8 am - Breakfast at NHH.
Departure to Shree Saptashrung Niwasini Devi Devasthan (Vani Devi)
Onwards Departure to Saputara Hill Station.
Dinner at NHH |
| Day 5 | Breakfast at NHH. Free time. Guests to leave at their convenience
Check out at 12 Noon. |

The above itinerary is suggestive and subject to change to suit the needs of the group.

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Global Languages, Scripts and Their Connection with India – Part II





By Paartha S. Ray

Sanskrit is a language in which everything has a meaning and an explanation. Even in its name, there is a meaning. The word Sanskrit comes from two other words: सम्यक् (*samyak*) and कृतम् (*kṛtam*), which combine to create one word: संस्कृतम् (*saṃskṛtam*) which means 'organised work'. It really lives up to its name, as the very structure of the letters are so. All the letters are placed in groups such as the क वर्गा, च वर्गा, ट वर्गा, त वर्गा, and प वर्गा. These vargas are based on how the letters are pronounced and which part of the mouth does it come from. Similarly, the languages which have been influenced by Sanskrit have also adopted the same organised manner of vargas, etc. Let us see which languages have Sanskrit influence.



Japanese (日本語)

Japan is very deeply related to India, culturally and linguistically. Along with Buddhism, scripts and culture of India also came to Japan. The Japanese Buddhist temples use a script called the Siddham script (सिद्धन्त) in which the texts are written. The script went extinct in India, but is still used in Japan even today! Many Sanskrit words have influenced Japanese because of Siddham. You may have heard the name of the company Yamaha (ヤマハ). However, did you know that it comes from the Sanskrit word नमः (*namah*)? Also, the Japanese word 名前 (*naavae*) comes from the Sanskrit word नाम (*nāma*) for name. Over here, I would like to deviate a bit from language to culture and religion. The Japanese also have gods and goddesses just like Hindu ones!

| India | | Japan | |
|---|---|---|---|
|  | Lord Brahma (ब्रह्मदेव) represented with four faces and arms. He is in the heavenly realm of Brahmaloka. |  | Lord Bon Ten (梵天) represented with four faces and arms. He is in the heavenly realm of Brahmaloka. |
|  | Goddess Lakshmi (लक्ष्मी), the goddess of fortune, prosperity and beauty, depicted with gold coins seated or standing on a lotus. |  | Goddess Kichijō Ten (吉祥天), the goddess of fortune, prosperity and beauty, depicted with gold coins seated or standing on a lotus. |



Goddess Saraswati (सरस्वती), the goddess of wisdom and art, represented with the Veena in her hand



Goddess Benzaiten (弁財天), the goddess of wisdom and art, represented with the Japanese instrument Biwa in her hand

Tibetan (བོད་ཀྱི་སྐད་ཡིག།)

Tibet, now an ‘autonomous’ region in the P.R. of China, was once an independent nation with a theocratic government and its head, the Dalai Lama (བླ་པའི་ལྷ་མ་) until 1951. But this region, has had a very rich connect with India. Great Buddhist monks such as Padmasambhava (པདྨ་སངས་པུ་ཤེས་) also called Guru Riponche, founded the largest school of Tibetan Buddhism, the Nyigma school. The famous Tibetan mantra monk Avalokiteshvara (འཇམ་ཐོག་ཏི་ཤུར་) (which one can spot very easily cars and bikes) ‘Om Mani Padme Hum’ (ༀམ་ཎི་པདྨེ་ཧཱུྃ།) itself is a Sanskrit mantra. In Sanskrit, written as ॐ मणि पद्मे हूं (*aum̐ maṇi padmē hūm̐*), this phrase means ‘I bow to the divine jewelled lotus’. lotus, here, represents Gautama Buddha. Many scholars like Amoghavajra (འཛོམས་བཟུངས་) have written the आर्यकारण्डव्यूहनामसूत्र (Āryakāraṇḍavyūhanāmahāyānasūtra) in transliterated into Phags-pa,, Tibetan, Soyombo, Galik, and other scr



of
in

The
and

Korean (한국어)

Korea was once an undivided nation, called Joseon. The Koreans used to write their language in the 'Hán' or Mandarin script as they had a Chinese influence. However, in the 16th century their Emperor Sejong (세종) thought that writing Korean in Chinese script was a waste of time, as it was too complicated. Imagine if one had to learn over 2000 letters to be able to understand the script easily! That was the difficulty level. Hence, the Emperor invented a new script called as 'Hangul' (한글), which was simplified into a set of phonetic letters, just 23, instead of the earlier 2000 logographic letters. This Hangul script is still used today and is the primary script in which Korean is written.



Mongolian (ᠮᠣᠩᠭᠣᠯ ᠤᠯᠤᠰ)

The Mongolian Galik script was the primary script in which the language was written, until the U.S.S.R. annexed it and it became the Mongolian S.S.R. The Communist government formalised the Russian Cyrillic script to write in Mongolian. Since then, the influence of the Galik script has dwindled. Even after independence, the Mongols have continued to write in Cyrillic. Now the Galik is only used by Mongol tribes, but is also used to sometimes write the Manchu language in the Manchuria region in the P.R. of China. Otherwise, Manchu has its own script. The Sanskrit influence on Mongolian has too dwindled. The Galik script is written from up to down, not right

to left. This is a speciality only in two Mongolian scripts- Galik (ᠭᠠᠯᠢᠴᠢ) and Phags-Pa (ᠮᠤᠩᠭᠤᠯᠤᠯᠤᠰᠤ). They cannot be written up to down on typing platforms, to the software has been made to convert it to right to left. Mandarin and Japanese can be written from top to bottom or right to left, both ways are accepted.

Siddham (सिद्धम) and Bījākṣhara (बीजाक्षरा) Systems

¹The Siddham script is a script which evolved from the now extinct Gupta script in the 5th century CE. Over the years, the globalised script of the world has become the Latin script through forced colonialism and imperialism. However, nearly 1,000 years ago, there existed a script which the whole of South East Asia could understand- the Siddham (सिद्धम) script. A person who travelled for

over 2,000 kilometres from India to China to Japan, could read and write in each place along his journey just with a little understanding of the Siddham script, which was used to write Sanskrit and had the same phonetic system of organised letters. The Siddham script was the premier globalised script of the Asian world, very widely used from Sanskrit texts to the Buddhist scriptures and even in the court of the Chinese Emperor at the time, Emperor Wu of Liang (梁武帝). A Siddham word written by someone in India could be read by someone in China and pronounced exactly the same way. Since the phonetic meaning of the letter never changed, it would be read the same way a thousand years later as well unlike ever shifting Chinese

logographic letters, which continue to change their meaning at the end of irregular time periods. Slowly, the Siddham became a big hit in Japan, and became a widely used script to write, now equal to the scale of the usage of Kanji and Kana scripts. This was because of Japanese scholars who came to India like Kūkai (空海) who learnt from the Indian master from Kashmir, Prajñā of Changan. Now we come to the Bījākṣhara, a different face of Siddham itself. Deeply influenced by Siddham as well as the Chinese writing systems, Japanese Buddhists found an innovative way to write these two combined- the Bījākṣhara, or the 'seed syllable.' Indian scripts were written from left to right;

How a Bijakshara is constructed

The syllable 'dhiḥ' which is written on the top is joined with 'ma' directly below it, and the sound 'm' shares a stroke with 'ma', thereby completing the word 'dhiḥmam'. It's written with an East Asian top to bottom with stroke order, but it is worth noting the syllables are still written in the Indic left to right order.



Instead of the Indic way of writing, i.e. using continuous strokes which are suitable for carving and scribing, in East Asia, Siddham was ascribed a stroke order similar to Chinese in order to make it more suitable for the brushes.

¹ Bījākṣhara image reference: ThePrint

VIRTUE OF BEING GRATEFUL

RAGHUNANDAN TRIKANNAD

Discontent has been a boon for human development in the sense, that it gave comfort and ease to life. Paradoxically, the same virtue has itself become a bane, for many if not most of us. We have only complaints of *not having*, and find reasons to grumble about life. Path of *Bhakti* recommends a wonderful technique of *Ahobhāva*, which suggests that instead of visiting places of worship with demands as most of us do, *approach Divinity in gratefulness*. Feeling of *Ahobhāva* dawns when one discovers that this Existence itself is a great gift in the form of opportunities to celebrate miracles in the so-called ordinary life—the regularity of seasonal changes; almost perfect body with a capacity to adjust to these changes; more than plentiful nature; a wonderful mind that is sensitive to the world around; a sharp intellect to discriminate; a feeling heart that vibrates with sympathy for the less fortunate;... the list of these gifts is endless! Gifts are *unexpected, free, given for no reason, and most importantly, without conditions*. They are expressions of love!

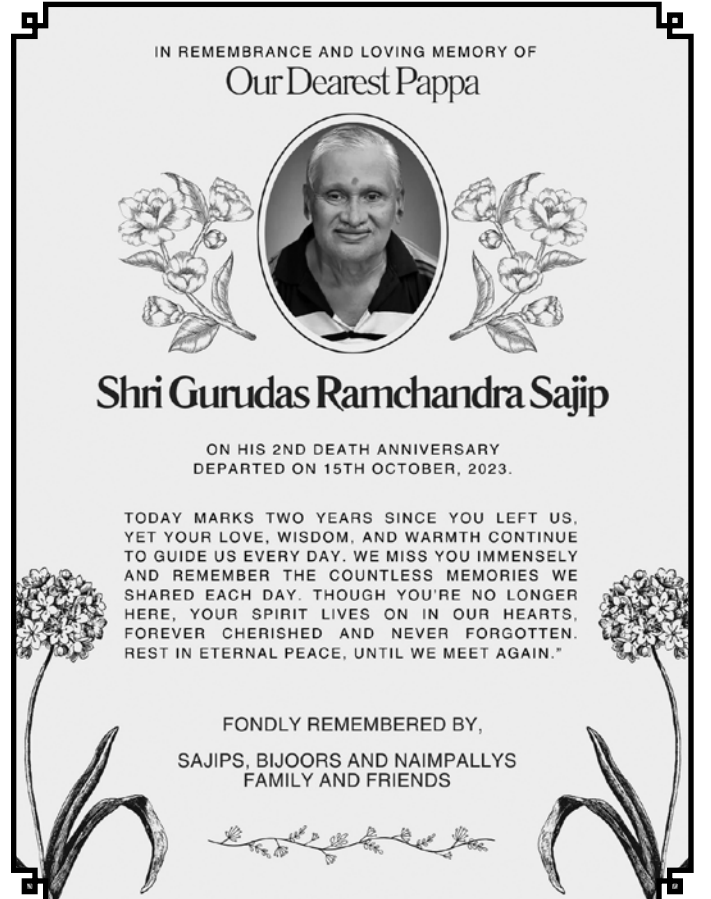
The clouds rumbled, the wind blew softly, ushering heavy rain. Monsoon had commenced. A boat carrying few pilgrims reached a *Ghat*. As they disembarked and reached the landing, a venerable old man on the bank, started touching their feet in welcome with genuine feeling of gratefulness and joy. They were startled at this gesture, the boatman laughed and commented: “Do not take him seriously, he is mad!” But the bright luminous eyes, ethereal smile, and contentment on the aged face were noted by one seeker, who was in search of the experienced wise, believed to be in this region. It was *Narmada*—one of the most sacred rivers of India. With no one else on the ghat, the seeker joined the venerable old man who sat looking at the flowing river whispering a chant. He looked into the eyes of the young man. It was not an ordinary look of curiosity, but that of compassion, love, and something more—much more! His ancient bell-like voice uttered, “*Ahobhāva*” and his palms joined in salutation! Something clicked inside the youthful body and mind. Unable to restrain, the youth uttered: “What did you do to me?” The old man laughed with tears in his eyes. Taking his own time, he just whispered in Hindi: “*Ahobhāva Hai*” which meant, *grateful for*

whatever there was, there is, and is yet to come! The word *Ahobhāva* is an expression of gratefulness to existence for the opportunity to *live, live in celebration*.

This meeting altered the perception of life. The seeker began to see the world with *Ahobhāva*, no more were there any complaints, nor any grumble, and every event, only a celebration. The Zen saying became a reality in his life:

*In monsoon, rain,
In autumn, harvest moon,
In winter, snow,
In spring, hundreds of flowers,
In summer, a refreshing breeze.*

*Every season is a good season,
If you do not have useless things in your head!*



Dwadashi & Trayodashi tithis

ANJALI BURDE

Dwadashi is the twelfth day in the Shukla paksha as well as the Krishna paksha of the month. It is associated with the worship of Lord Vishnu just like the ekadashi tithis. This tithi is also considered the yasho-bala tithi as observing it grants yash (success) and bala (strength).

It marks the completion of the ekadashi vrata.

Let us see a few dwadashi tithis that are significant.

Kurma dwadashi- This tithi falls in the Shukla paksha of the month of Pausha. It commemorates Lord Vishnu's act of holding and balancing the Mount Mandara on his back by taking the form of the tortoise or the Kurma avatar.

Mount Mandara was used as the churning rod during Samudra Manthan or the cosmic churning of the ocean to obtain amrit or nectar.

The day is observed by worshipping Lord Vishnu and listening to the narration of Kurma Katha. Worshipping a tortoise made of silver or ashta dathu (eight metals) is considered to be auspicious for homes and businesses, on this day.

Rama Lakshman Dwadashi- This is observed in the Shukla paksha of the month of Jyeshtha. It is believed that King Dashratha had observed this vrata to be blessed with sons. Hence it is a day to pray for children and good familial bonds. The observance of this day is prominent in the states of Andhra, Telangana, Karnataka and some communities of Tamil Nadu.

Govatsa Dwadashi or Vasu baras- It is the twelfth day of the Krishna paksha of Ashwin and particularly observed by women from Gujarat and Maharashtra for the well-being of their children. The cow and calf are symbolically worshipped on this day.

In Andhra Pradesh, it is celebrated as Sripada Sri Vallabha Utsav in the town of Pithapur, one of the abodes of Lord Dattatreya.

Kartik Shukla Dwadashi or Tulsi vivaha- On this day the ceremonial marriage of the Tulsi plant to Shaligram (a form of Lord Vishnu) is conducted. This day marks the end of the period of chaturmaas and the beginning of the auspicious period for conducting marriages.

Trayodashi or the thirteenth day of the Shukla paksha as well as the Krishna paksha of every Hindu calendar month are observed as pradosh

vrata. These tithis are dedicated to the worship of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati. The devout fast on this day and perform rituals in the evening. Observing this fast is believed to bring blessings, inner strength and protection from negative influences. When trayodashi falls on a Saturday it is called Shani pradosh and special prayers are offered to Shani Deva.

The most widely observed and celebrated trayodashi is **Dhan-Trayodashi** or Dhanteras which is the thirteenth day of the Krishna paksha of Ashwin and marks the beginning of the Diwali festival.

Dhanvantari who is considered to be the God of Ayurveda is worshipped on this day. According to Hindu scriptures, Lord Dhanvantri had emerged during Samudra Manthan holding the Amrit kalash in one hand and the Ayurveda text in the other. Dhanvantari is considered to be the physician of the Devas.

This day has been observed as National Ayurveda Day by the Indian Ministry for Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy since 2016.

Dhanteras is also considered as an auspicious day for making new purchases, silver, gold, new utensils and household goods. In the evening, oil lamps are lit and Diwali celebrations begin.

Jains celebrate it as Dhanya trayodashi to commemorate the last day of Lord Mahavir's divine discourse before he attained nirvana. Jains celebrate it with fasting, prayers and reflection on the teachings of non-violence and self-discipline. Oil lamps are lit to symbolize the light of knowledge.

Chaitra Shukla trayodashi is observed as Mahavir Jayanti by the Jain community. According to Jain texts Lord Mahavir the 24th tirthankara was born on this day.

Nityananda trayodashi- Magha shuddha trayodashi is observed by the followers of ISKCON to honour Lord Nityananda, the eternal companion of Shri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu. Together they preached the essence of true devotion, and that chanting the Hare Krishna mantra, was the simplest way to attain liberation (moksha). The followers of this sect believe Lord Nityananda to be the incarnation of Shri Balarama, the elder brother of Shri Krishna.

॥ सरलसंस्कृतम् ॥

38.1 Fill in the blank with the correct word given in the box below.

1. सा गायिका गायति ।

That singer sings.

3. ----- शिक्षिका: पाठ्यक्रमस्य चर्चा कुर्वन्ति ।

Those teachers discuss the syllabus.

5. ताः ----- दीर्घाः सन्ति ।

Those **creepers** are long.

7. एषा ----- उत्पीठिकायाम् आसीत् ।

This **necklace** was on the table.

9. सा ----- मम साहाय्यं कृतवती ।

That **volunteer** helped me.

11. ----- सेविका भूमिं मार्जयति ।

This servant mops the floor.

2. एषा महिला पाकक्रियाम् ईक्षते ।

This woman looks at the recipe.

4. हिमदुग्धं खादित्वा सा ----- हसति ।

Having eaten ice-cream that **girl** laughs.

6. ----- छुरिकाः तीक्ष्णाः न सन्ति ।

These knives are not sharp.

8. ----- छात्रा एकं लेखं लिखितवती ।

That student wrote an article.

10. ----- गायिकाः अतीव मधुरं गायन्ति ।

These singers sing very sweetly.

12. एषा मनोहारी ----- सर्वेभ्यः रोचते ।

This **story** is interesting.

| | | | |
|------|--------|-------------|------|
| लताः | सा | स्वयंसेविका | एताः |
| एताः | बालिका | ताः | |
| माला | कथा | एषा | |

Answers given on Page 51

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गीर्वाणपत्रिका

मूकङ्करोतिवाचालम्

– उदया माविनकुर्वे , बेङ्गळूरु

कदाचित् श्रीशङ्करभगवत्पादाः दक्षिणभारतस्य परिक्रमणं कुर्वन्तः श्रीवल्ली-अग्रहारम् (आधुनिकः शिरालीग्रामः) प्राप्तवन्तः । कस्यचित् विशालस्य वटवृक्षस्य अधः उपविष्टवन्तं तेजोराशिं संन्यासिनं दृष्ट्वा सर्वेऽपि ग्रामीणाः आकर्षिताः बभूवुः ।

तेषु कश्चित्प्रभाकरपण्डितः मूकस्वपुत्रेण सह श्रीशङ्करभगवत्पादान् साष्टाङ्गं नमस्कृत्य एवम् उवाच –
" प्रभो, अयं मे सप्तवर्षीयः पुत्रः मूकः जडबुद्धिश्च । द्विजः सन्नपि वेदान्नैव अधीतवान् । अक्षरमालामपि न जानाति । क्रीडापरबालैः आहूतोऽपि क्रीडितुं न याति । शठा बालाः एनं निरीक्ष्य सन्ताडयन्ते । तथापि न प्रतिक्रियते अनेन । इच्छाविहारी अयं कदाचिन्न भुङ्क्ते एव । अहोरात्रम् अन्तर्मुख एषः उक्तत्र शृणोति नैव करोति । भो गुरुवर, भवतः करुणामयदृष्ट्या एनं मन्दमतिबालकम् उद्धरतु, अस्य बुद्धिं प्रज्ज्वालयतु । "

शङ्कराचार्याः मूकबालकम् उद्दिश्य ऊचुः –

" कस्त्वं शिशो कस्य कुतोऽसि गन्ता किं नाम ते त्वं कुत आगतोऽसि ?

एतन्मयोक्तं वद चार्भक त्वं मत्प्रीतये प्रीतिविवर्धनोऽसि । "

तदा बालः मधुरस्वरेण प्रत्यवदत् –

" नाहं मनुष्यो न च देवयक्षौ न ब्राह्मणक्षत्रियवैश्यशूद्राः ,

न ब्रह्मचारी न गृहीवनस्थौ भिक्षुर्न चाहं निजबोधरूपः ,

स नित्योपलब्धिस्वरूपोऽहमात्मा । "

विना उपदेशम् आत्मबोधप्राप्तस्य बालकस्य बोधपूर्णम् उत्तरम् आकर्ण्य विस्मिताः

भगवत्पादाः एवम् ऊचुः –

" द्विजवर्य, अयं त्वत्पुत्रः युष्माभिः सह निवसितुं न योग्यः । एनं मदीयः शिष्यत्वेन स्वीकरिष्ये । एतस्य तु परिज्ञानं हस्ते स्थितम् आमलकमिव स्पष्टमस्ति । इतः परं सः हस्तामलकेति विश्वविख्यातो भविष्यति । "

सिद्धानां वचनानि सिद्ध्यन्ति एव ननु ।

गच्छता कालेन , एष अद्भुतबालकः श्रीहस्तामलकाचार्यः इति पूर्वस्यां दिशि स्थितस्य श्रीगोवर्धन-
आम्नायमठस्य जगत्प्रसिद्धः प्रथमाचार्यः बभूव ।

अद्यापि शिरालीग्रामे, श्रीचित्रपुरमठात् अनतिदूरं हस्तामलकमन्दिरमिति पुरातनमेकं मन्दिरं वर्तते ।

(This article is from September 2021 issue of the Girvanapatrika)

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आम्मालागि थाव्न् आय्कुन् शिक्कीलि गोडि भास

सरस राव आनि गायत्री मदन दत्त

(आम्गेल् आम्मा, अनसूया रमानंद नयम्पळिळ-गेले
प्रेम-स्मरणाने बरयलेले)

आय्लिं वे चेल्डवानुं, तुम्मिं?
वोत्चुन् धूव्न् घेयात् हात; पाय.
खुळ्वेरि उददाक् घाल्न् घेयात्,
मा - दाळ्यांक् त्चांग, ज़ाता हाय. ...

आजि कस्लि रान्दयि येत्चूयल्या? ...
रोटियाँ एक्-लैक्, पातळ् कोर्न् लाट्का. ...
मस्त दीस् धोर्न् साम्बार्या सार कर्नि.
मासोल् लानचि, गांध-शें वाट्का. ...

चेडु सुटसुटी आस्स - पाय्यांक् चक्र घाल्लेल् म्हण्के,
ती सट्सटी काम कोर्न् वत्ता. ...
आम्मिं कित्ले दीसान् मेळ्चें.
सगळ्यान् आय्ल्यारि, घर कश्शि गल्गली ज़ाता. ...

माम्मान् त्चड उल्लोनु, ताळो पळ्ळा दिस्ता:
चिक्के होक्लेल् आव्स्लू ताळो-साँ ज़ाल्ला. ...
दुस्र्यांगेल् झगडेंतुं पाच्च्येने पोणु,
तिन्ने नुस्तेंचि उज्जात् हात् घाल्ला. ...

कालि, आक्कालें तॉन्ड बाव्न् आशिल्लें,
हांव निम्गीलें, आजि हासाँ इत्याक् मारग् ज़ाल्ला, मा?
तिक्का कॉणान्कि कस्लेंकि म्हळ्ळें खयिं,
हांव सांग्लें, तश्शि बँज़ार् पाव्न्ये, मा.

एक् कान्नान्-थाव्न् आय्कुन्,
आनेक् कान्नान्-थाव्न् सोण् सोड्का.
कान् फाप्पुड्का, मगल् आक्का.
हांव तुम्कांयि सांग्ता, कस्लें त्चड्-ऊण् ज़ाल्यारि,
गोम्टायेने तुम्हिं सुदार्सुन् व्होर्का. ...
लाग्यांक् खूशि पावोचाक्, थॉडो वेळु,
अंक्सरेचें जीवनान्थाव्न् त्चोर्का.

॥ एक दिवो लायी ॥

इंदु गेरसप्पे

तूं एक दिवो लायी
भायरी रंगरंगी दिव्यांनी
गांव झगमगता
भितरल्या अंधारांतू
एखादो जीव कळवळता
आधाराचो हात दिवन्
करी तांगेली अपुर्बायी
खिन्न त्या काळखांतू
तूं एक दिवो लायी
खंयी संधी मेळता थंयी
तूं एक दिवो लायी ॥

दिल्ल्यारी वाढता दवरल्यारी कढता
प्रितीची समृद्धी
भरलेल्या तुगेल्या भांडारांतले
थोडें दान-दक्षिणा करी
अभाव अडचण कोणाक आसता
तांकां सहाय्य घडयी
खंयी आवश्यक आस्स थंयी
तूं एक दिवो लायी ॥

नित्य साजरो कोरुया
हो दिवाळीचो सण
संसाराच्या आव्हानांतू
वेंचुया सुखाचे क्षण
दयामायेच्या पर्जळांतू
जावो जीवन धन्य धन्य
निराश काळखारी जैत करता
आशेचें चैतन्य
खंयी शक्य आसा थंयी
तूं एक दिवो लायी
आपुलकीचो
करुणेचो
जिव्हाळ्याचो
प्रितीचो
तूं एक दिवो लायी ॥

Answers to - सरल संस्कृतम्

Exercise 38.1 -

- | | | | |
|----------------|----------|---------|-----------|
| 1. सा | 2. एषा | 3. ताः | 4. बालिका |
| 5. लताः | 6. एताः | 7. माला | 8. सा |
| 9. स्वयंसेविका | 10. एताः | 11. एषा | 12. कथा |

Super-foods – K

ANJALI BURDE

Let us explore a few super-foods that begin with the letter K.

Kidney beans or Rajma - are a popular variety of beans widely consumed particularly in Punjab, Haryana, and Jammu & Kashmir. They come in different varieties, sizes and colour. Commonly used rajma is the reddish –brown variety. The Jammu rajma has the same colour but is smaller in size. Another variety is the chitra rajma which is light coloured but spotted.

Kidney beans are a very good source of protein particularly for vegetarians and vegans. Though they contain a good amount of starch, their glycemic index is low. This makes them diabetic friendly. Besides slow-release carbs and protein, kidney beans contain good amount of fibre thus supporting gut health.

They are a rich source of minerals and vitamins like copper, potassium, iron, manganese, folate and Vitamin K.

Beans also contain certain bioactive plant compounds like lectin and phytic acid which can be harmful, but these compounds get eliminated by soaking and thoroughly cooking the beans. Hence it is a common practice to soak the beans for 6-8 hours before cooking them.

Kiwi - The kiwi fruit is a small fist size fruit with a thin brown skin that is fuzzy to touch. The inner fleshy pulp is either green or yellow in colour and has a sweet-sour taste. Tiny black seeds are seen at the centre of the fruit. The fruit has its origins in China and was earlier known as the Chinese gooseberry but now is popularly called kiwi because of its resemblance to the egg of the kiwi bird from New Zealand. It is widely grown now in New Zealand, Chile and Italy.

Kiwi is an extremely nutritious fruit that is low in calories, hence popular for weight management. It contains a good amount of Vitamin C and is an immunity booster too. It contains fibre and a natural enzyme called actinidin which helps in relieving constipation. The presence of carotenoids makes it good for maintaining a healthy skin and in reducing age related macular degeneration. Its rich nutrient profile and the presence of anti-oxidants also makes it a heart-friendly fruit.

Kamal kakdi or lotus stem - The lotus stem that grows underwater and supports the lotus leaves and blooms above the water surface is popularly consumed as a vegetable by the Sindhi and Punjabi community. It is also used in Chinese and Burmese cuisine.

The stems need to be tender else they do not cook well. They are a rich source of fibre, potassium, and vitamin B and C. The fibre content and certain nutrients help in reducing bad cholesterol and promoting heart health. The high potassium content helps in regulating blood pressure. The presence of minerals like copper and iron helps in relieving anaemia.

The anti-inflammatory and anti-oxidant compounds present in lotus stem help in supporting good liver health.

Lotus stem cooked with potatoes in a tomato based gravy is a popular Punjabi dish called bhae-aloo. It is also added to Chinese style gravies. Thinly sliced lotus stem can be fried to make crispy wafers or is even added to vegetable pickles.

Sharing the recipe for making **crispy lotus stem wafers** using an air fryer.

Ingredients- 1 medium sized lotus stem

1 tsp chilli powder

½ tsp chaat masala 2 tsp oil

2 tsp cornstarch salt to taste 2 tsp oil

Method- Thoroughly wash the lotus stem to remove all dirt and the peel using a peeler. Keep it in water for some time. Using a slicer make thin slices (2mm).

Use the other ingredients for about a cup full of the slices. Pre-heat the air fryer at 180 degree Celsius for 2-3 minutes. Add oil to the sliced lotus stem and rub well to coat it evenly, add salt and spices, sprinkle the corn starch and toss well for a few minutes, till the slices are evenly coated.

Brush the air-fryer basket with some oil and place the lotus stem slices on it without overcrowding. Air fry for 10-12 minutes until crisp, shaking the basket in between. Cool and enjoy as a snack or as a side dish.

Note- alternatively you can deep fry them in medium hot oil or bake in a hot oven.

Here & There

Vile Parle – Vakola Sabha

On 17th September, we observed the Samaradhana of Tiritiya Sadguru Swami Parijnanashram II. In a concise and impactful Upanyaas, our guest speaker Krishnanand Mankikar elaborated on the significant events and accomplishments during Swamiji's tenure. He drew valuable references from Sri Guruparampara authored by late Umabai Aroor from the Bhagavad Gita. The programme was efficiently coordinated by Shyamala Bhat.

On 27th September, we observed the Samaradhana (Dwitiya) of Sadguru Swami Shankarashram I. During the Upanyaas, Vittal Rajgopal Bhat beautifully explained two profound shlokas dedicated to Devi Durga, highlighting how the Divine Mother showers her Anugraha (Grace) when remembered with love and devotion. The event was compered by Shyamala Bhat.

Our Sadhakas participated in Seva Saptaha beginning from 1st September, and then on 28th September during the Sharad Navaratri Utsava 2025 at Karla Math.

As part of the cultural events, the following performances were held:

Light and semi-classical vocal recital by Prashanti Mangala Nadkarni Bhat, Deepa Naimpalli, and Shirish Waghmode.

An excellent performance of Odissi Dance by our team comprising Sheetal Bhat, Shambhavi Kasbekar, and Ritwika Wagle, culminated in a presentation of Adi Shankaracharya's "Mahishasura Mardini", which was appreciated by the audience.

Reported by Shrikar Talgeri

Bengaluru Local Sabha

On 6th September, Anantachaturdashi vrata and Chaturmasa vrata samapti was observed with Ashtavadhana seva. On 17th September, Samaradhana of Parama Pujya Shrimat Parijnanashram Swamiji II, was observed.

On 27th September, Samaradhana of Parama Pujya Shrimat Shankarashram Swamiji I was observed. On 6th October, Kojagari Purnima was observed with Garbha-dandiya organised by Bengaluru Yuvadhara with kheer vitaran and prasada bhojana.

On 12th October, Parijna Workshop-

"Deepotsava" was organised for prarthana varga children with interesting activities like making of vatyo and toran and other interactive activities.

Sharadiya Navaratri was celebrated in the Math from 22nd September to 2nd October.

Reported by Saikrupa Nalkur

Zooming through Dreamland

I hopped on a pickle, it took me to space.
Where I saw unicorns, tying their shoe lace!

Zebras so cute; were riding a bike,
While giraffes in dresses were going on a hike!

I took a tunnel to candy-land,
Then saw astronauts playing with sand!

Atlantis is real, I just met a ghost,
Then visited a party with no host!!

People were sun tanning on the moon,
While people on the sun were feeling cold so soon!

Superheroes in tutus were dancing about
And fairies in trousers were singing aloud!

Fairyland was just a minute away,
But wherever I was, I wanted to stay

Now pregnant bees were giving birth,
I hopped on my pickle and flew back to earth!

Naisha Parmar, 10 years.

Daughter of Sneha Parmar (nee Khambadkone).

| Sudoku Nov-2025 | | | Solution | | | Level Easy | | |
|-----------------|---|---|----------|---|---|------------|---|---|
| 7 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 8 |
| 1 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 3 |
| 3 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 5 |
| 2 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 9 |
| 6 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| 8 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 5 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 6 |
| 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 |
| 4 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 7 |

DOMESTIC TIDINGS

OBITUARIES

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

- Jul 20 : Leela Ganesh Puthli (89) at Hiranandani Gardens, Powai, Mumbai.
- Aug 05 : Mohini Shivashankar Bhat Kailaje at Kailaje village (Karkala taluka).
- Sept 04 : Dr Gourpriya Suneeti Dayashankar Koppikar at Mumbai.
- Sept 10 : Dhananjay Kadle at Pune.
- Sept 10 : Ravikiran Honavar (66) at Bengaluru.
- Sept 18 : Ashok Nagarkatti (91) at Bengaluru.
- Sept 22 : Arun Kalyanpur (80) at Bengaluru.
- Oct 04 : Arvind S. Dhareshwar, (89) at Bengaluru.
- Oct 05 : Gaurang Ashok Hattangadi at Canada.
- Oct 05 : Shashikala Diwakar Sharma (Parvati Pacchi) (102), at Talmakiwadi, Mumbai.
- Oct 06 : Vidya Durgadas Baindur (nee Vidya Sitaram Bhat) of Dubai (70) at Mumbai.

Prof.(Dr.) Karuna Gokarn, first woman Principal of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai

Prof. (Dr.) Karuna Gokarn has been appointed as the Principal of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.



A senior faculty member of the Department of Microbiology, Dr. Gokarn becomes the first woman to lead the college in its distinguished history since 1869.

She was the Vice Principal (Academics) and Director of IQAC during the last few years. She spearheaded the implementation of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in the college in her capacity as NEP nodal officer.

A name that spells its class!

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