

KOAC NEWSLETTER

SHESCH KHABAR

Bringing Together Our Community

BY KOAC NEWSLETTER TASKFORCE - DECEMBER, 2020

01 | PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Warmest wishes for a joyous holiday season and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

The holidays are a festive time of year when we share special moments with our family, friends and loved ones, and look ahead to a new year filled with promise and opportunity. We reflect upon our many blessings, and are grateful for the sacrifices being made by our officers and public safety personnel who protect our nation, safeguard our freedom, and secure our liberties.

During this season of hope and joy, I offer my sincere thanks to all of our community members neighbors for your continued collaboration, cooperation, and support. You are the foundation of KOA.CANADA and your active civic engagement contributes significantly to the progress and advancement of our society.

I also express my appreciation to the entire executive committee and all volunteers of KOA, Canada for your dedication, commitment, and service to our community. The outstanding work you perform each and every day meeting the needs of our community enhances quality of life and exemplifies what building community is all about.

In the spirit of the season, I commend all those community members who have made a special effort to give back to the community. Our countless community volunteer programs, initiatives, thousands of you are spreading goodwill throughout our community with open and generous hearts.

As the New Year approaches, it is truly an exciting time to be in Canada. It's an understatement that the past few months have been challenging. Our whole lives have been disrupted. Under challenging circumstances we stayed true to our values, rallied together, and we kept going. Amidst the pandemic, we achieved significant successes throughout 2020 !

Though lots remains to be done, we have made important progress towards sustainability, wellness, programs, and initiatives, as well as equity, diversity and inclusion. We are deeply based in our values, that lays out our shared aspirations and that will guide us into a successful future. As we look forward to new and exciting opportunities that lie ahead, we remain committed to leaving no stones unturned, and we remain passionate about working cooperatively with all of you to make KOA Canada, the best place to live, work, play, visit and raise a family.

My warmest wishes to you and your loved ones for a joyous holiday season, and a happy, healthy, and successful New Year. May God bless you and your families and our communities at global scale.

Pooja Ganju

President, KOA, Canada



<https://www.facebook.com/pooja.ganju>



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/pooja-ganju-32b00313/>

KOAC LOGO BRANDING

On Oct 15th 2020, Kashmiri Overseas Association of Canada unveiled its new logo as a part of our new brand identity. Simplicity was key while designing the logo, where the combination of Chinar and Maple Leaf is symbolic representation of Kashmiris living in Canada while the tri-color along with red showcases the Indian and the Canadian flags amalgamated in perfect harmony.



02.

KOAC SPOTLIGHTS

Kudos to our entire social media task force; Ms. Surabhi Kaul, Ms. Pallak Razdan and our specialists, Ms. Shamy Bowden. With professional guidance and in collaboration with our general secretary and President, the team worked with full dedication on the theme, color scheme, messaging and overall outlook of the vision and branding. Thank You team for your hard work, time and efforts on giving us our new logo!

KOAC SOCIAL MEDIA LAUNCH

KOAC has expanded social media presence targeted at our "multigenerational audience" to increase our virtual presence and digital footprint, enabling a better reach, presence and connectivity within the community that facilitates further increase in collaboration and participation. Let's stay connected!!

Check out our social media platforms

CONNECT - LEARN - EMPOWER - FOSTER - SHARE AND SUBSCRIBE



<https://instagram.com/koacanada?igshid=rgs7mn6ijjr>



<https://mobile.twitter.com/KOACorg>



<https://www.facebook.com/koa.canada>



koacanada@gmail.com



<https://m.youtube.com/channel/UC7e7kxFHxK3n3gx7ZtYF4ug/featured>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/kashmiri-overseas-association-of-canada>

Special Thanks Ms. Surabhi Kaul, Mr. Vishal Bagati in collaboration with the President, for efforts and showing keen interest to enhance the social media presence.

KOAC MISSION LAUNCH

- **Medical Fund Assistance Program (MFAP)**

MFAP platform is being introduced in response to the multiple communications we received from (KPs), primarily from Jammu refugee camps seeking financial help to treat their seriously ill relatives. This platform aims to provide financial help to treat seriously ill Kashmiri Pandits from India. Establishment of a consistent and organized platform for our community members to build the funding as a proactive approach for the needy was the motivation behind this program.

- **Educational assistance program (EAP)**

In another initiative to serve different legit foundations for serving people in need EAP is being created. This Program helps to educate underprivileged Indian children in remotest areas of India through Ekal fundraising initiative. In future we're planning to include multiple other programs focused for our KP populations across the globe.

With our deepest appreciation , we would like to acknowledge and recognize everyone for your generous contribution and support. We raised \$1668 towards the noble cause. Special thanks to - Mr. Kamal Raina, Mr. Sunil Soporie, Mr. Sunny Raina, Ms. Meenakshi Hukkoo, Mr. Vidya Bhushan Dhar, Mr. Shivansh Dhar, KOAC, Ms. Reema Kaul, Ms. Sheetal Handoo, Mr. Vinod Munshi, Mr. Shashi Raina, Ms. Punipriya Misri, Mr. Vikas Thusoo, Mr. Akshay Kaul, Mr. Ashwani Bhat, Mr. Rohit Raina, Ms. Shefali Sarna, Ms. Usha Kaul) who made generous donations for the cause. We Appreciate your efforts towards mankind. Thanks to volunteering efforts by Mr. Ashok Koul, Mr. Sunny Raina, Mr. Vidya Dhar, Mrs. Meenakshi Raina and Mrs. Sneh Dhar.



**KOAC
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REWARD AND RECOGNITION PROGRAM LAUNCH

Built and launched a structured model R&R program for our community members. Recognition is an important element of empowerment. Its utmost important to celebrate as we appreciate our community members for more than just your work. We want to celebrate YOU and the positive effect you have on others !! Thanks for all the valuable contributions !!



REWARD & RECOGNITION

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KOAC Raise Brand Awareness on Diverse Platforms

- **KOAC on Panorama India Diwali program**

KOAC was honored and delighted to be invited as a guest featuring in the community section Diwali special edition on Nov 29, 2020 with Namaste Live-Hosted by Panorama India joining features with Consulate General of India Ms Apoorva Srivastva and MPP Mississauga, Ontario Ms. Nina Tangri. Tune into video @27.27 for watching KOAC representation.

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For more information, please visit the links below -



<https://www.facebook.com/koac.canada>



<https://www.youtube.com/c/PanoramaIndiaToronto>

• KOA CANADA Global KP Representation

The KOAC team was delighted to be airing their views by joining the esteemed panelists through Global Webinar, Global KP Diaspora GKPD - Join the fight and restore democracy and constitutional rights. We stand together with our nation. [#JusticeForArnabGoswami](#)



Global KP Diaspora (GKPD) Webinar
GKPD stands with Arnab Goswami and demands Justice!

Panelists:

- UTPAL KAUL, INDIA
- DK DAKSHI, THAILAND
- KRISHNA BHAN, UK
- VIDYA B DHAR, CANADA
- POOJA GANJU, CANADA
- AJAY CHOWDHRY, GERMANY
- DR RABINDER KAUL, USA
- RAKESH BHAN, AUSTRALIA
- VIR KHAIR, NEW ZEALAND
- PT. R.K. BHAT, INDIA
- VIRINDER KAHU, MAURITIUS
- NIRJA KADHU, MODERATOR
- ASHI RAINA, MODERATOR
- SHAFATICA BHAN, MODERATOR

WorldWithArnabGoswami

Zoom Webinar Live on GKPD Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/GKPDiaspora/>

Wednesday 11th Nov 2020
 7:30 AM EST
 6:00 PM IST
 10:30 PM BRISBANE

• KOA CANADA Participation in Kashmiri Festival for Global program

It's our absolute privilege as KOA Canada has been invited as a guest speaker to participate in one month long celebration of civilization's while collaborating with esteem panelists representing at global podium, first ever online festival. Stay tuned for our session's video footage will be shared shortly through social media.

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GLOBAL KASHMIRI PANDIT DIASPORA

I AM BUDDHA

THE KASHMIR FESTIVAL

streaming from
 19 DEC 2020 | 8 PM IST
 f y I AM BUDDHA

Know the real Kashmir

Join one month long celebration of Kashmir: The Cradle of Civilization.

Star Babies Milestones **Celebration**

- Dr. Abhijat Kitchlu & Mrs. Moonal Shams-Kitchlu were blessed with baby **Anya Kitchlu** on Feb 6th 2020. Congratulations to the entire families of proud grandparents **Mrs. Jaya & Mr. Ajay Kitchlu** and **Mrs. Kishwar Chowdhury & Mr. Aks Shams**.



- Mrs. Rashi and Mr. Anubhav Razdan were blessed with baby **Tara Razdan** who recently turned 8 months old. Congratulations to the entire families of proud grandparents **Mrs. Sunita & Mr. Anil Kakkar**; (late) **Mrs. Indu & Mr. Anoop Kumar Razdan**.



ARTICLE- Surya Namaskar

• The divinity of the Sun - By Renu Muthoo Thussoo

We are delighted to share the contribution of our KOAC member Mrs. Renu Muthoo Thussoo, for sharing the importance and influence of Yoga benefiting physical, mental and overall well being with many members in the community, especially during the current prevailing conditions. Thank you Renuji for sharing with us and we look forward to your next article.

Yoga is quite popular throughout the world, gaining increased following in recent years. Today, Yoga studios seem to mushroom in every nook and corner of our cities or even quiet towns, in addition to being incorporated as an activity in fancy resorts and retreats. It has become fashionable to be doing some form of Yoga and is a point of conversation and discussion in everyday life. But the form of Yoga that is practiced these days is focused towards just the *asanas* (postures) as an exercise for the physical body. It has become a mechanical routine with no relation to its spiritual content whatsoever. Is that beneficial? For the body, maybe yes; but the essence of Yoga is lost in such an approach. Only the physical body is remembered whereas the inner being is forgotten and therefore, Yoga as a science for the body, mind and soul loses its meaning. The routines in Yoga cannot and should not be taken as mere physical exercise. They were created with a deeper purpose of holistic wellbeing of body and mind with the ultimate focus of achieving oneness with the supreme being. Yoga includes breathing, *asanas* (postures), prayers and *mantras* to be practiced together with devotion to make the body receptive to deeper meditation and ultimately experiencing the divine.



One such Yoga routine is the *Surya Namaskar*, popularly known as Sun Salutation. In the yogic tradition, it is not just a set of stretching exercises but a worship for the sun that stands in the center of the universe. In Hinduism, sun is revered as the divine in all things and the giver of an insight of the self. He is the one who bestows us with wisdom and enlightenment, removes darkness and ignorance, and spreads his energy that is so vital for all. He is depicted as the physical form of God that can be seen every day. Surya is also regarded as one of the eight forms (attributes) of the benevolent Lord Shiva himself. The most sacred mantra for Hindus, the *Gayatri mantra* is also a prayer to the divine light of the sun, *Savitri*, who is the source of inner enlightenment. Therefore, the *Surya Namaskar* is not intended as a set of exercises but a profound prayer to *Surya*, asking to bestow his blessings for a sound mind in a strong body. The prayer is to attune the body and its various physical systems to the sun's energy for a higher connection with the cosmos. For gaining the full benefits of the *Surya Namaskar*, the *asanas* should be practiced along with the associated *mantras* and correct breathing order such that a rhythmic sequence is created. This sequence needs to be performed with devotion and with the awareness turned inwards such that it becomes meditative in nature.

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Although Yoga contains hundreds of *asanas* targeting different parts of the body, benefitting a different organ and focusing on a different emotional center, *Surya Namaskar* is a comprehensive workout for the whole body with its focus on the *Manipura chakra* (solar plexus) and the *Anahata chakra* (heart center). Therefore, the *Surya Namaskar* is a way to awaken and balance the inner energy to follow the path of the divine soul. *Surya Namaskar* helps to accentuate the spiritual element and with continued practice creates a connection with the divine. Physically, it is a full workout for the whole body, improving blood circulation, toning the muscles, and is an excellent cardiovascular workout.

The *Surya Namaskar* contains 12 *asanas* to be performed in rhythmic succession with each one associated with the 12 positions of the sun, also corresponding to the 12 Sanskrit names of the sun given by the ancient yogis. The 12 names are the attributes of the sun and both the *mantras* and poses are a form of prostration and gratitude to Surya. The 12 steps contain 8 basic *asanas* as the last 4 are the same as the first 4, in reverse order. The starting position is also the ending position. One round of 12 positions is half the routine of *Surya Namaskar* and needs to be repeated on the other side to create a perfect balance.



The *mantra* recitation and the *asanas* included in the *Surya Namaskar* routine are listed below: Starting position is also the number 12 pose - *Pranamasana* - Prayer pose. Standing erect with the hands in *namaskar mudra*.

- **Om Mitraye Namaha:** Salutations to the one who is a friend to all - Hasta Uttanasana (Upward raised arms with hands in namaskar mudra).
- **Om Ravaye Namaha:** Salutations to the one who is praised by all, the shining one - Padahasthasana (Standing forward bend, hands to feet pose).
- **Om Suryaye Namaha:** Salutations to the one who guides us all, dispelling darkness and bringing activity - Ashwa Sanchalanasana (Equestrian pose).
- **Om Bhanave Namaha:** Salutations to the bestower of beauty, the one who illuminates us - Dandasana (Plank pose).
- **Om Khagaye Namaha:** Praise to the all-pervading one who stimulates all our senses - Chaturanga Dandasana (Four limbed staff pose).
- **Om Pushne Namaha:** Bow to the one who nourishes us and fulfills our senses - Ashtanga Namaskara (Face down, flat on the ground. Eight parts touching the ground with hips slightly raised).
- **Om Hiranegarbaye Namaha:** Bow to the creator with the golden color, who is radiant and spreads his brilliance - Bhujangasana (Cobra pose).

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHTS

- **Om Marichaye Namaha:** Salutations to the one who gives us the light, showers on us the infinite golden rays to destroy the diseases - Adho Mukha Svanasana (Downward facing dog, inverted V).
- **Om Adityaye Namaha:** Salutations to the inspirer, the son of Aditi, the cosmic divine mother - Ashwa Sanchalanasana (Equestrian pose).
- **Om Savitre Namaha:** Salutations to the sustainer of life and purifier of our soul - Padahasthasana (Standing forward bend, hand to foot pose).
- **Om Arkaye Namaha:** Salutations to the radiant one who is worthy of all the praise and glory - Hasta Uttanasana (Upward raised arms with hands in namaskar mudra).
- **Om Bhaskaraye Namaha:** Praise to the cosmic illuminator who bestows enlightenment and wisdom on us - Pranamasana - Prayer pose.

Note: There are many different variations of the Surya Namaskar.

ART GALLERY

We are pleased to showcase amazing pieces of art from our three talented KOAC community members.

- Our Rising star, aspiring painter, **Arnav Handoo**, grade 7 student, **son of Mrs. Supriya and Mr. Ankur Handoo** showing his art work with us and hope it inspires other children to share and showcase their talent. Great Job Arnav Handoo, your efforts and sense of art and colors at this age is commendable. Keep it up !!



- Our amazing painter, **Mrs. Sangeeta Wali**, wife of **Mr. Dilip Wali** showcasing her beautiful art work with us and hope it inspires other community members to share and showcase their talent. Master strokes and great efforts !!



Radha- Krishna sitting on the branch of a tamal tree playing flute and all the gopis listening with devotion.

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A neighbourhood in Italy showing fall colours

- Our amazing painter, **Mrs.Manisha Madan** , wife of **Dr.Pavneesh Madan** showcasing her beautiful art work with us and hope it inspires other community members to share and showcase their talent. Master strokes and great efforts !!



Childhood memories of Dal Lake, Kashmir

“LIFE is a great
big **CANVAS**,
throw all the
PAINT you
can on it.”

— Danny Kaye

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Certificate of Achievement of Varin Padroo**

Our Rising star, **Varin Padroo**, grade 7 student, son of **Mrs.Neeru and Mr.Vikas Padroo** participated in the Mathematics Challenge organized by the Professional Engineering Organization-Mississauga chapter and won **1st place**.

Congratulations on your well-deserved success Varin.



- **Certificate of Appreciation of Shayan Ganju**

Our Rising star **Shayan Ganju**, Grade 4 student, son of **Mrs.Pooja and Mr.Vishal Ganju**, participated in the Gandhi Jayanti celebration speaking in Kashmiri language and proudly receiving a certificate of appreciation. **A small effort towards going back to roots !**

So pleased to see you accomplishing great things Shayan.



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• Short Film - ' Surprise in the Night'

We are extremely delighted to share that our KOA Canada community member Mr.Sam Bhat, has written,produced and directed a short film named "Surprise in the Night" under Shimaro Entertainment and proudly received multiple nominations and awards.

Heartiest Congratulations to the entire team , Special Thanks : Mr.Rajiv warikoo , Mr.Surinder Jalali and Ms.Shivani Bhat for being part of the production team who worked tirelessly on this project . Thank you all for your contribution !!

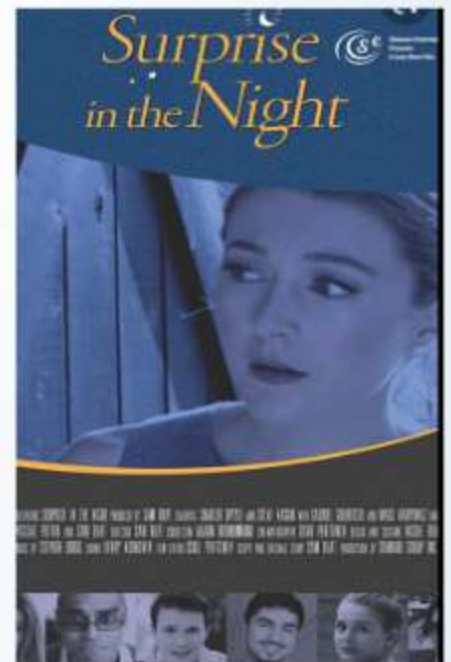
A short light hearted comedy film 'Surprise in the Night' (20 minutes) giving a message 'Don't judge a book by its cover' by Sam Bhat got its first premiere at the Ven Short Film Festival in Hollywood USA and Montreal International Film Festival in Montreal Canada in October 2020. The film has gained numerous selections and awards in the various international film festivals and Sam plans to have a theatre premier in Toronto sometime in 2021 followed by digital media distribution. This is his first film as a Producer/Director/Writer and was planned as a passion project.

Director Statement : (By Sam Bhat)

I've always been excited by perception versus reality in the human condition. I've learned that people trust their first impression, and are rigid in their assumptions.I'm keen to develop stories based on the differences in perspective from one person to another, and expose stereotypes and misinformation. With 'Surprise in the Night' I wanted to address the double-standard within management, gender inequality, and stress the importance of environmental preservation.I enjoyed working with Co-director Aaron Rothermund. We experienced a number of bumps due to technical issues, but we met the challenges head-on, and made a beautiful film. Thank you to the cast and crew ! I hope you enjoy the show!

Awards and Nominations

Calcutta International Cult Film Festival 2020, Outstanding Achievement Award Best Short Film ; Canada Shorts Film Festival 2020, Winner, Award of Commendation Best Short Film ; Canadian Cinematography Awards 2021, Nominee, CaCA Best First Time Director; Hollywood International Golden Age Festival 2020, Nominee, November Award Honorable Mention - Best Producer; Montreal Independent Film Festival 2020 , Nominee Excellence in Short Directing ; Pune Short Film Festival 2020, Nominee, Festival Prize Best Short Film; Venice Short Film Awards 2020, Nominee, Venice Short Film Award



**COMMUNITY
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MATRIMONIAL SECTION

Looking for a biradri match for Pulkit Nehru, seeking matrimonial alliance. Pulkit is August 1990 born and based in California,USA, currently on H1B visa. Interested families may contact Mr R K Nehru at +91 9814092109 or Ruchika Nehru, at +1 647-850-6119.



Looking for a suitable match for a KP boy born in Surat, Gujarat on October 22,1990 at 5.03 pm. He has a master's degree in machine learning from the University of Guelph, Canada and is presently employed in Toronto as a data scientist at the Royal Bank of Canada. Interested may contact Preeti Sapru at +918320248553 or psapru65@gmail.com



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• CHINAR Matrimonial NGO

CHINAR MATRIMONIAL, founded with an objective of providing a sigh of relief to the Kashmiri community for finding a suitable match for their children. It has free registration. For Canadian alliances KOAC will be collaborating with the Chinar committee to support the families request locally as needed. <https://www.chinarmatrimonial.com/>



We would like to extend our appreciation to Sh. Anil Kaul Ji for the great work and collaboration with the Chinar committee . Thank You for your efforts !!

ICKF Initiatives

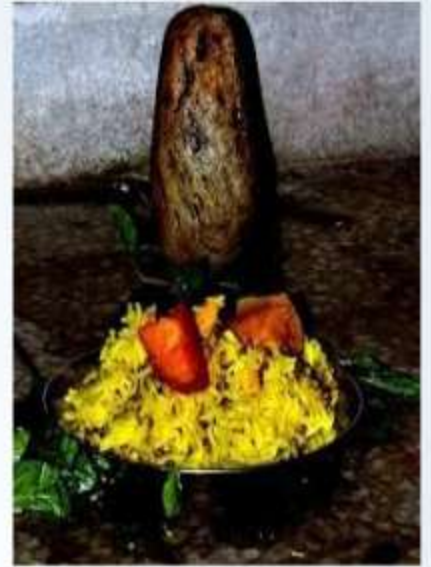
- GKPD's Webinar - Justice for Arnab
- Exploring Sanatan Dharma Workshop Series with Youth, with Sanjay Raina (Kashmir Shaiva & Dharma Propagator) October 11 2020
- On 24 th October a peaceful protest was organized in front of Pakistan Consulate in Toronto to pay rich tributes to those Hindus and sikhs who were killed in col blood by Muslim Tribal Militia backed by Pakistan in the 1st war on kashmir after indepndence .
- The protest was arranged by Hindu Forum Canada and Indo-Canadian Kashmir Forum.
- On 26/11 Hindu Forum Canada & ICKF truck Displaying Mumbai Terror Slides in Front of Consulate General of Pakistan, Toronto. Canada.



We would like to extend our appreciation to the entire team of ICKF for the collaborative efforts . Continue the rhythm ongoing. Thank You for all the hard work !

KHYACHI MAVAS

This is also known as Yaksha amavasya. In other words, the last day of the dark fortnight of "Paush" dedicated to the "Yaksha", which again appears to refer to some forest-dwelling tribe that lived there before the rishis. On this day a special dish of moong mixed with rice is prepared in the evening. It is served to the Yaksha on an improvised plate made of dry grass. The plate is placed on the top of the compound wall. The kitchen mortar is placed on a grass ring, worshiped as a symbol of the cosmos and decorated with a sindoor, sandal, raw-rice and flowers. Some households serve fish on this day also. During our childhood we were told that the Yaksha would be wearing a red cap while partaking of this khichdi and whosoever is able to snatch away the cap will get riches. So all the children would be eager to get hold of this cap, which eluded everyone. These are the festivals which apparently were held to satisfy the demands of the aborigines and tribesmen.



03.

MEERA
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Enlightening the historic importance of Shivratri (Herath) Vatuk Puja

It is believed that Lord Shiva, the 'King of Yogis' and the 'Destroyer-Renovator of the Holy Trinity', manifested on earth on this day to redeem his devotees. The great Shaiva philosopher Utpaladeva describes Shivaratri thus: "When the sun, the moon and all the other stars set at the same time, there arises the radiant light of Shiva spreading a splendor of its own." Kashmiri Brahmins perform Shivaratri puja on the 13th (and not on the 14th) day of the dark half of Phalguna. For them, it signifies Lord Shiva's wedding with Uma, the beautiful daughter of the Himalayas. The divine marriage has a deeper, philosophic connotation. Shiva in His transcendental (para) aspect is inactive in creation. And His union with Shakti (energy or activating power) represented by His 'consorts', Uma, Parvati, Durga and Kali (variously named to signalize particular functions of the Divine Mother) make the infinite enfoldments in the cosmos possible.

Shivaratri puja is also called Vatuk Puja. Vatuk is a Kashmiri word meaning 'collection or an assemblage of different objects'. Since the main puja on Shivaratri day involves collection of a large number of articles, it is being called by the name Vatuk. The name could also be traced to the term Vatuk Dev, Lord Shiva's celibate form. In the fitness of things, Kashmiris worship Shiva in this form before solemnizing his union with Uma. They also worship Vatuk Bhairav, supposed to be Shiva's most trusted dwarpal (gate-keeper), in a bid to seek his favor for an audience with the Lord.



ARTICLE

• Dear Kashmir By Megha Raina

We are delighted to share the contribution of our KGAC member Megha Raina, her emotions about Kashmini will resonate with many members in the community. Thank you Megha ji for sharing with us and we look forward to your next article.

Dear Kashmir,

I can understand. I have been misunderstood too. People who don't know about my past have often commented on my present and future. Friends have backstabbed me and they still aren't sorry for what they did. People loved my beauty, liked my company but everyone was silently watching when my home was burning to ashes. I hear the world expressing their opinions on how and till when should I grieve about my lost existence. My scarred soul has only wanted to scream "enough" to these agendas and outsiders but like my father, I choose non violence. I know it may take my lifetime and this part of me may not heal but I hope. I wish that one day peace prevails and the lotus on Dal lake smiles like before.



My land, I carry you and your pain inside me wherever I go. I had left you with a hope of returning and I survive everyday with the same thought that one day, there will be a reunion of this child with her mother. One day, I will come back, sit fearlessly on the Lidder river and soak myself in the beauty of my beloved Pahalgam.

Calendar listing festivals from Jan 2021 till March 2021

January	Poh	Feb	Mag	March	Phalgun
12	Kheche maavas	3	Sahib satam	6	Hure Ashtami
13	Lohri -Amavasya	11	Mavas	10	Maha shivratri
14	Makar sankrati	12	Sankranti	13	Thaal barun
14 - 19	Dratponsuk	16	Basant panchami	14	Sonth
21	Asthmi	20	Asthmi	22	Ashtami
28	Punim	27	Kaaw poornima	28	Holi Poornima

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KASHMIRI HILARIOUS SCRIPT

• Woh-wohs/curses! By Deepit Ganjoo

English translations of these woh-wohs are such a hoot! Ever since Deepit deciphered these deadly curses, his language skills have actually improved 😊😊 Hope you enjoyed reading these woh-wohs! It was an indispensable part of Deepit's childhood, and brings back some amazing memories. Thanks for sharing detailed insights that are simply hilarious!!

After 30 years of research, I've reached the inescapable conclusion that Kashmiris are extremely funny. Don't believe it? Just watch out for any Kashmiri parent going hell bent after their Kyaz-chukh-na-paraan offspring. The only reason they don't get hauled up by the Red Cross is that they are funny! Imagine trying to portray Nang Mot as an irredeemable loss of childhood innocence, eh? Since, I am the prototype beem ruudiuyo na kansi hund cze types, here's to the crafty buggers and their collection of delightful pieces of linguistic ding-a-lings that are thrown of their own Koshur kids. Now, there are just 3 main types of "woh-wohs": Those dealing with character assassination, falling objects leading to loss of face associated with misery conditions and just irritating kids sticking-it-in-your-nose types. In no order, here are the examples of the Woh-wohs: Most parents start off after their irritating kids with the more wailing woh-wohs like :

Hata kya goi (what now?), Kol Darbadar chuk gomut (wanderer, desultory time-waster), Khar (donkey), Ponz (monkey) Mot/nang-mot/khin-mot/gus-mot (not sure actually, it's often a term of endearment too... but how can a Gus-mot be lovable, beats me!) If the kid however, is as recalcitrant as ever, they escalate to Adchot (idiot). Beem roduyo na kansi hund che (not afraid of the old man anymore), Mandchawan/mandchhavn koth [embarrassing goat] Man! they bring goats (kaths) in every conversation, Matchar chu aamut/tulmut (making everyone miserable), Tasrup chui (not sure..is there an english translation?) Now, this is strictly for smaller fry.

Hata kya goi (what now?), Kol Darbadar chuk gomut (wanderer, desultory time-waster), Khar (donkey), Ponz (monkey) Mot/nang-mot/khin-mot/gus-mot (not sure actually, it's often a term of endearment too... but how can a Gus-mot be lovable, beats me!) If the kid however, is as recalcitrant as ever, they escalate to Adchot (idiot). Beem roduyo na kansi hund che (not afraid of the old man anymore), Mandchawan/mandchhavn koth [embarrassing goat] Man! they bring goats (kaths) in every conversation, Matchar chu aamut/tulmut (making everyone miserable), Tasrup chui (not sure..is there an english translation?) Now, this is strictly for smaller fry.



As the kid becomes bigger and meaner, his future and career are thrown open to everyone: Improved versions - Hangul hue chuk gomut (like someone big, mean and slow), Kol hakhuraa hyu goam agaaid (same), Kol mushraan hyu (someone useless). These are basically eternal examples of wasted youth, kol brehasnatt/yahay chuk brahis natta hue gomut (bird brain! this brahis natta would've been quite a guy), Mei chuk kal phaatravavaan (Drives me Nuts), Matchar chu tulawaan (drives me nuts again...just more colorful and attuned to a more cribbing tone), Monjj chuk thippaan (grossly wasting your time), Raatmongul (nightcrawler) and Vaeraan gomut.

Now, misery is a very powerful force in kashmiri folklore. Neighbors are frequently described as follows: Tyemis payee Trath (May lightning fall on him), Fakeer kott (son of a poor gun) and Zarr chu gomut yemis (somebody deaf) ...darker than saying "che chai Batak poth khyomut" which literally translates as you've eaten a duck's backside but actually means you talk too much. If these don't work, often character assassinating ones are invoked: Shikas (plague) etc. Taavan paye tyemis (May hell's fury be upon him...in a more vengeful tone), Taawanzad (bringing bad luck) and Hae che pai tapael/tapail (curse you, you idiot).



MEERA
KASHMIR



Ancient Gauls were afraid of the sky falling on their heads. Alexander was afraid of falling sick. & fall is a season which brings forth most allergies in US/Canada....notice anything common? Ha! Koshur people knew the secret of the deadly curse of falling things. especially body parts were useful things to have in your arsenal too.

Sample the following:

Pyayi Buth vasith (may your face fall down). Pyayi Nas wasit (may your nose fall down). Kaangar payee (may your kaangar, the coal-fired heater inside your phiran, fall down - don't ask me what is supposed to happen next). tse peyi Gardan wasith (may your neck fall down...eh? how??). Paiya Kal vasith (head falling) and Peyi Kalhir vasith (more colorful way of head falling) !!



RECENT NEWS

- The plight of Kashmiri pandits living in the valley of Kashmir- The Kashmiri Pandit Organization launches protest. accuses Jammu & Kashmir Government of neglect. The Pandits are seeking financial assistance for those still living in the valley and also benefits of migrant welfare funds. They are also asking for protection, preservation and restoration of temples and other religious minorities in Kashmir valley.
- BSF Troops Shoots Dead Pakistani Intruder Along IB in J&K's Samba. The officials said the incident took place in the Check Fageera border outpost area when BSF personnel noticed some suspicious movement of a person who was trying to sneak into the Indian side from Pakistan.
- Discussion on 4G Internet Ban: BJP MP Demands Tharoor's Resignation as IT Committee Chairman Again.
- Rs 25,000-crore Roshni Land Scam Involving Political Leaders Biggest Fraud in J&K's History: CBI Sources
- Allotment of around 99 kanals (or 12 acres) of prime land, by leaders of the National Conference, PDP and the Congress. senior retired bureaucrats, hoteliers is currently under the scanner.
- Gupkar Alliance in the Jammu & Kashmir fails to reach halfway mark. BJP single largest party with 75 seats followed by J&K PDP 27 and India National Congress with 26 seats. The District Development Council elections in Jammu & Kashmir can be surmised as a victory for the locals. It's also a victory of the vision which Prime-Minister Modi ji has envisioned for the state. This is going to be a step forward towards prosperity and development of the Jammu & Kashmir region.



EXODUS OF KASHMIRI PANDITS JANUARY 19, 1990

On this day almost 31 years back Kashmiri Pandits witnessed a hysteric, macabre night in the form of blaring threats and slogans asking them to flee their homeland, covert or die.

The cold dark night of January 19, 1990, had stirred into life worst nightmares of Kashmiri Pandits living in the valley.

Screaming from loud speakers and crowded streets was a message for the Sikhs and Hindus living in Kashmir Pandits shiver remembering the night that forced them into exodus.

The Kashmiri Pandits are still living in exile for 31 years now at various states in India and abroad hoping to safely return back to homeland with grace and dignity.



NEWSLETTER TASKFORCE TEAM:

COLLABORATE- CONNECT AND ENPOWER



DIPTI WANGU
(DATA COMPILATION
SPECIALIST,
COORDINATION)



NEERU PADROO
(CONTENT CREATION,
DATA REVIEW SPECIALIST)



SWARNA BAKSHI SAINI
(CONTENT CREATION,
DATA REVIEWER SPECIALIST)



DEEPTI GANJOO
(CONTENT CREATION, DATA
REVIEWER)



MEENAKSHI RAINA HUKKOO
(CONTENT CREATION, DATA
REVIEWER)



BHARAT CHALLU
(CONTENT CREATION, DATA
REVIEWER)



POOJA GANJU
(CONTENT
CREATION, CRITIQUE, DATA
REVIEWER)



RASHI HAKIM
(DESIGNER, EDITING
SPECIALIST)

KOAC CONTACT INFORMATION:



koacanada@gmail.com



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/kashmiri-overseas-association-of-canada>



<https://instagram.com/koacanada?igshid=rgs7mn6ijjr>



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Continue sharing your feedback we would love to hear from you all!!!! Thank you for your time and continuous support!

03.
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