



The

# Oshwal Report



A Newsletter by the Halari Visa Oshwals of America

www.oshwal-usa.org

Issue 7: Spring 2006

**Executive Board**  
(2005-2007)

**President**

Jayantilal Z. Galaiya  
Long Valley, NJ  
[president@oshwal-usa.org](mailto:president@oshwal-usa.org)

**Vice President**

Neil A Shah  
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**Treasurer**

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**Secretary**

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**Assistant Webmaster**

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\* \* \*

Feel free to share ideas,  
comments, or suggestions  
with any of us.

**"RISE AND GLORY"**

**HISTORY OF HALARI VISA OSHWALS**

When I came to USA I never dreamt that I will write history of our community in English. It took me three years to write the book and two years to get it published.

As far as I know this is the first, though by no means complete, comprehensive history of our community in English written by a member of the Oshwal community. It provides information about our origin and traditions, hardships our ancestors faced and how through their entrepreneurship spirit they overcame them. The book is divided in four parts: Part I, The origin of Oshwal in Rajasthan; Part II, The Migration to Cutchh; Part III, The Migration from Cutchh to Saurashtra, and Part IV, Rise and Glory of Halari Oshwals since the beginning of 20th century.

This has been a very rewarding project for me. I am thankful to many people without their help I would not be able to finish the project. I have to thank two special people Jyotsna and Sudhir Shah (my niece and nephew) of California who worked very hard to get this manuscript ready for printing.

With the generous donations from Champa and Velji Bid, Chandaria family, Members of my (Dodhia) family, Madhu and Hemendra Shah, Manisha and Kanti Shah and Debbie and Veni Sumaria we were able to get 3000 copies of the book printed... We are sending the books to our various community organizations: 400 copies to India, 1000 copies to East Africa, 750 copies to England and 200 copies to Canada. These books at our request are to be distributed free of charge to educational institutions, libraries and any interested individuals.

Every Oshwal family residing in the USA who is listed in the Directory or has completed the Family Profile Form (www.oshwal-usa.org) for the Directory will receive a copy of the book free.

Any one interested in getting further information can call or write to me. I am in our directory.

Rati Dodhia  
Lincoln, Rhode Island

**Cruise to Canada from New York**  
**Mark you calendars!**

As promised during our annual gathering, we have organized a five night cruise from New York to Canada, departing New York on August 12th and returning back to New York on August 17th. This will be a fun filled vacation and we all will get to know everyone a bit more. See Page 3 for more details.

**Message from the President**

On behalf of Halari Visa Oshwals of North America, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our out going executive committee members for their efforts. In last few years, our executive members have truly tried to bring our organization to the national level.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve as president and carry on our organization to next level, and thank every Oshwal for the opportunity and trust you have placed on me. I assure you I, along with my committee will try to include many different people at different levels. We have realigned new committee members for proper regional representatives. I have contacted many area representatives and we now have some new and many familiar faces for the area representative. We have organized a cruise trip from New York to Canada in next summer. The information is included in this newsletter. If you have any plan to joins on a cruise, please make your reservation ASAP. Keep in mind up to June 1<sup>st</sup> the deposit is fully refundable.

Please pass on any significant information you want published in newsletter to your area representative.

Our new executive members are as follow:

- President: Jayanti Z. Galaiya (NJ)
- Vice President: Neil Anil Shah (NY)
- Treasurer: Chandulal Lalji Shah (NJ)
- Assistant Treasurer: Tanvi Mitesh Shah (NJ)
- Secretary: Bina Jayesh Beed (NJ)
- Assistant Secretary: Rashmika A. Shah (MI)
- Web Master: Ketan M. Dodhia (NJ)
- Assistant Web Master: Nikesh K. Shah (CT)
- Directory administrator: Satish Panachand Shah (TX)

On behalf of our new executive committee I wish each and every one of you a Happy, Healthy and prosperous New Year.

- Jayanti Galaiya, President  
Halari Visa Oshwals of North America

## Community News:

▪ On Saturday, Nov 5, 2005, about 50 Texas and Oklahoma Oshwals celebrated Diwali/New Year at Pasand Indian Restaurant. While the adults wished everyone salmubarak, the children were busy making Aarti plates. The plates were used to do Navkar Mantra and Aarti. Appetizers and Dinner followed. Everyone brought a plate of mistan, which satisfied everyone's Diwali sweet tooth from chocolates to ladu's for all. Two dances were performed by a couple of the children. The evening ended with garba and dancing for all.

▪ During Paryushan Parva of 2005 Mrs. **Vijaya Jayantilal Galaiya** of Long Valley, NJ did 16 Upwas enduring great SATA as well as participated in all the Parva Rituals.

▪ Miss **Deepa Galaiya** (Daughter of Jayantilal and Vijaya Galaiya of Long Valley, NJ) was elected as Northeast Regional Coordinator for Young Jains of America. She would be representing Northeast Region of America on behalf of all young Jains. Any suggestions regarding YJA activities or any Jainism related questions or remarks should be directed to her: at [Deepa.galaiya@yja.org](mailto:Deepa.galaiya@yja.org)

▪ **Chiraag Galaiya** of Long Valley (Son of Jayantilal and Vijaya Galaiya of Long Valley, NJ, achieved the ranking of the Grand Master in the chess competition.

### Births... congratulations to:

▪ **Drs. Alpa and Kiran Premchand Shah** of Plano, Texas, on the birth of their daughter, Sonya. Also to proud sister Amy, and grand parents Jayaben and Premchandbhai Bharmal of Plano, Texas, and Dr. Hemlata and Dr. Kantilal Lakhamshi Vora of Mumbai, India.

▪ **Alka and Rushbh Gandhi**, of Bensalem, PA, on the birth of their baby boy.

### Engagements... congratulations to:

▪ **Amit** (son of Manisha and Kanti Shah of Poughkeepsie N.Y.) and **Ruhi** of Cerritos, California, (daughter of Kalpanaben and Saradbhai Gandhi) upon their recent engagement.

▪ **Raju Mansukhlal Shah** of MD (Parents Niru and Manu Shah of Hanover, MD)

### Weddings... congratulations to:

▪ **Swati** (daughter of Madhu and Manek Dodhia of Suffern, NY) and **Sukesh Jakharia** of Los Angeles, CA (son of Zaverchandbhai and Champaben Jakharia of Mumbai, India), on December 26, 2005.

▪ **Baiju**, daughter of **Chandrakant & Madhu Malde** of Flint, Michigan and **Aashish Chauhan** of Chicago, Illinois, on July 23, 2005.

Please share your news - contact your regional representative (see box, right), or [newsletter@oshsal-usa.org](mailto:newsletter@oshsal-usa.org)

## Regional Representatives:

State	Name	Email
Alabama (AL)	Veni Jivraj Shah	<a href="mailto:Alabama@oshsal-usa.org">Alabama@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Arizona (AZ)	Dr. Gulab K. Shah	<a href="mailto:Arizona@oshsal-usa.org">Arizona@oshsal-usa.org</a>
California (Northern) (CA)	Jyotsna Sudhir Shah	<a href="mailto:California-north@oshsal-usa.org">California-north@oshsal-usa.org</a>
California (Southern) (CA)	Dr. Gulab K. Shah	<a href="mailto:California-south@oshsal-usa.org">California-south@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Connecticut (CT)	Nikesh K. Shah	<a href="mailto:Connecticut@oshsal-usa.org">Connecticut@oshsal-usa.org</a>
District of Columbia (DC)	Manu Gosar Shah	<a href="mailto:DC@oshsal-usa.org">DC@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Florida (FL)	Veni Jivraj Shah	<a href="mailto:Florida@oshsal-usa.org">Florida@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Georgia (GA)	Pareesh M. Shah	<a href="mailto:Georgia@oshsal-usa.org">Georgia@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Iowa (IA)	Kiran Keshavlal Shah	<a href="mailto:Iowa@oshsal-usa.org">Iowa@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Illinois (IL)	Smita Dipak Shah	<a href="mailto:Illinois@oshsal-usa.org">Illinois@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Kansas (KS)	Kiran Keshavlal Shah	<a href="mailto:Kansas@oshsal-usa.org">Kansas@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Kentucky (KY)	Smita Dipak Shah	<a href="mailto:Kentucky@oshsal-usa.org">Kentucky@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Massachusetts (MA)	Kamala M. Gudhka	<a href="mailto:Massachusetts@oshsal-usa.org">Massachusetts@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Maryland (MD)	Manu Gosar Shah	<a href="mailto:Maryland@oshsal-usa.org">Maryland@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Michigan (MI)	Jital Rahul Shah	<a href="mailto:Michigan@oshsal-usa.org">Michigan@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Minnesota (MN)	Dinesh Velji Shah	<a href="mailto:Minnesota@oshsal-usa.org">Minnesota@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Missouri (MO)	Kiran Keshavlal Shah	<a href="mailto:Missouri@oshsal-usa.org">Missouri@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Montana (MT)	Achal Kanti Shah	<a href="mailto:Montana@oshsal-usa.org">Montana@oshsal-usa.org</a>
North Carolina (NC)	Nutan Anuj Malde	<a href="mailto:Northcarolina@oshsal-usa.org">Northcarolina@oshsal-usa.org</a>
New Hampshire (NH)	Kamala M. Gudhka	<a href="mailto:Newhampshire@oshsal-usa.org">Newhampshire@oshsal-usa.org</a>
New Jersey (NJ)	Chandu Shah	<a href="mailto:Newjersey@oshsal-usa.org">Newjersey@oshsal-usa.org</a>
New York	Manisha Kantilal Shah	<a href="mailto:Newyork@oshsal-usa.org">Newyork@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Ohio (OH)	Smita Dipak Shah	<a href="mailto:Ohio@oshsal-usa.org">Ohio@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Oklahoma (OK)	Dr. Alpa K. Shah	<a href="mailto:Oklahoma@oshsal-usa.org">Oklahoma@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Oklahoma (OK)	Shilpa R. Shah	<a href="mailto:Oklahoma@oshsal-usa.org">Oklahoma@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Pennsylvania (PA)	Jayanti Galaiya	<a href="mailto:Pennsylvania@oshsal-usa.org">Pennsylvania@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Rhode Island (RI)	Kamala M. Gudhka	<a href="mailto:Rhodeisland@oshsal-usa.org">Rhodeisland@oshsal-usa.org</a>
South Carolina (SC)	Nutan Anuj Malde	<a href="mailto:Southcarolina@oshsal-usa.org">Southcarolina@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Texas (TX)	Dr. Alpa K. Shah	<a href="mailto:Texas@oshsal-usa.org">Texas@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Texas (TX)	Shilpa R. Shah	<a href="mailto:Texas@oshsal-usa.org">Texas@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Virginia (VA)	Manu Gosar Shah	<a href="mailto:Virginia@oshsal-usa.org">Virginia@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Washington (WA)	Achal Kanti Shah	<a href="mailto:Washington@oshsal-usa.org">Washington@oshsal-usa.org</a>
Wisconsin (WI)	Priti Shah	<a href="mailto:Wisconsin@oshsal-usa.org">Wisconsin@oshsal-usa.org</a>

### Condolences

▪ **Smt. Kankuben Hansraj Shah** - mother of **Veni Sumaria** of Boxford, MA. - **Chandu Shah** of Reading, MA. **Kamalaben Gudhka** of Boxford, MA. **Ratanben Maru** of Danvers, MA. **Premchand Shah** of Broadway, CA and **Nathalal Shah** of Broadway, CA, passed away on Dec 23, 2005, in Bombay India.

▪ **Mr. Hiralal Gulabchand Shah** of Bombay, India passed away on December 10th, 2005, at 10:15 pm Bombay time, from a severe heart attack. He was 75 year old. He has three sons: **Umesh, Praful and Sidharth** and daughter **Hitreshi**. All are married. He was cousin brother of **Chandulal Popatlal Shah** of Irving, TX.

▪ **Taraben Mansukhlal Virpar Shah**, of Nairobi, Kenya. Taraben passed away on Tuesday morning, September 27th, 2005, in Nairobi. She suffered a massive heart attack. Our deep condolences to **Ramilaben** (sister) of St. Louis, Missouri; **Kausikbhai** (brother) of UK; **Renukaben** (sister) of Nairobi, to son's **Divyees and Amit**.

▪ **Meghajibhai Fulchand Shah**, of Shabspra Enterprise, who passed away on Sunday, September 25th, 2005, in Mombasa, Kenya. He was 85 years old. He was a father to **Kundan** (daughter) of St. Louis, Missouri; to **Induben** (daughter) of Nairobi, Kenya; to **Champaben** (daughter) of London, UK; to **Shashibhai** (son) of Mombasa, Kenya.

## Cruise to Canada from New York

As promised during our annual gathering, we have organized a five-night cruise from New York to Canada, departing New York on August 12th and returning back to New York on August 17th. This will be a fun filled vacation and we all will get to know everyone a bit more. We are working on getting Jain food on board and other amenities, depending upon numbers we may be able to get a conference room and other facilities we may need on board. If you are interested on this vacation, please contact Adam Baker's (Cruise Holidays) office directly at 800-485-4010 or 973-503-0550. We have group booking under the group name of "Oshwals family and friends".

### CARNIVAL VICTORY - 8/12/06

#### 5 NIGHT CANADA CRUISE FROM NEW YORK CITY DOUBLE OCCUPANCY RATES:

Inside, Deck 1 (Category 4A): \$699 per person  
Inside, Deck 2 (Category 4B): \$739 per person  
Inside, Deck 6 (Category 4C): \$759 per person  
Window, Deck 1 (Category 6A): \$799 per person  
Window, Deck 2 (Category 6B): \$839 per person  
Balcony, Deck 6 (Category 8A): \$899 per person  
ADD-ON RATES FOR 3RD/4TH GUEST IN CABIN:  
Inside: \$549 per additional person  
Window: \$569 per additional person  
Balcony: \$589 per additional person

Double occupancy rates are guaranteed based on availability. However, availability and add-on rates for 3rd/4th guests are NOT guaranteed until full deposit is received by Carnival. It is advisable for those guests requiring triples/quads to book as early as possible.

Other cabin categories and single occupancy pricing are available upon request.

REQUIRED DEPOSIT: \$200 per person, which is completely refundable up until June 1

FINAL PAYMENT DUE DATE: June 1

### CABIN ASSIGNMENTS

With full deposit, guests booking double occupancy cabins may elect to select either a specific cabin number or book on a "guarantee" basis, which means they are guaranteed that category or better, but the specific cabin number is not assigned immediately. Guarantee bookings are frequently (but not always) upgraded to a higher category for no additional charge. Cabin assignments are generally made about 30 days prior to the cruise.

Guests booking triple/quad occupancy cabins generally must select a specific cabin number to ensure that the proper amounts of beds are available in their cabin.

### CANCELLATION PENALTIES

There are no cancellation penalties up until June 1. After June 1, the cruise line's cancellation penalties will apply, ranging from the original deposit amount up to the full cost of the cabin. We do STRONGLY recommend that guests purchase Travel Guard insurance to protect against the risk of unexpected late cancellation due to illness,

accident, family emergency, etc. For most guests, this will cost approximately \$71 per adult and children under the age of 17 are covered for free.

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

U.S. citizens are required to provide proof of citizenship, in the form of either a valid passport or BOTH an original birth certificate and government-issued photo ID such as a picture driver's license. Naturalized U.S. citizens may substitute their original naturalization papers in lieu of the birth certificate.

Non-U.S. citizens are required to provide a valid passport and a valid, unexpired U.S. Multiple Re-entry Visa, if applicable.

### SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

We will ensure that the group's overall strict vegetarian dietary requirements are provided for in the main dining room by the cruise line. If individual guests have any other special requirements (additional dietary needs, handicap assistance, birthday/anniversary celebrations, etc.), please let us know and we will be glad to make arrangements directly with the cruise line, within the guidelines of their policies.

### Directory Report

We are planning to publish a revised edition of the Directory by the end of this year. Our thanks to members who have submitted their family profile form either for new entry or for correction by completing the Directory form online at the following web site: [www.oshwal-usa.org](http://www.oshwal-usa.org).

To ensure that the Directory listings are correct and up-to-date, we request all members to review their entry in the June 2003 edition of the Directory and if there is any change (including e-mail address), please submit a revised family profile form (all those who have already submitted corrected family profile form online do not have to resubmit the form).

If you know of any Oshwal family (at least one member has to be of Oshwal origin) that has not been included in the Directory and has not completed the family profile form online, please ask the family to complete the form. Our goal is to have all Halari Visa Oshwal families living in the USA listed in the Directory.

Surya and Satish Shah  
Plano, Texas

### [www.oshwal-usa.org](http://www.oshwal-usa.org)

Our website at [www.oshwal-usa.org](http://www.oshwal-usa.org) is frequently updated with community news and links to websites of interest to our community. At the website, you can find contact information for the board members and regional representatives, update or add your Oshwal Directory listing, sign up for the email list to receive newsletters in electronic form, view past newsletters, and also submit community news and interesting links you'd like to share with the community.

Ketan Doshia and Nikesh Shah, Webmasters

### Treasurer's report

We are currently financially stable with balance of \$1925.00, as of January 1, 2006. We will use the surplus funds to help pay for events as well as cover minor administrative costs.

Chandu Shah, Treasurer

### *Upcoming Events...* Mark your calendar!



- June 24, 2006 (Saturday)  
Tentative Date for picnic in  
NY/NJ/CT area
- July 4-6, 2006; (July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend)  
Boston, Massachusetts  
YJA (Young Jains of America) Convention  
This is the ideal meeting time and place for our  
community from all over the continent. We'll  
expand on the meetings and short gatherings  
we've held at the past two conventions. Look to  
future newsletters for details, but **please start  
making plans to attend this year's convention.**  
For details, visit:  
<http://www.yja.org/evolution/>
- August 12, 2006  
Cruise to Canada from New York

### *Message from Secretary*

Hello Friends,

I am very excited to serve as the secretary for the Oshwal community here in North America. We will be trying our best to serve the community and its needs. To make every event and occasion successful we will need everyone's interest and participation. We have to try and bring unity and strengthen our small community. In addition, it is a growing community since many youngsters are settling here in North America and we should try to make effort to make every new comer comfortable. To serve everyone we will need to know what your areas of interest are. What changes would you like to see to make the events interesting? Give us your ideas and thoughts if you think everyone will enjoy it and lets all try to make living FUN!!!!!!

Happy and Prosperous New Year to Everyone!

Thank You

Bina Jayesh Beed, Secretary

If undeliverable, please return to:  
Bina Beed  
C/o Halari Visa Oshwals of North America

## The Oshwal Report

A Newsletter by the  
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[www.oshwal-usa.org](http://www.oshwal-usa.org)

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