

UTKARSA OSA NEWSLETTER

June Issue Volume 42

2011



***From the Editor's desk:***

*A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken!*

*So friends, while the lawn mower is broken, take a look at the Raja issue of Utkarsa and find your favorite news items, try out delicious oriya summer recipes and read travelogues and stories.*

***Editors: Sridhar Rana and Julie Acharya Ray***

*(Photo: Bear Lake State Park; Rocky Mountains on the Utah-Idaho border)*

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

## ଓସାର ସୌନ୍ଦର୍ଯ୍ୟ, ସମୃଦ୍ଧି ଓ ସମ୍ମାନରେ ରୁପାୟିତ ମୋ ନୂତନ ପରିଚୟ - ପ୍ରେସିଡେଣ୍ଟଙ୍କ ବିଦାୟ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା

ମୋର ଅତି ପ୍ରିୟ ଓସା ବନ୍ଧୁ ଓ ବାନ୍ଧବୀଗଣ, ରଜ ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ ମୋର ଅନେକ ଅନେକ ଶୁଭକାମନା ।



ଓସା ମୁଖପତ୍ର ଉତ୍କର୍ଷର ଏ ପ୍ରକାଶନ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ମୋର ଏ ଶେଷ ସ୍ଵାଗତ । ବିଗତ ଦୁଇବର୍ଷ ଧରି ଉତ୍କର୍ଷର ସଂପାଦନା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟଟିକୁ ଅତି ସୁନ୍ଦର ଭାବେ ଓ କର୍ତ୍ତବ୍ୟପରାୟଣ ହୋଇ ପ୍ରକାଶିତ କରିଆସୁଥିବାରୁ ମୁଁ ଏହାର ସଂପାଦକ ଶ୍ରୀଧର ରଣା ଓ ସଂପାଦିକା ଜୁଲି ଆଚାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ରାୟଙ୍କୁ ଅଶେଷ ଧନ୍ୟବାଦ ଅର୍ପଣ କରୁଛି । ଆଶା ଓ ବିଶ୍ଵାସ ପୂର୍ବ ସଂଖ୍ୟାମାନଙ୍କ ଭଳି ଏ ରଜ ବିଶେଷାଙ୍କଟି ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କ ପ୍ରୀତିଭାଜନ ହୋଇପାରିବ ।

ଏହି ବାର୍ତ୍ତାଟି ଉତ୍କର୍ଷ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ମୋର ଶେଷବାର୍ତ୍ତା । ଆସନ୍ତା ଓସା ସମ୍ମିଳନୀ ପରେ ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କ ଦ୍ଵାରା ନିର୍ବାଚିତ ହୋଇଥିବା ଅନୁପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣା ପାଣ୍ଡେ ଓସାର ପ୍ରେସିଡେଣ୍ଟ ଭାବେ ଦାୟିତ୍ଵ ନେବେ । ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ବିନମ୍ର ନିବେଦନ ଯେ ମତେ ଆପଣମାନେ ଯେମିତି ସାହାଯ୍ୟ, ସହଯୋଗ କରିଆସିଛନ୍ତି, ସେମିତି ଭାବେ ଅନୁପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣା ପାଣ୍ଡେଙ୍କୁ ନିଜର ସାହାଯ୍ୟ କରିବେ ।

ଓସାର ବାର୍ଷିକ ସମ୍ମିଳନୀ ଆଉ ମାତ୍ର ଅଳ୍ପଦିନ ରହିଲା । ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କର ଆତିଥେୟତା ପାଇଁ ସମ୍ମିଳନୀର ସମସ୍ତ କର୍ମକର୍ତ୍ତା ବର୍ଷଟିଏ ଧରି ଯୋଜନା ଓ କାମ କରିଆସୁଛନ୍ତି । ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କୁ ଅନୁରୋଧ, ଓସାର ଆସନ୍ତା ବାର୍ଷିକ ସମ୍ମିଳନୀକୁ ନିଜର ଆସିବେ । ଓଡିଶାରୁ ଅନେକ କଳାକାର ଓ ମାନ୍ୟଗଣ୍ୟ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତି ଏ ସମ୍ମିଳନୀରେ ଯୋଗଦେବାକୁ ଆସୁଛନ୍ତି; ଆପଣମାନେ ସେମାନଙ୍କ କଳାର ଚାତୁର୍ଯ୍ୟକୁ ଉପଭୋଗ କରିବା ସଙ୍ଗେସଙ୍ଗେ ନିଜଗୁଣର ମଧ୍ୟ ପରିପ୍ରକାଶ କରିବାର ସୁଯୋଗ ପାଇବେ । ସାଙ୍ଗସାଥୀଙ୍କ ସହିତ ମିଳନ ହେବା ସହିତ ଓସାର ନୂଆ ସମ୍ପ୍ରଦାନଟି ଉପରେ ବି ନିଜର ମତାମତ ଦେବାର ସୁଯୋଗ ପାଇବେ ।

ବିଭିନ୍ନତା ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଏକତା ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠା କରିବା କହିଦେବାଟା ଯେତେ ସହଜ, ସ୍ଵପ୍ନଦେଖିବାଟା ଯେତେ ସହଜ, କାର୍ଯ୍ୟରେ ପରିଣତ କରିବା ସେତେଟା ସହଜ ନୁହେଁ । ଏ ଦୁଇବର୍ଷର ଅଭିଜ୍ଞତାରେ ମୁଁ ସେତିକି ବୁଝିଛି । ତେବେ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଯେତେ ଦୁଃସାଧ୍ୟ ହେଉ ନା କାହିଁକି, ସାଙ୍ଗଟିଏ ପ୍ରେରଣା ଦେଲେ, ସାଙ୍ଗଟିଏ କାମଟି ବାଣ୍ଟିନେଲେ, ସାଙ୍ଗଟିଏ ପ୍ରତିରକ୍ଷାର ଦାୟିତ୍ଵ ନେଇଗଲେ, ସବୁକାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ସେମିତି ସହଜ ହୋଇଯାଏ । ବିଗତ ଦୁଇଟିବର୍ଷ ଓସା ଓ ଓସା ସ୍ଵେଚ୍ଛାସେବୀମାନଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ କଠିନ ପରୀକ୍ଷାର କ୍ଷେତ୍ର ହୋଇଛି ସତ, ତେବେ ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କର ପ୍ରେରଣା ଓ ଉତ୍ସାହ ପାଇଁ ସମସ୍ତ ପରୀକ୍ଷାରେ ଆମେ କୃତ୍ରିମ ସହିତ ଉତ୍ତୀର୍ଣ୍ଣ ହୋଇପାରିଛୁ । ଓସା ପରିଚାଳନା ଦାୟିତ୍ଵରେ ଥିବା ସମସ୍ତ ସଭ୍ୟ ଓ ଚାପ୍ଟରର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟନିର୍ବାହକ ମାନେ ଓସାପାଇଁ ଅନେକ ମୂଲ୍ୟବାନ ସମୟ ଦେଇଛନ୍ତି । ସେଥିପାଇଁ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ନିକଟରେ ମୁଁ କୃତଜ୍ଞତା ଜ୍ଞାପନ କରୁଛି । ବିଶେଷ କରି ମୋର ସ୍ଵାମୀ ନରେଶ ଦାସ ଓ ଝିଅ ବାଗ୍ମୀ, ମୃଣାଳୀ ଓ ଶାଶୁତୀଙ୍କ ସହଯୋଗ ଓ ବୁଝାମଣା ପାଇଁ ମୁଁ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ନିକଟରେ କୃତଜ୍ଞ ।

ଆମମାନଙ୍କ ସମୟରେ ଓସାରେ ଏତେସବୁ ମହତ୍ତ୍ଵପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଘଟଣା ଘଟିଛି ଯେ ସେସବୁ ବର୍ଣ୍ଣନା କଲେ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉପନ୍ୟାସ ହେବ । ଆମର ତିନିଗୋଟି ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ, ସମାଜର ସୌନ୍ଦର୍ଯ୍ୟ, ସମୃଦ୍ଧି ଓ ସମ୍ମାନ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ଖାଲି ପୁରଣ ତ ହୋଇନି, ଏମିତି ନାଟକୀୟ ରୂପ ନେଇ ପୁରଣ ହୋଇଛି ଯେ ଭାବିଲେ ମନରେ ବଡ଼ ଖୁସି ଆସୁଛି । ଶହେରୁ ଅଧିକ ନୂଆ ସଭ୍ୟମାନଙ୍କୁ ଯୋଗ କରାଇବା ସହିତ, ଦୁଇଦୁଇଟି ନୂଆ ଚାପ୍ଟର ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠା ହେବା



ଓ ସମାଜକୁ ଆତଙ୍କବାଦୀମାନଙ୍କ କୁଦୃଷ୍ଟି କବଳରୁ ରକ୍ଷାକରିବା ସବୁ ସମ୍ଭବ ହୋଇପାରିଛି । ଏସବୁ ଇଶ୍ଵରଙ୍କ ଆଶୀର୍ବାଦ ଓ ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କର ଶୁଭକାମନା ।

ଓସାପାଇଁ ରହିଥିବା କେତେକ ସ୍ଵପ୍ନ ସବୁ ମୋର ଅପୁରଣ ରହିଗଲା । ମୁଁ ଚାହୁଁଥିଲି ଏମିତି ଏକ ସମାଜ ଯେଉଁଠି ସଭ୍ୟମାନଙ୍କର ପରସ୍ପର ପ୍ରତି ଓ ସମାଜ ପ୍ରତି ସ୍ନେହ ଓ ସମ୍ମାନ ରହିଛି; ପରସ୍ପରର ଉନ୍ନତି ପାଇଁ, ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ଉନ୍ନତି ପାଇଁ, ଓ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସଂସ୍କୃତିର ଉନ୍ନତି ପାଇଁ ସମସ୍ତେ ମିଳିମିଶି ସ୍ଵପ୍ନ ଦେଖୁଛନ୍ତି ଓ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟରତ ରହୁଛନ୍ତି; ନୂଆ ଓ ପୁରୁଣା ଉଭୟ ପିଢ଼ିର ସଭ୍ୟମାନେ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷା ଓ ସଂସ୍କୃତିର ପ୍ରଚାର ଓ ପ୍ରସାର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟରେ ନିୟୋଜିତ ରହୁଛନ୍ତି । ତେବେ ମୋର ଏ ଅଧିକା ସ୍ଵପ୍ନଟିକୁ ମୁଁ ଓସାର ପରବର୍ତ୍ତୀ କର୍ମକର୍ତ୍ତା ମାନଙ୍କ ଦାୟିତ୍ଵରେ ଛାଡ଼ି ଯାଉଛି ଓ ମୋର ବିଶ୍ଵାସ ସେମାନଙ୍କର ଯତ୍ନରେ ଓ ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କର ସହଯୋଗରେ ଏ ସ୍ଵପ୍ନଟି ନିଶ୍ଚୟ ଦିନେ ବାସ୍ତବ ରୂପ ନେବ ।

ଓସାର ପ୍ରେସିଡେଣ୍ଟ ଭାବେ ସମାଜର ସେବା କରିବାର ସୁଯୋଗ ପାଇବା ଅତ୍ୟନ୍ତ ସୌଭାଗ୍ୟର ବିଷୟ । ମତେ ବିଶ୍ଵାସ କରି ଏ ସମ୍ମାନରେ ଆଭୁଷିତ କରିଥିବାରୁ ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କୁ ଧନ୍ୟବାଦ । ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କ ସହିତ ନିଶ୍ଚୟ ଅନ୍ଧଦିନ ପରେ ପୁାନୋ, ଟେଙ୍ଗାସ୍ରେ ଭେଟ ହେବ ।

ଓସା ଓ ସମସ୍ତ ଓସା ସଭ୍ୟମାନଙ୍କର ମଙ୍ଗଳ କାମନା କରି ରହିଲି ।

ଅତ୍ୟନ୍ତ ସୁନ୍ଦର, ଅତୀବ ମଧୁର, ଓସା ସମାଜଟି ଆମ  
ଏ ବିଦାୟ ବେଳେ, କେତେ ଶୁଭସ୍ମୃତି ମଛନ କରୁଛି ପ୍ରାଣ ।  
ଚାଳିଶି ବର୍ଷର ପ୍ରାଚୀନ ସମାଜ ପୁଣ୍ୟ କୀର୍ତ୍ତିମୟ  
ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସଂସ୍କୃତି, ଓଡ଼ିଆ ମନର, ପବିତ୍ର ଯୋଗ-ଆଳୟ ।  
ପ୍ରବାସେ ଦେଇଛି ଅନ୍ତରଙ୍ଗ ସ୍ପର୍ଶ ବାନ୍ଧି ମମତାର ଡୋରି  
ଓଡ଼ିଆ ପ୍ରାଣର ଜାଗୃତି ଆହ୍ଵାନ ଦୀପଶିଖା କରେ ଧରି ।  
ଆସ ଆସ ବନ୍ଧୁ, ନକରି ସନ୍ଦେହ, କରି କର ପ୍ରସାରିତ  
ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଜାତିର ଗୌରବ ପାଇଁ ଶ୍ରଦ୍ଧାରେ ସଜାଅ ଚିତ୍ତ ।  
ଏ ମୋ ନିମନ୍ତ୍ରଣ, ଏ ମୋର ଆହ୍ଵାନ ତୁମ ସ୍ନେହ, ସହଯୋଗ  
ଉନ୍ନତି ସୋପାନେ ଆରୋହଣ ପାଇଁ ଲୋଡା ବନ୍ଧୁତା ବିଭବ ।  
ଅପସରି ଯାଉ ସମସ୍ତ ଅନ୍ଧାର ଭଲ ଆସୁ ଭାଗ୍ୟ ରବି ।  
ସୌନ୍ଦର୍ଯ୍ୟ, ସମୃଦ୍ଧି, ସମ୍ମାନରେ ସଦା ହସୁ ଓସା ନବ-ଛବି ।

ବିଜ୍ଞାନୀ ଦାସ

ଓସା ପ୍ରେସିଡେଣ୍ଟ

[Listen to President's message in Odia at](#)

[http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/Newsletter/president\\_message\\_odia\\_june2011.mp3](http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/Newsletter/president_message_odia_june2011.mp3)

## **An Animated Me in Grace, Growth and Glory: President's Farewell Message**

Dear Friends, My Fellow OSA Members

Welcome to the last issue of OSA newsletter Utkarsa during my administration!

I thank the editors Sridhar Rana and Julie Acharya Ray for their dedication in these two years in bringing up enriched Utkarsa issues regularly.

This message serves as my final communication to you all through OSA newsletter Utkarsa as your president. After the upcoming convention, the presidency will pass to a successor chosen by you, the OSA members. I join all OSA members in offering best wishes to 2011-2013 OSA President Dr Annapurna Pandey and her team-members. As I move from being your president, I ask you that you give the same great support to Dr Pandey that you gave to me.

I invite all of you to attend OSA 2011 convention in Plano, Texas that will be held from July 1<sup>st</sup> to July 4<sup>th</sup>. The convention team is working very hard to be the perfect host for your enjoyment and entertainment. Please be our guest. The convention is an excellent opportunity to meet and develop personal relationships that serve as a backbone for forging friendship and fellowship that will ultimately advance our community relationship and help us grow stronger.

Leadership in OSA with so much heterogeneity in membership is a challenging position, but it also comes with many special "gifts" derived from working with people who are dedicated in their selfless quest to make a difference. I am very grateful to all of you for working with me to make OSA a true leader in promoting and propagating Odia culture in Americas. And I am proud to see the unity and strength shown by dedicated members during the challenging times for both our volunteers and the organization as a whole.

Two years ago when I was elected your president, I was very intimidated by the prospect of leading such a successful and diverse organization. As my term ends I find the task no less daunting, but I take great comfort in the support and respect that has been shown to me by my fellow members, members of the Board of Governors (BOG) and the executives of OSA. I have learned that with the proper encouragement from one's peers even the most overwhelming task becomes easy.

I am filled with gratitude to many members, volunteers, my executive team and BOG; however, one person I reserve to bestow my greatest gratitude is my husband Naresh Das who has tolerated my absence from many special moments in his life. My appreciations are also due to our caring and understanding daughters Bagmi, Mrunali and Shashwati who suddenly became matured with OSA community concepts.

I will always remember OSA 2009 Trenton convention for it provided me the inspiration by show of hands, which animated me so much that I was changed at that particular moment; the strong determination to cross all obstacles and to win over all difficulties was the result. Thank you friends for being so supportive!

So much has happened during my term, that it is difficult to focus on any one improvement in OSA. I am thrilled to see a marked increase in both membership and member participation in OSA activities. Although I would have liked to see more participation in OSA election process, however, there was a substantial increase of voters and that is good news. It's also very exciting to witness the addition of two new chapters, Grand Canyon Chapter and Pacific North West Chapter, and the restoration of stability in three of the chapters. One of these chapters is the host for the upcoming OSA 2011 convention. Isn't this exciting?

The OSA has also added several new amendments to better serve our membership. We have formatted the new constitution with a well defined grievance hearing process after several hours/days of discussions with members of Board of Governors (BOG) through email as well as conference call meetings.

You see things; and you say, "Why?"  
But I dream things that never were;  
and I say, "Why not?"

**-George Bernard Shaw**

I feel that the future of our society is bright and full of possibilities. I envision OSA and its members leading the Odia identity and Odia culture into greater periods of prosperity – an important key to our “Grace, Growth and Glory” theme which will allow members to play an active role in establishing nurturing and loving relationships.

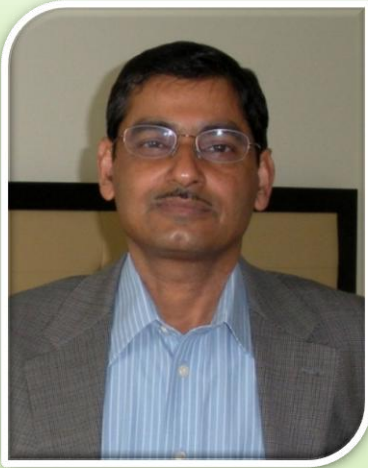
While this is my last official communication in Utkarsa as your president, I can assure you that I will remain involved with OSA. We have strong, active leaders as well as dedicated patriotic members. Working together we can make wonders.

Serving as your president has been an excellent experience, and I feel richer for having had the chance to meet so many of you at OSA conventions. Thank you for honoring me with your trust and commitment! It has been my privilege to work with my fellow executives and BOG members, as well as OSA membership.

May God bless the organization and our next president, Dr Annapurna Pandey! And may God bless you all!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bigyani Das". The signature is written in dark ink on a white rectangular background.

## **MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY**



### **Pitambar Sarangi**

### **Minutes of BOG Meeting**

2011 April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
9:00 PM

#### Attendees

Bigyani Das  
Gatikrishna Tripathi  
Anadi Naik  
Pratap Das  
Akhileswar Patel  
Gopal Mohapatra  
Bidhu Das  
Pradeep Mohapatra  
Pitambar Sarangi  
Amar Pani

Mr. Gopal Mohapatra presented the details of the progress in arrangements for the upcoming OSA convention.

1. 194 families have registered by April 3<sup>rd</sup> and out of which 120 families are from south west
2. Total budget for the convention is around \$85000, so far collected about 39000 ( about 22000 fees + about 16000 donation)
3. Guests from Orissa ( VISA processing is in progress)
4. Representative from Dallas Local Govt. has been invited.
5. Overall the preparation is on track.
6. Questions are asked about the invited guests from Odisha and also the Dashkathia team from Berhampur.

Mr. Mohapatra mentioned that it is not yet decided who is going to come from Govt. of Odisha and not sure if the Dashkathia team is coming or not.

7. Question regarding seminars was raised. It is progressing smoothly

8. Mr. Pradeep Mohapatra mentioned that the last date for Kalinga Award is over. Mr. Pratap Das proposed to rename the Kalashree Award honoring Late Arun Das. No decision is made on this.

9. Mr. Akhileswar Patel, treasurer, mentioned the following.

- Mr. Prashant Sahoo has been accepted as 5 yr member.

### **Minutes of BOG Meeting**

2011 May 1<sup>st</sup>

9:00 PM

Following BOG members attended the meeting

Mr. Anadi C Naik

Ms. Bigyani Das

Mr. Pradeep Mohapatra

Ms. Sabita Panigrahi

Mr. Amar Pani

Mr. Nishikant Sahoo

Mr. Debasis Panda

Mr. Gatikrishna Tripathi

Mr. Pratap Das

Mr. Arta Rout

Mr. Lalatendu Mohanty

Mr. Pitambar Sarangi

OSA Convention:

On behalf of Mr. Gopal Mohapatra Ms. Bigyani Das mentioned that only 200 families registered so far.

OSA Awards

1. Mr. Pradeep Mohapatra mentioned that nomination date for various OSA Awards has been extended. So far, the Award committee has received very few nominations and in some cases no nomination at all for OSA Awards. Members suggested considering cancellation of the awards for which OSA does not get nomination for a period of time. Members suggested that BOG should recommend the awards to be cancelled for GBM approval. It is also suggested to evaluate the current process of Award nomination.

2. It was decided that the Award Nomination date will not be extended.

3. Renaming of Kalashree Award to "Kalashree Arun Das Award".

4. Mr. Pratap Das proposed to rename the award in BOG. Mr. Anadi Naik proposed that the renaming of Kalashree Award should be passed in GBM.



5. It is unanimously agreed in the BOG that Kalashree Award is to be renamed.

#### OSA Constitution

It was unanimously decided that Lalatendu will draft a letter and send it to OSA net with the approval of BOG mentioning that BOG is going to review the proposed amendments to the constitution.

#### Membership

Discussion was made about the steps to be taken so that the membership details are updated. Following steps were suggested:

1. Chapter presidents take the initiative to inform the OSA secretary about the member details
2. Secretary should send e-mail to all registered members in DOLA and follow up to correct the details

Discussions were made regarding the publishing of e-mail addresses of members in OSA address book. Mr. Amar Pani suggested that e-mail addresses should be published in the address book. Mr. Pradeep Mohapatra suggested that e-mail addresses should not be published without members' approval.

#### Chapter Finance

In the absence of Mr. Akhileswar Patel, the report of the OSA treasurer was presented by Bigyani Das. She mentioned that OSA Treasurer has not received any information for Maryland, VA chapter. Mr. Anadi Naik mentioned that Mr. Patel is in touch with the chapter treasurer and as far as he knows there is no issue. He also mentioned that their chapter is using OSA EIN for their bank account which does not have any transaction (credit/debit) in the past year.

Mr. Pratap Das suggested that if there is any agenda item on finance, Treasurer OSA should attend the meeting.

#### **Minutes of Special BOG Meeting**

May 15<sup>th</sup> 2011

12:00 PM

This meeting was held to approve the results of the election, submitted by the Election Committee, held for the post of President and Vice President of OSA. Mr. Lalatendu Mohanty brought up the question whether any representative from the candidates was present during the counting of ballots. Mr. Amar Pani said that he did not have any representative during the counting. Mr. Mohanty called Mr. Durga Mishra, chairman Election committee, and verified that both the candidates had waived their right to send representatives to witness the counting of ballot.

The motion to approve the election result was brought by Mr. Pratap Das which was seconded by Mr. Gatikrishna Tripathy and Mr. Debasis Panda. All 10 attending members approved the results.

There were 14 BOG members in total that approved the election result. Nobody was against. Members below (in blue) attended the meeting and participated in the voting for the motion. Four other members approved the result via e-mail

Bigyani Das  
Pradeep Mohapatra  
Pitambar Sarangi  
Pratap Das  
Gatikrishna Tripathy  
Amar Pani  
Lalatendu Mohanty  
Nishikant Sahoo  
Debasis Panda  
Bidhu Das

Arata Rout  
Sabita Panigrahi  
Gopal Mohapatra  
Akhileswar Patel

**BOG Meeting**

**Date 5/22/2011 9PM**

**Attendee:**

Anadi Naik  
Annapurna Pandey (non-voting)  
Akhileswar Patel  
Amiya Nayak (Non-voting)  
Amar Pani  
Pradeep Mohapatra  
Prabhat Mohapatra (Non-voting)  
Nishkanta Sahoo  
Gatikrishna Tripathy  
Pratap Das  
Debashish Panda  
Bigyani Das  
Lalatendu Mohanty  
Pitambar Sarangi

1. Mrs Annapurna Pandey (President-elect), Mr Amiya Nayak (OZ) & Mr Prabhat Mohapatra(NY/NJ) were invited to join the deliberation
2. BOG discussed about the grievance handling and disciplinary action process
3. BOG approved the following with approval from all voting members present (11 of 11 voted in favor)
  - a. EC will form a Grievance Handling Committee and get the approval from GBM when they take the oath of the office

- b. The Grievance handling Committee will continue working the same way as approved by the previous GBM
4. Members were concerned about the terms being used on expel & suspension for anti-organization activities
5. It was also decided that term "Disciplinary Action" should be better defined including what triggers the disciplinary action and how the process should function
6. It was decided that BOG will deliberate on the disciplinary action in next meeting. A draft of the disciplinary action details will be circulated before that.

Next meeting scheduled to be held on 5/30/2011 Monday, 9PM

**BOG Meeting (DRAFT)**

06/05/2011

9:00 PM

Bigyani Das  
Akhileswar Patel  
Pitambar Sarangi  
Gatikrishna Tripathy  
Anadi Naik  
Amiya Nayak  
Gopal Mohapatra  
Sabita Panigrahi  
Pradeep Mohapatra  
Lalatendu Mohanty

**Convention 2011- Mr. Gopal Mohapatra**

Mr. Gopal Mohapatra presented the details of the preparation for the upcoming convention. About 205 – 225 families have registered. Around 250 families are expected to register. Arrangements for various convention events are going on smoothly. Funding situation is little tight as contributions from outside chapters are lagging behind the expected number.

**OSA Financials – Mr. Akhileswar Patel**

Mr. Akhileswar Patel gave the details of OSA financial position. Currently OSA has around 10,000.00 dollars in its checking account. In addition two CDs are also intact. Mr Patel tabled a proposal for reimbursement of a member's claim for his expenses. BOG has requested Mr. Patel to consult CPA regarding the logistics. All OSA chapters have submitted their bank accounts opened with OSA EIN. The bank statement for MD/VA chapter is received and it does not have the current OSA EIN. Mr. Anadi Naik said that the MD/VA chapter has used the then OSA EIN when the chapter was initially formed. Since 1981 OSA is registered.

**Japan Relief fund**

One hundred and seventy five dollars have been collected for the fund and sent to embassy of Japan for the relief purpose.

#### **Chapter Details – Pitambar Sarangi**

Mr. Pitambar Sarangi reported the new officials for Ozark chapter.

Ozark chapter has chosen Mr. Radhagobinda Mohanty of St. Louis, and Mr. Sashi Satpathy of Columbia as their new president and treasurer respectively. The chapter serves the members of following states

1. Missouri
2. Kansas
3. Arkansas
4. Indiana

Request for approval of a new chapter, Pacific North, formed to serve the members in states WA, OR, BC and Alberta was submitted by Dr. Priyadarshan Patra. BOG wants to know if the chapter can be formed with the members from U.S. as there may be some technical problem in including members from Canada. Necessary voting will be taken in BOG to approve the chapter.

#### **OSA logistics – Ms. Bigyani Das**

7. Chapters anticipating an election in coming months are requested to inform the current President of OSA.
8. Renaming of the OSA involves new registration. BOG Members suggested in continuing with the current name of the organization as “The Orissa Society of Americas” and seek approval for the new name in coming GBM during convention.
9. Line items modified or added to the constitution were mentioned and members are requested to give their opinion.
  - BOG agreed that the clause for including 50 percent of the collection on account of life membership should be deleted from the ammended constitution
  - Though using an outside auditor for OSA is expensive BOG decided to have the auditor clause to be in the constitution for technical reason.

#### **OSA Constitution – Mr. Lalatendu Mohanty**

BOG agreed that Grievance Hearing Committee as provided in the ammended constitution will handle both member grievances and the complaints from EC against a member or a chapter.

**TREASURER'S REPORT****OSA New Members****Akhileswar Patel**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Membership</b>
Anjali K Joshi	Life Member
Dillip K Patra	Life Member
R Ranjan Routray	Life Member
Saroj K Mohapatra	Life Member
Hiranmoy Mishra	Life Member
Prashant K Sahoo	5-yr member
Anil K Patnaik	5-yr member
Manas S Singh	5-yr member
Balakrishna Mishra	5-yr member
Amar K Senapati	5-yr member
Himansu Padhy	5-yr member
Pradipta K Das	5-yr member



## **Preliminary GBM Agenda**

Total Time: 1 hour 30minutes to 2 hours

Date: July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010, 2:00 PM (Time may change)

Call to order by Sgt-At-Arms: 2-3 minutes

Good OSA Member Pledge: 2-3 minutes

President's Remarks: 7-10 minutes

Parliamentarian Announcement: 2-3 minutes

Member Recognition Awards: Vice President, 2-4 minutes

Secretary's Report, Reading of 2010 GBM Minutes, New Member Induction: 8-10 minutes

Treasurer's Report: 5-7 minutes

New Constitution/Amendments: Discussion: 20-30 minutes

New Constitution/Amendments: Voting: 3-5 minutes

Kalashree Award renamed as Arun Das Kalashree Award: Voting: 3-5 minutes

Announcements: Next Year's Convention etc

Welcome: New Executives of OSA for 2011-2013 Term: 8-10 minutes

Miscellaneous

### **GBM Agenda Item Request, OSA Census 2011 & Member Survey**

Dear OSA Members

The countdown has already begun. Only 29 days to the annual convention and 30 days for the transition to take place during the General Body Meeting. We are both excited and nervous. As we are approaching the

convention date, several items need to be taken care of. All of the links are available from OSA web page at <http://www.orissasociety.org>.

Please share this information with your spouse and forward the information to your local email networks.

Various talents from Orissa plan to attend the convention. Among them the cultural icon Jharana Das will be there as the chief guest. We are also expecting our Oriya brothers and sisters from other parts of the world attending OSA convention this year. It is my sincere request to you to not organize any parallel event during OSA convention time and if anybody does that on purpose, please request him/her/them to be considerate.

### **Preliminary GBM Agenda & GBM Agenda Item Request**

The preliminary GBM agenda is available at web page mentioned below. The members can send request for GBM agenda items to be discussed during the annual convention. Members can use the appropriate form to request an agenda item. This year's **main GBM attractions are voting on the new/modified constitution and transition**. OSA BOG members are meeting regularly to brainstorm two significant policies, policy on Grievance Hearing and policy on Disciplinary Action. Please check

[http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/gbm\\_agenda\\_items\\_2011.htm](http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/gbm_agenda_items_2011.htm)

### **OSA Census and Odia Census**

Member inventory will take place throughout the year with a focus to have an accurate membership list with all the desired information. You may help us by publicizing this information among your local members. Please check

[http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/osa\\_census\\_2011.htm](http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/osa_census_2011.htm)

OSA will also be coordinating efforts to research and create accurate records of Odia people in United States and Canada. We request volunteers to help us in this effort. Please contact [infocentral@orissasociety.org](mailto:infocentral@orissasociety.org) or [president@orissasociety.org](mailto:president@orissasociety.org).

### **Member Survey**

Our two year will end after a month. A new administration will take charge. There is always energy and excitement with newness. I request all of you to make best use of that excitement. Please let us know how we performed and what can OSA's next executives do better. Members are the main inspiration and driving force behind the performance of its leaders. Member survey will help us to know you better; it will determine areas of our strength and areas of our weakness so that we can improve in any of our future undertakings. The new executives can also learn from these evaluations.

Please check

[http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/member\\_survey\\_2011.htm](http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/member_survey_2011.htm)

We hope to see you at the convention in Plano, Texas.

Sincerely,

Bigyani Das (President, The Orissa Society of the Americas (OSA))

### **OSA HIGHLIGHTS 2009-2011**

#### **Official Report**

#### **President's Reflection**

For two years irrespective of the opposing forces and obstacles, our administration, OSA 2009-2011 administration strived to expand opportunity and hope in OSA.

We have recruited about 100 new permanent member families for OSA and about 100 annual family members. We have facilitated successful regional drama festival events and inspired chapter events in local chapters to carry out OSA's objectives. We have hosted two best conventions in OSA history, 2010 California convention and 2011 Texas Convention. A successful Invest-Orissa symposium in California convention and the follow-up symposium in Bhubaneswar have accomplished the goal of popularizing OSA's name in Orissa while contributing towards Orissa's development. We have made amendments to the constitution by involving members in each phase of the decision making process. These amendments have added stability to the foundation of our organization. Our newsletters were timely and full of richness in information as well as

creativity.

While I write this, my thoughts return to the main meeting room of the Patriot Center, in Trenton, New Jersey where I addressed OSA members for the first time as OSA president. However, that meeting witnessed the terrorism in the form of lawsuit harassment in which a member had attacked the society by collaborating with a non-member and tainting the reputation of the organization by wrongful made-up accusations. With strong member allies at our side and with the support from OSA Board of Governors (BOG) we took strong stand in our effort to fight the evil and ill. Then there came a day to rejoice with complete victory and glory to the organizational repute.

Filing the lawsuit against a socio-cultural voluntary organization for losing in an election for unpaid volunteer positions and harassing volunteers for that reason is wrong every time, everywhere. Working hard to free the society from the terrorist mindset is eternally right. This organization and its members must continue to act for defending the dignity of the organization and to advance the cause of fellowship and friendship.

In the sailing through difficult times, our administration practiced three important leadership assets, control, clarity and confidence. Our goals were clear, to add prosperity and growth, to bring back OSA's dignity, to eliminate evil and ill, and maintain control even if challenged with wrong accusations. It was not easy to practice control, but we did it and I congratulate each one of my team members for being a part of this great mission.

There have been questions on the expense for the lawsuit. Money is recoverable, but dignity is not, the taint is not. We restored dignity and wiped out the taint. We can recover the financial health of the society. Our work will continue until the mission of complete financial recovery is achieved. We, the OSA officials and members did not choose this lawsuit. It came to us during the time we took office, and almost destroyed our mission and envisioned goals for which we have volunteered our time to lead the organization. As members of OSA, we will never tolerate our organization being threatened, nor stand and take refuge when our volunteers are harassed and the organization is ridiculed. Protecting the dignity of the organization becomes the first and foremost duty of each member of the society and its leaders.

It has been the privilege of a lifetime to serve as your president. There have been good days and tough days for making tough decisions. I have always acted with the best interests of our organization in mind. I have followed my conscience and done what I thought was right. There is legitimate debate about many of these decisions. But there can be little debate about the results.

OSA is proud of its dedicated members who have supported the society in various ways, through financial support, through volunteer time and through inspiration.

### **Highlights of OSA Activities**

- 1. OSA Web Documents:** About 95% of our web pages are updated and have become self explanatory. Members are requested to check OSA webpage at <http://www.orissasociety.org> frequently for society news and updates. Please review and let us know if we have missed any information or any information that needs to be corrected.
- 2. OSA Newsletter Utkarsa:** OSA newsletter Utkarsa is published regularly. Congratulations and thanks to OSA editors Sridhar Rana and Julie Acharya Ray for their hard work. Members are requested to check the newsletter for detailed information on various OSA activities. Please check <http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/publication.htm>
- 3. OSA 2010 and 2011 Conventions:** We had a very successful convention in California in 2010 and the convention in Texas is expected to be another great event. Check for the reports from the publication page through fall issues of Utkarsa.
- 4. Membership Growth:** OSA has been able to add more than 100 new life member families and a few upgrades during this period. OSA had also added about 100 annual member families during this period.



5. **Committees:** Various committees are formed to look after specific OSA activities. Please visit OSA website ([www.orissasociety.org](http://www.orissasociety.org)) and review the web page on committees to know more. We had made plans to use 80% of our resources for our members and the development of our organization, 15% of our resources for Orissa development and collaboration, and the rest 5% for international relationship.
  
6. **Handling Lawsuit filed by Amit Nayak and Anshuman Bal et al.:** This was an unfinished business from 2007-2009 OSA administration. Mr Amit Nayak and Mr Anshuman Bal together with a non-member Agni Jandhyala had filed their lawsuit after losing in the election. There was a hearing on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010. OSA won the case with the help of OSA attorney Ms Linda Dorney and tireless work of OSA 2009 Election Committee members Purna Mishra, Chitta Baral and Debendra Mallik, OSA 2007-2009 executives Pratap Das, Ashutosh Dutta, Priyadarsan Patra and Sandip Dasverma and 2009-2011 executives Bigyani Das and Pradeep Mohapatra. However, the plaintiffs again filed for en-banc review and the final hearing was on December 10, 2010. OSA won the case. Details are available at [http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/Legal/osa\\_legal\\_information\\_gateway.htm](http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/Legal/osa_legal_information_gateway.htm)
  
7. **OSA Communication:** OSA 2009-2011 administration created a web page to explain OSA communication. Please check at [http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/communication\\_ethics\\_and\\_osanet.htm](http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/communication_ethics_and_osanet.htm) to know more. OSAnet is currently being used as a discussion forum as well as a medium for disseminating OSA information. Please use this forum by adhering to guidelines. Our administration's core value was "Respect". Respect for the organization, respect for other members and respect for the self are the attributes that we expect to see in each and every communication in every OSA medium.
  
8. **Chapter Relations:** OSA administration was having regular BOG meetings and email communication for improving chapter relation, forming new chapters and formalizing chapter operation procedure. Jogesh Panda, Leena Mishra and Nilamadhab Nanda served in the Chapter Relations Committee. We were able to fix three chapters, SW chapter, Ohio chapter and Ozark Chapter which were not able to

hold any election and were having problems in finding new representatives. Please come forward and share your ideas for better chapter operation guidelines.

9. **Two New Chapters:** Two new chapters were formed during our administration. They are Grand Canyon Chapter and Pacific Northwest chapter. Grand Canyon chapter was formed in November 2009 in Arizona. This was possible because of the leadership of Mrs Manju Mishra. The chapter members include Oriya families from Arizona, Utah, and neighboring states. Pacific Northwest chapter was formed in June 2011 under the leadership of Priyadarsan Patra and Sandip Dasverma. The chapter members include Oriya families from Oregon, Washington and neighboring states in USA and Canada.
10. **Monthly Meetings:** There are regular meetings and email exchanges between OSA executives, committee members and OSA members to discuss OSA, its issues, goals and milestones. OSA BOG meetings are regularly held on every first Sunday of the month. OSA executive meetings are held every month in need basis. Apart from that there were frequent meetings for maintaining the optimum health of OSA.
11. **OSA Archive:** The goal is to collect historical documents on OSA as well as collect distinguished materials specific to Orissa and create a museum. Dr Kula Mishra was the lead in this effort together with Manoranjan Pattnaik and Lalu Mansinha as members.
12. **NROFC meeting in Bhubaneswar, Orissa:** NROFC meeting was held in Bhubaneswar, Orissa on December 27, 2009 and December 19-20, 2010. Several OSA members attended the event and represented OSA. OSA President Dr Bigyani Das and Secretary Dr Annapurna Pandey attended 2010 NROFC meeting.
13. **OSA is in Facebook now:** We have created a facebook site for OSA. We are collecting photographs of early years of OSA. Please share the photographs and the story material with it such as the people in picture and when and where the picture was taken. Specifically pictures of inauguration events, cultural events and meetings will be greatly appreciated. You can send them to [orissasociety@gmail.com](mailto:orissasociety@gmail.com). Please check OSA at <http://www.facebook.com/people/Osa-Samaja/>

14. **Constitution Review:** 2008-2009 constitution review committee had made many good recommendations that were further reviewed by OSA members through OSAnet discussion in January 2010. In the mean time many people have felt that small patch up solutions will not provide an effective constitution and hence a thorough review is necessary. The new constitution will be adopted in 2011 GBM.
15. **OSA Awards:** OSA 2010 and 2011 awards were managed by OSA vice president Pradeep Mohapatra. In 2010 Manoj Mohapatra handled the award very well in the role of Award Coordinator. Saurjya Khandai managed 2011 award.
16. **Drama Festival:** Annual OSA drama festival event was organized in 4 regions, Eastern, South West, Northern and Central region. Dr Brajendra Panda was the National coordinator with Dr Sri Gopal Mohanty and Sandip Dasverma as other two members. Please check <http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/dramafestival.htm> to know more.
17. **OSA Youth:** We are thankful to Gyan Patnaik who had shown interest in coordinating OSA youth activities. Pupun Das and Soman Panigrahi were two second generation OSA youth volunteers in the committee. However this work could not be started as we faced other problems and we hope the next administration starts activities soon. If your children want to be involved, please pass them the message.
18. **OSA Language and Cultural Propagation (Project Champu, Chhanda and Odissi):** We have formed a cultural committee and OSA Public Relations and Outreach Committee. Dr Gagan Panigrahi led the Public Relations and Outreach Committee and Mrs. Lata Mishra led the Cultural Committee. The goal was to create Oriya learning material and media that could touch Oriyas of various age groups (e.g. appealing Oriya music.) We have a plan to achieve goals in this field. However, we have not done more work on this and wish to accomplish in the future. We also reformed Subrina Biswal Competition in

Performing Arts structure and rules which would be coordinated by OSA. With Mrs. Lata Misra's initiative champu, chhanda and Odissi music became an integral part of OSA convention by GBM approval in 2010. Our administration wants to extend that by establishing the initiative "Project CCO (Champu, Chhanda, and Odissi)". Through this initiative, OSA newsletters will publish an article on these intricate cultural items of Orissa with translations, transliterations and audio clips for easy learning.

19. **Documentary on OSA:** We had planned for a documentary on OSA and OSA activities. The planning is in its infant stage. At this time we would need volunteers for many activities such as financier, story writer, manager, actors and directors.
20. **OSA's Finance:** OSA's yearly financial report is provided by the Treasurer in a separate document. Irrespective of the challenges, OSA is still doing fine as regards its financial health because of dedicated donors for various causes. Although because of the lawsuit by its own members, OSA has suffered financial damage its officers are trying their best to recover from this damage through fund-raising and member contribution.
21. **OSA Headquarter (Goals for the Future):** OSA should have a central operating address that would stay unchanged with the changes in officials every two years. All the correspondence should be from this address. OSA members in areas where Oriyas are in dense numbers should consider this for immediate or distant future.
22. **Focused Sections (Goals for the Future):** We receive messages from time to time that something is not done. We had proposed having focused sections to carry out some core activities by interested members. I hope this concept becomes a reality. Although informally several focused groups exist in OSA, it has not been officially declared.
23. **Humanitarian Activities (Goals for the Future):** There should be a focused group for charitable and humanitarian activities with responsibility for raising money and for selecting charities that are accountable and that are reputable for doing good job.

24. **OSA Restructuring (Goals for the Future):** OSA has to restructure itself to adapt to its growth and diversity. An effective restructuring team can be formed to think, brainstorm the ideas and have a plan for restructuring the organization for effective management.
25. **OSA Open House (Goals for the Future):** Educating diverse American communities about Orissa, OSA and Odia culture through open house events in local cities can be adopted for public relation purposes.

Sincerely,

OSA National Executives (2009-2011)

Dr Bigyani Das, President

Pradeep Mohapatra, Vice President

Dr Annapurna Pandey, Secretary (from July 2009-February 2011)

Pitambar Sarangi, Secretary (from February 2011)

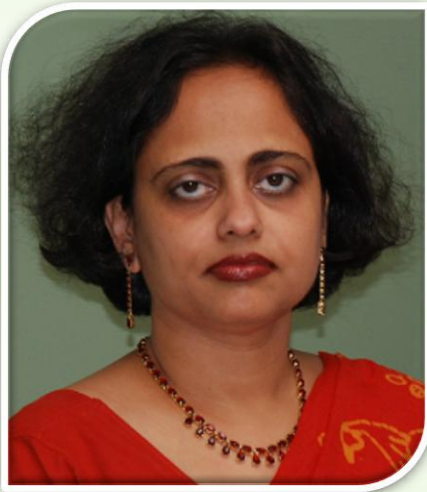
Dr Akhileswar Patel, Treasurer





## CHAPTER REPORTS

### CANOSA Chapter



#### **Reported by: Sabita Panigrahi**

##### Bishuba Milana Celebration in Toronto

Every year, around March 21, the Sun crosses the Celestial Equator from south to north and for a brief period, day and night are of equal length. This moment is known as the Vernal Equinox, and marks the beginning of the northern summer. Bishuba is the Oriya term for the equinox, and the Vernal Equinox marks the start of the New Year in Odisha. The day of the equinox is fixed on the Solar Calendar, but drifts around on the Lunar religious calendar and is now observed around the date of April 14.

Bisuba Milan or the Festival of the Equinox has been observed by Odias in Canada for the past three decades. This year the Bisuba Milan was organized by the Canada-Odisha Society of Americas on 14<sup>th</sup> of May at Port

Credit Secondary High School theatre, Mississauga. Around 190 people attended the function. The excitement started building up when the theatre opened at 2 PM and the volunteers trickled in early for setting up. The volunteer group responsible for snacks set up the dining area for mouth watering snacks with background Odia music going on. Another group of volunteers responsible for sound, light and stage started arranging inside the theatre. Slowly the audience started arriving and joined fun filled atmosphere.

The program started at 6 PM with an inaugural remark by Nibedita Pattanaik and Sabita Panigrahi. The evening belonged to the adult, youth and the very young. It began with a Siva Tandava Odissi dance performance by Somyashree Kar and Ineka Panigrahi. The piece was choreographed by renowned Guru Debaprasad Das and directed by Sushree Mishra Kar. This time the successful projection of stage light was a new development for CANOSA.

We were impressed by the performance of children who put three one act plays on the stage about freedom movement of Odisha. The dialogues were in old poetic style written by famous Kunja Bihari Das which was delivered flawlessly by children. The Paika dance was the high light of the children's play. There were many absolutely priceless moments on stage, mostly by the very young and some not so young. We were also charmed by the innate dance, music and dramatic abilities of the youth. The participating children were: Satwik Pattanaik, Srujani Das, Rajaram Sahu, Sharthak Das, Simran Dhal, Binjal Pradhan, Unjal Pradhan, Sruti Pandey, Riya Ratha, Payoja Mohanty, Shreeja Pattanaik, Ankita Nayak, Aniket and Anukriti Maharana, Aman Patra, Ronit Nayak, Prachi Satpathy, Ayush Patra, Aayusha Nayak, Kaushik Kanungo and Paras Pujari. The plays were coordinated by Sumitra Padhi, Nibedita Patnaik and directed by Prafulla Pujapanda. The Paika dance was choreographed and directed by Sushree Mishra Kar.

A dance performance with a medley of five old and new Odia hit songs was presented which mesmerized the audience with rhythm and aesthetics. The sound of the songs and rhythm of dances are still ringing in our head. The first song was a tribute to the singing superstar Akshaya Mohanty. This medley was beautifully created, directed and well organized by a noted Chhau Dancer, Madhusmita Gharai-Patra who also participated in the dance. Other dancers were: Aman Patra, Valmik Rao, Aditi Patnaik, Alisha Mohanty, Sailaxmi Sahoo, Sanvi Rao, Shivangi Senapati, Sara Sen, Sarina Sen, Prachi Satpathy, Suneeta Patra, Sarojini Mohanty, Mahnaz Sen, Sudhansu and Sangeeta Senapati.

For the occasion of Bishuba Milana a special souvenir was published where experienced and not so experienced contributed articles. This was inaugurated by Dr Jyotsna Mohapatra and souvenir chief editor Nilmani Nayak.

The last presentation of the CANOSA for the evening was a play titled Kukuda Chasa. This is a story of NRO trying to establish a business in Odisha. On the way he faces the stereotypic hurdles on his journey. It was indeed a splendid performance by our local artists. The script was well written and directed by Parasar Mishra. The artists were Parasar Mishra, Bhagaban Panigrahi, Gagan Behari Panigrahi, Abani Pattanayak, Ashish Patnaik, Manoj Panda, Rashmi Das and Rekha Mishra. The prompting was done by Rinki Mahapatra.

The concluding part of the programme was Bharat Natyam dance performance by invited artist Uma Vasudevan and her troupe. The dance and the mridangam recital were well appreciated by the audience. This

was celebrated as part of India in Canada which was possible due to the financial support of Ontario Arts Council.

Bhagaban Panigrahi distributed prizes to 30 children participants and it was facilitated by Swapna Patro and Mitali Das.

The program ended with a sumptuous dinner arranged in the dining area. In the hall photographs by Anupam Dash and paintings by Gagan Behari Panigrahi were displayed which were appreciated by many art lovers. The attendees gathered and socialized with fellow Odias while enjoying delicious food. The ambient was in any way not less than the atmosphere in Odisha. It was heartening to see so many people. The background music brought nostalgic feeling to the mind and socialization gave a big family atmosphere.

The programme would not have been possible without the help of the following volunteers: It was well organized by Cultural Chair Nibedita Patnaik. Program Coordinators were Madhusmita Ghadai, Sushree Mishra Kar, Parasar Mishra and Sumitra Padhi; Sound: Suvendu Mishra, Abani Pattanayak, Gagan Panigrahi; Lighting: Dinabandhu Rath and Arun Patra; Emcees: Sudeshna Patnaik, Amitabh Mohanty, Arpita Gantayet, Nikita Gantayet, Nibedita Pattanaik; Photography and Videography: Anupam Dash and Surydeep Dash; Decoration: Rashmi Das and Padmalaya Singh; Food Chair: Sudeshna Patnaik. Our on the spot volunteers are Sujata Patnaik, Ashok Das, Niranjan Mishra, Nalini Mishra, Sudhansu Senapati, Amitabh Mohanty, Prasad Rao, Hara Padhi, Sarojini Mohanty, Madhumita Das, Nilmani Nayak and Alok Patnaik. This year we had asked for youth volunteers and we had six youth volunteers who helped in various activities. They are Prerna Das, Suyash Pandey, Sidhant Mishra, Koushik Kanungo, Nikita Gantayet and Somyashree Kar.

Our sponsors are: Nilmani Nayak, Bhagaban Panigrahi, Jyoti Maharana, Lalu and Charu Mansinha, Prasad Rao and Sarojini Mohanty, Niranjan and Nalini Mishra and Anonymous 1. Sponsors for the Souvenir were Hara and Sumitra Padhi, Manoj Panda and Rinki Mahapatra, Gagan and Sabita Panigrahi.





## Washington DC Chapter



Gatikrishna Tripathy (President)

Maushumi Pattanayak (Vice-President)

Upendra Kumar Das (Secretary/Treasurer)

### **(Reported by Maushumi Pattanayak)**

We are finally out of the chilly winter and are into the bright and warm sunshine of summer. Many of us must have already planned escaping to some lovely getaways. Besides lazing by the pool, heading to beaches or grilling in the backyard, we observe some special events in this warm season. One such event is the graduation ceremony of our kids.

Let's congratulate our well deserved kids on their graduation.

Though, it signifies an end of a chapter in their life and the beginning of a new one. Moreover, Education is a weapon that can help you win the world without using a weapon. More importantly, don't follow the path that is already there; create one for yourself so that people can follow you tomorrow.

Congratulations to Shreyas Mahapatra, son of Tushar and Swaha Mahapatra, graduating from famous Thomas Jefferson High school. Your hard work, drive and dedication have paid off. You have truly made your parents and community proud of you. Keep it up and all the best!

Our hearty congratulations go to Blake Praharaj, son of Alok and Tanya Praharaj, on graduating from college. A small note of caution, it is time when the academics will slowly give way to career moves, when hopes and aspirations will soon be turning into actions.

**New Parents:**

Congratulations to Bishwa and Rozy Mahapatra on their baby boy "Ashvik" born last April.

**Cultural Event in Maryland:**

Mr. Debaki Nandan Chowdhury, a Maryland DC chapter member, launched a collection of Oriya and Hindi songs on a CD last May at the Hindu temple, Maryland. Many devotees, temple members and Oriya members gathered to grace the occasion. Debaki Nandan Chowdhury and temple priest Pundit Pitambar Ji performed live at the temple and captivated the audience with their devotional songs.

**Upcoming Events****Annual Raja Picnic 2011**

OSA Washington DC chapter is going to organize its annual Raja picnic on 19<sup>th</sup> June. This will be a fun filled family picnic with many activities for all ages.

**Eastern Regional Drama Festival 2011**

OSA Washington DC chapter is hosting the summer Eastern Regional Drama Festival on 3<sup>rd</sup> September along with Ganesh puja at Hindu temple. We encourage your participation to make this event a success. We will keep you informed about the details as we go along. All questions and comments regarding this event may be directed to Mr. Surya Sahu ([suryasahu@hotmail.com](mailto:suryasahu@hotmail.com)) is the Coordinator of the Eastern Regional Drama Festival Committee.

**Obituary:**

Sri Prakash Patnaik (Lulu) an active member of OSA, son of late Pranath Patnaik, a renowned leader of Orissa passed away on 6<sup>th</sup> May. He lived in many Oriya communities such as Washington DC/Maryland, New Jersey/New York, Florida. Prakash babu was an employee of United States Department of Energy (DOE) at Rockville, MD. He has been survived by his wife Ruilan, children Rocky and Mala, and the elder brother of Pradyot Patnaik (Pupu) of New Jersey and late Pradipta Patnaik (Dipu) of Derwood, MD. We extend our sincere condolences to the families and friends.





# TRAVELOGUE

## Mother Goddess - Womanhood

*Sri Gopal Mohanty*

(This article is based on my recent visit to Museum of Anatolian Civilizations and the Mausoleum of Atatürk in Ankara, Turkey)

### **Mother Goddess in antiquity**

Is motherhood or femininity divine? Apparently it was thought so in many ancient civilizations.

The cult of worshipping Mother Goddess can be traced back to various cultures since Neolithic times. The Neolithic settlement of Catalhoyuk in Anatolia, Turkey (c.7000 BC) provides archaeological evidence of the cult. Very recently, archeologists have unearthed a 16,000-year-old Mother Goddess figurine during a cave excavation in south Turkey. Anatolia's Goddess which was the dominant figure in ancient Middle Eastern religions shows an exceptional continuity until modern times. She was also worshiped in some form throughout the Mediterranean region. In Phrygia and Lydia she was known as Cybele; among the Babylonians and Assyrians she was identified as Ishtar; in Syria and Palestine she appeared as Astarte; among the Egyptians she was called Isis; in Greece she was variously worshiped as Gaea, Hera, Rhea, Aphrodite, and Demeter; and in Rome she was identified as Maia, Ops, Tellus, and Ceres. Even this listing, however, is by no means complete. Many attributes of the Virgin Mary make her the Christian equivalent of the Great Mother, particularly in her great beneficence, in her double image as mother and virgin, and in her son, who is God and who dies and is resurrected.

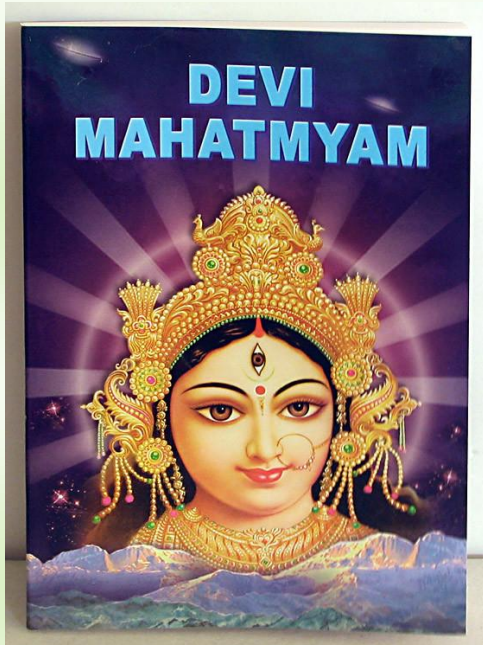


*A figure often interpreted as a Mother Goddess flanked by two lionesses – 6000–5500 BC Çatalhöyük, Turkey*

Essentially Mother Goddess represented the creative force in all nature, the mother of all things, responsible particularly for the periodic renewal of life. The later forms of her cult involved the worship of a male deity, variously considered her son, lover, or both (e.g., Adonis, Attis, and Osiris), whose death and resurrection representing vegetation symbolized the regenerative powers of the earth. Her names, shape and powers have been changing through time and cross cultural interactions. But her basic persona as the protector of all the life and fertility had remained still.

Turkey is one of the most important countries in the world where once communities led by women lived and reigned as matriarchal societies. This is why Turkey was in ancient times called the Land of Goddesses. See E. O. James, *The Cult of the Mother Goddess* (1959, repr. 1961).

### **Mother Goddess in India – Mahadevi**



In Indian mythology, Mother Goddess is conceived as Devi (Goddess), Mahadevi (Great Goddess). An underlying theological assumption in texts celebrating the Mahadevi is that the ultimate reality in the universe is a powerful, creative, active, transcendent female being. Thus she is more than simply to represent the creative force. Her epithets express her many attributes. Besides describing her as to create and protect life, such as she whose womb contains the universe (Visvagarbha), she who is the support of all (Sarvadhara) and she who is said to be the mother of all, she who is the root of the world (Jagatikanda), she who transcends the universe (Visvadhika), she who has no equal (Nirupama), supreme ruler (Paramesvari), she who pervades all (Vyapini), she who is immeasurable (Aprameya), she who is omnipresent (Sarvaga) and she who is the ruler

of all worlds (Sarvalokesi), she is to be the life force of all beings, to be the ruler of all beings and to be the only cause of the universe.

One of the central philosophic ideas underlying the Mahadevi, an idea that in many ways captures her essential nature, is sakti. Sakti means "power"; in Hindu philosophy and theology sakti is understood to be the active dimension of the godhead, the divine power that underlies the godhead's ability to create the world and to display itself. It is the complementary pole of the divine tendency towards stillness. Sakti is identified with a female being, a goddess and the other pole with her male consort. (This philosophy is expressed in concepts such as Ardhanariswara, iDA-pingala in kundalini yoga and yin-yang in Chinese philosophy). At the same time, one of the most interesting facets of Devi's character is her independence. The Goddess here does not depend on a male consort, and successfully manages male roles herself. She does not lend her powers or sakti to a male consort but rather takes power from the male gods in order to perform her own heroic exploits. They give up their inner strength, fire, and heat to create her and in so doing surrender their potency to her. In this role one finds similarity with Mother Goddess in Neolithic times to represent dominating feminine force over men.

There is however another idea with which the Devi is associated. She is (1) ultimate reality itself having no qualities or beyond all qualities (nirguna), and (2) the source of all divine manifestations, male and female (but especially female) as having qualities (saguna). She is portrayed as a great cosmic queen enthroned in the highest heaven, with a multitude of deities as the agents through which she governs the infinite universes. In her ultimate essence, however, she is beyond all qualities, beyond male and female.

See David R. Kinsley, *Hindu goddesses: visions of the divine feminine in the Hindu religious tradition*, University of California Press; 1 edition (July 19, 1988) and *Devi-Mahatmya; Devi-Bhagavatam*

### **Mother's Day**

Rooted in antiquity, the highly traditional practice of honouring motherhood with spiritual overtones to worship Mother Goddess has transcended to recent human focus by celebrating Mother's Day. A religious holiday in this respect was observed in Europe to fall on the fourth Sunday Lent (the 40 days of fasting preceding Easter Sunday). In the 1600s, England broadened the church celebration to include real mothers, referring to the day as Mothering Day.

The first North American Mother's Day was conceptualized with Mother's Day Proclamation in 1870 by Julia Ward Howe, a prominent American abolitionist, social activist, and poet. Despite having penned The Battle Hymn of the Republic 12 years earlier, Howe had become so distraught by the death and carnage of the Civil War that she called on Mother's to come together and protest what she saw as the futility of their Sons killing the Sons of other Mothers. She also called for an international Mother's Day celebrating peace and motherhood with the following words:

*Arise, then, women of this day!  
Arise all women who have hearts,  
Whether your baptism be that of water or of tears  
Say firmly:*

*"We will not have great questions decided by irrelevant agencies,  
Our husbands shall not come to us reeking of carnage,  
For caresses and applause.  
Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn  
All that we have been able to teach them of  
charity, mercy and patience.*

*"We women of one country  
Will be too tender of those of another country  
To allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs."*

*From the bosom of the devastated earth a voice goes up with  
Our own. It says, "Disarm, Disarm!"  
The sword of murder is not the balance of justice!  
Blood does not wipe out dishonor  
Nor violence indicate possession.  
As men have of ten forsaken the plow and the anvil at the summons of war.*

*Let women now leave all that may be left of home  
For a great and earnest day of counsel.*

*Let them meet first, as women, to bewail and commemorate the dead.*

*Let them then solemnly take counsel with each other as to the means  
Whereby the great human family can live in peace,  
Each bearing after his own time the sacred impress, not of Caesar,  
But of God.*

*In the name of womanhood and humanity, I earnestly ask  
That a general congress of women without limit of nationality  
May be appointed and held at some place deemed most convenient  
And at the earliest period consistent with its objects  
To promote the alliance of the different nationalities,  
The amicable settlement of international questions.  
The great and general interests of peace.*

Howe proposed to have a National holiday as Mother's Day. At one point Howe even proposed converting July 4th into Mother's Day, in order to dedicate the nation's anniversary to peace. Eventually, however, June 2nd was designated for the celebration. She initially funded many of these celebrations, but most of them died out once she stopped footing the bill. Despite the decided failure of her holiday, Howe had nevertheless planted the seed that would blossom into what we know as Mother's Day today.



A West Virginia women's group led by Anna Reeves Jarvis began to celebrate an adaptation of Howe's holiday. After Anna Reeves Jarvis died, her daughter Anna M. Jarvis campaigned for the creation of an official Mother's Day in remembrance of her mother and in honor of peace. She devoted herself full time to the creation of Mother's Day. .



In 1912 West Virginia became the first state to officially recognize Mother's Day, and in 1914 Woodrow Wilson signed it into national observance, declaring the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. By the time of Anna M. Jarvis's death in 1948, over 40 countries observed the Mother's Day.

### **Atatürk's reforms on women**



Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder of modern Turkey brought many social reforms, a major one being the liberation of the women of Turkey by giving them political and social rights and rights for women to be elected for the parliament.



Some of Atatürk's views on Turkish women and their rights:

"Everything we see in the world is the creative work of women."

"Human kind is made up of two sexes, women and men. Is it possible that a mass is improved by the improvement of only one part and the other part is ignored? Is it possible that if half of a mass is tied to earth with chains and the other half can soar into skies?"

"Our women must be more enlightened, more intellectual and more learned than men if they really want to be the mother of the nation."

"Our religion has never demanded women to be lower than men. In Turkish social life, women have never been any less than men in science, knowledge or in any other field."

"Actually, our women have always been side to side with our men in social life. Not only today, but for a long time past, our women have worked and struggled no less than men on the fronts, in farming, and in making a living. "

"It has always been them, the divine women of Anatolia who not only plowed and sowed fields, gathered firewood from the woods and mountains, took the crop to the market and cashed it, provided bread and butter to their families, but also carried ammunition to the front in ox carts or on their shoulders under severe conditions."

While many parts of the world are struggling for women empowerment, Turkey under the progressive ruler Mustafa Kemal Atatürk achieved it long time back.



(Istanbul Mosque, Photo courtesy: Google images)



## MUSINGS

ଉଦ୍ୟାନର ସଂପର୍କ

(ପୂର୍ବ ପ୍ରକାଶିତ ଉତ୍ତରୁ)

ବିଜ୍ଞାନୀ ଦାସ, ଡେପୁଟି, ମେରୀଲାଣ୍ଡ

ଶ୍ରୀଜୟ କୁମାରଙ୍କ ସହିତ ଗପ କରୁକରୁ କେତେବେଳେ ତାଙ୍କ ଶୁଣୁରଙ୍କ ଘରେ ପହଞ୍ଚିଗଲା ପ୍ରତିଭାକୁ କିଛି ଜଣାପଡ଼ିଲାନି । ଶ୍ରୀଜୟ ନେଇ ସିଧା ବୈଠକଖାନାରେ ପହଞ୍ଚାଇଦେଲେ । ସେତେବେଳକୁ ବୈଠକଖାନାରେ ସାତ-ଆଠ ଜଣ ଲୋକ ବସି କଣ ଗୋଟିଏ ଆଲୋଚନା କରୁଥାନ୍ତି । ପ୍ରତିଭା ପହଞ୍ଚିବା ମାତ୍ରେ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ଦୃଷ୍ଟି ତା ଉପରେ ନିବନ୍ଧ ହେଲା । ଶ୍ରୀଜୟ ସିଧା ଡକ୍ଟର ନିରାକାର ଦାଶଙ୍କ ପାଖକୁ ପ୍ରତିଭାକୁ ନେଇଗଲେ ଓ ପରିଚୟ କରାଇଦେଲେ ।

“ବାବା, ଇଏ ପ୍ରତିଭା, ମୋର ସାଙ୍ଗ । ଉଦ୍ଭିଦତତ୍ତ୍ୱ ଉପରେ ପିଏଚ୍‌ଡି କରିଛନ୍ତି ।”

ନିରାକାର ଦାଶଙ୍କ ଆଖି ଝଲସି ଉଠିଲା । ପ୍ରତିଭା ନମସ୍କାର କରିବା ପରେ ତାକୁ ବସିବାକୁ କହି ଅନ୍ୟ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ଚାଲିଯିବାକୁ କହିଲେ । ଜଣେ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତି ସେମାନଙ୍କ ଭିତରୁ ମନ୍ତବ୍ୟ ଦେଲେ, “ଏ ଉଦ୍ୟାନ ସଂରକ୍ଷଣ କମିଟିର ଯୋଜନାଟା ଯଦି ଆଲୋଚନା କରିଦେଇଥାନ୍ତେ ତେବେ ଭଲ ହୋଇଥାନ୍ତା ।” ସେ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଙ୍କର ସ୍ୱର ପ୍ରତିଭାକୁ ପରିଚିତ ମନେହେଲା ଓ ପ୍ରତିଭା ଫେରି ଚାହିଁଲା ।



ସାମନାରେ ଯାହାଙ୍କୁ ଦେଖିଲା, ବିଶ୍ୱାସ କରିପାରିଲାନି । “ହିସ୍‌ହିସ୍ ଶବ୍ଦ କରୁଥିବା ସେ ସର୍ପ ଭଳି ମଣିଷଟା ଏଠି କଣ କରୁଛି ?” ସିଏ କିନ୍ତୁ ଏବେ ସଭ୍ୟ ବେଶପଟାରେ ଥିଲା । କଳାରଙ୍ଗର କୋର୍ଟ ସହିତ ତାଙ୍କ ବି ପିନ୍ଧିଥିଲା ଓ ଭଦ୍ର ଦିଶୁଥିଲା । “ଏ କଣ ସେହି ବ୍ୟକ୍ତି?” – ପ୍ରତିଭା ମନରେ ପ୍ରଶ୍ନ ।

ଡକ୍ଟର ଦାଶ ପରିଚୟ କରାଇଦେଲେ । “ଇଏ ହେଲେ ଡକ୍ଟର ପ୍ରଧାନ; ଉଦ୍‌ଭିଦବିଜ୍ଞାନରେ ବହୁତ ଗବେଷଣା କରିଛନ୍ତି । ମୁଁ ଏ ଉଦ୍ୟାନର ରକ୍ଷଣାବେକ୍ଷଣ ପାଇଁ ତାଙ୍କର ପରାମର୍ଶ ନିଏ । ”

ସେ ଡକ୍ଟର ପ୍ରଧାନ ପ୍ରତିଭା ଆଡ଼କୁ ଏମିତି ତୀକ୍ଷଣ ଚାହାଣୀରେ ଚାହିଁଲେ ଯେ ପ୍ରତିଭା ଜାଣିପାରିଲା ଇଏ ସେହି ବ୍ୟକ୍ତି । ମନେମନେ ଭାବିଲା, “ସେଇଥିପାଇଁ ତ ଉଦ୍ୟାନର ଗୋଟିଏ ପାର୍ଶ୍ୱ ଏମିତି ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ହୋଇଛି ।” ତେବେ କିଛି ନ କହି ସେ ଡକ୍ଟର ପ୍ରଧାନଙ୍କୁ ନମସ୍କାର ଜଣାଇଲା ।

ଡକ୍ଟର ପ୍ରଧାନ କହିଲେ, “ଜାଣି ଖୁସି ହେଲି ଯେ ତମେ ବି ଉଦ୍‌ଭିଦବିଜ୍ଞାନରେ ବହୁତ ଗବେଷଣା କରିଛ । ଆମେ ମିଶି କିଛି ଗୋଟିଏ ଭଲ ଯୋଜନା କରିବା ଯାହା ଫଳରେ କି ଏ ଉଦ୍ୟାନଟିର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ ଟର୍ମ ସଂରକ୍ଷଣ ହୋଇପାରିବ ।”

“ଏ ତ ସେଇ ଲୋକ ।” ପ୍ରତିଭାକୁ ଅଛପା ରହିଲାନି ଯେ ସେ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତି କେମିତି ବହୁରୂପୀ ସାଜି ଶ୍ରୀଜୟଙ୍କ ଶୁଣୁରଙ୍କୁ ଠକାଉଛି । ତେବେ ଡକ୍ଟର ଦାଶ ପ୍ରଧାନଙ୍କୁ ପରେ ଭେଟିବାକୁ କହିଲେ ଓ ଶ୍ରୀଜୟ ଏବଂ ପ୍ରତିଭା ଉଭୟଙ୍କୁ ବସିବାକୁ କହିଲେ । ଅନିଚ୍ଛା ସତ୍ତ୍ୱେ ଡକ୍ଟର ପ୍ରଧାନ ବିଦାୟ ନେଲେ ।

ପ୍ରତିଭାର ମୁହଁ ଦେଖି ମନକଥା ଯେମିତି ବୁଝିପାରିଲେ ଡକ୍ଟର ଦାଶ । ପଚାରିଲେ, “ତମେ କଣ ପ୍ରଧାନଙ୍କୁ ଆଗରୁ ଜାଣିଛ ?” “ନା! ନା! ଏଇତ ଘଣ୍ଟାଏ ପୂର୍ବରୁ ତାଙ୍କ ସହିତ ଭେଟ ହୋଇଥିଲା । ତେବେ ତାଙ୍କର ବେଶପୋଷାକ ଅଲଗା ଥିଲା । ମୋର ଯାହା ମନେ ହେଉଛି, ଏ ସେହି ଲୋକ; ଶରୀର ଢାଞ୍ଚା, କଥାବାଣୀ, ସ୍ୱର, ସବୁ ତ ଏକା ଭଳି; ତେବେ ପଛପଟେ ଥିବା ଗେଟ୍‌ରେ ହିଁ ସେ ମତେ ଭିତରକୁ ନ ଆସି ଫେରିଯିବାକୁ କହିଥିଲେ ।”

ଡକ୍ଟର ଦାଶ ଟିକିଏ ଚିନ୍ତିତ ଦେଖାଗଲେ । ତାପରେ କହିଲେ, “ସିଏ ଆମ ଗାଁର ଲୋକ । ଆମେମାନେ ଉଭୟ ଏକା ସ୍କୁଲରେ ପଢ଼ିଛୁ । ତେବେ ତା’ ବିଷୟରେ ଅନେକ ଲୋକ ଏମିତି କହିଲେଣି । ହେଲେ ମୋ ପାଖରେ କିଛି ସେମିତି ପ୍ରମାଣ ନାହିଁ ଯେ ମୁଁ ତାକୁ ଏକଥା ପଚାରିପାରିବି ।”

ପ୍ରତିଭାକୁ ତାପରେ ଡକ୍ଟର ଦାଶ ତାର ଗବେଷଣା ବିଷୟ, ପରିବାର, ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ଆଗ୍ରହ ଇତ୍ୟାଦି ବିଷୟରେ ପଚାରିଲେ । ସେସବୁ ଆଲୋଚନା ସରିବା ପରେ ଏ ଉଦ୍ୟାନ ବିଷୟରେ ପ୍ରତିଭାର ଅନୁଭୂତି ଓ ଦୂରଦୃଷ୍ଟି ପ୍ରସଙ୍ଗରେ ମତାମତ ଚାହିଁଲେ ।

“ଉଦ୍ୟାନର ପଛପଟର ଫାଟକଟି ବନ୍ଦ ରହିବାର କଥା । ତାହେଲେ ଦର୍ଶକମାନେ ଠିକ୍ ଭାବେ ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଫାଟକ ବାଟେ ଉଦ୍ୟାନରେ ପ୍ରବେଶ କରନ୍ତେ ଓ ଭଲ ଅନୁଭୂତି ନେଇ ଫେରନ୍ତେ ।” – ପ୍ରତିଭା ମତାମତ ଦେଲା ।

“ସେଇଟା ତ ବନ୍ଦ ଥାଏ । ମୁଁ ବୁଝିପାରୁନି କିଏ ଖୋଲିଲା । ପ୍ରକୃତରେ ଏ ଉଦ୍ୟାନରେ ପ୍ରବେଶ କରିବାପାଇଁ ପୂର୍ବେ ଅନେକ ଫାଟକ ରଖାଯାଇଥିଲା । ସେଇଟା ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ସୁବିଧା ହେଉଥିଲା । ହେଲେ କେତେଜଣ ଜଗୁଆଳି ଦର୍ଶକମାନଙ୍କୁ ଭ୍ରମଧାରଣା ଦେଲେ, ଉଦ୍ୟାନ ବିଷୟରେ ମିଛ ଓ ଖରାପ କଥା କହି କେତେ ଦର୍ଶକମାନଙ୍କୁ ଘଉଡ଼ାଇ ଦେଲେ; ଏମିତିକି ସେମାନଙ୍କଠାରୁ ଉଦ୍ୟାନ ନାଁରେ ଚାନ୍ଦା ଆଦାୟ କରି ନିଜେ ଖର୍ଚ୍ଚକଲେ । ସେଥିପାଇଁ ସବୁ ଫାଟକ ବନ୍ଦ କରାଯାଇ ଗୋଟିଏ ଫାଟକ ମୁଖ୍ୟଦ୍ୱାର ଭାବେ ରଖାଯାଇଛି ।”

ଡକ୍ଟର୍ ଦାଶଙ୍କ ଠାରୁ ଉପରୋକ୍ତ କାହାଣୀ ଶୁଣି ଉଭୟ ଶ୍ରୀଜୟ ଓ ପ୍ରତିଭା ଚମକିପଡ଼ିଲେ । ଶ୍ରୀଜୟ ତାଙ୍କର ନିଜ ଜୁଆଁଇ ହେଲେ ବି ଉଦ୍ୟାନର ଏ ଇତିହାସ ସଂପର୍କରେ ଜାଣିନଥିଲେ ।

“ଆପଣ ସେମିତି ଦୁର୍ଘର୍ଷ କରୁଥିବା ଲୋକମାନଙ୍କ ବିରୁଦ୍ଧରେ କିଛି ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ନେଇଥିଲେ ?” - ପ୍ରତିଭାର ପ୍ରଶ୍ନ ।  
“ନା! ”

ହଠାତ୍ କବାଟରେ ଖଟ୍‌ଖଟ୍ ଶବ୍ଦ ହେଲା । ଶ୍ରୀଜୟ ଯାଇ ଦ୍ୱାର ଖୋଲିଲେ । ଭିତରକୁ ଯିଏ ଆସିଲେ, ତାଙ୍କୁ ଦେଖି ପ୍ରତିଭା ଚିହ୍ନିପାରିଲା । ଏ ଯୁବକ ଜଣକ ନରସିଂହ ନାମଧାରୀ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଟି ସହିତ ମିଶି ତାର ରାସ୍ତା ଅବରୋଧ କରିଥିଲା । ପ୍ରତିଭାର ମନେହେଲା ସେ ଯେମିତି କବାଟରେ କାନ ଦେଇ ଏମାନଙ୍କ କଥୋପକଥନ ଶୁଣୁଥିଲା ।

ସିଏ କହିଲା, “ମଉସା, ଆପଣଙ୍କୁ ଜଳଖିଆ ଖାଇବା ପାଇଁ ମାଉସୀ ତକାଇ ପଠାଇଛନ୍ତି ।”

“ମୁଁ ଅଧଘଣ୍ଟା ପରେ ଯିବି । ଶ୍ରୀଜୟର ସାଙ୍ଗ ଲଏ ପ୍ରତିଭା ଆସିଛନ୍ତି, ତାଙ୍କ ସହିତ ଟିକେ କଥାବାର୍ତ୍ତା ସାରି ଆମେ ସମସ୍ତେ ଜଳଖିଆ ଖାଇବାକୁ ଯିବୁ ।”

“ନା! ଆପଣ ଏବେ ଆସନ୍ତୁ; ସେଇଠି ଖାଉଥିବେ ଓ କଥାବାର୍ତ୍ତା କରୁଥିବେ ।”

“ଠିକ୍ ଅଛି । ତୁ ଯାଇ ମାଉସୀକୁ କହିଦେ ମୁଁ ଦଶ ମିନିଟ୍‌ରେ ଆସୁଛି ।”

“ପାଞ୍ଚ ମିନିଟ୍‌ରେ ଆସନ୍ତୁ । ନହେଲେ ମାଉସୀ ବିରକ୍ତ ହେବେ ।”

ସେ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଜଣକ ଯିବାପରେ ଶ୍ରୀଜୟ କହିଲେ, “ପ୍ରତିଭା, ତମେ କିଛି ଖରାପ ଭାବିବନି । ମୁଁ ଏବେ ଟିକେ ଏ ସୁରର ପିଛା କରିବି । କାରଣ ସିଏ ସବୁବେଳେ ମିଛ କହେ; ଏବେ ଯାଇ ମୋ ଶାଶୁ ଓ ସ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କୁ କଣ ଯେ କହିଦେବ, ଜଣାନାହିଁ । ତମେ ବାବାଙ୍କ ସହିତ କଥା ହୋଇ ପାଞ୍ଚମିନିଟ୍‌ରେ ଆସ ।”

ଶ୍ରୀଜୟ ଯିବାପରେ ପ୍ରତିଭା କହିଲା, “ଆଜ୍ଞା, ଏ ଯେଉଁ ସୁର ଏଠାକୁ ଆସିଥିଲେ, ମୁଁ ତାଙ୍କୁ ବି ସେ ପଛ ଫାଟକ ପାଖରେ ଭେଟିଥିଲି ।”  
“ହଁ ସେକଥା ବି ମୁଁ ଶୁଣିଛି । ସୁରଟା ଅର୍ଦ୍ଧପାଗଳ ପିଲାଟିଏ । ତାର ସବୁବେଳେ ଆଚେନ୍‌ସନ୍ ଦରକାର । ତାର ଏ ଦୁର୍ବଳତାର ସୁଯୋଗ ନେଉଛି ସନାତନ । ସୁରକୁ ବେଳେବେଳେ ପ୍ରଶଂସାରେ ଏମିତି ମିଛରେ ଯୋଡ଼ିଦେଉଛି ଯେ, ସୁର ତାକୁ ଠାକୁର ମଣୁଛି । ତାପରେ ସିଏ ତାକୁ ବ୍ୟବହାର କରୁଛି ।”

“ସନାତନ କିଏ? ମୁଁ କିନ୍ତୁ ଏହାକୁ ନରସିଂହ ବୋଲି ଜଣେ ଦୁର୍ଘବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଙ୍କ ସହିତ ଦେଖିଥିଲି ।”

“ଏ ଉଦ୍ୟାନ ବିଷୟରେ ସବୁକଥା ଜାଣିବାକୁ କିଛିଦିନ ଲାଗିବ । ତେବେ ସଂକ୍ଷେପରେ ସନାତନ ମୋର ପ୍ରତିଦ୍ୱନ୍ଦୀ ଥିଲା । ଏ ଉଦ୍ୟାନର ମାଲିକ ହେବାକୁ ସେ ବି ଦରଖାସ୍ତ ପକାଇଥିଲା । କିନ୍ତୁ ହୋଇପାରିଲାଣି; ସେଇଦିନଠାରୁ ତାର ମୋ ଉପରେ ରାଗ । ମୋ ଉପରେ

ରାଗ ହେଲା ତ ଠିକ୍ ଅଛି, କିନ୍ତୁ ତାର ସେ ରାଗ ଓ ଇର୍ଷା ଏତେ ଦୂର ଯାଇଛି ଯେ ଉଦ୍ୟାନଟିର ସଂପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଧ୍ୱଂସ କରିଦେବାକୁ ବି ସେ ଅନେକ ଯୋଜନା କରିଛି ।”

“ହେଲେ ଆପଣ ଜାଣିଜାଣି ଏ ସୁରକୁ କେମିତି ନିଜଘରେ ପ୍ରବେଶ କରିବାର ଅଧିକାର ଦେଇଛନ୍ତି?”

“ସୁର ଉପରେ ମୋର ବିଶ୍ୱାସ ଅଛି ଏଇଥିପାଇଁ କି ଯେ ସେ ମୋ କଥା ଶୁଣେ । ଦ୍ୱିତୀୟରେ ଏ ଉଦ୍ୟାନଟିକୁ ସେ କେବେ ନଷ୍ଟ ହେବାକୁ ଦେବନି ।”

“କଣପାଇଁ ଏତେ ବିଶ୍ୱାସ ଆପଣଙ୍କର ?”

ପ୍ରତିଭାର ପ୍ରଶ୍ନ ଶେଷ ହେଇନି, ପୁଣି କବାଟରେ ଶବ୍ଦ ହେଲା ଓ ସୁର ଡାକଦେଲା । ଶ୍ରୀଜୟ ବି ସୁରର ପଛେପଛେ ଆସିଲେ । ଜଣାପଡୁଥାଏ ସେ ସୁରକୁ ସତରେ ଯେମିତି ପିଛା କରୁଥିଲେ । ସୁରର କାହାଣୀ ପ୍ରତିଭାକୁ ରହସ୍ୟରେ ବାନ୍ଧିଦେଲା । “କିଏ ଏହି ସୁର? କି ସଂପର୍କ ତାର ତକ୍ଟର ଦାଶଙ୍କ ସହିତ ଯେ ସେ ତାକୁ ବିଶ୍ୱାସ କରୁଛନ୍ତି ?”

ଉଭୟ ସୁର ଓ ଶ୍ରୀଧର “ଜଳଖିଆ ପ୍ରସ୍ତୁତ ଓ ସେଇଠି କଥାବାର୍ତ୍ତା ହେବ” କହି ଡାକିଲେ ।

ଡାକନିଙ୍କ ରୁମ୍‌ରେ ଶ୍ରୀଜୟ ପରିଚୟ କରାଇଦେଲେ ତାଙ୍କ ପତ୍ନୀ ସୁଲଗ୍ନା ଓ ଶାଶୁ କନକଙ୍କୁ । ସେମାନେ ବହୁତ ସ୍ନେହୀ ମନେହେଲେ । ସେମାନଙ୍କ କଥାବାର୍ତ୍ତା ଓ ହାବଭାବରୁ ବହୁତ ଘରୁଆ ଘରୁଆ ମନେହେଲେ । ଜଣାପଡୁଥିଲା ଉଦ୍ୟାନଟିକୁ ନେଇ ଯେଉଁସବୁ ମନାନ୍ତର, ମତାନ୍ତର ଓ ଆଭ୍ୟନ୍ତରୀଣ ଦୁନ୍ଦ୍ୱ ସୃଷ୍ଟିହୋଇଛି, ସେଥିରେ ଏମାନଙ୍କର କିଛି ଜ୍ଞାନ କି ଆଗ୍ରହ ନାହିଁ । ସେଇଟା କନକ ମାଉସୀ କ୍ଷୁଦ୍ର ଭାବେ ପ୍ରକାଶ କରିଦେଲେ ।

“ମୁଁ ତ ତମ ମଉସାଙ୍କୁ କେବେଠାରୁ କହୁଛି ଏ ଉଦ୍ୟାନଟିକୁ ବିକିଦିଅ କି ସରକାରଙ୍କୁ ଦେଇଦିଅ । କାମ ସରିଯାନ୍ତା । ଖାଲିରେ ଏତେ ଜଞ୍ଜଳରେ ପଶିବା କଣ ଦରକାର ? ଏଥିରେ ଏତେ ସମୟ ଯାଉଛି ଯେ, ଖାଲି ସବୁଦିନେ ମିଟିଙ୍ଗ୍ । ମଣିଷ ଜୀବନରେ ଆଉ କିଛି କରିବାର ଅଛି କି ନାହିଁ ?”

ପ୍ରତିଭା କନକଙ୍କର ସବୁକଥାରେ ହୁଁ ମାରୁଥାନ୍ତି । ତକ୍ଟର ଦାଶ ଖାଉଥାନ୍ତି ଓ ମୁରୁକିମୁରୁକି ହସୁଥାନ୍ତି । ସେ ସୁରଟା ବି ସେଇଠି ଥାଏ ଓ ପ୍ରତିଭାଙ୍କୁ ଖାଲି ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ କରୁଥାଏ । ଯାହା କଥାବାର୍ତ୍ତା ହେଉଥିବ ଏ ସୁର ନିଷ୍ଠୟ ଯାଇ ସେ ସନାତନ, ନରସିଂହ ଆଉ ତକ୍ଟର ପ୍ରଧାନଙ୍କ ଗୋଷ୍ଠିକୁ ଜଣାଇବ । ତେବେ ପ୍ରତିଭାକୁ ବଡ଼ ଆଶ୍ଚର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଲାଗୁଥିଲା ଯେ ପରସ୍ପର ବିରୋଧୀ ଦୁଇଗୋଷ୍ଠୀର ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସହିତ ଏ ସୁର କେମିତି ଅତୁଟ ଭୂମିକାରେ ଅଭିନୟ କରୁଛି ।

ପ୍ରତିଭା ଏପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ତକ୍ଟର ଦାଶଙ୍କ ସହିତ ସବୁ ଦୁଃଖଲୋକମାନଙ୍କୁ ହିଁ ଜାଣିଲା ଯେଉଁମାନେ ଉଦ୍ୟାନଟିର ଧ୍ୱଂସ ଚାହାନ୍ତି; ତେବେ ଯେଉଁମାନେ ଏ ଉଦ୍ୟାନଟିର ସଂରକ୍ଷକ, ଉଦ୍ୟାନଟି ପାଇଁ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରୁଛନ୍ତି, ଉଦ୍ୟାନଟିର ଯତ୍ନ ନେଉଛନ୍ତି ଓ ଉପଭୋଗ କରୁଛନ୍ତି, ସେମାନେ କିଏ? ବିଶେଷତଃ ସେ ସୌମ୍ୟପୁରୁଷ ଯାହାଙ୍କୁ ଦେଖି ନରସିଂହ ଅନ୍ତର୍ଦ୍ଧାନ ହୋଇଯାଇଥିଲା, ତାଙ୍କ ସଂପର୍କରେ ଜାଣିବାକୁ ଇଚ୍ଛା ହେଉଥିଲା ।

ସୁଲଗ୍ନା ଆଣି ଆଉ ଦୁଇଟି ଆଳୁଚପ୍ ପେଟ୍‌ରେ ରଖିଦେଇଗଲା । ପ୍ରତିଭା ଦିନସାରା ଭଲକରି ଖାଇନଥିଲା । ଅବଶ୍ୟ ସେ ଏମାନଙ୍କ ସହିତ ପ୍ରଥମଥର ମିଶୁଛି ଓ ସଂଭ୍ରମତା ରକ୍ଷାକରି ତାର ଅଳ୍ପ ଖାଇବା ଭଡ଼ିତ, ତଥାପି ଜଳଖିଆ ଏତେ ସୁସ୍ୱାଦୁ ଥିଲା ଯେ, ସେ ଖାଇ ଚାଲିଥିଲା । ମସଲା ଦୋସା, ଆଳୁଚପ୍, କାକରା ପିଠା ସାଙ୍ଗକୁ ସମ୍ବର, ଗୁଗୁନି ଓ ନଡ଼ିଆ ଚଟଣୀ; ତା ସାଙ୍ଗକୁ ସିରୀ, ରସଗୋଲା ଓ

ଛେନାମୁତୁକି । ଉଭୟ ସୁଲଗ୍ନା ଓ କନକ ମାଉସୀ ତାକୁ ବଳାଇ ବଳାଇ ଖୁଆଉଥିଲେ ଓ ସେଥିପାଇଁ ପ୍ରତିଭା ସେମାନଙ୍କୁ ମନେମନେ ଧନ୍ୟବାଦ ଦେଲା ।

“ସମସ୍ତେ ସେ ପୋଖରୀକୁଳରେ ବସି ଗପସପ କରୁଛନ୍ତି ଓ ସେଇଠି ଜଳଖିଆ ଖାଉଛନ୍ତି; ହେଲେ ମତେ ସେ କୋଳାହଳ ଭଲ ଲାଗୁନି । ତମକୁ ସୁଲୁ ପୋଖରୀକୁଳକୁ ନେଇଯିବ ଓ ସେଠି ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ଚିହ୍ନାପରିଚୟ କରାଇଦେବ । ଆଜିକାଲିଆ ପିଲା ଏତେ ଜୋର୍ରେ ଗୀତ ସବୁ ଲଗେଇ ଦେଉଛନ୍ତି ଯେ ମୋ ମୁଣ୍ଡ ଚକ୍‌କର କାଟିଯାଉଛି ।” – କନକମାଉସୀ କହିଲେ ।

ପ୍ରତିଭା ଭାବୁଥିଲା ତକ୍‌ଟର୍ ଦାଶଙ୍କ ସହିତ ବେଶୀ ସମୟ ଉଦ୍ୟାନ ବିଷୟରେ କଥାବାର୍ତ୍ତା କରି ସବୁ ଘଟଣା ଜାଣିଥାନ୍ତା । ତେବେ କନକମାଉସୀଙ୍କର ଏ ପ୍ରସ୍ତାବଟା ବି ତାକୁ ଭଲଲାଗିଲା ।

ସୁଲଗ୍ନା କହିଲା, “ଭାଉଜଙ୍କୁ ମାଇଁଙ୍କୁ ଏଇଠିକୁ ଡାକିଦେବାକି? ସେଠି ଏତେ ଜୋର ଗୀତ, କାଁ, ଭାଁରେ କଣ କିଛି କଥାବାର୍ତ୍ତା କରିହେବ ? ମୁଁ ଯାଉଛି ଡାକିଆଣିବି ?”

ସୁଲଗ୍ନାର କଥା ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ମନକୁ ପାଇଲା । ହେଲେ ପ୍ରତିଭା ବୁଝିପାରିଲାନି ସିଏ କଣ ଏମିତି ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିତ୍ୱ ଯେ ତାକୁ ଭେଟିବାକୁ ସମସ୍ତେ ଏଠିକି ଆସିବେ । ତେଣୁ ସେ କହିଲା, “ମୋର ବି ଟିକେ ପୋଖରୀକୁଳକୁ ଯାଇ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ଭେଟିବାକୁ ଇଚ୍ଛାହେଉଛି; ସୁଲୁଙ୍କ ସହିତ ମୁଁ ନିଜେ ଯାଇପାରିବି ।”

ଏ କଥାରେ କାହାର କିଛି ଆପତ୍ତି ନଥିଲା ।

କେବଳ କନକଙ୍କୁ ଛାଡ଼ି ସମସ୍ତେ ପୋଖରୀକୁଳ ଆଡେ ଯିବାକୁ ମନକଲେ । – କ୍ରମଶଃ

## ORIYA RECIPES (Raja Special)



### Alu Dum

**Sulochana Patnaik, Elkridge, MD**

5 pound red small size potatoes boiled and peeled, cut into halves  
Cumin and coriander powder - 2 tbs  
Chilly powder - 1 tbs  
Slightly roasted poppy seeds - 2tbs  
Medium size ginger - 2 inch piece  
Grind the above ingredients to make a paste  
2 medium size tomatoes (cut into very small pieces)  
1 tea spoon of garam masala  
One small bunch of coriander leaves - chopped  
Tomato puree or crushed tomato - 8 oz

Add 10-12 tbs of vegetable oil to the heated pan. When oil is heated add fresh cut tomatoes and half of the chopped coriander leaves. Stir it for 2-3 minutes. Add the masala paste and stir it on medium heat until oil separates. Add cut potatoes and stir. Let the potatoes mix thoroughly with the masala. Now add crushed/pureed tomato. Stir for 5 minutes. Add two cups of boiled water. Let it simmer for another 5 minutes. Before you turn off the stove add garam masala and the rest of the chopped coriander leaves.

Your aloo dum is ready now.

Try with hot Baras or cold Dahibaras



## Amba (Mango) Lassi

**Urmila Sahu, North Potomac, MD**

8 cups (64 oz.) plain yogurt  
1 can (30 oz.) mango pulp  
4 cups water  
2 cups sugar

**Directions:**

Blend everything and chill before serving. Makes 1 gallon



## Luni (Salty) Lassi

8 cups (64 oz.) plain yogurt  
8 cups water  
Salt to taste  
Small piece ginger  
4 green chilies  
3 curry leaf branches

**Directions:**

Blend yogurt, water, and salt. Blend green chilies and ginger. Add to yogurt mix. Add crushed curry leaves. After 2 hours strain the curry leaves out and serve. Makes 1 gallon.





## SUJI PODA PITHA

**Julie Acharya Ray, Salt Lake City, UT**

2 cups suji  
1 cup sugar  
½ cup vegetable oil  
1 cup dahi  
Few crushed cardamom  
1 1/2 tsp baking powder

Mix above ingredients in a dish and keep aside for 1-2 hours to ferment. Spray baking dish with oil. Pour batter into baking dish and stick in the oven at 300<sup>0</sup>C for 15-20mins covered with foil paper. Then remove cover and bake further for 30 mins. Check for complete baking with knife. Broil for 5 mins until the pitha turns nicely brown.

### EGGPLANT KHATA MITHA

**Pushpa Das, Poolesville, MD**

**Ingredients:**

1. Oil for frying
2. Chinese eggplant (Chinese eggplant preferred) – 6
3. ½ slab tamarind (soak in luke warm water and extract the pulp)
4. Jaggery – 1 cup
5. Cumin seeds – 2 teaspoon
6. Mustard seeds – ½ teaspoon
7. Dry whole red chillies – 4





8. Garlic – 1 teaspoon (finely chopped)
9. Onion – 1 medium size (sliced)
10. Fenugreek seeds (methi) – ½ teaspoon
11. Salt – according to taste
12. Curry leaves – 10

**Procedure:**

Cut eggplant vertically into two halves. Cut each of the halves into 2 inch cubes. Add ½ teaspoon of salt and keep it aside for 30 minutes. Deep fry eggplant until golden brown and leave it on a colander padded with some paper towel until extra oil from the eggplant is drained.

**Sauce:**

To prepare the sauce, add the tamarind pulp to 2 cups of water and jaggery and bring it to a boil. Let it cook until the sauce thickens. Once it reaches the consistency of tomato ketchup, turn off the heat and leave it aside.

**Seasoning:**

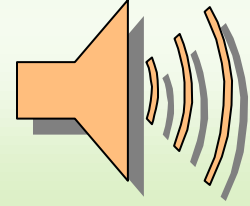
In a shallow pan, add one tablespoon of oil. When the oil is hot, add ½ teaspoon cumin seeds, ½ teaspoon mustard seeds, ¼ teaspoon fenugreek seeds, 2 whole red chillies and curry leaves. Once the seeds crackle, add sliced onions and fry until the onions appear transparent. Then add finely chopped garlic and stir for about a minute. To this add the fried eggplant and lightly toss the eggplant.

**Final steps:**

Add the prepared sauce to the eggplant. Let the eggplant simmer in the tamarind sauce for about 5 minutes. After 5 minutes, take it off the stove.

In another pan, take the remaining cumin seeds (1/2 teaspoon), fenugreek seeds (1/4 teaspoon) and 2 whole chillies and roast them until it appears golden brown. Once done, grind into fine powder. Add this spice mixture to the eggplant and tamarind sauce.

***Eggplant Khata Mitha is now ready to be served. Enjoy!!!***



## Project Champu, Chhanda and Odissi

Bigyani Das

[Listen Champu Lilanidhi He in Julie Acharya Ray's Voice](http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/Newsletter/LilanidhiHe_Julie.mp3) at  
[http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/Newsletter/LilanidhiHe\\_Julie.mp3](http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/Newsletter/LilanidhiHe_Julie.mp3)

Champu, Chhanda and Odissi music are integral parts of Odia culture. In 2010 OSA convention with Mrs Lata Misra's initiative Champu, Chhanda and Odissi music became an integral part of OSA convention program. Classical Odissi dance form uses the music in its "abhinaya" presentations.

It is true that there are many in our organization that may not have any knowledge or understanding of these parts of Odia culture. Our administration wants to create the synchronization between the convention programming and OSA administrative activities by establishing the initiative "Project CCO (Champu, Chhanda, and Odissi)".

Through this initiative, we will have the following action plan:

1. OSA newsletters will publish an article on these intricate cultural items of Orissa with translations, transliterations and notations, audio clips and instrumental music clips for easy learning.
2. OSA will work with universities in Orissa to fund a research project on translation of "Kishore Chandrananda Champu" to begin with.
3. OSA chapters will encourage competitions, workshops, training sessions on singing, recitation of these poetic forms

I had contributed an article on "Kishore Chandrananda Champu" to Ornet 5-10 years before. I am reproducing parts of that article as an introduction to "Champu".

### **Kishora-chandrAnanda champu by Baladeba Ratha**

SaTapada nIlakeshA Ago chAhan chAhan  
 sarba'nсахAre kheLuchhi naba bAribAha  
 samIpare tAra rahi

sarajuchhanti nartana aneka barahl

(O dear friend, who is that charming boy with the blue color body around whom the calves are playing?)

The above verse is so beautiful that it touched my heart when I heard the songs in Shyamamani Pattanaik's voice from an audio cassette. There are two cassettes of Kishora-chandrananda champu songs. In the first one, songs from "ka" to "tha" are included and in the second one "da" to "khYa" are included. You all must have heard "galANi ta galA kathAre sangAta" and "shyAma shikhanDa chuLa" which are also the poems from this book.

Kishora-chandranana champu is written by Baladeba Ratha who was awarded "Kabisurjya" title. I discuss this very briefly with the following outline:

- Meaning of the Topic
- The poet (author)
- The time frame
- The characters and the story line
- Some "champu" poems
- End comments

### **Meaning of the Topic:**

"Kishora" means young (between 11-15, teenage boys). "Kishora-chandra" here means Shrikrisna who is like the moon of young boys. "Kishora-chandrAnanda" means the happiness of "Kishora-chandra" or Shrikrisna.

"Champu" means elaboration of prose and poetry. It's a style of writing in which both prose ("gadya") and poetry ("padya") are used to elaborate the story of the epic. In Sahitya-darpana Bishwanatha Kabiraj defines Champu (champU) as"

"gadya-padya-mayam kAbyam champU-ritybhidhlyate"

means the elaboration of both prose and poetry is champu. The other definition is given as "chamatkrutya punAtIti-champU", which means champu startles the readers.

### **The Poet (author):**

This epic is the creation of Baladeba Ratha who was awarded the title "kabi-surjya", i.e. "The Sun of the Poets". Baladeba Ratha was born during 1789 (opinions differ between 1779 and 1789) and died during 1845 (again opinions differ). His father was UjjwaLa Ratha, a sanskrit scholar who was the "sabhA-pundit" in the Badekhemundi King's palace. He was awarded the title "Kabisurjya" by the King Chhotray of Jalantara. He had written this epic "Kishorachandrananda champu" in Athagada while working in King Balunkeshwara Harichandan's rajasabha. He was also honored by King second

Mukundadeba.

The other great creations of Baladeba Ratha include "ChandrakaLA", "ChoupadI ratnAkara" or "Ratnakara ChautishA", "ChoupadI chandrodaya or Premodaya ChautishA", "ManjuLA chautIshA", "Mohana ChautishA", "hAsya-kalloLa", "DhumpA", "ChaupadI" etc.

### The time frame

Some believe that he wrote this "kAbya" during 1876.

### The characters and the story line:

The main characters are Lalita (laLitA), Srikrishna, Radha, Madhumangala and their friends. It's mostly the conversation between the above characters. It starts with the letter "ka" in which Radha says to Lalita, "ki helA re, kahi ta nuhani bhAtratIre..." the meaning of which is "Something has happened to me and I don't know how to express that in words". Then Lalita replies with the next letter "kha", "kharApa tu helure, kheLAlOLA kharjanAkhYi ki sAhasa kalure....". Then Radha starts with "ga", "galANi ta galA kathA re sangAta...". The poems of "champu" proceeds as above and ends at "khYa", "khYamA-nukampA dhara he...". The poems describe the "mAna", "abhimAna", "miLana", "bichheda", "anurAga", "samarpaNa", "AkarSaNa", "Ananda" and "biSAda".

### Some Champu Poems

(only some parts of each poem are presented)

(1) galANi ta galA kathA re sangAta

galANi ta galA kathA re sangAta, galANi ta galA kathA  
gupate sinA mun tote pachArili bali paDibAru byathA |pada|

gangAru bishada gabhlra to' hruda, gaNThidhana tora sneha,  
goDa khasi kheda hebAra darada JibAra upAya kaha |1|

goLi delA mora bAhAra bhitara swara se abA shara se,  
gAtra goTiJAKa pUrila pulaka shrabaNa slmA sparashe |2|

gamana-kusuma pari ethi shrama phaLa hoiba ki kALa,  
goLiA na rakhi kaha chandramukhi gahali nathibA beLe |3|

(2) thApire kaha tathApire priyasakhi

thApire kaha tathApire priyasakhi thibi ki chhADibi prANa |pada|

thilA pari sneha, lAgilA ki kaha, achhiTi tote mo rANa | 1 |  
 thakAi tu kahu, kahu dhruti rahu, nAHinTi mohara jANa | 2 |  
 thokAe to prlti-bidhiki sammati kale ki mo paritrANa | 3 |  
 thare hele biki hebi mote niki banchAiba panchabANa | 4 |  
 thoi hrude chhaLa, na kara bikaLa, kahe aSTadurgarANa | 5 |

(3) shyAma shikhanDa-chULa

shyAma chikhanDachULa, shrama ki AjaJAKE hela saphaLa | pada |

sharbarI nidrA binA galA ki sari,  
 shambara-para-pura kala ki jUri | 1 |

shrlanga besha kimpA epari Aja,  
 sharada-chandra chumbu nAHin ki lAja | 2 |

shishu helehen tumbhe kalabha sari,  
 shasha-kishoriTiki dela Je sAri | 3 |

sharama-prada Ajasariki hela,  
 shaman-swasA-taTa aTabIbula | 4 |

(4) SaTa-pada-nlLa-keshA Ago chAhan-chAhan

SaTa-pada-nlLa-keshA Ago chAhan-chAhan  
 sarbanshAre kheLuchhi naba bAribAha;  
 samIpare tAra rahi  
 sarajuchhanti nartana aneka barahl | 1 |

saja hoi smara-sara-dAra abA Ase,  
 swakIya phauja gheriachhi chaupAshe,  
 sArideba parA Aja,  
 saroja-sundara netrA jana-mana lAja | 2 |

sureshwara-ratana ki hebAru jangama,  
 sabu maNi-mAnanku miLilA sehi krama  
 swarna-barnAe eNiki,  
 sampAdibe mUrtimanta ratana-shreNIki | 3 |

(5) hari Ambhara he e ta prANadhana go

hari Ambhara he e ta prANadhana go |pada|

harimaya maNiki jiNichhi apaghana,  
ninduachhi induku badana go |1|

hajAra sankhyaka hele helehen madana,  
nohiba e mohana samAna go |2|

haji na Jiba jImUtakishora ki gyAna,  
shuNu shuNu mrudu beNugAna go |3|

### **Concluding Remarks**

As you can see in the above poems, the complete poem starts with the same letter. "ChampU" is a unique style of composition. The word selection and their arrangements make it superb. Narrating a story in the above format makes it a distinct piece in our Odia/Oriya literature.





## OBITUARY

### **Prakash Patnaik (June 1940 - May 2011)**

A life member of OSA, a re-known nuclear engineer and an avid pilot, Prakash Babu was an active member of Odiya community in Maryland. He belonged to the first generation of Odiyas in the USA who came to this country in 1969. A product of IIT, Kharagpur, and a star sportsman in his young days, Prakash Babu joined the Bhabha Atomic Research Center, Bombay and later at the nuclear energy power plant at Kota, Rajasthan before emigrating to USA. During the formative years of OSA he and his wife Kautuki were actively involved in many OSA conventions and group activities.

An iconoclast in his beliefs and actions, an adventurer by trait, Prakash Babu loved the azure sky and on many occasions took his friends out on thrilling rides in his little plane over the mountains and waters. He was very popular among the Odiya community and loved by one and all.

Prakash Babu was the second son of eminent freedom fighter and socialist leader Late Prananath Patnaik and Late Manjari Devi. He is survived by his son, Rakesh and daughter-in-law, Maithili; daughter, Malasri and son-in-law, Thomas Perna (Jr); wife, Ruilan; and four brothers, Pravash, Prabhat, Pradosh and Pradyot; and four



grand children. His younger brother, Dr Pradipta Patnaik of Maryland passed away in 2009. A condolence message from his brother appears below.

## **MY BROTHER**

Pravash Patnaik

Prakash was only less than two years younger to me. Our other brothers were much younger to both of us. During our growing up days we did play together, did all the mischief, and shared all the adventures together in a small town in Orissa. He used to follow me like a shadow, tried to emulate whatever I did, though occasionally complaining to our mother against me about something that did not meet his approval like a puff out of a cigarette. Ironically, he took up smoking in the later years, which perhaps cut short his life and I stayed out of it. On one such adventurous trips both of us were plucking berries from a tall tree, many of them lining up the road side, and he moved over to the same branch on which I was standing, an example of following sub-consciously, and that branch broke with a cricking sound, both of us went down with that in to the drain underneath. Many such memories keep flooding in to my mind. I do not have anyone now with whom I can share my intimate innocent childhood.

Prakash moved over to US more than 40 years back. I was happy he got away from my shadow, because I knew he was much smarter, much of a risk-taker and he required an open field to flourish. He was too simple and straight-forward a person to wangle his way through in the then Indian work environment, struggling in the midst of limited opportunities. He took up flying, helped our family in acquiring essential domestic equipments with financial support, and brought our other two brothers to US for pursuing their professional career. His home was our family base abroad.

I could not see him in his last days, and I shuddered to see him dead. In the old age the tear-cells dry up, having seen so much of tragedies in life, but there is a choking inside and a peculiar numbness that creeps in with every such blow.

## Convention 2011 Highlights (For more, visit <http://www.osa11.org>)

### Orissa and the Oriya Diaspora in the Americas and Across the Globe - Bridging Past to Present and Building the Future Together -

*"A mediocre idea that generates enthusiasm will go further than a great idea that inspires no one."* Mary Kay.  
The Seminars in OSA Dallas 2011 are exciting and inspiring, they are aimed at translating ideas into reality; featuring topics pertinent to the present day milieu. Speakers are erudite, and have a wealth of knowledge and experience in their respective area of excellence. Our constant effort is to provide a platform for panel discussion, experience sharing, brainstorming on ideas and topics of practical usefulness and tangible value which will transcend beyond the convention.

The 42<sup>nd</sup> convention seminar is organized into *five tracks*, each with distinguished speakers and delegates dealing with issues for the development of Orissa and Oriya Communities.

#### *Orissa Development:*

This track will feature innovative initiatives under implementation, new ideas, and contributions by members of the Oriya community in Education, Industry and Rural Development (NGO, Environmental Hazard of Industrialization) leading to further development of our home state of Orissa. This discussion is inspired by a simple thought, how many people are better off today because we live a comfortable life here.

#### *Women's Forum:*

This track will feature brainstorming sessions on women's lives in Orissa and the Diaspora, and helping women in need. We are requesting a group of empowered women to lead this discussion, and enlighten the audience on issues that are pertinent to the women workforce.

**"When the needs are infinite, it doesn't need a revolution to change everything"**

"Down to earth" is a documentary about Tulsi munda, Monorama Mohapatra and Annapurna Maharana about their grass root activism in Orissa, India. This will have a very positive impact on your thought process.

#### *Health and Wellness :*

This track will feature discussions and demonstrations on health and wellness. Several renowned Medical practitioners, clinical psychiatrist will be speaking about ways and means to deal with Emotional and mental health problems mental issues, how to react to emergencies.

#### *Youth Forum:*

Our young adults are the ambassadors of our community. We have provided enough opportunities to let them shape themselves build a perfect image for themselves and pursue their interest and hobbies, while swapping their roles from our culture to their peers. Our convention has been a family affair, and we would like a great participation from the younger generation while balancing our culture and their evolving taste. This discussion will be mainly on young Odiyas in America , and how do they see yourself in the Odiya/ India context.

### **Platinum Jubilee of Odia Cinema - a special "Ollywood Journey" to be presented by OSA Southwest Chapter members**

The first Oriya talkie 'Sita Bibaha' was made by Mohan Sunder Deb Goswami in 1936. Drawn from the great Indian epic Mahabharata, the story tells about the marriage of Sita with Ram. The actual plot was made from a drama written by Kamapala Mishra. Prepared with a purse of only Rs 30,000, the film has 14 song sequences. Despite it being the first Oriya film with several drawbacks in every section of its making, the two-hour-long movie generated great enthusiasm among the people. Released by Laksmi

Talkies, the 12-reeled film had in its cast line Makhanlal Banerjee (Ram) who received only Rs 120 for his performance, Aditya Ballav Mohanty (Lakhsman) who got only Rs 35 as conveyance allowance and Prabhavati Devi (Sita) who was paid the highest amount of Rs 150. This was a landmark film. Director: Mohan Sunder Dev Goswami, Dialogues :Adweta Mohanty, Sound Arrangements:Haricharan Mohanty, Cast: Mohan Sundar Dev Goswami, Makhanlal Banarjee, Krushnachandra Singh, Ramachandra Lal, Narasingha Nanda, Adweta Mohanty, Prabhavati Devi, Radharani, Laxmipriya and Parbati were the artists in lead role.

The pace of Oriya film production in the initial years was very slow. After Sita Bibaha, only two films were produced till 1951. A joint consortium of landlords and businessmen who collected fund after 1948 produced those two movies.

The 1951 production 'Roles to Eight' was the first Oriya film having an English name. It was released after 15 years of the first Oriya film Sita Bibaha. It was the fourth Oriya film produced by Ratikanta Padhi.

Sri Lokanath was the first Oriya film, which got National Award in 1960. It was the eleventh Oriya film. It was a great achievement going by the number of films produced by the Oriya film industry. Prafulla Sengupta directed the film.

The same year, Prasantha Nanda won National Award as best actor for the film Nau Bau. It was his debut film.

The name of Prasantha Nanda would always come while dealing with Oriya films. He was present in Oriya films since 1939, but he became super active only after 1976. Nanda served Oriya filmdom as an actor, director, screenplay writer, and lyricist and even as a playback singer. Such a versatile genius is quite rare in Indian cinema history.

Nanda alone carried Oriya films into the national honor list by winning National Awards for three times in 1960, 1966 and 1969 for his acting in Nua Bou, Matir Manisha and Adina Megha.

Since then several Oriya films have earned laurels and the Oriya people are proud of their movies. Uttam Mohanty, whose debut film Abhiman won accolade and his wife Aparajita is also a roaring heroine. Actress Nandita Das, who acted in several controversial Hindi movies like Fire, has Oriya origin. She acted in Biswaprakash which won National Award in 2000. Susanta Misra directed the film. Eminent director Mrinal Sen even directed an Oriya film Matir Manisha which won National Award for best actor. Prashanta Nanda was the winner. Of late, Bollywood commercials have greatly influenced Oriya movies in form and content. And by doing so, Oriya movies are losing touch with the rich Oriya culture. It is time Oriya filmmakers take root to Oriya soil and present the country unique movies since the Oriya filmdom has potential performers.



### **Platinum Jubilee of Odisha Formation Day - a special cultural presentation by our youth**

A cursory glance at our history: In 1803, the British under the British East India Company annexed the Maratha province of Odisha after the Second Anglo-Maratha War. The northern and western districts of Odisha were incorporated into Bengal Presidency. Following famine and floods in 1866, large scale irrigation projects were undertaken in the last half of the 19th century. The coastal section was separated from Bengal and made into the Province of Bihar and Odisha in 1912, in response to local agitation for a separate state for the Odia-speaking people. In 1936, Bihar and Odisha were split into separate provinces. Thus after a long period of struggle the Odia people got re-united after centuries of political separation. On 1 April 1936, the new province of Odisha came into existence on linguistic basis during the British rule in India with Sir John Austin Hubbak as the first Governor. A long cherished dream of Odia people and their leaders like Madhusudan Das, Maharaja Krushna Chandra Gajapati, Pandit Nilakantha Das, Bhubanananda Das and many other came true. The district of Ganjam was transferred from Madras Presidency to the new province of Odisha on 1 April 1936. From that time onwards people of Odisha celebrate the day 1 April as Utkal Divas or Odisha Day.

**Don't miss the Women's Forum at OSA Convention 2011!**

Presentation, film, story with imaging, and discussion on  
Women's Empowerment in Odisha and in the diaspora

**July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8:30 – 10:50 AM**

**Part 1: Women's Empowerment in Odisha**

- **Mahila Shanti Sena** (Presentation by Sri Gopal Mohanty), now spreading in Odisha, is a movement to create an army of peace workers in each village to plan its total life in terms of economy, education, health, and other things pertaining to local life, resolving conflicts and disputes peacefully, using women's creative talents.
- **Aparajita (the Undefeated)** (Documentary Film by Yunuen Perez Vertti and Asweeni Rath) attempts grass root activism through conversations with three women leaders in Odisha: Annapurna Maharana, Manorma Mohapatra and Tulsi Munda. They explain how self-empowerment has played a role in their lives.

**Part 2: Women's Empowerment in the Diaspora**

- **Mayara Kahani** (Story with imaging by volunteers) or Maya's Story demonstrates how each of us can trap someone in a hard spot by not listening to her and blaming her, or empower her through supportive listening and response.
- **1-800-OSA-HELP** (Moderated discussions) Do some Odiya women in the US find themselves in difficult situations they do not feel empowered to deal with? What resources are available to help them? What would it take to start a help-line for empowering Odiya women in need?

To join an electronic group to discuss the above and more, please send request to [leena\\_mishra@hotmail.com](mailto:leena_mishra@hotmail.com) or [misramamata@gmail.com](mailto:misramamata@gmail.com)

**Announcements****Welcome Ozark Chapter's New Officials**

Congratulations to Radha Gobinda Mohanty and Dr Sashi Satpathy, the new President and Secretary of Ozark chapter. Welcome Radha Gobinda Babu to OSA Board of Governors!

Thanks to the service of Surya Mishra, the past president of chapter who has also been instrumental in motivating new chapter representatives.

**Congratulations to the Members of the New Chapter: Pacific Northwest Chapter**

A new chapter, Pacific Northwest Chapter of OSA has been formed with 24 OSA member families. Thanks to the coordinators Dr Priyadarsan Patra and Sandip Dasverma and congratulations to all the members of the chapter.



**Bryce Canyon, Utah Photo: courtesy Abhijit Ray**



**DALLAS, TX**

**OSA 2011**