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## Utkarsa (OSA Newsletter)

<http://www.orissasociety.org>

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### Editors:

Sridhar Rana

Julie Acharya Ray

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*UTKARSA*

**OSA  
NEWSLETTER**

ISSUE 3 VOL 41



*From the editor's desk*

Namaskar!! Welcome to the first edition of Utkarsa in 2010. This issue brings to you a wide variety of news, information and reading. Ranging from updates on OSA convention 2010 to the efficacious effects of Tulsi, from Financial Planning to Legal issues and from poetry to chapter reports, this edition of Utkarsa is a true compilation of everything that the Oriya diaspora in the west faces on a daily basis.

Life brings to us many choices. Bad choices give us a temporary sense of relief and success. And also later on take us for a long guilt ride! So from the editor's desk, here's wishing our readers a more lasting sense for good options.

Remember this:

"The most important of life's battles is the one that we fight daily in the silent chambers of our souls"...David McKay

Sincerely,

Utkarsa Editors

Sridhar Rana

Julie Acharya Ray

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## A Message of Spring Tunes

There is a lot of momentum in our society, as if the spring has put its magic spell. Spring freshness can be felt everywhere in North America and the dynamism in every corner has started, not only in the lawns and gardens, but in people's thoughts and actions. There are activities everywhere with convention, awards, chapter elections, drama festival and what not. Many deadlines for various activities are approaching.

As the President of this historic organization I am incredibly inspired by accomplishments of our volunteers. Several good people are doing the hard work for hosting 2010 convention, for managing OSA annual awards, for publishing OSA newsletters and annual souvenir, for helping in chapter relations and organizing drama festival. A significant amount of work is being carried out by our legal committee members, OSA security and defense team members and OSA general Counsel Sujit Mohanty.

In a few days we will be completing nine months. It feels like yesterday when we, the 2009 OSA executives took charge in the Marriot hotel ballroom in Trenton in a very dramatic atmosphere. Time and tide wait for none. In another fifteen months, another batch of OSA executives will replace us and we hope the new executives will be welcomed with roses, sound of conch and festive drum beats. We were given the challenge to walk over the thorns and we thank OSA members for considering us the most suitable and efficient candidates to take such difficult challenges.

We are very happy to inform that now we have become experts on walking over the thorns and it has been really fun as we were able to have scenic views of various landscapes of human emotions, love-hate, intelligence-foolishness, patriotism-traitorousness, sensibility-leniency, socialness-sociopathy, admiration-jealousy, protectiveness-carelessness, heroism-cowardliness, honesty-deceitfulness, godliness-



devilishness and many more. We have taken many camera shots that we would be adding to our photo-frames and sharing with our beloved OSA members once the journey is complete and we return back to our home, sweet home.

Members of OSA Board of Governors (BOG) are also working very hard, specifically for the challenge that is posed to the society. BOG members are meeting every month to discuss various issues of the society both in National level as well as local chapter level. The goal of the current OSA administration is to create a stronger, stable and brighter OSA community.

It is my great pleasure to share the following highlights of upcoming OSA activities and activities during this 3 months period. Detailed information on certain specific activities will be reported by the respective officials.

### **OSA Convention 2010**

OSA convention organizers are working very hard to make a memorable convention. Please help them by doing your duty and picking up the momentum with them. Whether you are a cultural enthusiastic or literature lover, a visionary for progressive Orissa or a better community here in your city, a seeker of spiritual knowledge or healthy everyday life, you will find something in the convention to hook you up.

### **OSA Convention 2011 and Beyond**

Until now we have not got any application from chapters to host 2011 OSA convention and conventions from 2012 onwards. We request communities to be proactive and think ahead of time if they could host OSA convention in a future year. In that case the community can start planning beforehand.

### **Chapter Status Updates**

Currently OSA has 14 chapters. Please check chapter web page at

<http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/osachapters.htm>

We are in the process up creating a better chapter chart with clear entries about the about the election year, membership strength, and activities. There is also a plan to present distinguished chapter awards for chapters that satisfy certain criteria. We welcomed 3 new BOG members from January 2010. They are:

Ashok (Bob) Parida: Chicago Chapter President

Arata Rout: Ohio Chapter President

Gopal Mohapatra: SW Chapter President

## **Parliamentary Procedure Discussion in April**

Month of April will be used as "Parliamentary Procedure" Awareness month. We want to make sure that our members are aware of different motions used in meetings to take decisions and the procedure followed to adopt or reject a motion. The procedures will be discussed through OSA net. We expect this to help us during GBM 2010 meeting. We request other members to do search in the internet and gain some knowledge of the parliamentary procedure to help us in the GBM meeting.

## **Drama Festival 2010**

Two regions Eastern and South-West will be hosting drama festival events during the month of April. Please check the following web page for details. If you are a member of the host chapter, please plan to attend and assist.

<http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/dramafestival.htm>

## **Award Nomination**

The deadline is April 30, 2010. Please circulate the information in your local community. Please check OSA webpage <http://www.orissasociety.org> for more information.

## **OSA Legal Status**

The previous hearing date March 10, 2010 has been extended to May 26, 2010. Some depositions of plaintiffs and defendants have taken place and some are scheduled during the last week of this month.

All the documents of the depositions and GBM 2009 video will be available at an appropriate time for members to review. OSA attorney has also retrieved documents for her inquiry and they will be available to members at an appropriate time.

<http://casesearch.courts.state.md.us/inquiry/inquiryDetail.js?caseId=316120V&loc=68&detailLoc=MCCI>

## **OSA Election 2011**

OSA Election 2011 process will start from July 4, 2010 with selection of Election Committee Members. All the aspiring members for OSA leadership positions may take the opportunity during the convention to know and interact with members, understand the organization and measure its pulse, and may start campaigning. If you are an aspiring member please plan ahead of time and be vigilant.

## **Concluding Remarks**

Despite the hard work, dedication and sacrifice, OSA volunteers remain vulnerable to the social-quakes caused by the whims of some extreme minds. The risk of catastrophic incidents caused by such “social-quakes” is unavoidable, but managing the impacts of these occurrences is a responsibility that we, as members of OSA, cannot ignore.

As we engage in unified effort to rebuild our community, there is a strong case to be made to create structures that can withstand the destruction caused by such “social-quakes”. The creation of better policies, ethical codes and member standards are part of the structural design that we must invest in to avoid the specific type of humiliation and tragedy that are recurring.

I use the quote by Margaret Mead: “We are continuously faced with great opportunities which are brilliantly disguised as unsolvable problems.”

Fellow members, while our society is facing the current challenges we do have the opportunity to establish an all-civil, all-loving, all-caring, all-humane, all-nurturing brightened stronger OSA community.

I leave with another quote by Epicurus (341-270 BC): “The greater the difficulty, the more the glory in surmounting it”.

Welcome to Spring Season in OSA!

Sincerely,

Bigyani Das

President, OSA

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## ପ୍ରିୟ ବନ୍ଧୁଗଣ

ଓସା ମୁଖପତ୍ର ଉତ୍କର୍ଷର ଏ ତୃତୀୟ ଅବଦାନ ପାଇଁ ମୁଁ ଓସାର ସମ୍ପାଦକ ଶ୍ରୀଧର ରାଣା ଓ ସମ୍ପାଦିକା ଜୁଲି ଆଚାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ରାୟଙ୍କୁ ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଓ ଧନ୍ୟବାଦ ଜଣାଉଛି । ଦେଖୁ ଦେଖୁ କେମିତି ନଅ ମାସ ବିତିଯିବାକୁ ବସିଲାଣି । କାଲିପରି ଲାଗୁଛି, ଜୁଲାଇ ୪ ତାରିଖରେ ନିଉଜର୍ସୀର ଟ୍ରେଙ୍ଗନ୍ ସହରରେ ମେରିଅଟ୍ ହୋଟେଲ୍ରେ ସେ ଚଳଚ୍ଚଳ ବିରାଟ କୋଠାରେ ଆମେମାନେ ଓସାର କର୍ମକର୍ତ୍ତା ଭାବେ କେମିତି ଏକ ନାଟକୀୟ ପରିବେଶ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଦାୟିତ୍ୱ ନେଇଥିଲୁ । ମନରେ କେତେ କଳ୍ପନା ଥିଲା, ଭଜ ଭାବନା ଥିଲା । ହେଲେ, ନଅମାସ ବିତି ଯାଇଥିଲେ ବି ସେ ନାଟକ ତଥାପି ଚାଲିଛି । କେବେ ଯେ ଏହାର ଯବନିକା ପାତ ହେବ ଓ ଓସାର ଅନ୍ୟ ଅଭିନେତା ଓ ଅଭିନେତ୍ରୀ ମାନଙ୍କୁ ସେମାନଙ୍କର କଳାକୃତି ଦେଖାଇବାର ସୁଯୋଗ ମିଳିବ, ସେଥିପାଇଁ ଆମେମାନେ ଅପେକ୍ଷା କରିରହିଛୁ । ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କର ସେଇ ଗୋଟିଏ ପ୍ରଶ୍ନ, “ଏ ନାଟକ ଆଉ କେତେଦିନ ଧରି ଚାଲିଥିବ? ଓସାରେ ଆଉ କିଛି ହେବ ନା ନାହିଁ? ଏମିତି ନାଟକ ମନକୁ କଲୁଷିତ କରୁଛି ସିନା, ବେକାରରେ ଓସାକୁ ଖର୍ଚ୍ଚାନ୍ତ କରାଉଛି । ଏମିତି ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ନାଟକ ଯେମିତି ଆଉ କେବେ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶିତ ନହୁଏ, ସେଥିପାଇଁ କିଛି ଗୋଟିଏ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ନିଅ । ଏ ନିରର୍ଥକ କାହାଣୀର ପରିସମାପ୍ତି କେବେ ହେବ?”

ପୂଜ୍ୟ ଗୁରୁଜନ, ସ୍ନେହାଧୀନ ପ୍ରିୟଜନ ଓ ବନ୍ଧୁମାନେ, ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ମୋର ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ତର, “ଆଉ ଟିକେ ସୈର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଧରି ରହନ୍ତୁ,, ଏ ନାଟକର ପରିସମାପ୍ତି ତ ନିଶ୍ଚୟ ହେବ । ଆପଣମାନେ ଆମକୁ ଯେଉଁ ବିଶ୍ୱାସରେ ଏ ଗୁରୁଦାୟିତ୍ୱ ଦେଇଛନ୍ତି, ସେ ବିଶ୍ୱାସ ରଖିବାରେ ଅବହେଳା ଆମେ କରିବୁନି କି ସମାଜ ସହିତ ବିଶ୍ୱାସଘାତକତା କରିବୁନି । ଏ କଥା ମୁଁ ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କୁ ଦେଉଛି ।”

ଏମିତି ଏକ ନିରର୍ଥକ ନାଟକ ଚାଲିଛି ବୋଲି ଯେ ଆମେ ସବୁ ଅକର୍ମଣ୍ୟ ହେଇ ବସି ରହିଛୁ, ତାହା ନୁହେଁ । ଓସାର ସମସ୍ତ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାସେବୀମାନେ ଅତି ତପ୍ତରତାର ସହିତ ସବୁ କାମ କରିଚାଲିଛନ୍ତି । ମନରେ ଦୁଃଖ ଅଛି, ତା ସହିତ

ସାନ୍ତୁନା ବି ରହିଛି, ଆଶା ମଧ୍ୟ ରହିଛି । ଇଶ୍ଵରଙ୍କ ଉପରେ ବିଶ୍ଵାସ ବି ରହିଛି । ତେବେ ପରବର୍ତ୍ତୀ ନାଟକମାନଙ୍କରେ ଅଭିନୟ କରିବାକୁ ସ୍ଥିର କରିଥିବା ଓସା କଳାକାର ମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଏକାନ୍ତ ଅନୁରୋଧ ଯେ ପରବର୍ତ୍ତୀ ନାଟକ ସବୁ ଯେମିତି ଲୋକପ୍ରିୟ, ଜନହିତକର ଓ ଚିତ୍ତ ପ୍ରସନ୍ନକାରୀ ହୋଇପାରିବ, ସେଥିପାଇଁ ଭଲଭାବେ ମନଲଗାଇ ପ୍ରସ୍ତୁତି ଆରମ୍ଭ କର । ଅନ୍ୟକୁ ହଇରାଣ କରିବା ବଦଳରେ, ନିଜକୁ କେମିତି ଜନହିତକର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟରେ ଲଗାଇ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କର ପ୍ରିତିଭାଜନ ହୋଇପାରିବ ସେଇ ବିଚାରକୁ ନେଇ ହିଁ ଆମ ଓସାରେ ସମସ୍ତ

କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଜାରି ରହିବ । ଆମର ପରବର୍ତ୍ତୀ ନାଟକର ଶୀର୍ଷକ ରହିବ, “ବାସନ୍ତୀ ଓସା” ଯେଉଁଥିରେ ଓସାରେ ଖାଲି ବସନ୍ତ ଋତୁ ରହିବ, ମଲୟ ବହୁଥିବ, କୋଇଲି ଗାଉଥିବ, ନାଟଗୀତ ଚାଲିଥିବ, ସ୍ନେହ, ପ୍ରେମର ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶୀ ଝରଝର ବହି ଚାଲିଥିବ । ସେ ନାଟକରେ ଆପଣମାନେ ପାଇବେ ମାନବିକତାର ଉଦାହରଣ, ଦେଖିବେ ଅମୃତ ସମ ସ୍ନେହର ଝଲକ ଓ ସମାଜପ୍ରେମର ଜ୍ଵଳନ୍ତ ପ୍ରତିଛବି ।”

ଆଗାମୀ ଜୁଲାଇ ୨ରୁ ୪ ତାରିଖ ମଧ୍ୟରେ କାଲିଫର୍ଣ୍ଣିଆର ରେଡ୍‌ଉଡ୍ ସିଟିରେ ଅନୁଷ୍ଠିତ ହେବାକୁ ଯାଉଥିବା ଓସାର ବାର୍ଷିକ ସମ୍ମିଳନୀରେ ଯୋଗଦାନ କରିବାପାଇଁ ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୁଁ ନିମନ୍ତ୍ରଣ ଜଣାଉଛି । ସେଠି ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କ ଠାରୁ ସ୍ନେହର ପୋଟଳି ଭିତରେ ସରସ, ସୁନ୍ଦର ହସଟିଏ ଓସାପାଇଁ ଉପହାର ରୂପେ ପାଇବାର କାମନା କରି ରହୁଛି । ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ଓସା ଓ ଓସା ସଭ୍ୟମାନଙ୍କର ସର୍ବ ମଙ୍ଗଳ କରନ୍ତୁ ।

ବିଜ୍ଞାନୀ ଦାସ

ଓସା ପ୍ରେସିଡେଣ୍ଟ୍



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VICE-PRESIDENT

WRITES.....



Friends,

Like previous years, this year OSA is inviting its members to nominate deserving candidates for OSA awards in various categories. Deadline for sending the nomination for OSA awards is April 30, 2010.

Following are the Award categories. Please visit [www.orissasociety.org](http://www.orissasociety.org) to learn about the details of these awards and nomination process.

- 1) Distinguished Oriya Award
- 2) Utkalamani Gopabandhu Dash Memorial Award
- 3) Subrina Biswal Award for Academic Excellence (Competition)
- 4) Kalashree Award
- 5) Youth Volunteer Award
- 6) Yuva Kala Vikas Award
- 7) Meghna Memorial Awards for Creative Writing (Competition)
- 8) Kalinga Youth Entrepreneurship Award (Competition)

Every year OSA recognizes its members for their talent, service and contribution to OSA community and Odia Community in general. This year's award coordinator is Manoj Mahapatra of Chicago and he can be reached at [manoj.k.mahapatra@gmail.com](mailto:manoj.k.mahapatra@gmail.com) for any questions.

As OSA 2010 gets closer please update your convention information.

California Rajyaru Subhila Sankha Mahuree Baajaa

Odisha Samaja Sammilanee heba Baha Re Kede Majaa!!



OSA 2010 Convention Update

**Website:** [www.osacal2010.org](http://www.osacal2010.org)<http://www.osacal2010.org/>

**Convention Dates:** July 2<sup>nd</sup> (Friday) to July 4<sup>th</sup> (Sunday), 2010

**Convention Venue:** Sofitel San Francisco Bay, California

Priya Bandhugana!

Sudoora California ra Odiya Bhai Bhauninka Tarafa ru Apananku  
Bahuta Bahuta Abhinandnana!

We, the California Odia families from the Golden State are delighted to invite you and your family to the 41st OSA Convention in California.

The OSA convention is always a great opportunity to meet people from all across North America and have a lot of fun!

The convention will happen in multiple locations: Sofitel, a newly remodeled hotel with French ambiance with a surrounding lagoon and San Mateo Performing Arts Theater. The hotel is close to San Francisco International Airport with free shuttle service. The environment and hotel facilities will help you relax and enjoy the convention.

The theme of this convention is **Ei Mati Sei Dhvani – Coming Together.**

The theme is focusing on integration and the best of the opportunities available here in the Americas represented by “Ei Mati” or “This Land” and the best of the inspiration coming from our root Orissa represented by “Sei Dhvani” or “That Subtle Sound”.

Our entire ceremony is truly reflecting the essence of our theme. OSA Convention 2010 will present highlights of Odisha’s unique art forms like breathtakingly beautiful Odissi Dance, popular Sambalpuri Folk Dance, acrobatic Chhou, colorful Ghoda Nacha, energetic Rannapa, rhythmic Danda and resonating Ghumura and the lost art forms like playful Das Kathia, mythical Pala & melodious Giti Natya.

We will have professional artists from India and USA presenting the living past and the continuing present for our future generations, in other words the Best of Here and There - Coming Together.

The opening ceremony will showcase a spectacular musical mosaic 'Eai Mati Sei Dhvani' with all modern extravaganza inspired by the subtle rhythm of our motherland in the valley of dreams. There will be numerous other entertainment programs including "Seasons" a breathtaking Odissi dance drama choreographed by six Odissi maestros (first time in OSA history), Tiny Tot show (an unique performance by our little ones), Dramas, Music, Dance, Fashion show, DJ and last but not the least the reality show 'OSA Got Talent'.

There will be lots of activity including a trip to nearby Go-Kart racing. Expect a carnival atmosphere on Sunday afternoon with cotton candy and ice cones ...Outdoor activities such as Wine & Cheese tasting and Kayaking are being finalized. We'll also have volleyball and cricket matches and a spelling bee contest.

**Mr. Subroto Bagchi**, Vice-Chairman & Gardner of Mind-Tree will be our chief Guest. **Ira Mohanty**, a talented and upcoming singer from Orissa will be coming to the convention. We are planning to screen the nationally awarded movie "**The Living Ghost**". We may even get a chance to meet the Producer and the Director of the movie.

OSA 2010 team is working passionately for a common goal of having a quality and entertaining Cultural Program for all Generations with a diversity of traditional and contemporary art form which connects us to our motherland, productive seminars, varieties of activities, wonderful Bandhu-milana and much more including a uniquely pleasant experience that you will treasure forever.

We are looking forward very enthusiastically to seeing you and your entire family at the convention.

Please visit our website [www.osacal2010.org](http://www.osacal2010.org) for details.  
**(OSA 2010 VOLUNTEERS)**

Thank you

Pradeep Mohapatra

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## SECRETARY WRITES.....



Greetings everyone,

I feel so blessed that I am part of this wonderful community, OSA, which has given me the privilege to serve you all. I would like to welcome you all to our Spring edition of Utkarsa.

It seems that after a long and harsh winter, spring has finally arrived. Here the California poppies are all in bloom, welcoming the change in the weather. Colors are everywhere; in nature and all around on people's faces, costumes and cuisine.

We have been very busy with a series of meetings to take care of important matters such as chapter making, 2010 Convention planning and other OSA related matters.

The two items in the news which have captured my attention are: on the one side, we are embroiled in this futile court case involving OSA which has flooded the OSAnet with many bitter bickerings, and on the other side, this heartbreaking news of losing lives due to poverty and lack of adequate health care back at home in Orissa.

In the middle of March, this appeal was posted on our local email list in the bay area California.

Hello Calnetters, I am sure some of you saw this news article on [Dharitri.com](http://www.dharitri.com) about a poor child suffering from blood cancer. <http://www.dharitri.com/170310/story1.asp> Can we collect some money to help out the helpless father?

Then we got the next email. The bad news that Satyajit's health deteriorated & that he passed away in Cuttack. Sorry, we could not be of help in time. I will refund each donation soon (minus the PayPal fees) <http://helpinghand.bikash.com/satyajit/help-satyajit/> Thank you everyone who all tried to help this poor boy - life can be harsh at times.

A heart rending story.... So many lives are withering away around us. If only this little kid and so many more like him could get the necessary help on time! What is important to know that we all can play a role in saving lives like Satyajit. So many Satyajits and his sisters are suffering in Medical wards, in different parts of Orissa. So many news of brutality inflicted on female child, being deprived of food, education, subject to feticide, acid attack and mass rape.... The list goes on.



My fellow Oriyas, I am making an appeal to all of you to let us join our hands together and help at least one person back at home so that a life is saved, a life is made and many more smiles emerge.

I would like to share with you the status of chapter updates. On behalf of the OSA, I would like to welcome the following new chapter presidents of Ohio, Chicago and SW chapter.

Ashok (Bob) Parida: Chicago Chapter President

Arata Rout: Ohio Chapter President

Gopal Mohapatra: SW Chapter President

Currently OSA has 14 chapters. Please check chapter web page at <http://www.orissasociety.org/osaftp01/osachapters.htm>

Here are the BOG minutes for December(09), January, February (10).

### **BOG Meeting, December 4, 2009**

**Time:** 9:00 PM – 10:37 PM

**Attendance:** Bigyani Das, Pratap Das, Anadi Naik, Sikha Sen, Lalatendu Mohanty, Akhileswar Patel, Nishikant Sahoo, Priyadarsan Patra (Invited-Immediate Past Secretary)

Discussion Points

Welcome new BOG Members

Convention Status, Guests etc.

OSA Events: Drama Festival and Proposed Odia Summer School Election of Texas Chapter

Lawsuit status by Amit Nayak and Anshuman Bal.

Welcome New BOG Members: The president of Grand Canyon Chapter, Mr Debashis Panda was welcomed.

**Convention Status, Guests:** Bigyani Das updated the convention information and their preparation and invited suggestions for convention guests. Various members gave various opinions. Pratap Das and Priyadarsan Patra shared their experience with 2009 convention guests since none of the invited guests could be present.

**OSA Events:** Drama Festival and Proposed Odia Summer School: Bigyani updated the information that the drama festival is geared up in TX. She asked about other chapters and their status. DC and NYNJ were not ready for hosting the festival in April. Chicago had shown interest, but nobody was there to update the status.

**Election of TX chapter:** Texas chapter was all set for election which was postponed as one of the election committee members became sick. For about 2 years, the election is pending. TX chapter president Mr Tapan Padhi had requested OSA National's help to conduct a new election. Members inquired about why TX chapter was not having a meeting and having election by show of hands or may be have the election by appointing a past president as the nominating committee chair.

**Lawsuit Status:** Everybody was frustrated about the lawsuit that was hanging over OSA's head as a sword. Nishikant Sahoo expressed that he is not being able to encourage new members to join because of the lawsuit problem. Anadi Naik suggested taking help of veteran members of OSA to find an amicable solution. Priyadarsan Patra asked Anadi Naik to take the lead since he is a friend of the plaintiffs. Anadi Naik and Pratap Das agreed to talk offline for any possibility of avoiding unnecessary expense, time and stress.

### **BOG Meeting, January 3, 2010**

Time 8:30 to 10:11PM

**Attendance:** Bigyani Das (BD), Pradeep Mohapatra (PM), Annapurna Pandey (AP-S), Akhileswar Patel (AP-T), Anadi Naik (AN), Sikha Sen (SS), Lalatendu Mohanty (LM), Nishikant Sahoo (NS), Bidhu Das (BD-SE), Jibanjit Tripathy (JT)

### **Discussion Points**

New Year Resolutions for OSA  
Wish List of BOG Members  
Update on Lawsuit  
Chapter Info  
Next Conventions (2011 and Beyond)  
Constitution Review  
Convention 2010  
Drama Festival  
Miscellaneous

**New Year Resolutions for OSA:** All the members shared resolutions:

Bigyani Das	Professionally managed society with grace and glory
Pradeep Mohapatra	Positive attitude
Annapurna Pandey	Immediate goal is successful convention 2010, long term goal is everybody's cooperation
Akhileswar Patel	Honesty
Lalatendu Mohanty	Cultural and support mechanism in local and National level for members in need
Sikha Sen	Chapters cooperate with each other and OSA National
Anadi Nayak	Professionally managed society and more involvement in greater Indian groups
Jibanjit Tripathy	Court case resolved, everything should be fine
Bidhu Das	Clean, professional society
Nishikant Sahoo	Help people in Orissa

**Update on Lawsuit**

BD updated that a new lawyer was selected and two committees were formed to manage legal interaction with the lawyer as well as members. Lalatendu inquired about AN's discussion with Pratap Das (PD). AN informed that he was not able to have the discussion as PD was not available for some sad events in his friend groups.

**Chapter Information**

BD informed that several chapters were going through hardships. Among them are: South-West (TX as the base), North-West (MN as the base), Ohio (orphaned), Ozark (need a new leader).

BD also asked the chapters to send their membership list. Because of some new definitions, everybody was not sure about the membership. BD explained that it should be both OSA National members and chapter member. There was discussion about the definition of a chapter member. AN informed that only DC and NYNJ practice special chapter membership fee, other chapters do not. AP-T informed that DOLA system has provisions for members to update their chapter affiliation. LM requested AN why does not he release his chapter membership information. AN replied that DC chapter would try to take away their MD/VA members and since DC members have been in OSA National executive positions, he does not feel comfortable in releasing their chapter membership information.

BD also mentioned about complaints received by a few members in OSAnet about some chapters and she requested that the chapters who use OSA EIN should submit their annual report and membership

information by January 31, 2010 if they have not submitted by June 30, 2009 as mandated by the constitution.

### **Next Conventions (2011 and Beyond)**

BD asked if any chapter is interested in hosting 2011 convention or next conventions should discuss with their membership and share the information. Since 2011 chariot festival falls during the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend, it would be best for Southern chapter to host. BD took the responsibility to ask Southern chapter.

### **Constitution Review**

BD also mentioned that a well documented constitution is pending for a long time and the review would be taking place through discussions in OSA net during January, 2010. She requested all chapter presidents to take a look and suggest recommendations.

### **Convention 2010**

AP-S updated about the 2010 convention. She requested everybody to participate and inform the members in their community to participate.

### **Drama Festival**

BD updated about the drama festival. No new news.

### **Miscellaneous**

Convention guest list was discussed. AN asked if Manorama Mohapatra was coming. AP-S informed that Mrs Mohapatra was not keeping up with her health and there are a few names who are contacted to grace the occasion as OSA guests. The summary was discussed and the meeting was adjourned.

### **BOG Meeting, February 7, 2010**

**Time:** 8:30 PM – 9:57 PM

**Attendance:** Bigyani Das, Pradeep Mohapatra, Arata Rout, Annapurna Pandey, Jibanjit Tripathy, Anadi Naik, Sikha Sen, Sandip Dasverma (Invited-Immediate Past Treasurer)

### **Discussion Points**

Welcome New BOG Members  
Convention 2010  
Constitution & By-Law Discussion



Chapter Accounting/Chapter Status  
Drama Festival 2010  
Convention 2011 & Beyond  
Membership

Award  
OSA Legal Status

**Welcome New BOG Members:** The president of Ohio Chapter, Mr. Arata Rout was welcomed.

**Convention 2010:** Annapurna Pandey updated the convention information and their preparation and finalized convention guests Subrato Bagchi, Prashanta Nanda and prospective guests such as Barbara Boxer, Jerry Brown et al. Various members gave various opinions. Sandip dasverma asked if the registration was going through DOLA system. Annapurna and Pradeep mentioned Shesha Nayak as the registration coordinator and that he should contact Mr Sesa Nayak.

Annapurna Pandey also informed that they went to LA and invited Southern California Oriyas to participate in the convention. They expect many families from Southern California.

**Constitution and By-Law Discussion:** Bigyani Das informed the constitution and by-law status and that all the information will be compiled and be checked with an attorney before being sent for member review.

**Chapter Accounting/Chapter Status:** Texas chapter election was discussed. Several suggestions were made on appointing election commissioners.

Annapurna Pandey asked about MD/VA chapter's membership information. Anadi Naik informed that he had sent it to her. Annapurna Pandey mentioned that she had not received any. Finally Anadi Naik agreed to send it to Annapurna Pandey's email address published on OSA website. Anadi Naik also mentioned that their chapter's election will be held in April.

Lalatendu Mohanty's suggestion about chapter membership versus OSA National membership was discussed. As Lalatendu Mohanty was absent, the discussion for the final decision could not continue.

**Drama Festival 2010:** Sandip Dasverma updated the status of Drama Festival. TX, Canada, New England and Chicago, with their planning of drama festival in full swing.

**Convention 2011 and Beyond:** Anadi Naik informed that Radhakanta Mishra was interested in hosting the convention in 2010 and he did not know whether he was contacted or not. Sandip Dasverma suggested

soliciting proposals from the prospective chapters through open invitation in OSAnet. Bigyani said that she would follow up with Southern chapter president Sarojini Mishra and find out.

**Membership:** Bigyani Das requested everybody to circulate among their chapter members that the discounted membership rate expires by March 31, 2010. Several people have suggested increasing the membership fee as OSA is facing new challenges and the cost of providing service has increased substantially.

**Award:** Jibanjit Tripathy wanted clarification of Entrepreneur Award. Sandip Dasverma explained the award. He also asked about award procedure and Bigyani informed to wait for the announcement around February 15, 2010.

**OSA Legal Status:** Bigyani informed that the parties were going through a discovery process and we would let the attorneys handle since the plaintiffs have disregarded OSA administration and OSA BOG and had gone to the court, therefore OSA BOG cannot do anything.

**Miscellaneous:** Annapurna Pandey reminded everybody to participate in OSA 2010 convention and bring as many chapter members to the convention.

### **BOG Meeting, March 7, 2010**

**Time:** 8:30 PM – 10:56 PM

**Attendance:** Bigyani Das (BD), Pradeep Mohapatra(PM), Arata Rout,(AR), Jibanjit Tripathy (JT), Anadi Naik (AN), Debasish Panda (DP), Lalatendu Mohanty (LM), Nishikant Sahoo (NS), Akhileswar Patel (APT), Priyadarsan Patra (PP-Immediate Past Secretary) , Sandip Dasverma (SD - Immediate Past Treasurer)

### **Discussion Points**

Convention 2010 & BOG & GBM Meeting Timing  
Membership Discounted Rate ends by March 31st, 2010  
OSA Awards: April 30 Deadline - Please circulate  
2011 Election Plan: Process starts from July 4, 2010  
2011 Convention: Who is the lucky chapter?  
Future OSA Leadership: Who will be your successor?  
Chapters that do not even have 10 OSA Family Members: What to do?  
Current OSA Status  
Miscellaneous

### **Convention 2010 & BOG & GBM Meeting Timing:**

BD informed the current BOG and GBM meeting schedule during the convention as 5:00 PM on Saturday and 11:30 AM on Sunday

respectively. She requested everybody to plan to attend the convention and the meetings. She also requested that any agenda item a BOG member wants to discuss, should be sent to BOG list by May 31<sup>st</sup>. Everybody agreed except AN who complained that BOG members are not employees that they would be bound by so many rules like that. Everybody agreed that there is no force on anybody, but when a rule is established and agreed upon for the better functioning and planning of the meetings, it does not hurt to follow. Finally it was decided that the agenda items can be sent before June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **Membership Discounted Rate ends by March 31st, 2010:**

BD announced that the membership discounted rate will be valid until March 31<sup>st</sup> and chapter executives should make an attempt to recruit as many new members by taking advantage of this offer. BOG members Arata Rout, Debashish Panda, Lalatendu Mohanty, Nishikant Sahoo etc. informed that they already circulated the information among their chapter members and they would be making personal contacts to recruit new members.

#### **OSA Awards:**

Pradeep informed about the awards and the nomination deadline. There were some questions about different awards and Sandip Dasverma answered them.

#### **2011 Election Plan:**

Process starts from July 4, 2010. BD informed about 2011 election plan and asked chapter representatives about their chapter's election schedule. All the chapter members present in the meeting informed their chapter's election year and month and the transition month. There was a long discussion whether OSA National executives should be sending reminders to chapters if they do not hold elections or do not adhere to procedures. There was also discussion about penalty. All of the BOG members agreed that chapter presidents should know their duties and if they have any doubt any time, they can ask for clarification. OSA National executives may send a reminder as an extra measure however, this should not be a criteria.

#### **2011 Convention: Which one is the Lucky Chapter?**

BD informed that there have been no takers yet for 2011 convention. She asked for chapters to discuss with their members and get back to BOG. OH chapter president Arata Rout mentioned that it may be too quick for him to host in 2011, but he would try to check with members for 2012 convention. Grand Canyon chapter president Debashish mentioned about the hot weather in AZ during summer.

#### **Future OSA Leadership: Who will be your successor?**

BD updated SW chapter election which was being conducted. AN informed that their chapter's election would be held during April.

**Chapters that do not even have 10 OSA Family Members: What to do?**

BD raised this question as Annapurna Pandey had found that there were only 9 OSA National members in MD/VA chapter. AN wanted Annapurna Pandey to write him with her findings if all the names he submitted are not OSA National members.

**OSA Legal Status:** Bigyani informed that the hearing date was moved from March 10<sup>th</sup> to May 26<sup>th</sup>. Depositions of Sandip Dasverma and Chitta Baral had been completed and from plaintiff's side the deposition of Agni Jandhyala was completed. Amit Nayak and Anshuman Bal will be deposed during the last week of March. Since the plaintiffs have disregarded OSA administration and OSA BOG and had gone to the court by including OSA organization in their defendant's list, OSA has to defend itself. There was discussion on the financial commitment of OSA for the lawsuit. All BOG members agreed that OSA should fund through the course of the lawsuit as long as its name is included in the defendant list. AN's opinion was not clear.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was concluded at 10:56 PM. BD thanked everybody and requested everybody to attend the convention and send their chapter information so that OSA web can have the information clearly for everybody's knowledge.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the 2010 OSA convention in the beautiful northern California. With my warmest regards and best wishes,

Annapurna Pandey

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TREASURER

WRITES.....



Friends,

Total Membership in our DOLA (Directory of Odiya Living Abroad) system is now up to 703, whereas the membership enrolled from 1/1/2009 is 66. The number of members enrolled from July 1st, 2009 is 41.

Since the Life Membership Sale period is approaching, I am receiving frequent applications (4 to 5 a week).

The sale period ends on 31st March 2010.

The OSA accounts in CD are growing. The Checking Account on Charitable Gift is flat. Regular Checking Account is maintaining its average balance with some fluctuation.

We are receiving yearend financial report from Local Chapters for 2009 tax filing shortly.

Thank you,

Akhileswar Patel

Treasurer, OSA.

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## OSA UPDATES.....



### **FROM OSA 2010 VOLUNTEERS:**

### **CULTURAL CONTACTS, DATES AND RULES**

#### **Pramod Patnaik Inter-Chapter/ State/region Drama Competition**

This competition is organized by OSA for the 41st Annual Convention, as in previous years, and is open for participation by all OSA members.

The duration of the drama will be limited to 18 minutes only (no exception); only 2 minutes will be provided for prop setup.

Minimum 2 participants per entry.

One drama per each chapter/state/ region will be eligible to compete in this category.

It must come through the president of the concerned chapter or from an OSA life member.

The entry has to have a different name & title than pre registered dramas. Please check and confirm with the cultural team before you choose the drama.

Each group should arrange their own props or instruments for competition.

Any specific audio or light requirements need to inform while registering and OSA 2010 cultural team will decide and let know if possible to provide such.

Each group must email the You tube location or mail VCD/DVD if more than 6 entries received.

The deadline for entries for submission is May 1st 2010.

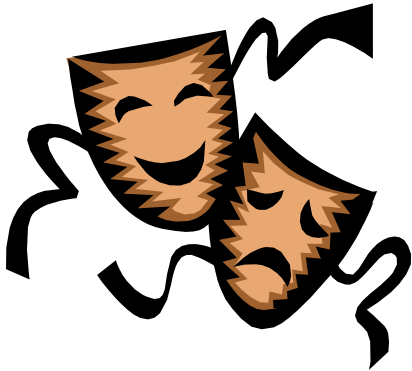
Please send all reply to [cultural@osacal2010.org](mailto:cultural@osacal2010.org)

Thanks,

Manoj Sahu

On behalf of OSACAL Cultural Team, Cupertino, CA

SOUTHWEST DRAMA  
FESTIVAL  
UPDATES.....



Dear Friends,

The Annual Southwest Drama Festival 2010 has now been firmly scheduled for Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Please take a minute to check important information regarding the festival (venue/timing, etc) on the webpage below:

<http://southdramafest.orissasociety.org/> (for setting up and supporting this site we thank Mr Santanu Das)

Let's take a break from our daily mundane routines and spare a day for ourselves!! Be assured to count on this day, as a day full of fun, food and friendship, with at least three or more Oriya drama performances from Dallas, Houston and Arkansas.

Appreciate if everyone could kindly register on the website <http://southdramafest.orissasociety.org/> by clicking on the "Registration" link, or by replying to the email (dfwosa@gmail.com) to let us know of your attendance. Also, please spread the word to anyone who might be interested in the show whether they are part of any Oriya group or not. If you have friends and families visiting, please bring them along as well.

Let's make this one more success point for all Oriyas in the Southwest region to join together with the great Oriya friendship spirit.

Best Regards,  
Saroj Mohapatra

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## PRELIMINARY GBM

### AGENDA.....



### **Preliminary GBM Agenda**

Total Time: 1 hour 30minutes

**Date: July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010** (approx time: 11:30AM)

- Call to order by Sgt-At-Arms (Sgt-At-Arms will be appointed by OSA President) : 2-3 minutes
- Good OSA Member Pledge: 2-3 minutes
- President's Remarks: 7-10 minutes
- Parliamentarian Announcement: 2-3 minutes
- Secretary's Report, New Member Induction: 5-7 minutes
- Treasurer's Report: 5-7 minutes
- New Constitution: Discussion: 15-20 minutes
- New Constitution: Voting: 3-5 minutes
- OSA Legal Issues: Discussion: 8-10 minutes
- OSA Legal Issues: Voting: 3-5 minutes
- Election Committee Declaration and Voting: 3-5 minutes
- Announcements: Next Year's Convention etc
- Miscellaneous



DR ABHAY K PATI.....

CEO, Best Nutrition Products  
Inc, Hayward, California

Biotechayur Pvt Ltd in  
Balasore, Orissa



## TULSI, HOLY BASIL

What is Tulsi (Holy Basil)?

“The Queen of Herbs” – is the most sacred herb of India. Tulsi (Ocimum Sanctum), although also known as Holy Basil, is a different plant of Basil (Ocimum basilicum).

Tulsi has been revered in India for over five thousand years, as a healing balm for body, mind and spirit, and is known to bestow an amazing number of health benefits. Tulsi is a medicinal herb for stress-relieving, energizing and delicious as a herbal tea. It can be combined of 3 varieties of Tulsi: Rama Tulsi (Ocimum sanctum), Krishna Tulsi (Ocimum sanctum) and Vana Tulsi (wild tulsi) (botanical name: Ocimum gratissimum). Each variety lends its own distinct and characteristic taste that contributes to the delicious flavor and aroma of a Tulsi Tea.

What are the health benefits of Tulsi?

Tulsi is rich in antioxidant and renowned for its restorative powers, Tulsi has several benefits:

Relieves stress/adaptogen

Bolsters Immunity

Enhances stamina

Provides support during cold season

Promotes healthy metabolism

A natural immuno-modulator

“Modern scientific research offers impressive evidence that Tulsi reduces stress, enhances stamina, relieves inflammation, lowers cholesterol, eliminates toxins, protects against digestion and provides a rich supply of antioxidants and other nutrients. Tulsi is especially effective in supporting the heart, blood vessels, liver and lungs and also



regulates blood pressure and blood sugar.” Dr. Ralph Miller, former Director of Research for the Canadian Dept. of Health and Welfare.

How can Tulsi offer so many health benefits?

The unique chemistry of Tulsi is highly complex. Tulsi contains hundreds of beneficial compounds known as phytochemicals. Working together, these compounds possess strong antioxidant, antibacterial, antiviral, adaptogenic, and immune enhancing properties that promote general health and support the body's natural defense against stress and diseases. The essential oils in the leaves of Tulsi that contribute to the fragrance and refreshing flavor of Tulsi. Tea, are a particularly rich source of valuable phyto-chemicals.

What is an adaptogen?

An adaptogen is an agent that helps the body adapt more efficiently to stress. Adaptogens reduce that intensity and negative impact of the stress caused by mental tension, infection pollution and other factors. Tulsi is one of the most effective adaptogens known.

What are antioxidants?

Antioxidants slow down the process of excess oxidation and protect cells from the damage caused by free radicals. When cells are attacked by free radicals,

excess oxidation occurs which damage and destroy cells. Antioxidants stop this process. The cellular damage caused by free radicals can be responsible

for causing and/or accelerating many diseases. Tulsi is rich in antioxidants and is recommended to guard against free radicals and protect from damaging excess oxidation.

What is an immuno-modulator?

An immuno-modulator is an agent that balances and improves the immune response of the body in fighting antigens (disease causing agents such as bacteria, viruses, microbes, allergens etc.) and maintaining health.

How soon can I expect to see results from drinking Organic India Tulsi Teas?

Some of Tulsi effects are quite immediate, while others develop gradually after weeks of regular use. For example, you may feel more relaxed and energized after the first cup. Although tulsi has many specific effects on different body systems, its main benefits arise from its impressive general capacity to assist the body's natural process of healing and maintaining health. Tulsi overall health promotion and disease you may simply notice that you do not seem to be bothered by stress or common illnesses, such as colds or flu, nearly as easily. As with many other herbal supplements, it usually takes at least a week or so of consistent use for the body to experience major benefits.

Are there any contraindications?

According to traditional use and the modern research of Tulsi, it is generally considered that there are no contraindications for most people/constitutions and/or life circumstances and that it may be used daily for its health benefits. Not every herb is right for EVERY BODY – listen to yours, and see if Tulsi works for you. Always consult a primary health care provider whenever you have concerns.

How do I prepare Tulsi Tea?

Place one teaspoon or tea bag of Organic India Tulsi tea per cup in a pot or cup and pour freshly boiled water over the leaves or teabag. Infuse for two to five minutes to suit your taste. A longer steeping time, such as five minutes, yields a sweetener and/or milk if desired. Summer Tulsi Tea tip: tulsi makes a delicious and refreshing cold/iced tea. Add a touch of fresh mint to beat the summer heat! Double the strength when serving iced.

Can Tulsi Tea be taken with milk?

Yes, tulsi tea can be taken with milk. Most people enjoy tulsi tea that includes some black tea, like Tulsi Chai Masala with milk and sweetener. Tulsi is naturally delicious, slightly sweet, and a little spicy.

How long can I store Tulsi Tea?

It is recommended that you consume the product within two to three years of collection of dry Tulsi leaves. Store in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight.

Can I prepare Tulsi Tea at home from my own Tulsi plant?

Yes, of course. However, most households have only one type of Tulsi usually Rama Tulsi. Krishna is less common, and cultivated Vana Tulsi is fairly rare. Tulsi plants grown in polluted urban areas may be chemically contaminated.

Why should I use Organically grown Tulsi Products?

There is more and more evidence that chemical based fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides are harmful to our health. Conventional agriculture relies heavily on chemical fertilizers and toxic pesticides, which are harmful to human health, and which enter the food supply, penetrate water sources, harm the livestock, deplete the soil, devastate natural eco-systems, and contaminate the foods grown for the general public. In addition to which there are over 7000 artificial and/or chemical preservatives and additives permitted in non-organic food including colorings, stabilizers, fillers, residual antibiotics, hydrogenated fats, etc. none of which are permitted in organic foods.

Eating organic is also the only way to ensure that you are not

ingesting GM/GE (genetically modified/genetically engineered) foods, which are not permitted in organic foods. Organic products are tested to guarantee that they are free from all toxic agro-chemicals. Certified Organic herbal product means a sure way to trust that the foods you purchase are pure, safe and uncontaminated.

Why haven't I heard of the demand of tulsi before?

Tulsi has been known and honored in India for over five millennia for its remarkable healing properties. Tulsi is at the forefront of today's herbal medicine. Tulsi sales grew by over 200% last year industry-wide. Tulsi is the next "big" herb according to many herbalists.

Why are there two names, Tulsi and Holy basil?

Tulsi is the common and well-known name for this plant in India (and in many Asian countries) where it originates. The Latin name is *Ocimum Sanctum*. Tulsi is of the same botanical family as Basil, whose Latin name is *Ocimum Basilicum*. (Similarly, tomatoes, green peppers and eggplants are all of the same botanical family, as are cauliflower, cabbage, broccoli and brussels-sprouts, even though each is a very different and distinct plant), What is common is the genus *Ocimum*, but somehow the *sanctum* (sacred or holy) of *Ocimum Sanctum* was put together with the *Basilicum* (Basil) of *Ocimum Basilicum* and the name Holy Basil was created. This name, Holy Basil is commonly used for the Tulsi plant in the west.

What will Tulsi-Holy Basil do for me?

Tulsi is known as an adaptogen, helping our bodies "adapt" to different forms of stressors (environmental, physical, mental, emotional). Tulsi works for each person differently depending on what his or her body needs. Drinking Tulsi Tea promotes a sense of well-being, relieves stress, supports immunity, strength and stamina, provides relief from cold, fever and flu symptoms, and strengthens digestion and a healthy metabolism that may promote weight loss. This herbal panacea is The Herb for Our Times!

How many cups of tulsi Tea do you recommend per day?

Tulsi Tea can be enjoyed throughout the day, from morning to night. However, even one cup of Tulsi Tea a day is beneficial. During times of illness, the quantity and the strength of Organic India Tulsi Tea can be increased to quicken recovery.

If I have cold or flu symptoms should I consume more Tulsi?

Tulsi has been used for thousands of years to prevent and minimize the symptoms of cold and flu, to support upper respiratory health, reduce fevers and promote overall health. When utilizing Tulsi Tea to lessen the duration of colds or flu it is suggested that you increase the amount and strength of the tea you consume. Suggested use: 2- 3 tea bags per cup of tea, 3-6 times per day.

Is Tulsi safe to use during pregnancy and lactation and with children?

During pregnancy and lactation, one should always consult a primary health care provider before using any herb or herbal formula. In India, eating fresh Tulsi leaves and making tea with Tulsi leaves is common with women during pregnancy and lactation. Tulsi is considered safe for use with children over the age of 2. You should consult your primary health care provider for use with younger children. Most children love Tulsi Tea!

Does Tulsi Tea contain caffeine?

Tulsi is naturally caffeine-free

Does Tulsi Tea have any side effects?

You might notice that you feel much better! If you need more energy and don't want caffeine or sugar, Tulsi will gently

support and strengthen your energy. When feeling stressed or anxious, many report a gentle, soothing effect to their nervous systems and notice a greater clarity of mind! Tulsi Teas are considered very safe by modern scientific standards. In fact, Tulsi helps reduce the ill effects of many western pharmaceutical medicines and has proved to be beneficial for people of all ages.

Please visit [www.biotechayur.com](http://www.biotechayur.com) [www.nutritionbest.com](http://www.nutritionbest.com)

Author:

Dr.Abhay Kumar Pati is an Ayurvedic Graduate from J.B.Roy State College of Ayurvedic Medicine (Asthang Ayurvedic College & Hospital), Kolkata University. Dr.Pati is an author of several books, including Vitamins&Herbal Digest, Alternative Health Guide, Fruits of the World, Medicinal Plants of India as well as has published article on Ayurvedic medicine and nutrition. He has over 50 websites and ventures in many parts of the globe.

He is the founder and CEO of Best Nutrition Products Inc. in California and Chairman of the Board for the upcoming manufacturing unit of standardized phytochemicals, Biotechayur Pvt Ltd in Khantapara Balasore, Orissa. India

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FINANCIAL  
PLANNING.....

With Arun Mishra, Ph.D\*



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## Saving Taxes for 2009

### Arun Mishra

April 15<sup>th</sup> is looming close. Even if you take an extension, it may be helpful to learn of these tips.

Corporate taxes are due on March 15<sup>th</sup>, for 2009, but extensions for several months can be obtained.

Get in touch with your accountant and CPA to save on taxes, as much as you can.

Please use the following facts to plan and execute a successful tax-savings strategy:

1. Bought a home? Tax credit (not deduction on income) of \$8000 is available for first time home buyers. If bought a home after Nov 6, 2009, and still had a home, you can get a tax credit of \$6,5000, worth 10% of the purchase price, not to exceed \$6,500. This help will continue until 30 April 2010. Income limit \$225,000.
2. Had a child in College? You can claim \$2,500 per student per year for four years of college, in addition to Lifetime Learning Credit of \$2,000 per year for improving skills. Income limit \$160,000.
3. Bought a car? You can deduct the sales taxes up to \$49,500 of vehicle's price. Income limit \$250,000.
4. Were Unemployed ? You can have first \$2,400 of unemployment income tax-free. If both spouses were unemployed, one can claim \$4,800. Expenses for finding a new job is deductible up to 2% of AGI, Adjusted Gross Income, as in previous years.
5. Spent on Medical Insurance ? You can deduct 7.5% of AGI, as in previous years, but there may be more help this year if you were on COBRA and paid for it.
6. Gave to Charity ? Helped poor and needy, in Earthquake, Sunami and other disasters ? Any expenses in 2009, until March 1, 2010, can be deducted on 2009 tax return, 1040.

7. Lost Investing ? You can use up to \$3000 in losses from stock market and similar investments. Any further losses can be carried over to next year.

8. Affected by Disasters ? Numerous federal disasters were declared for 2009. If the losses were above 10% of AGI, you can deduct them from income. Even for 2008, the losses can be deducted if an amended return is filed.

9. Made Energy Efficient Home Improvements ? A credit worth of 30% of the cost of energy saving devices, up to a total of \$1500 in credits can be claimed. A \$30,000 or more in solar panels can help you save approximately \$10,000 in taxes. There is carry over provision to future years, especially to year 2010.

10. Itemize or not? Schedule A for 1040, helps save taxes for those who itemize. Even if you don't, another \$1000 is available for non-itemizers.

11. Had a Second Job? To meet ends meet, or being part-time at primary job, those who had a second job can deduct, 0.55 cents per mile on travel to second job, as well as costs associated with a home office

12. Moved, 50 miles plus? As in previous years, moving expenses are deductible, rental, supplies, meals etc can be included, for a taking up a new job.

13. High Earner? \$2,433 is available as credit. The \$3,650 exemptions lost to high earners now stops at \$2,433, and is not zero. Higher deductions on itemizing are available to those who make more than \$166,000.

14. Pay into Deductible IRA, if you do not have pension plan at Work, or in your Business. Roth might be better in long term. The amounts to contribute have increased over the years to \$5000 for each person, \$6000 for those above 50 years of age.

15. Push more and more into your corporate pension plans (401-K, 403-b, defined benefit/contribution plans), and reduce your take home pay and save on taxes.

Remember, better late than never. In addition, every bit helps big in long term.

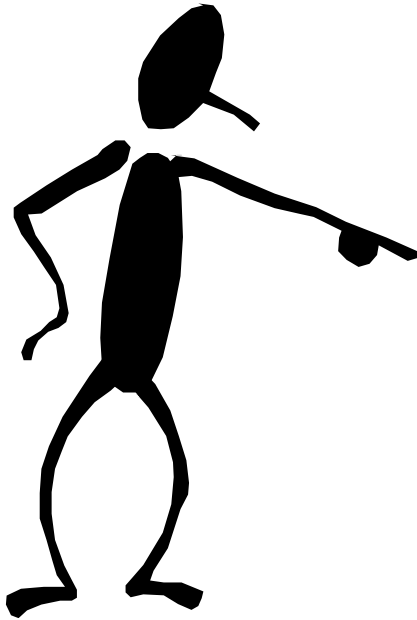
Arun Misra\*

\* Financial Planner and Realtor

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By Shradhanand Mishra

## Animus masquerading as grievance



Somehow the thought of a lawsuit by some members against OSA seems unreal. How can anyone in right mind sue a sociocultural fraternal organization? It seems absurd. I tried to do some research on the current lawsuit and the previous one in 2007. I got all the documents and followed all email trails in OSANet and CanOSANet. What I found was absolutely astounding. The so called grievances of unfairness and improper influence were exaggerated into accusations of “fraud”, “theft”, “illegality” and so on. It simply does not make any sense. Why would anyone indulge in fraud? The election is not about positions of power or control of money. It is not the Presidential election in US. Then why would anyone stoop to a lawsuit against a group of people who are simply social friends who get together to chat, sing, dance, act and argue about Oriya culture, food and politics? Even if they won the lawsuit what would they gain. Not money or power or fame, I am sure. Why would our volunteer and illustrious elections commissioners like Purna Mishra, Chitta Barala and Debendra Mallik and so on, would commit fraud? It is incomprehensible to think that it would require fraud to defeat someone like Amit Nayak who is as infantile and egotistic a person I have ever come across. Such deliberate mis-characterization is not only adolescent in tone and substance, but also the drips of an evil pseudo legal mind.

It is simply animus masquerading as grievance.

Their sneering descriptions of the deeds of those who live their lives in conformity with sincerity, civility, and collegiality as per their decent upbringings cannot be anything but animus. Screaming “oppression” and “unfairness” has always been the only available blunt weapon of the rationally challenged. What makes a person launch a lawsuit because somebody was unfair? Who does not encounter some unfairness in their daily lives? Calling fairness into the service of their rhetoric is fatuous and supercilious at best.

Let us look at this guy Amit Nayak who lost the election by a landslide, who accepted the results with smoky magnanimity on OSANet, who then was suddenly persuaded by “khala nayakas” to sue OSA, its current and past executives, all its election commissioners for fraud. Now imagine the havoc it creates. It is like throwing a stink bomb inside a temple. The legal system in the US is such that it can be used by any one as a terrorist weapon which not only destroys the target but kills scores of innocents in its way. I know perfectly well as in my business

we constantly experience spurious lawsuits. Now, our poor defendants have to answer subpoenas, have to be subjected to depositions, have to search and provide every tidbit of information demanded by the lawyers no matter how irrelevant, have to spend their spare and rare times talking and answering the lawyers, attend courts and so on for months and may be years. What have these people done to deserve this? All they did was to volunteer to help foster a great historic association. After all for 37 years, it was a close knit family. Who could have thought?

Look at Amit Nayak, the loser of the election by a landslide and principal plaintiff. Read his email postings. It is nothing but remorseless insult hurling, bile lathered on for the amusement of an aggrandized self and the “khala nayakas”. While a little coarseness and impudence is unsurprising in a 15-year old, it is absolutely cowardly and tiresome coming out of the digital mouth of a 30-something, supported by 50 and 70 somethings. Amit is the guy who thinks a lot more of himself than he should. Even if God would have intervened, he would not have been elected President of OSA. I know him well as he was President of CanOSA for a couple of years. If it was not for the magnanimity of the likes of Gagan Panigrahi, Sri Gopal Mohanty, Sushree Kar, Sumitra Padhi and so on, there would not have been a single successful function in Toronto nor our Convention. He and his financier friends have no business in making harsh and mean assessment of their differently believing and more pacific brothers in this association.

All of us 800 plus members of OSA have a stake here. We cannot allow these callow men to bankrupt our illustrious 40 plus year old association.

Sradhananda Mishra.

President, CSDC Systems.

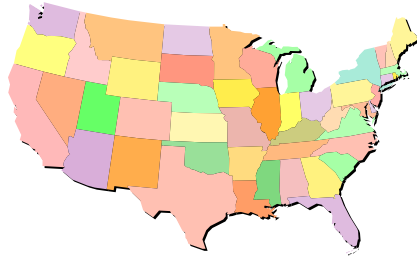
OSA Member since 1972.

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## CHAPTER REPORTS



### **GCC OSA REPORT**

**By Simant Misra**

1. On January 23rd, we celebrated Saraswati puja. The attendance was meager, but the food and decoration was fantastic.



2. On February 20th GCCOSA (Arizona OSA Chapter) finished it's first public event with a grand success. With real adverse conditions (4 inches rain in Desert) our chapter got second place in decoration in the event, and we served food for about 300+ people, this was organized by Indo-American Cultural and Religious society Foundation of Arizona. Our hottest seller was paan, followed by samosa. Close runner ups were dahi-bara, and CUTTACKI CHAAT. All these items were made by GCCOSA members. Neeva Das was the event coordinator.

Our immediate future plan is to hold a picnic/Holi outdoor event.

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## OSNE REPORT

By Nishikant Sahoo

### Saraswati Puja Celebration

The 2010 Saraswati Puja was celebrated at Chinmay Mission, Andover, MA on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2010. There were around 40 families and there were also non-Oriya families participated in the Saraswati Puja. Lots of children had **Khadichuan**(Vidyaarambha) on this auspicious day. We had various cultural programs like Odissi, Bharat Natyam, Bollywood dance, Veda Chanting and Odia music after the puja.



The cultural program was followed by **Trivia Quiz** on Orissa matters, hosted by Geetanjali Pani to develop interest on Orissa's rich cultural heritage.

OSNE Education Committee had slide and billboard presentations on **Library Movements by Bakul Foundation, Bhubaneswar, Rural Mathematics Talent Search(RMTS) by Institute Of Mathematics, Bhubaneswar, and Foundation for Excellence(FFE)** to promote various educational activities in Orissa for the under privileged.



OSNE has pledged \$200.00 worth of books for **Bakul's Children library in Bhubaneswar** via SEEDS. OSNE has also donated \$200.00 to **American Red Cross for Haitian earthquake victims**.

Last month the **US Department of State, Cultural Affairs** has invited the founder/secretary of Bakul Foundation, Sujit Mohapatra as guest to participate in the National Volunteerism Month program in **Washington DC** during **April 12<sup>th</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>**. The program selected Sujit for Bakul's focus on volunteerism. More info about the program is available @ <http://exchanges.state.gov/ivlp/ivlp.html> and <http://exchanges.state.gov/ivlp/alumni.html>. Sujit is only one representing India among the list of 103 countries.

### Republic Day Celebration

Orissa Society of New England (OSNE) presented various cultural programs during the celebration of sixtieth anniversary of India's Republic Day on 23<sup>rd</sup>, January, 2010 at the Burlington High School, Burlington, MA, organized by India Association of Greater Boston (IAGB).



Jayashree Mohapatra of OSNE's Outreach Committee was leading the effort for OSNE's cultural participation. The event was opened with **Hiranyagarbhasuktam** coordinated by Bijoy Misra. **Jagannath Vandana** and **Vasanth Pallavi**, an Odissi dance, were choreographed by Jayashree Mahapatra for the OSNE junior artists.



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## OSA SOUTHERN CHAPTER REPORT

By Amar K Pani

The great "Southern Chapter" gathered for the election, Holi Celebration and Jaganath Darshan on Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, at Huntsville in Alabama.

OSA and OSA-chapter "founders and leaders" such as, Dr. Binayak & Mrs. Sipra Panda, Dr. Bhagabat & Mrs. Pushpalata Sahu; Dr. Devi & Mrs.

Sarojini Mishra, Dr. Digambar and Mrs. Joshna Mishra, Dr. Gopal & Mrs. Annapurna Parija, Dr. Panchanan & Mrs. Sasikala Satpathy; Mr. Prabir & Mrs. Prajesh Dash, Drs. Radhakanta and Gita Mishra; Dr. Sarat & Minati

Praharaj and many more members attended this occasion.

The chapter has elected Mr. Pradipta Das of Athens, Alabama to be the vice president. The chapter has also unanimously elected Dr. Amar K. Pani of Memphis, Tennessee to be the president for the 2010-2012 terms.

To all chapter members: Your kind presence and faith in me is highly appreciated. I will do my best to work with everyone for the betterment of the chapter. I thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

Yours Faithfully

Amar K. Pani

9341 Lake Bridge Drive

Lakeland, TN 38002 [amarkpani@gmail.com](mailto:amarkpani@gmail.com)

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## OSA DC REPORT

By Sikha Sen

OSA Washington DC chapter celebrated Saraswati Puja on December 23, 2010 at Hindu Temple, Adelphi, Maryland. The puja was well attended by DC Oriya community. Specifically, DC Oriya children participated in puja. Pandits Pitamber Dutt Sharma & Shastri Ram Kumar performed the puja. The puja events are captured by Dr Babru Samal's camera at <http://www.babru.com/spuja10/>.

Dr Surendra Ray and Debaki Nanda Chowdhury had directed a children's drama on Kalidas who was blessed by Mother Saraswati. It was fun to watch the drama. The puja was followed by lunch.



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ସତେକି ତୁ ଅବା କରିଛୁ ପଣ । (୨)

କବି ଲେଖକକଂ ଭାବକୁ ଜାଣି,

ଆଗେଇ ଯାଉ ତୁ ଦେଖି ତା ଠାଣି । (୩)

କେତେ ଦୁଃଖ ସୁଖ କରୁ ବିସ୍ତାର,

ମନରେ ଚିକିଏ ନାହିଁ ତୋ ଡର । (୪)

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କେ କେତେ କଳ୍ପନା କରନ୍ତି ମନେ । (୫)

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ରସମୟ ଗୀତ କବିତା ଥିଲେ,

ଆନନ୍ଦରେ ପଢ଼ି ଯାଆନ୍ତି ଭଲେ । (୭)

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କଲମ ମୁନକୁ ମୋର ପ୍ରଣାମ,

କର୍ମେ ଆଗେଇବି କରି ମୁଁ ଶ୍ରମ । (୧୦)

## ସତେତନା

### କାନ୍ତିଲତା ସାହୁ

### କୁପର୍ଚ୍ଚିନୋ, କାଲିଘୋଷିଆ

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**ବସନ୍ତ ବାଣୀ**

**ବିଜ୍ଞାନୀ ଦାସ, ଡେପୁଟି, ମେରୀଲାଣ୍ଡ**

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ହୋରି ଖେଳ, ସାଙ୍ଗ ମେଳ  
ନାଚଗୀତ, ମହୋତ୍ସବ

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କେତେ ସ୍ନେହ ଦିଆନିଆ  
ସୁଆଙ୍ଗ ତାମସା, ଖାଲି ଖୁସି ଆଉ ଖୁସି  
କାହିଁକି କରନ୍ତୁ ଚିନ୍ତା ତୁଚ୍ଛାରେ ତୁ ବସି ?”

ହେ ମୋର ଓସାବନ୍ଧୁ  
ପ୍ରିୟଜନ, ଭାଇ ଓ ଭଉଣୀ  
ବସନ୍ତ ବାରତା ମୋର ସ୍ୱପ୍ନ ନୁହେଁ  
ସତ୍ୟର ଏ ସବୁଜ କାହାଣୀ  
ଜୁଲାଇରେ ହେବ ଆମ ଓସା ସମ୍ମିଳନୀ  
ନିମନ୍ତ୍ରଣ ଜଣାଇଲି ରଖ ମନେ ଗୁଣି  
ଭେଟିବି ତୁମକୁ ସେଠି ଏଇ ଆଶା ମୋର  
ସେନେହ ତୋରିରେ ବାନ୍ଧି  
ହସତିଏ ଭେଟି ଦେବ  
ଓସାପାଇଁ ମାଗୁଛି ମୁଁ  
ଏଇ ଉପହାର ।

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## COMPULSIVE LYING IS AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE

**Author: Unknown**

COMPULSIVE LYING IS AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE CAUSED BY THE “LIE VIRUS” THAT CAN CREATE PSYCHOPATHIC ACTIVITIES. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF REASONS THAT PEOPLE LIE. FEAR IS THE MOST IMPORTANT REASON. INCREASED LYING HAS BEEN SEEN WITH A NUMBER OF PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSES SUCH AS ADHD (ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER) AND BIPOLAR DISORDER. BIPOLAR DISORDER CAN BE ASSOCIATED WITH LOW SEROTONIN LEVELS, WHICH HAS BEEN IMPLICATED IN IMPULSIVE LYING.

Like every other infectious disease association with liars can spread the disease to other normal people. They would soon start behaving as the original liar and participate in spreading more lie virus and infecting others. The people that suffer from “Lying Disease” are often become traitors and deceitful in every relationship. The lies can break friendship, break families, community, organization and a good foundation.

As one takes precautionary measures for better physical health, hand-washing, eating nutritious food, regular exercise etc., maintenance of mental health also needs similar precautionary measures, mind-cleaning, reading spiritual books and practicing spiritual activities, associating with noble people and maintaining distance from the people that are infected with “lie virus”.

For more information on compulsive lying and “Lying Disease” check the references below.

Stay free from “Lying Disease” and stay healthy mentally.

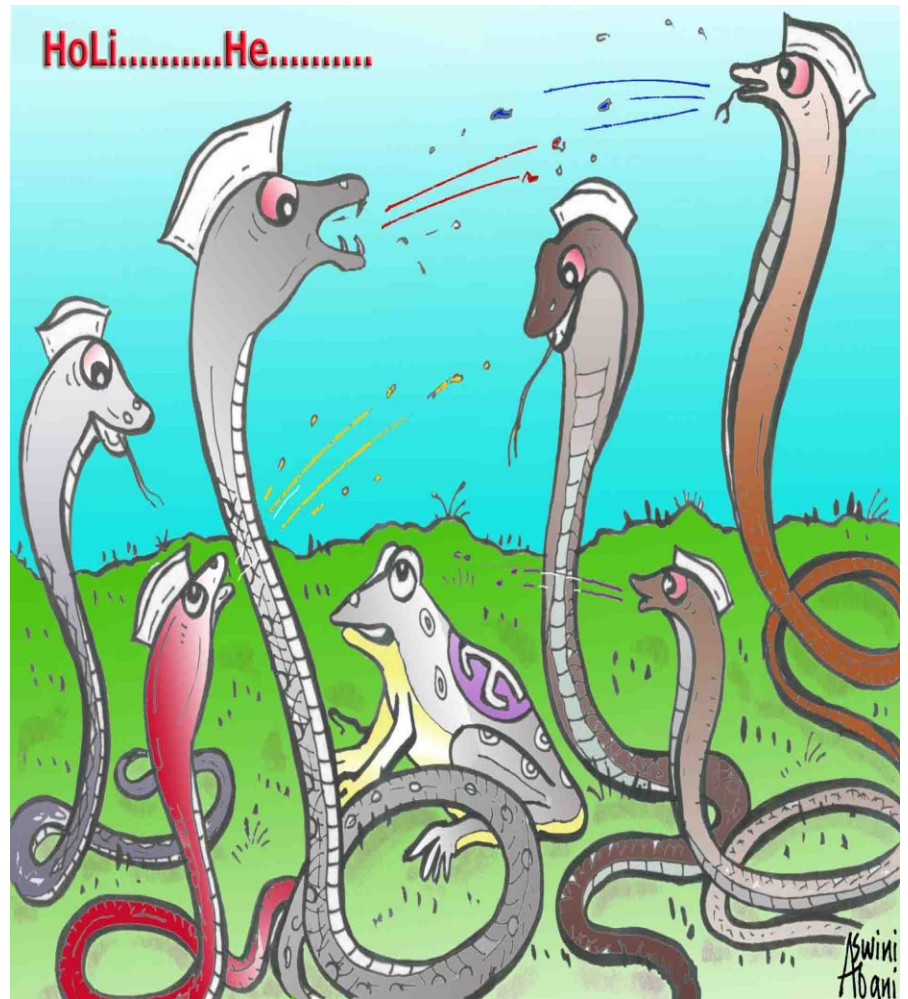
“Do not compromise yourself. You are all you’ve got” – Janis Joplin

References:

1. [http://www.mental-health-matters.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=95:what-is-compulsive-lying&catid=214:lying&Itemid=1668](http://www.mental-health-matters.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=95:what-is-compulsive-lying&catid=214:lying&Itemid=1668)
2. <http://www.amasci.com/maglev/levbill1.html>
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