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Topics

1. President's Message
2. 2026 Sammelan Announcement
3. KOJAIN Youth Of America
4. Region 1: SoCal Kutchi Diwali 2025 Celebration
5. Region 2: KutchValley's Sitaaron Ki Diwali
6. Region 3: Social Meetups in Dallas
7. Region 4: Midwest Kachchhi Diwali Celebration
8. Region 6 - Motikhakhar & Bidada Community Updates
9. Region 10: Boston Diwali Highlights
10. Matrimonial Listings

President's Message

Pedam,

We hope everyone is enjoying a wonderful December and looking forward to celebrating the season with family and friends. This is a busy and joyful time of year—filled with holiday gatherings, moments of celebration, and opportunities to rejoice, reflect, and rewind. As we share this final newsletter of 2025, our hearts are filled with gratitude and appreciation for our community.

As this term comes to a close, I want to sincerely thank each and every one of you who contributed to our initiatives and supported the activities launched this term. Your enthusiasm, encouragement, generosity, and continued support made this term truly memorable, and we are grateful for all that we accomplished together.



A special note of appreciation goes to our dedicated volunteers - Manish Mota (*Host Family Program*), Dipti Shah (*Matrimonial Team*), Priti Haria, Vijay Savla (*Loan Program*), Love Patel, Pali Parekh, Shefali Chandaria (*Scholarship Team*), Finance Support (*Vasant Nagda, Khushal Vira*), Website (*Nainil Chheda*), Janak Shah, Reeya Vora, Riya Gada, Rohan Gala (*KOJAIN Youth of America*) who have been supporting the ongoing KOJAIN initiatives. Your time, commitment, and selfless service have kept our efforts moving forward and made a lasting impact.

Beyond our ongoing initiatives, this term brought several meaningful milestones worth celebrating. Together, we launched and strengthened programs that foster connection, inclusion, and progress across the KOJAIN community:

- **Cruise Trip** creating joyful moments of togetherness and strengthening community bonding
- **Mentor–Mentee Program** to support guidance, learning, and leadership development
- **KOJAIN** members meetup at JAINA convention
- **KOJAIN-wide Ashadhi Beej Walkathon**, uniting members across regions for a shared cause
- **KOJAIN Unscripted - 30 Years of KOJAIN**, Virtual Celebration bringing community together
- **Two successful marriages facilitated through the KOJAIN Matrimonial Program**, strengthening family bonds within our community
- **First-ever West Coast Youth Retreat**, empowering and engaging the next generation
- **Electronic nomination process for elections**, enhancing transparency and accessibility
- **Live website recognition for Tapasvis, graduates**
- **Preservation of KOJAIN history** with archived Sammelan details and past BOD information now on website



Meet Your 2026-2027 Board

One of the most significant milestones this year is the announcement of the **2026 Sammelan** in New Jersey. This achievement reflects the collective efforts of many board members, along with the dedication of the host team and numerous volunteers who are generously contributing their time and energy toward planning this MEGA event. Our last Sammelan was held in 2018 in California, and the momentum was understandably impacted by COVID. It is truly heartening to see renewed enthusiasm as we prepare for the 10th Sammelan—returning to New Jersey exactly a decade later. With strong youth team involvement, this feels like Kutchdo Baare Maas 2.0—energized, collaborative, and forward-looking. I look forward to meeting many of you at the Sammelan in 2026.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the 2024–25 core team members for their partnership and commitment, the Board of Directors for their excellent support in helping us launch new initiatives, and to all KOJAIN community members for giving this term the opportunity to truly connect as a team with the community. As we look ahead, we are grateful to our departing members for their valuable contributions and warmly welcome new members who are joining us and continuing this journey with us.

Lastly on a personal note, a big thank you to my life partner Jayesh for walking alongside me and supporting me through all my activities.

Together with your excellent support, we move forward with gratitude, purpose, and excitement for what lies ahead.

Best Regards,

Bhavini Gada

President | KOJAIN 2024-25



Mor Bani Thangat Kare

REGISTRATION

Now Open

KOJAIN SAMMELAN

2026



2026 Sammelan Announcement

With great joy, we announce that registration for the **KOJAIN Sammelan 2026** is now open. We invite you and your families to join us July 24–26, 2026, in Parsippany, New Jersey, for a weekend rooted in our shared heritage, values, and connection.

Inspired by our theme, “**Maaru Mann Mor Bani Thanghat Kare**” my heart dances with joy like a peacock, this Sammelan celebrates the spirit, pride, and vibrancy of our community coming together.

Please register at your earliest convenience using the link below to secure Early Bird pricing:

<https://sammelan.kojain.com/>

Early Bird Registration Rates (Early Bird ends January 31, 2026)

Age Group	Category	Early Bird Rate
Ages 0–4	Everyone	Free
Ages 5–13	KOJAIN Member	\$139
	Non-Member	\$169
Ages 14+	KOJAIN Member	\$179
	Non-Member	\$209

Cancellation & Refund Policy

- Full Refund: Until March 15
- 50% Refund: Until May 15
- No Refunds: After May 15

Further information regarding sessions and programming will be shared in the coming months. We look forward to welcoming our community, near and far, for another meaningful and memorable Sammelan.

If you have any questions about registration, please contact sammelan@kojain.com.

For updates and announcements, follow us on Instagram: [@kojainsammelan2026](https://www.instagram.com/kojainsammelan2026)

Warm regards,

KOJAIN Sammelan 2026 Planning Committee



KOJAIN Youth Of America

KOJAIN Youth of America (KYA) has had a great fall season, with fun events and get-togethers. We can't wait to share our progress and our exciting new plans for the future!

This past Thanksgiving break our Culture and Projects Team and our East Coast Regional Directors came together to plan two amazing local dinners! On Saturday, November 22nd, 14 Kutchis came together at Spicy Moon in New York City. We got to see old faces and meet new faces! On Saturday, November 29th, our Regional Director Veer and Culture and Projects Lead Pia planned and hosted a dinner at Thai Basil in New Jersey! We had 15 Kutchis attend and many new faces. We are so thankful for our Kutchi community and can't wait to host more exciting events.

Additionally, our Culture and Projects team hosted a youth game night! A huge shoutout to Pia Visaria and Rhea Visaria for planning this fun event. Everyone was divided into teams and played games like codenames and jeopardy. It was a great way for individuals from around the country to stay in touch, connect with each other while having fun!

As we build our connection to Kutch, our Culture and Projects team have implemented a Word of the Week! Every week we post and explain one Kutchi word, or word related to Kutch. We hope to build more awareness and educate our Kutchi Youth!

As the New Year approaches, we have some exciting new events in the works. On the West Coast, our West Coast Regional Director Kairavi is hosting a Snow Day in Tahoe! Additionally, the 2026 East Coast Retreat is in the works. Our team is working hard to plan an awesome and exciting winter retreat. More info about retreat will be out soon.

As I'm sure you all have heard, KOJAIN Sammelan Registration has launched! KYA is so excited to have a large presence at Sammelan. We hope to host events to build our Youth community. So make sure to sign up soon!

From our Central Regional Directors:

In the last few months, the central region of KYA has been busy reaching out to temples and organizations to get more people informed and interested in KYA, in hopes to gather more members for the region. Our future plans include meeting with more people in efforts to try and host our own events and retreats

Rheya Gala and Aaryah Gandhi

Please join our Whatsapp Community, here we post about all our upcoming events and news!

KOJAIN Youth Of America



KOJAIN Youth Of America (KYA)
WhatsApp community

This community QR code is private. If it is shared with someone, they can scan it with their WhatsApp camera to join this community. Learn more about [sharing WhatsApp QR code](#)

[Reset QR code](#)



Region 1 - SoCal Kutchi Diwali 2025 Celebration Highlights

This This year's Diwali celebration was one for the books! Over 140 community members joined us at a stunning new venue, glowing with the "Traditional Glam" theme — rich colors, sparkling outfits, and festive energy that perfectly captured the spirit of our Kutchi culture. ✨🎆🪔

🪔 **Honoring a Beloved Pioneer** : The evening opened with a heartfelt tribute by Dr. Rajeev Gala to Dr. Chunilal Shah (Chuni Uncle) — a guiding force and early supporter of our community. His legacy of generosity, joy, and unity was felt throughout the night as we celebrated with love, laughter, culture, and togetherness.

🌟 **Performances That Lit Up the Stage**: Our lineup showcased talent across generations: kids, adults, moms, and our graceful Bhuj Beauties Dance Group. Highlights included:

- Dance & Singing: Navkar, Mira & Khushi Jain, Myra Gosar, Pehel Shah, Krisha Dedhia, Sparkling Divas, and mom–daughter duos Hetal & Keya Gosar, Punita & Mishka.
- Bhuj Beauties Dance Group: A graceful and energetic performance by our talented ladies, dressed in stunning gharchodo and green bandhani:
- Geeta Khona • Hemlata Khona • Madhuben Shoney • Hansaben Nagda • Harshna Savla
- Solo Performances: Nilesh Gogri (singing) and 5-year-old Yug Shah's impromptu poetry, stealing hearts.

Special Touch: Impromptu acts brought extra charm and laughter, making the evening spontaneous and memorable.

💬 **Community Connections**: We pre-planned table seating arrangements to mix up the community, welcome new members, and spark conversations with ice-breaker questions — encouraging laughter, mingling, and new friendships.

🎵 **DJ & Games**: Our DJ kept the energy high all night — from fun games to Bollywood beats and Garba dancing — ensuring no one stayed seated for long.

Region 1 - SoCal Kutchi Diwali 2025 Celebration Highlights

🚗 **A Community That Shows Up:** Special thanks to those who helped bring new students and guests: Puja Savla, Kishor Vira, Urvi & Pujan Chheda. Your support reflects the heart of our community.

🙏 **Quiet Heroes :** Deep gratitude to our donors who consistently support our events behind the scenes, keeping them meaningful, magical, and memorable.

💛 **Committee Members Who Made It Happen:** Jignya & Vitesh Chheda, Urvi & Pujan Chheda, Darshana & Rajeev Gala, Priti & Dharmesh Shah, Pankti & Bhavin Shah — your hard work, dedication, and love brought this celebration to life.

🌟 **Together We Shine:** Diwali 2025 was a sparkling reminder of the joy, unity, and cultural richness that define the SoCal Kutchi community. Enjoy a few glimpses from the night below!



Region 1 - SoCal Kutchi – Diwali 2025 Celebration Highlights



Region 2 - Sitaaron Ki Diwali: A Sparkling Diwali by KutchValley!

KutchValley's **24th Annual Diwali** celebration, **Sitaaron Ki Diwali**, held in Fremont was a beautiful coming-together that proved a dazzling success.

Guests were welcomed starting at 10:00 am with a delicious spread of Jalebi Papdi and Poha, accompanied by tea/coffee. The event featured performances presented in two segments, separated by a break for an elaborate lunch. Following the performances, attendees enjoyed a dance floor, as well as refreshments including a chocolate fountain and tea/coffee.

The event saw the creative leads and co-leads, the enthusiastic participants (including 20+ first-time performers!), the dedicated volunteers and the amazing spectators, all contribute to the spectacular celebration.

The numbers speak for themselves: **530+** attendees and **135** participants helped celebrate the festival of lights with overwhelming support and enthusiasm. The spirit, energy, and dedication of all performers and volunteers truly shone through and made the celebration memorable.

This year's Diwali team consisted of (in alphabetical order) Beleena Veera, Bhanik Shah, Bhavini Gada, Jaikit Savla, Jayesh Gada, Madhavi Khona, Naman Gala, Nitul Haria and Romil Rambia. We extend our deepest gratitude to the sponsors for their partnership in making KutchValley's 24th Annual Diwali celebration a sparkling success!

Check out the Playlist of various performances from this year here: [Performances](#)

Region 2 - Sitaaron Ki Diwali: A Sparkling Diwali by KutchValley!



Region 3 - Social Meetups in Dallas

- 1) Diwali celebration at JSNT
- 2) Kutchhi gathered at Ras Garba event in Dallas.
- 3) Meet up for Diwali lunch at Malgudi Garden Restaurant



Region 4 - Midwest Kachchhi Diwali Celebration

The Midwest Kachchhi community came together for a truly heartwarming Diwali celebration filled with joy, connection, and cultural pride. This year's event beautifully captured the spirit of togetherness as families gathered to celebrate the Festival of Lights with tradition, talent, singing, dancing and lots of unforgettable moments.

The event started with community members announcing key events in their lives, from talking about birth of their grand children to running a marathon.

In the talent showcase, children and adults alike stepped onto the stage with confidence and creativity. From graceful dances to melodious songs to piano performance, talents lit up the room as brightly as the diyas of Diwali.

The celebration shifted into full festive energy with the flagship event of the night - live music - which brought everyone to their feet. The singers enthralled the audience with their singing, beats and familiar melodies that filled the hall. Soon enough, the dance floor was overflowing—kids, adults, and elders dancing side by side, celebrating Indian culture with timeless Hindi songs. The sight of everyone moving together to the music became one of the most cherished memories of the evening.

The celebration beautifully blended tradition with togetherness, reminding everyone why Diwali holds such a special place in our hearts.

Region 4 - Midwest Kachchhi Diwali Celebration



Region 6 - Motikhakhar & Bidada Community Updates

January 2026 – Important Announcements Our community is proud to share two significant upcoming events that highlight continued progress in rural healthcare and long-standing traditions of service.

1. Inauguration of the Expanded Sushila Medical & Charitable Trust Clinic: We are delighted to announce the inauguration of the newly expanded Sushila Medical & Charitable Trust Clinic, now evolving into a full Day Care Medical Center in Motikhakhar under the name: સુશીલા વોરા પ્રાથમિક સારવાર કેન્દ્ર (in memory of my late young sister Sushila) The upgraded facility will now provide: • Comprehensive outpatient services • An 8-bed unit for short-term medical care • Pathology Laboratory • X-Ray Unit • Physiotherapy Department • Dental Clinic • In-house Pharmacy 📍 Inauguration Date: January 3rd, 2026 📍 Location: Moti Khakhar This center represents a heartfelt commitment to accessible healthcare for Motikhakhar and nearby villages.

2. 52nd Annual Medical Camp at Shree Bidada Sarvodaya Trust: We are equally honored to support and sponsor the 52nd Medical Camp organized by Shree Bidada Sarvodaya Trust, an institution renowned for decades of service to underserved communities. 📍 Camp Inauguration: January 4th, 2026 📍 *Bidada, Kutch This annual camp continues to bring specialist care, diagnostics, and treatment to thousands of individuals who rely on this noble initiative. A Tribute of Love & Gratitude Both events are dedicated to the cherished memory of family members whose values of compassion and community service continue to guide and inspire us: • Smt. Rashmi Kishor Vora – Moti Khakhar & USA • Smt. Menaben & Shri Nanji Velji Vora – Moti Khakhar • Smt. Lilavantiben & Shri Hansraj Madan Savla – Mota Asambia • Smt. Zaverben & Shri Gangji Palan Dedhia – Talwana • Smt. Vasantiben Mangal Jetha Mota – Devpur • Shri Jayesh Virji Gada – Sabhrai Their blessings remain the foundation of our commitment to healthcare and humanitarian work.

With regards, Kishor & Beena Vora, Neha & Nikunj Gala , Paras & Siddhi

Region 10 - Boston Diwali Highlights

Celebration pictures from the Kutchi Diwali party on **October 18, 2025** in Boston area.

This year celebration was based on the theme of Kutch and it was beautifully reflected in the decoration performances, and the games we played. This year was also unique as we all met on the day of Dhanteras and performed Lakshmi Pooja together as an extended family.



Matrimony Listings



Name: Helli Amit Chheda

Age: 26 years

Height: 5ft 2.5inch

Current Location: Chilliwack, British Columbia.

Parents Name: Jigna & Amit Mohanlal Chheda.

Brief Introduction: I am a creative and thoughtful individual who enjoys exploring the world through various forms of expression. Traveling is one of my favorite ways to connect with different cultures and broaden my perspective on life. I feel blessed to be part of a loving joint family, where values like respect, support, and togetherness are at the core of our lives. I live a balanced, healthy lifestyle—I'm vegetarian, don't smoke and don't drink, and prioritize both mental and physical well-being. I work as Store Coordinator at Winners/HomeSense (2023-Current)

Email: address:rajawadimedical@gmail.com.



Name: Paras Nandu

Age: 30

Height: 5' 11"

Current Location: Rochester, New York

Parents Name: : Rita Bharat Nandu

Brief Intro: Easy going and active person. I respect family values and enjoy a social life. Working as an Architect. Ambitious person seeking an open minded partner.

LinkedIn: [https://www.linkedin.com/in/paras-nandu-cphc-06914816b?](https://www.linkedin.com/in/paras-nandu-cphc-06914816b?utm_source=share&utm_campaign=share_via&utm_content=profile&utm_medium=ios_app)

[utm_source=share&utm_campaign=share_via&utm_content=profile&utm_medium=ios_app](https://www.linkedin.com/in/paras-nandu-cphc-06914816b?utm_source=share&utm_campaign=share_via&utm_content=profile&utm_medium=ios_app)

Email ID: parasbn94@gmail.com

Phone Number: +1 585 503 8821

Matrimony Listings



Name: Vinit Rajesh Gala

Age: 29

Height: 5'7"

Current Location: Chicago, IL, USA

Parents Name: Smita & Rajesh Shamji Gala

Brief Introduction:

Born and raised in Mumbai and residing in Chicago, currently employed as a Senior Building Analyst at Cyclone Energy Group based in Chicago. I believe in work-life balance and enjoy traveling, playing ultimate frisbee and watching sports. Family and traditions are important to me.

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