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**2015 - 2016
Ugadi Habba**

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Dear Sangama members,

Welcome to our Ugadi Habba celebrations (Dur mukhi Nama Samvatsara) on Saturday, April 30th, 2016

Program details:-

General Body Meeting - 3.00 pm – 3:30 pm
Socializing: 3:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Cultural Programs (by members) – 4.00 pm – 7:00 pm
Dinner – 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Orchestra- 8:30 pm

Venue : Mahatma Gandhi Center
717 Weidman Road, Ballwin, MO 63011

SIGNIFICANCE OF UGADI

Ugadi is the New Year (Lunar New Year) for Kannada speaking people and it ushers in the spring season. In 2016, the date of Ugadi is April 8. Durmukhi Nama Samvatsara begins on April 8, 2016. Ugadi (yuga and adi) means beginning of an astronomical cycle. It is also the first day of Chaitra, the first month of the traditional Hindu calendar followed in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. Ugadi is also known as Chandramana Ugadi.

For the Kannada speaking people, Ugadi day begins with an extensive oil bath. People rejoice the new year with new clothes and new items for the home. They visit friends and families and enjoy a feast together, wishing each other well. Rangolis are drawn in front of homes and doors are decorated with a 'thorana' - mango leaves strung together. Then, it is time for the preparation of the famous 'Bevu Bella' in Karnataka.

A major event on the day is "Panchanga Shraavanam" – predictions for the year. It is organized at temples and by cultural and social organizations.

Ugadi Bevu Bella (mixture of jiggery and neem leaves) has an important symbolic meaning that life brings different experiences ranging from sweet to bitter. Therefore each individual should learn to take the different experiences in one's stride and move ahead.

Panchanga Explained:

Literally 'five limbs' (Pancha, 'five' and anga, 'limb'). The almanac of the Hindus, so named because it deals with the five Hindu divisions of time. An 'auspicious' moment is considered vital, as starting a ceremony, a journey, a new venture or the commencement of studies. The panchanga is used to find such 'auspicious' moments when the various permutations and combinations of the five units of time are found congenial. When performing a ceremony the time must harmonise with the horoscope of the person it is being performed for. Such calculations are therefore highly individual. The panchanga is also useful in predicting the dates of various fasts and festivals. The positions of the stars in each area are taken into consideration while making these panchangas. The concept of different units of time dates back to the Veda. Prataha (morning), Sayam (evening), Madhayadina (midday) and other words for the times of the day are found in the Rig Vedas (see Veda). There have been many astronomers in India, who has tried to explain time concepts, of which Aryabhatta (5th century AD) is the foremost.

The five limbs of the panchanga are:

1. Vaara (solar day) 2. Tithi (lunar day) 3. Nakshatra (lunar asterism) 4. Yoga (conjunction of planets) 5. Karana (half of a lunar day) Vaara (solar day), literally means a weekday. This is the time from one sunrise to the next. For official purposes, one day is reckoned from midnight to midnight. The solar day of the Hindus is divided into four parts: Divas (day), Ratri (night), Sandhya (morning twilight), Sandhyansha (evening twilight). One solar day is made of 60 ghatikas and also of 15 muhurtas. The Hindus follow a seven-day week system and each day of the week is a Vaara.

Each Vaara is special to a particular presiding deity. The seven Vaaras are also associated with the seven planets of the Hindus. Tithi (lunar day) is defined as the time taken by the moon to gain 12 degrees on the sun. The moon takes about 30 days (one lunar month) to go around the earth's ecliptic. In each Tithi, the moon travels 12 degrees ahead of the sun (i.e. if the sun and the moon are present in a specific position relating to the earth, after one Tithi, the moon would be ahead of the sun by 12 degrees) hence completing 360 (12 degrees x 30 days) degrees in a terrestrial month. In one month, there are 30 Tithis, one Poornima or full moon and one Amavasya or new moon. The first Tithi begins after the Amavasya. A full moon night of any month is considered especially auspicious. Various fasts and ceremonies are hence performed on this day. Amavasya, on the other hand, is not particularly beneficial though both the new moon and the full moon are favoured motifs in classical poetry and the lives of saints. Nakshatra

(lunar asterism) is a cluster of stars lying in the path of the moon. Just as the ecliptic is divided into 12 solar mansions (zodiacs), so is it divided into 27 'lunar mansions or asterisms', called nakshatras. The moon travels through all of these clusters in about a month. It takes a little more than a lunar day to travel into each Nakshatra and so it becomes full in a different Nakshatra every month. The sun moves in about two and a quarter Nakshatras every month. The Nakshatras have been named according to which Nakshatra the moon was full in, in the month and year the present lunisolar calendar was instituted. The first 14 are called Devanakshatra, and the next 14 are Yamanakshatra. They too have presiding deities, and the Vedas say that these Nakshatras are the heavenly abodes of pious people and great devotees. Yoga is defined as the time taken by the sun and moon together to accomplish 13 degrees 20 minutes of space. It is calculated from the sum of the longitudes of the sun and the moon and has no astronomical backing. The first yoga occurs at 13 degrees 20 minutes, the second at 26 degrees 40 minutes and so on. There are 27 yogas in all, in a month (making a total of 360 degrees). Karana is half of a lunar day or Tithi. Therefore, there are two Karanas in one Tithi and 60 in a lunar month. There are 11 names for Karanas, of which seven are termed as moving or Chara and four are stationary or Sthira.
Source: Internet

Membership Renewal: We look forward to your continued support to SANGAMA by renewal of your membership and updating relevant member information (address, email, phone #s) (if you have not already done so). You can renew membership with either of these three easy options:

- 1) Paypal- On the Sangama website at www.sangamastl.org
- 2) Mailing a check to the treasurer, Mr. Shashi Vasishta, 140 Cherry Hills Meadows Dr., Wildwood, MO 63040.
- 3) Front desk at the Ugadi event- cash or check or debit card on April 30th, 2016



Graduating High School Seniors and College Students~

Congratulations to our high school seniors, Juhi Nayak, Omkar Venkatesh Payal Hukkeri & Sanjana Bhavikatti!! Wishing you the very best in college and life ahead! Do come and visit us when you can!

Best wishes for our graduating college students and all the best in your career ahead!

Kudos to all the Youth Group members!! You made our functions go smooth through your dedicated efforts and exceptional volunteerism. Continue to give back to your community, have fun while doing so, and spread that cheerfulness around! This Ugadi, the youth volunteers will be recognized on stage and awarded certificates of appreciation. To volunteer at the Ugadi function of 2016, please contact: Teju at tejuhi@hotmail.com

For continued participation, contact the Youth Group Coordinator at www.sangamastl.org or email: stlsangama@gmail.com to sign up as a Youth volunteer.

Yakshagana Program on 24th April at the 8th Natya Festival - Grand performance by a 12 member, authentic group of artistes from the renowned Shri Idagunji Yakshagana MahaGanapati Yakshagana Mandali, Keremane, Karnataka-----in colorful, traditional folk attire, performing to live music!! Sangama co-sponsors with Soorya Performing Arts----more details at: www.sangamastl.org

FREE
CONCERT

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ಸೈಂಟ್ ಲೂಯಿಸ್ ಕನ್ನಡ ಸಂಘ

ಯುಗಾದಿಯ ಪ್ರಯುಕ್ತ

Presents

Vishwesh
Bhat

SvarAmrita

April 30, 2016 - SATURDAY

AT
MAHATMA GANDHI CENTER
717 WEIDMANN ROAD
ST. LOUIS, MO 63011

“ಸಂಗೀತ ಸಂಜೆ”

Ashwini Bhat

Krishna Prasad

Sharan Rao

Adarsh



SPONSORSHIP
AND
DONATIONS ARE
WELCOME

Design Courtesy: Anitha Nagendra

Sangama Recognition- Smt. Asha Prem- Respected long time Sangama member, for her unstinted four decades of dedicated service to the community, here in the St. Louis. Her pioneering efforts in establishing a dance school to promote the performing arts and spread the knowledge of the dance form of Bharatanatyam among the diaspora children and youth of St. Louis is highly commendable. Further “Dances of India” has paved the way for so many children of the 2nd generation American-Indian community to carry forth the ancient dance form of India. Her position as faculty at Washington University and the Annual Dance Festival that she started, has further promoted the arts amongst the mainstream population.



Sangama family has grown~

Congratulations to the proud Sangama parents and welcome, dear babies!

Leena and Brad Stemler – Baby June Marie

Ashwini and Mahantesh Hallikeri – Baby Dhruv

Thara and Anil Gowda – Baby Aisiri

Swathi and Sathish Nanjappa – Baby Ananya

Congratulations to the Sangama grandparents- Sastry’s on their 6th grandchild; Shrinivas’s on their 3rd grandchild; Sateesha’s on their 2nd grandchild!!

(Information to the best of our knowledge, as of April 1st, 2016; let us know if we missed any new additions)

AKKA 2016 is coming to New Jersey!

Check out the info at: www.sangamastl.org and at <http://www.akkaonline.org/>

Future Sangama events: Refer to latest info at www.sangamastl.org

Father’s Day Picnic- Sunday, June 19th 2016 - Beirne Park

Gowri-Ganesha Habba - September 11th, 2016 - MGC

Nadahabba-Deepavali – November 5th, 2016 - MGC

Please RSVP to the Ugadhi Function evite at your earliest.

Food assignments on next page!

Ugadi Feast Menu~ Who brings what?

Maavinakaayi Chitranna - 1/2 tray each	Kosambari - 5 quarts each (1 small tray, filled)
Seema Kasthuri	Shwetha Amberker
Deepti Bharadwaj	Radha Shrinivas
Malathi Reddy	Sushma Dattatri
Anitha Nagendra	Sindhu Narayan
Chaya Gopalan	Sunitha Iyengar
Meera Vasudevamurthy	Saaru (Rasam) - 6 quarts each
Sandhya Subramanya	Vanita Talkad
Vijaya Kumar	Divya Palamand
Suma Milli	Bharathi Hebbar
Kavitha Upadhya	Swetha Shrikanth
Potato bajji - 60 each	Sahana Kadambar
Smitha Anand	Sonia Kumar
Rekha Sunil	Saagu - 1 small tray, filled
Padmini Prabhu	Gayathri Venkatesh
Kathyayini Joshi	Prathima Murthy
Anupama Hukeri	Jyothi Sri
Amoolya Shetty	Reshma Hemanth
Shilpa Salil	Suma Rao
Pratima Murali	Thara Shadaksharappa
Sambar - 6 quarts each	Kavitha Cashikar
Lakshmi Naveen	Yogurt rice - 1/2 tray each, filled
Rekha Megharaj	Sujatha Manjunath
Jaya Sastry	Veena Anchan
Jayanti Hariprasad	Vishana Krishna
Madhu Bhat	Nandini Basappa
Sandhya Pandurangi	Anita Somaprasad
Raita- 5 quarts each- tomato/cucumber (1 small tray)	Sunitha Koppar
Jyothi Mayenkar	Badam milk - 1 gallon each
Prashant Prabhu	Nandini Vasanth
Dakhshayini Sripal	Kannika Wagle
Sunayana Thej	Nandeep Bommanna
Sumaya Thajib	Mahantesh Hallikeri

Vobattu is the dessert of the day and served by Sangama!

Please contact any of the Sangama committee members, listed on the front page of the newsletter if you have any questions, regarding food assignments.

FUN CORNER

Test yourself on a Quiz based on Ugadi: (compiled by Srilatha Upadhy)
(Scroll down to bottom, for answers)

Question 1: It falls on a different day every year because the Indian calendar is a _____.

- Gregorian calendar Islamic calendar Byzantine calendar Lunisolar calendar

Question 2: _____ also celebrate their New Year (Sajibu Cheiraoba) on the same day.

- Kshatriya Arjuna Meitei people Bengali people

Question 3: In _____, a special dish called Bhakshyalu or obbattu (Puran Poli) are prepared on this occasion.

- Karnataka Orissa Kerala Maharashtra

Question 4: In _____, Ugadi falls on April 8.

- 2006 2007 2010 2016

Question 5: It starts on the first new moon after Sun crosses equator from south to north on Spring _____.

- Equinox Solstice Year Calendar

Question 6: Recitals of classical _____ and dance are held in the evenings.

- Bhupalam Dhenuka Dheerasankarabharanam Carnatic music

Question 7: Gudi Padwa (Marathi, Konkani) / **Ugadi** (Telugu, Kannada)

Cheti Chand (Sindhi) / Vaisakhi (Punjabi) / _____ (Bengali)

Puthandu (Tamil) / Vishu (Malayalee)

- Durga Puja Bengali language Bengali calendar Pohela Boishakh

Question 8: Maharshi _____ describes this event with the words "*Yesmin Krishno divamvyataha, Tasmad eeva pratipannam Kaliyugam*".

- Kapila Vyasa Narada Durvasa

Question 9: The _____ King Shalivahana (also identified as Gautamiputra Satakarni)

is credited with the initiation of this era known as Shalivahana.

- Western Satraps Satavahana dynasty Indo-Greeks Indo-Scythians

Question 10: For example, the time for the new moon for Bijapur where _____ was born can be determined from the website. However, people celebrate Yugadi on the next morning as Indian day starts from sun rise.

- Aryabhata Indian mathematics Yuktibhasa Bhaskara II

Answers

1. Lunisolar calendar
2. Bengali people
3. Karnataka
4. 2016
5. Equinox
6. Carnatic music
7. Pohela Boishakh
8. Vyasa
9. Satavahana dynasty
10. Bhāskara II

This year has been wonderful and all events successful, due to your support, encouragement and active participation!! We sincerely thank you and request your continued support of Sangama and related activities in the new year as well.

DhanyavadagaLu,

The Sangama Committee (2015-2016)

